

WORCESTER
COLLEGE
RECORD



1999

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J.D. Young, Supernumerary Fellow, Clinical Reader in Anaesthetics
B. Jaworski, Supernumerary Fellow, University Lecturer in Educational Studies
J. Kenwright, Nuffield Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
J.M. Aitchison, Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communication
S.E. Gillingham, Tutor in Theology, Tutor for Women
A. Blakeborough, Tutor in Engineering Science
A. Kerkhecker, Tutor in Classics
H.A. Viles, Tutor in Geography
G. Dannemann, Supernumerary Fellow, Erich Brost University Lecturer in
German Civil and Commercial Law
K.E. Tunstall, Tutor in French
C.P.H. Brown, Professorial Fellow, Director of the Ashmolean Museum
D.R. Heath-Brown, Professor of Pure Mathematics

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F.V. Price
C.J. Danby
J.M. Hinton
A.M. Moodie, MBE
J.S. Wilders
Professor E.T. Hall, CBE, FBA
H.G. Pitt
G.H.L. Le May
Professor R.B. Duthie, CBE
Professor M. Winterbottom, FBA
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K.O. Gore
Professor C.J. White
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Lord Wolfson of Marylebone in the City of Westminster
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Professor Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, FRS
Professor Sir Hans Kornberg, FRS
The Rt Rev. A.A.K. Graham
Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover, KG
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Chief Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman

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S. Album, Sackler Fellow
S.J. Hiscock
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T.M. Yeo

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The Rev. P.M. Doll

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P. Frankopan
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J.D. Corner

President of the M.C.R.

J.N.N. Pope

JCR REPORT

"If it ain't broke don't fix it" is a phrase that has been used by former Presidents as a reason for not trying to change Worcester JCR. Can you blame them? The College has always had sporting success, other colleges are envious of our clubs and societies and we have a healthy reputation as a college that really knows how to have fun. Unfortunately, the JCR can not afford to rest on its laurels. The concerns of a student today are different from those of previous generations and for a JCR to remain relevant it has therefore to be aware of this changing environment and indeed willing to change with the times.

For most of 1998 the JCR was in the capable hands of Charlie Osmond. Charlie brought great enthusiasm to the job and deserves credit for everything he did. Worcester is known throughout Oxford as the friendliest college and I think Charlie deserves praise for creating such an atmosphere within college. There were a number of schemes introduced during his time as President. Recycling, for instance, seems to be gathering momentum with the purchase of a can-crusher for the Buttery. Not only does this device ensure that the aluminium is recycled but it also gives bored students something to play with on a lazy afternoon!

During the year Worcester has again shown its prowess on the sports' fields. The cricketers again won their league but undoubtedly the most successful team has been the women's 1st XI football team. League champions and winners of Cuppers, the team swept all before them this year. The men's 1st XI had a good season but unfortunately lost out to Jesus in both the league and cup. On the river Worcester suffered poor luck. After a reasonably successful Torpids there were great hopes for the men's 1st VIII. Unfortunately just before Eights, one of the crew had to pull out with an injury and, as a result the first boat failed to fulfil their initial promise. After a poor year, the hockey teams are now living up to expectations. Both the men's and women's teams have dominated their respective leagues. The athletics team won Cuppers again in Trinity term.

The summer play 'The Man of Mode' was directed magnificently by Sarah Prag and Matt Dick, Millie Hoffman, Neville Arad, Dunstan Kornicki and Albertine Roberts gave excellent performances. The abiding memories of all those present at this year's Buskins production were however, the hilarious antics of James Redmond as Sir Fopling Flutter and Tim Ross as John Trott.

The renaissance of the Worcester College Music Society has continued this year. Not only did the group perform Faure's Requiem in the College chapel, but they also put on a concert in the University Church. The College Choir have enjoyed equal success: you can now even buy their CD!

Away from the dizzy heights of national fame, the JCR "Entz" have ensured that undergraduates have had plenty of events to keep them entertained throughout the year. Live bands, pub quizzes, a seventies night

and cocktail parties are just some of the parties that have been organised this year.

There is more to a JCR than sport, drama, music and parties! Indeed, the JCR has spent the last year trying to improve the welfare provision for Worcester students. Four students have started a course in peer counselling so that they are better trained to deal with any students who have problems. The JCR now also has two very enthusiastic LesBiGay Representatives who have worked hard to produce an atmosphere in college which would allow students to feel comfortable with their sexuality.

The JCR has also been actively involved in Oxford University Student Union's campaign against tuition fees. Many members of college have participated in marches and other protests as part of Oxford's very effective campaign. The Worcester JCR banner even appeared on the front page of the Daily Telegraph!

It has therefore been a busy year for the JCR. On the stage and sports field, Worcester students have once more excelled. This year however, Worcester JCR has attempted to better the provision for student welfare and also make people aware of the difficulties of being a student in the current climate. No one would ever want to change Worcester JCR. It is important though, that a JCR is aware of its responsibilities and confronts issues that have, in the past, all too often been brushed under the carpet.



M.C.R. REPORT

It has been another marvellous year in the M.C.R.. When you throw so many interesting people from all over the world together in one spot - and such a magnificent spot at that - good things are bound to happen. Academically, socially and athletically the past year has been a stellar one. My opposite number in one of the old, city-centre Colleges recently informed me, with American exuberance, "You are all where it's at." We agree.

First, we are all excited about the completion of the new graduate building, which will help solve one of the M.C.R.'s most persistent problems - the dispersal of graduates in the College. Bringing people together from our various, distant places of residence has always been a major thorn in the side of M.C.R. social life, and having more of us under one roof will help enormously.

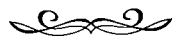
But despite the inherent difficulties, my thanks go to the M.C.R. Committee for doing a great job in bringing us all together. Social Secretaries Seiko Hidaka and Samantha Routledge have worked hard and, I think, seen their efforts pay off with a variety of memorable trips and activities. The two deserve much of the credit for a Halloween Party the likes of which I dare say the M.C.R. has

never seen in its long history. Andy Short deserves special recognition for his continuing efforts on behalf of the Committee, especially in paving the way for a new bar tap, which was installed this year. The tap, tentatively named in Andy's honour, has been a boon for the M.C.R., and we look forward to many years of good service. Andy has also arranged many a memorable exchange dinner, and helped make Worcester a much-sought after exchange partner. I credit Andy when I find myself having to turn down requests from other Colleges.

Academically, M.C.R. members have had another outstanding year, bringing in a slew of grants and prizes. Special mention goes to Craig Taylor, who, after five years of distinguished M.C.R. service, moved on to a highly competitive and much-deserved teaching post in the Medieval Studies Programme at the University of York. Other members have won a host of grants and continue to do exciting research in a variety of fields.

Meanwhile, M.C.R. athletic skills also deserve a special mention. Graduates were instrumental in the coppers championship season of the women's football team, with members Jay Buchanan, Larissa Motiuk, Sam Routledge, as well as my predecessor, P.R. Stark, playing key roles. P.R. deserves a special mention - immediately after playing the first half of the coppers final, she headed straight over to the Oxford Ice Rink and, on that very night, earned player of the match honours in the women's ice hockey team's 3-1 win in the Varsity Match against Cambridge. Other members also deserve special mention - Rachel Currie placed fifth in the Oxford-Cambridge cross-country race, and Lisa Harrod helped the dancesport team to a win in the Varsity Match, while also coming in second in the national student competition. Stephanie Rogers captained the women's Blues basketball team to a decisive win over Cambridge. Toby Ayer, like P.R., also excelled on two levels, helping the Isis (reserve) crew to victory over Cambridge, and also generously coming out of retirement to help the juggling team trounce the Cantabs as well. Where would Oxford be without us? Finally, and most importantly, we triumphed decisively in the annual M.C.R.-S.C.R. cricket competition.

My thanks to everyone for making it a special year, with many more to come.



SPORTING ROUND-UP

To follow the handbooks and the alternative prospectus, 'sporty' Colleges would include the likes of Keble, Teddy Hall and Brasenose. Worcester has meanwhile kept its apathetic level, even with it being the only College to have its own sports field on site. The 1997-98 sporting year, however, once again

went to prove that far from being a matter of little concern, Worcester provides a veritable backdrop for sporting ambition and success.

Among the sports not mentioned so far, cricket and tennis are good examples of Worcester leading the way in the University with consistent excellence. The men and women in both sports are more familiar with the splendour of the Provost's Lodgings than with their own homes.

The men's cricket side won their Champion's Dinner as they stormed their league, remaining unbeaten in the season and hot favourites for the Cuppers event, had it taken place. The first match of the season marked the way forward as University second players, Charlie Warren and Adrian West, put on a magnificent display of no-nonsense batting. Warren scored an effortless 122 (including 26 from one over), while West ate into the Brasenose attack, plundering 80-odd runs in 29 scoring shots with an amazing display of clean stroke-play. Batting was certainly the side's great strongpoint throughout the season. Memorable moments include former University Second's player, Rob Walker, scoring 150 with Gower-esque panache, Ed Wiseman's gritty and powerful display to save the day against Keble, and, of course, Luke Westell's down-on-one-knee Thorpe-esque cover drives. Even more noticeable was the fact that import Mike Plumb, who had scored around 1,000 runs by May in the previous season, was hardly required to make his agricultural contributions towards the total. The Aussie made up for it, of course, with his awful chat behind the stumps. He will be sorely missed in the coming season - not least as a target for banter.

The bowling and fielding was consistent. Will Thomas, elected Captain for next year, led the way with his tight spells of seam-up, admirably supported by the likes of Charlie Thomas, Richard Corfield, the ambitiously fast Paddy Roche. Luke Westell and Ben Petter deceived many with their lack of spin, and the whole side were backed up by some superb fielding from Patrick Harrison and Thomas (when they weren't running into each other), Darbon, Roche and Tim Ambrose, among others.

With the women winning their Cuppers campaign, there can be little doubt that Worcester is the best cricketing College in the University.

Worcester also continued their domination of College tennis. Led by Ed Orlebar, and supported by a huge number of very talented players, the side once again went through the season unbeaten and proved deserving defending champions. Other Colleges must be starting to ask themselves when they will win a set again at the Worcester courts.

The men's and women's hockey teams were less successful than they perhaps promised to be. The men's side never recovered from an early exit from Cuppers at the hands of Brasenose, being demoted to the bottom league as well. The women suffered an equal loss in Cuppers, although they did enough to retain their league status.