

Newsletter of Darwin College Spring 2010



## Elizabeth Blackburn wins Nobel Prize in Medicine



lizabeth Blackburn, an alumna of Darwin College and a recent recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University, was awarded the 2009 Nobel Prize in Medicine.

Professor Blackburn, along with Carol Greider and Jack Szostak, received the award for her research on telomerase, an enzyme she discovered in 1985 with her then PhD student Dr Greider. Telomerase, which adds DNA to the ends of chromosomes in cells, plays a key role in cancer development and ageing, and has been the focus of much cancer research since its discovery.

Elizabeth completed her PhD at Darwin in 1975 before moving to Yale for a post-doc, and then joining the faculty of the University of California at Berkeley in 1978. She moved to the University of California, San Francisco in 1990 where she is currently

Professor of Biology and Physiology. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Royal Society of London, the American Academy of Microbiology, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She was elected Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences in 1993, and was elected as a Member of the Institute of Medicine in 2000.

In a press release celebrating Elizabeth's honour the University of Cambridge reminds us that Cambridge can claim more Nobel Prize winners than any other institution. There are currently eighty four affiliates of the University who have won the Nobel Prize since 1904. They have won in every category, with twenty nine Nobel Prizes in physics, twenty four in medicine, nineteen in chemistry, seven in Economics, two in literature and two in peace.

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Richa Bansal Photos: Charlie Bibby

aving graduated from Cambridge with an MPhil in Development Studies in 2008, I was keen to gain experience in the development field. I joined the charity Camfed International shortly afterwards, helping me to make a smooth transition from journalism to development. My role as Development Officer for Communications also gave me an

invaluable opportunity to understand theories in practice.

Simply put, Camfed – which was chosen as the University's 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary Charity of the Year – is an organisation that works for the education and empowerment of marginalised young women in rural African countries, enabling them to lead change. The *way* in which it works to achieve this generates a process of change at the deepest level, making it a fascinating learning experience to work here.

Camfed's approach of basing its solutions in the local contexts involving local communities pushes the boundaries in development. It is able to reach the poorest of the poor because it listens to them and works with them, and the programme is delivered by local people. As a result, today Camfed has a pan-African infrastructure of over 50,000 local community activists through which it is rolling out its education programme and new initiatives.

Camfed's alumae network of almost 12,000 young women graduates called Cama – provides support and opportunities such as a seed money programme, health advocacy and other outreach activities to remote rural communities. Young school graduates supported through primary and secondary school by Camfed are trained in basic business skills by Cama members and provided with start-up grants to set up businesses to sustain themselves. In a rural economic scenario, which offers few opportunities for girl graduates, this is a crucial step that leads them to a path of greater economic security and self sufficiency.

Young women are encouraged to think beyond the immediate challenges and work towards



advocating for change at the highest policy levels. Some of them have gone on to pursue further studies, often supported by Camfed. Today, they are an inspiration for all of us. One such girl is Winnie Farao from Zimbabwe, whom I had the opportunity to interview. Currently pursuing her third degree – a long-distance research Masters in Development Studies from the University of South Africa – her aim is to lobby relevant ministries to make policies more accountable to rural women.

Merely listening to Winnie's enthusiasm, confidence and belief was a rewarding and memorable experience for me. The change was tangible and I could see it happening through many more Winnies—slowly but surely!

Winnie is just one of the inspiring young women I have been lucky enough to interview. I also assist in formulating proposals and writing fundraising documents, which allows me to understand the larger vision of Camfed's work. The opportunities in this field are enormous and Camfed's commitment is relentless. Working on a foundation of trust and respect for its beneficiaries, Camfed is a source of support, strength and belief for young African girls empowering them to rise above difficulties and carve new horizons for themselves. And it gives me great pride and joy to know that each day, in some way, I am contributing towards this.



The University of Cambridge chose Camfed as its
Charity of the Year for the university's 800th anniversary celebrations. To celebrate 800 years of education at Cambridge, Camfed has been seeking the help of university members to support 800 girls through secondary school in Malawi. Thanks to the generosity of the Cambridge community, Camfed is now on the way to achieving this goal. Find out more about what has been achieved and how you can help to reach this goal by visiting:

www.camfed.org/news



A print journalist in India working for English dailies like 'The Times of India' and 'The Telegraph', Richa Bansal came to Darwin College in October 2007 to study for an MPhil in Development Studies.





# Darwin Lectures 2010 - Risk



The Master with David Spiegelhalter



The Master with John O'Doherty



The Master with Christopher Hood



The Master with Mary Beard and Michael Scott



The Master with Lucai Zedner and Layla Skinns



The Master with Mark Bailey



The Master with Bob Watson

he popularity of our public lecture series seems undiminishing. Despite (or perhaps because of) their availability on the web, we have had to move to a larger over-flow lecture theatre. Even with a thousand seats, this year's lectures sometimes exceeded capacity. Our subject was 'Risk', a theme conceived and organised by Michael Scott, Layla Skinns and Tony Cox. The series started at the nub of things with David Spiegelhalter exploring how people perceive and misperceive risk. An exercise in audience participation proved to be a lively way of revealing the crucial gap between our assessment of risk and the level of confidence we place in that assessment. The neural processes that lie behind these assessments was the subject of John O'Doherty's lecture, in which he showed how imaging techniques shed light on how the brain deals with reward stimuli.

The misrepresentation of risk was dealt with in Ben Goldacre's knockabout assault on the journalists, marketeers and politicians who serve up bad science. This set the scene well for Christopher Hood's analysis of the use of risk regulation regimes and the management of blame as a central part of the process of government. All of which was beautifully put into perspective by Mary Beard's exploration of how, in the tough setting of the classical world, people thought in terms of pure chance, rather than probabilistic risk, and called on soothsayers to shed some light on future events. Our current era is obsessed with risk, and especially with the malicious creation of risk through terrorism. Lucia Zedner introduced us to the notion of preventative justice as a response to this, and discussed the hazards this poses for our basic freedoms.

We ended with two natural risks that confront the whole planet. As an astronomer, Mark Bailey discussed the ways in which it had been battered in the past by rogue asteroids, and the chances of this happening to us again. But our world might end through neither malice nor external assault, but collective myopia. Bob Watson gave a wide-ranging account of the hazards of global warming, and of our options in preventing this terminal risk.

## Darwinian descendants...

ANDERMANN-PROKAZIUK: Lisa Andermann (Darwin MPhil, Social Anthropology, '91-'92) and Michael Prokaziuk happily announce the birth of their son James Isak Gabriel, born November 14, 2009 in Toronto, Canada. Big sister Hannah welcomes her baby brother.

# ... and a message from the emails

**Dear Editors** 

I read your article in the most recent Darwinian "From the emails" about Darwin couples and their offspring and thought you might like our details too.

I was at Darwin from 1985-1986 (MPhil Anthropology) and married Allan Ryder-Cook who was also at Darwin from 1985-1988 (PhD Molecular Biology) - we met each other on our very first day at Darwin in the Dean's office, having a sherry with Peter Gathercole.

Our son Daniel was born in 1987 while Allan was still at Darwin finishing his PhD. Daniel is now 21 and has just graduated from Girton (after 4 years doing the Natural Sciences Tripos) with a MSc in Physics - I was at Darwin last weekend for his graduation, and took him out in a Darwin punt last Sunday with some champagne to celebrate.

In addition, Daniel's current girlfriend of 4 years (also a NatSci from Girton) will also be coming to Darwin in 2010 to start her PhD - so Darwin seems likely to stay in the family for a while yet. It would be interesting in the future to see whether there are any Darwin familes with grand-children at Darwin as well - where all three generations have been there!

Alison Ryder-Cook (nee Pritchard)

# News from the DCSA

#### From Samir Ali Khan, DCSA President '09-'10

In my view this year has been the best in terms of creative ideas and student involvement at college, thanks to the exciting bunch of Fresher-Darwinians we received in Michaelmas, 2009. At the fresher's week, the DCSA successfully conducted an orientation evening and brought the local banks to the DCSA helpdesk for the first time. The freshers ended the bureaucratic and absorbing chase of paperwork during this week with a smooth Salsa night at the fresher's Bop in the end. Darwinians have always been popular for their team spirits and trend-setting skills. Where else would you enjoy a student rock band perform while sherry is served before a formal dinner. Where else would you play a game of treasure hunt with your Vice Master? Where else does the Accounts officer join in an International Food Festival? It all happens at Darwin only.

This year there was a great interest in green issues amongst students with an active Green committee who have made great efforts to expand the Darwin green network. Formal hall exchanges at Darwin also saw a massive attendance, thanks to our DCSA ambassador from Russia who doesn't leave the table unless you have laughed at his jokes. The Darwin College Society has been very active too in bringing the alumni closer to the students. Although a small college, we can also be proud of having so many members playing for the Blues teams and our women's basketball team continues its reign in the college league. This year we also started a Capoiera Angola society which has become famous across the university, and as I write, the teams at Darwin are practising their Tugof-War tactics to beat the students at our sister College in Oxford once again in the annual sports-day. The laurels of entertainment and recreation this year are worth a special mention. Bops at Darwin are amongst the most desired ones at any college. Nothing else can explain the experience at Darwin better than the theme of our Mayball this



year, 'Once upon a time'. Certainly, times at Darwin are the best that can happen to anyone and provide lasting memories. Because of its unique atmosphere, one can easily pretend to be 'Alice' in this Wonderland of Darwin.

# Darwin says farewell to recent retirees

Mrs Sandra James, the Bursar's Secretary for 20 years, retired at the end of 2009. Sandra's quiet and gentle cheerfulness and efficiency will be remembered with affection by several Bursars and inumerable College members. We wish her well in her retirement.

Dr Karalyn Patterson retired as an Official Fellow but we are delighted to report that she will stay on as Wine Steward; a role which she has played with great distinction for many years.

Dr Munawar Chaudri, also retires as an Official Fellow and is thanked for his many contributions to the work of the Deanery over the years. Both Karalyn and Munawar have been elected Fellows Emeritus.

### DCS dinner at Cabbages & Condoms, Bangkok

he Bangkok traffic and unexpected travel commitments depleted the expected turn-out at a DCS meal in Bangkok hosted by Andrew Prentice. So it was a small group that met at Cabbages & Condoms, a restaurant run by the Population & Community Development Association (PDA), a Thai NGO that won the 2007 Gates Award in Global Health in recognition of their pioneering work in family planning and HIV/AIDS (see www.cabbagesandcondoms. com). This popular eating place is decorated almost entirely with coloured condoms. Present were (from left): Dr Tharnkamol Chanprapaph (nee:Reancharoen) (PhD pharmacology, '91-'94) now a drug registration reviewer in the Drug Control Division of the Thai FDA; Dr Paul James (PhD education, '97) now a higher education adviser; Parichart Thongyai Na Ayudhya (nee: Intharasombat) (MPhil environment and development, '94) previously worked as a senior consultant at the National Energy Policy Office overseeing projects on energy conservation and renewable energy development in Thailand, and now, with three young children, following a less demanding career by running a small hydroponics farm growing different kinds of pesticide-free lettuces; Andrew Prentice (Darwinian Editor and Fellow); and Dr Luxmon Attapich (MPhil Economics '92-'93) who completed her PhD in South East Asian Studies from the University of Hull in 1998, and returned to Thailand to serve at the Ministry of Finance and is now a Country Economist at the Thailand Resident Mission of the Asian Development Bank.

## From the Alumni Office

#### A Big Thank you

The Master and current members of Darwin College send a huge thank you to all our alumni/ae worldwide, as the refurbishment of N° 4 Newnham Terrace begins. On March 1st, we started to convert the former Rectory into a new home for seven students and one Junior Research Fellow. This work should be completed for the new intake of students in October; without your generous support it is unlikely that we would have reached this stage as quickly as we have. Once finished, the redesign of the gardens along the river up to the Mill Pond will be addressed. This is truly an exciting time! If you would like to help further this project, please use the donation form in the middle of this newsletter.

The College was overwhelmed recently by an anonymous gift of over £100,000 to support the Darwin Lecture Series; particularly thrilling in this the Silver Anniversary year of the Lecture Series. For 25 years the talks have continually achieved large audiences. This year we saw a record number of people attending; two overflow theatres were pressed into use, with over 1100 at some of the lectures. For those who couldn't attend in person, we have videoed the lectures –they are fascinating, and entertaining, to watch: http://sms. cam.ac.uk/collection/728627.

#### **Legacy Giving**

Darwin College and its visiting academics have benefitted greatly thanks to a substantial legacy left to the College by an American visiting academic who was concerned about the lack of visitors' accommodation whilst at Darwin. Academics and their families can now stay in Cambridge for up to 12 months in a cottage close to the main College buildings, Sidgwick Site and the University Library.

As this legacy proves, putting Darwin College in your will can make an enormous difference to the lives of students, the College, and others. Sometimes people who would like to leave a gift in their lifetime are

unable to do so because of financial commitments elsewhere. Leaving a legacy, whether large or small, means that alumni/ae can make a real difference without affecting their family's current financial security.

Any legacy to Darwin can make a real difference to all future students. It is for this reason that we will be sending a small leaflet to some alumni/ae outlining the benefits of considering a legacy to the College. This will be posted in the next few months. In the meantime, if you would like to discuss a potential legacy, please e-mail the Bursar on bursar@dar.cam.ac.uk.

#### **Facebook**

There is now a Facebook site specifically for Darwin College alumni/ae. This is maintained by the Alumni Office, but we hope that you will make it your own. Go to Facebook and search on *Darwin College Cambridge Alumni*.

The Darwin College Alumni Team consists of:

The Bursar and Development Director, Peter Brindle. bursar@dar.cam.ac.uk
Alumni Secretary, Sophia Smith. alumni.office@dar.cam.ac.uk
Bursar's Secretary, Susan Vale. sv317@cam.ac.uk



# A Year's Success with DCS

The Darwin College Society (DCS) has had one of its busiest years for organising events and as more alumni attended, the committee's confidence in holding more events grew. The

Darwin Anniversary still dominated a year ago, but following the March dinner, the Local Heritage theme was not forgotten.

In June 2009 we met for a past and future Local Heritage Event. We learnt about the Great Fen history at the time of drainage, including a visit to the Holme Post, life in a victorian fen brickworks, and the pioneering purchase of land for a wildlife reserve by Charles Rothschild, including a tour of his bungalow. This was combined with guided tours with Alan Bowley of Woodwalton and Holme Fens and the huge new wildlife future of the Great Fen Project.

July returned the events back to Darwin. "Darwin Day" began with talks on his life and personality by Professors Kohn and Di Gregario, a visit to the UCL Darwin exhibition including correspondence and notes whilst on the Beagle, followed by an opportunity to punt and a Thai meal. Sadly the visit to Down House the next day was not possible.

Darwin in August was provided by a one man play by Geoff Hales at the college entitled "Voyaging Through Darwin's Memories" and was followed by a buffet meal in the garden. Then in October we arranged for guided tours with Matthew Lowe around the parts of the Zoology Museum's collection of the specimens brought back from the Beagle voyage which are kept for study and not normally on show.

In February 2010 we organised a visit to the Cambridge University Herbarium with Gina Murrell before it moves to new premises, to see and learn of the Henslow-Darwin link, wonder at the beautifully preserved specimens and to realise the huge influence Henslow had on science as well as Darwin. Finally and most recently, a wine-tasting was organised following the March dinner and this broke the record for a DCS attendance at a regular dinner by a large margin.

There is much more to come and all Evolved (not Old) Darwinians are very welcome to meet existing friends and to make new ones.

#### **Terry Moore**



### The Last Piece

he Last Piece is a computational painting, in Turtle Lines style, created for Darwin College, to mark the acquisition of the house at Number 4 Newnham Terrace.

#### **Synopsis**

Here is Darwin College on the corner of Silver Street and Newnham Terrace, with the small arm of the river Cam running between the main grounds and the island. The multi-coloured lines, in the blocks depicting the College buildings, represent all the people who have been and will be members of Darwin College: people varied and colourful in their own ways, is how I remember the Darwin people when I was there. The blue lines in the blocks depicting the river represent all that has flowed by Darwin and all that will flow by, bringing changes and things new. The green lines in the block depicting the island represents the growth and development of Darwin College over the years, and on into the future. And the two part block in the top centre represents the

putting into place of the last piece of the puzzle: the acquisition of Number 4 Newnham Terrace.

The title comes from this last piece, and makes an allusion to "Period Piece – A Cambridge Childhood" by Gwendoline Mary "Gwen" Raverat, a granddaughter of Charles Darwin, who spent her childhood in Newnham Grange: the house that formed the first piece of Darwin College. She also became an artist noted for her distinctive style of line drawings and woodcuts.

— Afriko, Donostia, September 2009 (aka Tim Smithers, Darwin College '77–'81)

An article by Tim Smithers is hosted on the Darwinian section of the college website accessed via the alumni pages.



### Prof David Mackay becomes Chief Scientific Advisor on Climate Change

n September 2009 the UK
Department of Energy and
Climate Change (DECC) appointed
David Mackay, Darwin Fellow and
Professor of Natural Philosophy at the
Department of Physics, as its Chief
Scientific Advisor.

The Chief Scientific Advisor's role is to ensure that the Department's policies and operations, and its contributions to wider Government issues, are underpinned by the best science and engineering advice available.

Professor MacKay is the author of the critically acclaimed book, "Sustainable Energy - without the hot air", which sets out the various low-carbon energy options open to society. He has also made many contributions through his physics research, including using his expertise in information theory to design a widely-used interface called "dasher" that allows disabled people to write efficiently using a single finger or head-mounted pointer.

Professor MacKay said: "Climate change and secure energy are two of the most urgent issues facing the UK and the global community. The solutions must be rooted firmly in the science and I look forward to advising the Government on how it can help deliver these important goals."

The then Secretary of State Ed Miliband said: "David MacKay is known for making science accessible and helping to explain clearly the urgency and the challenges of moving to a low carbon economy. I want him to bring all of these qualities to the job of advising DECC on how we can meet Britain's carbon targets and energy security needs."

David MacKay is a Fellow of the Royal Society and a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Climate Change.

# Has Anyone Seen The Cameraman?

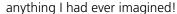


#### One Darwin Fellow's experience of filming TV documentaries

#### **Michael Scott**

n summer 2009, I was asked to present documentaries for the History Channel about two of the ancient world's most charismatic and dangerous rulers: Alexander the Great and Cleopatra. It seemed a

great opportunity to take the study of ancient history, and particularly of these two figures, out of the library and put them back where they came from: in the mountainous landscapes of Greece, the wide open plains of Anatolia and the deserts of Egypt. For three weeks, the film crew and I crossed Greece, Turkey and Egypt to make the documentaries. The experience was the opposite of



First of all – the gaggle of make-up artists, hair stylists and wardrobe experts I had envisaged (wishfully!) were nowhere to be seen! I was asked what I planned to wear, told to make sure I had 4 of everything (no time to clean clothes in between shooting days) and turned up on the first morning to be put in front of the camera without so much as a brush of foundation! This was followed by being told to remove my sunglasses, hat, then face into the sun and then suffer reflectors being brought out to make sure there was even more light reflecting on my face (apparently TV viewers like to be able to make eye contact with the people on TV and shadow or sunglasses puts them off). The final insult was being asked if I could stop sweating so much as it did not look good on camera. Given that we were at times filming in 50 degrees centigrade heat, that I was squinting into the blinding sun and being fried alive by the additional sun reflectors, this was wishful thinking! Now all I had to do was remember what I wanted to say...



TV historical documentaries have an

odd way of respecting the presenter's independence and originality. While the director and producer don't ever tell you what to say, they do ask you to focus or concentrate on particular issues, people or events in each piece. Though this works in practice most of the time, it sometimes leads to a tug of war in which the director wants a little more emphasis on this, a little more vivid description of that: "Describe Alexander's feelings at the moment of his death – was he prodigiously angry, bitter, jealous.... Or my favourite: what was it like to be seduced by Cleopatra?" How on earth would I know I wondered....

Locations can also be a problem – with the best will in the world, it is almost impossible to scout every location in advance and so film crews rely on the local 'fixers' – people from the country in which the filming will take place and who sort permissions, travel arrangements and locations, in short, who 'fix' everything. A good fixer is worth their weight in gold as film crews, to save money, only want to spend the minimum amount

of time on location and so if things aren't well planned out in advance, it causes huge problems. But even the best fixers, especially in countries like Egypt, can't foresee locations which, having said no problems to filming, suddenly change their mind on the day and demand thousands of dollars to film. At these moments, the film schedule is thrown out of the window, a bevy of phone calls are made and new locations are found. In the meantime, scenes to be shot in 2 days time (and for which I had not yet prepared) are now shot that day and it is up to everyone to keep up and do the best they can. It can be an exhilarating experience hurtling through the streets of Cairo to a new location just found via the friend of someone who knows the fixer through his aunt. It can also be just plain terrifying as, with only minutes of filming light left, the director says action and you have had only the briefest period to think about what you want to say.

Make no mistake, documentary filming is an extra-ordinary privilege.

You gain access with a film crew to some of the rarest and most interesting people, places and artifacts in the world - it is my biggest regret that we had so little time to appreciate them in the whirlwind of a shooting schedule. But documentary-making is also hard work. I was given snakes to handle, mountains to climb and water to cross all the while trying to get complex bits of ancient history across in accessible, interesting chunks. We travelled 10 hours in a bus to film for 1 hour in the middle of the desert. We arrived in one country at 3 am (having been in 2 others the previous day) to start filming at 7 am that morning. But for me, it is worth it because TV is a fantastic way of communicating the fascinating nature of my subject to a wide audience and because I know it was TV documentaries like these ones that hooked me into studying the subject many years ago.

Dr Michael C. Scott is the Moses and Mary Finley Fellow in Ancient History



# Books

#### **Sheds on the Seashore**

### Dr Kathryn Ferry



Beach huts have become seaside icons. They may be small structures with basic facilities but we still love them.

They feel quintessentially British, combining a shelter from our changeable weather with a place to brew a mug of tea. They're nostalgic and trendy at the same time, a phenomenon which has turned them into surprisingly hot property.

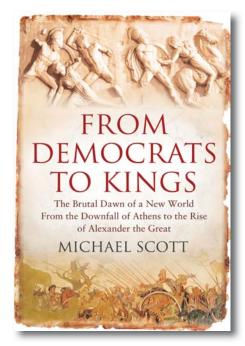
Behind these colourful buildings is a history stretching back to the invention of the seaside and the first wheeled bathing machines of the mid-eighteenth century.

Sheds on the Seashore is based on two journeys; one into the past, the other a contemporary tour around the English coast. Together they tell the story of how beach huts came into being and why they remain so beloved by their twenty-first century owners.

Independent Publishing Ltd. ISBN 9781906710972

#### About the author

Dr Kathryn Ferry is the nation's beach hut expert having spent a decade researching hut history and visiting more than 20,000 around the UK coast. She has appeared on BBC programmes Coast, Flog It and The One Show as well as Radio 4's Woman's Hour. Kathryn completed her PhD in Architectural History in Darwin in 2004 and went on to work for The Victorian Society, the national charity campaigning to promote and protect Victorian architecture. She pursued her interest in British seaside history at the same time and since 2007 has worked as a freelance writer and lecturer. She has recently published two other books: 'Beach huts and bathing machines' (Shire, ISBN 9780747807001) and The British Seaside Holiday (Shire History, ISBN 9780747807278).



### From Democrats To Kings

The Brutal Dawn of a New World from the Downfall of Athens to the Rise of Alexander the Great

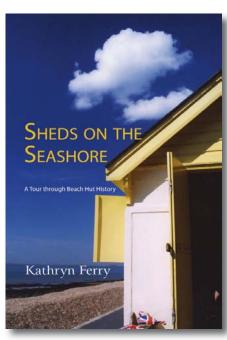
#### Michael Scott

In October 2009, Moses and Mary Finley Fellow at Darwin College, Dr Michael Scott, published his new history of radical upheaval and bitter power struggle in the ancient world.

Athens, 404 BC. The Democratic city-state has been ravaged by a long and bloody war with neighbouring Sparta. The search for scapegoats begins and Athens, liberty's beacon in the ancient world, turns its sword on its own way of life. Defining moments of Greek history, culture, politics, religion and identity are debated ferociously in Athenian public spaces, back streets and battlefields.

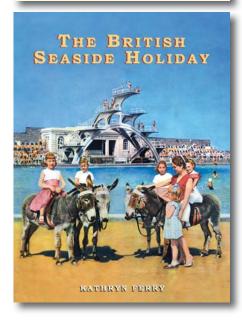
Meanwhile, the mastership of Greece is left open for the taking. Who can rise to the challenge? Cities such as Sparta and Thebes make their play. Powerful tyrants seek to push themselves onto the world stage. The ruler of the mighty Persian empire seeks to expand his kingdom. Rules are abandoned as friend becomes enemy and enemy friend in ever more turbulent rounds of diplomacy, war and backstabbing.

By 323 BC, less than 100 years after Athens' downfall, Athens and the





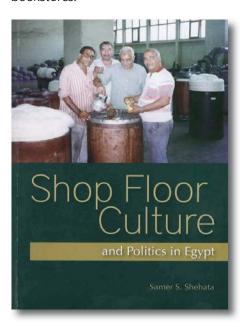




rest of Greece, not to mention a large part of the known world, has come under the control of an absolute monarch, a master of self-publicity and a model for despots for millennia to come: 'megas alexandros', Alexander the Great.

This is the dramatic story of how, in a brutal power struggle whose outcome would define the world for centuries, and over the space of just a single lifetime, the ancient world was turned completely on its head.

From Democrats to Kings is published by Icon and available from all good bookstores.



## **Shop Floor Culture and Politics in Egypt**

Samer S. Shehata

Ethnographic study of textile factory workers in Alexandria, Egypt.

In Shop Floor Culture and Politics in Egypt, Samer S. Shehata provides us with a unique and detailed ethnographic portrait of life within two large textile factories in Alexandria, Egypt. Working for nearly a year as a "winding machine operator" provided Shehata with unprecedented access to workers at the point of production and the activities of the work hall. He argues that the social organization of production in the factoriesincluding company rules and procedures, hierarchy, and relations of authority—and shop floor culture profoundly shape what it means to

be a "worker" and how this identity is understood. Shehata reveals how economic relations inside the factory are simultaneously relations of significance and meaning, and how the production of wool and cotton textiles is, at the same time, the production of categories of identity, patterns of human interaction, and understandings of the self and others.

**Samer S. Shehata** is Assistant Professor of Arab Politics at Georgetown University. ISBN13: 978-1-4384-2849-9

#### Other books

**Toby Gardner** Monitoring Forest Diversity: Improving conservation through ecologically responsible management. The EarthScan Forest Library

**Michael Scott** *Delphi* and *Olympia:* the spatial politics of panhellenism in the archaic and classical periods. Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Amrita Narlikar, New Powers: How to become one and how to manage them, New York: Columbia University Press, and London: Hurst, 2010.

**Amrita Narlikar** and Brendan Vickers eds, *Leadership and Change in the Multilateral Trading System*, Leiden: Martinus Nijhoff/ Brill, 2009.

**William Brown**, Alex Bryson, John Forth and Keith Whitfield eds. *The Evolution of the Modern Workplace*. Cambridge University press, 2009.

### Darwinian Achievements

Professor Ron Laskey, recently retired as the Director of the MRC Cancer Cell Unit and vice-president of the Academy of Medical Sciences, has been awarded one of the Royal Society's 2009 Royal Medals for his pivotal contributions to our understanding of the control of DNA replication and nuclear protein transport, which has led to a novel screening method for cancer diagnosis. As featured in previous issues of the Darwinian, Prof Laskey has previously been awarded the Louis Jeantet Prize for Medicine, the Medical Futures Cancer Innovation Award and the Tomorrow's World

award for Health Innovation.

Dr Tony Cox and co-authors received the Haagen-Smit Award/Prize to recognize outstanding papers published in the journal Atmospheric Environment.

Prof Andrew Prentice has been awarded the EV McCollum International Lectureship in Nutrition 2010/11 by the American Society of Nutrition.

Dr Madan Mohan has received a Young Investigator's Award from the European Molecular Biology Organisation for his work on computational genomics.

Prof Patrick Sissons has been elected Vice-President of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Profs Jenny Clack and David Mackay have been elected FRS, and David has been selected by the Royal Society to give the Clifford Patterson Lecture.

Prof Larry Sherman has been awarded the Beccaria Gold Medal for special services to the advancement of criminology. He was also appointed as the 2009 Thorsten Sellin Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Dr Emily Shuckburgh has been appointed Head of the Open Oceans Research Group at the British Antarctic Survey.

Michael Akam has been elected to the Professorship of Zoology (1866) with effect from 1 October 2010. Professor Akam has also been awarded the Linnean Medal for Zoology.

Prof Chris Bishop has been elected as a Corresponding Academician of the Spanish Royal Academy of Engineering.

Dr Mark de Rond received the 2009 award offered by the Imagination Lab Foundation for his research into organisational settings outside of the mainstream of organisational theory.

Editor's note: We are conscious that this achievement's section is heavily biased towards the current fellowship, because these are the achievements about which we hear. The wider pool of Darwinians worldwide is bound to contain many notable honours and achievements. Please tell us of your successes, formal or informal, by emailing: darwinian@dar.cam.ac.uk.

### **Obituaries**



#### Milo Keynes 1924-2009

In our last issue we announced the death at the age of 84 of Milo Keynes, long-time supporter of the College and honorary fellow. Milo left a variety of Darwin related bequests to the College including four paintings by Gwen Raverat, two lino cut posters, and a number of pieces of furniture. An obituary by A.W.F. Edwards is hosted on our website at www.dar.cam.ac.uk/darwinian/darwinian.htm.

### Tribute: Professor Frank Hayhoe March 28, 2009



Professor Frank Hayhoe, a foundation Fellow of Darwin College and its first Vice-Master, from 1964-74, died on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009, aged 89 years. A graduate of Trinity Hall and St Thomas' Hospital, Frank Hayhoe took a lead in the establishment of academic haematology within the University of Cambridge,

initially from 1951 as a Lecturer in Medicine and then in 1968 as the Leukaemia Research Fund Professor of Haematological Medicine. His special contribution to haematology was in the differentiation of the leukaemias into the separate and diverse individual diseases that make up this overall group of disorders. The series of books and atlases he published, characterising the different manifestations became a benchmark in the research and treatment of the leukaemias in the next decades. Frank Havhoe's style of work matched his character - thoughtful, scholarly, incisive, and unrushed. He brought the same qualities to his time as Vice-Master of Darwin, with his measured and somewhat reserved approach being admirably balanced by the warmth and outgoing nature of his wife Jaqui (Jaqueline Dierkz, a nurse from Belgium whom he met at St Thomas' in 1944). The first 10 years of the College's existence was a halcyon period for Darwin. How could it be otherwise? Graduate students outnumbered by Fellows, the croquet lawn still there, and Jaros the Butler serving the refreshments. Inevitably times changed but with this came a realisation of the potential of this new college, not only as a pioneering graduate college but one that also incorporated into the University for the first time the outstanding talent present in the otherwise independent Research Centres and Institutes of Cambridge.

But curiously the greatest achievement of the team of Sir Frank Young as Master and Frank Hayhoe as Vice-Master, took place outside Darwin College. It was their enthusiasm and advocacy that together overcame the bitter and entrenched opposition within the University to the founding of the Clinical School of Medicine. In so doing they ensured that the New Addenbrooke's site would develop into what it is increasingly becoming - a world-leading campus in the medical and biological sciences. This, together with Darwin College, is their memorial.

Professor Robin Carrell, Darwin alumnus and with one other, a first graduate student at Darwin. He succeeded Frank Hayhoe as Professor of Haematology in 1988.

### Darwin College Society Elections

Did you know that all former students automatically become members of the Darwin College Society upon graduation? So, if you studied at Darwin, you will be a member of the Society. The Society's goal is to be a focal point that allows former members to keep in contact with both the College and other alumni. This is achieved through the organization of social and cultural events for alumni. You can check details of upcoming DSC events at our web page: www.dar.cam.ac.uk/ alumni

The Society is now running elections for the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society. Voting will be Web based and you will receive details of the voting procedure by email.

The election will have two steps, first we will send out an email in August seeking nominations for the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society. Nominations will close 3 weeks after you receive the email. To be eligible to stand for any of these positions the nominee must be an alumni/ae of Darwin.

The election itself will take place in September; again you will be notified of details by email. Voting will be on-line and will require that we have your current email details.

Since you can only receive invitations to upcoming events and invitations to vote by email, we encourage you to complete the alumni update survey on the Darwin alumni web pages. www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/

#### The DCS committee

#### Right:

As part of the Cambridge in America 800th Anniversary celebrations an image of the 'Old Granary' was projected in Times Square, New York City at twilight on Wednesday 2nd December 2009, when Cambridge in America rang the closing bell of the NASDAQ stock exchange. The projection was on the cylindrical façade of the NASDAQ building, on the east side.

Photo: Jerry Lacay



# Jenny Edmonds receives the Swedish Gold Jubilee Medal



he Swedish Linnaeus Society recently honoured Dr Jenny Edmonds with the Swedish Jubilee Medal in gold for her work "before and during the Linnaeus Jubilee Year". The medal was presented in November 2009 at the Royal Swedish Academy Sciences, Stockholm by Emeritus Professor Carl-Olof Jacobson, Chairman of the Swedish Linnaeus Society and former Director-General of the Academy. Jenny was a Graduate member of Darwin from 1969-1970 and a Fellow from 1970-1980. Her daughter Victoria was born in 1979 shortly before her husband moved to the University of Oxford. She followed in June 1980 and held a series of research posts in the then University Botany School; her son Alexander was born there in 1981. In 1993 her husband was appointed Professor of Metallurgy at the University of Leeds and the family moved to West Yorkshire, where she is Honorary Curator of the University Herbarium.

The Linnaean Jubilee or Tercentenary in 2007 marked the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Carl Linnaeus, the great Swedish naturalist. The Society's first President Sir James Edward Smith had purchased Linnaeus' botanical and zoological collections together with his library from his widow. These were subsequently purchased by the Linnean Society from the executors of their founding President in 1829, since when they have been curated, conserved and extensively

digitised by the Society. Images of the collections so far digitised together with Linnaeus's correspondence and a virtual tour of the Society can be found on www.linnean.org.

The medal depicts the Cornish mallow, Lavetera cretica L. with the five petals symbolising the five parts of the world in which this plant grows and which Linnaeus undertook to explore with the help of his disciples. The drawing on the obverse is a self-portrait of Linnaeus admiring the mid-night sun at Jokkmokk during his famous Lapland journey in 1732, which he described as a "miracle of nature". His ambitious plans for the exploration of five continents are reflected in the motto found on the obverse which reads "Famam extendere factis - "to make known his fame by deeds". The medal, which was designed by Michel Östlund was struck in both gold and silver. Other recipients of the Gold Jubilee Medal include King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, and His Excellency Emperor Akihito of Japan, a Fellow of the Linnaean Society who is a keen ichthyologist specializing in the taxonomy of the Gobiidae. He and the Empress visited both Sweden and the Linnean Society during the Linnaean festivities in 2007.





# From Darwin College to Charles Darwin University

or the bicentenary year it seemed an excellent suggestion that I make a fraternal visit to Charles Darwin University as a stop-over on the way to a conference in Sydney. But while I could guess at the attractions of the (relatively) nearby Kakadu National Park, the particular appeal of our namesake institution in Darwin took me by surprise. That appeal is, in part, the way the University is meeting the vocational and higher educational needs of a hugely dispersed population. Long known as the Land of the Never Never, the Northern Territory of Australia has a population less than twice that of the city of Cambridge spread across an unforgiving wilderness greater in area than France, Spain and Portugal combined. Charles Darwin University's eight campuses and training centres are scattered right across this vast area, the most remote of them a thousand miles apart. This far-flung educational constellation is also far from the rest of Australia. Djakarta is closer to Darwin than Canberra, 2500 miles away.

The city of Darwin's name arose because the potential harbour of Port Darwin was charted and named by the crew of the Beagle on its subsequent surveying trip after the famous one that carried Charles. The naming was a sentimental tribute to him as an old crewmate rather than anything more prescient. But when the scattered institutes of technical and higher education that served the Northern Territory were brought under a central administration in 2003, the name was too good to miss. It was fully in keeping with University's environmental research interests and aspirations. Indeed, last September the University celebrated the Darwin bicentenary with an international symposium on the scientific and social legacy of Darwin's

Of something over 20,000 students, about a third are studying for higher and the remainder for vocational education courses. They are relatively

mature; about two thirds are over 24. Their courses reflect the skills needed by their communities, with an emphasis on education and health. But there is also a strong research presence, some in alliance with other Australian universities, with local specialism in, for example, tropical medicine and water resource management.

The second remarkable feature of the University comes from the fact that a third of Northern Territory's population are of indigenous aboriginal origin. Meeting the educational needs of these extraordinary people is a unique challenge. After two hundred years over which their interaction with the so-called civilised world has been anything but civilised, it is far from obvious how they can be helped to progress, or to maintain their identity, or even to cope. A major objective of the University lies in developing an understanding of the indigenous people's perspective, structuring courses to best serve the needs of them and their communities. The achievement is impressive. Aboriginal people comprise five per cent of the University's higher education students and thirty per cent of its vocational education students. Their courses cover anything from cattle management and nursing to business and the law.

An engaging aspect of this that I was able to witness is the effort put into helping indigenous people to meet the growing interest in their art. Under the name Northern Editions, academic staff are collaborating with aboriginal artists to provide training in a range of printmaking skills, as well as providing opportunities to exhibit and sell their work. You can find it at northern.editions.com.au. Far away from the Charles Darwin campus, as you read this, workshops will be underway in lonely communities in the deserts of the Centre, the tropical forests of Arnhem Land, and the islands of the Timor Sea, helping these people to enlarge their unique culture and to enrich ours.

One hundred years ago, Jeannie Gunn, the widow of an outback stockman, in a classic memoir entitled 'We of the Never Never', vividly described 'a land of dangers and hardships and privations'. It was a privilege for me to visit our namesake institution, with its mission of enabling those scattered communities to meet these continuing challenges, so remote in every respect from the gentle riverbank of Darwin College. But by pleasant coincidence there is now a possibility that these two worlds might come into more tangible contact. The Charlie Perkins Trust, dedicated to expanding higher educational opportunities with indigenous Australians, is discussing with the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust the scope for extending to Cambridge a scheme for graduate students that has just started in Oxford. It may yet bring young indigenous Australian scholars to study at the College.

#### Willy Brown, Master



The Master with the Vice-Chancellor of Charles Darwin University.



The Master hosts a dinner for alumni in Sydney, August 2009.



### Major new commission for Hakes Associates

The architectural partnership, Hakes Associates, founded by Julian and Cari-Jane Hakes has won a major new commission for their design of the Arkhangleskoye Bridge which is the gateway over the Moscow river to the new Rublyovo Arkhangleskoye Development on the outskirts of Moscow. The proposed bridge is a six lane highway bridge and a cable stayed structure with a mast of 125m tall. Julian was at Darwin ('95-'98) and Cari at Magdelene ('96-98'). They were married in Magdalene Chapel in 1999 and rented a room in the Old Granary as their studio when they first set up practice. We plan to feature a full article on Julian and Cari's many and varied designs in Darwinian 13.

### Old Darwinian Garden Party

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010 6.00pm to 7.30pm

Come and join us for this year's Darwin College Society Summer Party

The College invites you and your family to an informal buffet supper held in the College grounds if the weather is good. Meet up with old friends in the College's beautiful garden. Come straight from work or feel free to drop in at any time between 6.00pm and 7.30pm if you are travelling from further afield!

After the party many people take the opportunity to hone their punting skills or adjourn to the College bar. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

Please e-mail or telephone your acceptance by **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2010** at the latest.

E-mail: alumni.office@dar.cam.ac.uk, Tel: +44 (0)1223 335690.

When you contact us please provide the following details:

- Your name and when you attended College.
- The number and names of the guests you are bringing.

# Calendar of alumni events 2010

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June Former Fellows Reunion

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June Darwin College Society Career Network Event: Life Sciences

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June Darwin College Society Local Heritage Event: John Clare, the People's Poet

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July Old Darwinian Summer Garden Party

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August Darwin College Society Outdoor Theatre Event: 'Much Ado about Nothing' at Anglesey Abbey

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September Alumni buffet lunch

#### Editors:

Andrew Prentice Sophia Smith Dean Hawkes

The editors especially welcome short articles, pictures, artwork and news from our overseas alumni.

Correspondence to: darwinian@dar.cam.ac.uk