

COMMENT

THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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King's Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases opens

DOMINIC TURNER



The Princess Royal meeting Dr Rob Williams, member of the Wolfson Centre and Lecturer in Biomolecular Sciences, in one of the laboratories. To his left is Dr Francisco Molina-Holgado, a Senior Fellow in the Centre.

HHRH THE PRINCESS ROYAL, Chancellor of the University of London, formally opened the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases on Tuesday 9 November.

Based at the Guy's campus, this groundbreaking centre houses world experts in brain development, stem cells, neurodegenerative diseases and brain repair. Working

together and sharing their expertise will help the researchers to answer more complex questions about dementia, Parkinson's and stroke, and enable research findings to be more rapidly translated into therapies.

The numbers of people suffering from stroke and dementia continue to rise as the population of the UK

ages, but at present our ability to repair a damaged brain is limited. Now this new centre will bring together leading clinical researchers and basic scientists under one roof, with the aim of developing treatments for age-related diseases.

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DOMINIC TURNER



Above **The Princess Royal** unveils the plaque with **Lord and Lady Wolfson** right looking on

Right **The Princess Royal** meets the Directors of the Wolfson Centre **Professor Clive Ballard** right and **Professor Patrick Doherty**, with **Professors Les Iverson** and **Bob Hider** on the left

Professor Patrick Doherty, Head and co-Director of the Wolfson Centre is excited about what the new centre could achieve. 'We have assembled a team of outstanding scientists who on their own might have had some impact on this problem; but by working together we aim to make a substantial difference,' he says.

leading clinical researchers and basic scientists under one roof

Professor Clive Ballard, co-Director of the Centre, explains why it is so important: 'Neurodegenerative diseases are a major problem in this ageing society. In the UK alone, more than 700,000 people are suffering from dementia. Many of the current treatments only control the symptoms of these diseases, but by understanding more about the brain we might be able to develop therapies that prevent further degeneration, or even begin repair the damage.'

The Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases places King's at the forefront of research into this area. Funded by a generous £6 million donation from the Wolfson Foundation, the state-of-the-art building provides laboratory and office space for 25 research groups around an atrium entrance hall. The building was designed by Watkins Gray International LLP.

See page 9 for the *Departmental Focus* on the Wolfson Centre.



The Wolfson Wing

- **The Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases** received coverage in the *Guardian's* Education supplement. Reporting on a funding programme for research into ageing being set up by the UK research councils, the article said 'one way of assuring quality is to bring together experts in a centre of excellence, and this is what has been done at King's College London'.
- The Centre is also the topic for the latest Research TV video news release (see research-tv.com). It has been distributed to television stations around the world.

DOMINIC TURNER



Dragon Awards

FOR THE LAST 17 YEARS the Corporation of London has presented the prestigious Lord Mayor's Dragon Awards to encourage organisations to become involved in the local community and recognise socially responsible businesses.

Fifty organisations entered the competition this year and 15 finalists were shortlisted for five awards.

King's College Shared Communities Programme was shortlisted for the 'Lord Mayor's Heart of the City Award for a Corporate Community Involvement Newcomer' on the basis of the staff volunteering and community involvement events which have taken place over the last year.

In the end the award went to Lloyd's of London for their new Police Mentoring Programme and the third finalist for this prize was Clyde & Co.

'The jury expressed difficulty in reaching their decision but commented that they were pleased to see a university reaching this level in the Lord Mayor's Dragon Awards,' comments Gjoril Berg, King's Community Relations Officer.

Professor Roger Jones, Head of the Department of General Practice & Primary Care, and Gjoril Berg attended the Award Dinner in Mansion House on 21 October on behalf of the College.

For more information on becoming involved in volunteering please contact Gjoril Berg, extn 8074 or gjoril.berg@kcl.ac.uk

Dental labs bring researchers together

NEW LABORATORIES AT THE King's Dental Institute were opened on 5 November by Dr Sohaila Rastan, Director of Science Funding at the Wellcome Trust, and Sir Tim Chessells, Chairman of Guy's and St Thomas' Charitable Foundation.

The £3.7 million refurbishment programme, financed by the Wellcome Trust and the Charitable Foundation, has brought more College dental researchers together under one roof on the Guy's campus.

Professor David Beighton and Dr Gordon Proctor, who were previously based at King's College Hospital, have moved their research groups to the new Henry Wellcome Laboratories of Microbiology and Salivary Research on the 17th floor of the Guy's Tower.

The move has already inspired some of these researchers to foster collaborations with academic colleagues in other departments. For example, the state-of-the-art mass spectrometer, that can identify bacterial proteins important in tooth decay, is now also being

£3.7 million refurbishment programme, financed by the Wellcome Trust and the Charitable Foundation

used to hunt for proteins that play a role in leukaemia and diabetes.

The refurbishment has provided the Dental Institute with dedicated

facilities for different kinds of microscopy. A new laser-dissection microscope will allow researchers to cut out individual cells from developing teeth, and a confocal microscope means that, for the first time, researchers at the Institute can look at individual proteins inside living cells.

Professor Paul Sharpe, head of the new Henry Wellcome Laboratories for Craniofacial Development on the 27th floor, welcomed the refurbishment saying, 'The opening fortuitously coincided with the arrival of 15 new PhD students to the department. In addition the provision of cabinets in the corridors has allowed us to display our collection of animal skulls that provide a valuable resource for studies of craniofacial evolution and development.'

Web changes

THE KING'S WEBSITE has come closer to having a new look now that the new design has been chosen.

Five design concepts, developed by web designers Bang, were available for viewing recently at a series of roadshows and online.

The web team received many useful comments from visitors to these and the chosen concept was a clear favourite.

Bang are currently developing the concept further and working closely with the content management system suppliers, Polopoly, to create templates for the new design. (See www.kcl.ac.uk/webteam/strategy/newsite.html)

As there are some 150,000 pages on the website it will take some time to migrate the content from the current site to the new content management system driven site.

A plan is being developed so that the migration is phased with the top level and most popular pages being migrated first. The Information Providers for those pages have been informed and will be attending training soon.

Susan Farrell, Director of Web Services, comments, 'The project is going well and we are on track for a launch of the new website early in 2005'.

There were two competition winners: one for the roadshows and one for online. The roadshows winner was Sandy Gourlay, Consultancy Manager, KCL Enterprises, and the online winner was Karen Hodge, part-time Doctorate of Education student.



The Principal Professor Rick Trainor left with Professor Nairn Wilson, Head of the Dental Institute and Professor Paul Sharpe at the opening

MARGARET DELANEY

Maria Pufulete

Dr Maria Pufulete, Lecturer in the Department of Nutrition & Dietetics, was the recent winner of the national SET (Science, Engineering & Technology) Student of the Year Lecturer of the Year Award.



What is your background?

My academic background is 100 per cent King's. I was an undergraduate here between 1989–92 studying Food Science with a specialisation in Management. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, made numerous friends, had a great social life and travelled extensively.

The down side was that my academic work suffered and I left slightly disillusioned and deflated, knowing I had not fulfilled my potential. I knew I wanted to do research, but there was a lot of catching up to do in order to prove myself academically. I am grateful to my tutors, Dr Peter Ellis and Professor Simon Ross-Murphy, who took me seriously and gave me sound advice despite the fact that I

was not the 'model' student!

I returned to King's in 1995 to do an MSc in Nutrition and registered for a PhD a couple of years later under the supervision of Dr Peter Emery and Professor Tom Sanders. My PhD was ten per cent elation and 90 per cent misery. My story will be familiar to many – months in the lab with no results, disasters at every corner, running out of time and money. It was certainly character building. But the buzz one gets when results start trickling in is worth every bit of the misery. The experience certainly prepared me for life in research.

Why does nutrition interest you?

Nutrition makes news headlines almost daily. There are few areas that involve research across major disciplines, from basic sciences, cellular and molecular biology to social sciences, epidemiology and public health. You never get bored, there is always something new to learn and always something that challenges. The range of skills one develops is fantastic.

The down side is having to contend with the number of quack 'experts' out there that liberally give advice not based on scientific fact. It's also interesting that some of your peers think you're not doing 'proper science'. This old-fashioned view doesn't hold much ground today; the line demarcating the life sciences is rapidly fading with the recent advances in technologies such as genomics and proteomics. As scientists we are all part of the global village, with different disciplines constantly crossing each other's boundaries.

And this is great, as there is so much to learn from each other.

Can you describe your area of research?

Nutrigenomics, or the influence of nutrients on the genome, focusing in particular on the role of folate and vitamin B12 on DNA methylation and gene expression in relation to cancer risk, and how individual genetic variation affects the response to diet.

How did it feel to win the SET award?

Total surprise. I was unaware at the time that there was an award for the lecturer of the winning student; consequently I was unprepared and slightly phased (which was probably evident in my rather perplexed acceptance speech!). My first reaction after that was amusement, first because I sometimes still feel like a student myself (I joined the Department in May 2002, nine months after completing my PhD) and secondly because I have little experience of teaching. Then I felt slight guilt at having cheated a worthier contender out of the award. But afterwards I was proud that I managed to bring out the best in a student with great potential (Rhianydd Tarr), not by teaching her facts but getting her to understand the basic concepts behind research and telling her to believe in her abilities. Everything else she did on her own.

What do you enjoy about teaching and what makes a good lecturer?

I love supervising research projects, not least because of the prospect of getting some new data. Good or bad, results give me a real buzz. My definition of a good lecturer is a mixture of enthusiasm, confidence, knowledge and that elusive X factor, easy to recognise in others but hard to put your finger on, and hard to try and bring out in yourself. I certainly don't live up to my definition of a good lecturer!

Give us your tips for a good diet?

I generally don't like giving dietary advice as it is not part of my job. So I guess my answer to this question is one that most people know already – avoid fads, eat everything in moderation and enjoy a little bit of what you fancy. Exercise a bit of healthy scepticism about what you read in the media. It's as simple as that.

The 175th anniversary year

Chris Coe, Director of Communications, reflects on the year's activities.

AS THE KING'S 175th anniversary draws to an end, the College can look back on a busy year that has seen hundreds of staff and students involved in a wide variety of celebratory events.

The theme of much of the year has been to emphasise the College's work 'in the service of society', which is echoed in the title of the new College *history book* which was launched at the beginning of the year and provided an historical backdrop to the events that followed.

TOM WHIPPS



Planning for the anniversary began in 2002 and the year was 'bookended' by two formal celebratory events. The *Commemoration Oration* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu on 22 January was a revival of a King's tradition and attracted more than 800 attendees, necessitating video relays to the Chapel and two lecture theatres; the *Service of Thanksgiving* held at Westminster Abbey on 19 October was attended by 2,000 staff, students and friends of the College in the presence of the Chancellor of the University of London, the Princess Royal, and included a sermon by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The historical legacy of the College was not

forgotten. A series of lunchtime talks (*King's People who Changed the World*) on leading King's figures by distinguished biographers proved extremely popular with around 100 people attending each session.

In addition, the 50th anniversary of the discovery at King's of how muscles contract was celebrated by the Randall Centre in May (*Jean Hanson's Legacy*) and attended by around 150 people.

In October and November, a Film Festival (*Alumni in Word and Image*) was held which presented a series of movies with King's connections. Exhibitions of historical material produced by the Archives Department, both *in situ* and on the web, have been extremely successful.

A number of 'fun' events were also organised which brought a few smiles to those who participated. At the beginning of the year more than 400 King's staff and students took part in anniversary ice skating sessions at Somerset House. In April, the Strand courtyard hosted *Beating Retreat* which involved 150 performers and was attended by in excess of 600 people. The evening included a recreation of Wellington's duel at the foundation of King's and a spectacular firework display.



The *Alumni Weekend* in June, attracted over 800 people to an event that included a boat race, a debate and a ball. In the same month a *Staff Volunteering Week* was organised by the Widening Participation Office, during which more than 150 staff gave their time to work in the local community.

In keeping with the College's mission of advancing 'knowledge, learning and understanding in the service of society', a series of symposia exploring the notion of *Citizenship* were organised and addressed by a number of distinguished speakers.

An anniversary *Student Debate*, organised by KCLSU in March, considered the future of university funding. A symposium entitled *Global Partnerships for Science and Health* was

COLIN WHYMAN



held at the Guy's campus in June and attracted over 160 delegates from 16 countries, including a large number of senior staff from other universities. The Dental Institute organised a major event entitled *Global Perspectives of the GKT Dental Institute* in September that emphasised the academic, clinical and scientific contributions of dentistry at King's.

This overview of activity is by no means comprehensive, and does not include special lectures, or musical events (or the College Choir anniversary CD) that have come under the 175th 'umbrella'.

Overall, the anniversary has hopefully provided a focus for a large number and range of people to learn more about the College and its achievements over the past 175 years. We hope you enjoyed it!

Left to right
April The ceremony of Beating Retreat

June Staff participate in a volunteering project

October Final rehearsals for the Service of Thanksgiving

King's people

Andrew Coyle

The terms of reference and panel members for inquiries into three the controversial murders of Robert Hamill, Billy Wright and Rosemary Nelson, have been announced by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Paul Murphy.

Professor Andrew Coyle, Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies, has been appointed as a panel member to the Billy Wright inquiry which will be chaired by Lord Randal MacLean. Wright, the LVF leader, was targeted and murdered inside the Maze Prison by jailed members of the Irish National Liberation Army in 1997.

The panel will be asked not to just consider allegations of security force collusion that have been made, but also to consider the issue of possible negligence.

Professor Coyle is also a special



adviser to the House of Commons Select Committee on Education and Skills in their inquiry into prison education.

Responsibility for education in prisons was passed from the Prison Service to the Department for Education & Skills last year. As a result, the Education and Skills Select Committee decided, for the first time, that it wanted to carry out an inquiry into prison education. Professor Coyle is advising the committee before and after each public evidence session about the major issues it should be inquiring into and making recommendations about questions that should be asked. When all the evidence has been heard, early in 2005, he will help draft the Committee's report.

Keele University. He has worked as a community psychologist and as a policy adviser and has written widely in the areas of ageing identity, social policy, inter-professional relationships and the use of psychotherapy and counselling with older people.

He is currently an Executive Committee member of the European Masters Programme in Gerontology, sponsored by the European Union. His latest books include *The Mature Imagination: The Dynamics of Identity in Midlife and Beyond* (1999), *Social Theory, Social Policy and Old Age* (2003) and *Ageing and Diversity* (2004).

Research projects have included: The Health Impact of Age-segregated Housing for Older People; Ageing and Identity; New Lifestyles in Old Age. He is currently working on an ESRC project looking at the baby-boomers generation.

President

Ilan R Thom has been elected President of the British Orthodontic Society.

Dr Thom is a Consultant Orthodontist/Honorary Senior Lecturer at Guy's, King's & St Thomas' Dental Institute and he is also Consultant Orthodontist at Queen Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead.

Dr Thom was formally treasurer of the Society and Chairman of the

International Committee. His Presidential year will coincide with the World Orthodontic Conference to be held in Paris September 2005.

The British Orthodontic Society was formed in 1994 with the unification of all UK orthodontic associations and societies. Dr Thom is the 11th President.

RCGP Award

This year's Royal College of General Practitioners' George Abercrombie Award has been won by **Professor Roger Jones**, Head of the Department of General Practice & Primary Care and Wolfson Professor of General Practice and Primary Care, Guy's, King's & St Thomas' School of Medicine. It is awarded for special literary work in general practice.

Professor Jones is a prolific researcher and has published widely in peer-reviewed journals in the areas of gastro-intestinal disease, medical education, ethics



and academic policy. He was editor of *Family Practice* from 1990–2004 and strived to make the journal one of the leading medical publications of its time.

New Director

Professor Simon Biggs has been appointed as the new Director of the Institute of Gerontology, taking over from Professor Janet Askham, who is now working at the Picker Institute Europe in Oxford.

Simon Biggs was previously Professor of Social Gerontology at

Roger Higgs

Included among seven senior academics appointed to the council that advises UK Biobank – Britain's first DNA databank – is **Emeritus Professor Roger Higgs**, Guy's, King's & St Thomas' Medical School. The ambitious project is designed to help scientists understand how genes interact with lifestyle factors to create disease.

Mayor

The new Mayor of the London Borough of Hillingdon (2004/05) is **Dr David Payne**.

Dr Payne was, until recently, a lecturer in Life Sciences at the Franklin-Wilkins Building, Waterloo campus, and is now a part-time lecturer in the Foundation Course in Natural Sciences at the Guy's, King's & St Thomas' School of Medicine and Dentistry at the Guy's campus.



David Cull

David Cull has retired after 15 years as a campus attendant on the Strand campus. In that time he proved a valuable member of the Site Services team. He was well known for being in the College at the crack of dawn to begin his morning's work, which he did with a happy disposition.

Peter Davies

King's Electrical Engineering alumnus (1971), **Rear-Admiral Peter Davies CBE**, has spent the past 35 years in the Navy. He has now left to take up a post as principal and chief executive of the City Literary Institute in London.

Philip Leverhulme Prize

Stephen Lovell, Lecturer in Modern European History, is one of 22 academics to win a prestigious 2004 Philip Leverhulme Prize. Dr Lovell, a Russian specialist, joined the King's Department of History in 2002 following a postdoctoral research fellowship at St John's, Oxford and a PhD at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies.

The prizes recognise the outstanding research achievements of young scholars of distinction and promise based in UK institutions. Each prize is worth £50,000, representing an investment by the Leverhulme Trust of £1.1 million in the following five disciplines: Anthropology, Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Economics, Maths and Statistics and Medieval, Early Modern and Modern History. 'I plan to use the prize to spend

more time in Russia. Research in Russian libraries and archives always seems to take longer than it should, so this really is a fantastic opportunity,' says Dr Lovell.

The award citation reads: 'Stephen Lovell has taken a fresh approach to Russian social and cultural history, writing with flair and imagination about a variety of innovative topics. *The Russian Reading Revolution* (London: Macmillan, 2000) charted the rise and fall of a 'Russian reading myth', showing how the Russians came to think of themselves as the 'best-read people in the world' by the 1970s and 1980s, and why their own carefully projected image of a homogeneous reading public, reinforced by a monopolistic system of book production, was undermined by cultural and economic change in the 1990s.

'A second book, *Summerfolk* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2003), explored the changing functions of the dacha – the Russian summer house – as a place for leisure and relaxation in time of plenty and a source of subsistence in time of hardship. Now Lovell is working on an ambitious history of generations in Russia, another project that covers more than 300 years. Unusually for such a young scholar, his work is both admired and published in Russia itself, particularly by prestigious literary journals whose editors have recognised the genuinely interdisciplinary nature of his contribution to scholarship.'

Last year Dr Peter Adamson of the Department of Philosophy and Dr Rebecca Flemming of the Department of Classics were awarded Philip Leverhulme Prizes.

Marathon effort

Stephen Chadwick, the School Registrar for the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, has recently completed a rare and difficult double. He travelled to New York to run in the marathon and finished in a very creditable four hours and 12 minutes. This is on top of the London marathon, which he ran earlier this year where his finishing time was three hours, 58 minutes.

Stephen said, on his return, 'The NY marathon was a far tougher ordeal than its London counterpart as the course is more hilly and NY was experiencing unseasonably warm weather. I still have some some catching up to do on my father who has so far managed to run 33 marathons'.



Stephen with his NY completion medal

King's people

BMA Book of the Year Awards

KING'S ACADEMICS were winners in the 2004 BMA Medical Book Competition. The BMA Medical Book Competition has been held annually since 1996. It aims to encourage and reward excellence in medical publishing, patient information and medical journalism.

Primary Care Book Award

The winner of this year's BMA Primary Care Book Award is *The Oxford Textbook of Primary Medical Care*, principal editor **Professor Roger Jones** (see page 6). The textbook, published by Oxford University Press (2003), is a fully comprehensive guide to primary care including sections on practice management and clinical practice. The book comes complete with a

CD-Rom, which contains the full text of the publication (see *Comment* 153).

The book was heralded by its reviewer as a 'mouth-watering textbook' and 'a joy to behold for everyone with a love of primary care'.

Illustrated Medical Book of the Year Award

First Prize for the Illustrated Medical Book of the Year went to **Dr Pat Reynolds**, Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director for Education (Distance Learning), Guy's, King's & St Thomas' Dental Institute, for *McMinn's Atlas of Head and Neck Anatomy*. The co-authors are Bari Logan (University Prosector from Cambridge) and Ralph Hutchings (Photographer for imagingbody.com formally Chief Medical Laboratory



Scientific Officer of the of the Royal College of Surgeons). The book is published by Elsevier.

Dr Pat Reynolds right with her co-authors **Bari Logan** and **Ralph Hutchings**

Remembrance ceremony at Guy's

THE COLLEGE Remembrance ceremony took place at the Guy's Memorial Arch, on Armistice Day, 11 November at 11.00.

Professor Rick Trainor, Principal, Michael Champion, KCLSU President, and Ashwin Kumaria, Medicine, laid wreaths, in honour of those who died in war.

The ceremony was led by GKT Chaplain the Revd James Buxton, and prayers were said by Joan Tierney (Roman Catholic Lay Chaplain) and Zita Manjaly (Medicine). Professor Nairn Wilson (Dean of the Dental Institute) led the Act of Remembrance, and Richard Warren (Computer Services) played the trumpet before and after the two minutes' silence.

'The Remembrance ceremony is an opportunity for people of all faiths and traditions to stand together for peace, justice and reconciliation in the world, and to honour the memory of men, women and children who have died in the conflicts of the passed century,' explains James Buxton.

The Guy's Memorial Arch commemorates former members of Guy's Hospital, the Medical School and the Dental Institute, many of whom died whilst exercising their vocation as medical professionals during the First and Second World Wars. In the last three years, the Arch has become the focus for a College-wide event.

Next year's ceremony will take place at 10.50 on Friday 11 November.



Staff and students gather round the Guy's Memorial Arch

KATE KIRWAN

Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases

As advances in science and medical research mean people live longer, King's latest international research centre looks at illnesses that come with old age.

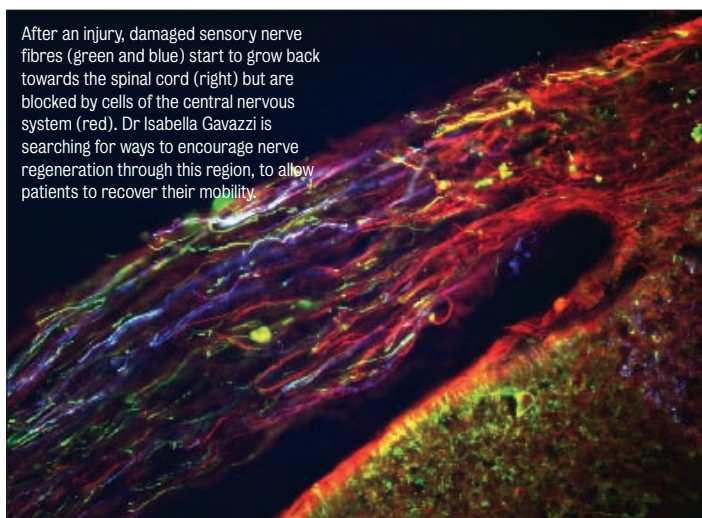
HOUSING A combination of basic scientists and clinical researchers, the Wolfson Centre for Age-Related Diseases is well placed to achieve the aim of understanding more about diseases affecting the nervous system, and using this knowledge to identify drug targets and to develop and test new treatments. Such remedies will be of increasing importance as the population continues to age, and diseases of the brain, including stroke and dementia, become more prevalent.

Other aims of the Centre include developing strategies to restore function to damaged nervous systems, for example after spinal cord injuries, and finding ways to provide symptomatic relief from chronic pain through understanding how nerves receive and send signals at a molecular level.

The core activity of the Centre takes place in a new building on the Guy's campus, best approached from Borough High Street. Funded by a £6 million grant from the Wolfson Foundation and designed by architects Watkins Grey International, it consists of spacious laboratories, offices and numerous communal seating areas around a glass atrium which will foster collaborative discussion between staff.

The Centre is headed by Professor Patrick Doherty,

After an injury, damaged sensory nerve fibres (green and blue) start to grow back towards the spinal cord (right) but are blocked by cells of the central nervous system (red). Dr Isabella Gavazzi is searching for ways to encourage nerve regeneration through this region, to allow patients to recover their mobility.



previously Head of the Department of Molecular Neurobiology, and his co-Director, Professor Clive Ballard, who is also Research Director of the Alzheimer's Society and continues to practice as a clinician.

'People are living longer and so the diseases of later life are becoming more frequent,' explains Professor Ballard. 'As older people are just us in the future, I think we all have a strong vested interest in trying to develop better treatments that prevent, resolve and reduce the consequences of these common diseases.'

Research at the Centre is supported by numerous organisations including the research councils, the Wellcome Trust, charities and industry. Together, and, as part of larger consortia, the principal investigators hold research grants

totalling around £23 million. Staff at the Centre also contribute to teaching programmes in the Schools of Biomedical Sciences and Medicine and supervise more than 35 PhD students.

Research activity, led by 20 HEFCE-funded group leaders and ten senior fellows and research associates, is organised into three main groups:

1 Degenerative diseases

Several people in the Centre are interested in a particular disease, such as Alzheimer's disease or multiple sclerosis, and some are close to the stage when they can apply or evaluate novel disease treatments. They collectively form the Neurodegeneration Group, headed by Professor Ballard. Professor Ballard himself is currently engaged in a multi-centre clinical trial that compares the effectiveness of a number of

drugs in treating the agitation experienced by people with Alzheimer's.

2 Nerve function

A group of researchers under Professor Doherty is working to understand how nerves send and receive signals, with a view to modifying this process.

Receiving too high a level of certain signals can kill neurons: thought to be the primary way in which stroke, epilepsy and, to a degree, Parkinson's disease, have their damaging effects.

3 Restoration

While prevention of diseases remains the 'holy grail' of medicine, nevertheless, investigations into how function can be restored to already damaged nervous systems remain a high priority. Professor Steve McMahon, who heads the Neurorestoration Group, is currently evaluating the therapeutic potential of drugs that can help damaged nerves to repair themselves, as well as investigating the molecular basis of chronic pain. The work of Dr Stephen Minger's Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, which has attracted considerable publicity, also falls within this group.

One of the 'across-group' projects in the Centre will study the possibility that existing stem cell populations in the brain could be manipulated to repair damaged areas. 'I am excited by what the new Centre could achieve,' says Professor Doherty. 'We are fortunate that we have a number of outstanding scientists at King's who are interested in the brain and the diseases that affect it. Through this centre we have brought these researchers together to work as a team, to tackle the major problem that is age-related disease.'

Georgian PM at King's

THE PRIME MINISTER OF GEORGIA, Mr Zurab Zhvania, was a guest of the Caucasus Policy Institute on 12 November at a policy Round Table on *The Rose Revolution One Year On*. The Round Table, run under 'Chatham House' rules, included academic experts on the region from King's and from other universities plus representatives from a number of Government departments and commercial organisations.

The Caucasus Policy Institute started work on 1 November and is one of the units of the International Policy Institute within the School of Social Science & Public Policy. The Institute's main aim is to provide research on political, economic and security issues affecting the North and South Caucasus regions.

Denis Corboy, the director, is a former EU Ambassador and EU Special Envoy to Georgia and Armenia.



Prime Minister Zurab Zhvania right with Vice-Principal, Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman, and Caucasus Policy Institute Director, Denis Corboy

Promoting science

Star lecturers

THE BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science) is now accepting nominations for its Award Lectures, given each year at the BA Festival of Science.

Each year the BA honours five outstanding communicators with the opportunity to present a prestigious award lecture at the BA Festival of Science. The award lectures aim to promote open and informed discussion on issues involving science and actively encourage scientists to explore the social aspects of their research providing them with reward and recognition for doing so.

Nominations are now invited for the following award lectures:

Isambard Kingdom Brunel Lecture: Engineering, Technology, Industry

Charles Darwin Lecture: Agricultural, Biological & Medical Sciences

Lord Kelvin Lecture: Physical Sciences and Mathematics

Joseph Lister Lecture: Social Sciences

Charles Lyell Lecture: Environmental Sciences

All nominees must include a science in society element in their lecture. Nominees should be professional scientists or engineers under 40 (in September 2005) who show outstanding skills in communicating to a non-specialist audience. Winners will be invited to give a one-hour

'If we don't talk about science, there may be no science to talk about.'

presentation at the BA Festival of Science at Trinity College Dublin next September.

To nominate individuals with a passion for communicating their work, visit www.the-ba.net/awardlectures and complete the nomination form.

Fame lab

SCIENTISTS will have the chance to leave their laboratories and step into the spotlight when the

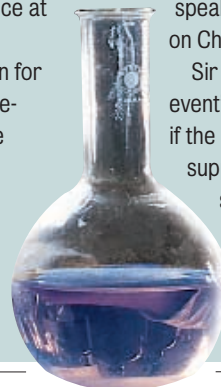
research equivalent of *Pop Idol* hits the streets next year. FameLab, the brainchild of the Cheltenham Science Festival, is a national competition to discover the new faces of science communication.

Entrants will be given three minutes to impress a panel of judges, including fertility experts and television old-hand Robert Winston. They will be assessed on their ability to engage and entertain a non-scientific audience.

Regional heats will be held in spring and the winning scientists will go on a UK tour of speaking events, as well as getting airtime on Channel 4 and £2,000.

Sir Paul Nurse, Nobel Laureate and the event's patron said, 'There's a lot at stake, if the public does lose confidence, then support will be lost. If we don't talk about science, there may be no science to talk about.'

For details see www.famelab.org



King's hosts WP award event

SCHOOL CHILDREN aged ten and 11 took part in an exciting week of London-wide events culminating in an award ceremony at King's.

The pupils, from Oxford Gardens Primary School in Ladbrooke Grove, were taking part in the 'Into University' scheme run by the St Clement and St James Community Project.

During the week they undertook a range of visits including the Cabinet War Rooms, HMS Belfast and the Royal Geographical Society.

On their last day, Dr Debbie Andrews of the Widening Participation (WP) Office, arranged for them to have a backstage tour of the Royal Opera House, who are currently working in partnership with the WP Office on a number of schemes for local school and community groups.

Following that the children came into King's where they took part in a quiz about the College and attended a workshop on university life run by

King's WP student ambassadors.

The week's proceedings concluded in an award ceremony in the Franklin-Wilkins Building where Vice-Principal Professor Phil Whitfield presented them with certificates for project work undertaken during the scheme. Parents, carers, teachers and friends joined the children for the ceremony and tea afterwards

support for young people most at risk of failing to realise their academic potential

where a specially-made cake by College chef, Jim Kemp, was quickly devoured.

Professor Whitfield comments, 'I have heard it said that it is only really worth talking to sixth formers about the idea of going to university. This event shows that this is simply

not the case. The children had clearly had a fantastically stimulating week and that week was linked in their minds with the idea of going to university. One father said to me, as we were brushing cake crumbs off our clothes, "You've converted this one, she'll be back in eight years time".'

Debbie Andrews adds, 'Children who do not have family experience of university often feel intimidated by the idea of it, however bright they may be. Finding that a Vice-Principal of a prestigious university such as King's is someone who takes an interest in their activities means a great deal.'

The St Clement and St James Community Project provides a community education programme in an area of inner-city deprivation – the Notting Barn and Avondale wards of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The 'Into University' scheme is an innovative, free service providing welfare and

learning support for young people most at risk of failing to realise their academic potential due to social, economic, cultural and educational disadvantage. Its purpose is to encourage and support young people to work towards entering higher education. It is run by Rachel Carr, a King's English alumna (MA, PhD).

LEAP into Enterprise!

LEAP 2005 is Simfonec's annual £50k business plan competition which provides aspiring entrepreneurs with a great opportunity to turn their ideas into successful business ventures.

If you have a business idea with a science, engineering or technology basis then LEAP is for you. Entering will not only give you the chance to get your hands on part of the £50k but will also allow you to build up networks with established entrepreneurs, industry experts and business advisers.

The prizes, mentoring and workshops make LEAP an invaluable experience for the entrepreneurs of tomorrow.

Simfonec is London's largest science enterprise centre – a collaboration led by Cass Business School, City of London with King's, The Royal Vet College, and Queen Mary University of London.

Deadline for entries 10 February 2005. For further details visit www.leap2005.com or email s.donovan@city.ac.uk

DOMINIC TURNER



Professor Phil Whitfield with the children and their certificates, project work and cake!

Student productions



A NUMBER OF STUDENT performances are taking place at the Greenwood Theatre over the coming weeks. Details are listed here. The Greenwood Theatre is in Weston Street on the Guy's campus.

The Woman's Prize

8/9/10 December

The King's Players' present *The Woman's Prize*. A rare chance to see Beaumont and Fletcher's most celebrated work – their raucous sequel to *The Taming of the Shrew*.

19.30, tickets will be available on the door on the night, £6/£4 or at the KCLSU Student Resource Centres

Anything Goes

15/16 /17 December 2004

King's Musical Theatre presents Cole Porter's timeless musical comedy set on the SS America, a 1930s luxury liner sailing from New York to London. *Anything Goes* promises an evening of fun, romance, mistaken identities, singing sailors, high-kicking chorus girls, and of course those wonderful Cole Porter tunes!

19.30, tickets £8/£5 concessions
Reservations on-line at www.kingsmusicaltheatre.com

HMS Pinafore

2/3/4 February 2005

The KCL Gilbert & Sullivan Society presents *HMS Pinafore*, a sparkling tale of romance on the high seas.

19.30, tickets £7/£5 for concessions/students
Reservations can be made by emailing gs.soc@kcl.ac.uk

Sense and Sensibility

16/17/18 February

The King's Players' present Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*

19.30, tickets will be available on the door on the night, £6/£4 or at the KCLSU Student Resource Centres

The Chinese Society's Annual Variety Show

25 February 2005

Dance, plays, musical theatre and a live band, all performed in Cantonese

Time tbc, for tickets, contact the Chinese Society at kclcs@hotmail.com

News in brief

Chinese connection

A news item in the *Financial Times* (16 November) erroneously reported that King's was establishing a campus in China.

NIMR latest

The future of the MRC's National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) was investigated by the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee on 1 December under the chairmanship of Dr Ian Gibson. Both King's and UCL are possible sites for the NIMR.

Stem cell seminar

Following the Stem Cell Mission to the Far East reported in last month's *Comment*, the results of mission team – which not only relate to scientific excellence, but also indicate how, in the future, stem cell science could be profitably exploited – will be reported at an event on 24 January at One Birdcage Walk. The sessions will be chaired by Dr George Szumkler, Head of the Institute of Psychiatry and Professor Robert Lechler, Dean of Guy's King's & St Thomas' Medical School. To reserve your place contact Charlotte Leiper on 01664 501551.

Degree classification

A joint report by UUK and the Standing Conference of Principals has recommended the degree classification system should be reviewed to provide a richer representation of student achievement. The group, chaired by Professor Robert Burgess, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester, concluded that the current system fails to provide adequate differentiation of performance and give employers the information they need.

Collection

The collection taken during the 175th Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving held in Westminster

Abbey raised just over £4,000 for the Bishop Simeon Trust. Established in the UK in 1989, the Trust exists to support, through education and welfare projects, those most disadvantaged South Africans who still suffer from the inequalities and injustices caused by apartheid and its economic and social legacy. Archbishop Desmond Tutu is a Patron of the Trust.

ODNB

Further to the feature in the last edition of *Comment*, Christopher Wintle, Department of Music, contributed a biography on Hans Keller (1919-80).

Two cads and a hero

Two figures who became the subject of wartime disrepute have connections with King's: William Joyce, aka 'Lord Haw Haw', and the spy Alan Nunn May. By contrast, General Sir John Hackett, Principal of King's from 1968 to 1975, was one of the greatest heroes of the Second World War.

WILLIAM JOYCE, who as Lord Haw Haw became the English voice of Nazi Germany through his propaganda broadcasts to England on behalf of the Third Reich, was registered for a PhD in Educational Psychology under Professor Aveling at King's in 1932. He abandoned his studies a year later in favour of working for Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists, for whom he quickly became Propaganda Director.

Joyce had come to King's with a first-class degree in English from Birkbeck College, where he had begun to do research on English vowels – no doubt influencing the affected nasal drawl which gave him his nickname. Despite the fact that he was born in the USA to an Irish father and English mother, Joyce had applied illegally for a British Passport, and on the grounds of this claim to be British he was convicted of treason to Britain and executed in 1946.

In the same year, Dr Alan Nunn May, a reader in the College's Department of Physics, was called out of a lecture and arrested in a police car outside King's for spying. One of the first

Soviet spies uncovered during the cold war, Nunn May worked on the Manhattan (atom bomb) project and was betrayed by a Soviet defector in Canada. His unmasking led the United States to restrict the sharing of atomic secrets with Britain.

Nunn May had been recruited as a spy by the Soviet Union in 1942, and in July 1945, a week before the Americans tested an atomic bomb, he passed small amounts of enriched uranium to his Soviet handler, later providing details of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. In return, he received \$200 and a bottle of whisky.

After his arrest, Nunn May was put on trial and sentenced to ten years' hard labour, of which he

served six. 'The whole affair was extremely painful to me, and I only embarked on it because I felt this was a contribution I could make to the safety of mankind,' he once claimed. He died in 2003, aged 91.

Hackett

'Shan' Hackett has been described as 'one of the last of the British intellectual gentleman soldiers'. The culmination of his military career saw him as both a Nato Commander and Commander-in-Chief of the British Army of the Rhine.

Another claim to fame was his co-authorship of the novel *The Third World War* (1978), which postulated that the disintegration of the Soviet Union would lead to a more dangerous situation than the nuclear stalemate between the superpowers.

Hackett was born in Perth, Australia in 1910. After a degree and BLitt at Oxford he was commissioned in 1931 as an officer in the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars. In Palestine, in 1936, he was mentioned in despatches and was then seconded to the Trans-Jordan Frontier Force from 1937 to 1941, where he was mentioned in despatches twice. In 1941 he was wounded in Syria and again in the Western Desert, after he had formed and commanded the 4th

Parachute Brigade.

In 1944 he took part in the disastrous parachute landing on Arnhem in Holland, and his experience led to one of his most human books, *I Was A Stranger* (1977). He recounts how, despite being so severely wounded that he was marked down for euthanasia, he managed to escape and was hidden by a Dutch family at great risk to their lives. As a result of his wartime record he was awarded the DSO and bar as well as the MC.

After the war, Hackett rose to become Deputy Chief of the Imperial and General Staff at the Ministry of Defence, and eventually, between 1966 and 1968, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army of the Rhine and Commander of the Northern Army Group in NATO.

When he came to King's in 1968 he brought qualities of natural leadership, linguistic excellence and a surprising ease with some aspects of the academic world. He also got on well with the students, despite the intense student politics of this period, and he even joined a student march through London in 1973, bowler-hatted and carrying a rolled umbrella, in protest against the erosion of the student grant.

After his retirement from King's (to which he returned as a Visiting Professor in Classics from 1977) Sir John continued writing and became known to a wider world through his appearances on television and radio. Through these he was able to some extent to replace the prevailing British Army image of the bone-headed Colonel Blimp with that of a quick and subtle mind, a fine linguist and subtle analyst of military and world events. He died in 1997.

Christine Kenyon Jones



Sir John Hackett joins a student march in favour of higher grants in 1973

In the news



Legally British

Dr Peter Oliver, an expert in comparative Commonwealth constitutional law, appeared on Radio 4's *Law in Action* to discuss the case of the Pitcairn Islanders who have been charged with criminal offences under British law. The islanders have claimed by way of defence that Pitcairn was not under British jurisdiction because their ancestors, the Bounty mutineers, had renounced their status as British subjects before coming to shore on Pitcairn.

Iraq matters

Professor Michael Clarke, Director of the International Policy Institute, wrote a feature in *The Sunday Times* analysing the efforts of allied troops to tackle insurgents in Falluja and the likely political fallout ahead of the elections in Iraq. Professor Clarke also appeared on BBC 2's *Newsnight* discussing the estimates of the number of civilian deaths in Iraq; Radio 4's *The World Tonight* on the role of the Black Watch soldiers, and BBC World about Falluja.

Yasser Arafat

Efraim Karsh, Professor of Mediterranean Studies, was interviewed by Fox News, BBC 4, ITV, ITN, and a number of syndicated US radio and TV stations on the effect of Yasser Arafat's death on the Israeli-Palestine conflict. Dr Rory Miller, lecturer in Mediterranean Studies wrote about the former President in the Irish political magazine *Magill* which was picked up by *The Sunday Times* and *The Guardian*. He gave interviews on Arafat's death to CNN International, Associated Press (Paris), LBC Radio (London), Newstalk 106 Radio (Dublin) and in Italian newspaper

Europa. He was also quoted in the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Miami Herald*, the *Jerusalem Post* and the *China Daily News*.

Health risks

Dr Richard Siow, Lecturer in Cardiovascular Science, gave his verdict to *BBC Online* on a study about high dose vitamin E supplementation leading to an increased risk of death. Dr Siow urged caution about the findings because the study combined the results from a very broad spectrum of epidemiological studies carried out over 38 years and using a wide range of dosage.

Gulf War Syndrome

Research by **Professor Simon Wessely**, Institute of Psychiatry, was quoted in *The Guardian* in response to a new report by the US Department of Veterans' Affairs which accepts a link between exposure to toxins and symptoms of illness in Gulf War veterans. Professor Wessely has found that veterans who were vaccinated in the Gulf rather than in the UK before deployment were more likely to report illness. His evidence on a 'Gulf war health effect' to the Lloyd inquiry, the UK's own independent investigation into Gulf War Syndrome also featured in the *New Scientist*.

Ethical scrutiny

A study into the ethical monitoring of university research by King's **Professor Anthea Tinker** and **Dr Vera Coomber** was featured in *The Higher*. The study found that monitoring remained patchy despite an increase in the number of committees being set by universities up to vet research projects.

Teaching standards

In a comment piece for *The Independent*, **Dr Bethan Marshall**, Lecturer in English Education, argued that being good at your subject does not make you a good teacher and that training, evidence and reflection are the hallmarks by which we should judge teaching staff. Dr Marshall also commented in *The TES* on the CBI's lack of support for the Tomlinson report.

All in the Mind

All in the Mind, a programme dedicated to the mysteries of the human brain and presented by **Dr Raj Persaud** of the Institute of Psychiatry, returned to Radio 4 for another series.

Stem cell vision

Dr Stephen Minger, Head of the Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, gave his response to research which suggests that stem cells taken from the back of the eye could eventually be used to restore normal vision in people with sight problems to BBC Online and the *Evening Standard*. Dr Minger was also featured in an article in *The Guardian* on the future of stem cell research and scientific standards in China following his visit to the country in September as part of a DTI-sponsored fact-finding mission.

Horny goat weed

Reported in *The Daily Telegraph*, a modern love potion for women with its roots in ancient herbalism will soon be available in Britain. **Peter Houghton**, Professor of Pharmacognosy helped with the research.

Allergy cat-alyst

Jonathan Brostoff, Emeritus Professor of Allergy and Environmental Health, was quoted in a *Daily Telegraph* article on cat allergies, explaining why such reactions might occur.

Personality Test

Dr Gillian Clack, Honorary Senior Lecturer in Medical Education, supplied her expertise in psychological types and their link to the latest brain research for the BBC1 programme *What am I like? The Personality Test*.

Criminal relations

Professor Andrew Coyle, Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies, added historical background to an article in *The Times* about the release of 600 Victorian prison photos on the National Archives online database.

Mad, bad and &?

An interview with **Dr Christine Kenyon Jones** will appear in a television programme about the life and work of Lord Byron made by Flashback for the new Biography Channel and for broadcasting in the US later this year.

See www.kcl.ac.uk/headlines for a summary of the latest media coverage for King's and higher education generally with links through to the full articles

The Public Relations Department is keen to know of any staff featured in the media, contact us on 020-7848 3202 or email pr@kcl.ac.uk

Support for Special Collections

Another well-attended reception for the College's Special Collections was held in the Weston Room at the Maughan Library on the 9 November. Guests included alumni, current and former staff and other donors to the conservation appeal.

The College launched an appeal for the conservation of the Rare Books and Special Collections two years ago. A number of highly popular events have been held at the Maughan Library when alumni and friends view some of the Library's most precious books and listen to academics discussing the importance of the collections in their own research fields.

In this time nearly £74,000 has been raised for the collections. This has secured the conservation of around 800 books in a range of disciplines from medicine to ecclesiastical history.

If you would like to find out more about the Collections, please

contact Katie Sambrook at catherine.sambrook@kcl.ac.uk or see www.kcl.ac.uk/specialcollections. If you would like a copy of the appeal brochure, or would like to be invited to a future reception, please contact Kathrin Ostermann on extn 3005 or at kathrin.ostermann@kcl.ac.uk

Former Staff Lunch

Following the success of the inaugural Former Staff Lunch in March, the Council and Committee Rooms were filled to capacity for the latest meeting on 8 November. The group, brought together by Dr Barrie Morgan FKC, former Director of External Relations, demonstrates the affection and continued interest felt for the College by retired staff, including many from merged institutions.

A buffet lunch was followed by an illuminating talk by Professor Peter Braude, Head of Division of Reproductive Health, Endocrinology & Development, which led to a lively

discussion of the ethics of stem cell research, engaging an audience of both medical and non-medical colleagues. The group enables former staff to remain in touch with developments at King's and keep in contact with their old students and colleagues. If you are about to leave the College, the Alumni Office would be pleased to introduce you to the group.

Diamond jubilee for Guy's medics

More than 40 doctors who qualified at Guy's between 1939 and 1953 gathered for the annual John Fry lunch on 27 October to celebrate over 60 years of dedicated service in all fields of medical careers. The lunch at The George, Southwark (familiar from student days) was followed by a lecture and reception at the Gordon Museum – the first return visit to the campus in more than 50 years for some.

The guests included members of the Guy's class who were among the first doctors to join the new NHS straight from qualifying, and Dr

Joy Pentney, the first woman to be permitted to qualify as a doctor at Guy's. Memories of the School's wartime evacuation in Tunbridge Wells and the formative influence of an outstanding ward sister on their training were shared. Lord McColl (Medicine 1957), the guest speaker, entertained with stories of his early days at Guy's and was invited to describe his inspiring voluntary work for Mercy Ships, performing ship-board surgery in the developing world.

Alumni Weekend 2005

Following the success of the 175th Anniversary Alumni Weekend in June which attracted in excess of 800 alumni and their guests, we hope to repeat the achievement with another weekend of activities in 2005. This weekend will take place from 10-12 June with a range of formal and informal events, lectures and visits to London attractions. If you are interested in arranging a tour of your Department or informal reunion for your students during the weekend please contact the Alumni Office.

Support for student sport traditions

Alumni are helping to rally student sports traditions by making possible the revival of the annual sports competition between KCL and GKT students. The Macadam Cup, a magnificent silver rose bowl originally awarded to 'the overall victors in a day of competitive sports matches' will be presented to the winners of the sports day organised by the Students' Union on 8 December at Honor Oak Park. Men and Women's Rugby, Football, Hockey and Netball teams from KCL and GKT will take part. We hope as many staff, alumni and friends as possible will join us to cheer on the sides.



New staff

Barbara Thorpe-Tracey has joined the Alumni Office as Head of Alumni Relations, replacing Linzey Coles. Barbara previously ran alumni relations at City University and will be developing new initiatives to engage, serve and connect the 90,000 King's alumni worldwide.

Gemma Peters has joined the Development Office as Head of Fundraising. She has worked in the fundraising sector for eight years, most recently as Head of Events, Major Donors and Northern Ireland at Mencap, and previously at deafblind charity Sense, and the Open University.

Exhibitions

Books and their owners

An exhibition of items from the Foyle Special Collections Library

This exhibition aims to show how books have been owned and used by their owners over the past 500 years. What kinds of people bought or were given books? How did they record their ownership? What kinds of notes or annotations did they make? In an age when paper was an



A 16th century owner's artistic embellishment of his copy of Livy's *Ab urbe condita* (Paris: ex officina Michaelis Vascosani, 1543). Hercules with his club.

expensive commodity, the possession of a book often provided an owner with a useful supply of this material; to what purposes did owners put the unused blank

endpapers of their books?

For some they were no more than a jotting pad, to be scrawled on in idle moments. For others they fulfilled a more serious purpose, and a book's endpapers often functioned as a repository for its owner's stated convictions, religious or political, or as a memorial to family births, marriages and deaths. Many past owners are anonymous and those who did sign their names generally led unremarkable lives, but two cases in this exhibition contain a selection of those books whose owners achieved fame or distinction.

A design for an 18th century garden, a lament for the restoration of the monarchy under Charles II, a bored schoolboy's artwork, a hidden Jacobite letter, a cure for consumption, a sketch by Marc Chagall – these are some of the items included in the exhibition.

The exhibition, in the Weston Room, Maughan Library, Chancery Lane, is free and open until Friday 17 December (09.30-17.00 Mondays to Fridays) to all members of the College and their accompanying guests.

A Sense of Place

An exhibition by Martin Fidler

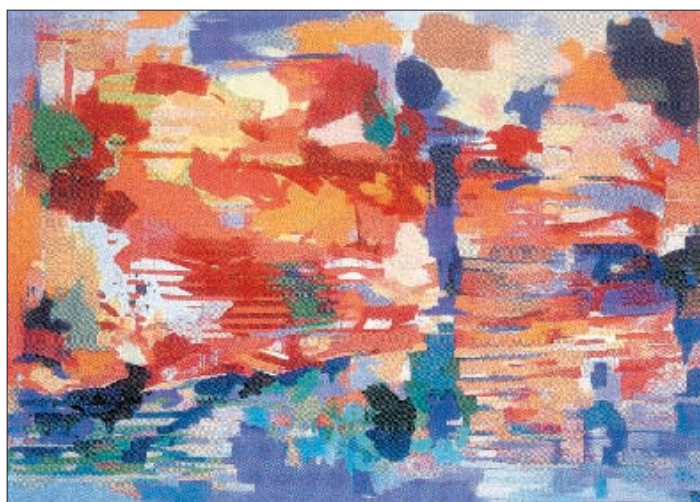
This exhibition includes Thames riverside scenes or 'Greenwich Drawings'. Most of them are a selection from a larger archive representing London's docklands. One of the drawings is currently displayed at the Museum of London, because the series evokes the lost character of London's fast disappearing wharves, quays and silent cranes.

All of the paintings in the exhibition are worked from studies

produced on 'site' in tandem with a support from an appropriate range of photographs. They represent an ongoing mission to use colour, light, texture and surface, instead of black and white, to record places Martin has visited and worked in.

He is currently working on a new series of paintings focusing upon the cliffs near Treen in Cornwall.

The exhibition is in the MRC SGDP at the Institute of Psychiatry, King's Denmark Hill campus, and runs until 4th January 2005 Monday to Friday from 09.00 - 17.00



The Conflict in Iraq 2003

Paul Cornish, Director of the Centre for Defence Studies

SINCE GEORGE BUSH'S infamous 'Axis of Evil' speech, war in Iraq was a seemingly inevitable consequence of the War on Terrorism. Paul Cornish brings together an expert group of analysts, mainly from King's, to provide a balanced and coherent study of the pre War

build up, all aspects of the conflict, and the War's political and economic ramifications for all involved.

The book is a real College collaboration, with the Forward provided by Professor of War Studies and Vice-Principal, Sir Lawrence Freedman, with other King's contributors including members of the War Studies Group (comprising the



Department of War Studies, the Defence Studies Department, the Centre for Defence Studies

and the International Policy Institute): Wyn Bowen, Michael Clarke, Andrew Dorman, Joanne Kidd, Susan B Martin, Alison Pargeter Bill Park, Domitilla Sagramoso, Laura Sandys, Karin Von Hippel and Philip Wilkinson.

Palgrave Macmillan 2004

College Christmas card

THERE ARE A LIMITED number of College Christmas cards still available to order in boxes of 50 from the Publications Office (email beth.leese@kcl.ac.uk). A JID is required for each order prior to despatch. Smaller quantities can be



purchased from the Students' Union shops. Cards (including an envelope bearing the King's logo) cost 50p each.