

CLARE NEWS

SPRING / SUMMER 2011



Justice without
frontiers?



A Day In My Life: Andrew Clark (1992) on jou

It helps to be a news junkie if you work in journalism. My day begins by listening to the Today programme on Radio Four, then skimming through most of the day's newspapers, starting with the *Guardian* and the *Financial Times*. My speciality is business – and financial news can pop up in unexpected places, although I've decided that the *Daily Star* can safely be ignored.

Working for a Sunday newspaper means a slightly peculiar schedule. The week begins in relatively relaxed fashion on a Tuesday and ends in frenetic writing activity on Fridays and Saturdays, then we get Sunday and Monday off as a 'weekend' to recover.

As business editor of the *Observer*, I help to manage 16 reporters who write for the financial pages of both the *Observer* and its daily sister paper, the *Guardian*. I'm lucky enough to live a 20-minute walk from Guardian Media Group's offices, which are in a new development behind King's Cross station. We have a panoramic view of one of Britain's biggest construction sites as work continues to transform the red-light area once renowned for its ladies of the night.

Once everybody has arrived, we have an informal daily meeting to compile a list of breaking stories, City deals, economic data, newsworthy events and ideas for leads to pursue. Urgent stories go up on our website and are published in the following day's *Guardian*. Anything that's exclusive to us, and can safely 'hold' for a few days without being sniffed out by our competitors, tends to be earmarked for the *Observer*.

Early in the week, I'll spend much of my time getting out and about. It's important to

build relationships with Britain's top companies, with economists, analysts and government advisers. So it's a case of squeezing in as many meetings, coffees and lunches as possible, sometimes continuing into the evening with drinks receptions or dinners.

Finding news is simply a case of talking to lots and lots of people. Some will let things slip or pass on a piece of gossip. Others, particularly those in the PR industry, will be keen for publicity about a particular cause. Some weeks, I'll interview somebody for a profile-style piece and I do a column every Sunday on the week's biggest business controversies.

The *Observer's* editor, John Mulholland, chairs a thrice weekly news meeting at which the heads of each of the paper's sections go through their likely content. These are brainstorming sessions in which anybody can chip in a thought or a suggestion, and they often become spirited debates. Topics can range from fighting in Afghanistan to Ireland's economic travails, Ann Widdecombe's dancing skills, Alistair Cook's batting or the decline of Britain's lollypop school crossing patrols.

Different bits of the paper have different deadlines – the magazine gets printed several days in advance and the News Review section, which contains arts, culture and science, is put together earlier than the *Observer's* news pages. By Thursday, I'll have a reasonable idea what the business pages are going to look like, although all good plans are subject to being shredded at the last moment.



Many of our business stories are written on a Friday. On Saturdays, I'll put the finishing touches to the pages, write any last-minute news and then proof-read everything before we go 'off-stone' – the old Fleet Street term for going to press.

The beauty of working in the media is that it's completely unpredictable. We have televisions throughout the office tuned to Sky and the BBC and the excitement of breaking news keeps things fresh. Contrary to popular perception, when something dramatic happens – such as the recent revolution in Egypt – newsrooms don't reverberate with people running around and shouting. In fact, they tend to go quiet as senior editors go into huddles and everybody realises there's quick, sharp

A MOMENT IN TIME

Clare students, Cambridge residents and visitors to the College have once again been treated to a magnificent display of spring bulbs along the Avenue.

Each autumn, the College gardeners plant hundreds of bulbs and wait patiently for the changing seasons to work their magic.

The result is one of Cambridge's best spring shows, featuring numerous varieties of *Narcissus* and *Scilla*, *Anemone blanda* and species tulips.



Journalism



writing and analysis to be done.

I've only been on the *Observer* since October 2010 but I've worked for Guardian Media Group for eleven years. That's included four years in New York as the *Guardian's* US business correspondent, and I've had spells as transport correspondent and on secondment to the *Sydney Morning Herald* in Australia. The job has allowed me to travel extensively – memorable moments have included visiting a legal brothel outside Las Vegas to report on the woes of recession-hit prostitution and I've picked over the aftermath of tragedies such as the Potters Bar and Hatfield train crashes.

Journalism began for me at Cambridge, by doing bits and bobs for *Varsity*, ending up as co-news editor for half a year. I never

The job has allowed me to travel extensively – memorable moments have included visiting a legal brothel outside Las Vegas to report on the woes of recession-hit prostitution and I've picked over the aftermath of tragedies such as the Potters Bar and Hatfield train crashes

really intended to specialise in finance but after graduating, I got a job as a trainee on a business magazine and went on from there, moving onto a short-lived start-up called *Sunday Business*, then the *Daily Telegraph* and later the *Guardian*.

Newspapers aren't without their frustrations. It's no secret that Fleet Street is struggling with a declining readership, particularly among younger people who prefer their news in digital form – which would be fine, if they could be persuaded to pay for it.

Digital technology has turned journalism into a much more complicated job than it used to be. Only a decade ago, we'd get to work, file a few stories for the next day's paper and that was it. Now, we're doing podcasts, video, filing 'instant' news for the web and updating followers on Twitter.

Things have become faster, smarter and much more interactive – and with opinionated bloggers on the web in abundance, we ignore the readers at our peril.



RISING TALENT

Amy McKenzie: School Teacher



Amy McKenzie (2004) is one of the most highly regarded teachers of her generation.

After graduating in Geography, Amy stayed at Clare for a further year to study for the Post-Graduate Certificate in Education. In September 2008 she took up her first teaching post, at Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School in Elstree. Amy started a number of new initiatives at the school, including an Oxbridge extension programme for sixth formers interested in the study of geography at university. This aimed to introduce pupils to the wider realm of academic writing and subject material that could not otherwise be covered within the classroom.

During her time at Haberdashers', Amy also qualified as an Assessor for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, joined the CCF Navy Section as a Sub-Lieutenant, and found time to study at weekends and in the holidays for an MA in Geography Education at the University of London. Her research looked at ways to improve levels of literacy amongst secondary school boys through the teaching of subjects such as geography where literacy skills are required on a daily basis.

Last September, Amy was appointed Head of Geography at Repton School, an independent secondary school in Derbyshire, founded in 1557, which has an historic connection with Clare College.

Her research looked at ways to improve levels of literacy amongst secondary school boys

In every issue of *Clare News*, we ask one of our alumni six questions about their work.

Catherine Heard (1983) is a lawyer and Head of Policy at the London-based NGO, Fair Trials International.

A registered charity, Fair Trials International was founded in 1992 by Stephen Jakobi (Clare 1956).

It works for fair trials according to international standards of justice and defends the rights of those facing charges in a country other than their own.

Catherine started at Fair Trials International in early 2008, first volunteering as a caseworker, then moving into a full time role in the charity's campaigning, lobbying and policy function, after taking an LLM in Human Rights law.

SIX QUESTIONS: CATHERINE

ONE

Why did you choose to work in human rights law?

I worked as a commercial litigator in London for many years, so trial litigation and the concept of a fair trial were familiar territory.

But it was the experience of living in Brazil a few years ago that got me interested in human rights in the criminal law context.

Living in Rio de Janeiro opened my eyes to the damage done to communities when their police, politicians and judges can break the law with impunity and routinely infringe the rights of suspects and detainees, especially if they are poor or underprivileged.

I started volunteering at FTI as a caseworker in early 2008, doing a wide range of work, including research on international treaty obligations, speaking and writing to clients and their families, putting them in touch with good local lawyers and writing letters to politicians about clients' cases.

I took a Masters in Human Rights law at Birkbeck while doing casework for FTI.

When a job came up in FTI's policy area, I jumped at it. That was two years ago and it's been an incredibly rewarding two years.

TWO

What tangible difference does Fair Trials International make for people who are arrested abroad?

Different cases need different types of input. We can make the biggest impact if we are contacted early on in a case, ensuring a person gets a good local lawyer, a proper interpreter, and that people at home know what has happened.

A lot of damage can be done to a person's prospect of a fair trial during the initial period after arrest.

When a person is first arrested in a country not their own, they are in a vulnerable place. Countless people tell us about being pressurised into signing documents they did not understand, or being held for days or weeks without knowing what they were charged with, and having no understanding of the local language or legal system.

Apart from offering practical advice and making referrals to our legal contacts in other jurisdictions, another big part of our work is campaigning.

FTI campaigns both on individual cases of injustice, like the European Arrest Warrant, and on broader policy issues, for example



the need for legislation at EU level to make the (often ineffectual) right to a fair trial under the European Convention a reality.

THREE

What are the biggest challenges in the job?

It can be surprisingly hard to persuade people that fundamental rights must be protected and enforced as much for those accused of a crime as for anyone else.

People often see such rights as variable, rather than absolute, so that someone accused of murder or terrorism should enjoy a somewhat lower level of rights protection than someone accused of burglary or assault. People forget that 'accused' does not mean 'guilty'.

The hardest part is to get people to take the leap of imagination that says: 'Hang on a minute, this could happen to me, or someone I love – how would it feel, knowing you were innocent but being treated as if you were guilty?'

FOUR

Do your clients' cases help strengthen fair trial protections?

If I wasn't convinced of this, the job would be nowhere near as rewarding as it is.

A few weeks ago I gave evidence to a joint parliamentary committee, on the human impact of Europe's new fast-track

HEARD ON HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

credit: FTI



● Catherine Heard giving evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights, February 2011

Living in Rio de Janeiro opened my eyes to the damage done to communities when their police, politicians and judges can break the law with impunity and routinely infringe the rights of suspects and detainees, especially if they are poor or underprivileged.

Catherine Heard (1983)

The European Commission now come to us for case studies when they need evidence to persuade EU member states' governments of the need for legislation protecting these rights.

SIX

What are you campaigning on right now?

Our Justice in Europe campaign is focusing on reform of the European Arrest Warrant.

Having won a UK government review of the UK legislation, we now plan to take the fight to Europe so that all 27 member states must enact reforms that will strengthen the power of courts to refuse extradition where this is disproportionate in light of the offence, or will result in a breach of human rights.

To achieve this, the EU framework legislation needs amending. To make this happen, we will lobby Members of the European Parliament and officials at the European Commission, as well as getting media and political attention for our Arrest Warrant cases.

Last week I met a Dutch national who recently spent 10 months in a Polish prison after being extradited from the Netherlands.

Though he spoke for an hour, he could not even bring himself to talk about some aspects of what he suffered, so terrible were the experiences.

Poland is by far the biggest issuer of European Arrest Warrants: many are for offences so trivial they would not even result in a caution here. Our next big campaign will raise awareness about the appalling conditions in many European prisons and the unnecessarily long periods people are spending on remand, particularly non-nationals extradited under Arrest Warrants.

To learn more about Fair Trials International and how to support it, please visit www.fairtrials.net

extradition system, known as the European Arrest Warrant. During the first half of the hearing, the Committee questioned me (along with my counterparts from Liberty and JUSTICE) about how the system could better protect fundamental rights. Some of the evidence was pretty esoteric.

Then, for the second half of the Committee hearing, four clients of Fair Trials International testified about their own experiences of extradition. The atmosphere in the Committee room changed. The peers and MPs were visibly affected by what they were hearing from a group of people whose lives had been turned upside down by Europe's streamlined, 'no questions asked' extradition system, agreed by all EU countries seven years ago.

One witness broke down as she described how it felt to be arrested again and again each time she travelled, simply because France would not lift an extradition request that had been turned down on proper grounds by two other EU countries. Another witness, a father of three, described his and his wife's horror when an English court ordered his extradition to Italy in relation to a murder committed there over a decade earlier, on a date when he could prove he was in England – a clear case of mistaken identity. The father of a 21 year-old student spoke movingly about the utterly inhumane conditions his son had to endure for a whole year in a Greek prison, having been extradited long before Greece

was ready to try him.

It was hard for these clients to relive such harrowing experiences, but also empowering. They have suffered huge personal impact and often felt no one was listening. Now they feel they could be helping bring about changes in the law which could at least stop others going through similar ordeals.

Real-life experiences like these help lawmakers to see where reform is needed, in a way that statistics, reports and judicial decisions don't always do. They also help policy makers to persuade countries that they need to raise their fair trial standards.

FIVE

How do you know when a campaign has succeeded?

In the wake of our calls for reform of the European Arrest Warrant, the Government announced a review of the UK's extradition arrangements and politicians responsible for the legislation have publicly recognised its flaws.

After years of deadlock on strengthening fair trial rights at EU level, there was a breakthrough in 2009 when EU countries adopted a 'Roadmap' for the introduction of new legislation on basic rights like access to an interpreter, information on arrest, contact with consular staff and family members, and time spent on remand in custody before trial.

UPDATES



Presentation to V-C

On the day before she stepped down as the University's 344th Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Alison Richard received a special presentation from Julian Platt (1960).

Julian is the Chairman of Third Millennium, publishers of *The University of Cambridge: An 800th Anniversary Portrait* – the latest in a distinguished line of institutional histories which began ten years ago with *Clare Through the Twentieth Century* – and he presented the outgoing V-C with a leather-bound copy of the book.



Clare and Bermondsey

Laura Carter (2004) is working at Bede House Association in the London Borough of Southwark on a six-month placement sponsored by the Clare Bermondsey Trust.

Laura is involved as a caseworker in the Domestic Violence and LGBT Hate Crime project, offering practical and emotional support to people experiencing domestic violence and hate crime.

Clare College has supported community work in Bermondsey, one of the most deprived areas of London, for over a hundred years. Every year, the Clare Bermondsey Trust sponsors a recent graduate to work in one of the projects for six months.

If you are interested in supporting Bede House, or working on a placement, email the Director, Nick Dunne, through the website.

www.bedehouse.org.uk

Five Clare alumni in 'Eureka

Five Clare alumni feature in the latest 'Eureka 100', compiled by *The Times*, a list of the most important people in British science and engineering.

In the top 10 are Sir Mark Walport (1971), Director of the Wellcome Trust, who is ranked number 2 and the broadcaster Sir David Attenborough (1945, Honorary Fellow) at number 7.

Sir Tim Hunt (1961, Honorary Fellow), Nobel laureate and Chief Scientist at Cancer Research UK, is ranked number 35 and Sir Andrew Wiles (1974, Honorary

Fellow), professor of Mathematics at Princeton University and solver of Fermat's Last Theorem, is ranked number 41.

The fifth member of College is Professor Robin Millar (1967), Professor of Science Education at the University of York, ranked number 74. He explains his work below.

The Times's list of top 10 science people under the age of 40 also includes a member of Clare, Dr Julian Huppert MP (Fellow), Member of Parliament for Cambridge.

Robin Millar (1967) on science education

After I left Clare in 1970, I spent the next three years doing a PhD in medical physics at Edinburgh, but then decided that I wanted to teach science. So I did a year's teacher training and then taught for 8 years in secondary schools in Edinburgh.

During that time, I had a growing sense that much of what I was required to teach to many of my pupils was



credit: Robin Millar

neither of interest to them, nor of any practical use for anything they might do in their lives beyond school.

Trying to develop a way of teaching science that might be less open to that criticism has been a constant strand throughout my professional life.

After moving to York in 1982, I helped to set up the Science Education Group, to bring together academic science educators, teachers and practising scientists to develop teaching programmes and materials informed by both research and practitioner knowledge.

Our central aim was to encourage science teaching that made clearer links between abstract ideas and everyday contexts and questions.

Marking half a century of the 23 Club

The 23 Club is a dining club whose members came up to Clare in 1960.

Since the club was formed by Anthony Bowring and Mark St Giles while they were undergraduates, it has convened in some part of the UK, and on three occasions overseas, every year since.

The name was chosen on the basis that the original club comprised 23 members and, while the exact number of members has varied over the years, the core qualification of matriculation into Clare in 1960 has been retained.

The Club 'Minute Book' is a veritable mine of information on the Club's activities, both riotous and staid, since 1963, and this will be the basis for writing the full saga of the 23 Club which is in hand.

A copy of the resulting magnum opus will be given to the College as a record of the activities of a group of men who were

credit: Christopher Blackstone



Members of the 23 Club who have been meeting every year since they were undergraduates

undergraduates at what many remember as a particularly constructive era in the history of Clare.

Christopher Blackstone (1960)

For the full account, visit www.clarealumni.com/23club

100' list of top scientists



● From left are Sir Mark Walport (1971), Sir David Attenborough (1945), Sir Tim Hunt (1961) and Sir Andrew Wiles (1974)

In 1998, I co-authored the *Beyond 2000* report, based on a series of seminars funded by the Nuffield Foundation.

It argued that the central concern of school science should be to develop the scientific literacy of all young people.

'Scientific literacy' means having the kind of grasp of scientific ideas, practices, and ways of thinking and reasoning that enables you to participate fully in civic and cultural affairs, and make informed personal decisions.

Some young people may want more than this, if they find science particularly interesting or want to pursue a career that requires specific scientific expertise.

The challenge of designing, implementing and evaluating a curriculum structure that

acknowledged and tried to address the tension between 'science for all' and 'science for future scientists' has dominated my work over the past decade.

The *Twenty First Century Science* project is now used in over 1000 schools in England and is seen by many as a great improvement on what they did before.

Education, unlike science, is not a field where questions can be finally answered. Even the questions keep changing.

And of course it has to cope with the fact that everyone thinks they are an expert.

I see my job as trying to keep the right questions on the agenda – and working, usually with many others, towards possible answers to them." //

Alumnus wins architectural award

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has named Professor Dean Hawkes (1969) as the winner of the 2010 RIBA Annie Spink Award for Excellence in Architectural Education.

Professor Hawkes taught at Cambridge and Cardiff Universities, and has been visiting professor at the Mackintosh School of Architecture (Glasgow School of Art), the University of Hong Kong and the National University of Singapore. He currently holds visiting professorships at Huddersfield and De Montfort Universities, is an Emeritus Fellow of Darwin College Cambridge and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

The chair of the judging panel, Oliver Richards (1972), RIBA Vice-President Education, said, "Professor Hawkes is one of the most pre-eminent thinkers in architectural education. He has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the environmental agenda from a time



credit: RIBA

● RIBA President Ruth Reed, Professor Dean Hawkes (1969) and Oliver Richards (1972)

when this was not fashionable or mainstream thinking. He has always advocated and promoted a holistic approach to integrating environmental issues into the wider architectural debate and into studio teaching."

UPDATES



credit: Sonny Liew

Award for comic artist

Sonny Liew (1993) won one of the five Young Artist Awards (YAA) at Singapore's 2010 Arts Awards ceremony. His win marks the first time that the YAA, which is awarded to artists under the age of 35, has been given to a comic book artist.

Sonny has published his works with the major comic book publishers Marvel, DC and Image comics, and was nominated for the Eisner Award in 2007 for his pencil and ink work for Disney's *Wonderland*.

He said, 'I think the main thing for me is the recognition that comic books can be a valid medium, an art form. A lot of Singaporeans tend to look at comics in a very narrow view – comic strips, manga...this is a good step.'



credit: Jerry Bauer

From Clare to Hollywood

I Don't Know How She Does It, the best-selling novel by Allison Pearson (1978), is currently making the transition from the page to the silver screen and is expected to be released in late 2011 or early 2012.

The film will star Sarah Jessica Parker as a busy working mother juggling her career, private life and two children, with Pierce Brosnan playing her love interest.

Allison based the book on her own experiences as a working mother of two, after writing a newspaper column about the exasperation felt by working women with families.

She commented, 'It's incredibly exciting that some characters you created in a small back bedroom are going to be played by these great movie stars.'

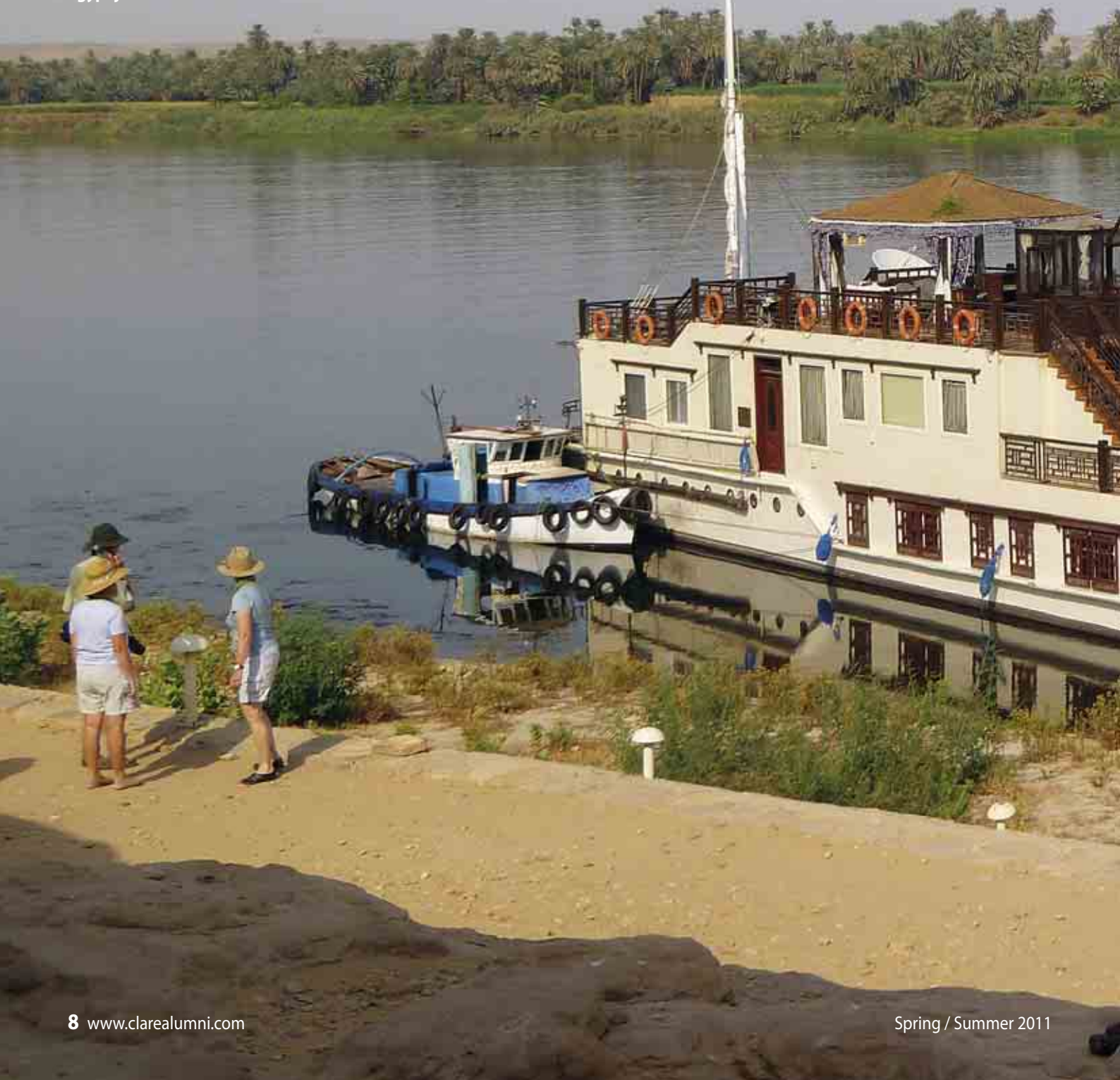
Alumni on the

For two weeks last autumn, a party of Clare alumni and their guests travelled down the Nile, led by Clare's Development Director and Egyptologist Toby Wilkinson (Fellow).

The group visited all the major sites of pharaonic Egypt, from Abu Simbel in the far south of the country to the Giza pyramids in the north.

The highlight of the trip was a six-night cruise on the dahabiyya *Afandina*.

Little did those onboard anticipate the events that would rock Egypt just four months later.



Nile



credit: Kiran Moodley



Reporting

Kiran Moodley (2006) recently graduated from the Columbia School of Journalism and is interning at *PBS Newshour*. He reports on the recent US mid-term elections:

What more could you want from your first experience of a major US election? A conservative grass-roots movement inspired by the Revolutionary Wars yet seemingly ignorant of the Founding Fathers' principles; a crippling drawn-out recession with almost ten percent of the population unemployed; and a battle between the party of America's first African-American president against a GOP fielding candidates that included two billionaire businesswomen, a former witch, and an orange-tanned shadow House leader.

The States may have elections every two years but they never diminish in pizzazz. The 2010 Midterms took 'Cleggmania' to town.

Interning at *PBS Newshour* in Washington, DC – the weekly news show still anchored after 35 years by Jim Lehrer – relieved me from the dog-eat-dog world of the cable networks.

The *Newshour* still upholds objectivity as of the utmost importance, preferring to have experts mill over the issues than shouting fanatics.

While this may make for good, solid journalism, it does leave it somewhat out of the loop when it comes to the gossip of political hardball.



Head of the river in 1942

Roger Sharratt (1940) very kindly sent in a photograph of the Clare May Boat 1942 going Head of the River, together with a picture of the crew. Mr Sharratt is the cox, sitting on the ground at the front.



the American mid-terms

credit: Kiran Moodley



credit: Kiran Moodley



● **Kiran Moodley (2006) covered the US mid-term elections as a PBS Newshour intern**

In the UK, partisan journalistic warfare takes place in the papers, but stateside, Murdoch's hardcore conservatism is more evident and a lot louder on a 24 hour basis on *Fox News*.

In October, *MSNBC* launched a new slogan, 'Lean Forward', symbolising a belief in its own progressiveness.

The nightly parade of the latter's Keith Olbermann and Rachel Maddow versus the former's Glenn Beck and Bill O'Reilly reached such a height that comedians Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert decided to host a *Rally to Restore Sanity* shortly before the Midterms, accusing both sides of being just as bad as the other.

On election night at least, despite the argumentative analysis, there was an aspect of precision that pervaded all. Like other networks, the *Newshour* fell into a state of confusion in 2000 over who exactly won Florida. Since then, all are cautious when it

comes to declaring a winner.

The *Newshour* would only declare a race won if confirmed by the AP, or if two networks had declared. Tight Senate races like those in Pennsylvania, Colorado, Nevada and Alaska, had to wait until the next day.

The morning after the election was certainly gloomy for Democrats. Who would have thought two years after Obama's definitive presidential victory that the Senate seats once held by himself and Ted Kennedy would both be in Republican hands.

The Tea Party had become *the* movement; 40 percent of voters supported their cause. But just as journalists too easily became consumed by 'Yes We Can' in 2008, so too we must be cautious about the 'change' of 2010.

Take Christine O'Donnell. The Pew Center found that she was the most written about candidate in the 2010 election, and yet she lost her Delaware Senate race by almost 20

percent. Her elevation in the press was a combination of Tea Party intrigue and YouTube obsession: clips of her not understanding the First Amendment and admitting dabbling in witchcraft were too good to be true. But this gave her a celebrity status that was undeserving and consumed valuable column inches.

The crucial thing about O'Donnell was that the sheer ridiculousness of her outsider status de-legitimised the Tea Party movement that nominated her, and stopped the GOP from making significant gains in the Senate.

If the Tea Party had not interfered in Colorado, Alaska, and Nevada, as well as Delaware, then the Midterms could have been a clean Republican sweep. The Tea Party has its limits, just as Obama did.

Of course, that doesn't mean that I am not dismayed at the influx of new Republicans with questionable positions and policy ideas. But one thing that America has been missing of late, which I had expected to find in abundance when I arrived, is sheer optimism and a sense of opportunity.

After the elections, *Time* magazine's Joel Stein highlighted that he, like most Californians, was worried what Arnold Schwarzenegger might do as governor after his victory in 2002. In fact, the *Terminator* did pretty well. In Stein's words, "Ridiculous-seeming candidates can become excellent leaders."

So maybe some of these crazy Tea Partiers won't be all that bad. The future is bright, even if it is GOP red.

For Kiran Moodley's recent article in *The Atlantic* go to:

www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2011/02/obamacare-more-than-just-a-word/71519/



Moscow memories at Olympic reunion

Penny Vincent-Sweet writes:

Last October, fourteen women and their coaches met on the Tideway to mark the 30th anniversary of their rowing in the Moscow Olympics.

So what? So, this Olympic team, by some mysterious quirk, contained no less than three Clare alumni.

Bridget Gait (Buckley, 1973) managed to avoid the Boat Club while in Clare but saw the light while doing her PhD in The Other Place. Nicola Burbidge (Boyes, 1972) rowed at Clare, and Penny Vincent-Sweet (Sweet, 1976) stroked Clare to head of the Mays in 1979.

The sun shone as we took our places and pushed the boats out.

Within a few minutes 30 years simply evaporated and even those who hadn't rowed for 28 years felt quite at home. I don't know whether the coaches or the rowers were more astonished.

Over lunch we swapped stories and photos of our offspring. The Olympic VIII came fifth in the final, but we like to say first of the teams not taking performance-enhancing drugs.

Had we been in the gold-medal-winning East German boat, we probably wouldn't have had any offspring to show photos of!



credit: Penny Vincent-Sweet

● **Penny Vincent-Sweet**

UPDATES



Clare becomes a Registered Charity

Under the terms of the Charities Act 2006, Clare College Cambridge has become a Registered Charity, number 1137531.

This replaces the College's previous Exempt Charity number, but Clare's charitable status remains unaltered.

All gifts to Clare, from individuals, companies and foundations, remain charitable gifts.

Standing orders, direct debits and legacies set up using the College's Exempt Charity number remain valid.

For further information, please contact the Development Office (alumni@clare.cam.ac.uk or 01223 333218).



● Colin Forbes and the Master

New Elizabeth de Clare Fellow elected

Colin Forbes (1940) has become the fourth Elizabeth de Clare Fellow to be elected by the Governing Body in recognition of his generosity to the College.

Last year, Dr Forbes, a retired Cambridge University academic, gave Clare its single largest unrestricted gift of modern times.

He was admitted to his Fellowship by the Master at a ceremony on 13 October 2010.

Tuition fees: student support

Clare has a proud record of supporting students in financial need.

A decade ago, the College led the way in raising bursary funds, so that talented students from less well-off backgrounds were neither dissuaded from applying to Clare nor prevented by financial worries from continuing their education once they had come into residence.

Today, with university tuition fees set to rise dramatically, the burden of paying for a Cambridge education will fall, more than ever before, on individual students and their families.

This poses an immediate and urgent challenge: Clare must raise significant new bursary funds if it is to continue admitting students on academic merit alone.

It is highly likely that, in future, students coming to study at Cambridge will be charged tuition fees of £9,000 per year.

This is in addition to living costs (accommodation, food, books) calculated at a minimum of £6,000 per year. This means that, in future, studying for a degree at Cambridge will cost the average Clare undergraduate at least £45,000 – a colossal



burden of debt to face on graduation. By contrast, Clare alumni who graduated in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s did so, by and large, without debts, their degrees having been funded by the tax-payer.

In this radically changed environment,

Alumni Day showcases Fellows'

Clare's tenth annual Alumni Day will take place on Saturday 2 July. The popular event will comprise talks by Fellows and alumni, as well as tours of Clare's beautiful courts and gardens. Lunch will be served under marquees on the lawns of Old Court. Alumni, parents and students are warmly invited. The speakers include the following Clare Fellows:

Colin Russell (Infectious diseases)

Dr Russell is a Royal Society University Research Fellow at the Centre for Pathogen Evolution. His lecture will focus on the evolution and epidemiology of HIV.

Marta Lahr (Human evolution)

Dr Lahr is Director of the Duckworth Laboratory and a Lecturer in Biological Anthropology. Her interests



span palaeoanthropology and human evolutionary ecology, specifically the mechanisms by which human diversity was generated.

Sian Lazar (Street protests)

Dr Lazar is a Lecturer in the Department of Social Anthropology. She has worked with community organisations and street vendors in El Alto, a city in



the Bolivian Andes, and with public sector workers in Buenos Aires.

Andrew Preston (US politics)

Dr Preston specialises in the history of American foreign relations and the applications of American power abroad. His latest book, on the religious influence on American war and diplomacy, is published this year.

is the focus of the 2011 Annual Fund



there is a real risk that students from lower and middle-income families will be put off studying at Cambridge – or at university at all – because of the fear of future debt. Clare recognises that, to remain a centre of excellence in higher education,

contributing to society nationally and internationally, the College must remain open to young people of exceptional ability and potential, whatever their background. That is why the College has made student support the focus of its

2011 Annual Fund campaign. For information about supporting students at Clare, please contact the Development Office (01223 333218, development@clare.cam.ac.uk). www.clarealumni.com/supportingclare

research



Toby Wilkinson (Ancient Egypt)
Dr Wilkinson is an Egyptologist and author. His latest book, *The Rise and Fall of Ancient Egypt*, was published last year to great critical acclaim.



● Pictured clockwise from top left are: Marta Lahr, Sian Lazar, Andrew Preston, Colin Russell and Toby Wilkinson

Children welcome

Following the success of last year's event, the second annual Family Day will take place in College on Sunday 26 June.

The day is designed for alumni with children or grandchildren aged 2–11, and offers a chance to come back to College and catch up with friends in a relaxed, child-friendly setting.

There will be a range of activities for children to enjoy.

For more information and to book places, please visit the alumni website.

www.clarealumni.com/familyday2011



UPDATES

Welcome to new Fellows

The College has been delighted to welcome eight new Fellows this academic year.

Dr André Brown (Junior Research Fellow): biophysical genetics, sensory neuroscience, biological mechanics, mechanical senses

Dr Andrew Carter (MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology): structural biology, X-ray crystallography, single molecule microscopy. Dr Carter is Clare's overall Director of Studies for Natural Sciences Part IA.

Dr Kirsty McDougall (Faculty of Modern & Medieval Languages): phonetic theory, speaker characteristics, speech production

Dr Meera Parish (Cavendish Laboratory): theoretical condensed matter physics

Mr William (Bill) Quillen (Junior Research Fellow): Russian music; Russian history, society and culture (particularly of the post-Soviet period); contemporary music, sociology of music

Professor John Robertson (Faculty of History): intellectual history of early modern Europe (in particular the history of political, social and historical thought) c. 1500–1800.

Mr Graham Ross (Director of Music): conductor and composer

Dr Ruth Watson (Faculty of History): African history, colonial and imperial history

Twin honour for Fellows



● Prof Andrew Holmes and Prof Richard Palmer

To mark the 20th anniversary of its Institute for Materials Research, Hasselt University in Belgium awarded two honorary degrees last November – both to Clare Fellows.

The two honorands were Andrew Holmes (Fellow), University Laureate Professor of Chemistry at the University of Melbourne, and Richard Palmer (Former Fellow), Professor of Experimental Physics at the University of Birmingham.

New treasures at Clare

Over the past year, three new treasures, from across the centuries, have been added to the collections of the Fellows' Library at Clare – one as a loan, one as a gift, and one as an unexpected discovery.

A generous benefactor has given the College, on extended loan (main picture), a letter written by Queen Elizabeth I to her commander in the Netherlands in the months before the Spanish Armada of 1588.

Addressed 'To our right trusty and wellbeloved the Lord Willoughby, Lieutenant General of our forces for the United Provinces of the Low Countries', signed 'Elizabeth R' and sealed with the queen's signet seal, the letter was written at Greenwich on 30 March 1588.

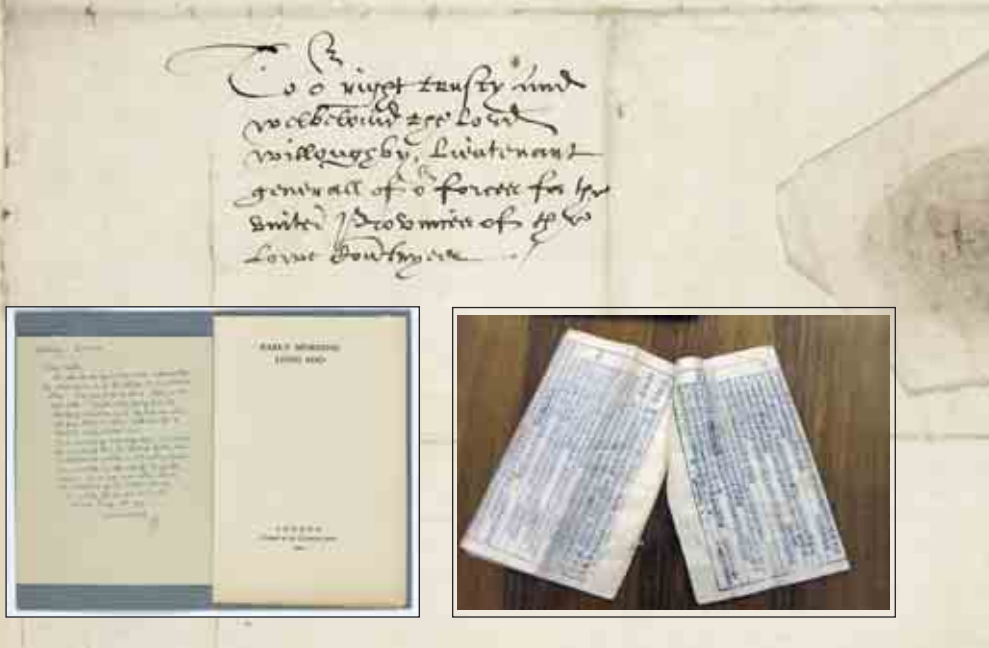
The context of the letter is the Dutch rebellion against Philip II of Spain, and the queen's injunctions conclude with a

warning, 'In your proceeding herein, we require you to omit no diligence, considering how dangerous a matter it were, that there should not be a full reunion among them, before the Enemy should be in the field, which is thought will be shortly.'

A letter written by Siegfried Sassoon (1905, Honorary Fellow) to Henry Thirkill has recently been returned to the College. The letter accompanied an extract from the poet's autobiography, entitled *Early Morning Long Ago*.

Sassoon wrote to Thirkill:

Dear Master, no need to say again how much I appreciated the welcome



First female head porter at Clare

Jane Phelps has joined Clare as the College's new head porter, and the first woman to occupy the role.

She succeeds Peter Johnson who has retired after twelve years in charge of the Portering Department. Jane comes to Clare from the Institute of Public Health where she managed the facility on the busy Addenbrooke's Hospital site.

Clare is only the second Cambridge college to appoint a woman as head porter.



credit: Peter Knewstubb

given me by the College. It was absolute bliss! And how lovely it all is. Sitting at the High Table, I thought, while gazing past the Bishop of Mombasa, of the shy freshman who sat down below in 1905 – little knowing the elevation which awaited him! As a memorial of those early days, I am sending you an extract from *The Weald of Youth*, which G. Keynes had printed, on 18th century paper. And would like, in all modesty, to provide, later on, one or two more solid volumes for acceptance by the College Library. To conclude, let me add how much I enjoyed being with you. Yours sincerely, SS.

Tucked inside a book, a long forgotten Chinese manuscript came to light during re-cataloguing work.

It is a rare calendar for the year 1671, officially issued in the 25th year of the Yongli reign during the Southern Ming dynasty. Given however that the Yongli emperor died in 1662 (he was strangled), it is interesting to find a calendar still issued in his name.

The Southern Ming were die-hard claimants to the throne for nearly 40 years after they were overthrown, and kept issuing an annual calendar to reinforce their claim as the legitimate imperial house.

It most likely circulated off the south coast of China (away from the centres of Qing power), which is where the Clare calendar probably found its way into western hands.



Rowing for Cambridge

For the first time in nearly 3 decades, a Clare student has been selected to represent Cambridge in the men's Blue Boat crew.

Graduate student Joel Jennings (2005), who learned rowing at Clare, won a place in the Cambridge squad for the University Boat Race against Oxford on 26 March. Ben Evans (2006) was in the training squad but narrowly missed selection for the Blue Boat.

The last Clare rower in the men's Blue Boat was Alan Knight (1981) who was already a

top class rower when he arrived at Clare and was in the Boat Race crew in 1982, 1983 and 1984. Cambridge lost every year!

No less than five Clare women are in the women's squad for the Henley Boat Races on 27 March: Nicola Pocock (2007) has been selected for the Blondie crew, while Jess Palmer (2007), Hannah Morgan (2008) and Georgie Plunkett (2008), plus cox Esther Momcilovic (2007), have all been selected for the Lightweight Crew.



● From left to right, Hannah Morgan, Nicola Pocock, Jess Palmer, Ben Evans, Georgie Plunkett, Joel Jennings and Esther Momcilovic

CLARE IN FOCUS

Swiss family Clare

Clare alumni in Switzerland came together for their first official College gathering last October, at the beautiful Chateau de Bonmont overlooking Lake Geneva. Further events are planned in Switzerland: please contact the Development Office.



Financial reform

Adair, Lord Turner, Chairman of the Financial Services Authority, gave the 2011 Clare Distinguished Lecture in Economics and Public Policy on the topical subject of financial regulation, asking 'Is the reform programme sufficiently radical?'



Winter wonderland

The unusually snowy weather in the UK last December largely missed Cambridge, but a light dusting transformed Clare briefly into a winter wonderland.



Alumnus of the Year

The Alumni Council elected Najam Sethi (1967) as Alumnus of the Year for 2011 in recognition of his fearless opposition to religious extremism and violence in his native Pakistan. Mr Sethi spoke to second-year undergraduates at Halfway Hall.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All events will take place at Clare, unless stated

Thursday 28 April

The Choir of Clare College sing choral evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, London, 5pm

Saturday 14 May

Samuel Blythe Society Luncheon, for those who have made provision for Clare in their will, 12.15pm

Wednesday 18 May

London Drinks, The Porterhouse, Covent Garden, 6.30pm onwards

Friday 17 June

The Choir of Clare College perform at the Spitalfields Summer Music Festival; Christ Church, Spitalfields, London, 7.30pm

Sunday 26 June

Family Day, registration from 11am

Saturday 2 July

Alumni Day, registration from 9.30am. Booking form enclosed with this edition of *Clare News*; details found on p.12

Friday 23 September

Reunion Dinner for members who matriculated in 1968 and 1969, 7.15pm

Saturday 30 September

1960 Special Reunion Dinner, for information contact: John Biggs (1960), john@wellow.co.uk

For further information please contact the Development Office on +44 (0)1223 333218 or events@clare.cam.ac.uk

Have a look at the Clare News archive and read this online at www.clarealumni.com/clarenews.

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