

A Royal Occasion



Shaun Platt, Senior Sous Chef, reports.

I was very privileged, along with the Master Professor White, to be invited to Buckingham Palace on Tuesday 10th February 2015, to a reception to celebrate the Patronages and Affiliations of Their Royal Highnesses The Earl and Countess of Wessex.

I have cooked for Prince Edward on many occasions when he was a student here at Jesus College and this and my long service here, was the reason for my invitation.

The reception took place in the Ceremony Room which was overwhelming in its grandeur. We were served champagne and canapés including mini crab cakes and duck parfait (I personally think Jesus College canapés are better!).

The room was filled with dignitaries, Lords and Ladies, men dressed with Medals of Honour and some wearing Kilts, Leeds Ballet Company and Tony Hadley of Spandau Ballet!

The Reception lasted a couple of hours and although I did not meet the Queen, I did speak briefly to Prince Edward and it is obvious he has great affection for his old College.

I was very proud to be part of this event and representing Jesus College.



Close Up!

The second Jesus College Pancake Day Race began with four teams assembling for the official photographs. They were dressed to impress, with Traditional Cap and Gown for the Fellows, Sporting Attire for the grads, Fancy Dress for the undergrads and Ready Red for the staff. Then the gong sounded, and they were off.

The staff team started strongly before the undergraduates took the lead, closely followed by the staff, graduates and Fellows. At the last changeover the undergraduates dropped a pancake which left Housing Manager Dominic in prime position for the staff team. They thought it was all over but flipping heck, a cruel twist of fate (or was it ankle) snatched victory from his pan, as a series of stumbles left the finishing line wide open for the undergrads to win the race for the second year.

You can see more pictures of the teams and the action at <http://on.fb.me/1CQ9Evn>



Save the date

Sat 11 April - BNY Mellon Boat Race
Fri 17 April - Staff BBQ
Wed 24 June - Staff and Fellows' Lunch

Staff Forum News

Cheryl Few, HR Manager

The Staff Forum Representatives will use @Jesus to regularly update you on news from the Forum. This may include reports of what was raised at the meetings (which happen four times a year), forthcoming issues relating to employment which you need to know about, and any issues on which we wish to seek your opinions. Previous minutes can always be found on JNet.

The Staff Forum belongs to you, and its primary role is to inform and consult with you on matters which affect your employment, and to improve our internal communications. The five Representatives are all volunteers and we still need one more to complete the team! If you are interested in becoming a Rep you are very welcome to come and speak with me to find out more.

Watch this space for further Staff Forum news.

‘Cambridge by Degrees’

In 1993, the Cambridge News covered the launch of ‘Cambridge By Degrees’, a game invented by Jesus College’s own Bursar, Christopher Pratt.

Christopher recently told the Cambridge News: “I remember it well. It was in aid of Coleridge Community College, of which I was a governor. It sold quite well and was popular enough to be copied by the ‘Other Place’, which brought out an Oxford by Degrees, courtesy of a student who lived in Cambridge, and whom I playfully threatened with copyright.”

Christopher has sadly admitted that as good an idea as the game was, it has yet to make him a millionaire!



Say ‘Hello’ to Richard Secker, Maintenance Manager

Hi! My name is Richard Secker, and if you have not been introduced the man in a bright green florescent jacket wandering around the college looking suitably impressed with the condition and quality of the buildings, also with the warm welcome which has been offered.

I am Cambridge born and bred, and trained as a coach builder at Marshalls progressing into the building industry covering most trades from groundwork’s to the top brick on the chimney.

Resent posts have been Maintenance Manager at Fitzwilliam College, Manager of a housing maintenance group, 5000 plus properties to my own building firm not quite making it to Barret size. I am looking forward to new projects and the varied challenges I am sure Jesus has in store for me.



Chapel Notes

Lent Term 2015

Margaret Widdess, Acting Dean

I was talking recently to a senior member of the College about what it meant to say that the Chapel is ‘at the heart of the College’. It is surrounded by the College buildings,



St Radegund -
restored window, South Transept

its bell rings and people walk through the cloisters all the time. Even those who seldom go in know where it is. Open to everyone, whatever their beliefs, it is there that a universal concern for the College and the world finds Christian expression every day in Morning and Evening Prayer, as laid down by statute. But we also agreed that the Chapel, like a parish church, is simply there, and if there were some threat to its fabric or existence, there would be a sense of loss and shock.

We can also turn the question round and ask who is at the heart of the Chapel. As well as services and their preparation by the Chapel Clerks and Secretaries, a lot happens in the Chapel: there is the music, especially the Choir, but also the people who look after the Chapel. I’ve had contact with almost every department, and one morning in the Chapel I happened to meet the Carpenter, the Electrician, the Maintenance Manager, the Domestic Bursar, the scaffolder, the Director of Music and the Chapel Administrator, all there attending to different things. Someone was probably practising the organ too!

This term the windows on the south side of the nave and transept have been restored and the roof repaired. The Chapel is always cleaned, but this was much more difficult while the works were going on, and everything was specially cleaned and polished in the few days between the scaffolding coming down and the Commemoration of Benefactors. We are grateful to everyone whose activities ensure the Chapel can be a place of beauty and calm for the whole College.