



PETREAN NEWS

SUMMER 2010

By Ann Munro, Development Officer

Welcome to a belated edition of *Petrean News*, which has been delayed due to the late circulation of the *Peterhouse* Newsletter in March. Since November 2009 Alison Pritchard-Jones has been painstakingly sifting through the PIFs (Personal Information Forms). The response to this circulation has been enormous and we are very grateful for your replies. The on-line Register has been temporarily suspended to make it compatible with the new web pages, but if you wish to update your contact details, or if there is someone you wish to contact, please get in touch with Alison at ajp212@cam.ac.uk.

A memorial service was held for **Neil Plevy**, Fellow and Development Director, on 1st May 2010. Tea followed the service, and it was good to see so many members present. As a tribute to our 'much-missed boss', the photographs below are our particular favourites. The first shows Neil indulging in his favourite habit in 2002 (before the smoking ban). The second shows Neil at the special launch ceremony of the new shell for the Men's 1st VIII, named *Wilson of Tillyorn* in honour of the outgoing Master, Lord Wilson of Tillyorn on Sunday 15th June 2008, sharing a joke with the Dean, The Revd Dr Stephen Hampton, and Lady Wilson.



Trevor Hurst



Jet Photographic

RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Telephone Campaign

For the sixth successive year, the Development Office held its annual telephone campaign in January, with 12 current undergraduates and graduates spending over 340 hours in conversation with their Petrean predecessors! We were delighted and thrilled by the overwhelmingly positive response and generosity shown by our members, and again despite the adverse economic climate, your munificence exceeded our expectations, raising over £175,000 in support of current strategic priorities, with further donations still trickling in.

Bench in memory of the late Kiran Panesar

A number of friends, family and staff attended the inauguration, on Friday 5th March 2010, of a special bench in memory of the late Kiran Panesar (matric. 2002 to read Law), who died suddenly at the age of 26 on 15th June 2009. The bench, donated by members of the Panesar family, has been placed in the Deer Park.

The photograph below shows, from right to left, Dr Roderick Munday, Fellow and Director of Studies in Law, standing with Kiran's father, mother, aunt, uncle and two sisters.



Jet Photographic

Arrival of Puccinelli bronzes

On Wednesday 17th March 2010, Mr Hans-Jörg Modlymayr (matric. 1964) and his wife Hildegard stayed at the College to oversee the siting in the Scholars' Garden of three bronze figures by the eminent American-Italian sculptor Raimondo Puccinelli (1904-86), which the Modlmayrs have most generously donated to the College. Mr Modlmayr read English for the Affiliated B.A., after study at the universities of Würzburg and Heidelberg; he held a British Council Scholarship, 1965-66, taught at Gonville and Caius, 1969-73, and is now a writer, poet and art critic involved also in generic foreign language teaching, based near Essen in Germany. While in Cambridge he and his wife were involved with Kettle's Yard, and collaborated in an abortive exhibition of Puccinelli's work. On their return to Germany they became very close to Puccinelli and collaborated in a number of exhibitions. Raimondo Puccinelli is known primarily as a sculptor, inspired in large measure by dance. His works may be found in many public and private collections in the U.S.A. and Europe. The three sculptures, pictured below, form a thematically-linked group of large bronzes intended for outdoor display: Stella (1957); Sirena (1960) and Medea (1960).



Jet Photographic

Memorial Concert for Lady Thomas

On 1st February 2010, in King's College Chapel, a memorial concert was held for Margaret, Lady Thomas, the late wife of the former Master, Sir John Meurig Thomas, who partly sponsored the event, the profits from which were distributed equally to the radiology section of Addenbrooke's Hospital and the King's College Chapel Fund. Sir John honoured his wife's wish to contribute substantially to the unit operated at the hospital by the present Master, Professor Adrian Dixon who, along with the other Medical Fellows of Peterhouse (Professor Andrew Lever and Dr Robert Ross Russell) took great care of Lady Thomas during the slow and final decline in her health at the time that she shouldered her College responsibilities as Master's wife. Several present members of the College and many 'regulars' at the annual Peterhouse Society Gathering attended the concert, that was given by Sir John's friend Bryn Terfel, with the Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Stephen Cleobury and CUMS Choir and King's College Choir and Choristers.

The concert opened brilliantly with the Philharmonia's performance of Mozart's Symphony no. 29 (led by James Clark, an ex-King's Choral Scholar). Bryn Terfel's rendering of *Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel* was utterly memorable, as was the Choir's performance of excerpts from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. Bryn also sang two traditional Welsh songs *Suo-Gân* (a lullaby) and *Ar Hyd Y Nos* (*All Through the Night*), and *Io ti lascio* (Mozart). There was also a beautiful presentation of Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus*, that preceded the memorable Fauré *Requiem*, which Bryn Terfel sang with the assembled choirs to complete the evening's event.



Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas

Margaret Thomas was brought up in the village of Llangennech, Carmarthenshire, the second daughter of parents who ran a grocer's shop and a modest market-gardening business. Her father had been a coal-miner and bus conductor, who had become an accomplished violinist with a passion for vocal music. Margaret sang in a choir he conducted in the International Eisteddfod, Llangollen in 1949, at the time she entered Llanelli Girls' Grammar School. She became a student at the University of Wales, Cardiff, in 1956, and specialised in Semitic Studies, which uncovered her latent abilities for languages such as Aramaic and Syriac as well as Greek and Hebrew, and stimulated her life-long interest in ancient civilisations. She married John Meurig Thomas in 1959 and took a teacher's certificate at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. Her first appointment at Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen, Bethesda, covered Religious Knowledge through the medium of Welsh. Her daughters Lisa and Naomi were born in 1968 and 1971, and Margaret encouraged them to become instrumentalists, as a result of which Naomi is now a professional violinist. When John's appointments took the family to different places, she actively pursued her interests: in Aberystwyth she began her work on comparative religion and by the time they moved to Cambridge in 1978, she had registered for a higher degree in Hinduism (her MA thesis of 1984 was entitled *A Study of the Avatara Doctrine in the Indian Tradition with Special Reference to Krishna*). Here she took up a part-time teaching post at The Perse School for Girls and was honorary secretary for the Cambridgeshire Youth Orchestra.

Following John's appointment as Director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London, in 1986, Margaret took charge of Friday evening Discourse entertainment and dining. Distinguished men and women from the worlds of science, the humanities and public life, including Royalty, Heads of State, Ambassadors, Prime Ministers and members of the Cabinet, were entertained there. And when John was Master at Peterhouse from 1993-2002, she greatly enjoyed entertaining students, Fellows, and friends at the Master's Lodge.

Events in New York City

Professor Andy Parker, Fellow of Peterhouse and Professor of High Energy Physics in the University, was invited by Cambridge in America to lecture at their Cambridge in America Day at the CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Avenue (at 34th Street), New York on Saturday 20th March 2010. Professor Parker's lecture was entitled *To Infinity and Beyond: the Search for New Physics at the Large Hadron Collider*.

The day was well attended. Miss Mariama Ifode (matric. 2004) wrote 'Professor Andy Parker's talk on the ATLAS experiment at CERN, Geneva, was a particular highlight. His talk was engaging, stimulating and accessible, even to those of us with a background in the humanities! It was fascinating to receive an 'insider's perspective and analysis' on the aims of the experiment, the process of international collaboration, and the engineering and construction feats involved. I thoroughly enjoyed Professor Parker's presentation.'

Separately the Master was in New York on Friday 16th April when he visited the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Medical Center. A drinks reception was kindly arranged by Mr Michael Allen (matric. 1959) in the Saybrook Room, The Yale Club of NYC, for the Master to meet with other New York-based Petreans.

COLLEGE NEWS

The Fellowship

One Fellow left the College in February 2010:

- Dr John Bew, Harris Fellow in History since October 2005, was appointed University Lecturer in the Department of War Studies at King's College, London.

The following elections to Honorary Fellowships were made with effect from 1st January 2010:

- Dr Noel Malcolm (matric. 1974);
- The Hon. Sir Declan Morgan (matric. 1971);
- The Rt Revd Peter Walker, D.D. (matric. 1977).

The First Cambridge Conference on Language Endangerment

This academic year Peterhouse has been involved in an exciting cross-disciplinary initiative, namely the Cambridge Group for Endangered Languages and Cultures (CELC) which will host the First Cambridge Conference on Language Endangerment on 25 March 2011. Funded by the Cambridge Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities and organised by Dr Mari Jones (Fellow and Director of Studies in Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics) and Dr Sarah Ogilvie (Alice Tong Sze Research Fellow, Lucy Cavendish College), the conference will explore the impact of standardisation on endangered languages, especially issues relating to language maintenance, identity, and pedagogy. It is intended that this will be the first of an annual series of conferences, each of which will address a specific topic relating to the documentation, preservation, and revitalisation of endangered languages and cultures.

The conference follows on from the success of CELC's fortnightly seminar series, a forum created to exchange ideas across disciplines, to disseminate research findings, and to put Cambridge on the endangered languages academic map. CELC currently comprises Cambridge academics and students from the Departments of French, Linguistics, Middle Eastern Studies, Social Anthropology, Sociology, and Spanish and Portuguese, and from the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (http://groups.pwf.cam.ac.uk/celc/celc_members.html). Undergraduates and graduates from Peterhouse feature prominently in the group.

For further information, please visit <http://groups.pwf.cam.ac.uk/celc/>.

Peterhouse Chapel Choir

Matthew Dunn (matric. 2006) (graduate organ scholar), was recently presented with his ARCO (Associateship of the Royal College of Organists). This is a very difficult exam to pass and is a significant achievement. It is thoroughly deserved and reflects the excellent work Matthew has done with the Chapel Choir since matriculating in 2006. Dan Brittain (matric. 2007), performed as a soloist countertenor in a recent production of Carmina Burana by the Christ's College music society. This is an infamously difficult work, but was performed with aplomb. Lizzie Bennett (matric. 2008), was awarded a position in the Millennium Youth Choir. This is a national youth choir specialising in sacred music, established by George Carey (Archbishop of Canterbury 1991-2002). It takes only 10 sopranos from the whole of the UK, and will provide valuable experience to bring back to Peterhouse.

Peterhouse Boat Club

A flyer summarising the notable successes of the Peterhouse Boat Club over the last two years has recently been sent to all Petreans who have previously supported or expressed an interest in the Peterhouse Boat Club Fund. If you would like a copy, please contact me at the Development Office; e-mail amm85@cam.ac.uk, telephone, 01223 765188.

Shortly after publication, current undergraduate Edward Randolph (matric. 2007) played a crucial role in Cambridge's 2010 Boat Race triumph as cox of the Blue Boat. Petreans may recall that Kenelm Richardson (matric. 2002) coxed the Blue Boat in 2004.

Cambridge University Paediatric Society: Teddy Bear Hospital, article by Ben Fisher (matric. 2005)

Cambridge University Paediatric Society was established by a committee of clinical medical students in June 2009. It was decided to run a Teddy Bear Hospital (TBH), with the following aims:

- to reduce anxiety and provide education about hospitals and health to four to seven year-olds in a fun, non-threatening environment;
- to provide opportunities for medical students of all levels to interact with children and improve their communication skills in a fun manner;
- to make medical students think about the possibility of a career in paediatrics.

Our first Teddy Bear Hospital event held was in Addenbrooke's Hospital on January 21st. The children, from a local school, had already decided what was wrong with their teddy bears beforehand. They were divided into seven groups of four or five, each of which was taken around

by a medical student (Teddy Bear Doctor). There were seven TBH stations, each manned by two Teddy Bear Doctors and lasting 15 minutes:

- **Ambulance station.** Here the children introduced themselves and their teddies, and talked about when and how to phone 999. They used a makeshift stretcher to take teddy to our painted 'ambulance', where they listened to teddy's heart, made an ECG, and gave him some oxygen.
- **Ward station.** The children put on a patient gown and hospital wrist band. They discussed what was wrong with teddy, and filled out a form with teddy's name, age, medical problem, and measurements. They used stethoscopes, thermometers, sphygmomanometers, tendon hammers, etc. to examine teddy, then gave him some suitable treatment (e.g. plaster, bandage, fluids, oxygen, hugs).
- **X-ray/anatomy station.** The children looked at some x-rays of teddies with various problems, including broken heart, broken arm, and accidental paper-clip ingestion. To learn about anatomy, one of the children was drawn around by the others on a large sheet of paper, and they tried to attach various printed organs to this in (approximately) the correct anatomical location.
- **Plaster and slings station.** Either the children, or their teddies, had a plaster cast (loosely) fitted, which they decorated with stickers and coloured tape. They then tried putting on an arm sling.
- **Surgery station.** The children washed their hands and put on surgical gowns, gloves, hats and masks. Observing aseptic technique, they performed surgery on an anaesthetised teddy bear patient, who handily had a zip sewn into his abdomen to allow access to the plastic organs contained therein. Having identified the broken organ, the children replaced it, thus curing teddy.
- **Healthy eating station.** The children first discussed why it is important to eat healthily and the different food groups. They were then blindfolded and allowed to taste samples of different fruits, guessing what each was.
- **Activity station.** After a brief talk about exercise and muscles, the children had a go at jumping, throwing a ball into a bucket, walking across the room with a bean bag on their head, rolling a ball around their waist, and lifting weights.

The event was very well received and the children appeared to have a brilliant time. The Assistant Head of the school wrote: 'Both teachers commented on how excellent the session was, how good everyone was with the children and how it was (and I quote) 'the best trip I have ever taken children on'. We have subsequently received a large thank you card from the school containing some of the children's anecdotes and pictures of the day. The Teddy Bear Doctors also appeared to have a great time, and gained valuable experience of interacting with children of this age.

We hope to use these as research opportunities to examine the effect of the TBH on children's anxiety about doctors and hospitals, their knowledge about healthy eating and exercise, and medical students' paediatric communication skills.

The photographs below show Ben Fisher and Jenny Taylor (matric. 2005) with groups of the children.



Jack Baldwin



Laura Maria

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **The Peterhouse Society Gathering, Friday 25th – Sunday 27th June 2010**

This year's annual Gathering will be held from the evening of Friday 25th to Sunday 27th June 2010. Details have been circulated to all Petreans, and we have already received a good response. If you still wish to book for this weekend, please do so as soon as possible, bearing in mind that places are filling up fast. A Golden Jubilee reunion is being arranged by 1960 matriculands, to mark their 50th anniversary. This year we have decided to hold afternoon tea in the beautiful surroundings of the neighbouring Doubletree Hotel, the former Garden House Hotel. You will be able to take your tea outside by the riverbank. If you wish to sign-up for this, please contact me as soon as possible. We are hoping that, schedules permitting, the second talk on Saturday afternoon will feature recent graduates who have achieved distinction in the Armed Forces.

- **Petrean Dinner, Saturday 18th September 2010**

Petreans who matriculated between the years 1996 and 2000 inclusive are warmly invited to attend the 'Petrean Dinner' on Saturday 18th September 2010. Invitations and further details will be circulated shortly to all members who matriculated in the years concerned. Dinner will be served at 8.00 p.m., with pre-dinner drinks from 7.30 p.m. Afternoon tea will be provided (in the Fellows' Garden, weather permitting) between 4.00 and 5.30 p.m.

- **Archaeology and Anthropology Dinner, Friday 24th September 2010**

A special reunion dinner is being arranged for Petreans who read Archaeology and Anthropology on Friday 24th September, as part of the Peterhouse Society's programme of subject-related events. Full details of the dinner will be circulated nearer the time.

- **Future Events:**

- 2011: the 55th anniversary of the 1956 Peterhouse Boat Club Henley Ladies' Plate triumph will be marked with a special dinner in Spring 2011.
- 2012: in September, following the success of the event held in 2008, there will be a special dinner for women Petreans, to mark the 25th anniversary of the first graduations.

YOUR NEWS

Petreans honoured

Two Petreans have been ennobled in the recent list of Peerages, honours and appointments:

Guy Black (matric. 1982) former Director Press Complaints Commission, Executive Director Telegraph Media Group.

Rt Hon. Michael Howard QC (matric. 1959) – former Home Secretary, who has held many other senior posts in Government and Opposition.

Also congratulations to:

Professor Mark Bailey MBE (matric. 1971), Director of the Armagh Observatory and Professor James Curl (matric. 1992), Architectural Historian, Emeritus Professor Queen's University, Belfast, who have recently been admitted as Members of the Royal Irish Academy.

Professor Maria Spillantini (matric. 1988), Professor of Molecular Neurology, University of Cambridge, who has been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

The Rt Revd Donald Allister (matric. 1970), recently appointed to the post of Bishop of Peterborough.

Mr Rufus Bird (matric. 1993), recently appointed to the post of Deputy Surveyor of the Queen's Works of Art.

Professor Gary Taylor (matric. 1975), who was recently awarded the Modern Language Association award for 2007-8 for a Distinguished Scholarly Edition, for the OUP edition of Thomas Middleton's *Collected Works*.

The late Dr Leigh Jepson

Mr Conrad Da Cunha (matric. 1995), wrote to us recently following the sad news of the passing of Dr Leigh Jepson (matric. 1995), who died unexpectedly last September, aged 32, from Sudden Cardiac Death. Conrad wrote 'Leigh loved outdoor activities, and had signed up the previous day to take on the Paris Marathon. Marathon running was just one of the many endurance sports that he excelled at. In his honour, a group of us, including nine fellow-Petreans ran the Paris Marathon on Sunday 11th April. We wore black armbands whilst running embroidered with the Peterhouse crest. A fundraising page is still open and further donations are very much welcome. For further information please visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/RunningForLeigh>.

The photograph below shows friends and their family gathered before the race.



Mr Evans

Petrean runners (in no particular order): Olivier Evans (matric. 1995), Adele Evans, née Taylor (matric. 1995), Ian Pamplin (matric. 1995), Richard Platt (matric. 1995), Stu King (matric. 1995), Conrad Da Cunha (matric. 1995) and Gareth Lewis (matric. 1995).

Petrean supporters (in no particular order): Spyro Markesenis (matric. 1995), Kate Pearson (matric. 1995), Dr Rachel Bastiaenen (matric. 1996), Dr Abi King, née Froude (matric. 1996), Dr Fiona Stirling (matric. 1997).

Non-Petrean supporters (in no particular order): Alexandra Da Cunha (Conrad's wife), Rachel Lewis (Gareth's wife), Rose and Daniel Evans (Olly and Adele's children).

With the support of his family Peterhouse has also established a fund to be endowed in Leigh's memory, to be awarded to a student in the clinical years wishing to pursue medicine in challenging surroundings. If you wish to make a donation to this fund, please contact me at the Development Office; e-mail amm85@cam.ac.uk, telephone, 01223 765188.

Mr Patrick Jourdain

Patrick Jourdain (matric. 1961) is the bridge correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph*. He represented Cambridge University in the Varsity bridge match of 1964 and wrote to tell us that he is the organiser for the forthcoming bridge match at Miskin Manor Hotel, near Cardiff in Wales, from 13th to 16th September 2010. Mr Jourdain writes 'The Warren Buffett Cup bridge match between Europe and U.S.A is played two weeks earlier than the Ryder Cup golf match between Europe and U.S.A. The American billionaire, Warren Buffett, lends only his name and no finance to the Buffett Cup, so the Ryder Cup supports the bridge match by allowing its organiser to allocate Ryder Cup tickets to Patrons and Sponsors of the Buffett Cup. The four-day bridge match is shown live on the internet to bridge-players throughout the world. For further details please visit www.buffettcup.com.

Dr Anna-Lisa Cox

The photograph below of Dr Anna-Lisa Cox (matric. 1995) and her husband Dr Michael Buss, was taken at the 800th Anniversary Gala at Gotham Hill, New York City on 5th December 2009. Anna-Lisa wrote and told us 'there was much about the splendiferous event to impress. What was most impressive, however, was the delightful willingness of many of those in attendance to shake their hips on the crowded dance floor, even if few of us have hips quite as slim as when we were at Cambridge (myself, alas, included). Michael and I now both have our Ph.D.'s, and reside in New York. I am currently a Non-Resident Fellow at Harvard University's W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research where I am at work on my second book. In a nice piece of serendipity, the Director of the Du Bois Institute, Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. was a member of the 800th Anniversary Gala Committee, and it was a delight to see him there.'



Natural Expressions NY

Professor Merrick Posnansky

Professor Merrick Posnansky (matric. 1952) taught his last class at the University of California, Los Angeles in 2004. In April 2009 a festschrift conference was held in his honour with papers given by the students he taught from 1966 to 2003, on the theme of *African Diasporan Archaeology*. His memoir *Africa and Archaeology: Empowering an Expatriate Life* was published by I.B. Tauris in June 2009 and has a section dealing with his time at Peterhouse. Professor Posnansky continues research on cultural conservation in Africa, imperial archaeology and on imagery on African stamps and currency.

Miss Britt Baillie



George Heritage

Britt Baillie (matric. 2004), who recently left Peterhouse after taking her Ph.D., begins a new job as a research associate for the Conflict in Cities and the Contested State project at the Department of Architecture. Visit <http://www.arct.cam.ac.uk/conflictincities/>.

Britt also informs us that the book on which she acted as an archaeological consultant called *Treasure* (part of the children's *Eyewitness* Reference Series by Dorling Kindersley) will be published in June.

Dr Jochen Leidner

In other news, Dr Jochen Leidner (matric. 2001) was accidentally involved in crime fighting in Minnesota in November 2009. Dr Leidner, a computer scientist from Germany who is currently working as a Research Scientist for Thomson Reuters' Corporate R&D Department in Minnesota, walked into a petrol station one quiet Sunday afternoon, not knowing that the branch was about to be attacked by a robber. The robber, wearing a black t-shirt over his head and armed with something unidentifiable in a plastic bag, threatened the cashier to hand over all cash, whilst Jochen was in the queue waiting to be served. Jochen writes of his experience 'It felt surreal. It was like a scene from a movie – is this actually real or a joke?' But when the cashier froze and the robber got impatient,

Jochen approached the robber from behind, tried to gauge whether the plastic bag contained a gun or not, but when he couldn't ultimately decide, took the robber down by putting his left arm around him and throwing him on the floor. Before the stunned robber could do anything, two heavy-set men stepped in and sat on the robber to keep him still, while Jochen removed the robber's mask and searched him for weapons. The cashier called the police. The police praised the three men involved for the absence of any unnecessary violence in restraining the robber.

'As a citizen of Germany, I had never practiced any martial arts, prefer chocolate to sports, and consider myself a pacifist. By the time the police arrived, everything was long over. I still had to pay for my petrol, but the regional director of the petrol station company wrote me a thank you letter.' For further information please visit: <http://legalcurrent.com/2009/12/10/employees-heroics-stop-a-robber/>

The Revd John Ironside

On 13th February John Ironside (matric. 1952) and his wife Margaret celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. John is Rector of St Andrew's, Guernsey: the celebrations were both there and at Horsham where they have family and their daughter is a churchwarden. In addition to bringing up their own three, they have fostered a huge number of children, and in recognition of this Margaret is an MBE. They have travelled a lot; John was Vicar of Bangkok for three years. Their younger son lives in New Zealand and they visit there each year, stopping somewhere in South-East Asia *en route*. This January it was Borneo – beach, jungle and orangutans.



Mr Martin Walsh

Mr Peter Sain ley Berry

Peter Sain ley Berry (matric. 1965) wrote to us reminiscing that having unearthed an old box of papers, it was found to include the accounts of the 1968 Peterhouse May Ball. He writes: 'I was the then President of the May Ball Committee and it's amazing what one finds when clearing old cupboards. Apparently we spent £11.00 on 'large paper flowers' – about £220 in today's money. Julie Driscoll and Brian Auger (*The Trinity*) were the principal act (*Wheels on Fire*). They were number five in the charts at the time and cost £225 - (£4,500 in today's money). We made a profit though: £120 – 13 - 7d! Always thought I should have made my career in event arranging!

Remember this flyer? Surely a design icon - designed by Mike Askwith (matric. 1965), I think.'



Mr Paul Barnett

Paul Barnett (matric. 1977) wrote to tell us that he has just finished his second degree, receiving a first in mathematics from the Open University. Inspiringly, he writes 'I completed it in just three years whilst teaching maths in a secondary school full time, and looking after my two young children'.

Publications

Mr John Griffiths

Petreaans may have heard John Griffiths (matric. 1954) holding forth on radio and television about his latest (and fourth) book on *Afghanistan: Land of Conflict and Beauty*. An updated edition is due out in 2010. John led his first overland-expedition to India via Afghanistan on going down 52 years ago!

Afghanistan: Land of Conflict and Beauty, by John Griffiths, was published on 6th April 2009 by Carlton Books. The book delves into the history, culture, social fabric, internal politics and economy of this intriguing country, and reveals a nation living in the shadow of perpetual conflict.

WHAT'S ON IN CAMBRIDGE – JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2010

Cambridge Arts Theatre:

- **Shakespeare: The Man from Stratford**, 23rd to 26th June. Shakespeare is the greatest writer the world has ever known. But we know nothing about him. Or do we? In a magical *tour-de-force*, Simon Callow, one of Britain's greatest actors, tracks down the real William Shakespeare. This new comedy brings to life both the man and the unforgettable characters – lovers, kings, soldiers and clowns – who have since conquered the world's stages.
- **Quartet**, 28th June to 3rd July. Starring Michael Jayston, Gwen Taylor, Timothy West and Susannah York. Retired opera singers Cissy, Reggie and Wilfred are excited about performing a concert until their tranquil world is unexpectedly interrupted by the arrival of legendary Diva, Jean Horton. As old rivalries resurface and past secrets are revealed, can the four put aside their differences?
- **Carrie's War**, 7th to 11th September. *Carrie's War* is the unforgettable story of one ordinary girl and her brother, packed off to the Welsh mining valleys at the start of war and living through extraordinary events. Nina Bawden's award-winning book has been consistently voted one of the nation's best-loved novels. Direct from the West End, this hugely successful stage adaptation brings to life Bawden's heart-warming, funny and evocative tale in a beautifully staged production.

For a full programme and information visit www.cambridgeartstheatre.com; box office: 01223 503333.

Cambridge Corn Exchange:

- **I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue**, 29th June. The multi award-winning antidote to panel games will be recording part of its 53rd series for the BBC at the Cambridge Corn Exchange. Join chairman Jack Dee, regulars Barry Cryer, Graeme Garden, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Colin Sell, and special guest (and Petrean) David Mitchell for an unmissable evening of inspired nonsense.
- **Aurora Orchestra**, 23rd July. Aurora Orchestra's reputation for inventive programming and electrifying live performance has established it amongst the most dynamic forces in British classical music, bringing together some of the UK's most exciting young soloists in a virtuosic and versatile ensemble. Teaming up with the London-based capoeira dance group Cordão de Ouro featuring founder Mestre Ponciano Almeida, the music will include Rameau's Suite from *Platée*, Stravinsky's *Dances Concertantes*, Balakirev's *Islamey* and *In-Flight Entertainment*, Pärt's *If Bach Had Been A Bee-Keeper* and Julian Anderson's *Khorovod*. With Afro-Brazilian martial dance in a pulsating evening of music and movement, this will be a performance quite unlike anything you've seen before.
- **Rhod Gilbert**, 27th to 28th September. Following sell-out performances, the Welsh comedian is back by popular demand. Last year, he punched a shop-assistant over the duvet tog-rating system and went berserk over a mince pie.

For a full programme and information visit www.cornex.co.uk; box office: 01223 357851.

West Road Concert Hall:

- **Collegium Laureatum Choir**, 26th June. Haydn - *Messe Cellensis*; Mozart - *Mass in D* (Credo)
- **Cambridge Summer Music Festival - Eclipse**, 16th July. Spanish Spice comprises lively early music with a modern twist, evoking the atmosphere of a gypsy encampment, with virtuosic improvisations on harps, recorders, viol, guitar, theorbo and percussion. *Eclipse* performs exhilarating flamencos, lyrical ensemble pieces and the swirling passionate tarantella. The guest artist of the programme, flamenco and contemporary dancer Mariona Adell Castells, creates an exciting link between early music and the folk world of flamenco dance. *Eclipse* gives an electrifying performance brimming with kaleidoscopic moods and colours.

For a full programme and information visit www.westroad.org; tel: 01223 335184.

ADC Theatre:

- **Mad Festival 2010**, 13th June to 18th July. Five Sunday evenings of new monologues and duologues from WRiTEON!, the Cambridge Scriptwriting Forum. Comedy, drama, absurdity, issues - all told in stories for only one or two voices.
- **Under Milk Wood**, 13th to 17th July. Join us for a spring day in Llareggub. Dylan Thomas's much-loved play invites us into the village where the shop sells everything – custard, buckets, henna, rat-traps – where Mr Waldo sleeps in his little pink-eyed cottage with a milk stout and a slice of cold bread pudding under his pillow, and where a cast of colourful but instantly recognisable characters is waiting to meet us – Captain Cat, lovely Polly Garter, Organ Morgan, the formidable Mrs Ogmores-Pritchard, Mrs Dai Bread Two, lolling gaudy at the doorway...

For a full programme and information visit www.adctheatre.com; tel: 01223 359547.

Fitzwilliam Museum:

- **2010 Fitzwilliam Sculpture Promenade**, 23rd March to 28th January 2011. The celebrated Sculpture Promenade is returning to the grounds of Cambridge's Fitzwilliam Museum for a second year. This free annual installation of contemporary sculpture showcases work by some of the most talented artists working today, ranging from monumental works in bronze and steel to wind-driven, mobile forms.
- **21st Century Engraved Glass**, 15th June to 15th August. An exhibition of the best of contemporary glass engraving, showcasing the artistry of the Guild of Glass Engravers. The Guild which is the only organisation devoted to this art form and counts internationally-renowned artists amongst its numbers, was founded in 1975 by a small group of British engravers and promotes the highest standards of creative design and craftsmanship in glass engraving. This exhibition explores the sheer diversity of engraving techniques – from pre-Roman to modern methods – used by Guild members, revealing the vast possibilities of this incredibly versatile medium.

For a full programme and information visit www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk; telephone: 01223 332900.

Kettle's Yard:

- **Agnes Martin Exhibition**, 15th May to 9th July. One of America's foremost abstract painters.
- **The Long Dark**, 17th July to 19th September. Bringing together an international group of nine emerging British and German artists, the exhibition examines a revival of interest in pre-modern choice of materials and methods of artistic production, along with the ideals and aspirations they bring with them.

For a full programme and information visit www.kettlesyard.co.uk; telephone: 01223 748100.

If you wish to combine a visit to one of the above events with a stay at the College, details of guest rooms can be obtained through the Conference Co-ordinator, Ms Anne Gifford, telephone 01223 338205 (anne.gifford@pet.cam.ac.uk).