Dear Old Darwinian

Welcome to the Darwin College December 2009 e-bulletin. Here we list news and alumni events from both Darwin and Darwinians, and the wider University community. If you would like more details on anything included, please do phone or e-mail us. It is always a great pleasure to talk to you and help where we can.

Darwin College Happenings

The new Darwin College Society committee finished off their first successful year of events with two diverse ‘Charles Darwin’ themed happenings. In August alumni enjoyed a one-man play by Geoff Hales entitled ‘Voyaging through Charles Darwin’s Memories’ – this play centred on the early life of Darwin and was much appreciated by the audience.

Later in the year Old Darwinians enjoyed a ‘behind-the-scenes’ visit to the Charles Darwin Beagle Collection at Cambridge University Zoology Museum. This special event organised exclusively for Darwin College alumni was appreciated as a real privilege by everyone who attended.

The DCS have now outlined the first part of their events programme for 2010; details are shown later.

The Master visited Australia in August and hosted a meal for alumni based in Sydney.

Willy was delighted to meet and become reacquainted with College members.

More about his trip will be in the next issue of The Darwinian.

Darwinian Editor and Darwin Fellow Andrew Prentice hosted a reunion meal in Bangkok in October, more details in The Darwinian.
We are sorry to have to announce that Darwin College founding Fellow, and former Vice-Master, Professor Frank Hayhoe, died at the end of November at the age of 89. A full obituary will be included in *The Darwinian*.

**College Personalities, Talks, and Internet Links**

Darwin Fellow, Professor Chris Bishop, will be giving the first ‘Marshall Family Lecture’ on ‘Secrets of the Web’ on 19th December. This lecture is designed for all members of the family over 10 years of age. Booking is essential, more details are at: [http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/news/dp/2009120801](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/news/dp/2009120801).

Darwin alumnus, Julian Hakes (MPhil 1997), is an architect specialising in bridge design. He featured in the 5th December issue of the Saturday *Times* magazine as a ‘New Victorian’, one of a number of ‘British Pioneers’ who are shaping our future world. The article can be found at: [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/science/article6937504.ece?token=null&offset=0&page=1](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/science/article6937504.ece?token=null&offset=0&page=1).

Darwin Fellow, Professor David MacKay, was appointed the Government’s Chief Scientific Adviser on Climate Change at the end of September this year. He spoke about methods to control climate change in October, reported in *The Times* at: [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article6860181.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article6860181.ece).

**Annual Fund 2009**

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to our annual fund mailing in November. If you intend to support this year’s annual appeal, but have not yet given, may we remind you to fill out the gift form and post it back. If you have mislaid the letter, but would still like to make a gift, please go to [http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/givingtodor Darwin1.htm](http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/givingtodor Darwin1.htm); you can make a secure donation on line from this page.

**College Alumni Events – ‘Dates for Your Diary’**

**Saturday, 13th February 2010 – Darwin College Society – Local Heritage Event: ‘Darwin and his Relationship with Henson’**

The Darwin College Society has organised a visit to the Cambridge Herbarium. The original Herbarium will be moving premises in 2010, so this will be one of the last times to see the collection in the rooms where Darwin and Henson worked. Access is strictly limited to 15. The tour will be followed by lunch in College and cost £15 per person. This event is likely to be very popular, so if you would like to register your interest in attending please e-mail Sophia on sas65@cam.ac.uk by return.

**Friday, 12th March 2010 – Darwin College Society: Dinner**

The next Darwin Society Dinner will be held on 12th March 2009 in the College at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. There is a possibility that the Darwin College Society will enliven the evening with a wine tasting! More details will be available on the website and direct invitations will be sent out to Old Darwinians living locally nearer the time. If you live further afield and would like to receive further details, please e-mail Sophia and an invitation will be sent to you in early February.
Friday, 19th March 2010 – Darwin College Society: ‘Alumni/ae-Student Career Network - Life Sciences’

The Darwin College Society has devised an exciting new initiative designed to enable our current students to benefit from the experiences of and contact with our alumni/ae, and you are invited to participate. If you are in a position to provide mentoring, advice, guidance and useful contacts – on this occasion in the Life Sciences – that could help current Darwinian students (in their final year of postgraduate qualification) to make a successful start to their future careers, then please e-mail Darwin College alumnus, Alex Smeets <asmeets@sky.com>, for more details and to register your interest in helping launch this initiative.

Friday, 16th April 2010 – Old Darwinians’ Reunion 1978-1990

If you attended College between 1978 and 1990, you are invited to a reunion dinner on Friday, 16th April. This time there will be an opportunity to attend a short informal talk about The College, learn how it has changed and its current place within the University, and, for those interested, to take a look at some of the newer parts of the College.

The tour will take place between 6.30pm and 7.15pm and, after pre-drinks, the meal will commence at 7.30pm.

All UK alumni will receive an invitation by post; however, we would be particularly pleased to see any alumni from overseas who might be able to make arrangements to attend. If you don’t live in the UK and would like to attend, please contact the Alumni Office for further details.

Saturday, 24th April 2010 — Darwin College Society Local Heritage Visit – ‘Bluebells, Oxslips, and Orchids’

A guided walk is planned at Hayley Wood, one of South Cambridgeshire’s ancient woodlands preserved by the local Wildlife Trust. More details will be sent out in early March 2010.
Friday, 14th May 2010 – Darwin College Society: Dinner

An invitation will be sent to local alumni nearer the time. If you live further away and know you will be in the UK at this time, please e-mail Sophia for more details: sas65@cam.ac.uk.

Saturday, 22nd May 2010 – Darwin College Society - Local Heritage Event: ‘Private Tour of Kettle’s Yard’

Michael Harrison, the Director of Kettle's Yard, will lead a tour of the buildings, displays and exhibitions after the gallery has closed to the public. More details nearer the time.

25th Darwin College Lecture Series 2010

The 25th Darwin College Lecture Series is entitled ‘Risk’; a list of lectures are on the left.

Full details about the 2010 Lecture Series can be found at:

http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/lectures/

Remember that podcasts are available of all the talks from the Darwin College Lecture Series since 2007. Please go to:

http://mediaplayer.group.cam.ac.uk/DarwinCollege/

and we are featured on iTunesU.

‘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 find a minute to take a look and see if there are any names you recognise!

The details are at: http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni/lostalumni/
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, you can e-mail alumni.office@darwin.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 sgs65@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 http://www.darwin.cam.ac.uk/alumni.

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

With all best wishes for the Festive Season

The Darwin College Alumni Team