


 @jesus

Topping Out

Christopher Pratt reports.

On Friday 5 December the topping out ceremony took place of the College's new build offices on the Claremont garage site (51-53 Hills Road) by Station Road corner.

Ashe Construction started working on site in April 2014, and practical completion is anticipated by April 2015.

The design of the building, by the architects Gort Scott, is to create a sustainable building with an exceptionally low carbon footprint. The building is to be naturally ventilated, via stacks through the building which mitigate the level of noise along Hills Road and among many innovative elements it will incorporate a ground-breaking cement-free concrete. The design team has developed a brief that includes specific targets to develop an 'exemplar sustainable' building in line with the expectations of the commercial office market.

The scheme is on track to achieve the target of a BREEAM® 'Excellent' rating and will be occupied by Tucker Gardner, part of the Countrywide estate agency group.



following ...

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Congratulations

Cheryl Few reports.

Congratulations to Deborah Mansfield (Bursar's Secretary/ Administrator) and Sheena Bridgman (Graduate Secretary) for achieving their Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Business and Administration.

These qualifications take many months to complete and I am sure you will all wish to join me in congratulating them on their achievement.

We currently have a number of staff undertaking a wide range of NVQs in areas such as administration, leadership and management, hospitality, customer service and gardening, and we are hoping to soon launch an NVQ in cleaning services. Should you be interested in learning more about the NVQ opportunities available, please do speak with your Departmental Manager.



Introducing... Anna Minett

My name is Anna and I am the, not so new now, Conference and Events Assistant.

I joined the Conference and Events office at the beginning of September, but it feels like I could have been here longer as everyone has made it so easy for me to settle in and become part of the team.



I graduated from the University of Reading in 2012, with a first class degree in Management and Business Administration. While I miss University life, taking this job means I can, to some extent, continue to be part of it.

I spent 2013 saving for travelling, and in April I took that long plane journey all the way to New Zealand, then Fiji and finally Australia. Before I went, I never thought I would be jumping out of a plane, but I took the plunge and skydived 15,000ft over Queenstown, New Zealand. It has become one of my biggest achievements and I have the embarrassing video and photos to prove it – not available for public viewing! I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of my travels, it certainly increased my confidence and it is definitely an experience I will never forget.

After travelling, I spent 6 months getting involved with various work experience opportunities, I have worked with Conference Cambridge, Cambridge Event Management and finally I spent a month in London working for a PR firm, Halpern.

Before joining Jesus College I worked for the Cambridge Belfry hotel as a Conference and Events Co-ordinator. While I enjoyed my time there and I gained necessary experience, I feel I am much better suited to the role and team here at the College. The history, architecture and quirky facts, make it a beautiful place to work.

Christmas 1914

Susan Webb reports.

The College is running a project to commemorate Jesuans who served during the Great War on its website.

<http://www.jesus.cam.ac.uk/about-jesus-college/history/first-world-war/>

Because of the haphazard way of recording casualties, we will probably never know exact figures, but some 730 members of the College served and 151 were killed. Also commemorated on the College war memorial is Arthur Morgan, son of HA Morgan, who was Master from 1885- 1912, but for some reason, Anthony Gray, the son of his successor Arthur Gray is not.

College staff also served; unfortunately we have little to go on in tracking them down. By using local newspapers and resources available online via the Imperial War Museum, we now know that Ralph Sampson, a Combination Man and Frank Murrell an apprentice cook were killed. Frank was just 19 when he was killed in April 1918.

But what of those left behind? What were the people of Cambridge doing at Christmas 1914? The war was notoriously supposed to be all over by Christmas, so they must have been coming to terms with the fact that a much longer conflict was in prospect. The Cambridge Independent Press featured a large recruiting advert in all its editions. "After the War every man who has served will command his Country's gratitude. He will be looked up to and respected because he answered his country's call." At this stage they were still promising that "friends can join as a body and serve together in the same regiment". There was a promise of "rapid promotion for intelligence and zeal" which seems unbearably poignant in the light of what we know now.

News from the Front was slow to reach home. A single casualty for Jesus was recorded, whereas we now know that 5 men had lost their lives. The impact of the war was being felt throughout Cambridge as the many lodging house keepers and servants who had looked after the students keeping term lost their livelihood overnight. Many of the people affected by this were women, and with husbands and sons off to the Front their lives must have been turned upside down. There might have been money to be

[Christmas 1914 : cont. p.4]



made from having troops billeted with you, although many expressed anxiety that this might involve more expense than income. There was also some concern that the presence of troops would lead to restricted drinking hours in Cambridge public houses under new emergency powers.

Other civilians looked to support the troops in a practical way. The Master of Jesus was on the platform at the Guildhall for a “breezy and interesting” talk on life at the front, given in aid of the Ladies Recruiting Committee fund for providing gifts for Cambridgeshire soldiers. Captain C H Mowbray, who was recuperating after being wounded, was upbeat. He explained how the Germans had been held at bay by after Mons by some stout resistance and good generalship and the efforts of the Royal Flying Corps. “We were about the last to get flying machines at all, but directly a German aeroplane went up now, we saw one of our fellows going up and the German went home.”

Life in the trenches was hard – shaving in rum was awful and “a waste of good stuff” but the men appreciated comforts and news from home, particularly the football reports. For all his optimism, Captain Mowbray was keen to encourage those “far too many” who could and were not wearing the King’s Uniform to join up (applause). He also had some sharp things to say to those who wanted more reporting and less censorship. “People ought to remember that this war was not being carried on for the amusement of the old gentleman who read the Daily Mail on the top of the bus.” (laughter)

We are kept apart by years of history but brought together by what we find in the records. I hope that these few insights into what the people of Cambridge were up to at Christmas 100 years ago has been thought provoking and entertaining.

Information from newspapers found at: <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/> (subscription service)

Picture [p.3] :

A Private Party of students c.1914 The cloth over the light suggests that the new electric lighting in the room must have taken a bit of getting used to. Students were charged 15 shillings for the lighting, which was installed in 1912 and an extra 5 shillings for using table lamps, which were presumably the must-have gadget of their era. On a more sombre note, E G (Geoffrey) Myddelton (far left) was the first Jesuan to be killed in action, on 26th August 1914. From the College Archives.



JESUS COLLEGE STAFF PARTY

MONDAY
22ND
DECEMBER

IN THE
COLLEGE BAR

DISCO

FREE DRINKS
AND NIBBLES*

*SUBJECT TO BUDGET LIMITS

7.30PM-MIDNIGHT

FREE TO STAFF

GUEST TICKET £10 (ONE GUEST PER STAFF MEMBER)

TICKETS ON SALE: 17TH NOV-15TH DEC

FROM NIKKI (DEVELOPMENT, K3) OR ZOE (CONFERENCING, T)

Introducing...

Ann Munro

I joined the Manciple's office at the beginning of October and soon felt that I had been here a lot longer than I actually had. This is mainly due to the warm welcome and helpful attitude of everyone at the College and there is definitely a family feel to the place.

I think in Simon's old age he has now decided it is easier to employ anyone whose name is Ann or begins with A so I am the 'other' Ann in the Catering Office Team in addition to Anna who also recently joined the Team. It leads to a little bit of initial confusion for some people but I think everyone is getting used to the conversation, that goes roughly like this 'hello, is that Ann, yes, chat, chat, chat, oh sorry you need the other Ann....'.

I was born in Cambridge so am very proud to be working here at Jesus College. I met my husband whilst we were both working at what was then the Garden House Hotel in Cambridge and since then my career has adapted to this. This has meant that I have worked in London, Edinburgh and Cambridge for the Prudential, the Open University and the Faculty of Advocates to name but a few.

So, 10 houses and many jobs later I am back 'home' in Cambridge and delighted to be here. I have 2 daughters who both live and work in London and that gives us a great excuse to visit London regularly and are currently busy planning a wedding for our eldest daughter due to take place in 2015.



CHAMPAGNE & PORT



The College Champagne and Port are available to purchase until Thursday 18th December 2014.

A bottle of Champagne is priced at £28 and the Port at £16 or, a bottle of each for £43 – all prices include a gift bag!

Both available to purchase from the Cellarman, Geoff Stibbs.

Tel: **39487** or email: g.stibbs@jesus.cam.ac.uk



Gardens Department

9 Dart Challenge

8 - 22 December 2014

12.45- 13.45 weekdays (or by arrangement)

To celebrate the Gardens Department's move to the Forum you are warmly invited to take part in the 9 Dart Challenge!

The highest total score with 9 consecutive darts wins!

RULES :

£1 entry per person per 9 darts.
(Can try again but must pay £1.)

All darts to count - no re-throws if you miss.

Highest score wins.

All scores will be witnessed and recorded.

Darts will be provided
(or you may use your own).

PRIZES: A bottle of College Champagne or College Port, chocolates or a Sainsburys voucher to an equal value.

Any excess money to be donated to
The Lewin Stroke Rehab Centre
at Addenbrookes.



Christmas Formals

A Hidden Role for the Porters' Lodge

by **Geoffrey Howe**

Christmas for all of us can mean many different things. Family reunions, parties and much more. For the Porters, the arrival of the last full week of term will usually mean some additional duties that may not have been mentioned in the job description!

Now I'm not sure if the practice of leading a raucous sing-song is paralleled in any other College within the University, but it is often said to us (and frequently by students from other Colleges), that Jesus College has the best Porters' Lodge! And here perhaps is one reason why.

On the three (or sometimes four) occasions during the final week of Michaelmas term, Christmas Formals are scheduled to take place and these are usually no different to any other Formal Hall. Gowns are worn, wine is permitted and a Porter is usually on duty to ensure reverence and silence as Grace is said.



All of this is true during the final week of term as well, but here is where the Porter's Lodge comes into its own in one particular aspect – and that is the practice of carol singing at the end of the formal meal. The Head Porter will usually be the designated person to officiate on these occasions, assisted by a whistle and a good deal of gravitas, and occasionally one of the Lodge's more theatrical characters.


Of course when I say carol singing I should point out that there is really no point in anyone expecting a perfect rendition of *Once in Royal David's City*. Although some traditional carols are sung with great gusto and sublime effort, the songs employed at the end of a Christmas Formal lend themselves rather more to a cross between a Karaoke evening and the football terraces of the lower leagues and generally way out of tune!

I took on this unenviable task for the first occasion this year as the Head Porter was otherwise engaged. I call it unenviable because it does require a good deal of enjoyment by oneself, but also an official eye watching to see that no damage is caused to the fixtures and fittings in the Hall. The songs themselves although of a Christmas nature are usually of the genre of *Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer* and *Jingle Bells*, although this year I managed to encourage some members of the Choir in attendance to lead a few verses of *Good King Wenceslas*.

The climax of the evening is of course the traditional *Twelve Days of Christmas* and the format for this is to arrange the seated tables into rows so that of the six rows, each row has two lines to stand up and sing and to repeat. Of course everyone wants to be in the fifth row and tries to get a seat there or to casually move across, as the line "five gold rings" is bellowed out by almost everyone in the hall.

After the cessation of the festivities it falls to the Head Porter, or the Porter leading the evening to wish everyone a Wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year on behalf of the Lodge, and this is reflected by similar greetings being extended from the student community to one and all in the College. After that the Bar beckons and the massive clear up can begin in readiness for the next night.

It never said anything on my job description about singing a solo in Hall at this time of the year, but I suppose that's what makes Jesus Porters' Lodge one of the best in the University!

A close-up photograph of a man with short hair and glasses, smiling and looking down. He is wearing a light-colored shirt. The background is blurred, showing other people in a social setting.

Kitchen Research Visit to “Dinner By Heston”

at the Mandarin Oriental, London

David Thomas reports.

Each year the kitchen treads a different path, with the aim of trying to maintain and increase our standards, whilst trying not to increase workload, but remaining up to date with trends and techniques.

Sometimes this might include individuals spending periods of time within different operations, group visits to markets and suppliers and suppliers coming in to demonstrate their wares.

This year I thought it would be good to take the team to London, Knightsbridge in fact, and to lunch at the famous “Dinner by Heston” at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel (right).



The success of this restaurant is by re-visiting dishes developed during the 14, 15 and 1600's and bringing them up to date with present day techniques and ingredients. All this is done by using a core group of 4 ingredients to any dish, but making them the very best they can be.

The images you can see below are of food that we enjoyed, which was fantastically explained by the very accomplished team of restaurant staff.

The Team were greatly inspired and have already bought a flavour of the visit back to the college, in the recent “Acting Fellow Stewards Evening”.

Our thanks go to Cheryl Few, Human Resources and the Team at Dinner by Heston for making the visits possible.

“Meat Fruit” (c 1500)



“Cod in Cider” (c.1670)



Instant Ice Cream using Liquid Nitrogen



Introducing... Sarah Woods

How did you end up at Jesus?

Very much like Natasha (Brice), I joined the Development Office off the back of graduating from the College this summer. As I've taken on a lot of her old jobs as she's started new exciting projects, I find the best way to explain to most people who I am and what I do is by saying I'm the new Tash!

Where's your favourite Cambridge place?

Walking down the Chimney will never lose its humbling sense of awe for me. Other than that, David's Books, between the Market Square and King's Parade, and my cycle route in to work on a sunny morning.

If you could be an animal what would you be and why?

This is hard...I've never had a pet because of allergies, but I think I'd be great to be something like a puppy or a hedgehog or robin because then you could just bring happiness to everyone!

Best meal in CAFF to date?

The fish chowder tastes exactly like one my mum makes so I could probably get through most of a vat of that.



Tutorial Department tell us about their

Breakthrough Bake-Off

As part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Tutorial Department organised a Breakthrough Bake-Off to raise money for breast cancer treatment and research. The event was held in Hall on Friday 31st October 2014. A selection of homemade cakes was available for purchase, either whole or by the slice, and the Senior Tutor generously provided tea and coffee.

We were thrilled to raise **£212.15** for this very worthy cause.

We would like to thank the many members of staff who participated, both by baking items and buying and eating the tasty treats on the day.

The selection of tasty treats!



Some of the cakes were Halloween themed.



Members of staff enjoying their purchases with a cup of tea or coffee.



Introducing... Nick Widdows

Not so long ago I was working in a church called St. Fimbarrus (the only one in the country!) in Fowey, Cornwall. But life can change very quickly and, almost before realising it, I had accepted the position here as Acting Chaplain, just in time to arrive for the beginning of term.

This first term at Jesus has certainly been a bit of a whirlwind. Many new people to meet, strange College traditions to accidentally break, and a whole new vocabulary of words to learn, that are never used in normal life (what is a manciple anyway?).



When I told a friend who works at Peterhouse College that I was coming to work at Jesus he said: 'You'll like Jesus, it's a big, hearty College.' And I think that really does sum up my first impressions.

Jesus is big for a Cambridge College! There are lots of people, and lots of space, and lots of different staff teams and sports teams and subjects and societies. And everything is done well and is of a high quality.

But no-one takes themselves too seriously! Instead people are open and friendly and interested. Especially given the tragic and difficult circumstances under which I was appointed to Jesus, I have been truly grateful for the welcome and warmth that has been extended to me and to Claire (my wife), George, and Emily (my children) as we have arrived and settled into Cambridge and Jesus College.

So I have left the surf and the sand of Cornwall for the Cam, and I do miss the sea! But I am very pleased to be here and part of the great community of staff, students and fellows at Jesus.

Steve Sayers reports.

Wow, what a fun time was had by all on Sunday 21st September at the Chariots of Fire Run. As you can see the baton passing by Sonia and me went without a hitch and I was able to carry on the excellent work of my team.



The run itself was fantastic as the historical sights and the support from the cheering crowds helped me to complete the course in a respectable time!



SANTA'S GROTTO



George Widdows and his mum Claire



President, Santa & Santa's Helper



Ben & Romi (Dan Kotlyar's children)



Matilda Wells (Garth Wells' daughter)



Michael, Darshini, Sonia & Johan Waibel



Anna Wood (Nicola Mullany's daughter)



Nicola Ashman & Rocco



Jack Wiesner (Emily Camm's son)



Grace & Phoebe (Ann Hart's grand-daughters)