

# REGENT'S NOW

2012 - 2013

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

## FEATURE

REGENT'S, TOLKIEN  
AND 'APPLICABILITY'

## FEATURE

REGENT'S TO RIO  
2012: 'SEJA LUZ'  
BE LIGHT!

## PLUS

EMMANUELLE SOCIETY  
SPORTS TEAMS  
JCR & MCR REPORTS  
FINAL FLING  
STAFF NEWS  
ALUMNI NEWS

## BAPTIST HISTORY: HIDDEN TREASURE

THIS AUTUMN WE WILL BE  
LAUNCHING THE ANGUS WEBSITE

## ITV'S ENDEAVOUR FILM AT REGENT'S

REGENT'S FAÇADE WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A  
1960s NIGHTCLUB CALLED 'MOONLIGHT ROOMS'



# Welcome to Regent's Now

Many of the excellent characteristics of Regent's are manifested in the 2012–2013 Regent's Now, including academic success, musicality, tenacity, generosity, and even an unexpected visit from Endeavour.

I do not refer to the exploratory ship that reached Australia, but instead the young, gritty, rather subversive and now rather famous Oxford detective. Regent's is known for a number of great things, but never before have we been celebrated for our ability to transform into a swinging-sixties nightclub.

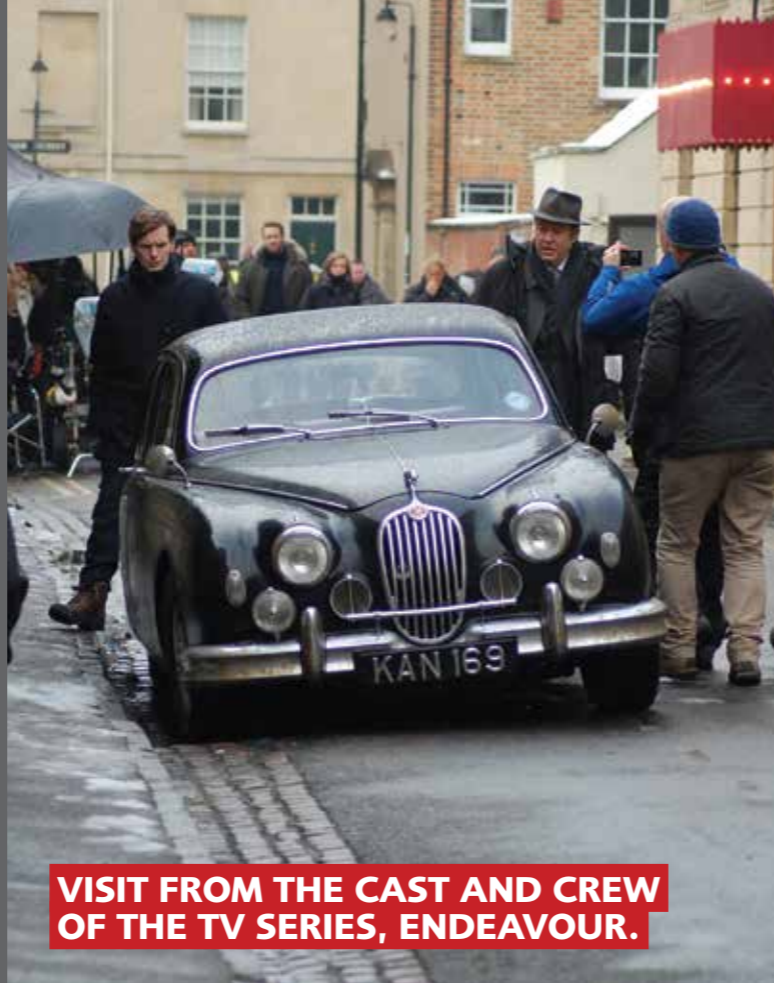
Our unusual visit from the cast and crew of the TV series, Endeavour, seems appropriate as drama traditionally plays a great part in student life at Regent's. Several of our students have been directing, producing, acting in, and designing for highly regarded productions throughout Oxford and beyond. Our musical achievements also continue, from our seasonal chapel choir singing carols in the Quad, to our students' participation in Acapella and opera.

I also mentioned Regent's tenacity, a perfect example of which is the women's rowing eights who had a very good year and gained blades in Torpids. The team overcame inclement training weather and fluctuating team numbers, so their's was a great achievement on the river. This success has highlighted the need for both the men's and the women's crews to have a boat each where formerly they have shared one with all sorts of complications on race days! The gift to purchase the new boat was made by an Alumnus who was a member of the 1977 crew and whose broken blade denied that crew glory in Summer Eights.

Sport thrives at Regent's in different forms; the men's football team reached the final of the Cuppers reserve competition, supported by a large fan base from the JCR, the MCR and the SCR. We also had half blues in the University caving team, a specialist sport which necessitates exceptional teamwork and trust.

In celebrating our sporting success, I must not neglect our resident octogenarian, Emmanuelle, who outstripped many of the younger competitors to achieve third place at the intercollegiate tortoise race. Proof that endeavour has existed at Regent's for many years.

I am always struck by the generosity of students in giving up their time to benefit many worthy causes. Charity, community and voluntary work are a strong presence at Regent's. Our students worked as fundraisers for Education Partnerships in Africa, were student community wardens in Jericho, and one was the coordinator of the English Plus tutoring programme for Oxford Hub. Our law students also got involved in pro-bono work.



VISIT FROM THE CAST AND CREW OF THE TV SERIES, ENDEAVOUR.

Our academic results this year were superb, with our final year undergraduate students gaining 5 firsts and 97% of our students achieving a 2:1 or above. It was not only our students who excelled this year, Dr Lynn Robson, Tutor in English, was awarded the 'Most Acclaimed Lecturer in the Humanities Division' at the Oxford University Student Union Teaching Awards.

The many different achievements at Regent's this year show once again what a remarkable place it is. The generosity of many sustains Regent's and I'd like to thank you for enabling Regent's to maintain its traditions of excellence, community, informality and the desire for the good in every aspect of life.

With best wishes,  
**Robert Ellis, Principal**



## FINAL FLING

Sarah James (Theology, First Year)

On 8th June, Regent's Park College was transformed into a Parisian-themed suburb fitting for the 'La Belle Epoque' theme.

The evening began with hundreds of elegantly dressed young men and women pouring into the Quad to be greeted by Can-Can dancers and a champagne reception. The evening was buzzing with 330 attendees, a truly unanticipated number of guests.

French jazz music lingered in the air, as did the smoke that shrouded the Eiffel Tower, creating a dramatic atmosphere. As a Parisian-themed ball, the Quad would not have been complete without a Parisian vintage car in which guests spent the night having their picture taken. The trees within the Quad were adorned with fairy lights and bags of handmade macaroons. Guests relaxed in a large marquee, which was transformed into a bohemian boudoir. At the entrance of the college, an outdoor lounge area was lit by a 'Narnia-esque' street lamp, offering guests the opportunity to recline in armchairs and peruse vintage novels. The Collier Room was transformed into Regent's very own 'cheese-tasting room' with French cheese sourced from the covered market and a traditional black and white film playing, creating a more relaxed atmosphere for those who had given up in the RAG casino in the JCR.

As the night progressed, the Can-Can dancers performed three entertaining numbers in front of the Eiffel Tower, whilst a fire performer lit up the Quad with their flame-filled dancing. A balloon modeller and caricaturist roamed the Quad whilst very welcome cups of coffee and tea were served from a Parisian-inspired miniature van. Many guests enjoyed the stunning three-course meal served in the hall; other edible delights included a large chocolate fountain, candy floss, ice cream and a Moulin Rouge-inspired ice windmill.

As the evening drew to a close, the Broadstreet Dancers performed an impressive flash-mob of the iconic dance from Baz Luhrmann's Moulin Rouge, 'Tang de Roxanne'. As the jazz band packed away their instruments, the hall became a silent disco with our very own Jaylee (Geography, first year) acting as DJ.

'La Belle Epoque' was a true success, bringing Regent's every inch of the decadent, lavish, Parisian 'je ne sais quoi.'



## EMMANUELLE SOCIETY

Tortoise Race

Emmanuelle achieved a respectable third place at the annual Corpus Christi Tortoise Fair in May. Congratulations to the winner, Bishop Foxe of Corpus Christi, and to 'runner up', Zoom, from Worcester. Commiserations to Magdalan's controversial competitor, the human tortoise, who failed to make it across the finish line.



New members of the Emmanuelle Society

Mr David Lovegrove, subject area: Music for worship

Revd Simon Carver, in memory of John Carver (1929-2012)

Mr Anthony Clarke and Amanda Clarke, subject area: Law.

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)



To make a gift to the Emmanuelle Society Scan code above



# COLLEGE REPORTS

## JCR REPORT

**Harrison Denner, JCR President  
(Law, Second Year)**

Regent's continues to excel in numerous areas, with achievements belying our small size, and culminating in our placing highest out of all mixed colleges in the 2013 student satisfaction survey at the University of Oxford, a distinction that provides a great source of pride for everyone.

Drama continues to be a focal point of the lives of many of our students. There have been lead acting, directing and producing roles in a number of successful plays. Elizabeth Walker has been particularly busy, managing the production of many plays, and Rachel Forster directed a fantastic performance of *Isobel*. Alice Porter embodies her reputation as one of the premier actresses in the University, playing various leading roles. Regent's was also involved in *The Aleph*, with James Gandhi, Henna Shah and William Obeney, producing, production managing, and marketing the play, respectively. Johanna Harrison has also proved to be increasingly in demand in the Oxford opera world.

On the sporting front, the success has been no less pronounced; the men's football team made a stellar run to the final of Reserve Cuppers, playing in front of a large crowd, only to be denied by a suspiciously strong New College team. Sad goodbyes were said to Regent's football stalwarts: David Cornish, Paul Whelan and Alex Mills. Another sporting highlight occurred as the women's crew won blades at Torpids. The success was well-deserved, and a great deal of praise must go to captain Amelia Gurley.

The men's crew were disappointed to miss out on blades, but continued to excel and rose rapidly up the ranks, this year ably captained by Rhys Eden. Elsewhere, there were individual sporting successes, with Ben Hudson and Victoria Lim achieving caving half blues, Laura Jenkins playing netball and skiing for the University, Dominic Kiralfyi competing in University athletics, and Gabriella Atkins skiing for the University.

Regent's also continues to be at the forefront of student journalism. Flora Gill deserves enormous credit as Editor of the TAB, along with Phoebe Williams and Rebecca Roughan (who was also stage editor of the Oxford Student) who worked together as art and literature editors of the Oxford Student. On top of this, Ashley Cooke was music editor of the Oxford Student, Ben Deaner the comment editor of the Cherwell, and Olivia Yallop acted as culture Editor of the TAB.

A fantastic evening was had by all at this year's Final Fling, and a great deal of gratitude is owed to Sarah, Henna and the team. As well as the Ball, our weekly social events in the JCR after Friday formal proved popular, with themes such as Under the Sea and Graffiti making for entertaining BOPs. James Craig has been tasked with entertaining the JCR every Friday, and it is fair to say he achieved this comfortably.

**Saying goodbye to those who left this year proved tough, but all that remains now is to look forward to another fantastic year at Regent's. It really is a privilege to be a part of such a wonderful community, and an honour to have served as President of the JCR thus far.**

## THE FOLLOWING WERE HONOURED AT THE RECOGNITION DINNER:

**Ben Hudson** – Caving half blue and Caving Club, Chairman

**Victoria Lim** – Caving half blue and Caving Club, Chairwoman

**Flora Gill** – The TAB, Editor

**Phoebe Williams** – Media Society, Treasurer; Oxford Student, Editor (Arts & Lit), and University Drama (Costume)

**Laura Jenkins** – University Netball and University Skiing

**Rachel Forster** – University Drama (Director)

**Evie Ioannidi** – Notes, Editor

**Elizabeth Walker** – University Drama (Producer)

**Gui Dominic Kiralfyi** – University Athletics

**Ashley Cooke** – Oxford Student, Editor (Music)

**William Obeney** – University Drama (Marketing)

**Henna Shah** – University Drama (Producer)

**Timothy Bateman** – Christian Union, President

**Sarah Blakemore** – OxHub, Rights and Development Coordinator

**Olivia Yallop** – Oxford Homeless Action Group, Committee and the TAB, Culture Editor

**Johanna Harrison** – University Opera

**Alice Porter** – University Drama (Acting)

**Rebecca Roughan** – Oxford Student, Editor (Stage and Arts & Lit)

**Ben Deaner** – The Cherwell, Editor

**James Gandhi** – University Drama (Producer)

**Ella Atkins** – University skiing

**Michael Blake** – PPE Society, Marketing Officer

**Beth Hibbert** – University Cheerleading

**Lexi Eikelboom** – Graduate Theological Society, President

**Christopher Shaw** – Graduate Theological Society, Vice-President

**Edward Youansamouth** – Graduate Theological Society, Board Member and Graduate Joint Consultative Committee, student representative

## MCR REPORT

**Down the Rabbit Hole: the MCR in 2012/13 -  
Matthew Mills, MCR President (DPhil Theology)**

This year has been busy for the Middle Common Room; former MCR President, Scott Ables, led the community with commitment and verve, marvellously supported by his team, David Lappano (Vice-President) and Ellie McLaughlin (Treasurer). We are delighted that Scott has transitioned to the role of MCR Secretary but we are sad to lose the others. David is concluding his DPhil – looking at eternity in the Danish theologian, Søren Kierkegaard (†1855) – and will leave Regent's this summer. To misappropriate some words of Kierkegaard: he has the knowledge and now he must act, find a purpose and step-out under Providence. Good luck, David! Ellie is with us for at least another year, but she will be concentrating on her role as Junior Dean and her thesis.

Considerable thanks must go to Ali Revell, who combined an intensive nine-month MSt in Ancient History with masterminding many top-notch social events. Her job was tough, as the MCR is diverse and events must be suitable for married couples and singles, families, twenty-somethings and sixty-somethings, home and international students, to name a few of the groups we represent. Thanks to Ali, we succeeded in accommodating everyone.

From a bursting bag of social successes, I would like to draw two personal highlights. First, from December, when the talents of Regent's Advent Choir and the local Salvation Army band combined for carols in the Quad, helped along by lashings of mouthwatering, cinnamon-steaming mulled wine. The evening flowed seamlessly from the college's annual Christingle service in the Chapel, to a fine Christmas-style feast. Second, from June, when the final college 'Formal' was preceded by a marquee reception, enlivened by music from Dr Mark Atherton's band and featuring the celebrated Gin-Gin cocktail. These events were great opportunities for the MCR to host the SCR, allowing graduate students to build relationships, share ideas and learn from senior members.

Thanks must also go to those MCR members, especially Geoff Dargan, who have contributed to the academic life of Regent's. Geoff organised a research seminar for college graduates; a marathon of five short papers in three hours. Papers covered themes in early, medieval and modern Christian theology, and interfaith relations. Notably, Scott Ables discussed his work on the Byzantine theologian, John of Damascus (†749), some of which he is presenting to a conference in Jerusalem even as this article goes to press. Meanwhile, Scott's wife, Karen, has produced an excellent portrait of C. S. Lewis, which now hangs in the MCR, soon to be joined by six Alice in Wonderland prints.

For the many other achievements and contributions which space has not permitted me to mention, may I express my thanks. As the Principal reflected in his Christmas letter, our community is vibrant and stimulating; we gain a lot from its diversity. 2013/14 will see the arrival of students from over a dozen university faculties and of multiple nationalities. We hope that *Regent's Now* will inspire you to learn more about our friendly, energetic and bourgeoning community.

## MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

**Ann Fradgley** – Minister (part/time) of Fleet Meadow Baptist Church, Didcot

**Gareth Garland** – Minister of High Street, Rickmansworth

**Tim Gerry** – to work with Faringdon Baptist Church

**Matt Jeffrey** – Minister (part/time) of Lenton's Lane Baptist Church, Coventry

**Emma Nash** – Evangelist at the Oasis Coffee House, Leigh Road Baptist Church, Southend

**Matt Nott** – Minister at King's Community Church, Oldbury

**Joyce Rice** – Lay Pastor at Chipping Norton Baptist Church

**Jane Robson** – Minister at Kingswood Baptist Church, Watford

**Dave Tubby** – Minister at Northfield Baptist Church, Birmingham

**Paul Wheeler** – Minister at Aylestone Baptist Church, Leicester

## Andrew J. Openshaw (DTPS/RIPT)

On the back page of the *Sunday Times*; behind the 'curtain' at Barton crematorium; at a mosque and a Hindu temple; on the beach in Rio di Janeiro and even in classrooms and lecture theatres in Oxford: these are all places that ministerial students from Regent's have found themselves in the last year.

Summarising a year's activity for any group of 30 people could produce a similarly diverse list; but the above are not obvious locations to be associated with a year spent in 'formation' for Baptist ministry. Such a list does, however, speak to the depth and breadth of the preparation for ministry afforded by time spent at Regent's.

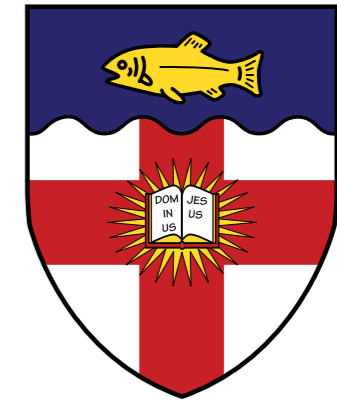
As well as teaching from the college tutors and faculty members, we were fortunate to have a range of visiting speakers who were prepared to not only present their 'standard' material but to engage in honest and robust debate with students, as well as leading us in Monday evening chapel. Particular highlights were the visits of David Kerrigan, General Director of BMS World Mission; and Lynn Green ('91 - '94), who visited the college shortly after her appointment as the General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Ministerial students played their full part in the life of the college, with Peter Timothy being a key part of the midfield 'engine room' of the football team that reached the final of Cuppers; Matt Jeffrey working alongside undergraduates in the 'Telethon'; Ross Maidment being elected onto the executive of the MCR; and Andrew Openshaw, as the representative of the Ministerial Association, participating in college Governing Body and Council meetings throughout the year in addition to fortnightly meetings with the college Principal.

Trinity term saw the end of their time at Regent's for ten ministerial students and all those who entered the BU's National Settlement system had been called to churches by the end of the term.

As the nature of the Baptist denomination in the UK continues to change as well as the Union, ministerial formation will no doubt have to adapt accordingly, but Regent's appears to be well placed to meet those challenges and to continue to be a high-quality centre for Baptist ministerial formation.

# Regent's Boat Club



Scan code above

## MEN'S BOAT CREW

### Rhys Eden (Theology, Second Year)

Men's rowing this year has been one of significant development and success which exists as part of the whole boat club's recent, ambitious and forward-thinking mentality. We continue to train freshers alongside our returning rowers under the expert coaching of Alumnus Peter Bond, who is to be thanked for a considerable portion of RPCBC's success in both the men's and women's events.

This year was not without its obstacles and drawbacks; in fact, one might say it was characterised by them. Michaelmas term was pretty much written off as a 'washout' due to weeks of rain and red-flag river conditions. Forced to train on the land instead, the contenders for seats in the boat showed remarkable cheer and motivation; which is a testament to the Regent's spirit. The crew was also plagued by injury and misfortune from the get-go; Sam Hodge endured a knee operation and a broken arm, and a Classicist had exams right over Torpids week.

Despite these setbacks, we trained like champions during Hilary term to prepare for a successful Torpids regatta. Due to last year's crew winning blades, we found ourselves four places closer to some strong crews, but we were not deterred. We bumped four times in total over the four days; however, blades were denied to us by an inconsistent (and lucky) New College crew. Unfortunately, we managed to completely write-off the St Anne's 2nd boat by shattering their hull with the force of our bump. We finished the regatta in high hopes as well in the highest position Regent's have been in Torpids since the 1970s.

With Summer Vllls fast approaching and men returning to the selection table after injury or exams, we selected a crew which was in many ways the Regent's 'dream boat'; such a crew even warranted a complete re-rigging of the boat for tactical purposes.

We were only four weeks away from our last and biggest regatta when classic Oxford rowing politics threw our crew into disarray. Our associate five-seat rower from Blackfriars was discovered to be plotting a mutiny to the St John's crew; a scandal quickly (and predictably) referred to as 'Aarongate'. However, after a swift replacement, we were back on track. Summer Vllls, however, was not as lucrative a venture as we might have hoped.

Apart from being surrounded by excellent first VIII boats such as Osler House (Oxford Clinical Medical Students' Club), St Hilda's and Green Templeton, our final day was ruined by a freak event. Whilst well on our way to making the first double-over-bump in Regent's history, our six-seat fell off his seat and failed to get back onto it, resulting in allowing us to be caught by a distinctively average Pembroke crew and ending a truly great year with a tinge of disappointment.

**The men's crew intends to learn from this year's lessons and improve a boat club which already punches well above its weight and continues to turn heads on a university level due to our sheer audacity and professionalism. Our thanks go to Steve Mace ('76 - '77) for his generous donation which has resulted in the purchase of a boat for the women's crew.**



**WE FINISHED THE REGATTA IN HIGH HOPES AS WELL IN THE HIGHEST POSITION REGENT'S HAVE BEEN IN TORPIDS SINCE THE 1970S.**

## WOMEN'S BOAT CREW

### Amelia Gurley (History and Politics, Second Year)

If anyone had asked me in November what I thought of women's rowing at Regent's Park, my answer would probably have been less than enthusiastic. We started out our year of rowing with only three returning rowers, after a year where, for the vast majority of the season, we hadn't been able to practice or compete because we didn't have enough women on the team. We were rained out for nearly every practice, which meant the water sessions were replaced by long hours of grimly hauling away at ergs and weights, and, by the time Christchurch Regatta was cancelled, our swelling team of 15-plus athletes had been pared down to a boat of only eight. We only got out on the water five times before our first race at Torpids.

There was a universal expectation, even among the rowers, that the best the girls' team could hope for was to participate.

I remember the moment when it became clear that we could actually win blades. It was two weeks before Torpids, and I had invited the girls around to my house for a social to try to soften the bad news: thanks to the high levels of rain, we probably weren't going to be able to compete after all. I told them that we had a choice, at this point: we could continue working out on the ergs every day, despite no longer having a race to push for or even a hope of water time, or we could cancel the remaining practices and come back and try to make a go of it next term. Unanimously, they requested more practice.

**PEOPLE WOULD TURN UP IN THE OFTEN MISERABLE WEATHER TO CHEER US ON.**

Every single rower at Regent's has sacrificed incredible amounts of time and heart this year. Maddy Shott tore her hands ragged on the oars during Torpids (or, rather, more ragged than most of us, since I don't think there was a rower out there who wasn't wearing tape over her blisters). Rebecca Roughan found uniforms all the girls could afford so we looked just as sleek as the competition in Eight's.



Emilie Noteboom bought extra socks to help her teammates stuff into the man-sized shoes of our boat so our feet wouldn't fall out when we rowed. Phoebe Williams, who will be one of our two captains next year, managed to juggle racing in Torpids and her Prelims with only a day's break in between and without ever missing a practice. Timothy Wickenden, as the only coxswain qualified to steer us through the treacherously high waters of Torpids, went on an incredible twenty-four-plus outings to ensure that both the girls' and boys' teams were coxed safely through Torpids, on top of captaining the men's football team to Cupper's finals.

The college came together around us as well – day after day, people would turn up in the often-miserable weather to cheer us on. The kitchens even made special chocolate pots decorated with our oars in honour of our race.

What I remember most about Torpids and Summer Eights this year isn't the victories, or the incredible pain in my muscles, or even the coxswains yelling in my ears. I remember knowing that I had a whole team behind me, all of whom were counting on me to pull through, and a college behind them cheering us on. I remember hearing the yells of Regent's students, parents and friends from the bank, and laughing with my teammates during the tense hours before each race.

When I was trying to recruit girls to row this year, one of the things I did was come up with a lot of reasons why a Regent's woman would want to row. My reasons were many and various, from the fun of being out on the water to the thrill of the race, but the real reason I row is because of my teammates. Our successes this year were team successes in every way. Rowing this year has in many ways embodied the spirit of Regent's: even when we start at a disadvantage, it is ultimately this college's dedication and sense of community that allows us to fight above our weight class time after time.

**We are a small college, but we give everyone the chance to be an athlete – to come together and succeed more than any of us could individually have ever imagined. We are enormously grateful to Alumnus Steve Mace ('76 - '77) for his donation, which enabled us to purchase an eight which will be perfect for the women's crew.**

# Sports teams

## TENNIS

### Harrison Denner (Law, Second Year)

Regent's tennis has continued to go from strength to strength. Last season, our debut year, saw us go undefeated for the duration, as well as defeating St John's as part of a memorable Cuppers run. This year, the success has continued, with a number of big scalps under our belt. The weather halted any meaningful charge we could mount towards league victory, but the team continues to be one of the most successful sports teams at Regent's, performing exceptionally well week on week. We certainly hope to gain promotion again next year, as we continue rapidly to ascend the ranks of college tennis. Despite this, it is sad to note that Ashley Cooke, my predecessor as captain, will be leaving us this year. We will definitely miss his brilliant tennis and charismatic personality on the court and we warmly thank him for his service to RPCLTC; not least for initiating and organising our now-famous stash, which is an honour to wear.

It has been an absolute privilege to captain the team this year and I look forward to playing next year under the undoubtedly flawless captaincy of Sam Livingstone.

#### This year's team:

Michael Blake, Ashley Cooke, Harrison Denner (captain)  
Miriam Hargreaves, Sam Livingstone and Maddy Shott.

**THE MAIN QUAD MAKES FOR AN ESPECIALLY EXCITING PLACE TO PLAY, BECAUSE OF THE NUMEROUS HAZARDS THE PLAYERS ENCOUNTER**



## CROQUET

### Samuel Hurst (PPE, Second Year)

Croquet is very popular in Oxford, and Regent's is no exception. Last year, the University-wide competition, Cuppers, had 537 teams enter, meaning at least 2,148 students competed. The organiser of the competition said that this made Cuppers the world's biggest sporting competition. Even if his claim was bending the truth slightly, the numbers are a testament to how enjoyable the game is.

At Regent's, we are fortunate to be able to play on our beautiful main Quad in Trinity term, weather permitting. The main Quad makes for an especially exciting place to play, because of the numerous hazards the players encounter, such as the tree beds, emerging roots, and Emmanuelle herself. Many of the members of the more botanically privileged colleges find our course difficult to navigate, much to our amusement. Thanks to the permission of the JCR we also invested in a brand-new croquet set, letting what remained of the old set to retire.

Four teams from Regent's entered the Croquet Cuppers competition, with all four teams progressing past the first round. The 1st and 2nd teams reached the 3rd and 4th rounds of the competition, respectively. The 2nd team's captain, Alexander Figurski, somewhat carried his team through the earlier rounds, and profited from enforcing Regent's 'local rules' concerning flower beds on an unsuspecting Keble team. Star performances this year came from the 1st team's Sam Livingstone and Sam Hodge, who obliterated their Wadham opponents in the 1st round. Then, in the 4th round, the 1st team's Josh Butler came unstuck on the lawns of Christ Church, and thus they bowed out to the superior team on this occasion.

There was in fact considerable controversy among the Regent's teams this year when the 4th team claimed to have beaten a strong Trinity side in the 1st round. Since no one other than the team itself saw the match being played, we all congratulated them upon their supposed victory when they returned from the Trinity lawns. However, on the release of the 2nd round draw, we were dismayed to find that the 4th team had lied about their first match. In reality, they lost convincingly, and thought it would be funny to weave this false tale of glory. **Needless to say, the other Regent's croquet players showed them less respect for the rest of the season.**

## FOOTBALL

### Tim Wickenden (Theology, Second Year)

The 2012/13 football season for Regent's was both a historic and a dramatic one including a cup final, many wonder-goals and a shiny new kit. At the very start of the season, fortune did not seem to have gone our way. Only two new freshers joined the team (Sam Livingstone and Jaylee Ali), despite several key players finishing their contracts the year before. Regent's first game was only narrowly lost to an impressive St Catherine's 2nds (5-3); however, this was to be only one of three defeats in all competitions throughout the season.

The signing of ministerial Pete Timothy, postgrad. Dave Evans and Chef Mark Rippington (back from his loan spell in the kitchen) all proved to be vital ingredients to Regent's success. Regent's went on a five-game winning streak in Michaelmas term, with top goal scorer Ben Newman-Sanders hitting university headlines for scoring 12 goals in 2 games, and at the time leading the 'most goals' category University-wide. Notable drubbings include the 6-1 defeat of eventual league winners St Hugh's 2nds. Newman-Sanders' physique, power and pace were undoubtedly a central part of Regent's success in this time, but not more so than what became known as 'The Holy Trinity'...

'The Holy Trinity' developed from the momentous decision to change our formation to 4-3-3. This allowed for the partnership in central midfield of ex-captain Paul Whelan, Alex Mills and Pete Timothy. With all three fit and present, the midfield game of Regent's was easily the best in the reserve leagues, and undoubtedly would have posed a threat at any level. Behind them, a more concrete defence shaped up around the experienced and ever-loyal Dave Cornish – proving time after time that it's the nice guys who hit the hardest. Wins became expected and, in that first term, speculation began surrounding all we could possibly achieve.

By the end, however, the Cuppers competition was all we cared about. The weather in Hilary term effectively ruined the league schedule, but ever-motivated, Regent's made impressive progress through the knock-out competition, including a 17-1 humiliation of Lincoln 2nds (a game that was nearly decided on a 50/50 coin toss because of weather postponements).



**WINS BECAME EXPECTED AND, IN THAT FIRST TERM, SPECULATION BEGAN SURROUNDING ALL WE COULD POSSIBLY ACHIEVE.**



Our semi-final was against a very in-form Pembroke 3rds, who for some reason were placed higher than their 2nds. We began the game positively, going up two goals, but nerves crept in and Pembroke brought the game back to 2-2 and held it there for the duration of normal and extra time. Despite a shattering 120 minutes of football, Regent's showed their desire in a penalty shoot-out, and there were

jubilant scenes as the players knew they were on their way to Iffley Road for the final.

However, the great injustice was that Regent's only had a day to rest for the big occasion. On the wide pitch of Iffley Road, under the sweltering sun and against a well-marshalled New College team, Regent's suffered a brutal 5-1 loss.

What was an unparalleled success, however, was the support and excitement generated in the college over those few days. A remarkable number of the Regent's community came to watch the game, many with face paint, fancy dress and large, custom-made banners. Chants rang out throughout the game, with Principle Rob Ellis being seen to titter when "we bet you wish you were a PPH" was aimed towards the New College supporters after some of their more unoriginal taunts were aimed at ours.

Needless to say, the efforts of the Regent's team meant a lot to me this year as captain. We are well placed for the future and, seeing the effect this year has had on the college, I wish for much more success to come!

# Regent's, Tolkien and 'applicability'



## Mark Atherton

J.R.R. Tolkien, the acclaimed author of *The Hobbit* (1937), was a member of the literary circle known as the 'Inklings', which also included the writers Charles Williams, C.S. Lewis and the critic Owen Barfield. As most students at Regent's probably realise, the Inklings used to meet in the 1930s and 1940s at the Eagle and Child public house, probably only a matter of a few yards from what is now the college accommodation of Balding Block. And as Professor Paul Fiddes sometimes reminds our SCR visitors, there exists a little-known connection between Tolkien and Regent's. For a short period at the beginning of his career, whilst he had a temporary job as an etymologist for the Oxford English Dictionary from 1919 to 1920, the budding scholar of medieval English lived with his wife and small son in a residence on what was to become Pusey Street. The present-day buildings of Regent's Park College did not then exist, for the college had not yet moved to Oxford from its former home in London, so it would not be correct to claim that the author of *The Hobbit* stayed at Regent's; nor did he compose his famous children's story here.

However, there is to be found in the *Book of Lost Tales* (an early draft of *The Silmarillion*) a story called 'The Necklace of the Dwarves' a kind of forerunner or prequel to *The Hobbit*: this is a tragic tale for adults written in the medievalist style of William Morris, a story of greed for gold, betrayal and murder! It seems to have

been written in this period, and perhaps had its inception here...

Surprisingly for readers who only know his novels, Tolkien eventually became the Rawlinson and Bosworth Professor of Anglo-Saxon at the University of Oxford, and then later the Merton Professor of the English Language; in other words he was a philologist: a specialist in the history of the English language and its early medieval literature. Not all his colleagues in the English Faculty of the University approved of the time he

and serious scholarship do not belong together. Though it is usually conceded that everyone must have his hobbies. As a devoted family man, as well as a scholar, Tolkien's pastimes were modest enough, and they included walking tours, country pubs, natural history, perhaps a passing interest in archaeology; he also enjoyed sketching and painting landscapes, real and imaginary. Two other formative experiences shaped his outlook: one was his Christianity, the other his war service. He had been an orphan from an early age



devoted to his novel-writing. This is understandable: the work of a scholar is time-consuming, and it is often felt in university circles that popular fiction

and, partly in memory of his mother, he remained a devout Roman Catholic, with an interest, deliberately understated but certainly there, in theology and literature, and the meaning and relevance of myth. In the First World War, he had been a signals officer at the Battle of the Somme until he caught trench fever and was discharged from active service. As this book *There*



and *Back Again: J.R.R. Tolkien and the Origins of The Hobbit* seeks to show, these various aspects of the man are inextricably entwined in his work as a writer.

For those who have read the novel, or seen the film, it is interesting to reflect on the significance of one of its main themes, namely the dragon: the believably presented fire-drake that guards the treasure under the Lonely Mountain. Tolkien's first juvenile attempt at fiction had been about 'a green great dragon', and 'The Green Dragon' indeed reappears in *The Lord of the Rings* (the sequel that Tolkien began writing in 1937)... as the name of an inn. Here some of the locals pour scorn on the very existence of such creatures (a scene reminiscent of some reported conversations between Tolkien and Lewis in Oxfordshire country pubs). *The Hobbit* begins as a children's comedy, and becomes in its final stages a serious

## BILBO IS THE RELUCTANT HERO, DRAGGED INTO MATTERS THAT ARE TOO BIG FOR HIM

saga-like narrative, the tragedy of Thorin, who succumbs to pride and avarice in his dragon quest, but is redeemed in the end. Bilbo is the reluctant hero, dragged into matters that are too big for him, wounded in the final battle, of which he sees very little. Nevertheless, he has his part to play, his own fears to overcome – pictured in the scene where he pushes on down the dark tunnel to the cavern where he confronts Smaug, the dragon. The dragon is a crowning achievement of children's fiction: a complex character, an overwhelming personality, as critics like Shippey have pointed out. There are echoes here of the Norse Sigurd legend, as well as the Anglo-Saxon heroic poem *Beowulf*, both of which are concerned with the nature of heroism and

its antithesis; but there are also biblical echoes, for the dragon's attributes are like those of Leviathan in the 'Book of Job'. Moreover, Smaug's conversational style is anachronistically modern in its ironic humour and cynicism. Tolkien had no time for all-too-obvious religious allegory, but he liked his creations to have depth and 'applicability', and arguably this is one of the moments where he succeeds.

**Mark Atherton, *There and Back Again: J.R.R. Tolkien and the Origins of The Hobbit* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2012), ISBN 978-1-78076-246-3**

## TOLKIEN EVENTUALLY BECAME THE RAWLINSON AND BOSWORTH PROFESSOR OF ANGLO-SAXON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

(Pictures: author photograph by Ryan Simpson, Eagle and Child photograph by Julie Dyson; 'Warrior' drawing by Fergus Parnaby; 'A green great dragon' by Sophie Millns)

# Baptist History: Hidden Treasure



## Katie Pearce (Learning and Participation Officer)

Beneath Star Hall, The Angus team are hard at work in the delivery phase of the Baptist History: Hidden Treasure project. We have three new members of staff and an enthusiastic group of ten volunteers, all helping to realise our aim to catalogue, conserve and encourage a wider audience to engage with the unique collection.

Funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and The Baptist Union Newington Court Fund, we are developing a variety of education opportunities and an exciting programme of exhibitions and talks to inspire more people to explore the collection. We are also running free training courses for Baptist churches, including archiving skills and writing church histories, and we are cataloguing over 4,000 items.

## OUR NEW WEBSITE WILL SERVE AS THE ACCESS POINT TO THE ONLINE CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION

In the autumn, we will be launching The Angus website which will offer teachers the opportunity to download education resources. These resources will include Lesson Starters for KS3 and KS4 history, alongside more in-depth teaching materials. The teachers we have spoken with have been hugely positive about the project, and we look forward to working with Teacher Volunteers to produce truly relevant and engaging resources. We will also work


with schools seeking independent learning opportunities for their A-level students and host Archive Taster Sessions to help students develop valuable research skills.

Our new website will serve as the access point to the online catalogue of the collection and the digitised versions of our Baptist Missionary Society Candidate Papers. Our archiving volunteers are doing an amazingly thorough job preparing the Candidate Papers for digitisation. We have already discovered 50 new papers, most of whom are women. The digitised Candidate Papers will offer fresh avenues of investigation for people interested in researching their family history. We will keep our website readers updated with excerpts of exciting stories of discovery enabled by this new family history resource.

In October, we will be holding our first exhibition on the topic of Slavery. We are delighted to announce that our guest speaker, Professor Cora Kaplan, will be running a free seminar in November that will relate directly to this exhibition. Over the next two years, our biannual exhibition programme includes a diverse range of topics such as: Pioneer Women, Rebellion, Fair Trade, and Hymns and Poetry. Our Exhibition Research Volunteers have already made some exciting discoveries which they look forward to sharing. We hope that you can join us soon to explore the treasures of The Angus.

For further information about what is happening at The Angus Library and Archive, please visit our blog:

[www.theangus.org.uk](http://www.theangus.org.uk)

 @RPCLibrary Email: [angus.library@regents.ox.ac.uk](mailto:angus.library@regents.ox.ac.uk)

## THE ANGUS LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE

The Angus Library and Archive is the leading collection of Baptist history and heritage worldwide. It contains more than 70,000 items relating to the life and history of Baptists in Britain and the wider scene. The Angus unites the libraries and archives of Baptist Union Great Britain, Baptist Missionary Society and Baptist History Society among others, with the original collection gathered by Revd. Dr Joseph Angus, Principal of Regent's Park College, in the nineteenth century.

It holds printed books, journals, pamphlets, church, association and denominational records, church histories, manuscript letters and other artefacts from the early sixteenth century to the present day, including the foundation documents of the denomination.

With funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, we would like to see more people from a wider cross-section of society using The Angus to engage in the heritage of the nation, the Baptist denomination and their church and family.



# Drama

## ROPE REMEMBERED

### Marcus Alcock ('93-'96)

Someone mentioned to me that the JCR had a website and said it was worth having a look at, which is where I happily discovered that, some 20 years on, another Regent's undergraduate had also produced the same play I had in Michaelmas term 1995. I'm not sure how many productions of Rope there have been over the years, and to my knowledge there have been precious few commercial productions, so to discover that not only was there going to be another Oxford production, but one which came from the bosom of Regent's, was particularly pleasing.

The most obvious difference between Rope I and Rope II was the sheer professionalism of Rebecca's (Rebecca Roughan) version compared with our own shabbily amateurish efforts. What was this? A website in Technicolour dedicated to

the play, which was brilliantly composed and very slick? In our day, the thought of sending an email was a still a novel one, let alone putting together our own website. In fact, I confess that I didn't send my first email until after leaving college and only learnt what a search engine was in 1997.

Instead our imaginative efforts stretched to some posters and a programme, designed by Karl Savage ('93 - '96), a contemporary who read geography who has since become a leading light in NHS management.

Karl was absolutely vital to the success of the play, as without his muscularity and dedication we wouldn't have been able to stage it in the first place. Why? Our version of Rope was put on in the hall at college, and we needed to extend the stage. Simple, eh? Just phone up the specialist staging company on the Botley Road and pick up what we needed, which didn't seem that much. Just an extra piece of floorboard which measured 8ft by 6ft. How hard could this be? Especially with a van to load it in. Oh dear, except we didn't

have the van so thought we'd go down and pick it up by hand and walk back to college. Message to all: staging is HEAVY. Karl and I were big lads but I can still recall with tears in my eyes the pain and swearing which came with that journey.

Another peculiar feature of the play was that it required a swordstick, which is a cane or walking stick with a concealed blade inside. Cue frantic phoning round theatrical suppliers and a best-forgotten trip to a warehouse in the seedy depths of north-west London, which turned out to be a Dante-esque trip to the outer rings of hell given the accident on the North Circular, which left us stranded in traffic for several hours. Oh, how we suffer for our art.

Needless to say, the production itself was splendid fun, gloriously directed by Li Webster, and as far I can recall there were no real hitches. **Though replacing the fake whiskey with the real stuff on the last night made for an interesting after-show party...**

## ROPE 2012

### Rebecca Roughan (Classics and English)

Back in Michaelmas, when I was but a fresh-eyed second year, my friend Susanna Quirke (Oriol) said that she wanted to put on Rope. I already knew a lot about the play and had fallen in love with it after seeing Roger Michell's 2009 production at the Almeida. Plans for our Hilary 2013 run, in the Macmillan room of the Oxford Union, were born.

Deciding on a location for the show was the easiest part – where else to put on a production about murderous Oxford students plotting together for self-absorbed motives? The Macmillan room (which had recently expelled OUCA after the BBC program Young, Bright and on the Right made a mockery of the political body) was beautiful, perfect and pretty expensive, but we were confident that the play would be a

success and so we booked it.

Whenever you tell people that you are a producer, they always ask 'but what does a producer do?' and the answer is: everything. Susanna (Zu) and I exchanged thousands of emails during the project and, together with the very kind assistance of the Union staff and committee, we took our idea from conception to production with Zu taking care of the direction and me either overseeing or doing everything else: from persuading people to lend us funds for the project and managing the budget, to trying to persuade hungover cast and crew that what they really wanted to do on a Saturday morning was put up posters around Oxford; from kindly explaining to people who had come to see Michael Moritz speak that they were in the wrong venue, and that his talk would probably not involve strobe lighting, to spending the dress rehearsal nearly suffocating to check whether it was feasible to have real boys as the body in the chest (it wasn't) – that is the role of the producer.

Reading Marcus' description of his own experience putting on Rope, the similarities are striking: we too sweated carting bits of set across to the Union (turning a room that is not a theatrical space into a theatre inevitably involves a lot of heavy lifting), we struggled to find a sword cane (although only in Oxford would that problem be solved by a blushing cast-member admitting to having one in the family) and we ingested spirits at inappropriate times.

Our production was hugely successful and all the hard work of my wonderful cast and fantastic crew paid off when tickets sold out, we received glowing reviews and, crucially, we managed not to suffocate anyone. Throughout the show, I felt hugely supported by the whole of Regent's; I very much hope that future Regent's students continue to thrive as part of Oxford's student theatre scene and that somewhere there is a two-year-old with a manic glint in their eye and a passion for heavy lifting who in a couple of decades will also attend Regent's and produce Rope.

# COLLEGE LIFE

## ACCESS WORK

### Dr Suke Wolton

Access work in Regent's is developing well. The mild autumn last year permitted IntoUniversity Year 6 children (who have been visiting us twice a year for graduation days for four years now) to meet Emmanuelle, the college tortoise. They were also delighted to have undergraduates help them answer a questionnaire about the college and student life. After lunch, the children gave short presentations about the people and places they had researched during the week and were given their graduation certificates in the college Chapel. Raising aspirations with young children is an important part of the work that IntoUniversity do to improve the chances of disadvantaged children making it to university and Regent's is happy to support their work.

We had a visit from Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO) who

arranged a day trip to Oxford with Year 12 children from London. About 50 children visited St Catherine's College in the morning and, after lunch, were walked in groups with Regent's students to 'Taster Sessions' in Regent's with Dr Lynn Robson (English), Dr Sue Doran (History) and Dr Suke Wolton (Politics). These were followed by tea and cakes in the Collier Room with two Regent's undergraduates and an alumna answering questions.

With the support of the Staton Family (Cecil Staton Ph.D '85 - 88), in 2012, the Staton Essay Prize was launched and we sent out invitations to state schools that had sent students to Regent's in the past. The entries were excellent and we were pleased to announce two topic winners and an overall winner in October and they and two guests joined us for dinner in November 2012. As we hoped, the prize has had

an impact not just on the winners, but also on their class and one teacher emailed us to say that our winner's 'success has had a knock-on effect, and other students have been inspired to push themselves beyond their initial expectations'.

Over 250 prospective students and teachers attended our Open Days and Q&A sessions at the end of June 2013.

**Our students continue to be a great inspiration for the next generation, both to work hard and to apply to Regent's.**



## STATON ESSAY PRIZE

In honour of the Olympic Games, the theme for the 2012 Staton Essay Prize was 'Competition'. We are delighted to announce that the winners included:

### Diana Beltekian, Overall Winner

St Marylebone CofE School, London

### Victoria Adebayo, Literary Worlds Category Winner

Huish Episcopus Academy, Langport

### Finnian Schlieker Blythe, Historical Worlds Category

Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar

The Staton Essay Prize is an interdisciplinary essay competition open to all students currently studying in Year 12 anywhere in the UK (or its equivalent in the EU and internationally). One prize is awarded in each of the 3 categories in the competition: £250 to the best overall essay, and 2 prizes of £150 each to 2 other essays. Prize winners and their parents or carers are 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 abilities for independent research, and encourage them to apply for undergraduate courses that may be interdisciplinary.

## ITV'S ENDEAVOUR FILM AT REGENT'S

Chosen as a location for an episode of TV detective series Endeavour, Regent's façade was transformed into a 1960s nightclub called 'Moonlight Rooms'. Filming took place in January, with actors revealing that the bitter cold was causing their feet to become numb in their vintage shoes. The episode is set in the midst of a harsh winter; the young Morse investigates the murder of one of the club's cigarette girls embroiled in a blackmail plot.

Endeavour was created as a prequel to the successful 1990s Inspector Morse TV series. Colin Dexter, the author of the original Morse books, collaborated on the series which received excellent reviews and high viewing figures. The Regent's 'Night Club' scene featured in the final episode of the series broadcast on Sunday, 5th May.

**JCR President Harrison Denner summed Regent's feelings, saying, "We are proud and delighted to play a part in the filming of Endeavour and everyone at Regent's was very excited to see the finished product."**

## ALUMNI BENEFITS: ARE YOU LINKED IN?



### Alison Edwards (Head of Alumni Communications, University of Oxford)

According to Lucy Hawkins, a Careers Advisor at Oxford's Careers Service and a regular speaker at alumni careers events, more than one-third of all employees in the UK have a profile on the professional networking site, LinkedIn, and of these users, 86% have reported a recent promotion (as opposed to 61% of non-LinkedIn users). Companies and organisations are increasingly turning to social media profiles to provide additional information on job applicants, meaning that having a presence on these sites, and making it an effective one, is becoming ever-more important in the jobs marketplace.

For Oxford's alumni, help is on hand for navigating these tricky waters (above and beyond advice specific to social media platforms). The University Careers Service and Alumni Office have been working to develop a comprehensive programme of careers support for alumni, regardless of your career stage. This includes:

- **One-to-one advice sessions** from our dedicated alumni careers advisor
- **Workshops and podcasts** covering application and interview skills
- **Opportunities to network** with other Oxonians in a particular industry sector.

Find out more at [www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/careers](http://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/careers) or join the University of Oxford Alumni group on LinkedIn to find out about careers-related events and opportunities.

## EVENTS

**Annual Alumni Careers Conference** – a mixture of panel sessions, workshops and networking opportunities focusing on managing your career.

**Professional networking events series** – held regularly throughout the year, each event covers a different sector and takes the format of a talk/panel discussion with Q&A followed by networking.

Join the careers mailing list at [www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/subscriptions](http://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/subscriptions) to be the first to hear about alumni careers events.

### Other resources:

**CareerConnect** can help you find job vacancies, work experience and internship opportunities, search for events, and view a range of alumni career case studies across a range of sectors. Users can also contact volunteers for more industry-specific advice and information – <http://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/our-services/careerconnect>

Search 'careers' or 'social media' for a range of audio and video podcasts from academic staff and industry experts – <http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk>

To view the range of continuing professional development seminars and courses available at a discounted rate to Oxford alumni – <http://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/careers>



## JUBILEE TREE PLANTING

In March, the Curators of the University Parks welcomed the six Heads of the Permanent Private Halls (PPHs) to each plant a tree to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.

Six young tulip trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) were planted in a circle, with one Magnolia 'Star wars' (*Magnolia lilliflora* x *M. campbellii*) planted in the centre.

The tulip trees will take approximately 10–20 years to flower; the Magnolia began blossoming shortly after the planting took place. It is hoped that the Magnolia will provide a colourful focal point, whilst the tulip trees reach their full magnificent state in 60 years' time when they will merge to form a complete circle.

After the tree planting, the Chairman of the Parks Curators, Revd. Dr Ralph Waller, proposed toasts to the Queen, the PPHs and the staff of the Parks who had contributed to the day's success.

The full significance of the tree planting will not be seen until the trees begin to reach maturity, but Dr. Waller explained that it was in the interests of the University and the community that the trees should flourish. Dr. Waller also noted that the PPHs should also continue to develop and flourish in the interests of the University and the wider world.



# Regents to Rio 2012: 'Seja Luz' Be Light!



**Ann Fradgley**

I had been anticipating the promised BMS trip at the end of the second year, but I never imagined this would take us to Rio de Janeiro. I had seen the impressive statue of Christ the Redeemer in the glossy brochures and it was a place I had hoped to visit, but in reality did not expect to.

On arriving in Rio it did not take long to realise that life in Brazil was going to resemble a TV reality show: we just did not know what was going to happen next. Whilst I cannot speak for the rest of my group, I am sure they would not disagree when I say that we soon learnt that if we held any hope of surviving this trip, we would need to fully rely on God.

It can be easy as a Minister-In-Training to get bogged down with planning for various aspects of ministry, but this would not be the case in Rio. On arrival at Mark and Suzana's home (our hosts), we were told that the following morning we would require an overnight bag for a couple of nights' stay in Magé, about two hours from where we were based in Tijuca.

Just before we were whisked off to Magé, our first initiation into the Brazilian culture took place. We discovered that our arrival had been anticipated by many, most of who were eagerly looking forward to us delivering an Olympic programme! The question, "What Olympic programme?" echoed in the air... With a moment's notice we set about tackling the first of many such surprises.

As I clutched the Olympic baton my friend had given me to bring to Rio, it was reassuring to know that God had provided for our needs even before we left home – He knew exactly what we would need on this trip.

Over the next two days, the group was split between a secondary school and Casa De Passagem E Amparo A Criança (CPAC), which is a preschool and an after-school project. I spent my time in CPAC; for many of the children the journey to CPAC was difficult, some walked along the side of a road which can only be described as the hard shoulder of the M40! Yet, still they made the trip. This project offered a place of sanctuary, a place where they were assured of God's love. This was never more apparent

than when we arrived on the first morning when we were shaken to the core to hear that one of the girls that had been singing to us the afternoon before had been brutally raped on her way home.

Despite this news, the carers of the children still wanted them to come to the club that day because it was the safest place for them to be. This was the dark and dire reality of life in Magé, an area of Rio where the mantra was 'Nothing good ever comes from Magé'.

This may have been the mantra but this was certainly not the attitude of the women or the children we met. They were spurred on by the true dedication of Andrea and Ana Paulo, the leaders of CPAC, who negotiated a

four-hour round trip to minister to those living in Magé. When you looked into the eyes of these two women it felt as if you were gazing upon the face of Jesus. The unconditional love, care and education they offered so freely, along with all the volunteers, were transforming lives.

In Magé, 95% of women suffer abuse in their homes; children are also victims of abuse and most girls are pregnant by their early teens. Mothers and grandmothers were the primary carers of the children. They described the ingrained police corruption and the generational political corruption which affected their battle to keep their children safe. When you add the horrific stories brought about by drug trafficking even more of a wretched, dark

situation is formed. These women were not deterred; they knew that God had brought them to CPAC and they were looking to Christ to change things. When asked whether they would vote in the elections, they responded, "Yes, of course ... For hope is the last thing to die... Jesus changes everything!" The women in Magé clung to the hope they have in Christ and it is through this hope that they believe change will come... They believe that Christ will transform their children's lives as they experience God's love and learn a new way of living through CPAC: one that breaks the ingrained generational behaviour of the past.

Early into our trip we were told of a Brazilian theologian who had written the words, 'Hopelessness is a luxury only the rich can afford'. These women and children could not afford the luxury of rejecting the hope found in Christ.

I met some amazing people in the churches and favelas, and the work that Mark, Suzana and their family are involved in is impacting the Kingdom of God not only in Rio but wider afield. As a Minister-In-Training, I have come away from this experience determined not to just let it fade as a memory but to allow what I have experienced and learnt to help shape me and transform my future ministry wherever God calls me to serve him.

**The overriding mantra I am left with is the words of the woman in Magé: "Hope is the last thing to die... Jesus changes everything!"**



**EARLY INTO OUR TRIP WE WERE TOLD OF A BRAZILIAN THEOLOGIAN WHO HAD WRITTEN THE WORDS, 'HOPELESSNESS IS A LUXURY ONLY THE RICH CAN AFFORD'.**



And so in light of our experiences in Magé this statement became a focal point for reflection.

Rio is a place of stark contrasts. We experienced the splendour of Christ the Redeemer and then the favelas it overlooked. We climbed the steps of the Metro at Central and came across the busy affluent hub of Rio and yet a stone's throw away we walked into Crackoland, an area of central Rio where the marginalised of society attempted to survive.

In the short space of two weeks we experienced much, both as a group and as individuals. There were not only times for fun and laughter but also times for tears of sadness and joy, for those that know me, the latter will come as no surprise.

**THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, CARE AND EDUCATION THEY OFFERED SO FREELY, ALONG WITH ALL THE VOLUNTEERS, WERE TRANSFORMING LIVES.**



Send us your news throughout the year at: [www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/rpc](http://www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/rpc)

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### Revd. Dr Marie Isaacs: 50 Years in Ministry

In December 2012, Heath Street Baptist Church, Hampstead, held a special service to celebrate Revd. Dr Marie Isaacs' 50 years of ordination. Marie was just the fourth woman to be ordained in Baptist history, and her career began in a period which had not seen a female ordination for 20 years. Marie also made history at Regent's as she was the first female to apply, spending 1960–62 training for ministry. Whilst all Marie's ministerial training took place at Regent's, the college was still an all-male residence and therefore Marie dined and resided at St Hugh's.

Upon leaving Regent's, Marie went to Birmingham University as an ecumenical chaplain. She then went on to tutor at Heythrop College, the specialist Philosophy and Theology College at the University of London. Marie taught at Heythrop for 30 years, specialising in the books of Hebrews and James, and serving as college Vice-Principal.

In 1987, Marie became the associate minister at Heath Street Baptist Church; from 2001–11 she was the full-time minister, and she still remains an active member of the church, returning to preach. To commemorate Marie's huge contribution to the Baptist Church and the positive impact she has had on many people's lives, Heath Street Baptist Church has commissioned a painting of their church for Marie.

### Revd. Lynn Green (1991 - 94)

Revd. Lynn Green has been elected as the General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. Lynn trained for ministry at Regent's; upon leaving Regent's in 1994, Lynn became associate minister for Wokingham Baptist Church and subsequently team leader at the church. In January 2011, Lynn joined the Southern Counties Baptist Association as a Regional Minister.

In September 2013, Lynn will become the first female General Secretary of the Baptist Union. Lynn's gracious spirit, approachability and dedication are well known to many within the Baptist Union and she has been unanimously supported in her election as General Secretary.

### Revd. Myra N Blyth MA PhD (1975 - 78)

I was awarded my PhD from the University of Birmingham in Dec 2013. The thesis entitled *Towards a Restorative Hermeneutic: Local Congregations Responding to Crime and Wrongdoing* involved interdisciplinary research drawing on theology law and social science to understand better how conflict in the community can be addressed and resolved using restorative principles and practices.

I hope in the future in both academic and practical ways to develop the ideas.

For example, the notion of forgiveness in restorative processes is contested and needs an interdisciplinary

perspective so plans are underway for an Academic Symposium in the summer of 2014 on The Place of Forgiveness in Restorative Justice. The symposium will bring together academics, policy makers and practitioners in the criminal justice system. I am also networking within the University and beyond with churches, local authority agencies and with social entrepreneurs to see what potential there is for innovative developments to promote and enable restorative practices in the city.

### Vaughan Brooks (1971–74)

Vaughan has been putting information about Norwich-born composers on the Norwich heritage (HEART) website and been organising a free concert to showcase their music.

He received a long-service award, presented by the Lord Mayor of Norwich, Councillor Ralph Gayton, from Norfolk and Norwich SCOPE Association (NANSA – for people with cerebral palsy) for 15 years, tutoring at their Adult Resource Centre Musical Appreciation class to people with disabilities. He is now retired.

### Christopher R. Graham (BA, 2011)

Chris has started a consultancy called Yours, as ever ([www.yoursasever.com](http://www.yoursasever.com)), specialising in research, writing, and thinking for boutique professional service firms. Based in Toronto with outposts in Oxford, Dublin, and Chicago.

### Dr Emrys Jones (2002 - 05)

Emrys has recently published a monograph entitled *Friendship and Allegiance in Eighteenth-Century Literature: The Politics of Private Virtue in the Age of Walpole*.

### Caroline Harrison (1981 - 84)

Caroline Harrison was appointed Queen's Counsel on 27th February 2013.

### Lizza Connor (2000)

Lizza has released an album of family music entitled *Commander Salamander*. Lizza's album recently won the prestigious Parents' Choice Silver Award, placing it among the very best in children's music. The CD features genre-spanning tunes that encourage a healthy lifestyle for kids. She performs lively shows regularly for kids and families across Texas.

### Bruce Sorrell (1981 - 82)

Bruce has been appointed Executive Director of Chamber Music Tulsa. He also continues to serve as music director and conductor of the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra, and conduct four or five concerts a year there.

### Michael Weatherburn

Michael has been awarded the Byrne-Bussey Marconi visiting fellowship at Oxford University for 2013–14. Michael will be giving a public lecture at the Bodleian on his research on Workplace Experiments and Work Study in the British Electrical Industry, c.1900–1950 in April next year.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Professor Eric Ives**  
(Former Member of Council d. 25.09.2012)

**Gerald Ernest Collett**  
(long-time volunteer and keeper of the Quad during the 1980s and 1990s d. 03.11.2012)

**Michael Hambleton**  
(1960–1962 d. 02.03.2013)

**Bernard Green**  
(1949–1950 d. 20.03.2013)

**Gwen Curry**  
(Georgetown College, Kentucky, d. 16.04.2013)

**Neil Harding**  
(1989–92 d. 03.07.2013)

## OBITUARY:

**Martin Bacon**  
(1985–1988 d. 12.05.2013)

by **Jane Cryer (1986–89)**

Martin was the very first person I met as I crossed the Star into Regent's on

8th October 1986. What an introduction to Regent's and Oxford! He was jogging on the spot, full of energy, friendliness and welcome, waiting for the rest of the rowing crew to turn up for an outing.

There are so many memories of Martin, which are always accompanied with a smile. Martin was invariably where things were happening mainly because he made things happen. As JCR Social Secretary he held an incredible firework display, with mortars big enough to rattle the windows in all the Quads, and a spectacular rocket that he launched with aplomb, its trajectory only just skimming the Library roof. I also recall his Cocktail Nights which were all the more lethal because the drinks were mixed by teetotal Martin! Not wanting to be left out the 'Yard of Ale' at the Eagle and Child,

Martin downed his 'yard of blackcurrant juice' instead.

Martin was a loyal and enthusiastic member of Regent's Football team, Captain of Boats and a long suffering Bowman, winning Blades twice. The Women's VIII had him to thank for teaching us to row and patiently coaching our Blades-winning boats.

Martin was a keen member of the congregation at Pusey House for a while, enjoying the 'Smells and Bells', and he managed to fit some Theology around his friendships, social and sporting commitments.

Our friendship lasted beyond college days as careers and success, partners and children all came along, and our families became bonded with the strength of friendship we shared. We often discussed the similarity between leadership in schools and the health service,

and how you help others succeed and excel. Martin's leadership as a teacher and head-teacher was inspirational and transformative. He literally and metaphorically rebuilt Swavesey Village College and Nene Park Academy making Swavesey one of the top 3% of schools in England.

His vision was simple, his talent, energy and ambition boundless and sadly for us all, cut short. When Martin was first diagnosed with his brain tumour in July 2012, he telephoned his friends to let them know his news and to share his positive approach to how he wanted to face the challenges ahead. His focus was to make every moment of every day count and to instil his love, values, and confidence in others, particularly his wife Kathleen and children Jessica and Joshua.

## A 17TH-CENTURY BAPTIST HISTORY HAT-TRICK

It has been a very productive period for the Centre for Baptist History and Heritage which published major studies on three different 17th-century Baptist figures during the course of the academic year 2012–13. Clint Bass, who completed his DPhil at Regent's Park in 2008, has produced *Thomas Grantham (1633–1692) and General Baptist Theology*, a significant new investigation into an under-valued General Baptist leader. Meanwhile, Jonathan Arnold, who completed his DPhil at Regent's Park in 2010, has contributed *The Reformed Theology of Benjamin Keach (1640–1704)*, a fresh assessment of an important Particular Baptist theologian. Finally, Larry J. Kreitzer, a Fellow at Regent's Park has produced *William Kiffen and His World (Part 3)*, the latest instalment of his on-going investigation into the life and ministry of the prominent London Baptist leader. Together the three volumes help justify the claim that The Angus Library and Archive at Regent's Park is the pre-eminent place in the world to pursue academic studies into Baptist history and thought.

There are plans afoot to hold a weekend conference in November at Regent's where the three authors will discuss their work and explore the connections between Grantham, Keach and Kiffen in an open forum.

If you would like to purchase any of the books, please visit: [www.rpc.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rpc.ox.ac.uk) > Resource Centres > Publications



OXFORD CENTRE FOR  
Baptist History  
and Heritage

## TUTOR CHANGES

### Dr Timothy Bradshaw, Senior Tutor

#### Dr Suke Wolton

Some ten years ago, Dr Suke Wolton was highly recommended to Regent's by a senior PPE scholar at the University. She rapidly justified her glowing reference, in terms of teaching, organisation and her 'can do' personality. She was a great Regent's tutor, always willing to go the extra several miles for her students and to maximise College's potential as an access point into the University for schoolchildren from less-privileged backgrounds.

Suke is a very well-connected and highly regarded figure in the PPE world in Oxford, and for several years she was their admissions coordinator, a tricky task in so complex a joint school. I was always amazed at her grasp of the IT systems for admissions, and of the ever-more complex reallocation process, which of course she ran for PPE as admissions coordinator.

She was a very popular and committed teacher whose results spoke for themselves. I was always impressed with the way she gathered her students around occasional well-timed cake and drinks parties by way of motivational and nurturing events.

Suke's access work with London schools in disadvantaged areas was extraordinary: coach parties of children thronged through Regent's to help them aspire to apply to Oxford.

Suke is now, however, going to make up for lost time on her own research and writing as a new Research Fellow at Regent's, and I for one hope for many more conversations on Hegel and Marx. A huge thank you must go to Suke, for her wonderful work with our undergraduates and active participation in college life.

#### Dr Susan Doran

Dr Susan Doran took over being Director of Studies for our historians some six years ago, and we have been very fortunate to have had such a distinguished scholar serving in this role. She has worked tirelessly for Regent's students in all possible ways, is a very popular tutor and a highly effective organiser, often in tandem with Dr Yvonne Cornish of St Benet's.

A very patient and kind tutor, Sue will be missed as she steps aside to complete some important writing projects, but we trust we will be seeing her from time to time. Again, the College would like to extend it's sincere thanks to her for her teaching and the part she played in College life.



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



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