

Red Bull

Alfred Curtis, Head Chef tells us about his day out.

Last year I received an unexpected Christmas present, I was to visit the Red Bull Technology factory in Milton Keynes.

The Red Bull factory is part of the Jesus College property portfolio. My name was pulled out of the hat along with David Powell, the College Property Manager for Bidwells and Tony Crouch the Senior Bursar.

We all met up on a cold January morning and drove to Milton Keynes. The site occupies both sides of the road. Our first stop was at the main reception where we were met by Caroline Tierney their Facilities Manager. Caroline showed us all the magnificent trophies that were on display.

We crossed the road to visit the assembly areas and race bay where we saw last season's car as well as this year's model. We were not able to take any photos of the new car!

After taking our photos we had to return to the real world and go back to work.



Starters

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sonia Horton | Housekeeping Administrator | 13 December 2010 - 3 June 2011 |
| Robert Klugiewicz | Janitor (Permanent Post) | 1 March 2011 |
| Brice Lendoye | General Kitchen Assistant | 10 January 2011 |
| Hocine Mokhtari | General Kitchen Assistant | 4 January 2011 |
| Charles Mulholland | Head Coach/Boathouse Manager | 4 January 2011 |
| Deeann Peck | Housekeeping Supervisor | 13 December 2010 |

Leavers

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Mark Beer | Boatman | 31 December 2010 |
| Hazel Preece | Conference & Events Co-ordinator | 1 February 2011 |
| Roz Tovey | President's Secretary | 25 February 2011 |

Retirements

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|------------------|
| Maureen Chapman | Cleaner | 28 February 2011 |
|-----------------|---------|------------------|

Long Service Awards

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ron Eley | Electrician | 10 years - 5 March 2011 |
| Ann Herron | Cleaner | 10 years - 5 March 2011 |
| Deborah Mansfield | Senior Bursar's Secretary | 10 years - 15 January 2011 |
| Rob Spragg | Technical Support Officer | 10 years - 22 January 2011 |
| Dr Frances Willmoth | College Archivist | 15 years - 1 February 2011 |
| John Wright | Gate Porter | 10 years - 2 January 2011 |



Three Bright Sparks!

Andy Kite, Maintenance Manager reports.

I would like to congratulate Toby Wingfield, Peter Moore and Ron Eley of the Maintenance Department who successfully passed their Level 3 City and Guilds BS 7671 (17th Edition Wiring Regulations) with flying colours.

The course was held at the ECA training school in Bury St Edmunds, late December 2010.



(left to right) Toby Wingfield, Peter Moore and Ron Eley

Since the last course (16th Edition) there has been a vast amount of additional knowledge and information added to the regulations, with 8 new chapters ranging from construction sites to caravan parks and mobile plant equipment being added to the course. Because of the additional modules, the lads found the course mentally taxing but were relieved to all gain pass rates of over 80%.

Under current legislation electricians have to install and maintain to the set out standard in the 17th Edition Wiring Regulations. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure the installations are safe for the consumer to use.

Extra Extra, Read all about it.

"First positions please."

"Turnover!"

"Sound running."

"Turning."

"Mark!"

"Scene 520, take 2, Camera A mark."

(Clapperboard: 'snap').

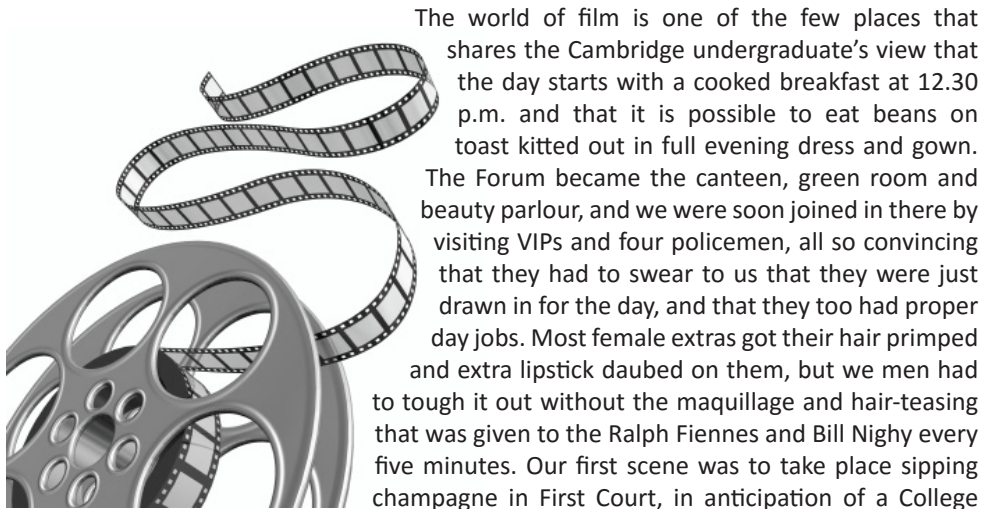
"Camera B mark."

(Clapperboard: 'snap').

"And action!"

James Clackson, from an idea by Sir David Hare

Everyone will have seen that the College was turned into a film set the second week of February, for the filming of scenes of Sir David Hare's political and spy drama to be shown on BBC TV. I was one of three star-struck Fellows who volunteered as an extra—they had no problem in recruiting dozens of less time-pressured and less timid undergraduates. (Readers please take note: the other two Fellows who took part, Alastair Compston and Francis Bursa, are both scientists, so don't think that it is only the idle classicist who has time to waste on acting all day).



The world of film is one of the few places that shares the Cambridge undergraduate's view that the day starts with a cooked breakfast at 12.30 p.m. and that it is possible to eat beans on toast kitted out in full evening dress and gown. The Forum became the canteen, green room and beauty parlour, and we were soon joined in there by visiting VIPs and four policemen, all so convincing that they had to swear to us that they were just drawn in for the day, and that they too had proper day jobs. Most female extras got their hair primped and extra lipstick daubed on them, but we men had to tough it out without the maquillage and hair-teasing that was given to the Ralph Fiennes and Bill Nighy every five minutes. Our first scene was to take place sipping champagne in First Court, in anticipation of a College

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Lorna and Dave on the birth of Baby Harry.

He couldn't wait until his due date which was the 29th January 2011. His surprise appearance was in fact 26th December 2010, he weighed 5lbs 9oz. Baby Harry did have a few worrying moments but is now steadily putting on weight and everything is fine.



Lorna and Dave are so proud of baby Harry and so they should be, he is a beautiful baby boy.

We would all like to wish Lorna, Dave, and baby Harry all the happiness for the future.

Also we would like to welcome Deeann Peck as our Housekeeping Supervisor and Sonia Horton as our Administrator while Lorna is on maternity leave. They both joined us in December and wish them both well in their new roles.

Cambridge Liszt Festival

Conor Farrington briefs us.

The Cambridge Liszt Festival 2011 is a year-long festival dedicated to celebrating the bicentenary of the great Hungarian composer and pianist Franz Liszt (1811-1886).

The festival, sponsored by Miller's Music Centre in Cambridge, includes a wide range of Cambridge events including choral evensong, organ recitals, instrumental and orchestral concerts, and academic events.

One of the events is taking place in Jesus College Chapel on 22nd October, the actual bicentennial day.

To find further information about this, and other Liszt Festivals and Societies, visit:

<http://cambridgelisztfestival2011.weebly.com>



ARK

Susan Sneddon tells us about making the records store even better.

We are fortunate that we have a clean dry space with proper racking to store our semi current records. The only drawback is that it is rather small. This has meant that we have been able to muddle through by just going in there and looking along the shelves.

This has never been ideal; apart from anything else it involves time, effort and sometimes climbing ladders. Also as pressure on space has grown there is more need to exploit the odd gaps that appear as records reach the end of their useful life and are shredded.

So when I joined the IT Department we made it one of our priorities to get the records store under better control and make it easier to use. The result is a new application ARK (to suggest safe storage and preservation) written Stephen McIntosh, which will put a virtual map of the records store at users' fingertips.

Amongst other benefits it will let me make best use of space by enabling me to see at a glance where I can fit in a few more boxes.

It seems obvious but it will also let me keep an accurate account of the contents of any box at any given time. Users will be able to enter a list of everything in each box at the time of deposit. I will know exactly what was in the box when it was deposited and also have a record of what has been taken out of it since.

I can also control what is in the store and easily call up a list of records that need to be reviewed or destroyed. This helps me to organise myself and stops out-of-date records hogging valuable shelf space.

Wider access to ARK will enable people to see what is stored from their desktops (no ladders involved!) without the risk to security of sharing where it is stored too widely and helping to limit access to the store itself. It will also allow people with an interest in using information that they did not originally create and file to see what is available to them. This is especially important in view of the changes in responsibilities and management that the College has seen in recent years.

At the moment I am busy testing and populating the database with a view to making it more widely available by the summer. Thanks go to Stephen and to all my IT colleagues for their kind and enthusiastic support since I joined them last summer.

feast. Easy – except that this was a February afternoon and ginger ale filled the glasses.

As an extra, you are little more than a walking piece of furniture, moved around the set and repositioned as if you are a vase rearranged on an interior designer's shelf. Time loses all meaning, as the same 30-second scene is rehearsed, repeated and retaken. Best boys, gaffers, grips, make-up artists, continuity girls and cameramen swirled around us and boom mikes

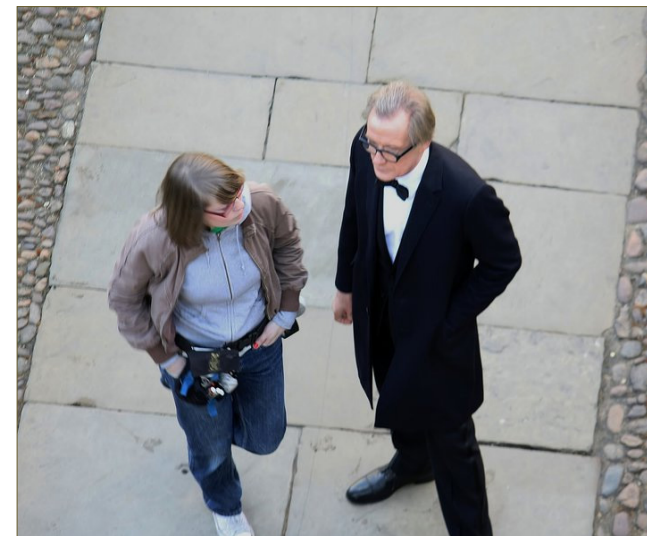
dangled overhead as we tried to follow our orders to “keep up the appearance of excited anticipation and chatter, but all in silence”. We had to wait until dark to film inside the Hall in any case. Everything was done to make the Jesus scenes as realistic as possible, and the College porters, kitchen staff and maintenance teams ensured that things ran without a single hitch on the College side.

After lunch (at 6.00 p.m.) we trooped back to the Hall, where vast helium balloons filed with light hung above our heads and the dais was half-covered in camera boxes and cables. The High Table was laid as if for a feast, and authentic menus promised Tenderloin of Norfolk Red Poll Beef and Château Pontensac 1999. We stayed for as long as a feast—until well past 11, but somehow we had skipped from grace to the Prime Minister's after-dinner speech without refreshment other than coloured water and cheese biscuits. We had had to laugh at the PM's same weak joke countless times by then (the undergraduates showing a worrying ability to simulate laughter on demand).

By the time the day was wrapped up, the famous faces looked almost familiar, the actor who was Master for the evening had almost got the hang of reading the Latin grace, and most of us sleepy extras almost felt that we had had our fill of the film world for one lifetime.

I wait to see whether my left elbow will achieve immortality on screen.

“Cut.”



Bill Nighy & Crew

Rob Spragg tells thee owl.

Hailing from Silverdale, a mining village near Newcastle-under-Lyme in North Staffordshire, I grew up in very different surroundings to those I now occupy in sunny East Anglia.

Whilst I love living and working down here my thoughts are never far from the place I grew up holding as it does fond memories of childhood, family and friends.

One thing I've noticed since living away from 'home' is that unlike more familiar accents, say Geordie or Scouse for example, mine is one that most people have trouble discerning (admittedly it has faded badly over the years!).

The Potteries dialect is something that I always love hearing and brings me a lot of happiness whenever I go back.

English language scholars say that the dialect is the one most closely related to Anglo Saxon and that Saxon poems when read in the dialect can become very clear to the modern listener. It has been influenced by the heavy industries that have characterized the area, namely ceramics, coal-mining, steel and iron works and brick-making. I remember sitting on the back seat of a bus ('buz' in Potteries!) as a small child with my mum when a man opened the rear fire exit door from outside and said to me with a big grin 'Ay up mar mate at geen on?'. Confused I had to look to mum for a translation. She said he was asking how I am. That's my first conscious memory of the Potteries dialect.

So what does Potteries sound like? Well it's very hard to explain when written down. Some obvious traits are sounds like 'ee' becoming 'ay' 'i (as in it) becomes 'ee' and there are plenty more, notably the innate ability to drop 'h's where they should be and add them where they shouldn't ('osepipe' and 'honions' for example). The most common thing that people notice (and frequently take the mickey about!) is the 'oo' sound as in 'book' which comes out sounding like the word 'boo' with a 'k' on the end as opposed to 'buck'. I hope that makes sense!

In addition there are almost complete changes to some words such as 'cos?' which means 'can you?', 'dust' (or 'dost') = 'do you', 'shunner' meaning 'shouldn't', similarly 'munner' = 'mustn't' 'fost' for 'first' and so on. As in most dialects there are also plenty of words that simply don't exist outside the area such as 'nesh' meaning to be cold or to feel the cold easily, 'snap or snappin' for food and 'werrit' – to worry or someone who worries a lot to name but a few.

Other peculiarities include the dropping of prepositions, especially 'to': 'Arm

The Matterhorn and indeed any loitering steam locomotive would have to wait until I turned sixty now. A quick drink at the bar accompanied by good wishes from all there assembled and I made my way up to the venue and I was hugely delighted with what I saw. The catering staff ably led by Jamie had really done me proud and laid out a table of splendour with candles alight and glasses for each individual course and here I should pay tribute to Stephen Heath who personally took charge of the selection of wines which he had acquired from Jesus Cellars, Kings Cellars and indeed from his own personal collection. Stephen knows that I rather like my wines – sometimes far too much and his selections gave the evening its impetus at the start, its sociality in the middle and its contentment at the end.

I think that all too often we sit at formal dinners or celebrations of various events, drink our drinks and consume our food without much thought for those behind the scenes who are working to prepare it for us. So let me say here and now that the food prepared for my dinner that evening was unsurpassable and clearly demonstrates why the chefs at Jesus College hold a reputation of such high quality.

I enjoyed six courses all together; each complimented by its own wine and interspersed with banter and conversation about the fare – or just how good I looked at fifty!

I'll be paying the bill this month and the recent VAT increase won't have helped, but I think that for myself and my fourteen guests, the occasion will live long in the memory and was just the right way to celebrate a half century.

Don't forget...



The Birthday Bash

Geoffrey Howe turns 50.

That's the trouble with birthdays; they tend to occur every year. And every now and then they happen to be a more notable number than in other years, you know, 30, 40 or even 50.

And this year it was my fiftieth birthday and I'd tried to wish it away for as long as possible and even gone as far as hosting alternative events like a Forty Nine and a Half Party. But eventually I too had to succumb to the inevitable and realise that this Five-Oh milestone was not actually a millstone really, and if the correct way of celebrating it was employed, it could turn out to be a very enjoyable occasion.



I commenced working at Jesus College about six months before my 40th birthday in June 2000, and in that short period of time I witnessed enough formal dinners taking place, that I promised myself that I too would celebrate a major milestone in this way. However the 40th occasion was really far too soon and anyway I wanted to do something rather more adventurous like drive a steam locomotive or scale the Matterhorn. In the event I was laid up with a rather nasty bug which put paid to any ideas that I had of scaling the stairs at home let alone any mountain.

So fast forward then some ten years and with the Forty Nine and a Half Party safely out of the way preparations were set in hand for a formal feast in College on the actual day that I turned fifty. Unfortunately this day was a Monday and as such it coincided with a College Council meeting which limited the number of function rooms available for my use, not that I had any plans to book the entire College.

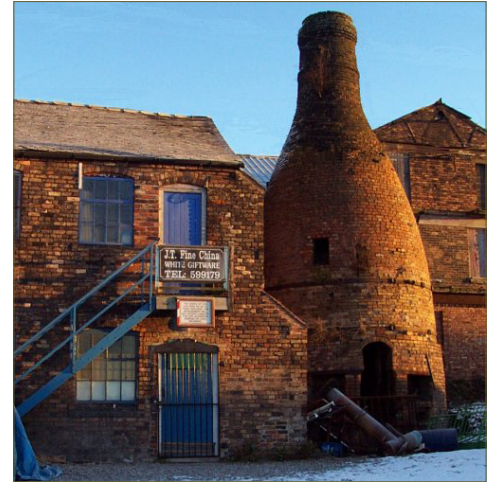
The Alcock Room was my eventual venue and its capacity of sixteen diners made it ideal for the kind of event that I had in mind. Behind the scenes others who were joining me on the occasion were diligently working away to procure fine wines and produce mementos of the evening that I would enjoy and treasure for many years to come. I myself took perhaps far too many attempts at writing out a speech which it was my intention to give at precisely 10.30pm – the exact moment of my entry into this wonderful world.

The day finally arrived and far too quickly the evening and the main event was upon me.

goin town', 'arm goin dine the shop' – 'I'm going to town', 'I'm going down to the shop'.

Here are a few of the most common and hopefully amusing examples (try saying the phrases phonetically to get the meaning):

Bay Chums Spiders - Beechams' Powders
Kind Slice - Council House
Back Rowd - The Loo
Chonnock - Turnip
Wom - Home
Acky - Dirty
Oss - Horse
Ligger - Liar
Lungeous - Rough mannered
Mither - To bother
Mardarse - Someone who cries a lot
Pouse - Tastes bad
Sneep - To snub



Some phrases:

'Cos kek a bow agen a wow and yed eet with yed tithee bost eet?' -
Can you kick a ball against a wall and head it (with your head) till you burst it?

'At geen on?' - How are you?

'Thay munner say wunner – tinner polite?' - You must not say 'wunner' - it isn't polite.

'Weer wost thay drug up?' - Where were you brought up?

'Tha shatna shift shat?' - You shall not leave the house while I am away, shall you?

Readers of the Evening Sentinel, North Staffordshire's most popular newspaper will often turn first to the regular cartoon 'May un Mar lady' which depicts in Potteries the day to day banter between husband and wife.

Here is an example, if you can translate it well done, if not, persevere. If you're really perplexed email me and I'll send you the answer.

You can hear audio of ex-miner, Reuben Cope speaking about his experiences as a boy working in the pit in what I think is a lovely Potteries accent here: <http://bit.ly/fNOPT2>

Ow rate, that's enough o that. I'll say thee next tarm.

2011 Women's Dinner

The Jesus College Women's Dinner for the Women Fellows, College Research Associates and graduate students was held on 10 March 2011, organised by the MCR Women's Officer and attended by some 12 Women Fellows, Mrs Margaret Mair and 39 graduates. This year was the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day and the theme of the year was equal access to education, training and science and technology; a pathway to decent work for women. We had a delicious purple themed dinner in Upper Hall and the wine was generously provided by the Graduate Tutor. Professor Andrea Brand FRS FMedSci kindly gave a short talk on her research on stem cells during coffee and cheese (having stayed up the night before writing a grant application). Her 10 year-old daughter also attended the dinner. Andrea provided an excellent example for younger women of how to be successful in a top academic role in science.



She was born in New York City and attended the United Nations International School. During her undergraduate days at Oxford, she was quite surprised by the tradition of calling her Professors "Sir". She moved to the MRC Molecular Biology laboratory in Cambridge for her PhD, followed by post-doctoral research at two laboratories at Harvard University. She returned to Cambridge in 1993, and has run her lab at the Gurdon Institute since ever since. In 2007 she was elected the Herchel Smith Professor of Molecular Biology. Her talk described neurobiological research on the *Drosophila*'s nervous system, which she hoped could eventually be applied to cancer treatment. When asked about what contributed to her success, she replied luck!



The Women's Dinner is now a strong tradition at Jesus providing an excellent opportunity for female graduates and Fellows to share their experiences.



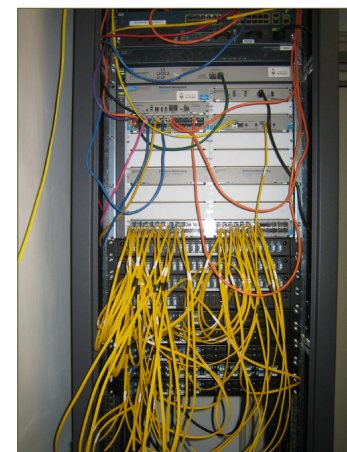
In photos: Professor Andrea Brand (*top right*) gave a talk at the well attended Women's Dinner in Upper Hall.

Lightspeed

Damian Kramer tells us about the network replacement project.

By the time you read this this we will have completed our network replacement project (Project Lightspeed). We're pleased to say that the project has come in both on schedule and in budget. After several months of planning the work began in September 2010, and ultimately involved:

- Laying approximately 5.5KM of new fibre optic cable (each cable carrying an average of 20 individual strands of fibre).
- Terminating the fibre with a total of 1,360 connectors (each of which had to be tested).
- The replacement of 30 network cabinets.
- Re-terminating 1,200 copper cable network connections.
- The configuration and installation of 35 new network switches.



All of the cabling work was carried out by EXS, our chosen network cabling company, who were extremely hard working and professional throughout.

We must extend our gratitude to the gardeners for their help with digging the trenches for the new fibre ducts. Huge thanks also go out to the Maintenance Department, whose assistance and hard work was invaluable to both the IT Department and EXS for the entire project. Finally, thank you to everyone who had to put up with the disruptions whilst we replaced each network switch.

We now have the infrastructure and equipment in place for a network that can fully meet the future demands of the College for some time to come. As well as the normal data that the network carries, it currently also runs the phone network, the access control system and the CCTV cameras. We are also expecting to run television services over it soon. As time goes by more and more services will run over the network, so it was vitally important for us to have the flexibility and headroom to handle that increase in network traffic.