



Mansfield Magazine



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We welcome suggestions and contributions from our readers. For further information on any items in this Magazine, please contact the Development Office.



Message from the Principal

Dear Mansfield Member,

Well, I can't say I wasn't warned! When I first visited Mansfield, as a prelude to applying for the Principalship, I was shown the site intended for new student accommodation – to be built as and when it could be afforded. It was in the Fellows' Garden, just in front of the Principal's study windows. Tony Lemon, who was showing me around, semi-jokingly explained that the proposed new building could pose a conflict of interest for a new Principal as he or she would be expected to fund-raise enthusiastically for something that would mean noise, dirt, and disruption right outside the Principal's Lodgings! But, having fallen in love with Mansfield, there was no way in which this hypothetical future blemish could spoil the attraction that the College had for me. In any case, the estimated cost of the new building was such that I doubted that even the most fervent fund-raising would come near to meeting it and hence, I reasoned, the incumbent's peace was guaranteed, at least in the short term.

Little did I imagine that, sitting in my study at the beginning of 2005, I would find myself reaching for the ear-plugs and watching huge earth-movers gouging out the foundations of a building that in twelve months' time will be our new student accommodation and conference centre. It's smaller, of course, than the one originally planned and, thanks to the generosity of alumni and, particularly, to members of Mansfield's hugely dedicated Development Board, we are now only £200,000 away from reaching the £1.8 million needed to fully fund the building. We'll get there!

It is often said that, in dense forest, the only way to stimulate new growth is to have a forest fire and expose the scorched earth to atmospheric oxygen. It seems a fine irony – and one that was far from being a joke at the time - that just as another building is going up opposite the JCR, a fire should have come close to destroying that room. Worse, it came very close to breaking through to our wonderful library, which is immediately above where the fire started. Thanks to the splendidly quick response of the Fire Service, the fire in the JCR did not spread. It destroyed some of the wood panelling and the raised lectern and canopy at the far end of the room and, of course, the paintwork and most furnishings. Skilled restoration work will be needed and has been put in hand. It has been a horrible episode, but, in many ways, it has also been a wake-up call for the College. Our smoking policies are under active review and everything points to the benefits for personal, collective and financial health, of a complete no-smoking policy within the College.

This year will mark the tenth anniversary of Mansfield's existence as a full college of the University. We have come a very long way since 1995. We have more Fellows, more students, more subjects, more conferences, more money (yes, really!) and more influence than we had ten years ago. Above all, we have an even greater conviction of our ability to survive and flourish as an independent but integral and valued part of the Collegiate University. I invite you to make a date in your diary to join us for our tenth anniversary celebrations and to see for yourself how, plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

With very best wishes,

Stana Walfer

New Fellows at Mansfield



Professor Helen Margetts

Helen Margetts is the University of Oxford's Professor of Society and the Internet at the Oxford Internet Institute and a Fellow at Mansfield College.

The Oxford Internet Institute (OII) is one of the world's first truly multi-disciplinary Internet institutes based in a major university. Devoted to the study of the societal implications of the Internet, the OII seeks to shape research, policy and practice in the UK, Europe and around the world.

The Oxford Internet Institute was launched by an endowment from The Shirley Foundation, with public funding from the Higher Education Funding Council for England and the foresight of colleagues at the University of Oxford and its Colleges. The researchers at the Institute will work with other departments to consider the impact of electronic disciplines on academic study and research.

This new position will complement ongoing research on the role of the Internet in governance. Professor Bill Dutton, Director of the OII, sees Professor Margetts' work on e-government as being "absolutely central to understanding the societal implications of the Internet because electronic connections between governments and citizens have been key to many of the most significant social issues tied to computers and telecommunications, ranging from privacy and security to service delivery"

Helen is a political scientist of international standing in the use by government of the Internet, Web and related information and communication technologies, both internally and to communicate with citizens, businesses and other governments. She has published major research reports in this area for such agencies as the UK's National Audit office, in addition to important books and articles. Her dissertation in this area was awarded the Walter Bagehot Dissertation Prize by the UK Political Studies Association in 1997. She was later honoured in 2003 for an award for 'Political Scientists Making a Difference'.

Helen joins the OII and Mansfield from her post as a Professor in Political Science and Director of the School of Public Policy at University College, London. She began her career as a computer programmer/systems analyst with Rank Xerox after receiving her BSc in Mathematics from the University of Bristol. She returned to studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1989, completing an MSc in Politics and Public Policy in 1990 and a PhD in Government in 1996.



Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell

After three years as Dean of Science at the University of Bath, Jocelyn 'retired' in 2004, and moved to a Visiting Professorship at the University of Oxford and a Professorial Fellowship at Mansfield College, Oxford.

Jocelyn started her academic career by failing the Northern Ireland equivalent of the 11+. After gaining a creditable number of O and A levels she went on to read a Physics degree at Glasgow University, Scotland. This was followed by a PhD in Cambridge (UK) in Radio Astronomy. During her time there she was involved in the discovery of pulsars, opening up a new branch of astrophysics - work which was recognised by the award of a Nobel Prize to her supervisor.

Marriage to a peripatetic husband meant she worked subsequently at the University of Southampton (in gamma ray astronomy) and at University College London (in X-ray astronomy) before returning to Scotland in the early 80's to a job in infrared astronomy at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh. Latterly she held a management job there, running the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope in Hawaii as a facility for astronomers in British, Canadian and Dutch universities. For most of this period she worked part-time while raising a family. She has chaired, served on, or serviced more Research Council Boards, Committees and Panels than she wishes to remember, and has also chaired a European Community Committee. She has been President of the Royal Astronomical Society.

She has used telescopes flown on high-altitude balloons, launched on rockets and carried on satellites, and built a radio telescope which was firmly grounded in Cambridgeshire. Later in her career she could be found in Hawaii panting for breath at 14000 feet and using the UK's infrared or millimetre waveband telescopes.

The Oppenheimer prize, the Michelson medal, the Tinsley prize and the Magellanic Premium have been awarded to her by learned bodies in the US and the UK's Royal Astronomical Society has presented her with the Herschel Medal. UK and US universities have conferred honorary doctorates on her, and she holds an Honorary Fellowship in New Hall, Cambridge. She was made a CBE in 1999 and that year also won the Edinburgh Medal for services to science and society. She became an FRS in 2003, and FRSE in 2004.

The public appreciation and understanding of science have always been important to her, and she is much in demand as a speaker and broadcaster. In 1999 she toured Australia giving the Women in Physics Lecture. Her appointment to the Open University doubled the number of female professors of physics in the UK. She hopes that her presence as a senior woman in science will encourage more women to consider a career in science.

Dr Ben Jackson

Ben joined Mansfield in 2004 as a post-doctoral research fellow. Originally from Kilmarnock in Scotland, he was an undergraduate at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, before coming to Oxford to do a DPhil in Politics at Nuffield College. After completing his doctorate, Ben spent a year as a lecturer in Modern British History at Magdalen College. Having been in Oxford for a few years, he was already somewhat familiar with Mansfield, and in his first term here he has enjoyed the 'friendly and non-hierarchical' atmosphere of the College. Ben is also delighted to be able to continue the tradition of political research at Mansfield established by the work of Michael Freeden and David Marquand.



Ben has a dual role at the College as he is not only a Junior Research Fellow but also the Tutor for Visiting Students. The Visiting Student Programme (VSP) at Mansfield is a well-established part of college life. Currently there are 35 students from different American universities studying at the College. They are housed in College accommodation with our other undergraduates and play an active role in College life. Ben is responsible for the academic running of the programme, and he organises admissions, teaching and the students' academic assessment.

Ben's other role is as a Research Fellow in Politics and Modern History with a general interest in political theory and British political history. His current research focuses on the history of ideas about social justice and equality; the history and politics of the labour movement; and the application of normative political theory to public policy. He is currently working on a book provisionally entitled *Equality and the British Left*, and is a Research Associate at the social democratic think-tank Catalyst.

Dr Jason Smith

Originally from North Bristol, Jason spent two years in South Korea after finishing his undergraduate degree and PhD in Physics at Wadham College, Oxford. His time in Asia was spent working at the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute, where he was one of the few Western scientists. Jason comes to Mansfield from Heriot Watt University and his main research interests are in semiconductor nanostructures and devices, particularly for use in quantum optoelectronics and quantum information processing; design and characterisation of novel semiconductor nanocrystals for wide ranging applications such as sensors, fluorescent labels, photovoltaics, and telecommunications; use of optical microcavities for controlled interaction between light and matter.

Jason was familiar with Mansfield before he started his post in September as he played darts in the College bar whilst captaining the Wadham College darts team. Coming from a state school background, Jason was impressed by the progressive attitude of Mansfield towards widening participation. He has found the atmosphere at the College warm and welcoming.

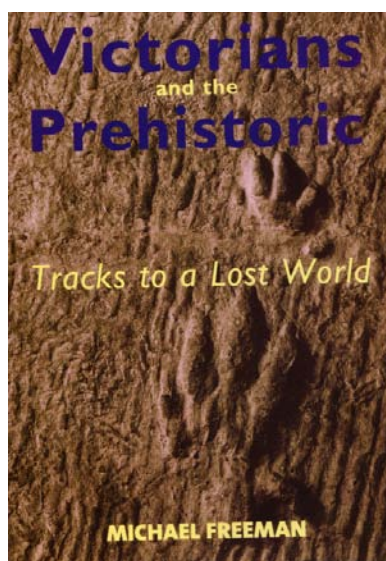
Dr Kathryn Gleadle

Kathryn joined Mansfield in September 2004 from University College, Oxford where she was a Tutorial Fellow for two years. Previously Kathryn was a British Academy Research Fellow at London Guildhall and a Lecturer at the University of Warwick. Kathryn's role involves her in both teaching and research and her area of interest is British women and politics 1780 -1860.

Kathryn has recently been awarded a Philip Leverhulme Prize of £50,000, which aims to recognise and facilitate the work of young researchers based in UK universities. Each year, around 25 prizes are awarded in five selected subject areas. Kathryn won the prize for her work on modern British history.

New book

Tracks to a Lost World



Michael Freeman's book, *Victorians and the Prehistoric: Tracks to a Lost World* is published by Yale, 310pp., priced £25.

Fully illustrated in colour and in black and white, it may be obtained from all good booksellers or on-line from Amazon or from Books First at www.timesonline.co.uk/books/firstbuy



Those of you who have watched Alan Titchmarsh's BBC television documentary on the natural history of the British Isles may have paused to reflect on the way such a subject has come to occupy such prime media time. After all, it is not long since we had Tim Haines's remarkable BBC television production: *Walking with Dinosaurs*, in all its computerized animation. And even if you did not possess a television, you could not fail to have registered the plethora of new books on dinosaurs and on prehistoric life-forms, not to mention the toy dinosaurs that stare out from shop windows or, more perversely, tumble from cereal packets into breakfast bowls each morning. In the true fashion of the cultural logic of late capitalism, the dinosaur and the prehistoric world more generally are being packaged and commoditized as part of the imperative for accumulation or profit.

Were you a time-traveller from the Victorian age who happened to alight in the year 2005, you would, however, have a rather bemused reaction. For the current fascination with prehistory is nothing new. The early Victorians went through a disarmingly similar phase. At Sydenham outside London in 1853, on the site used to re-erect Paxton's Crystal Palace, the Victorians created their very own dinosaur park, with life-sized models basking around an artificial lagoon in which the waters rose and fell just like on any river estuary. Readers of *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal* were likewise treated in the 1850s to a long sequence of articles on natural history, affording a window on the vast array of plant and animal life that had once been found on the British Isles, including the weird fossilized remains that were by then telling of its existence. Just as 2004 saw the discovery of a new dinosaur skeleton on the Isle of Wight making headline news, so Victorian mass-media were replete with details of the latest fossils disinterred on eroding sea-shores, in mines, in quarries and in other artificial excavations. Nor were the early Victorians without their very own Alan Titchmarsh. Gideon Mantell, for example, a surgeon-cum-geologist from Sussex was described in his obituary in the *Illustrated London News* as one of the most able lecturers and writers on the organic remains of former worlds. It was not just the spectacle that his lectures and books presented, but the particular manner in which he captured audiences. Adopting the style of Arabian writers, he introduced imaginary beings endowed with superhuman longevity. They proceeded to describe the geological mutations that the island of Britain had undergone. Thus in the Weald of Kent, he conjured up a picture of a country where once an Orinoco had rolled its waters. And such tales were not lost on Charles Dickens who famously introduced a Megalosaurus to the streets of London's Holborn in the opening pages of *Bleak House*. In his journal, *Household Words*, Dickens tapped into the contemporary fascination with the prehistoric by taking readers on board a phantom ship on an 'antediluvian cruise'. This was not just an exercise in time travel (a world in which 'we spirits of the future ha(d) receded'), but an exercise that substituted space for time, for the tropical forests of South America became surrogates for some distant geological era in which animals twenty feet long with tremendous tails stalked the land. There was an element of Gothic horror about such literary encounters and this helps to account for the degree to which Victorian audiences became mesmerized by them.



by Michael Freeman

The writing trope, though, remains with us today, for Tim Haines, in the BBC book that accompanied *Walking with Dinosaurs*, adopts just such a pattern. Your imagination is prompted to create a landscape of monkey-puzzle trees, with the ground beneath covered in giant ferns. You pull the birds from the air, enhance the noise that the insects make and turn up the temperature. Then into this landscape you place a whole herd of giant reptiles engaged in an orgy of killing.

For modern audiences, dinosaurs have become an additional reminder of the extraordinary age of the earth and the extraordinarily short time in which man has existed upon it. To grasp this phenomenon, we are typically pressed into conceiving of the entire geological time-scale as the twelve hours on the face of a clock. Within this frame, man appeared at just seconds before midnight, a miniscule span in time's great abyss. Early Victorians faced just this kind of test of comprehension. On his antediluvian cruise, Dickens had a thousand years being rolled back with every syllable of text. Charles Babbage, inventor of the calculating machine, reminded his readers that 'time and change are great, only with reference to the faculties of beings that note them'. However, the early Victorians had another difficulty in apprehending time's great abyss. It was the problem presented by biblical time. The earth's duration was inscribed in Holy Writ. It had a clearly marked beginning, as well as an end. The Deluge provided an intermediate marker, as did the birth of Christ. Victorian bibles often showed the date of Creation in their margins: 4004 BC according to the ingenious calculations of Archbishop Ussher. Some natural philosophers, of course, had already made efforts to distance themselves from the biblical time-frame. But for ordinary folk, Genesis gave the primeval world its vital contours. Whether they heard of it from the pulpit, in the classroom or in the home, it formed a perpetual reminder of their fragile tenure of the earth. The Deluge, in particular, forced folk to recall their potential for wickedness. Water poured down mountainsides in a thousand cataracts. The living, together with all their material goods, were plunged into eternity. However, Noah and his animals survived. They entered the ark on Sunday 7th December 2349 BC, and the ark finally came to rest on mount Ararat on the morning of Wednesday 6th May the following year. It was a wonderful and credible story.

Even if the geological time-scale was penetrating the mind of the average educated person, it remained, on Samuel Butler's account in *The Way of All Flesh*, 'just a little scare'. Moreover, among some practising geologists, the Deluge afforded a convenient way of explaining the exotic reptile skeletons that were increasingly being disinterred from the earth. They were *antediluvians*, remains of races of creatures that had stalked the earth before the great flood. For *catastrophic* geology, had the Deluge never figured as an event in scripture, they would had to have invented some such catastrophic explanation themselves.

The currency of such views was given added impetus by the way the Deluge was simultaneously swept into the artistic imagination. There was already a long-standing tradition of renderings of the Deluge in poetry and plays. But after 1820 the genre attained an unrivalled display. Byron's poem *Heaven and Earth* (1823) was one critical marker, as was the great revival of interest in Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Even Charles Darwin had a pocket abridgement of Milton with him on his circumnavigation of the globe. It was the painter John Martin, though, who really turned the Deluge into theatre. His focus was less on the story of the ark's survival than on the overwhelming of a landscape. In this sense, it played directly to those within the geological audience who clung to catastrophic events like a universal flood to explain the regular shapes of hills and mountains, along with the regular patterns of the rivers and streams that bisected them. Martin reproduced his painting of the Deluge as a mezzotint in 1828. It proved a roaring success with its startling chiascuro. Even after his death, it was still being printed. Soon Academicians like JMW Turner were themselves completing paintings of the Deluge. The paradox was that just when geology was beginning seriously to abandon catastrophic ideas of earth history, the Deluge featured more and more in the Victorian imagination. As Darwin thumbed the pages of his pocket version of *Paradise Lost*, for example, he was slowly forming the germs of evolutionary theory in which exotic reptiles of former worlds became vital links in an ever-branching tree of life. Victorians increasingly came face to face with the prospect that rather than an Eden there was once merely sea and swamp, an empire of molluscs. Dinosaurs were distant ancestors. Man was largely a monkey deprived of his tale.

In 2005, as we find ourselves gazing at the latest dinosaur skeleton to have been prominently re-positioned in a museum entrance court, it is worthwhile being reminded that early Victorians were being presented with exactly such spectacles at the dawn of the age of mass consumption. It is also salutary to recall the crises of thought and belief that they faced. Benjamin Disraeli captured the spectre memorably in his novel *Tancred* (1847): 'You know, all is development. The principle is perpetually going on. First there was nothing, then there was something; then I think there were shells, then fishes; then we came.'

The Nobel Prize for Peace and Me



On the morning of October 8, 2004, Wangari Maathai was trying to keep to her schedule but having trouble. A radio interview ran long and soon after she picked me up, we hit Nairobi's notorious morning traffic. She was expected at a meeting in rural Nyeri, where she was born and which she represents in Kenya's parliament. It's nearly a three-hour drive so even though it was just after nine, already the day was hectic.

Then, as we passed pineapple plantations and small markets on the rutted road from Nairobi, Maathai's mobile phone began to ring. Her assistant's phone did, too. Had she heard, a local journalist asked, that she'd been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize? Another said that she was on the shortlist. No, she laughed, she hadn't heard "anything". To another caller she said it was an honor just to be nominated.

Now I began to wonder. Was this a joke? What was up? I'd seen a preview story on the Nobel the previous night: the frontrunners were people working on nuclear disarmament and Iraq, not Wangari Maathai. It all began to seem like some strange rumor had spread, as rumors do, among the Kenyan press. I tried to put it out of my mind. After all, I had my own agenda with Maathai. I had first met her in 2001 and was interviewing her that morning for a planned book on culture and the environment. I'd come that morning to try and rack up some hours of taping. I began to see the chances of that dwindling, too.

Sigh. I turned off my recorder. Maathai, still hands-on despite her status as Kenya's Assistant Environment Minister, had to arrange the public address (PA) system for her meeting that day. So she was on the phone when the Norwegian Ambassador called. Her assistant took a message. Could Professor Maathai, as she's known in Kenya, please call Norway? She couldn't, since her phone doesn't dial internationally. The PA system was set. The Ambassador had left his Nairobi number. We looked at each other. She opened her hands in a gesture she uses for "how about that?" or "what's going on here?" and pulled a face. I suggested, laughing and now rather nervous, that she call him and find out what was up. I could see the number on her assistant's pad. Just dial.

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by Mia MacDonald

A few minutes passed and the phone rang. It was the Norwegian Ambassador again. This time she took the call. He had news. "Mr. Ambassador?" I watched, anxious for news. Her eyes narrowed, then got wide. Then she was laughing, putting her hand in the air and saying, one after the other, "oh, wow, great, yay." She closed the phone's lip and said, "We won." The Nobel Institute, the Ambassador told her, would be calling shortly.

Wangari Muta Maathai - member of parliament, assistant minister for environment and natural resources, founder of the Green Belt Movement, which has planted nearly 30 million trees across Kenya through networks of rural women, democracy campaigner, first woman department chair at the University of Nairobi, first woman in East and Central Africa to receive a Ph.D., and a daughter of rural Kenya - had been awarded the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize. Wow.

I was dumbstruck. So was she, but just for a moment. She smiled broadly and then we hugged for what seemed like a long time. Her assistant, Alex, in the seat in front of us, had a big smile on his face, too. As we moved apart, Maathai said, softly, "I didn't know anyone was listening." There were tears in her eyes, the first I'd ever seen.

I first met Maathai in the summer of 2001 when my partner, Martin Rowe (Mansfield, English 1984-87), and I were in Nairobi. For many years, I had admired Maathai and her work on a range of issues that I, since studying international development at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, found critical: environment, gender, rights and sustainability. She and the Green Belt Movement were among the most active members of an active Kenyan civil society, essential in the then dictatorial and madly corrupt Kenya. I began to work more and more on the links among gender, environment and population and found myself more and more admiring of the way Maathai worked effectively across sectors - still unusual in much development work - at the grassroots level and in the policy arena.

Before our trip, we contacted Maathai. Did she, we wondered, have a book about her life or any plans to write one? Martin had recently co-founded a publishing company and I thought the world outside global environment and women's rights circles should know what Maathai had done and how. After several emails and phone calls the message came that yes, she would meet us for tea. She came with her friend, Dr. John Makanga, secretary general of Kenya's Green Party. Both had been beaten and brutalized by Arap Moi's regime, most recently during Maathai's successful campaign to save Nairobi's Karura Forest from being carved up into luxury housing.

Maathai was down-to-earth, friendly, funny, self-deprecating and luminous. She was also a grand presence (waiters and waitresses fluttered around her); she has an authority and an ease combined with a sense of personal power that is compelling. Meeting her was a thrill; being in her presence was a real delight. She liked the book idea. But she suggested another book, not (yet) on her life but on her work. Martin's company, Lantern Books, ended up publishing it: *The Green Belt Movement: Sharing the Approach and the Experience*. I stayed in touch with Maathai, saw her in New York and Nairobi, and have written about her since she was elected to Kenya's parliament in 2002.

Last October, I was in Kenya for a meeting on gender and environment at the United Nations' Environment Program. I'd come early to do some interviewing with Maathai for the proposed autobiography as well another book, based on Maathai's writings on environment and culture. That's how I found myself with her that extraordinary day.

Now that the news about the Peace Prize was out, the cell phones began to jangle with media calls. When Maathai's van pulled in to the Outspan Hotel in Nyeri where we'd planned a quick break, local media, Reuters and a journalist from Norwegian Broadcasting (he had been tipped off) were there. They clapped. It was 15 minutes to noon, Kenya time, and a whole new world. Maathai got the call from Oslo. Now it was official.

Then the maelstrom began. The cell phones couldn't handle all the media calls flooding in. Well-wishers at the hotel descended on Maathai, smiling and clapping, thrusting hands forward in congratulations. I went to watch the announcement from Oslo on CNN in the deserted hotel bar. "She has taken a holistic approach to sustainable development that embraces democracy, human rights and women's rights in particular," the Nobel Committee Chairperson, Ole Danbolt Mjos, said of Maathai. "She thinks globally and acts locally." I found myself wiping unexpected tears from my eyes and cheeks.



The Nobel Prize for Peace and Me

A few of the hotel's employees, all men, had joined me. I asked them what they thought. "I'm very happy," one said quietly, gaining volume as he spoke. "I voted for her. She's my MP." Yes, he said, the Prize will help Maathai win her latest campaign for Kenya's forests. "She'll continue fighting because the forests have been damaged. We appreciate that now [and] we will take care."

In the gardens, Maathai was surrounded by journalists, alternately answering their questions and those of reporters on the phone, seamlessly shifting from English to Swahili to her mother tongue, Kikuyu. Alex began to get overwhelmed and asked me to help answer the phones. I did. The time between calls dwindled to nothing: the BBC, the New York Times, Dutch Radio, Norway, Sweden and a large number of determined (and very polite) Italian reporters.

I walked closer to Maathai and caught snatches of the interviews. "I'm so overwhelmed at this moment. I never thought that the world would recognize me this way." What would she do next? a reporter asked. The Prize, Maathai said, "should only make me work harder for the years that are left, and inspire those who have been following so that they can walk along the same footsteps I have for the environment, and for the good of the people and the world in which we live."

She quickly universalized the occasion. She has, after all, worked with countless communities and courageous people in Kenya and other countries over the years. I have also come to know her generous spirit, forged in adolescence and strengthened by her adult experiences. "We" is a common word for her; "I" is less favored. I caught this: "I want to say that I am the person the world sees, but behind me are millions of people, millions of hands throughout the world, but mostly here in Kenya who tried to do what we asked them to do: to take care of the Earth."

In the previous few months, Maathai had been campaigning hard in her constituency, in the press, and in Parliament for further protections for Kenya's fast-dwindling intact forests. Many had been cleared to make way for tree plantations of exotic species and cash crops. This so-called "shamba system" was introduced by the British and maintained by Kenya's post-independence rulers. As native forests disappear, with them go biodiversity and strong, resilient ecosystems. "Look at the roots of the problem," Maathai had been saying.

Alex suggested that the hotel manager bring a tree. He did, a Nandi flame, indigenous to this region at the foot of Mount Kenya. A hole was dug and a shovel brought. But as is her habit, Maathai eschewed formality. She got onto her knees and scooped the rich, red soil in around the small trunk. "We don't get this treatment in the field," she reminded the small crowd that had gathered, smiling. Cameras whirred, including my own.

Afterward, Maathai took more media calls. She urged people

to celebrate the Peace Prize by planting a tree. "Imagine the millions that could be planted," she said. I wondered what was next. The assembled media urged Maathai to cancel her meeting. Forget your constituents for this one day, they argued, and return to Nairobi for television interviews. But Maathai is not a woman easily deterred; nor does she take her constituents, and those at the grassroots, lightly.

She kept her commitment. Those who know her well were not surprised. We got back into the car - speechless for a few minutes - and drove to the meeting site, a field near a school in a small village outside Nyeri. Hundreds of people were waiting, not for the Nobel Peace Prize winner - they didn't know anything about that - but for their Member of Parliament, their advocate. Maathai didn't even tell them about the prize until well into her speech. The poor state of the forests and the resulting lack of water and rain were her priorities. She spoke as reporters from the Associated Press and German TV filmed, waiting for interviews.

An hour passed and Maathai was still speaking. The media calls continued. I crouched at the back of the school in the foot high grass and tried to prioritize. I had to ask many of the reporters calling to call back. To a few I say, "Look, we're in a field in Kenya. We're trying our best." Inevitably, the cell phone batteries weakened and then died. We resuscitated one phone with a borrowed battery.

Then another call came on the district commissioner's cell phone. The President, Mwai Kibaki, wanted Maathai back in Nairobi. She would have to leave; a helicopter was waiting. So she cut the meeting short, the main business having concluded. We arrived in another field, the sun bright on the white metal of the helicopter. Newsweek had called to say their photographer was just a minute away. Could we wait? I said "yes," but the pilots overruled me and bundled in Maathai, her bodyguard, Alex and me.

It was my first time in a helicopter. The ride was loud, churning and the cushion-less metal seats did not protect us from the multiple vibrations. As we flew over the countryside of her childhood, Maathai brushed dust from her shoes. Through the window, the land below looked very green.

At the airport, we were met by a government car. En route to State House (Kenya's White House), police motorcycles waved the government vehicle through Nairobi's late afternoon traffic jams. We stopped once, at a roundabout. Two men in a car in the next lane recognized Maathai and began shouting their congratulations. She smiled back and raised her arms in acknowledgement.

Soon after, in the formal gardens of State House, beneath a colonnade, President Kibaki, declared that Kenya was "in the mood for celebrating." He and a broadly grinning Maathai



made short statements and took questions from the Kenyan and foreign press. The light began to turn to gold as it does most nights around 6 p.m. in Nairobi, the nearby equator enforcing regularity on daylight and night.

Then the modest celebrating began. Maathai nursed a cup of tea and a piece of pizza that quickly went cold on the terrace of Nairobi's Fairview Hotel as a small group of international reporters interviewed her. Two sets of journalists from Latin America - insistent that they would not hang up given the difficulty of getting through - waited on both cell phones for Maathai to be free. And waited. She took one phone with her to her next interview destination, Kenyan TV. But the other? I still feel guilty: I hold out hope they tried again the following day.

Into the evening, Maathai did interviews for Kenyan television, BBC World Service, and in quick takes between live appearances, talked to even more media as they rang in, non-stop. A media call ended; a new one was waiting. "The country is on fire," a tired but jubilant Maathai told the journalist assigned by the Nobel Peace Prize Committee to interview her over an intermittent phone line. Voice hoarse, she insisted on finishing the night with one final interview in Kikuyu that began after 10 p.m.

I found it hard to sleep, even though I was exhausted. I was also dusty and ill-nourished -- my black trousers and sneakers still pale red from the dirt in Nyeri and innumerable cups of black tea had been my meals. I took a shower and watched the news. CNN and the BBC had old video footage of Maathai. She was planting trees.

The next morning, I was up early. On their covers, the Kenyan papers featured a smiling, luminous Maathai from the day before, cell phone in hand. They crowed about what the Nobel Peace Prize meant for Kenya. They also trumpeted the 100 million shillings that come with it and speculated on how Maathai would spend the money now in her "handbag." I saw Aggrey, the doorman, who I knew was a Maathai fan. "She beat Bush and Pope John," he said of the Nobel, whistling through his teeth. "It's wonderful. I was very happy."

Florence, who works in the hotel's business center, agreed that Maathai deserved the prize. "I like her. She has done good work," she said. "An iron core lady" is how Edward, another driver, described Maathai. "We love her," he exulted, tapping the steering wheel as he spoke. "She is the best woman we have in Kenya."

I made my way to Maathai's morning press conference at the Green Belt Movement office, where tall, broad trees, along with seedlings, are plentiful in a wide green lawn. The sun was out and it appeared that Maathai's message from the night before had gotten through. Nairobi's roadside nurseries looked freshly

stocked with all manner of trees.

Martin and I are recently back from the Peace Prize award ceremonies in Oslo. In her Nobel lecture, delivered from a blue podium nearly the same hue as the remnants of daylight visible through the window behind her, Maathai drew attention to the ecological crisis facing the planet and what has to be done to address it. "We are called," she said, "to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and in the process heal our own - indeed, embrace the whole creation in all its diversity, beauty and wonder...in the course of history, there comes a time when humanity is called to shift to a new level of consciousness, to reach a higher moral ground.... That time is now."

Afterward, she ate fruit (her only lunch) in her hotel room, did a live global interview with CNN and then stood on the Nobel Prize suite's balcony at Oslo's Grand Hotel and cheered on, and was cheered by, a parade of people holding candles, convened in her honor.

The next night, Oprah Winfrey and Tom Cruise and various musical talents (from Joss Stone to Andrea Bocelli to Tony Bennett to Baaba Maal) feted her at a jubilant concert that capped the festivities. Maathai took the stage near the end. Recounting the biblical story of Noah, she called on the audience to remember how the animals with whom we shared evolution - even the ones we don't generally like, like snakes and flies and mosquitoes - went into the ark, "two by two." We need to recall that spirit, she said, and "give the other species a chance, because in doing so, we give ourselves a chance."

She thanked the committee for giving "African women a chance, and this African woman a chance." The crowd of what one of our party had called "stiff Norwegians" was on its feet. As we went out into the cool night, the energy was palpable.

If only issues of environment and peace could generate heat like this all the time. But with Maathai as the laureate, there's as good a chance as any in years that they will.

Note: a shorter version of this piece appeared in the Los Angeles Times. The full length version of this article is available on the News section of the Mansfield College website.

www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Mia MacDonald (visiting student 1985-86) is a writer and policy analyst based in New York. She has taught in the human rights program at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and is a Senior Fellow of the Worldwatch Institute.

Development News

I'd like to begin by endorsing the Principal's thanks to all of our alumni, parents and friends who contributed so generously to Mansfield's Access to Excellence campaign in the past year. Your support has enabled the College to benefit hugely from the University's exciting offer to match funds raised in 2004. Without this terrific display of goodwill, the Garden Building – the cornerstone of our campaign – would still be stuck on the architect's desk, rather than emerging from behind the John Marsh Building.



December 2004 - Removing the OCEES Building



January 2005 - Building work begins



April 2005



April 2005

Further thanks must also go to the twelve current students who were employed for the telephone campaign in September. A pleasure to work with, they did a tremendous job in raising £80,000 towards the campaign, whilst thoroughly enjoying chatting with former students about how Mansfield has changed (or remained the same!) over the past half-century. A report and profiles of the callers are on the website.

However, our work can't stop there. In order to allow Mansfield's students to benefit as fully as possible from what an Oxford education has to offer we must ensure we realise the goals we have set ourselves with this campaign. The new building will make a huge difference to the experiences enjoyed by Mansfield's students, both now and in the future. Alongside the building, we are looking to secure the equivalent funding for six tutorial Fellowships, which will in turn release funds for the further improvement of library and information technology facilities, as well as the refurbishment of current accommodation. We are also building on the College's pioneering work in making Mansfield, and Oxford, more accessible to students from all backgrounds and providing the requisite financial support for those students who may encounter financial difficulties whilst at Oxford.

Your continued support in helping us achieve our goals is essential – for further details on ways in which you can support the Access to Excellence campaign please contact the Development Office.

On to events, and another busy six months saw us host the 7th Annual Parents' Dinner in September. Over 40 parents and grandparents enjoyed another excellent meal in Hall with a good number of Fellows, before putting their offspring to shame by



swarming to the bar to continue the festivities into the night. We also held the inaugural London drinks evening. A very informal get-together, giving our alumni in and around London the chance to meet up over a few drinks in the Pitcher & Piano, Liverpool Street. Around 100 alumni and friends turned up over the course of a very enjoyable and sociable evening and everyone was particularly delighted to see Donald Sykes in attendance. We will be holding these events regularly - make sure we have your e-mail address to receive an invitation!

This year sees Mansfield celebrate 10 years of full college status on the weekend of 25th - 26th June. The weekend begins with a Gaudy for alumni who matriculated between 1965 - 1975 on Saturday evening. Sunday will see the College celebrate 10 years of full college status with an Garden Party. We hope that many of our alumni, students, staff, parents and friends and their families will be able to join us at the College on Sunday 26th June to help us commemorate this milestone. A booking form is enclosed with this Magazine and full details, including a booking form, are available on the College website.

We are delighted that Becky Simms (Geography 1996) has recently joined the Development Office team. Becky says it's nice, if slightly bizarre, to be 'back home'.

ANDY WOOD, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

The Mansfield Legacy and you

Since its foundation over 100 years ago, Mansfield has been indebted to the generosity of its alumni and friends. Their benefaction has enabled the College to go from strength to strength – widening our subject base, improving our facilities and enabling Mansfield to follow its ethos of dissent and democracy inspired by its founders while continuing to offer the best possible education to talented students, regardless of background or financial means. It is impossible to imagine the College being in this position without such generosity.

In these times of financial uncertainty for higher education, it is vital that the College is in a position to deliver the same outstanding educational experience enjoyed by so many. Compared to wealthier colleges, Mansfield is not in a position to defend itself against these uncertainties, as well as the rising costs for our students, due to the small size of our endowment. Your legacy will help protect the College from these external factors by giving you the opportunity to make a more substantial donation to the College than current circumstances may allow. A legacy bequest can also provide the donor with tax benefits for their estate, ensuring less of your money is lost to the State on your death.

All bequests, of any size, are of great value to Mansfield. If you are considering making a bequest, or would like any further information, please contact the Development Director.

Higher-rate taxpayers

Make your generosity go even further!

Donors will be aware of the advantages, to both the College and themselves, of giving by Gift Aid. The College claims a refund of the basic-rate tax paid on the gift and higher-rate taxpayers are entitled to a refund of the higher-rate tax paid on the donation.

However, donors can choose to redirect this refund to Mansfield through their self-assessment tax return. This money can also attract Gift Aid, meaning the total received by the College is nearly 60% greater than the cost to the donor.

Example

- A higher rate taxpayer makes a one-off gift of £100 to Mansfield by Gift Aid.
- The College is able to reclaim £28.20, increasing the value of the gift to £128.20.
- The donor reclaims £23 through their self assessment tax return and redirects it to the College, by Gift Aid, giving the College a further £29.50.
- Therefore, for a gift of £100, Mansfield would actually receive £157.70!

For more information please contact the Development Director.

Adam von Trott

A Living Memorial



Readers of the Mansfield Magazine may remember that in 2002 an inscription in memory of Adam von Trott (who spent a term at Mansfield in 1929) was unveiled in the College Chapel by his grandson. Since then the idea of establishing a more ambitious 'living memorial' to him at the College has been taking shape. It is now hoped to raise funds to provide a scholarship for a German student who wishes to study politics at Mansfield.

The year 2004 marked the 60th anniversary of the abortive plot to kill Hitler, for which Adam von Trott was put to death. This anniversary has provided an opportunity to develop further the links between Mansfield and the Adam von Trott Stiftung based at the old family home in the manor house at Imshausen, Hessen, near the former east-west German border.

In July 2004 the Stiftung hosted a conference on 'The Ecumenical Movement and Resistance to Dictatorship' at Imshausen. Speakers from Germany, Britain, the Netherlands and Sweden explored the part played by Adam von Trott, Willem Visser't Hooft (the first general secretary of the World Council of Churches), Bishop Bell of Chichester, and others, in the European resistance to Nazism in the mid-twentieth century. Other speakers considered the role of the churches during the Cold War. The proceedings of this conference are gradually being made available in published form, in both English and German. Among the participants as guests were members of the Mansfield Association, who were also privileged two days later to share in the commemorative event on the 60th anniversary of the plot (20 July) beneath the cross erected in memory of Adam on the hillside behind the manor house. Dr Clarita von Trott, Adam's widow, movingly paid tribute to her husband, and Geoffrey Beck, a Mansfield alumnus who was for a time Warden of the Chapel of Unity in Coventry Cathedral, spoke on behalf of the British visitors. Konrad Raiser, recently retired general secretary of the World Council of Churches, then spoke of the continuing relevance for today of the vision of the renewal of Europe of von Trott and his associates in the Kreisau Circle.



An anonymous British donation early in 2004, followed by donations from Germany, made it possible for Mansfield, in association with Balliol College, to host its own commemorative event - a lecture and dinner on 30 November, to which members of the von Trott family and the Adam von Trott Stiftung were invited. It was a privilege to welcome Adam's elder daughter, Frau Verena Onken-von Trott, with two of her daughters, and Dr Levin von Trott, Adam's nephew, who is Chairman of the Stiftung. Professor Timothy Garton Ash of St Antony's College, accepted an invitation to lecture, and chose as his subject, 'Are there moral foundations of European power?'. It is hoped that this lecture will soon be available in published form.

A group has been formed to raise funds for this project. Please contact the Development Office if you would like to help.

Elaine Kaye
Lecturer and College Historian 1900 - 1999

Planning to visit Oxford?

Come and Stay at Mansfield

When you come to Oxford we hope that you will visit Mansfield and we look forward to welcoming you and showing you around the College.

All of our alumni and friends are able to book the College Guest room when visiting Oxford. You can make bookings for the guest room or, outside of term time, a student room, by contacting the Accommodation Manager: zoe.belcher@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Free Bed and Breakfast for our alumni

All our alumni are invited to use the College guest room for one night per calendar year, free of charge, on a first come first serve basis. You can use your free night when you come back for a Gaudy or other College event.

If you would like to book your free night please contact the Development Office: development@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

We look forward to seeing you at Mansfield soon!

Launch of the Mansfield Science Society

The inaugural meeting of the newly formed Mansfield Science Society has been held. This new venture has been organized by Mansfield undergraduates Praveena Joseph de Saram (Physics) and Markus Mittermaier (Materials Science) who have launched the new society to promote the appreciation and understanding of science in the College.

The Society intends to hold a termly event; for the first of these, held in the Chapel on the evening of Wednesday 26 January 2005, a packed audience listened to astrophysicist Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell FRS, Fellow of Mansfield, who spoke under the title "You are Made of Star Stuff". Professor Bell Burnell traced the history of the chemical elements that make up the molecules in our bodies from their origins in the Big Bang, through the formation of stars and the explosions of supernovae. Using a number of well-crafted analogies, Professor Bell Burnell managed to communicate the excitement of this story in a manner that was clear and intelligible to the non-scientist but also gave new insights to those who may have thought they knew the story well. The Principal invited all those present to a drinks reception in the Council room following the talk. It is very much hoped that this event will be just the beginning of what will turn out to be a permanent fixture in Mansfield's academic life.

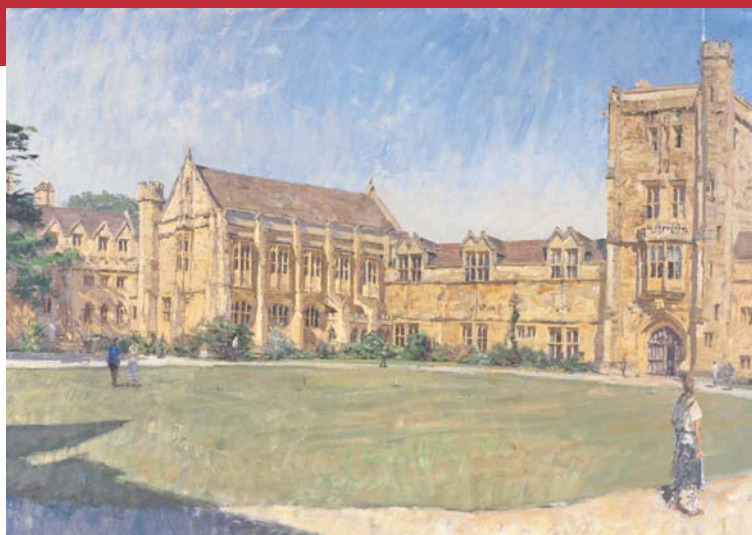
Stephen Blundell
Professorial Fellow and Tutor in Physics

Limited Edition Prints

The prints are 600 x 430 mm and are priced at £150 each (this includes postage and packing).

All proceeds from sales of the the Print are directed towards the College's Access to Excellence campaign.

If you would like to order a print, please send a cheque for £150 made payable to 'Mansfield College' and mark the envelope for the attention of the Development Office. Alternatively, we can take payment by credit card over the 'phone.





Weddings at Mansfield

We were delighted that so many alumni chose Mansfield for their weddings and receptions during the Summer of 2004. Featured below are a few of these weddings. Thank you to Veronika, Maaike and Lisa for supplying details and photographs. If you would like to know more about holding an event at the College, please visit the website where you will find details in the 'Conferences' section of the site.

Veronika Tarasova (Engineering, Economics & Management 1997) and Chris Newlands

We were married in Mansfield Chapel in July 2004. The beautiful service, conducted by John Muddiman, was attended by 50 of our close family and friends. At reception the guests got the real taste of Mansfield life by making up croquet rules while sipping champagne and Pimms and lemonade on the quad. We had the "wedding breakfast" with its share of embarrassing toasts and speeches (featuring Nick Reichinger / James Pitts double act). More guests joined us in the evening to dance the night away in the JCR...

Lynn, Lucy and the rest of Mansfield team did an absolutely fantastic job of not letting us stress in the run-up to the Big Day. They took care of a lot of organisational problems, and made sure the day ran very smoothly... We'd like to say Huge Thank You to them, once again!



Maaike Kok (English 1995) and Greg Wall (Mathematics 1995)

We had a catholic wedding service performed by Father Jeremy Fairhead, and Reverend Walter Houston was kind enough to allow us to have the service in the college chapel and to act as registrar. There were just over 90 guests at the chapel, who then joined us for jazz, photos and bucks fizz in the quad and a sit down meal in the dining room. About another 80 guests joined us for evening celebrations which were held in the JCR (we had a celidh followed by a disco). The council room made a perfect quiet seated area where the evening buffet was set out and the foyer at the bottom of the library stairs housed the bar for the evening. Finally, after fireworks in the quad, Greg and I left in a morse-esque jaguar and our guests (sometime later!) retired to their rooms in A-E block.

The college could not have been more accommodating and made everything easy - from the fabulous menu and flower suggestions to organising the practical things like car parking, cloakrooms and umbrellas (!).



Lisa Kicks (English 1998) and Graham Martin (Geography 1997)

We had 147 guests at the wedding which was performed by Monsignor Tim Galligan, Graham's godfather. The same amount of people came to the reception which was held at the Oxford Belfry Hotel in Milton Common. We had a wonderful day and were really pleased to have the ceremony at Mansfield as we met when helping with the interviewees in 1999. I was JCR VP at the time.

Sadly we lost my Mum to cancer last January, she was really excited that we were getting married at Mansfield so it really did mean a lot to us.



Alumni News

2005

Clabon Allen

Theology 1959

Clabon has spent a year settling happily in Australia and has just been recognised as a Minister of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Peter Moth

Theology 1960

Peter is Fellow of the Royal Television Society, Trustee of National Glass Centre, Trustee Bede's World and Chairman of the NTC, a Touring Theatre Company.

Mason Lowance

English 1961

Mason writes: "On June 22, 2004, Jackson Alexander Rorick was born to our daughter, Margaret, and her husband, Mike. Susan and I are now grandparents! Recently, my ninth book was published by the Princeton University Press, *A House Divided: The Antebellum Slavery Debates in America, 1776-1865*. My wife, Susan, has retired from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was Director of the Sloan Fellows Program in the Sloan School of Management, and Executive Director of the Post Graduate Programs for the Sloan School. I plan to follow her into retirement in 2008 at my age 70. Our years (62-64) at Mansfield were very pleasant ones, and we return there as often as possible. Regular visits with Stephen Wall, Malcolm Parkes and John Creaser and the Buckinghams (with whom I lived in 1961-1962) add much to these occasional visits to Oxford."

Bruce Cameron

1963

Bruce retired in 2002 and now leads worship half time for Tai Kong United Church in Vancouver, British Columbia. His first grandchild, Noah Bruce Cameron, was recently born to son Ian Douglas Murray and daughter-in-law, Masae in Suwa near Nagano, Japan where Ian works in a Japanese Corporation.

Martin Idale

Modern Languages 1964

Martin retired from the rail industry in

1999. He is now active in the voluntary sector, and as a Lay Rector in the Church of England.

Robert Neville Richardson

Theology 1971

Robert is currently chair of the Theological Society of South Africa and recently contributed a chapter to: *God, Truth and Witness: Essays in Conversation with Stanley Hanerwas*. (Festschrift for Hanerwas who was named "America's Best Theologian" by Time Magazine 2001.). He is also Director-designate of the Education for Missions and Ministry Unit of the Methodist Church of South Africa (2006). His wife, Carleen, established a primary school for black children which has operated successfully for sixteen years.

Craig Nelson

Theology 1972

Craig has been a lawyer since 1976 and Elected Prosecutor/Civil Legal Counsel to County Government since 1990. He spent the first 14 years in private practice. He is President of the Minnesota County Attorneys Association in 2004 - an association of 87 elected county attorneys and assistants composed of approximately 680 lawyers. He was married July 7th 1973 at Mansfield College to Mary J W Calldenaar. They spent Christmas in England with their two daughters.

Shin Chiba

Theology 1974

Shin writes: "I am very glad to know the recent developments of Mansfield College, my alma mater, in Great Britain. I am still deeply indebted in my scholarship to Dr G B Caird, Dr Donald Sykes, and all the other wonderful mentors I encountered during my time at Mansfield."

Ian Neville

History 1974

Ian has moved from Zurich/Eagle Star and now works for British Nuclear Group at Berkeley Power Station, whilst running an under sevens Football team,

and a senior Girl's Football team, as well as player/managing a senior football team at Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

Ian Taylor

Geography 1974

Ian has just been elected President of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply the professional body with 36,000 members for the job he found himself in soon after leaving college. Ian currently works as Director of Procurement for Halifax Bank of Scotland based in Halifax and Edinburgh and lives in Boston Spa with Sheila (ex St Hildas) Malcolm (16) and Nicholas (12) - both of whom are heading for degrees in computer games and Playstation2.

Clive Prestt

Geography 1976

Clive writes: "After stopping teaching due to an illness in 1992, I have become a translator in the last three years via teleworking at home using email and the internet. Since I work at home, with the rate at which house prices have gone up, I decided to buy a larger house in a region which is semi-rural where houses are less expensive as even these might become too expensive soon. I was living in a two bedroom terrace without a garden but now have a 3 bedroom palace with a garden and garage. Nice all the persistence has paid off."

Anthony R Martin

PPE 1977

Tony is now heading the Belgium Brewery 'John Martin S.A.' which he bought in April 2004. With operations across the European Union, this is the oldest English brewing company on the continent and includes brands such as Guinness, Trappiste, Gueuze and fruit beers Timmermans, Gordon Scotch Ale and Finest Gold and Martin's Pale Ale. Operations are in Genval's five star hotel 'Chateau du Lac; and in a Brussels Brewery going back to 1781. All are welcome to visit his 2 centuries old brewery in Brussels. He can be contacted on amartin@skynet.be

Martin Clemmey and

Melanie Clemmey (née Bree)

Geography 1979 and English 1981

Melanie writes: "Martin and I have recently launched a new retail business, "Hortica" to complement my growing garden design business, Cromwell Design. We have a shop and a studio in Much Wenlock and plan to issue our first mail order catalogue later this year. We have three children, Ruth(12), Ben(11) and Esther (7)."

Susan Unerman

History 1979

Susan is Director of Planning at MediaCom and has two children - aged 9 and 7.

David J Bailey

Law 1984

David established Menat Trust - a charity to support the care and treatment of neonates with congenital heart conditions. The web address is www.menat-trust.org.

Martin Rowe and Mia MacDonald

English 1984 and Visiting Student, English 1985

We have both been involved with the recent Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Wangari Maathai. I was with Prof. Maathai when she got the news and wrote a piece about it for the Los Angeles Times. Martin published Prof. Maathai's book about the Green Belt Movement, which she founded in 1977, and is now awaiting delivery of a new, revised, post-Nobel edition. Turn to page seven to read Mia's full article.

Juan Sabater

Visiting Student, History 1984

Juan is a Managing Director in the Investment Banking Division of the Goldman Sachs. He is married to Marianna and has two daughters, Maria Beatriz and Ana Maria.

David Agnew

Visiting Student, PPE 1986

David and his wife, Lela, recently founded Civic Square, a real estate

development and consulting firm. They are focusing on downtown, mixed-use projects that add value to the public realm in South Carolina. Their website address is www.civicsquare.com

Mark Addis

PPE 1987

Mark has been awarded a Readership in Philosophy and Cultural Theory at UCE.

Katherine Brick

Visiting Student, English 1987

Kate is an editor at Harvard University Press. She is fleeing her urban lifestyle in Boston for rural southern New Hampshire, where she and her husband recently bought a fixer-upper built in 1738. She has two children, Lucy Ursa Papaya, age 3, and Vera Vui Buttercup, age 1.

Daniel Nestel

Visiting Student, English 1987

Daniel writes: "After completing my year as a visiting student at Mansfield (1986-1987), I finished my undergraduate degree at Brandeis University. I went on to receive a Law degree and a Master's degree in Sports Management from the Ohio State University. After 6 years as a Lobbyist for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCHA), I am now director of state government relations for Reed Elsevier and live in the Washington DC area. I am married to Dana and have two wonderful little girls, Emily (6) and Julia (4). I would love to reconnect with my Mansfield friends; Andrew Spigardo, Doug Jeffrey, Rik Tozzi, Bruce Caswell, Dave Agnew, Larry Davis, etc."

Andrew McLuskey

Theology 1988

Andrew has recently taken up an appointment teaching Religious Studies at Woking College. He and Jo would be delighted to hear from any old friends.

Jonathon Steinberg

Visiting Student, History 1988

Jonathon writes: "I have recently joined RSM Robson Rhodes, a new business Consulting practice, as a Principal in its London office. In other good news, my wife Elizabeth Barrekette and I recently

celebrated the 1st birthday of our first child, Erin Leura Barrekette who was born on 16th August 2003."

Bruno Poet

Geography 1991

Bruno married Annabel in March 2004 and moved to Cornwall. He is a Lighting designer for theatre, opera, dance and other events. He has worked on varied projects from large scale operas in Europe to lighting the London Eye and many UK Theatre and Opera Events. Bruno is happy to talk to anyone interested in a career in the theatre, please contact the Development Office if you would like to get in touch with him.

Keith Powell

Visiting Student, History 1991

Keith writes: "On October 2, 2004, I was married to the former Kelly Anne Tabb, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, South Carolina, USA. After a trip to Playa del Carmen, Mexico, we are now at home in Columbia, South Carolina, where I remain in the private practice of law, and Kelly is an advertising account executive with the Knight-Ridder newspaper, "The Columbia State"."

Aline Lidwell

Geography PGCE 1993

Aline writes: "I have finished seven years of teaching Geography at Hutcheson's Grammar School in Glasgow. I am now taking a step of faith as I seek support to work full-time with the Church of Scotland to plan new congregations for young people. Re-investing the Church without changing the gospel truths."

Iain McDonald

Theology 1994

Iain is working as Concerts Administrator at the Minister Church in Axminster (40 concerts in 2004) in addition to his role as Clerk to the Parish Council.

Samantha Hamilton

PPE 1995

Having worked at NM Rothschild and Sons for four and a half years, Samantha has decided to take 12 months out to go

travelling around the world with her boyfriend. They started in South East Asia in September 2004 and then planned to go onto Australia, New Zealand and South America via Tahiti and Easter Island.

Brian Tockman

Visiting Student, Economics and History 1995

Brian writes: "After finishing my BA at Brandeis University I moved to New York City to work for Goldman Sachs. It was an intense and exhilarating three years, as the booming late 90's were a great time to be on Wall St. Then in 2000 I returned to Boston to accept a place in the MBA program at Harvard Business School. One of the benefits of taking time out of my professional career to attend graduate school was also the time to travel! And so during those two years and the bookend summers I made my way through India, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Spain, France and the UK. Five of those stops included visits with other Mansfield alum! I left Harvard in 2002 and moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where I now work as a Buyer for Target Stores. While (for the moment) only located in the US, we have just over 1,300 stores and I get to be involved in some very fun initiatives on both the merchandising and marketing fronts. It's hard to believe that it's been almost

10 years since I arrived at Oxford, but what's even more amazing is the number of Mansfield people with whom I am still in regular contact. An inspirational group that is as fun to be acquainted with as ever! Drop a line if anyone finds themselves in the Upper Midwest: to: btockman@mba2002.hbs.edu."

Jesse Cogle

Psychology MSc, 1997

Jesse is currently doing a PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Texas.

Lisa Martin (née Kicks)

English 1998

Married Graham Martin (Geography 1997) on 7th August 2004. A picture can be found on page 15.

Gemma Lowndes and

Daniel Vinton

Mathematics 1999 and Engineering 1999

Congratulations to Gemma and Daniel who got engaged in July 2004.



Rebecca Lowe (née Hansell), Theology 1991-1994 had the chance to go head to head with the Prime Minister during his recent visit to the Labour Party conference in Swansea, South Wales.

"I spotted an ad in my local paper, asking for questions for the Prime Minister at a Question and Answer session," says Rebecca. "Through my work as a volunteer Media Officer for the relief and development agency, Tearfund, I've been heavily involved with the Make Poverty History campaign, which aims to highlight and tackle the causes of poverty in the third world." "I sent in a question on third world debt and was stunned when I received a call asking me

to meet the Prime Minister the following day!

Rebecca was part of a panel of eight people who quizzed the Prime Minister on a variety of topical issues – both local and national. "Speaking with Tony Blair was a nerve-racking prospect but I couldn't turn down such an incredible opportunity," says Rebecca. "We spoke about the need to deliver aid more effectively to the third world in order to reduce the number of people who are forced to live in poverty.

I then asked if I could have his word that, at the G8 Summit, he would make the cancellation of all third world debt a key priority and he assured me that he would do – so all in all I was quite satisfied by his response. I'll be keeping a close eye on what happens at the G8 summit in July, to make sure he keeps his promise!"

Lost alumni

A list of those we have lost touch with is on the College website. If you know where any of our 'Lost Alumni' are, send us an e-mail with their contact details. If you know someone who hasn't heard from us for a while, encourage them to contact the Development Office.

Looking for Someone?

If you have lost touch with someone who you knew at Mansfield, get in touch with the Development Office. Although we don't pass contact details of our alumni to anyone without their permission, we are happy to contact them on your behalf.

Send us your news for the next edition of the Magazine

Events in 2005

for our alumni, parents and friends

Saturday 28th May

Mansfield Association Summer VIII's Event

Oxford

Saturday 25th June

Gaudy for Matriculation Years 1965 - 1975

Mansfield College

Sunday 26th June

Garden Party

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF FULL COLLEGE STATUS

Mansfield College

For all current and former students, parents, staff, former staff, friend and their families.

Saturday 17th September

Eighth Annual Parents Dinner

Mansfield College

Tuesday 11th October

Hands Lecture

*Speaker : Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty
Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford*

Saturday 10th December

Gaudy for Matriculation Years 1995 - 2000

Mansfield College

Up to date information on all our events above is available on our website.
Information on all Mansfield College Chapel Services are also on the website.

London Drinks Evenings

So far, we have held two London Drinks Evenings, one in November and the most recent in April. Both have been a great success with alumni getting together with members of the College. We plan the next event on Thursday 8th September. Information on future events will be available on the Mansfield College website and invitations will be e-mailed. To make sure you receive your invitation, e-mail development@mansfield.ox.ac.uk to be added to the mailing list.

