



PETREAN NEWS

WINTER 2007

By Ann Munro, Development Officer

Welcome to the Winter 2007 edition of *Petrean News*. On behalf of all at the College, Angela, Neil and I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

It has been another exciting year. The College has undergone a variety of restoration and refurbishment works, with work continuing on the William Stone Building. Details of the various work undertaken will feature in the next edition of the *Peterhouse* newsletter, which will be mailed to you as usual at the end of January 2008. One of the smaller refurbishment projects this year has been the erection of a new greenhouse: you will find a report later in this edition.

You will see that we have added a couple of Petrean biographies, sent to us by members, to this edition. If you would like to send us your own short biography, please do so to amm85@cam.ac.uk.

We look forward to another eventful year in 2008, and hope to see many of you at one of the various events that we are lining up.

RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

History Dinner: 7th September 2007

The Peterhouse Society held two 'subject' dinners this year, the first, on Friday 7th September, being a dinner to which all those who had read history at Peterhouse were invited. Mr Adrian Bradley (matric. 2000), the youngest member to attend the dinner, writes: 'On a pleasant summer's evening, a coven of Peterhouse historians gathered in Hall for a dinner hosted by Mr Martin Golding and Mr Scott Mandelbrote. The seventy Petreans who attended ranged from those who matriculated in the 'thirties to those who matriculated just a few years ago; all had since pursued many different careers. A notable common interest, however, was a shared desire to learn about the present academic direction - and Mr Mandelbrote was able to report that History at Peterhouse was in good health, with many recent successes, in Tripos and amongst graduate students and the Fellowship. With the aid of the Peterhouse cellars, the majority remained until the early hours of the morning, with no sign of conversation being exhausted.'

Petrean Dinner for members who came into residence in the years 1966–1970: 22nd September 2007

This September's reunion dinner saw the return of Petreans who matriculated between the years 1966 and 1970. Petreans dined in the newly-refurbished and restored Hall. As always, the reunion seemed to have been greatly enjoyed by those who were able to be with us.

English Dinner: 28th September 2007

The second Peterhouse Society 'subject' dinner was held on Friday 28th September, for all those who had read English. One of the organisers of the dinner, Miss Beth Kreling (matric. 2000), writes: 'Whilst at College, students of English are traditionally offered an annual 'English Dessert'. Dinner was a welcome step up, and was well-attended by a wide range of alumni and Fellows from 1958 through to 2002. Mr Golding kindly presided, holding court in the Combination Room well into the small hours. An enjoyable evening, and one, we hope, to be repeated.'

Sexcentenary Club 150th anniversary Fireworks Party: 5th November 2007

The 150th anniversary of the founding of the Sexcentenary Club – the Peterhouse Junior Common Room - fell, to the day, on Monday 5th November 2007. The Club celebrated with a fireworks party in the Deer Park for all Junior Members, largely funded by a generous private donation. The current President of the Sexcentenary Club, Mr Ben Fisher (matric. 2005) writes as follows: 'The peculiar mathematics of the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Sexcentenary Club arises from the fact that, in the mid-nineteenth century, the date of the College's foundation was unknown, but assumed to be the year in which the Founder, Hugo de Balsham, was confirmed as Bishop of Ely, i.e. 1257. Thus 1857, the year the Sexcentenary Club came into being, was assumed to be the 600th anniversary of the College: hence 'Sexcentary'. The current Sex Club Committee organised a party to celebrate this auspicious occasion, to which all undergraduates, graduate students and Fellows, together with known former Sex Club Presidents, were invited. The evening started with free burgers, hot dogs and sausages for all, followed by mulled wine and other drinks in the Deer Park. At 9.00 p.m. a short speech was given by the President of the Sex Club, and then an impressive professional firework display began, which lasted 15 minutes and was greatly admired and enjoyed by all present. I believe the Sex Club has never before seen such a grand party. The Committee is extremely grateful to the benefactors who made it possible.'

COLLEGE NEWS

The Fellowship

Two Fellows left the Fellowship at the end of the 2006/07 academic year:

- The Revd Dr Ben Quash, formerly Dean, was appointed to a Chair in Christianity and the Arts at King's College, London.
- Dr Mark Walters, Fellow in Mathematics, took up a post at Queen Mary College, London.

The following were elected, with effect from 1st October 2007:

- Dr John Bew, formerly Research Fellow of Peterhouse, elected to an Official Fellowship as Harris Fellow in History.
- The Revd Dr Stephen Hampton, formerly Senior Tutor of St John's College, Durham, elected Fellow, Dean, Chaplain and Catechist.
- Mr Martyn Frampton, formerly of Jesus College, Cambridge, elected Research Fellow in History.
- Miss Remy Ware, of Peterhouse, elected Research Fellow in Biological Sciences.
- Dr Jochen Blumberger, of the Cambridge University Department of Chemistry, elected to a Bye-Fellowship.

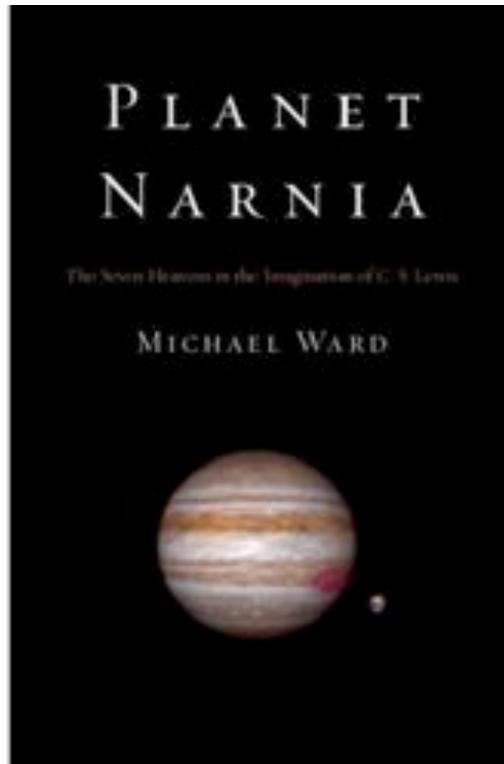
Additionally, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, the famous conductor and musicologist, was elected a Visiting Fellow of the College for the year 2007/08. Sir John is working for part of the year in Cambridge on a scholarly biography of J.S. Bach.

Ms Jodie Adams Kirshner, Visiting Fellow in the Centre for Business Research, Cambridge, was appointed to a Senior Research Associateship for the academic year 2007/08.

The College congratulates Honorary Fellow Sir Nicholas Stern (matric. 1964, Honorary Fellow 2006), on his elevation to the House of Lords in December 2007 as Lord Stern of Brentford. An interview with Lord Stern will appear in the 2008 *Peterhouse* newsletter.

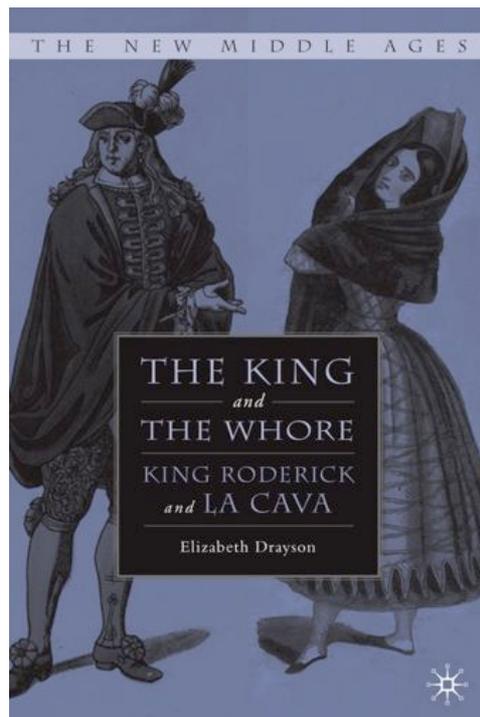
Publications

To great critical acclaim the Chaplain, Dr Michael Ward, is about to publish *Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C.S. Lewis* (Oxford University Press, 2008). For more information, visit: www.planetnarnia.com.



Michael Ward

Dr Elizabeth Drayson, Fellow of New Hall and College Lecturer in Spanish, has recently published *The King and the Whore: King Roderick and La Cava* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2007), which charts the reception of Spain's founding legend of passion and revenge from the eighth century to the present day.



Elizabeth Drayson

BBC news article

A BBC news article by Dr Rachel Oliver, Bye-Fellow in Materials Science, talking about her work on LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes), can be found at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/7131358.stm>.

Peterhouse Boat Club, Michaelmas Term 2007

Sky French (matric. 2004), Boat Club Development Officer, reports as follows on this Term's rowing: 'Peterhouse Boat Club entered two Women's Vllls, one Men's VIII and a Men's IV into the novice Fairbairn Cup Races at the end of Term; and, the following day, for the Senior Fairbairn Cup Races the Club entered four Senior IVs and a Gentlemen's VIII. The 1st and 2nd Men's IVs put in solid performances, placing 6th and 9th equal in the Men's Senior IVs, with the 2nd Men less than ten seconds behind the 1st IV. The 1st and 2nd Women placed 8th and 19th in the Women's Senior IVs, the first time in a number of years that two Peterhouse Senior Women's boats have entered Fairbairns. In addition, both Novice and Senior Crews competed in a selection of other races on the Cam.

The Cross Keys Boat Club, for non-resident Petreans with a continuing interest in rowing, once again raced Fairbairns, this time entering two crews – a IV, as last year, and an VIII. The Cross Keys Men's IV placed 9th equal with Peterhouse 2nd Men in the Senior IVs division, whilst the VIII came 42nd in the Senior Vllls division.

If you wish to be kept informed of the Boat Club's activities, please email Sky at bc_development@pet.cam.ac.uk.

Petreans in the USA

October 2007 saw the inauguration of the Brewster Association – an informal association intended to support the 'special relationship' that the College seeks to forge with U.S.-based Petreans and other U.S.-based supporters. The association is named for William Brewster, leader of the 'Pilgrim Fathers', who matriculated at Peterhouse in about 1580, and who went on to found the first permanent European settlement in New England. Petreans in the U.S. should have received an email from the Development Director informing you of the launch. The Association is supported by special pages on the Peterhouse website www.pet.cam.ac.uk. Go to the 'Petrean' pages <http://www.pet.cam.ac.uk/petreans/index.html> and click on 'U.S. Petreans'. The direct link is <http://www.petreans.net/us/>.

Refurbishment of the Greenhouse

For the past few years, the College gardeners have had to manage without the aid of a greenhouse. The old greenhouse had fallen into disrepair, and the importance of replacing it this year became even more apparent when several of the glass roof panels were blown off in strong winds. The Head Gardener, Richard Harris, says: 'Having a new greenhouse will greatly boost morale amongst the gardeners. It will allow us to do all our own propagation again, and once more we shall be able to grow our own pelargoniums and fuchsias for window boxes and hanging baskets. The increasing amount of summer and winter bedding we use will be grown from seed, rather than bought in stock. It's not just the greenhouse we get back, but also the potting shed and all the storage space it provides.'

The following pictures show (top) the erection of the new greenhouse, and (below) the completed installation of the new greenhouse (refurbishment work to the William Stone Building can also be seen). The photographs were taken by Daniel Osborne, one of the gardeners.



Daniel Osborne

A Busman's Holiday in Jerusalem

Earlier this year Richard Harris, our dedicated Head Gardener, took a two-week working holiday at the Botanical Gardens in Jerusalem. Richard writes: 'What better way to combine my love of gardening with a visit to the extraordinary country of Israel. We spent the first two days on tours, taking in the Old City of Jerusalem, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. On the second day we went south to Qumran, Masada, the Dead Sea, and then on to the gardens of Ein Gedi. We then arrived at the Botanical Gardens to get down to business! As well as focusing on everyday tasks, there was also some heavy-duty pruning to be done, and those of us with professional expertise were much in demand. Spring is a wonderful time to visit the gardens, and the flowers were breathtaking. The positive comments received from Israelis visiting the gardens was very encouraging, and helped to give 'job satisfaction.' One day, after work, we were privileged to be taken on a guided tour lead by Professor Michael Avishani to the gardens of the Hebrew University site on Mount Scopus. This was of great personal interest as this garden contains only native species and is most definitely off the tourist route, so it was a real treat. On our second weekend, we spent one day in and around the Haifa area, and were lucky enough to tour the gardens of the Baha'i Temple. We were intrigued to find out how the steeply sloped terraces were mown. The gardeners wear harnesses attached to ropes, which are held by teams of other gardeners, and this enables them to manage the slopes! Whilst the gardens were not to everyone's taste – they are very formal – we couldn't help but be impressed with the sheer effort that goes into making it look so beautiful.'

The holiday is organised by The Friends of Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, email: barbara@jnf.co.uk, or telephone: 020 8732 6119.

The Peterhouse Punt

Ed Emery (matric. 1966) writes: 'As some of you know, I have rescued the College punt from oblivion (see Autumn 2007 edition). Indeed I have effected running repairs, and she is now moored at the back wall of Darwin College. She has more or less sunk once, has been stolen twice, and has poled through the night to Waterbeach and survived to tell the tale. In order to integrate the punt into College life we now need to set up a proper programme for hiring, maintenance, repairs etc. You may fancy taking a trip or two in the College punt. You may even be interested to collaborate in the support and maintenance of this noble vessel. If so, don't hesitate to get in touch with me: ed.emery@thefreeuniversity.net.'

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Peterhouse Society Wine Tasting Dinner: 7th March 2008

The Committee of the Peterhouse Society invites members to join them at the Oxford and Cambridge Club (Pall Mall, London) on the evening of Friday 7th March 2008, at 7.00 for 7.30 p.m., for the inaugural Society Wine Tasting Dinner.

Guest speakers Dr Roderick Munday, Fellow of Peterhouse and Wine Steward, and Mr Hal Wilson (matric. 1987), of Cambridge Wine Merchants, will introduce a selection of wines from the Peterhouse Fellows' Cellar and Cambridge Wine Merchants. The wines will be selected to accompany a fine menu to be served in the Marie Louise Private Dining Room.

Members who have attended Dr Munday's annual wine tastings at the Society's annual Gathering will need little further encouragement to attend. The dinner will be a rare opportunity to taste some of the treasures from the Fellows' Cellar, and we thank the Steward, on behalf of the Master and Fellows, for agreeing to share these wines with us. Hal Wilson is the owner of Cambridge Wine Merchants, independent wine experts in Cambridge and Edinburgh.

The evening is priced at £55. Dress is lounge suits; places are restricted and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Hal Wilson directly to reserve tickets (hal@cambridgewine.com or 01954 214528).

Beer and gardens: 15th/16th March 2007

Ed Emery (matric. 1966) writes: 'As part of Cambridge Science Week 2008, I am organising an event entitled *The Science of Beer*. This will be an innovative evening seminar session combining song, dance and the serious consideration of beer. Everything from the physics of froth to the neuropathology of the hangover. Four 15-minute seminars with guest speakers, interspersed with appropriate songs. Followed by a full-blown ceilidh session with the amazing Cambridge University Ceilidh Band. Suitable for all ages. We are proud to announce that our seminar will feature a special 'Science Week' brew of Buntingford Brewery's beer, which will be available on tap. To be held at the University Sports and Social Club (bottom end of Mill Lane) on Saturday 15th March 2008 at 6.00 p.m. Admission is free, but all places must be booked in advance by e-mail to: ed.emery@thefreeuniversity.net.'

Ed goes on to say: 'If you are in Cambridge for Science Week, you might like to join us for some riverside gardening in Peterhouse. Now this might seem totally bonkers, but I have something of a long-term plan (let us say, over the next 200 years) to put Peterhouse back on the river. I have begun discussions with various people regarding the possibility of connecting to the present course of the Cam by digging a ditch across Coe Fen. That way we can bring the College watergate back into use for its rightful purpose! More immediately, though, I propose a volunteer working team on Sunday 16th March, to tidy up the ditch at the back end of the College (clearing undergrowth, trimming trees etc.). If you are interested in this venture send me an e-mail to: ed.emery@thefreeuniversity.net.'

• Peterhouse Music Society

- **Saturday 26th January**, *Le Cabaret du néant*, Friends of Peterhouse Theatre, 8.00 p.m. Ed Emery (matric. 1966) writes: 'This will be a concert of *avant-garde* cabaret music, performed by an ensemble including Sarah Dacey and the London-based South African composer Robert Fokkens. Last time we had songs, *chansons*, *lieder* and *schlager* by Satie, Schoenberg, Eisler, Weill, Cage, Geoff Hannan, Robert Fokkens and Laurence Crane. Scary intellectual stuff but a brilliant evening. Tickets: £8 and £5 (concessions). Free for Peterhouse members. Contact me at ed.emery@thefreeuniversity.net if you want to book tickets.'
- **Thursday 14th February**, Piano recital by Daniel Segall, 8.30 p.m., Lubbock Room.
- Weekly Coffee Concerts on **Tuesdays** from 1.15 to 1.45 p.m. in the Lubbock Room.

- **History Society**

- **Monday 28th January**, Ms Ludmila du Bouchet (Pembroke College): *Yemen: the Global War on Terror in a Fragile State*.
- **Thursday 14th February**, Dr Ruth Scurr (Faculty of Social and Political Sciences): *Robespierre*.

Meetings take place at 8.45 p.m. in the Parlour.

- **Kelvin Club**

- **Tuesday 5th February**, Dr Morgan Barense (Research Fellow, Peterhouse): *Amnesia and the Human Brain*.
- **Tuesday 19th February**, Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas (formerly Master of Peterhouse): *The Genius of Michael Faraday*.
- **Tuesday 4th March**, Professor Malcolm Mackley (Robinson College and Department of Chemical Engineering): *Flexible Chocolate*.

Meetings take place at 8.30 for 8.45 p.m. in the Lubbock Room.

- **Politics Society**

- **Tuesday 29th January**, Mr Stephen Pollard (Journalist for *The Times* and *Daily Mail* and biographer of David Blunkett).
- **Tuesday 12th February**, The Rt Hon. Baroness Butler-Sloss (Honorary Fellow of Peterhouse, formerly President of the Family Division in the High Court of Justice).
- **Tuesday 26th February**, Mr Nigel Farage, MEP (Leader of the UK Independence Party and MEP for South-East England).
- **TBC**: Mr Michael Ancram (Conservative MP for Devizes).

Meetings take place at 8.30 p.m. in the Parlour.

- **The Perne Club**

- **Thursday 24th January**, Dr David Runciman (Trinity Hall): *In Defence of Political Hypocrisy*.
- **Thursday 21st February**, Professor Martha LaGess and Mr Michael McNamara (LaMa Studio): *Generative Architecture*.
- **Thursday 6th March**, Dr Brendan Simms (Fellow of Peterhouse): *Humanitarian Intervention after Iraq*.

Meetings take place at 8.15 for 8.30 p.m. in E1, Old Court.

- **Peterhouse Theory Group: 'The Face', 2007/08**

The Peterhouse Theory Group is an interdisciplinary forum in which the insights and claims of theory are addressed in papers and in discussion. The Group attracts participants from a very wide range of disciplines, including Philosophy, English, Theology, History, SPS, Modern Languages, Classics, Geography and Neuroscience. It notably provided an outlet for the developing ideas of the Cambridge-based theological movement 'Radical Orthodoxy', which now has an international audience. It meets three times a term, on average, and in practice the discussions have drawn contributions from those without, as well as those with, an extensive background in theory.

Each year's seminars concentrate on a particular theme. Past themes have been 'Memory', 'Film', 'The City', 'Nature' and 'Death'; this year, discussion will concentrate on the theme of 'The Face'.

- **Thursday 31st January**, Dr Nigel Spivey (University of Cambridge): *The Neuroscience of Portraits/Caricatures*.
- **Thursday 7th February**, Dr Nikolai Ssorin-Chaikov (University of Cambridge): *Images of Face: Portraits of Soviet Leaders as Gifts to Soviet Leaders*.
- **Wednesday 13th February**, Mr Mathew Kabatoff (London School of Economics): *Conditions of Membership: The Face and Biometrics in the UK*.
- **Wednesday 12th March**, Dr Caroline Wilkinson (University of Dundee): *Faces of the Dead: Forensic and Archaeological Facial Reconstruction*.

Unless otherwise announced, all meetings will be held at 5.30pm, in The Parlour, Peterhouse (G staircase). Wine will be served with the discussion.

YOUR NEWS

Mr Michael Cocks (matric. 1957)

Michael Cocks (matric. 1957) was the oldest person in the country to undertake a full commercial diving course (in Scotland, at the age of 55). After decades in local and national politics he was looking for a new challenge, and found that onshore commercial divers were being killed in increasing numbers and were poorly paid. He decided to help a diving trade union, and over the past 12 years has written for the *Underwater Contractor* magazine; in this role he has visited and dived at almost 30 diving schools around the world, most recently at Chino prison in California, where prisoners are being trained as commercial divers. The school has just reopened, and before the closure the re-offending rate was 7%, compared with about 70% for other prisoners. He found this a rewarding visit, and had complete trust in the inmates to look after him in the water. He is the first journalist to be allowed to participate. He may well, at the age of 71, become the oldest person in the world to undertake part of a saturation diving course.'

The photographs below show Mr Cocks - diving in treated sewerage in Cape Town, and preparing to make a dive at Chino prison in California.



Michael Cocks



Michael Cocks

Mr Roger Morris (matric. 1964)

Roger Morris was born in Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, U.K., in 1946, and brought up in St Helens, Lancashire, from where he attended Liverpool College (1955-64) and read Law at Peterhouse, Cambridge (1964-67). He was articled at St Helens C.B.C. (where his father Timothy was then Borough Treasurer), and was admitted as a Solicitor in 1970. In 1973 he moved to Grimsby C.B.C., eventually becoming Director of Administration for the new Borough in 1974. In 1981 he became Chief Executive of the City of Durham, moving in 1986 to become Chief Executive and Town Clerk of Northampton Borough Council. He retired in 2004. He has a twenty-year old son Edward, now reading Economics at Warwick University, and a partner Jane, whose children are Claire (15) and Christopher (13). They continue to live in Northamptonshire. Roger Morris has been professionally active in local government throughout his career, and was President of the Association of District Secretaries in 1979-80, Honorary Solicitor of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) 1984-1995, President of SOLACE in 1995-96, and also President of its trade union counterpart ALACE for some years up to 2004. He has been a member of the Law Society's Board for its Diploma of Local Government Law and Practice since its inception in 1982, and has chaired it for ten years or so. In 1984 he joined the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), and took part in the International Exchange Programme in Santa Rosa, California. He was a member of ICMA's International Committee in 1992-94, was subsequently a member of their Committee on International Management Issues, and was elected as an International Vice-President serving on ICMA's Board from 1998 to 2001. He received his 35-year ICMA Public Service Award in 2003, and was appointed to chair the Planning Committee for the 2006 ICMA conference, having served on the Planning Committees for several other conferences. He is now Chairman of the Corporation of Northampton College; a member of the Connexions Board for Northamptonshire; a Trustee of the Victoria County History Committee for Northamptonshire; and a consultant counsellor for ALACE. He has written widely, including *Parliament and the Public Libraries* (1977), *The Public Lending Right Handbook* (1980), *Solicitors and Local Authorities* (1982), *Local Government Ground Rules* (1990), (with Roger Paine) *Will You Manage? The Needs of Local Authority Chief Executives* (1995), and (with David Monks) *Running Elections* (4th edition 2007).

WHAT'S ON IN CAMBRIDGE – JANUARY TO MARCH 2008

Cambridge Arts Theatre:

- **Cinderella**, 7th December to 20th January. Cambridge's only traditional family pantomime.

For a full programme and information visit www.cambridgeartstheatre.com; box office: 01223 503333.

Cambridge Corn Exchange:

- **The Great Moscow State Circus**, 29th January to 3rd February. Russia's greatest circus performers in a brand new show.
- **The Russian State Ballet of Siberia**, 10th to 11th February. Performing Swan Lake and Cinderella.
- **Oh What a Night**, 29th February to 1st March. Starring Kid Creole and featuring a full company of fantastic performers.
- **Ellen Kent presents La Traviata**, 14th March. A spectacular traditional production with handpicked soloists, a highly praised chorus and full orchestra.

For a full programme and information visit www.cornex.co.uk; box office: 01223 357851.

West Road Concert Hall:

- **Britten Sinfonia - Lunchtime Series**, 15th January. Programme: J.S. Bach, Ricercare from A Musical Offering for String Sextet; Helen Grime, new work (world première tour); Brahms, String Sextet in B flat, Op. 18.
- **Cambridgeshire Choral Society and Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra**, 16th February. Programme: Mozart: Requiem (k. 626), Vesperae Solennes De Confessore (kv 339).
- **Cantate Youth Choir**, 16th March.

For a full programme and information visit www.westroad.org; tel: 01223 335184.

ADC Theatre:

- **Julius Caesar**, 15th to 19th January. Cambridge University European Theatre Group's 50th anniversary production of one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies.
- **Into the Woods**, 11th to 22nd March. Performed by The Amateur Dramatic Club. This year's Lent Term Musical promises to be a spectacular rendition of Sondheim's modern classic. At its heart an exceptional piece of dramatic storytelling, this production will include live music and stunning design in the creation of a hugely enjoyable theatrical experience for young and old alike.

For a full programme and information visit www.adctheatre.com; box office: 01223 300085.

Fitzwilliam Museum:

- **Ethiopian Encounters: A British expedition to Ethiopia in the 1840s**, until 20th January. Shiba Gallery (Gallery 14).
- **Made for Export: Chinese Nineteenth Century Flower Drawings**, 29th January to 11th May, Shiba Gallery (Gallery 14)

For a full programme and information visit www.fitzwilliam.cam.ac.uk; telephone: 01223 332900.

Scott Polar Research Institute: Britain in the Arctic, British Exploration in the North 1800 – 1989. Opening date to be announced.

Information at www.spri.cam.ac.uk; telephone 01223 336540.

Boat Race 2008, Saturday 29th March. MV Elizabethan, Putney Pier, London, join the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alison Richard to watch the Boat Race.

Information at www.foundation.cam.ac.uk; tel. 01223 332288.

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).