Nuffield Newsletter
Issue 10 Winter 2011
College News

From the Editor

Issue 10 of the Newsletter has been achieved so soon after we started in a small way in 2005. Our aim when we started was to establish a consistent source of news and a reliable link back to your old college, rather than a short lived marketing piece. I think we have achieved that. We are delighted to welcome Catherine McNeill back from maternity leave. Catherine will be picking up the Events baton from Claire Bunce who covered so well in her absence, and has begun by listing future events and arrangements for old members on Page 4. When we look at the arrangements in other colleges we realise that Nuffield only has a small team to look after old members and development issues (see back page for our contact details), but our welcome is genuine. We have enjoyed compiling these newsletters for you and we hope you like receiving them. If you have any suggestions for improvements or ideas for inclusion I would be happy to hear from you.

With best wishes for 2012,

Gwilym Hughes (Editor, Bursar, Development Contact), Catherine McNeill (Events, Newsletter, Annual Report), Claire Bunce (Visits, Dining, Domestic Arrangements)

College Art News

The improvements and changes in hanging of the collection since our account in the 2008 Newsletter will be described more fully in a future issue. Meanwhile if you would like to know more:

• There is a new Art Committee section on the college website
• We have a catalogue with information on the buildings and the more important art works. Please email us at our art address: ArtCommittee@nuffield.ox.ac.uk if you would like a copy
• We have begun a series of events including tours of our collection and pre-High Table informal talks by artists with works in our collection. E-mail us if you would like to join the art mailing list.

Portrait of the Warden

The latest in our series of drawings of the College’s Wardens now hangs in the lobby outside the Hall, facing the doors to the JCR. There are three small pencil on paper drawings in a single frame, each drawn with Steve Nickell in a different situation. The drawings are accompanied by an accelerated film (8 minutes 25 seconds) that reveals the progression in the making of each drawing, set against the real-time background sounds and fragments of the conversations.

The film is on the News section of the Art Committee webpages offering an opportunity to unlock the creation of each portrait.

Richard Mayou, Chairman
Gwen Sasse, Vice Chairman

Two different views of Nuffield are now available from VA Prints. The prints are limited editions, each one is individually numbered and signed. For details about price and delivery options, please visit their website at www.virtual-archive.co.uk. A small royalty is paid to the College for each print sold.

Above: A summit of Nuffield’s Wardens, past, present and future!

From left to right: Sir David Cox, Sir Tony Atkinson, Steve Nickell, Andrew Dilnot (Warden-elect). Front centre: Michael Brock

A composite image from the film showing the three completed drawings.

Front cover photo ©VA Prints (www.virtual-archive.co.uk)

The views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the College.
Oxford’s Open Doors

‘Heritage Open Days’ is an annual nationwide civic programme of celebrating architecture and culture by opening usually private places to the public, free of charge. Every September, buildings of every age, style and function throw open their doors; below is an article that first appeared in Blueprint, Oxford University’s staff magazine, describing what the Open Doors event means in Oxford.

Nuffield College is a regular participant (and supporter) of Oxford’s ‘Open Doors’. Thanks to willing staff and students volunteering as marshalls and guides, we have opened various parts of the College to the public, including the Chapel and Dining Hall. Numbers of visitors have increased year-on-year – hopefully 2012 will not buck the trend (8-9 September, put the dates in your diary!). Do subscribe to the Oxford Preservation Trust’s Newsletter (they organise Open Doors) at www.oxfordopendoors.org.uk to be kept informed of developments.

Some will purr and some will creak. Some will need a swipe card, others a rusty old key. But September saw dozens of Oxford’s doors thrown open to visitors as part of the best ‘Oxford Open Doors’ event yet. Open Doors offers local people an extraordinary opportunity to get to know each other – and the places where they live and work – better. All are welcome, venues and activities are free, and the event is family friendly. Oxford Open Doors is run by the Oxford Preservation Trust in partnership with the University of Oxford and with the support of Oxford colleges. Financial assistance is provided by the University, St John’s, All Souls and Nuffield Colleges and local businesses. Last year it was the third biggest Heritage Open Days event in the country after those in Brighton and Hove, and Norwich. (London runs an alternative event called Open City.)

Beginning in 2007 the event has grown steadily: with over 50,000 visits to 175 venues in 2010. Colleges and many University buildings as well as a wide range of other venues, from places of worship to the Oxford Bus Company’s depot and the council’s City Works; from the old City of Oxford Power Station to the Oxford Playhouse make visitors welcome and walking tours take place on subjects ranging from the city’s medieval Jewish community to the building of Florence Park estate. Some 74% of visitors were from Oxford or Oxfordshire. This year Christ Church held its regular biennial open day to coincide with the weekend and voices of thousands of visitors echoed round the Great Quad of All Souls. University buildings open for the first time included the Faculty of History in the Old Boys’ High School, and the Bate Collection, one of the most extraordinary collections of musical instruments in the world. Nuffield College is rapidly gaining a reputation for its brightly coloured deck chairs which are laid out in its beautiful quadrangles.

Oxford Open Doors is a great opportunity for colleges and departments to showcase not only their history and architecture but what they do today, and to get young people in particular interested in academic research. One visitor last year reported: ‘My teenagers visited three science labs and sat telling me excitedly about them for two solid hours.’

Some venues are not open to the public except during Open Doors. Debbie Dance, Director of the OPT, reflects: ‘What we’re doing is giving people confidence. It’s about being asked. It’s about colleges and the University inviting people in.’ Last year a college porter described how he had accompanied some of his neighbours to his college because Oxford Open Doors had given him the chance to show them the beautiful place where he worked and what his job involved. One visitor summed up the experience of many: ‘I have learnt so much about places I didn’t even know existed.’

This is an edited version of an article which first appeared in Blueprint, in July 2011. Photo: Greg Smolonski
Nuffield Meets Westminster

While Nuffield is privileged to have a great number of prominent members from public life coming to the College as Visiting Fellows, it is rarer that members of the college visit these people in their working lives. This has, however, started to change – thanks to the efforts of Anja Neundorf, Thees Spreckelsen, and Sundas Ali, members of the college were able to visit Greg Clark, Minister of State for Decentralisation and Planning Policy, in and around Parliament.

Greg Clark receiving his Nuffield tie.

After Greg Clark had met the visitors from Nuffield (during which both the variation and the strength of feeling on political issues became clear – who said Nuffield was a purely neutral academic environment?), we all piled down to Parliament, where we were immediately met with the sorts of security procedures that came as a huge shock to the Brits and no surprise at all to the Americans.

Having got our bearings (no straightforward task in an environment as baffling as Parliament) we met with Greg’s aide, at whom we immediately started firing questions about the disconnect between the volume of governmental claims and the research behind them. He helped us to get our heads around the relationships between parties, researchers, the civil service, and also how different government and opposition are. Greg promptly arrived from a meeting before dashing off again to vote in the Health and Social Care bill. Nuffielders watched this from the gallery, attempting to establish which of Iain Duncan Smith and Ed Balls was less impressive – a close call.

After Greg had spoken very warmly in the Commons about Kidderminster, the session closed, and he showed us around the chamber itself, introducing us to some of the history of the place; we were shown the old Budget case, and your reporter was rebuked for his attempt to sit in the Speaker’s chair. We were further shown the chambers outside, and the etymology of the word “lobbying” was explained.

While lesser ministers would have finished the tour at that point, Greg took us back upstairs to a committee room where he allowed himself to be grilled (if never nailed down) on all sorts of aspects of his experiences, from the intricacies of his own legislation to his relationship with the Coalition, and (being Nuffield) exhaustive questioning on the process of drafting legislation and the relationships that MPs must develop with staff in Parliament if they ever want to get anything done. On our way out, he showed us through the Opposition’s portion of the building, the House of Commons Library (where David Butler’s work was extremely prominent), and the Lords chamber itself.

Our fantastic experience in Parliament is both a testament to Greg’s generosity, and to Anja Neundorf’s logistical and fundraising efforts (the trip was generously funded by the College). We would encourage other Visiting Fellows to approach the College if they would be interested in showing its members aspects of their working life – and they should be warned that they may well be approached after Stated Meeting dinners by enterprising individuals keen to organise a similar experience in exchange for a beautiful Nuffield tie.

Mark Taylor
DPhil Student, Sociology
Welcoming Old Members

Economics Reunion Dinner
Friday 16 March 2012

The Economics Group will host a reunion dinner (7:30pm) with a seminar beforehand.

Invitations and full details will be sent by e-mail in the New Year, but if you wish to reserve a place beforehand, do contact us at: events@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

Old Boys’ Football
Saturday 17 March 2012, Oxford

To play in the Old Boys’ vs Nuffield match, contact Emre Ozcan or Hussein Kassim emre.ozcan@gmail.com / hhkassim@hotmail.com

Gaudy
Friday 29 June 2012
For those who started at Nuffield between 1965/6-1974/5 and pre-1962

Invitations will be distributed soon: to reserve your place, please e-mail: events@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

Nuffield Society
AGM & Dinner
Friday 21 September 2012

All Old Members are encouraged to attend the AGM and following dinner. Guests may be invited to Dinner. Full details will be available in April 2012. E-mail: events@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

Old Members are encouraged to keep in touch by sending us your news and by visiting the College. We are always delighted to include news from Old Members in the Newsletter; please e-mail us at nuffsoc@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

You are welcome to stay in College, use the Library and the Common Room as described below:

Dining and Staying in College

Dine in College up to three times a year (academic year) at Low Table or High Table free of charge with the option of staying overnight in a single guest room (b&b) free of charge.

Stay in College from time to time at your own expense, or just take lunch or dinner if not staying.

Upgrade to a double room on payment of the current room charge. Contact the Bursar’s Secretary for full details.

Library

All old members are able to use the Library for reference during staffed hours (0930-1730) whenever they are in Oxford. Please contact the Library for enhanced privileges if you are resident in Oxford.

Common Room

If you are visiting the College or using the Library, then you are welcome to read the newspapers in the JCR. If you are not staying in College we would ask you to notify the Lodge Porter, and the Buttery staff as you come into the JCR, so that they know about your presence.

Please note:
1) We are unable to accommodate children under the age of 16.
2) There may be occasions when, due to College functions, we cannot accommodate your visit. 3) The three free nights may not be extended into a longer stay in College. 4) A cancellation charge is payable when less than one working day’s notice is given to cancel. 5) All additional meals are to be paid for (eg for a partner, though breakfast is included if the upgrade is paid). 6) Please note that if the room is cancelled with less than one working day’s notice, it will still count against the entitlement.

In case of queries about events, please contact:
Old Boys’ Football: Emre Ozcan or Hussein Kassim
E-mail: emre.ozcan@gmail.com / hhkassim@hotmail.com

Nuffield College Events, Nuffield College, Oxford, OX1 1NF, UK.
Tel: +44 (0)1865 278527
Alumni News

Anderson, George (S 1967-71)
George Anderson (Politics, 1967) recently retired as President of the Forum of Federations, an international NGO based in Ottawa which works on issues of federalism around the world. In 2005, he retired as a deputy minister (perm sec) from the Government of Canada. He will remain active internationally and writing. He has published 2 short books with OUP in Toronto (introductions to federalism and fiscal federalism) which have both been very widely translated. This year his edited volumes on oil and gas in federal systems and on internal markets and multilevel governance will appear, also with OUP.

Anderson, Gregory (NCF 1993)
My research as Norman Chester Fellow has The Appeal of Insurance University of Toronto Press (2010). I expect my research on the interface between white-collar work and fidelity insurance will continue in collaboration with Professor G Clark and others. I am now semi-retired from the Business School, University of Salford.

Anglin, Douglas (S 1950-51)
The University of Zambia has awarded Douglas Anglin the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in recognition of his role in establishing the first University in Zambia and his research about Africa.

Birnbaum, Norman (RF 1959-66)
Persistence, it appears, sometimes has its reward. In any event, at age 85 I have won a prize which I greatly appreciate. It is an award from The Political Quarterly for an article flatteringly deemed the best one published by the PQ in 2010 (on President Obama and the US progressive tradition, toward which he is becoming distinctly warmer as the election of 2012 approaches). It appeared in Number 3 of the PQ 2010 series.

Bush, Harry (S 1974-77, RF 1977-79)
After 8 years as economic regulator at the Civil Aviation Authority, I stood down at the end of 2010. I continue to work, holding a portfolio of advisory roles.

Cernat, Lucian (S 1999-2000)
After almost a decade with the United Nations, I have been appointed the Chief Trade Economist of the European Commission, where I was one of the main contributors to the recently launched new EU trade strategy “Trade, Growth, and World Affairs”.

Finnegan, Ruth (S 1960-63)
Why Do We Quote? The Culture and History of Quotation (2011), explores how people in practice quote today, how our present systems (e.g. of quotation marks) came about, and the ways quotation has been controlled over the ages – it turned out to be a fascinating subject, spanning all the interests (classical studies, literature, language, history, anthropology, sociology) that I had started to develop during my time in Oxford. Equally interesting is the book’s open access mode of publication. The full text is accessible free online (http://www.openbookpublishers.com/product.php/75/7/-why-do-we-quote--the-culture-and-history-of-quotatio), complemented by purchasable pdf downloads or, for the readers who still prefer this, by reasonably priced print-on-demand paperback and hardback editions. It greatly pleases me that in contrast to the conventional system where academic monographs tend to appear in small numbers, extremely expensive and in practice restricted to those few libraries or individuals who can afford them, and in limited locations, this route makes knowledge accessible and free to anyone who has access to the internet. Might this become the new face of academic publishing, a step towards the greater democratisation of knowledge?

Abbreviations: GF Guardian Fellow  GGF Gwilym Gibbon Fellow  HF Honorary Fellow  OF Official Fellow  PF Professorial Fellow  NCF Norman Chester Fellow  S Student  VF Visiting Fellow
Geras, Norman (S 1965-67)

Hill, Michael (S 1966-67)
In 2007, after 31 years as Professor of Sociology at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, I became Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore. Returning to Wellington in 2010, I am now an emeritus and continue to publish chapters and papers in the sociology of religion.

Merrett, Stephen (S 1962-64)
I have now retired from paid work after about ten years as a consultant in water resource economics, which took me across the globe, and led to a book on the economics of water resources ...not such a big jump from my previous work on housing.

My wife Alicia and I now live in Wells, Somerset, closer to our daughters and six grandchildren. Best wishes especially the 1962-64 cohort.

Owen, Arwel Ellis (GF 1987-89)
Arwel Ellis Owen is now Chief Executive of S4C (the Welsh Language TV channel) and Vice President of the National Library of Wales.

Walker, David (GF 1988-99)
I am in my second term as a member of council at the Economic and Social Research Council where I chair the methods and infrastructure committee. With Polly Toynbee (Nuffield Visiting Fellow) we are promoting our latest book, *The Verdict, did Labour change Britain?* (Granta, 2010).

Witcombe, Roger (S 1969-70)
My only piece of news is that in May I was appointed Chairman of the Competition Commission, following in the footsteps of Derek Morris (Chairman 1998-2004, Nuffield 1967-1969), and re-establishing the pre-eminence of Nuffield in the UK’s competition regime – John Fingleton (Nuffield 1987-90) is Chief Executive of the Office of Fair Trading, succeeding John Vickers (Nuffield 1984-1990) in that role.

As a consequence I’ve had to step down as Chair of Governors at the University of Winchester and as a non-exec director of Anglian Water. Otherwise all as before.

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**Nuffield Directory**

A common request from old members is for a Directory of contact details to be made available: a Directory is now being compiled and will be made available electronically in 2012.

The Directory will include names, affiliation and e-mail address, as well as year starting and research group while at Nuffield, e.g.:

- Professor Jo Bloggs Student Economics 1963 A University jbloggs@email.com
- Dr Josephine Bloggs Official Fellow 1975 Details withheld

The Directory will only be made available to current and old members of Nuffield College.

To adhere strictly to data protection legislation, no details (except names, group and start dates) will be included without old members’ express permission.

If you wish to have your details included, and/or to state exactly which of your details you want to be included please contact us by e-mail or letter at the addresses given below. You may, of course, also request to withhold your details entirely as in the example above.

We hope that this directory will facilitate people staying in contact, or re-connect colleagues who have lost touch with each other.

*events@nuffield.ox.ac.uk*
Nuffield Directory (Events), Nuffield College, Oxford, OX1 1NF, UK

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Sadly, we note the deaths of the following former members:

- **William (Bill) Dawson (S 1954-55)** died on 16 May 2011.
- **Shaila Srinivasan (S 1988-92)** died on 15 April 2011.
CONTACT DETAILS

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