

The magazine of Linacre College, Oxford

LINACRE

News

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Three Boats, Three Blades
– page 16



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Cover image:



Cover image: Linacre Men's VIII,
2014 Christ Church Regatta
Photo by: Favour Nyikosa



First Thoughts



Phil Sayer

Our Fiftieth Anniversary Campaign, launched three years ago, comes to a glorious conclusion this term, having more than met its objective of raising £7.5 million. I hope that you will see, in this edition of *Linacre News*, the fruits of all the hard work and generous donations. The College is already buzzing with activity even though, as I write, the start of term is still a few weeks away. This time of year is particularly busy for our Academic Office, welcoming and registering the new students. This year we have a bumper cohort; among them are thirty students supported by Linacre scholarships. I'm enormously proud that together we have raised the funds to support so many scholars. It is of huge benefit to College, and also to Oxford University, to be able to draw in exceptional students from regions and societies that without Linacre's support might not be able to study here. They bring knowledge, ideas and experience that enrich and inspire our community.

Next on the to-do list is to start the planning process for a major renovation of the kitchen and dining hall and new student accommodation. These projects are badly needed and offer an exciting opportunity to have a real impact on the shape of the College. I'm keen to find a way to rationalise a jumble of poorly used spaces (e.g. the 'corridor to nowhere' outside the Tanner Room) so we can have better communal facilities and high quality student study-bedrooms. This will need to be carefully designed in order to preserve the very special character of the Linacre buildings. Let me know if you have thoughts and suggestions.

Renovations in the Dining Hall are long overdue – our kitchen has been virtually unchanged for 40 years! This really is the heart of the College, where many friendships are formed and ideas exchanged. We've recently secured a grant of £200K for this project but need to raise a further £300K to bring it to completion. I look forward to welcoming you to a Gaudy dinner in a sparkling new facility from 2017.

Nick D. Brown

Message from the Common Room



The immense success of the Linacre football and rowing teams this year best epitomises the vigour and spirit of what it means to be 'Linacre'. But why stop there? We've had a great diversity of events this year, from wine and cheese parties and exchange dinners to a ceilidh, charity football tournament and grand summer BBQ. Linacre also managed to bring Morocco to Oxford for the biennial Linacre Ball, themed 'Casablanca' this time around. The College was transformed into a Moroccan cityscape from the 1940s, and the night was definitely 'one for the books'. The Ball President, Victoria Roeck, and her team deserve hearty thanks and congratulations on their hard work and success.

Looking at Linacre, one sees the diversity of a truly international experience unfolding every day. This not only embodies Linacre's past, but continues to define the College as members leave their mark in Oxonian history one smile at a time. And with the end of another academic year comes saying goodbye to a few Linacre members. But their contributions during their time at Linacre helped the College to be the warm place that it was, is, and will continue to be. Once Linacre, always Linacre! As the new Michaelmas term approaches, those still at Linacre eagerly anticipate the arrival of the new cohort of Linacrites. With the energy and creativity of the present Common Room Executive, the upcoming term promises to be a fun and engaging one. The 2015-2016 academic year is set to be another stellar year, and I for one look forward to what it has to offer!

Kiron Neale, Common Room President

Telethons: hate them or (even) love them

Between 2000 and 2015, for a number of reasons, Linacre held no telethons. This was partly because graduate colleges do not typically bring in large amounts through telethons; it was also because of the huge expenditure incurred by telethons, potentially outweighing relatively meagre returns; and significantly, our understanding of the sensitivities of ringing Old Members at an inconvenient time, and intruding into their privacy of their evenings. We are completely aware that people are tired, cooking, putting children to bed, getting ready to go out, and have any number of other demands on their time, plus we had nagging doubts about doing something akin to the cold-calling phone approaches favoured by many businesses.



Andrea Camacho Henao, Columbia, MSc Environmental Change & Management



Rachel Friedman USA, MPhil Geography & the Environment



Peter Holmes Canada, DPhil Biochemistry



Margot Leger South Africa, MSc African Studies



Abdossalam Madkhali Saudi Arabia, DPhil Radiobiology



Carryn Yong Singapore, DPhil Comparative Philology & General Linguistics

Yet colleagues, friends, and enthusiastic telethon tales have convinced us to rethink. This year Linacre held a mini-telethon to 400 Old Members in North and South America, and it was a hugely enjoyable experience – hopefully for all involved! We sent out three messages beforehand to those we hoped to speak with, informing, and also giving the option not to be called. The total received wasn't a vast amount but we were given some wonderful individual donations, and our fantastic student callers (pictured above) – who worked into the early hours, often until 2 am, and at times far beyond – held in-depth conversations with Old Members, in many cases forging warm friendships and planning to meet up in the future. An expert telethon organizer from Merton College was our only additional staff cost, and so we avoided the horrific £20,000-plus costs often incurred by telethons. Our costs, including training, staff time, Merton colleague, pre-call letter mailings and letters of thanks, subsistence, IT, and the calls themselves, amounted to £4,000 and we were grateful to receive gifts from an impressive 50% of those we spoke with – £22,000 in all, from a number of kind donors.

We also designated a number of calls specifically as messages of thanks, so that we didn't automatically follow a traditional telethon pattern. Although it is of course possible to encourage gifts via mailings (which we will continue to do), the calls were the closest we could get – given the thousands of miles' distance – to a personal meeting with Old Members and there was a particular warmth engendered by all of these connections. We see these engaging conversations as a key component of our relationship-building.

We therefore plan to hold another telethon in 2016 and, aiming not to irritate Linacre members, we pledge: a) Never to ring you unless we have sent a letter and an e-mail beforehand, alerting you, and offering the opportunity to refuse a call b) Always to ask if it's convenient to speak c) Always to be just as interested in you as a person as in any gifts you might wish to make to Linacre.

Linacre students look forward to speaking with some of you in 2016, and we thank all those who so kindly made gifts, as well as thanking our tireless and enthusiastic callers.

Anne Keene

THANK YOU... to the 280 generous donors in 2014-2015 who enabled Linacre to receive £870,000 and pledges of £180,000, greatly enhancing our funds for: Accommodation; Hardship; Junior & Senior Research Fellowships; Scholarships; and Unrestricted Endowment. Your gifts mean a lot to the College.

Linacre Events

Trans-Canada visit



In Montreal, Linacre members were most generously hosted to lunch by **Dr Thierry Dorval** (1997), at *Norton Rose Fulbright*. The views from the 25th floor, and the delicious lunch competed equally for the attention of those present.



In Toronto, **Dr Bruce Brown** (1968) kindly enabled Linacre members to use the wonderful National Yacht Club for their dinner. It was just light enough, on arrival, to see the enticing combination of snow and Lake Ontario.



Four hours across the time zones, in Calgary, following lunch at *Brigg's*, the sun was warm enough to allow diners to pose for a picture outside, with the Calgary Tower in the background.



In Vancouver, **Ms Karen Krucik** (1999) enabled us to use the lovely Arbutus Club for a Linacre lunch, and on the same day other Linacre members dined at *Yew*, in central Vancouver.

There are close on 200 Linacre Old Members in Canada, and it was wonderful to meet with many of them during this visit. We celebrate their ongoing commitment to the College, not least through the Canadian Alumni Scholarship, and the Canadian National Scholarship, the latter having been set up nearly 20 years ago, thanks to **Paul Tellier** (1963), former CN CEO who kindly provided a valuable link with the company. We are also delighted to report that the International Civil Aviation Organisation, based in Montreal, has just made a second donation for an Assad Kotaite SRF at Linacre.

Anne Keene

The biennial **Oxford University North American Reunion** will be held, for the first time, in Washington, DC, on April 8-10, 2016. A **Linacre College Dinner** will be held on **Saturday, April 9th**, in the Cabinet Room, *Old Ebbitt Grill*, 675 15th St NW, Washington, at 6.30 for 7.00pm. Contact anne.keene@linacre.ox.ac.uk for details.

Business/Finance/Law



This BFL gathering was on July 7 at High Timber in London. E-mail development@linacre.ox.ac.uk to receive news of future BFL events, which are informal and welcoming.

Linacre Events

Cinema Museum



Thanks to the generosity and in-depth London knowledge of **Priscilla Baines** (1964), Linacre Honorary Fellow, the annual London Reception in June was held at the quirky Cinema Museum in Kennington. This wonderful building, formerly the Lambeth Workhouse, and on two occasions the temporary home of Charlie Chaplin and his destitute mother, is now home to an amazing array of equipment, furnishings, and memorabilia from the heyday of the cinema. As well as enjoying canapés and fizz, guests were able to join a highlights tour, or wander at will through the nostalgic collection.

Pitt Rivers visit

Linacre members and guests were treated to an after-hours visit to the Pitt Rivers Museum on 18 September, in conjunction with the University's Alumni Weekend. Warm thanks go to **Professor Michael O'Hanlon**, Linacre Fellow and Director of the Pitt Rivers Museum (PRM), for making this visit possible. **Dr Chris Morton**, Linacre Fellow and Curator at the PRM, gave an introduction to the museum, and then sent guests on a 'treasure hunt' around all areas of the museum to find artefacts such as 'a pair of mole's feet kept by a Somerset man to keep away toothache.' The visit was followed by dinner for sixty in the College Dining Hall, and many guests retired to the Common Room afterwards.



Viennese interlude

This year, for the first time, Linacre took part in the University's biennial European Alumni Reunion weekend. The Linacre dinner was widely publicised, and we were delighted to host 21 individuals at *Restaurant Leupold*, thanks to **Dr Pia Maria Vogler** (2006), Viennese native, who kindly identified the perfect venue for the event. Attendees came from Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, and the UK, and the Principal presided. We were honoured, after dinner, to hear an informative and engaging talk from **Professor Carolyn Gianturco** (1967) on 'Things are not always what they seem: a closer look at Mozart's rapport with his father, his wife, and Salieri'.



Franco Gianturco

During the remainder of the weekend, Old Members made the most of the academic programme offered, and Linacre also organised a walking tour of Vienna, followed by an informal meal in a *crêperie*. We warmly thank all who attended, and especially Pia for securing our Friday venue, and Carolyn for a wonderful talk.

Anne Keene

Linacre Walk

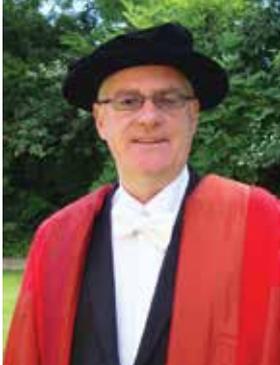


The first Linacre Walk, spearheaded by **Robin Simpson** (1969), took place on 26 September along the Thames Path from Tilehurst to Goring. Walkers also visited a Roman villa dig, led by **Professor Nancy Nichols** (1964) and Mike Green.

Informal photos are often taken at Linacre events, and may be used in College publications or on the website. Please let us know if you do not want to be photographed.

Linacre Events

Linacre Lawyers evening



In its six-year history, the Linacre Lawyers' Network has gathered for a number of evening events, including talks by College alumni working in the law. On 16th February, it was treated to a fascinating talk by **Professor John Keown** (1980), who is presently the Rose F Kennedy Professor of Christian Ethics at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics in Georgetown University in

Washington, DC where he specialises in the issues associated with the beginning and the end of life.

His talk, entitled 'The Law and Ethics of Medicine: Judging the Judges', covered the legal principles at issue in real cases including the legality of using the morning-after pill, separating conjoined twins, removing feeding and euthanasia. He examined whether the court in such cases had misunderstood the law and how the cases might have been decided differently.

The evening was hosted against a 180-degree backdrop of the London skyline at the offices of law firm Taylor Wessing by Network Chair, **Dr Paul England** (1993).

Professor Keown returned to Oxford in the summer to receive the prestigious DCL (Doctorate of Civil Law) at a Graduation Ceremony on 6th June. The DCL recognises his canon of publications which, as determined by assessors appointed by the Law Faculty Board, makes particularly distinctive, significant, and original contributions to the study of law.



Current Linacre rowers welcomed 'Old Boaties' back to the Boathouse for an afternoon on the Isis during the 2015 Summer Gaudy.

Gaudy 2015

The weekend of July 4th was their first Summer Gaudy for many of the Linacre Old Members who matriculated from 2001 to 2011. Activities included rowing for Old Boaties (above), the Domus Prize Competition, and a buffet supper in a beautiful marquee on the College lawn, followed by a lively ceilidh led by *The Reel Blend* band. The weekend reunion concluded under blue skies with a garden party, and the presence of many Linacre children. The 2016 Gaudy, on July 2 and 3, is for the 1982-1991 cohort.



Fellowship & Portrait

Professors Carolyn (1967) and **Franco** (1965) **Gianturco** are much-valued friends of Linacre, who met and married as College members when doing their doctorates – Carolyn in Music and Franco in Mathematics. The Gianturcos have already generously endowed two scholarships at Linacre, in Musicology and Theoretical Chemistry and just recently they have very kindly made an additional gift which enables College to create a new Junior Research Fellowship also in perpetuity, to be held alternately in Astrophysics or Music. We thank Franco and Carolyn most warmly, and look forward to meeting the first Gianturco JRF, in Michaelmas Term 2016. To honour all of this great kindness, we also welcome the Gianturcos as Senior Associates of Linacre, joining existing Senior Associates Professor Pamela Asquith, Dr Graeme Fraser-Bell, and Mr Bruce Reynolds.



Next time you visit College, do look at the newly acquired portrait by the 20th century Scottish landscape and portrait painter, Henry Raeburn Dobson. It, too, is a gift from Carolyn and Franco, reputedly depicting Lady Cunard. The picture wonderfully enhances our Thomas Linacre Room, and our College Art Collection, and we are most grateful.

The Thomas Linacre Circle

This Circle, inaugurated in 2009, might be a mystery to many Linacre members. The group is at the same time, exclusive, but also open to all. It comprises Linacre members who have remembered the College in their will, and who have informed us; the Circle was set up explicitly to thank these members, largely by hosting them in College or elsewhere.

Every autumn we host a rather special lunch in Linacre's Small Dining Room, and in the spring we either hold an Afternoon Tea in College, or invite members to our Tanner Dinner. During the biennial North American Reunion, we host Circle members to an English Afternoon Tea in a major hotel; in 2016 the Reunion will be held in Washington, DC instead of New York, so the Tea will be held in central DC. A delightful feature of the Circle is the warm friendships

which have sprung up following its regular gatherings, and the common perception that legacy circles are serious and sober is one we are eager to correct!

Each pledge, and each realized bequest is highly valued and to honour that, we have created a Legacy Book, viewable in the Nadel Room, which records all legacy gifts received by Linacre, of whatever size; the most recent was received from the estate of **Dr Lorna McDougall** (1966), and has enabled a Book Collection named for her in the College Library.

There are currently 55 Thomas Linacre Circle members, and we would love to welcome others. You might have included Linacre in your will, but haven't yet let us know. Or you may be preparing or revising your will, and planning to remember Linacre. Please do let us know if you think you qualify for membership. We give heartfelt thanks to all who make such deeply appreciated commitments, and issue a warm welcome to new members.

Anne Keene

2015 Tanner Lecture on Human Values

Linacre was delighted that Peter Singer, Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University, gave the 2015 Tanner Lecture at the Mathematics Institute, Oxford on 9th June 2015.



Abdossalam Madkhail

L-R: The Vice-Chancellor and Mrs Jennie Hamilton; Dr Catherine Walter (Linacre Vice-Principal); Professor Singer; Dr Roosa Leimu-Brown and The Principal.

His lecture 'From Moral Neutrality to Effective Altruism: The Changing Scope and Significance of Moral Philosophy' clearly illustrated why Professor Singer is often described as one of the world's most influential living philosophers. It drew a large audience of students, academics and members of the public. Following the lecture, guests were hosted to an entirely vegan dinner, especially prepared by the Linacre Chef, Michael Bockett.

The lecture can be viewed or downloaded as audio or video from the Oxford University Podcast website www.podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/tanner-lectures

Old Members' Focus

Dr Robert Muggah (2002)

Research Director of the Igarapé Institute and the SecDev Foundation, recently delivered a TED Talk on fragile cities. He earned his DPhil in Development Studies while at Linacre.



Latin American cities are among the most violent and insecure on earth. Many are as dangerous, if not more so, than metropolises gripped by warfare in Africa and the Middle East. In fact, citizens from Argentina to Mexico consistently rank their neighbourhoods as among the world's most dangerous. The statistics

are unnerving: at least 43 of the 50 most murderous cities in the world are located there. Fortunately, there are some positive signs of change. After decades of repressive 'tough on crime' measures, some Latin American cities are starting to turn the corner. I've spent the past few years documenting how politicians, entrepreneurs and activists are testing out new approaches. Along the way, they are redefining the global debate on urban safety.

A Latin American revolution in city planning is generating remarkable declines in murder and victimization. The first step entailed investing in a new culture of citizenship, encouraging locals to regulate themselves and each other. In Bogotá, for example, street mimes delivered 'behaviour cards' for those who broke rules. Some enterprising mayors also started up women's nights, invested in creating open public spaces, and funded observatories to track crime and victimization. Many of these soft measures were complemented with harder investments in security and development. For example, municipal leaders and chambers of commerce across Latin America supported community-based policing and firearms collection programs. They also sponsored conditional cash transfer programs, early childhood support for single-headed female households and afterschool activities for at-risk young boys.

The impacts are breathtaking. For example, a massive social intervention called *Todos Somos Juárez* dropped Mexico's Ciudad Juárez homicide ranking from 1st to 37th between 2012 and 2014. Likewise, high quality public transport and a rash of social interventions contributed to reducing Medellín's murder rate by more than 80 per cent from its high in the early 1990s. Brazil's Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo also witnessed declines in murder of 65 and 70 per cent respectively over the past

decade. These achievements are all the more spectacular given the region's perfect storm of risk factors. Already the world's most urbanized society with roughly 80% of the population living in cities, Latin America also faces turbo-urbanization, swelling youth bulges, soaring inequality and soaring rates of impunity. Other threats include drug trafficking, an abundance of illegal guns, an expansion of cyber cartels and gangs, and social norms that condone violence.

The turnaround for some cities began in the late 1990s when violence was accelerating alongside the global war on drugs. Yet instead of fighting crime with militaries and law enforcement, some enlightened mayors initiated a radical experiment. Rather than supporting knee-jerk law and order responses, they took a closer look at the evidence. For the first time, they examined how violence was distributed geographically, at what time of day and week it occurred, and who was most likely to kill or be killed. In the process, they learned that urban violence exhibited epidemic and contagious properties. It tended to be hyper-concentrated in specific areas, including low-income and fast growing informal settlements. They also discovered that specific types of people were most likely to be affected by violence, not least young, black, and unemployed males. Also, violence was often most prolific on weekends, at night, during pay days, and wherever alcohol and drugs were widely available.

These mayors were not afraid to look around the world for ideas and alternative solutions. Through a process of trial and error, they learned that carefully targeted, high-dosage interventions focused on a small number of 'hot' places, people and behaviours were more effective in preventing urban crime and victimization than large-scale police deployments or less well coordinated and far-reaching interventions that achieved scale, but did not target risks.

And while the region's challenges are considerable, Latin American public authorities, business people and civic groups are setting the pace for urban safety. They offer a model for other parts of the world, especially Africa and Asia, where the transition to cities has yet to fully occur. Latin American cities are a veritable laboratory of innovative ideas, new technologies and promising results. And while integrated approaches to violence prevention are challenging to keep going, they have proven to be the most likely to make Latin America's cities safer.

Fellows' Focus

Dr Silke Ackermann, FSA



has been a Linacre Fellow and Director of the Museum of the History of Science (MHS) since March 2014, succeeding Professor Jim Bennett, now Linacre Emeritus Fellow. She is currently (the first female) President of the Scientific Instrument Commission of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science, and spent 16 years at the British Museum in numerous roles, including as

Curator of European and Islamic Scientific Instruments – an area of particular interest and expertise.

Silke did not set out to be the first female head of an Oxford University museum, nor plan a career in the history of science. Her initial degrees in history and the languages and cultures of the Middle East introduced her to new material and ideas, and one thing led to another. Her first job on the *Regesta Imperii* Project, and a thesis on the 13th century mathematician, astronomer and astrologer, Michael Scotus, exposed her to 13th century astronomical tables and instruments. Baffled and intrigued, she returned to the University of Frankfurt to learn more, and thus set off on a career as an historian of science.

The University's announcement of her appointment noted her 'international reputation for taking a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approach to museum work', and it is clear this will continue as Director of the MHS. She admits she is not keen on the 'history of science' label as the instruments exhibited were never seen in isolation. Many were part of everyday culture, meant to be used for essential activities such as timekeeping or navigation, as well as for scientific enquiry. As we have become more specialised, or reliant on newer technology, we have lost much of our understanding, as well as the cultural context, of many of these objects. She would like to make the science behind the objects more accessible to visitors; this could include providing replicas of instruments, such as astrolabes, which visitors could handle in order to better understand them. Most of all, she would like the Museum to tell stories, comprehensible to anyone who will listen, about its collections; she anticipates that greater understanding will enable appreciation and spark enthusiasm and even wonder in museum visitors.

Many of the items in the Museum, apart from their practical and scientific uses, are also works of art; indeed, many were objects for showing off – 'the Porsches of their day' – such as George III's elaborate silver microscope. Silke is therefore

keen on closer cooperation with the Ashmolean. Additionally, she wants to do more to explore the broader context of museum objects. And given that the MHS holds one of the finest collections of astronomical instruments from the Islamic World, she sees potential to undertake some cultural diplomacy.

The current exhibition at the MHS, 'Dear Harry...' – *Henry Moseley: A Scientist Lost to War*, is a case in point. It tells the story of an extremely promising young Oxford scientist who many felt would have received a Nobel prize for his work had he not died at Gallipoli. The show seeks to not only explain the science underlying his research and the operation of his experimental apparatus, but also considers his life and the repercussions of his untimely death. Silke made a pilgrimage to Gallipoli to retrace his steps; you can read her blog on the Museum's website. There was dismay in the international scientific community when his death in battle was announced; one newspaper said he was 'too valuable to die'. The difficult and complex ethical questions – still pertinent today – which this statement raises, will be debated in one of the many and varied events at the Museum.

The Museum of the History of Science is housed in the Old Ashmolean, 'the world's oldest purpose-built museum', but there is nothing fusty about what lies within. Why not see for yourself? If you miss the 'Dear Harry' exhibition (due to close on 18 October, but may be extended) start with a free introductory tour. Details to help plan your visit are on the Museum website, www.mhs.ox.ac.uk.

Silke Ackermann is very much like the museum she wants to develop – engaging, approachable, curious, questioning, and fun – and there doesn't seem to be a single aspect of the MHS she isn't interested in; she is writing a *Director's Choice* guide for the Scala series, has overhauled the shop, and is vigorously canvassing for funding to make new projects, staff training, and research possible. Her pastimes of dressage and ballroom dancing have been put on hold for the time being, but she clearly enjoys her many roles as historian and researcher, curator, educator, and fundraiser, as she seeks ways in which the MHS can continue to do cutting-edge research and then bring it to a wider audience, as well as make it relevant.

Marsaleete Anderson

In Memoriam

Rosalind E M Brain

Fellow: 1966-1989; Emeritus Fellow: 1989-2015

An obituary will be published in Linacre News 49

Fellows' News

Two Leverhulme Fellowships

Dr Stephen Parkinson, retiring Governing Body Fellow at Linacre, has recently been awarded an Emeritus Fellowship by the Leverhulme Trust. This prestigious award will allow him to complete the edition of the medieval *Cantigas de Santa Maria*, of which a selection are published in his recent book, *Alfonso X, the Learned: 'Cantigas de Santa Maria'. An Anthology* (Modern Humanities Research Association, 2015).

Dr Chris Morton, Linacre Fellow and Curator of Photograph and Manuscript Collections at the Pitt Rivers Museum, has been awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship for his project, 'A visual economy of 19th-century photography from southern Africa'. The 12-month study will consider 19th-century ethnographic photographs of southern Africa's peoples, the types of imagery produced, and how they were disseminated and used. Dr Morton was also recently elected Linacre Vice-Principal from 1 October 2015 for two years.

Double Awards

We are becoming accustomed to her trophies for her sporting achievements as a weightlifter, but now **Dr Catherine Walter**, outgoing Vice-Principal at Linacre, has won two equally well-deserved commendations. The OUSU Student Award for Outstanding Senior Member is for her work with Linacre Ladies that Lift, and celebrates the commitment of people like Catherine, who have put a lot of time and effort into improving the experience of students at Oxford. She subsequently won the OUSU Award for Outstanding Tutor in the Social Sciences Division in recognition of her exceptional student support in a distance MSc course she teaches that offers the Oxford postgraduate educational experience to students who are not geographically located at the University. Catherine sees both awards as being about removing barriers to participation, and was both pleased and surprised to be recognised. She is stepping into the newly-created post of Linacre Welfare and Equalities Officer, with responsibility for both staff and students.

Welcome, Professor Nair



Professor Venugopal Nair, Head of the Avian Viral Diseases Programme at Pirbright, was elected Linacre Adjunct Fellow from April 2015. He was awarded an OBE in the 2015 New Year Honours for his outstanding contributions to science in the field of avian disease research. His primary focus, on unravelling the molecular mechanisms of oncogenesis, the process by which cancer cells are formed, has made major contributions to the understanding of how avian oncogenic viruses induce tumours.

Fellows' Books

Linacre Honorary Fellow and former Principal, **Professor Paul Slack**, saw the publication by OUP in November 2014 of his most recent book: *The Invention of Improvement: Information & Material Progress in Seventeenth-Century England*. In it Paul examines the political and economic conditions which led to the development of this new and distinctively English 'culture of improvement'.

Congratulations to **Dr Asma Mustafa**, Linacre Senior Tutor, whose first book, *Identity and Political Participation Among Young British Muslims: Believing and Belonging*, was published earlier this year by Palgrave Macmillan. Asma is also a Senior Research Fellow on Muslims in Britain at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies. (See *Linacre News* 46, p10.)

Dr Stephen Hague (2008), Supernumerary Fellow, is the author of *The Gentleman's House in the British Atlantic World 1680-1780*, published in June by Palgrave Macmillan. The book examines the architecture, spatial arrangement, decoration and furnishing of small classical houses in order to investigate social mobility in 18th century England and British North America. Stephen teaches in the History Department at Rowan University in New Jersey.

Academic Distinction



Congratulations to **Simon Travis**, Linacre Fellow and Old Member (1990), who has become Professor of Gastroenterology through the University's recent Recognition of Distinction Awards. He is a Consultant Gastroenterologist with the Oxford University Hospitals Trust, former President of the European Crohn's and Colitis

Organization, and author of numerous publications, including many peer-reviewed guidelines.

Royal Irish Academy



Ian O'Donnell, Adjunct Fellow and former JRF and SRF at Linacre, has been elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy. Founded in 1785, election to its membership is the highest academic honour in Ireland. Ian left Oxford to become Director of the Irish Penal Reform Trust. After three years of lobbying and awareness-raising he returned to academic life and is currently professor of criminology at University College Dublin. His 2014 book, *Prisoners, Solitude, and Time*, published by OUP, is a study of how prisoners cope with prolonged solitary confinement.

Fellows' News

Dr Keith Lloyd (1967) *Distinguished Friend of Oxford*

Dr Keith Lloyd (1967), Linacre Old Member and Honorary Fellow, was presented with the Distinguished Friend of Oxford (DFO) Award at a ceremony at Harris Manchester College on 14 June. The DFO recognises individuals who 'have acted as exceptional volunteers for the benefit of the wider collegiate University', leaving a profound and lasting impact, and marking them as role models to others.

In nominating him for this award, Linacre noted that Dr Lloyd 'has worked tirelessly for more than 20 years to improve educational and professional opportunities for African students. His efforts have been so successful that they have changed lives.' The educational charity he created, TEST for Africa, has to date supported nearly 1000 students from Ghana, Malawi and Uganda with scholarships to attend their local universities. He has also been a generous benefactor to Linacre, supporting more than 30 African postgraduate scholarships since the early 1990s, significant student accommodation projects, and helping to steer the College through difficult times. It was a great joy to Keith and the other TEST trustees in 2014 when a graduate of the TEST scholarship programme from Ghana won a place at Oxford, and was also awarded the Norman & Ivy Lloyd scholarship at Linacre.



Pictured above are **Paul Amayo** (Oxford-Linacre African Scholar 2015-2016), Mrs Joanna Travers-Tondat (TEST Trustee and daughter of TEST co-founders), Dr Lloyd, his wife Mrs Marjie Lloyd, Kim Lloyd (son and TEST Trustee/Treasurer), **Abdul-Razak Saeed** (TEST Trustee & former Norman & Ivy Lloyd Scholar), and **Favour Nyikosa** (TEST Trustee and Oxford-Linacre African Scholar 2013-2014). The Scholars presented Keith with an engraved gift and two huge cards with an amazing number of signatures, each representing a life he has touched.

JRF News

Dr Rebecca Burton, who has held both an EPA and a Sir Paul Nurse JRF at Linacre, was awarded a Goodger Award in Medical Sciences and a prestigious Winston Churchill Fellowship in Science and Engineering which allowed her to travel to the US to spend time in New York conducting research. During 2015 she was also elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts (FRSA), a diverse fellowship that seeks to benefit society through the sharing of ideas and collaborative, cutting-edge research. Most recently, the results of a pre-clinical drug study led by Rebecca were published in the prestigious American journal, *HeartRhythm*. The study has demonstrated that Hydroxychloroquine, a drug first developed in the 1950s to combat malaria, can also reduce heart rate, and could potentially be clinically relevant in the treatment of certain cardiovascular diseases.

Dr Suewei Lin (EPA JRF 2014-15) will join the faculty of the Institute of Molecular Biology at Academia Sinica in Taiwan in November, where he will continue his work on the molecular and neural mechanisms of motivation and memory.

Order of the Rising Sun



Mr Takashi Uyeno, Linacre Old Member (1968) and Honorary Fellow, was conferred with the 'Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star' from the Emperor of Japan in recognition of his contributions to Japan's maritime industry while serving as Chairman of the Japan Federation of Coastal Shipping Associations. The announcement was made on 29 April and the investiture was held at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on 8 May, 2015. His father, Mr Yutaka Uyeno, also received the same recognition in 1986.

The official retirement of four Governing Body Fellows (now Emeritus Fellows) was announced earlier this summer: **Professor Pietro Corsi**, **Dr Michael O'Hanlon**, **Dr Stephen Parkinson** and **Dr Catherine Walter**. All in College and the wider Linacre community send warmest thanks for their contributions to College life as well as very best wishes for a happy and satisfying 'retirement'. New Linacre Fellows will be welcomed in the next issue of the magazine.

College News

Congratulations & Best Wishes Linacre on TV



College staff offered their best wishes to **Weronika Szostak** on April 29 as she embarked on a new career in catering.



Linacre Bursar, **Alison Reid**, was feted on February 2, her 25th Anniversary at Linacre, and thanked for all she has done to keep the College finances on a sound footing.



Jo Whitfield, the Principal's PA and Linacre Events Manager, was honoured with a tea party in the Principal's office on September 11 to mark her 15 years of supporting the work of two Principals.

Diplomatic Ties

The Kiev apartment of the Belgian Deputy Chief of Mission, **Dr Jean de Lannoy** (1994), and his wife, **Dr Yuna de Lannoy** (2000), was transformed into an Oxford Common Room on June 20 when they hosted about 20 Oxford and Linacre guests, including the Ambassador of Turkey, HE Yönet Tezel (St Antony's); his wife Ave Brigader-Tezel (St Hilda's and a former Estonian diplomat); the Ambassador of Malaysia; and many dynamic young Ukrainians.



Nadia Kravets

Pictured L-R, Yuna; **Dr Frank Lemkey** (1968); HE Chuah Teong Ban, Ambassador of Malaysia (Pembroke); Jean with daughter Angélique; **Tom Hashimoto** (2013) with Seiji de Lannoy; and **Dr Simon Humphries** (1998).

In August, a team of Oxbridge archaeologists met with **Dr Carolyn Browne** (1981), Linacre Old Member and the British Ambassador to Kazakhstan, at the start of a tour to kick-start the development of Eurasian archaeological research at Oxford in advance of a forthcoming ERC-funded project, which **Professor Mark Pollard**, Linacre Fellow, is leading. For more on Dr Lannoy and Ambassador Browne, see *Linacre News 47*.



TV crews seemed to be flocking to Linacre as if we were the next Hogwarts. Duna TV, roughly the Hungarian equivalent to BBC World, is making a documentary film about **Sir Bryan Cartledge's** work on Hungarian history. A crew from Duna visited Linacre in May to film some segments about his tenure as Linacre's Principal from 1988 to 1996.

The Linacre Pizza and Baking Society was started by Peter Holmes, a Linacre DPhil candidate in Biochemistry, as a way to share his love of baking and interest in the science behind it. The monthly gatherings offer a chance to improve baking skills, experiment with cooking, and enjoy great food and company. Earlier this summer, the group was filmed for the Oxford segment of *Terry & Mason's Great Food Trip*, and the show aired on BBC Two on September 27. Peter is pictured above (centre) with the celebrity hosts of the show, Sir Terry Wogan (R) and Mason McQueen (L).

For more photos and information on the Pizza Society, see www.linacre.ox.ac.uk/common_room/societies/linacre-pizza-baking-society

Artist-in-Residence



Linacre's 2015 Artist-in-Residence is **Kazuya Ishida**, an expert Japanese potter, who has been advising on the Anagama Kiln Project at Wytham Woods. This is an anthropological study of a traditional wood-fired pottery kiln which is built on a slope, and designed to look like a fire-breathing dragon when firing

reaches its peak. Linacre Members were invited to visit the kiln this summer before the first firing took place. Kaz will be giving a Linacre seminar during Michaelmas term; for more information and photos of this fascinating project, see: www.oxfordanagama.org

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of the following Old Members and friends of Linacre:

Professor Margaret Blunden (1974), who died on 22 March 2015, earned her DPhil in History at Linacre as a mature student with young children. She went on to a distinguished academic career, with a particular interest in the transition of states from dictatorships to democracies. An Emeritus Professor at the University of Westminster, she also served as Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost, and was a committed exponent of higher education.

Dr Anne Borsay (1976), Professor of Health Care and Medical Humanities at Swansea University, died in August 2014 after a short illness. She is remembered as a highly respected historian of healthcare, and in particular for her contributions to nursing history and the humanities, and her pioneering work on disability history.

Mrs Catherine Fagg, widow of Bernard Fagg, former Linacre Fellow and Curator of the Pitt Rivers Museum, died peacefully on 20 September 2015, aged 99.

Dr Leslie G Goulding, MBE (1974) 'was a clinical scientist who played a key role in the development of modern heart-monitoring systems'. He began his career in 1946 at University

College Hospital in London, working with diagnostic equipment. In 1967 he moved to the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford. He continued to study electronics and mathematics at Open University as he undertook a MSc at Linacre, going on to his doctorate. His DPhil thesis, *Cardiac monitoring in ambulant subjects*, completed in 1978, led to significant improvements in heart monitoring and the equipment used. His contributions over a long and fruitful career were recognised with a MBE in 2011. He died on 2 February 2015, aged 91.

Dr Fiona Proffitt (1998), who died in February 2013 following a long battle with cancer, was a science writer at the National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research in New Zealand since 2005. She moved into this very competitive profession following her DPhil in Zoology; her science news and features have appeared in numerous publications, including *BBC Wildlife Magazine* and *Science*.

Col. Paul G Skowronek (1971), 'farmer, military and intelligence officer, educator and paratrooper', died 20 February 2015, aged 99, after a long and eventful life. A graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point, he arrived at his 55th class reunion by parachute, at the age of 80. His PhD dissertation, *Soviet American Military Relations since 1945*, was completed at the University of Colorado.

Hettie Harré



Hettie Harré, who died on 8 February 2015, and was the wife of Emeritus Fellow Rom Harré, gave herself to Linacre with verve and commitment, and over more than 50 years demonstrated intense loyalty to its community and members. Hettie came to Oxford with Rom in 1960 following several years in Leicester where she was a much-

loved mathematics teacher and housemistress. She came from New Zealand, where she had been a concert pianist, and subsequently applied her musical talents as a ballet musician for the rest of her life.

Following a warm invitation to Fellows' spouses from Linacre's first Principal, John Bamborough in the early 1960s, Hettie immersed herself in Linacre life, regularly coming into College, and hosting many Linacre members in the home she shared with Rom and their daughter Elizabeth in Iffley. Hettie showed great interest in everyone she met, and injected every gathering with her characteristic sparkle,

beauty, intelligence, and charm. Along with Rom, she was a point of reference for numerous individuals who appreciated her wise advice gleaned from years of experience of Linacre life. College has received tributes to Hettie from students across Linacre's six decades, all writing with great warmth, and sadness at her passing.

Hettie was particularly thrilled with the Rom Harré Garden, opened in 2010. A photograph taken after the opening shows Rom, Hettie, and their great friend John Shosky sitting on a bench in the new garden in the late evening sun, deep in conversation. It represents a treasured memory for the Linacre family.



The Grapevine

Decades

1960s

Half a century after Linacre, **Rev Canon Donald Werner** (1961) is in Burundi – a country on the brink of civil war again, and already the third poorest country in the world – to start the Bujumbura Christian University at the request of the Anglican church there. Granted a charter by the government in April, they hope to educate people into an alternative way of life. See www.bcu.edu.bi or email donaldinburundi@hotmail.com

Ambassador Nils-Johan Jørgensen (1962) is the author of a new book, *An Image of the Times. An Irreverent Companion to Ben Jonson's Four Humours and the Art of Diplomacy*, published by Renaissance Books. It 'offers a bridge between history, literature and diplomacy, creating a fascinating link between his prime [literary] sources and the world of the diplomat'.

One of the ongoing retirement projects of **Gloria Cigman** (1965) has been the exploration of little known, yet wonderful late medieval tapestries in the Louvre and elsewhere. She has taken large groups and individuals to the ones in the Louvre, for a guided talk entitled 'Work and Play: everyday life in the later Middle Ages.'

Professor Franco Gianturco (1965) retired from the University of Rome in 2013, but almost immediately he was asked to continue his academic career elsewhere. The Scuola Normale of Pisa invited him to lecture on astrophysics to their graduate students during the academic years 2013-14 and 2014-15 and the University of Innsbruck asked him to be their Senior Research Professor in Astrophysics for as long as he likes. He was delighted and accepted both requests, which means it is 'business as usual'!

Professor Carolyn Gianturco (1967), a noted musicologist, has been elected to the Academia Europaea, an honorary body of eminent scientists and scholars in the humanities and arts. Membership is by invitation, and only after peer group nomination and scrutiny. Members 'collectively aim to promote learning, education, and research.'

Professor Ann Wintle (1969) has recently been honoured by the International Quaternary Association, who presented her with the Liu Tungsheng Distinguished Career Medal in a ceremony in Nagoya, Japan.

1970s

Professor Susan Wright (1972) has been elected a member of the Danish Royal Society for Sciences and Letters – a great honour for a foreign academic living and working in Denmark for the last 12 years. She is currently coordinating an EU Marie Curie 'Initial Training Network' – Universities in the Knowledge Economy (UNIKE) unike.au.dk – which is exploring how universities are negotiating relationships with a new ecology of organisations and industries that are often referred to as 'the global knowledge economy' in Europe and in the Asia-Pacific Rim.

Professor Helen Fulton (1974) has taken up a new post as Professor of Medieval Literature at the University of Bristol from January 2015.

Dr Andrew Woodfield (1974) visited Korea in May at the invitation of Professor Weon-Ki Yoo, to deliver lectures at universities in Seoul and Daegu on : 'Will future artificial intelligence threaten mankind?' and 'A Philosophical Perspective on the Testing of Transgenic Foods'. Professor Yoo is the translator of the Korean edition of Andrew's book, *Teleology*, which is based on the DPhil thesis he completed in 1975 while a JRF in Philosophy at Linacre.

1990s

Dr Gocha Tsetskhladze (1990), who is currently a Linacre Visiting Senior Member, has been awarded the distinction of Professor Honoris Causa from the Senate of the University of Bucharest. He has also recently been awarded a Gold Medal for academic achievements from Charles University, Prague.

Junever Mahilum-West (1993), previously Philippines Consul General to Toronto, has been appointed Philippine Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with concurrent jurisdiction over the Palestine Republic.

Dr Fumi Kitagawa (1995), who has worked at Manchester Business School for four years as a lecturer in enterprise studies, is taking up a new post at the University of Edinburgh Business School from April 2015.

Dr Cassandra Dam (1996) completed her PhD in Communications and Culture at the University of Calgary on 30 July, 2015. Her dissertation, entitled 'Artistry in Social Science Research', is an interpretive, interdisciplinary research study that inquires into social science researchers' aesthetic practices in relation with photographic-based research practices. Cassandra is an instructor in the School of Critical and Creative Studies at Alberta College of Art & Design, (www.acad.ca) Calgary, Canada.

Ashminder Kaur (1998) was honoured with the BDO Tradenext Leader in Finance award at the British Indian Awards 2015, which recognise people of Indian heritage who have successfully established businesses, achieved a lifetime goal or made a real difference to the British community.

2000s

Professor Josiane Boulad-Ayoub (Visiting Senior Member, 2002) has been appointed to the Order of Canada—one of the country's highest civilian awards, bestowed on individuals who have made a major contribution to the betterment of Canada. She holds the UNESCO Chair in Studies of the Philosophic Foundations of Justice in Democratic Society at Université du Québec à Montréal.

The Grapevine

James Passam (2002) has been Deputy Head at Seaford College in Petworth since September 2013. He is married to Zoë, and they have two daughters.

Dr Chris Hansen (2003) is standing as a Democratic candidate for the Denver, Colorado District 6 seat in the Colorado State House.

After a decade as an award-winning Politics and History teacher, **Dominic Howell** (2004), has founded *Intellitas* to develop political literacy and awareness in young people through inspiring Sixth Form talks. Dominic is also an international election observer for the Foreign Office and has worked for community-based charities on three continents. www.intellitas.org

Dr Joe Parker (2004) has recently taken up a new post as Early Career Research Fellow in phylogenomics at The Jodrell Laboratory, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. He is also a Software Sustainability Institute Fellow for 2015-16.

Dr Gabriel Perron (2006) is Assistant Professor of Biology at Bard College in the beautiful Hudson Valley, NY. His research seeks to understand how evolutionary microbiology and ecology can help solve public health issues.

Dr Jiahui Xu (2007) has started a new job in one of the largest national steel companies, BaoSteel, in a manager position for new technology enterprise mergers and acquisitions, and working with line managers in both the USA and China.

The Wellington Boot Club, a second topical and entertaining Oxford whodunit by Linacre Old Member **Robert Holtom** (2010), premiered in the Burton Taylor Studio in Oxford the week of May 26. **Zander Brehm** (2012) reprised his role as Stu, and the play was directed by **Matthew Shepherd** (2012).

Marriages



Dr Pia Maria Vogler (2006) and The Hon William Henry Martin Jolliffe were married on 28 August 2015.



Meghan Bailey (2010) and Ellie Ott (Hertford) were married in August at Hogacre Common in Oxford. Many Linacre friends were present, and crewmates from the 2010/2011 Linacre A boat presented Meghan with a bouquet of Linacre 'row-ses' – yellow roses with a black X through them like the College rowing blades.



Aled Watts of Nantyllyllon and **Katherine Glover** (2010) of South Molton celebrated their marriage on 13 June 2015.

Births



Dr Chris Grobler (2001) and **Dr Mariana Simoes** (2003) are the busy parents of two sons – James, and Alexander Christian, who was born in 2014.



Tania Ghanem (2002) is delighted to announce the birth of her son Leo on 18 August 2014.



Dr Rehan Ali (Bobby) (2004) and **Carolyn Slauson Ali** (2004) are delighted to announce the birth of their second son, Aiden Slauson Ali, on 3 February 2015.



Dr Aaron L Miller (2005) and Suzanne Miller are the happy parents of Morrison Meyer Miller, born 27 August 2015, weighing 8 pounds, and 21 inches long.



Rebecca Howe (née Clark) (2006) and Andrew Howe are thrilled to announce the arrival of James Michael Stephen Howe on 5 June 2015, weighing 7 lb, 14 oz.



Anil Agarwal (2007) and his wife, Swati Gupta, are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Mayra Agarwal, on 1 February 2015 – 'a little bundle of joy'.



Dr Richard Brown (2007) and his wife, Sally, joyously announce the birth of their daughter, Lily Isla Brown, on 21 June 2014. She is pictured at one day old.



Dr Seamus Holden (2007) and his wife, Eleanor, are very proud to announce the birth of their first child, Francis Patrick Holden, born 10 December 2014 in Lausanne, Switzerland. The family moved to Newcastle this summer for Seamus to take up a Newcastle University Research Fellowship.



Dr Chris Hardie (2009) and Sarah Wilkin are very pleased to announce the birth of their son, Luke William Hardie, on 9 June 2015, weighing 9 lb, 6 oz.



Rommel Romato (2010) and Dr Nizhreen Romato are ecstatic to announce the birth of their healthy and bouncing baby daughter, Iqara Romato, in June 2015. Seen here in Bath at 2 months, Iqara is now able to babble, coo and smile, much to her parents' delight.



Dr Andrew Faull (2011) and Elona Toska welcomed their son into the world on 29 April 2015. Kori Kai Toska Faull was born at home in Cape Town, and is thriving.

Sporting Linacre



Triple Blades

As the blustery days of winter started to give way to the warmth of spring, the intrepid rowers of Linacre Boat Club entered three boats in Torpids, an M1 and a W1 and W2, and set out for glory.

The first day set the tone for the competition. W1 and W2 scooped up easy bumps on beleaguered opponents, while M1 roared up their division, taking two bumps; the first on Trinity II, followed by a mighty overbump on St Antony's to secure a place in division III. The success was repeated the following day, W2 claiming an easy victory over a wallowing Brasenose boat, aground and helpless on the bank. W1 beat St Hugh's into submission on the first half of the course, and the men completed the day's triumphs with a spectacular bump on New II, that left New's paintwork adorning the bows of the M1 boat. The next day was another victorious one for W2. A coxing or equipment failure on the part of St Anne's left them easy prey, and W2 continued to rise. W1 had a harder task, Merton leading them a merry dance across the river, but the Linacre women were stronger and ran them down before the line. It was up to M1 to make a clean sweep for Linacre, Wadham were the unlucky boat in their sights. The gun fired, Linacre leapt off the line and on to them. Wadham jinked left and right, the tension mounted. But the Wadham cox, realising that against Linacre there could be no victory, signalled their capitulation less than 50 strokes into the race.

The final day brought excitement to a fever pitch. All three boats were on for blades, an unheard of run of success. Putting aside nerves, W2 were first to test their mettle. Their opponents didn't make it easy for them. Racing down the river, their target escaped by bumping out. Undaunted W2 pushed on, reeling in Hertford and pinning them almost on the line. The first set of blades. Would more follow? W1 had Queens in their sights and lost no time in driving onto them and scooping the bump. A final race beckoned for promotion to Division II and W1 crowned their efforts with a bump on St Anne's, a place in Division II, and blades. M1 had the task of making it a full house. St Hugh's ahead did their best to make a good show of it, but by Donnington Bridge they were swinging wide, Linacre kept on their heels, and St Hugh's were taken. Three boats, three blades. The greatest success of Linacre rowing in living memory!

Ben Eacott



Man of the Match

Linacre's **Gavin Cheung** (2013) was Oxford's 'Man of the Match' in the Varsity men's snooker match against Cambridge, which Oxford won this past February.

Carlos's Karate Blue

Karate-Do, 'the way of the empty hand', is a Japanese martial art made popular nearly 100 years ago when it finally left the island of Okinawa to conquer the Japanese mainland and afterwards, with remarkable speed, the whole world. This is a sport for concentration, body coordination and mind control, seeking always the perfection of technique and, more philosophically, of character.

Carlos Rios Ocampo (2014), Linacre DPhil candidate in Materials Science, took up karate at age 11, and obtained his Black belt by 16. He has won Colombian national titles in both Kumite (sparring) and Kata (forms), has made the podium in several international competitions as part of the Colombian junior national team, and now competes with the Oxford University Karate Club. Thus far, Carlos has competed in two Varsity matches, won two Cuppers for Linacre, a 2nd place in Kata at the JKA England Nationals 2014 and more recently, a 2nd place in Kata and 3rd in Kumite in the JKA England Nationals in June 2015 (photo), as well as competed with the JKA England squad in the European championship last March. Carlos was awarded (discretionary) Full Blue status in 2015 and now captains the Karate Oxford Blues.

Linacre Touch Rugby 2014/15



Linacre Touch Rugby, a new College team, reflects Linacre's diverse and welcoming character – a mixed team, with postgraduates from Linacre, as well as Wolfson, GTC, Teddy Hall, Balliol and St Cross, who come from the UK, Australia, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil and Italy, spanning complete beginners to those with previous experience. What began with some muddy training, coaching and casual games in Uni Parks led to frosty but highly enjoyable sessions at the Uni Club over winter. The team's first league tournament during Trinity offered some tough competition from more experienced and established teams, but started well, with 3 wins from 4 games. Unfortunately, during a crucial match which Linacre had been leading until the last five minutes, two quick tries slipped through and a 9-8 loss cost Linacre a 3rd place play-off spot. It was a respectable debut, however, and the team looks set to develop a great deal during the coming season. Huge thanks go to Linacre students **Richard Collins** (2012) who ran the training and coaching and **Tobias Jackson** (2014) for co-managing the team (and who will be doing so exclusively next year).

Matthew Ross Shepherd (2012)