

# THE DARWINIAN



## Blue Plaque commemorates Gwen Raverat



One of the first blue plaques to be put up by Cambridge City Council was unveiled on the Silver Street side of Newnham Grange at a ceremony on 14th March 2003. The unveiling was performed by Mrs Sophie Gurney, daughter of Gwen Raverat with several other members of the Darwin family in attendance. It was followed by a highly illuminating talk on Raverat by her biographer, Frances Spalding, and by dinner in college.



A gathering of Darwin family members at the drinks reception to mark the unveiling of the blue plaque.

*From left to right:*

Mrs Sophie Gurney, daughter of Gwen Raverat;  
Mrs Erasmus Darwin Barlow; Dr Erasmus Darwin Barlow and Mr William Prior, son of Sophie Gurney.  
The picture on the table is a self-portrait by Gwen Raverat.

## DARWIN COLLEGE LECTURE SERIES 2003

### DNA: Changing Science and Society



Alec Jeffreys, Onora O'Neill, Dorothy Bishop, Malcolm Grant, Aaron Klug, Ron Laskey, Robert Winston, Svante Pääbo

One delightful feature of this year's Lecture Series was the precision with which it marked the anniversary of its subject: the discovery of the structure of DNA. The eight weeks of the series neatly covered the period, just 50 years earlier, between Crick and Watson's crucial visit to Wilkins and Franklin and the writing of their seminal paper. The accompanying interest in the subject in the press and television provided a welcome background to an exceptionally successful series. The main lecture hall was always full and on two occasions the overflow hall overflowed as well.

A unique account of the discovery itself was provided by Aaron Klug, illustrated with hitherto unpublished extracts from Rosalind Franklin's notebooks. Medical applications were explored in two of the talks. The transmission of genetic defects from parent to child and its treatment were discussed by Robert Winston. The College's own Ron Laskey talked of the emerging understanding of the way in

which genetic errors give rise to cancers. Less obvious applications of the discovery came with Alec Jeffreys' story of his own development of genetic finger-printing, and Svante Pääbo's equally authoritative talk on the archaeological use of ancient DNA. No less remarkable was Dorothy Bishop's revelation of the contribution of genetic analysis to the understanding of language formation. The broader social implications of the discovery were also given due weight. Onora O'Neill provided a pellucid discussion of the ethical issues it raised. This led smoothly into Malcolm Grant's account of the socio-legal problems involved in regulating biotechnology and in mobilising an appropriate public debate. The Series as a whole provided a quite exceptionally accessible and rounded discussion of the consequences of that discovery 50 years ago. It will be published by CUP in the autumn.

Willie Brown  
Master

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# Darwin and its architects: the work of Jeremy Dixon & Edward Jones

Since the 13th century the buildings of the university and the colleges have fundamentally shaped the physical form and character of Cambridge. The great set pieces, such as King's chapel and the Wren Library in Trinity, demonstrate that patronage of the art of architecture is a significant, if secondary, function of the university. This tradition continues in the present day and, from its foundation, Darwin quickly established a proud record as a supporter of the best of contemporary architectural practice.

The recent publication of a monograph on the work of Jeremy Dixon and Edward Jones (1), offers an opportunity to review this aspect of college life and, particularly, to consider Dixon and Jones' contribution to it.

## *Background*

The site at Silver Street has enjoyed a distinguished architectural history since Sir George Darwin acquired Newnham



Jeremy Dixon (right) and  
Edward Jones

Grange and its associated buildings in the 19th century. He commissioned J. J. Stevenson, a leading London architect, to make alterations to create a home for the Darwin family. Much of his work, including his picturesque transformation of the Old Granary, survives today. On the foundation of the college in the 1960s Howell, Killick, Partridge and Amis designed the Rayne Building and the dining hall and this work was quickly followed by David Roberts' addition to Newnham Grange which overlooks the croquet lawn.

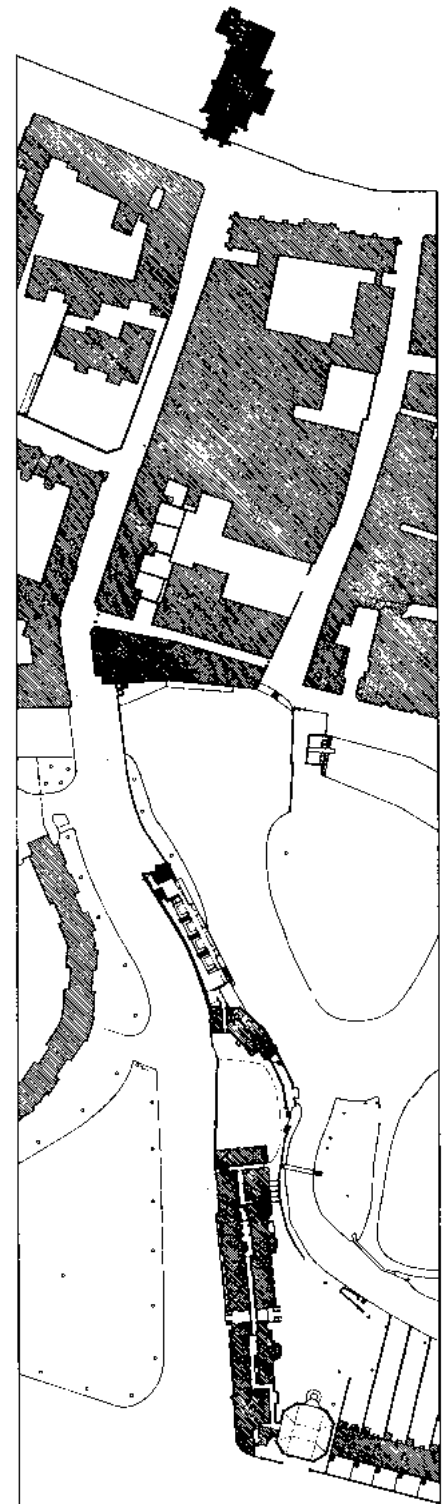
By the end of the 1980s there was a pressing need for more accommodation on the main site. The growth of the library and the increasing need for computing facilities led to the development of a brief for a Study Centre on the old kitchen garden. Following an architectural competition, Jeremy Dixon and Edward Jones were appointed as architects.

Dixon and Jones had met when they were students at the Architectural Association in London at the end of the 1950s. Early in their careers they were notable members of a group of young British architects whose work attracted critical acclaim. Following a period of independent practice their present partnership was established in 1989. The commission for the Darwin Study Centre was won at just that moment and played a key rôle in the development of their design philosophy.

## *The Study Centre*

Jeremy Dixon has written that the project, along with their design for the Henry Moor Institute in Leeds, "...represents a moment at which the style and direction of the work changes. ...it might be said that the manner is a 'style for the job' rather than a 'style for the practice'." A consistent element of this engagement with the specific nature of each project is the manner in which the context of the site is studied. This is

illustrated at Darwin by the drawing of the site, which is extended the full length of Silver Street to link the college to the core of the city.



Darwin College, Location Plan

## Darwinian Achievements

**Dr Karalyn Patterson** (Fellow) has been elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

**Peter Brindle** (Bursar and Fellow) has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Directors. This honour was in recognition his work in setting up a company to help service personnel

into civilian employment and support them in personal development on the way.

**Rend Shakir** (1996-97) was a finalist for Businesswoman of the Year in the Cambridge Evening News Business Excellence Awards in recognition of her work with the





Study Centre: river front detail

The over-riding objective of the design was to make an appropriate and agreeable place in which to study. Jeremy Dixon writes, "The idea was to make the whole interior as if it was an extended piece of furniture all in the same material—English oak. The bookcase becomes the wall; the furniture becomes the frame and the structure; the floor is the same as the façade."

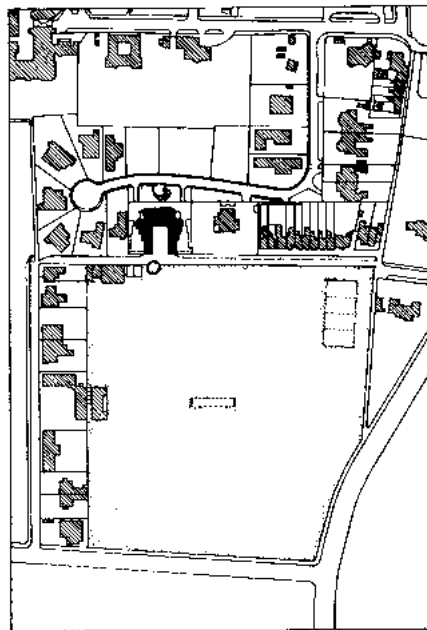
#### *Frank Young House*

Following the success of Darwin's first collaboration with Dixon and Jones, the project for a new residential building began in 1992. Again the question of context was significant. As the site plan shows, the building makes a particular response to its suburban setting.



Study Centre: interior

Edward Jones describes the building in the following terms, "From Wordsworth Grove it is seen as a large semi-detached house, consistent with the Edwardian semi-detached houses in the street, with two entrance courts set behind a 2.5 metre high garden wall and mature trees. On the other hand, facing



Frank Young House, site plan

Summerfield, the building transforms into the image of a single villa set in its own arcadian landscape, with a terrace, balcony and loggia forming a grandstand to the sporting life beyond."

Since the completion of these buildings for Darwin, the Dixon Jones practice has been responsible for a number of significant architectural



Frank Young House: south front

projects. The restoration and extension of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden was triumphantly completed in 2000. The same year saw the opening of their additions to the National Portrait Gallery. At Somerset House the new café, bridge and fountains have transformed the courtyard of Somerset into one of London's most congenial public spaces. They are now working on a project at the National Gallery as a further major contribution to the cultural heart of the capital. Their beautifully constructed design for the Said Business School at Oxford was completed in 2001.

The creation of a work of architecture is a collaborative enterprise. At its heart is the relationship of client and architect. All those who played some part in the realisation of these Darwin projects can testify to the pleasure of the experience. The architects speak with particular appreciation of the day-to-day relationship they enjoyed with Hugh Price, who was Bursar at the time of these projects. The buildings add much to the life of the college and to the architectural evolution of the city.

#### Reference

1. Ian Latham and Mark Swenarton (Eds.), *Jeremy Dixon Edward Jones, Rightangle Publishing, London, 2002*

Dean Hawkes  
Fellow



Frank Young House: street front

Cambridge Technology Exchange, Cambridge Entrepreneurs and in setting up a string of other new companies. She works actively to promote Cambridge as a prime location for science park initiatives from abroad.

**Prof Andrew Prentice** (Fellow) and his research team have received the

Bristol-Myers Squibb Mead Johnson Award in Nutrition. The award consists of an unrestricted research grant of \$300,000.

**Prof Geoffrey Meeks** (Fellow) has been elected to the Professorship of Financial Accounting in the Judge Institute.

**Dr George Gömöri** (Emeritus Fellow) has been awarded a Senior Domus Scholarship by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

# The Mozart of Philosophy?

Everyone knows of Bertrand Russell and Ludwig Wittgenstein, two of the philosophers whose work made the first half of the twentieth Century a golden age of Cambridge philosophy. Yet hardly anyone outside the subject knows about Frank Ramsey, arguably the greatest of even that remarkable generation of Cambridge thinkers, who died in 1930 just before his 27th birthday. He would no doubt have been a Darwinian if only the College had been founded before his death (as it was, he had to put up with being a Fellow of King's). Hugh Mellor, Darwin's philosophy Fellow, is trying to make Darwinian amends by organising an international conference in Newnham at the end of June to commemorate the centenary year of Ramsey's birth.

The conference will cover much if not all of the amazing range of Ramsey's work: his correcting the foundations of

Russell's *Principia Mathematica*; translating Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*, and showing him what was wrong with it; many other original contributions to philosophy, including new theories of truth (the redundancy theory) and of scientific theories (the Ramsey sentence theory); laying the foundations of modern Bayesian decision theory; and starting new branches of mathematics (Ramsey theory), and of economics (optimal taxation and optimal accumulation). His only real failure was as an atheist: his self-confessedly dimmer younger brother Michael went on to become Archbishop of Canterbury!

(Most of Ramsey's philosophical work is collected in *F. P. Ramsey: Philosophical Papers*, edited by D. H. Mellor and published by Cambridge University Press.)



Frank Ramsey

## Darwinian Reunion in Chiba, Japan, March 2003



Professor Harry (Hari) Bhadesia (Fellow – back row 2nd from left) met with 4 of his former Japanese research students. On the back row, beginning from the left is Dr Kazutoshi Ichikawa (qualified 1996), 2nd last is Dr Manabu Takahashi (qualified 1988 and Hari's first ever Japanese research student), and last is Shinigo Yamasaki (due to submit his Ph.D. thesis September this year). Squatting on the floor to the right is Dr Nobuhiro Fujita (qualified 1998). Hari writes that they all have fond memories of Darwin and Cambridge since they have all lived as families in Cambridge—with one exception, Mayuko Takahashi who was born after Manabu and his wife finished in Cambridge.

Hari also met with another Darwinian, Professor Shiv Brat Singh, who qualified in 1998, whilst on a working visit to the Institute for Science in Bangalore, India. He notes that everywhere he goes he encounters Darwinians, whether it is Brazil, Finland, Japan, France, Ireland, Spain.

## Darwin continues to make history

One hundred and seventy seven years after his now famous voyage to the Galapagos Islands and 120 years after his death Charles Darwin's correspondence continues to arouse great interest. The University of Cambridge has been awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education for the Darwin Correspondence Project. This massive endeavour is transcribing, editing and publishing more than 14,500 letters written and received by Charles Darwin throughout his life.

## Cambridge tops FT League again

For the sixth year running, the University of Cambridge has topped the Financial Times annual UK universities league table, which was published on 2 May 2003. The Financial Times rates institutions against 17 criteria, including research, teaching, graduate employment and income from industry.



## New solution to a smelly problem



A team of researchers from the Department of Chemical Engineering has developed a fluidised bed reactor for producing a clean burning, hydrogen rich fuel gas from municipal sewage sludge.

"Current methods to treat the vast quantities of sludge produced in Europe include spreading it on agricultural land, burning it or burying it in a landfill" says **Dr Andrew Harris**, project researcher and Research Fellow at Darwin College. "There are quite a few negative connotations associated with these alternatives. Our work aims to give an environmentally acceptable one."

Dr Harris together with his colleagues in the project, principal investigator Dr John Dennis, co-investigators Prof. Alan Hayhurst and Prof. John Davidson and PhD student, Stuart Scott aim to produce a valuable hydrogen rich gas from the waste material and at the same time minimise harmful emissions and by-products.

"There is a lot of talk at the moment about the new hydrogen economy, but nobody goes into much detail about where all this hydrogen is going to come from". says Dr Dennis. "Our technology has the potential to produce large quantities of hydrogen from waste materials, relatively cheaply"

The project is funded by the EPSRC and the team hopes to be able to commercialise the technology upon completion. There is already a good deal of interest from industry.

# Boat Club News

Apart from its learning and research Cambridge is well known for its rowing community. Darwin College Boat Club (DCBC) is a proud example of this, being the College's largest club. Even with six regular crews there is still plenty of competition for seats and sometimes we are hard pressed to keep everything under control! Giving all Darwin students the opportunity to participate in intercollegiate rowing is only the first half of our mission though; the second is to bring laurels to the College (and more blades to the bar) by producing increasingly competitive crews.

Both 1st Vllls recently climbed to their highest positions ever in Lent bumps, with the women taking Emma II, Kings, LMBC II and Fitz to win blades. The men went up three places, bumping Pembroke II (our boathouse landlords) undiplomatically easily on the way (see charts). May bumps, the highlight of the Cambridge rowing calendar, look set to be even more exciting with four Darwin crews competing for certain and two more already training hard to ensure that they qualify for the sport's biggest spectacle. The

ambitious first Vllls are keen to take their boats off the Cam in search of success further afield at the BUSA championships and Henley royal regatta.

As always, enthusiasm is the club's lifeblood and we diligently keep it fuelled with land training in the bar, crew chews and club events. To help us maintain our momentum we are fundraising for new equipment and looking for club sponsors. If you'd like to have a boat named after you, or just join our alumni mailing list, drop us a line!

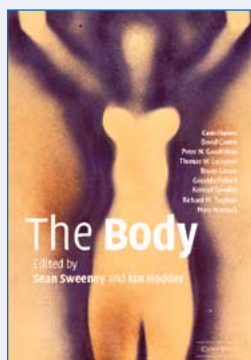
Amyas Phillips  
*Men's Captain*

Katy Lancaster  
*Women's Captain*

*Readers can keep abreast of other Darwin sporting news through the DCSA web pages at [www.dar.cam.ac.uk](http://www.dar.cam.ac.uk).*

WOMEN DIV. 2		MEN DIV. 3	
St Catherine's	18	Trinity Hall II	35
Magdalene	19	Darwin	36
Jesus II	20	LMBC III	37
Robinson	21	Clare II	38
CCAT	22	St Catherine's II	39
Darwin	23	Pembroke II	40
Fitzwilliam	24	1st & 3rd III	41
Peterhouse	25	Selwyn II	42
LMBC II	26	Girton II	43
Emmanuel II	27	Fitzwilliam II	44
King's	28	Jesus III	45
New Hall II	29	Homerton	46
Newnham II	30	Downing III	47
Wolfson	31	Sidney Sussex II	48
Addenbrooke's	32	Cokus III	49
Homerton	33	Peterhouse II	50
Queen's II	34	Clare Hall	51

## CAMBRIDGE



In the Second Term of every academic year since 1986, Darwin College has organised a series of eight public lectures. Each is built around a single theme, approached from a multi-disciplinary perspective and prepared for a general audience by an leading authority in his or her subject. These lectures have been revised, collected and published by Cambridge University Press.

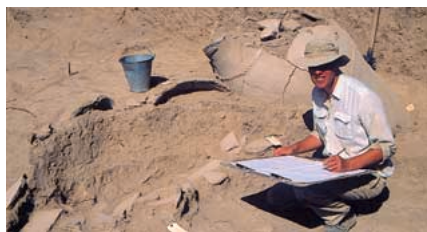
The latest books in this series are *Time* edited by Katinka Ridderbos, published in May 2002 (ISBN 0521782937, price £25.00) and *The Body*, edited by Sean Sweeney and Ian Hodder, published in June 2002 (ISBN 0 521 78292 9, price £25.00).

**Books in this series are available to members and alumni of Darwin College at 20% off from either the Cambridge bookshop at 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge or direct by phone +44 (0)1223 326050, fax +44 (0)1223 326111 or email to [directcustserve@cambridge.org](mailto:directcustserve@cambridge.org).**

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

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# Excavations in Ziyaret



The author on location

From 1987 to 1991 I was privileged to be based on Darwin's watery shores, pursuing a PhD in Near Eastern archaeology and Assyriology (the decipherment of ancient Assyrian cuneiform texts). Having crashed through that hurdle I went on to work in a dozen countries across the Middle East and now spend the summers as co-director of the excavations at Ziyaret in Turkey.

The site of Ziyaret lies on the Upper Tigris near the modern village of Tepe, about 60km from Diyarbakir in the southeast of the country. The morphology of the site corresponds to a well-known type of Mesopotamian provincial sites, i.e. a high mound surrounded by an outlying lower town which was probably walled. Although there are earlier remains—dating back to at least 2,500 BC (there are inaccessible levels extending below that)—it is really its Assyrian remains which mark Ziyaret out as a site of exceptional interest. Most important are the remains from the Neo-Assyrian empire, which flourished from around 900 BC: it is difficult to say exactly when it began, but the terminal date at any rate is easy to fix – it marks the fall of Nineveh to a coalition of Babylonians from the South, Medes from the East and Commerians from the North in 612 BC. An earlier imperialist phase in the late second millennium is termed Middle Assyrian. Assyria proper corresponds to the north of modern Iraq, but imperial territories spread into parts

of Iran, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Palestine and even, for brief periods, Egypt. Getting back to Ziyaret, it was sited on the South bank of the Tigris in an area where the river flows west-east and served as the limit and border of the Assyrian Empire. Standing on the mound, gazing across the river into the hills beyond, only the obtuse would not feel the powerful presence of centuries of empire resonating through the millenia.

Historical sources (i.e. inscriptions in Assyrian language, written in cuneiform script on clay tablets) tell us of three garrison towns strung along the Tigris border on the way up to Diyarbakir (ancient Amidu), and there are indeed three archaeological sites with remains of the right period which must correspond to these. Working out which ancient name—Tushan, Tidu, Sinabu—goes with which mound is a subject of continuing debate, but in all probability our site of Ziyaret was ancient Tushan, and if so it was not only a garrison town but the capitol of the province, also called Tushan, as well. Archaeological research in the area started in the mid 1990's when the Turkish government announced plans to construct the Ilusu Dam. The dam itself will be more

than 100km downstream, but the reservoir is expected to stretch right up the Ziyaret, flooding at least the lower town. After initial seasons of survey, an international project under the overall direction of Dr. Tim Matney of the University of Akron, Ohio, commenced excavation at Ziyaret in July 2000; I am leading a British contingent. To date we have carried out two seasons of excavation and would expect to continue for another seven or eight years. On the high mound we have uncovered the remains of an Assyrian monumental building, quite possibly the palace of the provincial governor, though this remains to be proven. A step trench on the east side of the mound has been started with the aim of elucidating the overall continuum of occupation at the site, and at the same time providing a basic pottery sequence. In the lower city my work has revealed parts of a substantial gateway on the east side of the city, a pottery kiln with a number of whole pots preserved in situ, and—most strikingly—a high status residence with walls up to 2m thick and mosaiced pavements forming a chessboard pattern of alternating black and white squares. Last year I excavated about one third of this building but the indications are that the majority is still preserved and this will form the main thrust of excavations this summer.

John MacGinnis  
(1987-91)



## Darwinian Pairings and Descendants

Jennifer Fitzgerald writes:

Darwinians **Steve Day** (1971-2) and **Jennifer FitzGerald** (1971-5) spent their professional lives at San Diego State University and Queen's University, Belfast, met three times in thirty years, and were married on 22 Feb. 2003 in San Diego, California. Who says we're slow coaches?

P.S. On the same day that Steve and Jennifer met in Darwin, they also met **Piero Boitani** (1971-4) who married Jennifer's twin **Joan FitzGerald** (1973-5) in 1975.



# News from the College Library

Alumni might wish to know that our College Library holds some rare books of considerable interest. They are kept in the library office and, therefore, many old members might not be aware of them.

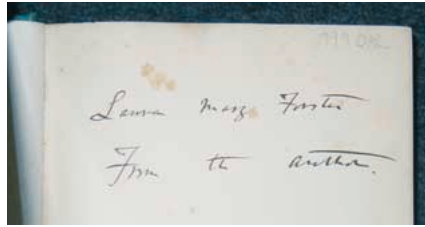
In 1995 the College was given some remarkable medical books by Mr Geoffrey R Fisk.

The first of the medical books is the "Fabrica" by Andreas Vesalius (1543), which has been described as the "most famous book on human anatomy ever printed and one of the most important". The woodcut illustrations (the artist was probably Titian) are particularly famous for their technical excellence, the striking poses of the human models and the attractive Tuscan settings in which the models stand.



Frontispiece of the "Fabrica" by Andreas Vesalius

The second of the books is the "Opera" by Adrian Spigelius (1645). The plates mark a new epoch in anatomical illustration, being engraved on copper, in contrast to the woodcuts of the "Fabrica". This book also contains an early and important reprint of Harvey's description (1628) of the Circulation of the Blood.



Dedication to Laura Mary Forster, aunt and Benefactor of E.M. Forster



Finally, a book on The Hand dating from 1833 with the flippant subtitle "Its Mechanism and Vital Endowments as Evincing Design" boasting some fine illustrations.

The Finley room houses the personal library of Moses Finley, an Ancient Historian who was the second Master of Darwin College (1976-1982).

Among our other rare books is the two-volume first edition of Charles Darwin's *The Descent of Man* (1871), which is particularly special, since it bears the signature of none other than the prestigious author himself. The Ex Libris reveals that it once belonged to the collection of Laura Mary Forster.

Other remarkable discoveries include old travel guides to Cambridge of 1814, 1938 and, most interestingly, of war-time Cambridge (1941).

Owing to our limited resources, we do not endeavour to extend our rare books collection. However, former members are welcome, should they be in Cambridge, to browse through our admirable books. More bibliographical information can be obtained via the new Cambridge University Library OPAC.

If you are interested, just contact the student librarians by post, by telephone under 01223-763547 or by email to [librarian@dar.cam.ac.uk](mailto:librarian@dar.cam.ac.uk).

Ariane Kossack

PhD student in French and German Literature

Christian Goeschel

PhD student in Modern German History

## 18thC Chinese Throne Cushion

Bob Sloss (former Dean) and his late wife, Jacqué, have given the College a splendid 18th century Chinese throne cushion. It is currently being cleaned and reframed prior to being put on display in the College. We will feature a picture in a future issue of the DARWINIAN.

## Golden celebrations for DNA

Among the many celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the double helix (including our own Lecture Series) there will be a year-long exhibition at the Whipple Museum. The exhibition entitled 'Representations of the Double Helix' follows the uses of double helix models and images in science, education, politics, law, commerce, art and popular culture.

The Whipple Museum in Free School Lane is open Monday to Friday 1.30 to 4.30 pm. Admission is free.

## Articles on the Darwin website

Once again we have received more material than we can fit in the printed DARWINIAN. Please check our website at [www.dar.cam.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.dar.cam.ac.uk/alumni) where you can find full colour pdf files of backnumbers of the DARWINIAN together with the following additional pieces.

Felicity Huppert (Fellow) describes the first Peter Laslett Lecture held in the Old

Library in Darwin under the auspices of the Cambridge Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Ageing (CIRCA). Philip Taylor (Research Associate) summarises other papers from CIRCA's two day symposium in December 2002 and describes some of his own work as its Executive Director. A fuller version of the *In memoriam* to Jacqué Sloss also appears.

# Was Newton a genius?

Patricia Fara



Patricia Fara

I never met either Mary or Moses Finley, but I often wish that I could thank them. Through the Fellowship they endowed at Darwin, they gave me the opportunity to embark on a new career. When I applied, another student dismissively informed me that I stood no chance because I was the wrong sex, the wrong age, and had been to the wrong universities. Fortunately for me, the members of the Committee were more enlightened, and I am extremely grateful to them.

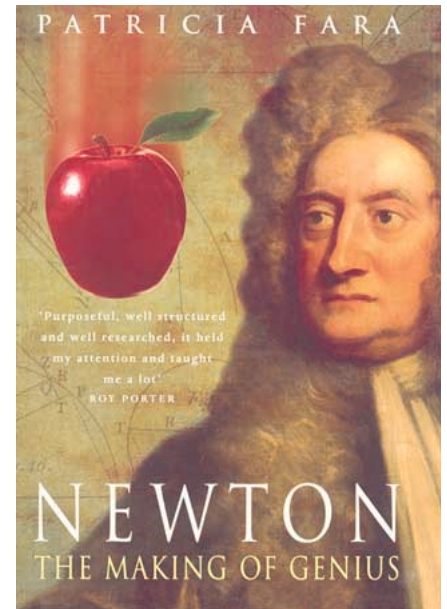
It might seem strange that a middle-aged woman educated at Oxford and London should spend several years writing a book about that icon of Cambridge dead white maleness, Isaac Newton. On the contrary – one of the best ways to establish new versions of the past is by tackling conventional history head-on. *Newton: the making of genius* is not a biography of Newton, but an account of how he became famous first as a national hero, and then as a scientific genius. Instead of taking it for granted that Newton was the most brilliant scientist who ever lived, I ask why so many people now believe that he had almost superhuman intellectual powers.

Newton's reputation is riddled with apparent contradictions. William Blake savagely portrayed Newton imprisoning nature with his mathematical dividers, but William Wordsworth immortalised his

'Mind for ever Voyaging throu' strange seas of Thought, alone.' Victorians admired him as a paragon of patience and hard work, whereas today he is depicted as a solitary eccentric hovering on the brink of insanity. Newton epitomises the dedicated scientist emotionlessly investigating a mechanistic world. Yet he was also an alchemical experimenter, a millenarian prophet who constantly sought to learn more about God.

Even the label 'scientific genius' seems paradoxical, since other geniuses are artists, writers or musicians who rely on imagination and inspiration rather than on observation and logic. Did Newton take a sudden creative leap as he watched an apple fall, or did he match up to a different scientific ideal by inching forward with methodical steps? When he was alive, the word 'genius' was rarely used to describe an individual person. Instead, it meant something closer to our 'talent' – so Newton was blessed with a genius for mathematics and telescopes, whereas a woman might possess a genius for embroidery or painting silk. The concept of 'a scientific genius' originated in the early nineteenth century, and Newton was the first member of this new social category.

The story of Newton's changing reputations is inseparable from the rise of science itself. In his lifetime, science as



we know it did not exist, and the word scientist had not even been invented. Patriotic Britons celebrated two intellectual stars of the Enlightenment, Isaac Newton and Alexander Pope, author of the famous couplet:

Nature, and Nature's Laws lay hid in Night.  
God said, *Let Newton be!* and All was *Light*.

Along with countless other pieces of promotional propaganda produced by Newton's disciples, this verse helped to convert a reclusive Cambridge scholar into an international hero, science's equivalent of England's great literary genius, William Shakespeare.

*Patricia Fara's Newton: the making of genius was published by Macmillan in May 2002 ISBN 0 33390 735 3 (paperback edition in May 2003)*

## An Entertainment for Angels



Another of Patricia Fara's books published in 2002 by Icon Books.  
ISBN 1 84046 348 1



# 'A Small Rain'



This anonymous 16th century poem has launched a new career in fiction for a Darwin alumnus (1996-1999), Hilary Custance.

Hilary is known to Darwin members as Dr. Hilary Green, scientific researcher at the Medical Research Council's Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, Cambridge.

In fact, writer and scientist are just two of Hilary's career choices. Until ten years ago, Hilary worked as a sculptor. Her occasional sculpture projects in schools roused her curiosity as to how children develop. She then made an apparently dramatic move to research how the brain works. At first Hilary's scientific work focused on the mechanisms of attention in children and she now assists in an investigation into the causes of relapse in depression.

This might seem a long way away from her days as an artist, but Hilary never left the arts, writing the first draft of her novel at the same time as writing her PhD. In the years since then, Hilary has learnt much about writing a successful novel. The fruits of this work are now available, a testament to her determination and creativity.

The story takes place over 18 turbulent months in the life of Stella, Owen and Rosheen. Stella's husband goes missing early in the story. The novel explores how Stella copes with this dramatic turn in her life by focusing on her poetry teaching and music-making. In these two separate worlds she meets Rosheen and her husband Owen, and finds a role in both their lives. In another world altogether the fate of Stella's missing husband is told. Eventually all these worlds collide to dramatic effect.

"Essentially it is an ordinary story about ordinary people," says Hilary. "I am fascinated by the differences between the face we show to the outside world and what is going on inside".

Reviewed by Elizabeth Hill  
(PhD 1994-97 and Research Fellow 1998-2001)

'A Small Rain' is published by Author Publishing Ltd under their Rhapsody imprint, ISBN 1 898030 73 1.

# The Gospel Book of St Augustine



Many readers will have seen the Gospel Book of St Augustine used at the enthronement of Dr Rowan Williams as the new Archbishop of Canterbury on Thursday 27th February 2003. This is the most precious book in the Parker Library at Corpus Christi College, and perhaps the most important and evocative illuminated manuscript in Cambridge. The Gospel is generally and credibly assumed to have been brought from Italy in the mission of Augustine of Canterbury (d.604), who arrived in England in 597. It is the manuscript on which, by tradition, each new archbishop of Canterbury, takes his oath of office. To mark the occasion, and for the first time, the Parker Library was open to members of the University and the city

of Cambridge, and their guests, for two days after the enthronement.

The Parker Library consists principally of the remarkable collection of books and manuscripts entrusted to Corpus Christi College in 1574 by Matthew Parker (1504-1575), Queen Elizabeth's first Archbishop of Canterbury and a former Master of the College. It includes many of the oldest books in England and the earliest records of the English language. If you would like more information about developments in the Parker Library or would like to join a group of friends of the Library, which is currently being planned, please feel free to contact the Elizabeth Winter, Deputy Development Director at Corpus (tel. 339731, e-mail ejw39@cam.ac.uk).

## John Herkless

*(visiting associate to Darwin over many years)*

Carol O'Hallaron writes:

I am sorry to inform my friends in Cambridge that John Herkless, a Darwinian since the 1970s, died on January 17, 2003, in Germany, where he taught American Studies for the University of Kassel's Department of English Languages. We welcomed John's annual long-term stays at Darwin, which he lovingly referred to throughout his life. When not conducting research on Peter Roget at the library, John enjoyed discussing film, history, and the Royal family with us on the lawn after a spring lunch, the Darwin Pub at night, or the Three Horseshoes in Madingley on Sundays.

His friends admired his courageous and uncomplaining fight with multiple sclerosis. About eight years ago, he became wheelchair bound and could no longer visit Cambridge; however, he continued to teach until a year or so ago. John sounded well on the telephone on Christmas Day when we discussed the harrowing news of the day. Not long after, his friend Patricia Juengst, who had been a kind and helpful friend to him over the years, advised me that he was felled by a severe bout of pneumonia from which he never recovered. John, 62 years, held both American and British citizenship, and his parents, who had lived in Indiana, are deceased. All of us who knew John will miss his friendship very much and the good times he brought to Darwin.

Carol O'Hallaron  
Washington, DC; Darwin (1988-1992)

## Jacqueline Campbell Sloss

Bob and Jacquée first met at the age of 19 at a Church of Scotland discussion group in Glasgow. At that time Jacquée was a keen member of the Iona community and an enthusiastic volunteer at their Community House in Glasgow. Her family was interestingly divided in politics. Her father was a respectable Conservative accountant, but her mother was descended from Manchester Chartists, from whom Jacquée inherited a rebellious and radical spirit, which she expressed in practical politics—though never uncritically—through the Liberal Democrats and the National Council of Women.

In 1969 she came to Cambridge where Bob became Lecturer in Chinese. Together they found the greatest joy in Bob's time as Fellow and lastly Dean of Darwin. Jacquée was a tremendous help with all the pastoral care that was involved. She could unerringly spot all those who were likely to be in need of help and whom she would tell Bob to keep a special eye on. Bob found that being Dean was a wonderful and most satisfying job, but he is the first to say it could not have been done without Jacquée's help.

Cambridge and its academics are wonderful, no doubt—up to a point—but they would drive you crazy if you had to be there with them all the time. Jacquée discovered a remote and extraordinary spot where she and Bob could escape. She bought a run-down cottage on the island of Westray in the Orkneys where for twenty years they enjoyed happy holidays, far from the preciousness of Cambridge.



It was on Westray years ago that Jacquée was taken seriously ill with a dangerous liver infection, and had to be flown first to Aberdeen and then to Addenbrookes. Characteristically, on her stretcher, on this occasion, she said, "And I don't want any memorial service!" As ever, she was against fuss and pomposity. In fact, what we gave her was a loving farewell, that even she would surely not have denied us.

*(From the funeral address by the Revd Frank Walker, Minister Emeritus of the Cambridge Unitarian Church—please read the fuller version on our website)*

*Editors' addition:*

Jacquée was a very special lady, dearly loved by a multitude of Darwinians. Her rebellious nature, a refusal to accept pomposity and hypocrisy, and her joyous laugh meant that she was a natural Darwinian. We miss her greatly.

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## Lady Richenda Huxley

The College is sad to note the death, in April, of Lady Huxley, wife of our Honorary Fellow Sir Andrew Huxley.

### Some recent publications:

Real Metaphysics, edited by Hallvard Lillehammer & Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra, has been published as a Festschrift to Prof Hugh Mellor (Fellow). It contains 13 original papers relating to

Hugh's work by philosophers from UK, US and Australia, together with his replies to these. The book is published under the Routledge Studies in Twentieth Century Philosophy. ISBN 0415249813.



# Mark Krupnik

*(Fulbright Scholar at Darwin, 1965-66)*

Mark Krupnik, who has died aged 63, was a leading cultural critic and interpreter of the creative life of American Jews. His career was closely tied to the fading reputation of the New York intellectuals, from Lionel Trilling to Susan Sontag, whose sharp-edged essays and cultural combativeness brought a new style of intellectual life to American culture.

As a young man, Krupnik was sent to Newark Academy “a dingy day school, where I spent, miserably, ages 13-17”. He went on to Harvard University to read English, and, taking a break from its oppressive earnestness, lived for two year in Greenwich Village, handicapping horses on the sports desk of the New York Post. In the evenings he was a regular at the Cedar Street Tavern, the favourite bar of the younger abstract expressionists.

Krupnik graduated from Harvard in 1962 with the highest academic honours, and continued his graduate work at Brandeis University, Massachusetts before travelling to Cambridge as a Fulbright Scholar at Darwin in 1965-66. He subsequently worked in Boston and as a Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee where he met his future wife, Jean Carney, a beautiful journalist. They had a son Joe, and moved to Chicago so that Jean could study human development. After 8 years of commuting to Milwaukee to teach he became a professor in the divinity school at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Krupnik's best known book, *Lionel Trilling And The Fate of Cultural Criticism* (1986), captured with surgical precision the profound ambivalence in Trilling's mode of cultural criticism.

Krupnik wrote to his friends with honesty, directness and anger about the amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) that was to bring about his premature death. Jean and Joe survive him.

*(The above is an edited version of the obituary by Eric Homberger that appeared in The Guardian on 15th April 2003)*



photography by Fady El-Nahal  
(Current engineering PhD student)



## From the Emails

**Carol O'Hallaron** (1988-1992) writes from Washington, DC

Dear George (Gömöri),

I don't know if you recall me, but I certainly remember your wonderful seminars on East European poets at Darwin, and congratulations for continuing to publish in the field. Enclosed is a letter to Darwinians regarding the death of **John Herkless** (see Obituary). He had so many friends

at Darwin that he had gathered since the 1970s. Although he taught in Germany, he continued to visit and stay at Darwin every year, and often twice a year, for about three weeks into the 1990s, and I thought Darwinians would want to know of his death and have it remembered perhaps in *The Darwinian*. Many thanks to you and your colleagues for giving us *The Darwinian*. All of us love receiving it, as John did.

Strong and fond memories of good times in Darwin were awakened for **Karl Hoelkeskamp** (First Finley Fellow, 1990-92) when he revisited college recently with his wife Elke. He tells however of a familiar struggle in academic life ... 'I was appointed to the Professorship of Ancient History at the University of Greifswald—once a famous place, founded in the mid-15th century, but in a phase of, well, frenetic change: after all, Greifswald is in East Germany, on the shores of the Baltic Sea, not too far from the Polish border, and the state of affairs after re-unification was, as it were, in need of mending in more than one respect (and that is putting it very mildly indeed). Well, to put it in a nutshell, together with dozens of newly appointed colleagues, I found myself right in the middle of a jolly demanding

muddle of re-form, re-organisation and quite a few other "re-"s. Coming from institutions with established procedures, rules, traditions etc. and the particular sort of atmosphere of self-sufficiency and security that comes with this, I had to cope with the real world for a change. Alas, the ordeal didn't last for too long: in '95, I was elected to a Full Professorship and Chair of Ancient History in the University of Cologne—and that is where I could go back to what I used to do, not only in Cambridge, namely writing articles on Greek and Roman history with alliterative titles, producing long, complex, Teutonic sentences and trying to teach the niceties of Athenian democracy and Roman warfare to a student audience. And sometimes I still wear my college tie....'

## Cambridge Alumni Weekend

The University Alumni Weekend will take place from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th September 2003. Featuring a wealth of lectures, tours, dinners and other events, it offers a great way to renew your ties to Cambridge. Full details can be found at [www.foundation.cam.ac.uk](http://www.foundation.cam.ac.uk). Registration for the weekend is just £35 with additional charges for some events such as the dinners. Booking is now open. Darwin formal hall will be available on Friday 26th at a cost of £16.50 to include all wines. Booking can be made direct to Mr Ian Gair (Catering Manager) at [imm25@cam.ac.uk](mailto:imm25@cam.ac.uk).

The Cambridge Foundation also provides a reunion service for 'long lost friends'. This can be found at [www.foundation.cam.ac.uk](http://www.foundation.cam.ac.uk).

## Alumni Calendar

**16 May 2003**

Darwin Society Dinner

**6 June 2003**

Guest Night & Former Fellows' Reunion

**27 June 2003**

Darwin Ball

"The Seven Deadly Sins"

*E-mail [ents-dcsa@dar.cam.ac.uk](mailto:ents-dcsa@dar.cam.ac.uk) for further details or check the website*

**10 October 2003**

Darwin Society Dinner

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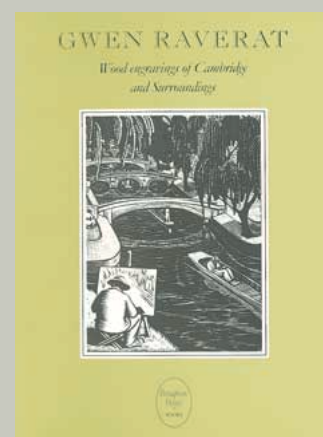
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The editors especially welcome short articles, pictures, artwork and news from our overseas alumni.

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## Gwen Raverat: Wood Engravings of Cambridge and Surroundings



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