



DARWIN COLLEGE E-BULLETIN MARCH 2011

www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni

Dear Old Darwinian,

Welcome to the Darwin College March 2011 e-bulletin. Here we list news and alumni events from both Darwin and the wider University community. If you would like more details on anything included, please do not hesitate to phone or e-mail. It is always a great pleasure to talk to our alumni and help them where we can.

Darwin College Happenings

50th Anniversary of Darwin College

In 2014 the College will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of its foundation. In 1964, three founding colleges – Gonville and Caius, Trinity, and St John’s, anticipated the pressing need for focusing support onto the rapidly expanding area of graduate education, and so Darwin College was born. It began in the smallest of ways: a Master, Sir Frank Young, and eleven founding Fellows, a cook and a handyman ... the first student members – just twelve – did not arrive for months!



Darwin College Fellows in 1967.

The first Master, Sir Frank Young is seated front row, middle.

As you can imagine, 2014 will be a momentous, milestone year for the College. Watch this space – there will be lots going on!

College personalities, talks, and internet links

Happy Children make happy adults



New research part authored by Professor Felicia Huppert, Director of the Well-being Institute, Cambridge (alumna 1968 and Darwin Fellow) links well-being in adolescence with life satisfaction in adulthood. She says, “The findings support the view that even at this time of great financial hardship, policy makers should prioritise the well-being of our children so they have the best possible start in life.” For more details go to

<http://www.alumni.cam.ac.uk/news/?dp=2011022802&dpt=news>

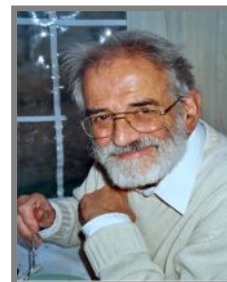
Ron Laskey – Honours



Congratulations to Darwin Fellow, Professor Ronald Laskey, FRS, FMedSci, who was awarded the CBE in The Queen's New Year Honours List 2011 for services to science. His research focuses on how cells control DNA synthesis. Further congratulations are due because, almost at the same moment, Professor Laskey was elected an Honorary Fellow of The Queen's College ... in the 'other place'.

Peter Gathercole

We are very sad to announce the death of Dr Peter Gathercole, Emeritus Fellow and former long-time Dean of the College. There will be a full obituary in the next issue of The Darwinian newsletter.



Christopher Bishop

Professor Christopher Bishop, Darwin College Fellow, has been appointed The Vice President of the Royal Academy of Great Britain. Chris is a Distinguished Scientist at Microsoft Research Cambridge, where he leads the Machine Learning and Perception group. In 2010 he gave the Turing Lecture on *Embracing Uncertainty: the New Machine Intelligence*, the full lecture can be seen here - <http://scpro.streamuk.com/uk/player/Default.aspx?wid=7739>.

College Fundraising

Annual Fund

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Darwin College Annual Fund this year. If you haven't yet given to the Annual Fund but wish to, it's not too late. The appropriate form is available at:

<http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/forms/Alumni%20Donation%20Form.pdf>; please complete and post 'FAO Sophia Smith', Darwin College, Silver Street, Cambridge, CB3 9EU.

US Telephone Campaign



Many thanks to our American alumni/ae who kindly made a gift in response to our first Annual Fund telephone campaign. The callers all enjoyed their time talking with you and we hope the same was true for you! In seeking support for the 50th Anniversary, we will be calling a number of Old Darwinians, in the early summer, for the next few years. You will, of course, be contacted by mail before any phone call is made.

College Alumni Events – ‘Dates for Your Diary’

Friday 18th March – Darwin College Society dinner

The next Darwin Society Dinner will be held on 18th March in the College 7.00pm for 7.30pm. More details are available on our website:

<http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/events/>

Saturday 16th April – Darwin College Society Heritage Event – Monks Wood

Our Spring event will once again be "a walk in the woods", this time Monks Wood a very ancient wood which should have lots of bluebells and other spring flowers for our visit. The wood is also noted for the large numbers of butterflies on the wider paths, the variety of birds and, as is always true of ancient woods with much rotting wood, a huge number of insect species. There has been an ash-oak wood here for at least 2000 years and the present wood is an SSSI and a National Nature Reserve. We are very lucky in having Chris Gardiner as our guide as he is in charge of several Natural England reserves in the East of England and he has made a special study of the history of the wood. The cost of the day is £2.50 plus lunch. Local alumni/ae will be e-mailed an invitation within the next week. If you live further afield, please e-mail Sophia for more details: sas65@cam.ac.uk.



Friday 13th May – Darwin Society Dinner

Details are available on our website:

<http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/events/>

and invitations will be sent out nearer the date.

Friday 20th May – Reunion Dinner – 1964-1972 and 1988-1998

You are very cordially invited to *The Darwin College 1964-1972 and 1988-1998 Reunion Dinner* on **Friday, 20th May 2011**. Partners or spouses are very welcome but, as places are likely to be limited, please book early to avoid disappointment. Dress is usually lounge suits or equivalent. The cost of the three-course dinner will be £25.00 per person, including pre-dinner drinks, wine with the meal, and coffee. UK alumni will receive an invitation in the next week and overseas alumni an e-mail invitation. Please e-mail the Alumni Office (sas65@cam.ac.uk) if you would like to attend, and particularly if you are returning to the UK from overseas and do not fall exactly in these cohort dates.

Saturday 24th September – Alumni Buffet Lunch

The College plans to host a Family Buffet Lunch for our alumni, their partners and children, to coincide with the University's Alumni Weekend. The lunch will be held on Saturday, 24 September, at 12.30pm for 12.45 in The College's beautiful grounds (if the weather is fine). Do come along and enjoy good food and wine, great company, and beautiful surroundings, and the chance to enjoy the many interesting lectures and tours of the weekend. The cost for lunch will be £12.50 for adults (including wine) and free for children. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail Sophia Smith who will send out invitations nearer the time.

If you want to come along to an event, please e-mail alumni.office@dar.cam.ac.uk and we will send you further details. Also, if you live abroad and know you will be coming to the UK within the next 12 months it is worth checking the 'Darwin College Events Diary' to see if anything coincides with your visit. Please bear in mind that we only send supplementary invitations to Darwin Society Dinners to those alumni/ae living in reasonable range of Cambridge, and to the appropriate year groups within the UK for the Reunion meals; though, of course, it goes without saying that we are always especially delighted to see alumni/ae from further afield who can join us unexpectedly in Cambridge to attend an event.

DID YOU KNOW?...

The Darwinian Newsletter

The next issue of 'The Darwinian' is due to be mailed in the Easter Term. If you have any news you would like included, please e-mail the Editors on darwinian@darwin.cam.ac.uk. Previous issues of the newsletter can be viewed at <http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/darwinian/darwinian.htm>.



Facebook

Darwin College alumni have a new Face book page. Go to <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Cambridge-United-Kingdom/Darwin-College-Cambridge-Alumni/275788542485?ref=sgm>.

LinkedIn

A Darwinian in London has just started an 'Alumni and Student Career Network Group' on LinkedIn. The link for the LinkedIn group is: <http://www.linkedin.com/e/-xw2jo-gebmo3zv-25/vgh/3431326/>. Please do join one (or both) of these groups and take advantage of the chance to network with Old Darwinians from all over the world.

'Lost Alumni'

The College has lost contact with a number of 'Old Darwinians' over the years. Their names are listed by matriculation year on the Darwin website, please take a look and see if there are any names you recognise! Go to <http://www.dar.cam.ac.uk/alumni/lostalumni/index.shtml>.

Your Contact Details?

If your contact details have changed recently, please take a few moments to go to www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni and complete our on-line update survey. Alternatively, e-mail alumni.office@dar.cam.ac.uk as soon as possible after the change. If you no longer want to receive these bulletins once a quarter (we of course hope that will not be the case...!), then please e-mail sas65@cam.ac.uk to let us know to take you off the list. On the other hand, if you know of someone else who might like to receive these e-mails – please forward it to them; they can then register for the bulletins by going to www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni.

...Oh, and don't forget to leave us your feedback on the update survey!