Welcome to the second edition of Petrean News. Feedback from the first issue was very positive, and I hope that you find this issue equally enjoyable and stimulating. I’ve incorporated some of your ideas – for which, thank you - into the Newsletter, and have also added a section entitled ‘Your News’, in which College members can share their news and interests with fellow-Petreans. If you have anything to add for future editions, please let me know at amm85@cam.ac.uk.

Once again it’s been a busy few months, with a particular focus on the Peterhouse Society’s annual Gathering, which you can read more about later in this newsletter.

The photographs on this page were taken in high Summer. Above is a view from the William Stone Building, across the Scholars’ Garden and Deer Park to Old Court and beyond: you should just make out the University Library and King’s College Chapel in the distance. The photo below shows Gisborne Court in full summer splendour. The Development Office and Peterhouse Society Office is on the ground floor just to the right of the tree in the centre, staircase ‘L’.
RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

May Bumps, 14th – 17th June 2006

This year’s Bumps went very well, with positive results for what are, on the whole, quite inexperienced First Boat crews. The Ladies went up two, their first bumps in the Mays since 2002. The Second Men also went up 2, whilst the Third Men (Gentlemen’s VIII/Beer Boat) remained level, with one bump, but also being bumped. The First Men were unfortunate to lose one place, being bumped twice: on the first day they narrowly failed to make a bump, but achieved a splendid bump on the last day against Downing II.

Memorial Bench for Dr Danny Taylor inaugurated: 15th June 2006

A number of family and College guests attended a special bench inauguration ceremony on Thursday, 15th June, in honour of the late Dr Daniel Brumhall Cochrane (‘Danny’) Taylor, Fellow 1957-1968. As a Fellow he was closely involved with the Boat Club, having coached the famous 1956 Lents Head of the River crew. The men’s First Eight was for many years Danny Taylor – it was lost in a road accident a few years ago. A new Danny Taylor, a coxed four, was launched by Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Danny’s widow, at a ceremony at the Boathouse held on 23rd April 2006, the Sunday after the 50th anniversary PCB Henley Ladies’ Challenge Plate Dinner (see Petrean News, Spring 2006). The bench has been sited on the western side of the Scholars’ Garden, about half way along, in a clearing in the bushes overlooking Coe Fen. The photo below shows the Master and Elizabeth Taylor, toasting the occasion.

College May Week Concert, 15th June 2006

Those present at the bench inauguration later joined other members of the College at the annual May Week Concert in the Friends of Peterhouse Theatre. The programme included works by Mendelssohn, Brahms, Schoenberg and Bach (arranged by Busoni), with Dr Mark Berry (Fellow), the Peterhouse Chapel Choir, and current and recent undergraduate musicians.
Annual Medics Fellows vs Students golf match, Wednesday 14th June 2006

Professor Adrian Dixon and Dr Robert Ross Russell took on medical undergraduates Ruraidh Stewart (matric. 2005) and Richard Bevan-Jones (matric. 2004) at the Gog Magog Golf Club on a glorious summer’s evening at the end of examinations. The result was a comfortable victory for the Fellows!

Speaking of results, Dr Robert Ross Russell thought you might like to see this photo of the Medics and Medical Fellows at this year’s Commencement Dinner, held on 28th June. The Fellows (front row) are, left to right: Professor Adrian Dixon, Dr Robert Ross Russell and Professor Andrew Lever.

Peterhouse Society annual Gathering, 7th-9th July 2006

Once again this year’s annual Gathering was a great success. It was a pleasure, both for myself and my colleague, Alison Holroyd, to meet you. The weather could have been a bit kinder on the Sunday, but at least it didn’t rain!

Numbers were slightly down this year, probably because members from the years up to 1960 were invited this year to the reunion ‘Petrean Dinner’ in September and a number of ‘regulars’ may have chose to wait until then instead. But this did have the positive effect of enabling all members to dine together in the Hall for the Society Annual Dinner. We would be pleased to have your reactions to the Gathering – both from those who did come, and from those who chose not to. Please send your comments to me at amm85@cam.ac.uk.

All Petreans and their guests are equally welcome to the Gatherings, but we do encourage members to make a particular attempt to meet up on special anniversary occasions. This year marked the 50th Anniversary of graduation of the 1953 matriculands, and a special celebratory anniversary was organised by Professor Chris Calladine, Emeritus Fellow of Peterhouse, and Mr Noel Sayers. Mr Sayers writes as follows:

“The Peterhouse Gathering in July 2006 was by no means the first time that a small group of Petreans, matriculands in 1953, were to meet in College to celebrate milestones in the passing of the years, with friendship undimmed. Six couples had attended together the College Septcentenary events in 1984, the first occasion that some of the wives had met their husbands’ old friends and their partners. That weekend was very much enjoyed by all; and when, nineteen years on, the College encouraged all matriculands of 1953 to join in marking what would be the 50th anniversary of matriculation, the same group contacted one another
and all were able to come up to Cambridge again. Once again that 2003 Gathering proved to be a great success; and, before leaving, the group agreed that every effort would be made, three years on, to celebrate again, this time the 50th anniversary of graduation. In the meantime an approach would be made to as many other graduates of that vintage as could be contacted, suggesting that they might like to participate. The response was highly favourable, although several respondents were unable to attend due to distance or ill-health or some other impediment. About a dozen were at the lunch on Saturday; much nostalgia was enjoyed.”


Members of the College will be aware of the untimely death of Mark Cooke, Combination Room Butler, on 1st September 2006. A number of members of the College have expressed a wish to contribute to a fund in Mark’s memory, for the benefit of his dependants. Fellows of the College have themselves created such a fund and will most warmly welcome contributions from any Petrean who would like to join in. Cheques should be made payable to ‘Peterhouse’ (endorsed ‘Mark Cooke Memorial Fund’ on the reverse) and sent to: Ms Helen Walker, Peterhouse, Cambridge CB2 1RD.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **Subject-related events**
  - Financial Services and Accountancy Dinner, Friday 29th September 2006
    
    We still have places available for this dinner, although accommodation is limited.

- **College Music Society Christmas Concert, Friday 1st December 2006**
YOUR NEWS


*The Egyptian Revival: Ancient Egypt as the Inspiration for Design Motifs in the West* (Routledge, 2005)


Professor Curl is also contributing to a vast tome on *Symbolism in the Eighteenth-Century Garden*, to be published in Europe next year, and is speaking at a two-day symposium on gardens at Schwetzingen in Germany in September 2006. He is also contributing to a day-long symposium at the University of Oxford in February next, to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the publication of his influential book *The Erosion of Oxford*; and his *Classical Architecture: an Introduction to its Vocabulary and Essentials*, with a Select Glossary of Terms, is published by Anova Books under the Batsford imprint.

**Thomas Gray: article from Mr Brian Walling (matric. 1961)**

The other day, in the heart of the City of London, barely 200 metres from the Bank of England, I came across a memorial to one of our greatest alumni, Thomas Gray (matric. 1734), in Cornhill. It was a great, but pleasant, surprise, since I have walked past the spot countless times over the past 40 years (as I am sure many other Petreans have done and currently do) but have never noticed the memorial before. This time I happened to cross the street directly opposite it and came face to face with it.

The area is rich in history. The church next door, St Michael's Cornhill (out of the photo, to the left) is said to stand on the site of the oldest known Christian church in England, dating from AD 179. St Michael's has a list of Rectors going back as far as 1055. A little research indicates that 41 Cornhill, the building where Gray was born, was a small milliner's shop, run by Gray's mother and her sister. Gray's father was in financial services, being a ‘money-scrivener’ by profession. The memorial seems to have been was placed there in 1916, the 200th Anniversary of Gray's birth.
My only regret at this pleasant discovery is that the memorial carries the common-place first line of his *Elegy*, whereas a much more fitting statement - certainly for the City - would have been the last lines:

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,
Awaits alike th' inevitable hour:
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

**WHAT’S ON IN CAMBRIDGE – SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2006**

**Cambridge Arts Theatre:**

- **The French Lieutenant’s Woman**, 9th – 14th October.
- **Cambridge Footlights**, 12th November: for one night only, the world-famous Cambridge Footlights return to their traditional home at the Arts Theatre.
- **My Fair Lady**, 28th November – 2nd December: celebrating its 95th anniversary this year, Cambridge Operatic Society is delighted to be returning to the Arts Theatre for its annual production.
- **Aladdin**, 8th December – 14th January: Christmas pantomime starring Michael Fenton Stevens.

For a full programme and information visit [www.cambridgeartstheatre.com](http://www.cambridgeartstheatre.com); box office: 01223 503333.

**Cambridge Corn Exchange:**

- **Madam Butterfly**, 17th September: one of the World’s most popular operas.
- **The Two Faces of Mitchell & Webb**, 25th October: the stars of Channel 4’s Peep Show, of which David Mitchell is a Petrean (matric. 1993).
- **Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra**, 18th November: part of Cambridge Music Festival.
- **Swan Lake**, 29th and 30th November: the very best of Russian Classical Ballet. The Cambridge Corn Exchange Christmas Show, starring The Russian Ice Stars.

Information at [www.cornex.co.uk](http://www.cornex.co.uk); box office: 01223 357851.

**West Road Concert Hall:**

- **Full Score**, 12th October: works by Handel, Bach and Zelenka, conducted by Ralph Woodward and featuring Emma Kirkby, soprano.
- **West Forest Sinfonietta and Warren Mailley-Smith**, 21st October: works by Mozart, Grieg and Chopin.
- **MAGSOC**, 30th November: works by Dvorak, Mozart and Brahms, performed by the chorus and orchestra of the St Margaret Society of Queens College.

Information at [www.westroad.org](http://www.westroad.org); tel: 01223 335184.

**Cambridge Music Festival:**

- **Mozart, Maths and Music**, 5th – 25th November: a celebration of Mozart and maths.

For a full programme of events and information visit [www.cammusic.co.uk](http://www.cammusic.co.uk).
ADC Theatre:

- **Twelfth Night**, 3rd – 7th October: cast production of Shakespeare’s comedy returns to the ADC after a tour of North America.

- **Blasted**, 17th – 21st October: imagine an expensive hotel room; imagine it being blown up…

- **In the Blood**, 31st October – 4th November: a hard-edged piece of theatre about oppression and poverty.

- **The Permanent Way**, 14th – 18th November: David Hare’s shocking parable of British mismanagement, tells the various ‘true stories’ of the most devastating rail disasters of the past two decades.

- **Beauty and the Beast**, 5th – 9th December: an enchanting evening of theatre for all the family.

- **Little Women**, 12th – 16th December: Emma Reeve’s adaptation of the story of the March sisters.

Information at [www.adctheatre.com](http://www.adctheatre.com); box office 01223 300085.

Other Activities:

- **Figaro Opera at Sidney Sussex College**, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th September: an evening of beautiful music at Sidney Sussex College.

Information at [www.sid.cam.ac.uk](http://www.sid.cam.ac.uk).

- **Fitzwilliam Museum: Albrecht Altdorfer in Renaissance Regensburg: Prints of Allegory and Devotion**, 11th July – 5th November. Also showing **Figures on Fabric**, 19th September – 30th December.

Information at [www.fitzwilliam.cam.ac.uk](http://www.fitzwilliam.cam.ac.uk), telephone: 01223 332900.

- **Kettle’s Yard, Rodin – All About Eve**, 23rd September – 19th November: an exhibition about one of Rodin's greatest sculptures. Made in 1881, the sculpture 'Eve' was conceived to form a pair, with 'Adam', to flank 'The Gates of Hell'. The exhibition coincides with the Royal Academy's major Rodin exhibition.

Information at [www.kettlesyard.co.uk](http://www.kettlesyard.co.uk).

- **Scott Polar Research Institute: Arctic Encounters**, 3rd May – 28th October: an exhibition of the material culture of northern Canada, Greenland and Alaska.

Information at [www.spri.cam.ac.uk](http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk).

- **Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Bt., OBE, presents 'Living dangerously: my life as an explorer'**, 11th November: lecture held at Scott Polar Research Institute, open to all who are interested.

Information: telephone 01223 336540.

- **Cambridge Alumni Weekend**, 22nd – 24th September: at Cambridge University.

Information at [www.cam.ac.uk](http://www.cam.ac.uk); tel: 01223 337733.
• **Science and Healing** at Peterhouse, 30th September: international conference.

Information at [www.fountain-international.com](http://www.fountain-international.com).

• **Fireworks and Funfair at Midsummer Common**, 4th November: fireworks start at 7.30pm.

*If you wish to combine a visit to one of the above events with a stay at the College, details of guest rooms can be obtained through the Conference Co-ordinator, Ms Anne Gifford, telephone 01223 338205 ([jag39@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jag39@cam.ac.uk)).*

I received an enquiry from a Petrean currently residing overseas, asking for details of University overseas meetings and activities. Details can be found at: [www.foundation.cam.ac.uk](http://www.foundation.cam.ac.uk). This site also provides information about travel programmes and about over 200 alumni groups or branches of the Cambridge Society, in the UK and around the world.

Once again, I hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter. As always we would appreciate your feedback and comments, and if there is any item of news that you would like to share with us, please contact me, telephone 01223 765187, email [amm85@cam.ac.uk](mailto:amm85@cam.ac.uk)