Welcome to the Winter 2009 edition of Petrean News. On behalf of all at the College, Alison, Neil and I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

The two photographs below were taken by Jerry Hills of Seventh House Publishing. These were reproduced into Christmas cards and sold to Fellows and Junior Members of the College. We are hoping to be able to offer these for sale to all members of the College for Christmas 2010, and will provide further details in the Autumn 2010 edition of Petrean News.
RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Petrean Dinner for members who came into residence in the years 1986–1990: 19th September 2009

This September’s reunion dinner saw the return of Petreans who matriculated between the years 1986 and 1990. Mr Redmond Szell (matric. 1988), who attended the dinner, wrote: ‘I stood at the Porter’s Lodge feeling strangely apprehensive. The last time Petreans who matriculated between 1986 and 1990 were invited en masse to dinner, my sister’s wedding had prevented me from attending, and I had since endured a decade of being reminded of the enjoyable night I had missed. The list of other attendees perked me up; the two people I most regretted losing touch with after graduation were both on it, as were some whom I hadn’t seen often enough – and my old tutor Mr Golding.

The majority of us took advantage of the Master and Mrs Dixon’s invitation to a wonderfully informal tea on their lawn to re-acquaint ourselves with each other, after which we were given the opportunity to see the Gunn Gallery Extension to the Ward Library – which is magnificent. The only problem with the Library has always been its proximity to the Mill Tavern and, though it proved more difficult to escape the Ward than it was two decades ago, most of us succeeded in reconvening at the pub for a pre-changing-for-dinner drink. There is something timeless about Hall; the gong, the softening candlelight, the murmur of views exchanged over aged-oak tables; that works a strange magic. Whether I was affected by the beauty of its recent restoration, or the passage of time since I had last dined there, or the heady combination of ‘Cherubs on Horseback’ (an apricot variation on the Petrean favourite) and Pinot Noir, I felt time rolling back, and for a few brief hours enjoyed the sensation of being twenty again.

Only when I finally located Mr Golding and we were chatting about the coincidence of my daughters’ babysitter now being a first-year English undergraduate at the College, did I feel older, and the bubble popped. However, by then I also fully appreciated the joy of renewing old acquaintances. Weddings and the like permitting, I’ll be back for the next one.’

Lawyers’ Dinner: 26th September 2009

Mr Roger Morris (matric. 1964) recently attended the Lawyers’ Dinner held in College on 26th September 2009. Mr Morris wrote to us to say: ‘Please pass on my thanks to all concerned for an excellent evening and dinner for College lawyers. It was thoroughly enjoyable to be back in the College again in such circumstances, and I’m sure we all appreciated the initiative in organising it. The small number of us from the early years no doubt partly reflected the passage of time, but also the relatively small cadres of Peterhouse lawyers then. It is gratifying to witness evidence of the College’s strength now in our subject, and its study of course by both men and women undergraduates.’

West End ‘London Drinks’ evening, Thursday 15th October 2009

The Peterhouse Society’s second London Drinks evening this year took place on Thursday 15th October at Café Koha in the West End of London. The first photograph below shows the Master welcoming members to the event, and the second shows Francis Bassett (matric. 1974) playing on the Café’s piano. Our thanks goes to Douglas Maxwell (matric. 1974), for providing us with these photographs.
COLLEGE NEWS

The Fellowship

The following Fellows have recently left the Fellowship to pursue fresh challenges:

- Dr Morgan Barense, Research Fellow (Neuroscience), now at the University of Toronto.
- Dr Martyn Frampton, Research Fellow (History), to a Lectureship at Queen Mary College, University of London.
- Dr Rachel Oliver, Bye-Fellow (Materials Science), to a Lectureship in the Department of Materials Science, University of Cambridge
- Dr Jochen Blumberger, Bye-Fellow (Chemistry), now at the Department of Physics and Astronomy, University College London.

The following elections were made with effect from 1st October 2009:

- Professor Tim Crane, formerly Director of the Institute of Philosophy, University of London, elected as Professorial Fellow upon taking up the Knightbridge Chair in the Faculty of Philosophy.
- Dr Tony Crowther, elected to an Emeritus Fellowship.
- Mr James Frost, formerly of Trinity College, elected to a Research Fellowship in Experimental Particle Physics.
- Mr Sacha Golob, formerly of Pembroke College, elected to a Research Fellowship in Philosophy.
- Dr Colin Watts, from the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, elected to a Bye-Fellowship in Medical Sciences.
- Dr David Essex, from the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, elected to a Bye-Fellowship in Mathematics.
- Dr Samantha England, former Research Fellow, elected to a Bye-Fellowship in Biology.

Additionally, Professor John Craig, a distinguished Historian from Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, was elected a Visiting Fellow for the academic year 2009/10.
Imogen Wescott, Captain of Boats (matric. 2006), writes as follows:

Michaelmas Term has been an exceptional one for the Boat Club with all crews working hard and performing well. The term began with us welcoming many new members to the club. All of the novices worked hard over the term and were rewarded with excellent results at Fairbairns. The 1st Novice Men’s VIII finished 12th, the 2nd Novice Men’s VIII finished 57th, and the Novice Women’s VIII finished 15th.

Training began early for the senior crews with everyone returning a week before term began. The crews all took part in Winter Head, Fairbairns and the 1st Men’s IV also took part in University IVs. The Senior Women’s crew again raced as a senior-novice composite crew for both events, the aim being to use Fairbairns as a stepping stone on the way to Lent Bumps.

We also welcomed Merton, our sister College from Oxford. They came to race Winter Head, and it is hoped that we can travel to Oxford next term to take part in the Isis Winter League. In Winter Head the Senior Women came 8th in their category, a good result for the composite crew. The Senior Men’s IVs results for Winter Head were exceptional. The 1st Men’s IV won the ARA Intermediate 3 and Student Senior categories, and the 2nd Men’s IV A crew won the Student Novice category, with the B crew coming 6th. An unbelievably successful day of racing for the crews.

Hard work from everyone last term meant exceptional results for the senior crews in Fairbairns. The Senior Women finished 24th overall, a very promising result for next term. The Men’s 2nd IV finished 15th making them the second fastest second IV, beaten only by First and Third.

Approximately half way through term the 1st Men’s IV took part in University IVs, getting through to the quarter finals where they were unfortunately beaten by Downing. Hard work and dedication lead to an exceptional Fairbairns result, which was undoubtedly the highlight of the term for the Club. The 1st Men’s IV won the IVs Fairbairns Cup, finishing eight seconds ahead of the next college crew. This was an immense achievement for the crew, especially for those who missed out on first place by fractions of a second last year. An amazing achievement considering this was the first time in 54 years, since 1955, that a Peterhouse Men’s crew has won Fairbairns!

As well as the Peterhouse crews, it was excellent to have two Cross Keys crews return to race. The Men’s VIII and Women’s IV finished 44th and 17th respectively. We all hope that this will continue as it is always a pleasure to welcome alumni back to the club.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has supported us this term, whether it has been through coaching, cheering on the bank, or through the Peterhouse Boat Club Fund. If there are
any members who wish to be added to our mailing list to receive termly news updates and Boat Club Dinner invites, please contact us at development@peterhousebc.org.

Forthcoming Boat Club Events:

- Lent Bumps: Tuesday 23rd – Saturday 27th February 2010
- Lent Bumps Dinner: Saturday 27th February
- May Bumps: Wednesday 9th – Saturday 12th June
- May Bumps Dinner: Saturday 12th June

Telephone Campaign 2010

Just after the New Year, the Development Office will be launching its sixth consecutive Telephone Fundraising Campaign. The aim of the exercise is to build on the relationship that Petreans have with the College, by making direct contact with our members through our own student-callers and allowing us to gain first-hand accounts of what the College was like during your time here, giving you the opportunity to re-visit that experience. The Campaign also gives us the opportunity to seek support from our members. We have been delighted with the response in previous years, and the donations so generously received have made a very positive difference to the College.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sir John Meurig Thomas (Master 1993-2002)

A charity concert in aid of Addenbrookes' Hospital, in memory of Lady Thomas will be held at 7.30 p.m. in King’s College Chapel.

- Monday 1st February, Bryn Terfel, bass baritone, King’s College Choir, CUMS Chorus, Philharmonia Orchestra, and Stephen Cleobury, conductor.

  Mozart Symphony no. 29
  Excerpts from Mendelssohn Elijah
  Welsh songs: Fauré Requiem

Tickets: £65, £50, £40 and £25 are available from the Corn Exchange; tel. 01223 357857.

Peterhouse Music Society

The Music Society calendar has yet to be finalised, although the Society will be holding informal coffee concerts every Friday lunchtime. They are also launching Peterhouse's first jazz band. The Barbershop Group will also be putting on a concert, and a composers’ concert is being organised showcasing music written by members of College. Lent Term will be concluded with a concert in the Friends of Peterhouse Theatre.

Please contact Rosamund Hatfield, (rlh52@cam.ac.uk), in January 2010 for full details.

History Society

Please contact Kate Sproule (ks500@cam.ac.uk), in January 2010 for full details.

Kelvin Club

- Tuesday 2nd February 2010, Dr Colin Watts (Bye-Fellow): Is brain cancer a stem cell disease?
- Tuesday 16th February 2010, Dr Robert Muir-Wood (Risk Management Solutions Ltd): Catastrophe risk; catastrophe loss modelling and catastrophe bonds.
- Tuesday 2nd March 2010, Revd Dr Michael Banner (Trinity College): On being dead and very dead: some issues for organ transplantation

Meetings take place at 8.30 for 8.45 p.m. in the Lubbock Room. Please contact Miss Gentiana Shiko (gs315@cam.ac.uk), for further details.
Politics Society

- **Wednesday 10th February 2010**, Mr Oliver Letwin, Member of Parliament for West Dorset.
- **Wednesday 24th February 2010**, Mr Nick Harvey, Member of Parliament for North Devon.

More dates to be confirmed. Please contact Mr Edward Winfield (eww22@cam.ac.uk), in January 2010 for full details.

The Perne Club

- **Thursday 21st January 2010**, Professor John Mullan (University College London): title to be confirmed.
- **Thursday 11th February 2010**, Professor Tim Crane (Fellow): Appearance and Reality: Wittgenstein and Stephen Hawking.

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

**Medics’ Dinner, Friday 26th February 2010**

A reunion dinner is now in the final stages of being organised for Petrean Medics on Friday 26th February 2010, and we hope to circulate invites before Christmas. Sir Bernard Ribeiro, CBE, FRCS, FRCP, President of the Royal College of Surgeons 2005-08 will be our guest speaker before dinner. We do hope that as many of you as possible are able to attend, and if you have not received an invitation by the New Year, please contact the Peterhouse Society Office at society@pet.cam.ac.uk.

**55th Anniversary PBC Henley Ladies’ Challenge Plate Dinner: 9th April 2011**

You may wish to make a note that the 55th anniversary of the 1956 Peterhouse Boat Club Henley Ladies’ Challenge Plate triumph will be marked with a special dinner on 9th April 2011. Further up-dates and reminders will follow, so please do not register your interest just yet.

**YOUR NEWS**

**Queen’s Birthday Honours List 2009 – Petrean honoured**

Peter Hawthorne (matric. 1965), for services to education and local government, CBE.

**Professor Michael Thompson, FRS (former Research Fellow)**

Professor Michael Thompson (pictured below) is currently an Honorary Fellow in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics in the University of Cambridge. Professor Thompson has played a leading role in the creation of the Royal Society's Trailblazing website, which is being used to kick off the Society's Anniversary celebrations. Sixty trailblazing papers have been selected by scientists, communicators and historians, chaired by Professor Thompson, who said of his involvement: 'It was a great thrill for all of us selecting articles for their novelty, pivotal science and often just plain fun. In doing so we had to maintain a balance between the disciplines (astronomy, biology, chemistry, Earth science, mathematics, physics and engineering), while stirring in a peppering of iconic names (Isaac Newton, Steven Hawking, etc). The aim was to make an inspiring and tasty dish for today's scientists, for the public at large, and of course for the youngsters who will be the scientists of tomorrow.' Full details can be viewed at www.royalsociety.org/trailblazing.
Mr William Hanbury-Tenison (matric. 1981)

Mr Hanbury-Tenison wrote to us recently saying that he would be happy to be a point of contact for alumni and undergraduates alike looking for advice or like-minded company in Shanghai. Mr Hanbury-Tenison is a Fine Art Agent and can be contacted at william@fineartagent.com.

Professor Anant Padmanabhan (matric. 1968)

Congratulations to Professor Anant Padmanabhan who received an Honorary Membership of the Indian Institute of Metals (IIM). The photograph below shows Professor Padmanabhan receiving the award from this year's President, Dr Sanak Mishra, CEO, Greenfield Projects, Arcelor-Mittal, India. The ceremony took place at Kilkata on 13th November 2009.

Mr Terence Cudbird (matric. 1964)

We recently received an e-mail from Terence Cudbird, who wrote: ‘Having retired three years ago, I have just completed a circumnavigation of France on foot, 4,000 miles in total. I am currently working on a book on France, and have created a website for people who love France and walking, which can be viewed at: www.walkingaroundfrance.com.’

Mr Cudbird would be delighted to receive any feedback from members, and can be contacted through the above website.
PUBLICATIONS

Mr Alistair Cooke, O.B.E. (matric. 1963)

*Tory Policy-Making: The Conservative Research Department 1929-2009*, edited by Alistair Cooke, with contributions from David Cameron, Alistair Cooke, Michael Dobbs, Oliver Letwin, James O'Shaughnessy, Stephen Parkinson, Chris Patten and Brendon Sewill, has recently been published by the Conservative Research Department. Copies can be obtained through Alistair Cooke, by writing to him at, Alistair.Cooke@Conservatives.com.

Mr Julian Shuckburgh (matric. 1958)

*Harmony & Discord: the Real Life of J.S. Bach*, by Julian Shuckburgh has recently been published by Old Street Publishing. Full details can be seen at www.oldstreetpublishing.co.uk.

WHAT’S ON IN CAMBRIDGE – DECEMBER 2009 TO MARCH 2010

Cambridge Arts Theatre:

- **Dick Whittington**, 10th December to 17th January 2010. Cambridge’s only traditional family pantomime starring Brad Fitt, Julie Buckfield and Matt Crosby as King Rat.
- **John Humphrys**, 22nd January 2010. John Humphrys has always attracted controversy. An outspoken and distinguished journalist, his forthright opinions have attracted criticism and praise alike.
• **The 39 Steps**, 25th December to 30th January 2010. Direct from the West End, Broadway and 25 other countries around the globe comes Alfred Hitchcock's classic thriller, *The 39 Steps*.

• **HMS Pinafore**, 1st January to 6th February 2010. In the run-up to their 50th Anniversary Year, the Cambridge University Gilbert and Sullivan Society returns to the Arts Theatre with a fresh and exciting production of the timeless comic opera, *HMS Pinafore*. With talented, young, professional director Poppy Burton-Morgan at the helm and featuring the cream of Cambridge's student talent, this year's show promises to be bigger than ever before.

• **Present Laughter**, 8th to 13th February 2010. Starring Robert Bathurst, Belinda Lang and Serena Evans. Set in the glamorous world of theatre, *Present Laughter* is a gloriously witty portrait of the life that whirled round Noel Coward in his heyday.

• **Twelfth Night**, 16th to 20th February 2010. In the flood-damaged corridors of Illyria, ten desperate people struggle to stay afloat in the dark, turbulent waters of the human heart. Shakespeare's stark, brilliant comedy of survival, loss and the mind-blowing cruelty of love is among the most haunting of all the playwright's masterpieces. The play is given a fresh look by the Marlowe Society, an exciting and innovative young company.

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

**Cambridge Corn Exchange:**

• **The Chinese State Circus**, 1st to 3rd February 2010. The world's greatest acrobats join forces with the undisputed masters of martial arts, stretching the limits of human achievement in an extraordinary two hour show.

• **Czech National Symphony Orchestra**, 13th February 2010. Making a welcome return to the Corn Exchange after a 10-year absence, conducted by Petr Altrichter, former Principal Conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. They present a programme of mouthwatering 19th-century classics.

• **The Russian State Ballet and Orchestra of Siberia**, 21st to 22nd March 2010. Russia's acclaimed ballet company returns to the UK with great ballet masterpieces – Sleeping Beauty and Swan Lake.

For a full programme and information visit [www.cornex.co.uk](http://www.cornex.co.uk); box office: 01223 357851.

**ADC Theatre:**

• **The Merchant of Venice**, 23rd to 27th February 2010. A play which seeks to question and provoke. This thoughtful, atmospheric and powerful production will revel in Shakespeare's wit and the headiness of youth.

• **The Woman in White**, 23rd to 27th March 2010. By Wilkie Collins, and adapted for the stage by Constance Cox, directed by Brenda Cottis.

For a full programme and information visit [www.adctheatre.com](http://www.adctheatre.com); tel: 01223 359547.

**Fitzwilliam Museum:**

• **The Angel and the Virgin: A Brief History of the Annunciation**, 9th February to 9th May 2010. A display selected from the Museum's collection by the artist, writer and print historian Lino Mannocci, whose own work can be seen in the exhibition *Clouds and Myths*.

• **Netsuke: Japanese Art in Miniature**, 23rd February to 27th June 2010. This small exhibition brings together 200 superb examples of netsuke - a form of miniature sculpture originating in 17th-century Japan. These often elaborately carved items were designed to function as 'toggles' for the silk cords upon which Japanese men strung their pipes, purses or writing implements.

For a full programme and information visit [www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk](http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk); telephone: 01223 332900.
Kettle’s Yard:


For a full programme and information visit [www.kettlesyard.co.uk](http://www.kettlesyard.co.uk); telephone: 01223 748100.


Information at [www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/events](http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/events); tel. 01223 332288.

Don’t forget you can always combine one of the above shows or exhibitions with a stay in College. Details of guest rooms, at special rates for Petreans, can be obtained through the Conference Co-ordinator, Ms Anne Gifford, telephone 01223 338205 (anne.gifford@pet.cam.ac.uk).