The Committee again received applications of outstanding quality for this year’s scholarships. The Committee’s only regret is that we cannot give more scholarships. Six scholarships were awarded from the sixty-five students who submitted applications. Sixty of these students had graduated with 1st Class Honours, many with double degrees and nine had been awarded University Medals as well as numerous other academic awards. Some information on the newly appointed scholars can be found on pages 2 and 3.

I want to welcome Professor Peter Rathjen from the University of Melbourne, who joined the Committee this year. I also wish to thank the British High Commission for its assistance in the selection of scholars and for its contribution to the funding of the British Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarships, and the British Council who assists in providing information sessions to all scholars prior to their departure.

The Fund gratefully acknowledges the considerable support from the scholars’ own universities as well as the University of Oxford through bursaries. This support enhances the scholarships’ value substantially. At present, the Australian National University, the University of New South Wales, the University of Sydney, the University of Adelaide and the University of Wollongong provide supplementary funding to their former students. In 2007, two former students of the University of Queensland and the University of Melbourne respectively, will take up studies in Oxford under the aegis of the Oxford Australia Scholarship fund.

The Honourable Ian Wilson, AM, manages the fund raising campaign on behalf of Magdalen College, and the Committee and I wish to congratulate him on this success, and thank him for his efforts over the years. An alumni function for Magdalen College was organised in Sydney in October together with Ian Buchanan, in preparation of the celebrations of the College’s anniversary celebrations.

This academic year also saw the conferring of Doctors of Philosophy on Jonathan Lo and Jason Wong. Their studies were supported by a generous gift from the Sir Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation in connection with its 40th anniversary year, 2002. Dr Lo and Dr Wong join the Scholarship Committee in thanking the Trustees of the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation for their support. More about the research by Dr Lo and Dr Wong can be found on page 9.

In April, Dr Kwan Hee Lee had his viva and gained his D Phil in Physics thanks to the support of the University College Old Members Fund. The Committee, and the former scholarship holders, are grateful for the donations by the Alumni that have made it possible for these students to further their studies at University College and thank Mr. Stuart McCullogh who not only coordinates the fundraising but also edits a Newsletter for the University College Alumni.

Since the first four scholarships were awarded in 1998, forty scholars have been sent to the University of Oxford, with another six to join them in October. This academic year, the Fund will be supporting eleven students at the University of Oxford. Their studies span theoretical physics, mathematics, economics, English literature, the classics, biomedical engineering, water science, politics & management, and law.

John White
James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholarship Awards 2007

Two students were awarded James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholarships in 2007.

2007 - 2010 Melissa Duncan from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland. Melissa has also been awarded a scholarship from Merton College and a bursary from the Clarendon Fund.

"In 2005, I completed a Bachelor of Science with majors in both mathematics and physics at the University of Queensland and the following year graduated with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Mathematics. I enjoyed the opportunity to research in mathematical physics with an ICE-EM vacation scholarship and to extend on this work during my honours year, and also had the opportunity to attend the Australian Graduate School in Mathematics courses in this area. My research has focused on quantum phases in an atomic-molecular Bose-Einstein condensate model and I am currently completing an MPhil looking at the relationship between quantum entanglement and classical dynamics. I am looking forward to further pursuing my interest in mathematical physics reading for a DPhil in Mathematics at Oxford."

2007 - 2009 Andrew Whitby, from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours and a University Medal in Computer Science) and a Bachelor of Economics. Since graduating he has worked at Accenture and the Allen Consulting Group, where he worked on projects involving public policy (health and education), regulatory economics and economic modelling.

Andrew has a strong academic and personal interest in poverty and economic growth - in 2006 he completed the 100km Sydney Trailwalker to raise money for Oxfam Australia. At Oxford, he intends to read for the Master of Philosophy in Economics, focusing on growth and development economics.

His other interests include distance running, photography and travel. He is currently travelling overland along the route of the ancient Silk Road, through China and Central Asia (the long way to the UK) and looks forward to joining the international community of scholars at Oxford.

Magdalen College - Oxford Australia Scholarship Award 2007

2007 - 2008 Prue Bindon graduated from the Australian National University in 2001 with degrees in Arts and Law with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law. After graduation, Prue joined the staff of the ANU Faculty of Law as Associate Lecturer and Indigenous Student Adviser. In 2003, Prue commenced work in private practice in Sydney focussing on industrial relations and employment law. Prue then had the opportunity to work as Associate to the Hon Justice Dyson Heydon AC of the High Court of Australia, after which she returned to private practice in Canberra in 2006. Prue continues to focus on industrial and employment law and enjoys part-time tutoring in various law courses at the ANU Faculty of Law.

Prue will be reading for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Magdalen College. She intends to continue studying industrial relations and employment law, a dynamic area that has undergone considerable scrutiny and change in recent times, as well as pursuing her interest in legal theory and administrative law.

Prue has also been awarded a Clarendon Bursary to cover the difference between the home and international fees at Oxford.
Since 1998, The British High Commission and the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund, jointly fund two scholarships to the University of Oxford for a one-year taught postgraduate course. The fields of study have varied, but for 2007 the emphasis was put on Science and innovation, New and renewable energy resources, Energy security, Global environment issues, Science policy, Sustainable development, Human rights and Political science.

2007 - 2008 Carla Bissett just graduated from the University of New South Wales in December 2006.

"I am originally from Newcastle, NSW, and in 2006 I completed a Bachelor of Engineering in Industrial Chemistry (Honours) at the University of New South Wales. As a UNSW Co-op Scholar I gained 18 months industrial training throughout my degree at a diverse range of companies, including Sydney Water and a membrane manufacturer. My work placements led to a continued interest in the water industry, culminating in a graduate position in the Water Group at the Australian engineering firm GHD Pty Ltd.

I plan to read for a MSc in Water Science, Policy and Management in order to gain a greater understanding of the social, environmental and policy issues that influence water management, particularly in light of Australia’s water shortages and the increasing need for new holistic, sustainable water policies at all levels of governance. I am interested in sustainable environmental policies, appropriate technology use and issues of resource allocation and water privatisation.

In my spare time I read, draw, play hockey and pub trivia, volunteer as a surf lifesaver at Maroubra Beach, scuba dive and watch far too much UK television. I aim to participate in many sporting and outdoors activities at Oxford and, in particular, I hope to play lacrosse for the first time."

2007-2008 Michael Molinari graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2004 with a Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical) and Bachelor of Science (Chemistry/Biochemistry). Since graduating, he has worked for McKinsey & Company (a management consulting firm) and most recently overseeing strategy at Cricket Australia. This work has taken him all over the world, and into industries ranging from packaging to banking.

His interests are wide and varied, but at Oxford Michael is intending to return to science and engineering to pursue an MSc in Biomedical Engineering. He plans to explore the potential for engineering solutions to address major public health issues, and developing Australia’s commercial capabilities in this area. Michael is also looking forward to playing hockey and dabbling in rowing.

2007 – 2010 Rhys Davies from Bendigo graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor in Science and Honours degree in Physics.

"I will be studying in the Theoretical Particle Physics group at Oxford. Although the details of my project are yet to be decided, I will be studying the interactions of sub-atomic particles, and the quantum field theories used to describe these interactions. It is an exciting time to be working in this field, as at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN it will soon be possible to conduct experiments at the highest energies ever reached in a particle collider. Some of the questions we may soon be able to answer include:
- Why do particles have mass?
- Does the universe have more spatial dimensions than the three we see?

If all goes well, studying for a D.Phil. at Oxford will be the start of a career in academia, so I can continue to examine the fundamental properties of our universe. Despite the enormous successes of physics during the twentieth century, there is still a lot to discover, and the journey will be fascinating.

As well as studying physics, I have been training in karate for the last two years, and intend to join a karate club in Oxford. Next year may see my return to the cricket and football fields as well. I also enjoy both listening to and playing music, although my guitar playing and singing could do with a bit of practice!"
2006 – 2007 James Goudkamp, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Wollongong with degrees in science and law with First Class Honours and the University Medal in law. Following his graduation, he was appointed an Associate Lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the University of Wollongong and, in that capacity, taught subjects in criminal law and legal philosophy. He was employed as Associate to the Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG of the High Court of Australia. James’s principal research interests are the law of torts and the criminal law. He has given voluntary assistance to a range of organisations including the Australian Lawyers’ Alliance and the New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties. James is the first scholar appointed for the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholarship. In the academic year 2006-2007, James is reading for a Bachelor of Civil Law. He will continue to study for a Master of Philosophy in Law at Magdalen College. James has been awarded a full Clarendon Fund Scholarship from the University of Oxford, and has decided to accept, letting another Australian student benefit from the Magdalen College Scholarship for the up-coming academic year.

"I have found my time in Oxford stimulating and productive. Two of my tutorial essays have appeared as a case note and an article in the Civil Justice Quarterly (J Goudkamp, “Delay in Commencing Proceedings within the Limitation Period in Australia” (2007) 26 CJQ 185; J Goudkamp, “The Rule Against Bias and the Doctrine of Waiver” (2007) 26 CJQ 310). A paper developed from my Bachelor of Civil Law dissertation entitled “A Revival of the Doctrine of Attainder? The Statutory Illegality Defences to Liability in Tort” will appear as an article in the forthcoming issue of the Sydney Law Review. I acknowledge the support that I have received from the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholarship in these works.

Subject to satisfactory performance in my exams, I will be staying in Oxford to read for the Master of Philosophy in Law.”

James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford

2006 – 2007 Patrick Delaney, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University at the end of 2005 with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours and University Medal) and a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in International Relations and Philosophy. After graduation, Patrick worked in the legal policy branch of the National E-Health Transition Authority and as a law tutor at the Australian National University. His interests include governance, particularly the difficult issue of corruption, as well as political and legal theory. He intends to develop his knowledge in these areas by reading for the Bachelor of Civil Law in Oxford, focusing on international law and jurisprudence. In his free time at Oxford, he is hoping to learn Spanish and to make a brief return to debating, in preference to Oxford’s other famous past-time – rowing.

“The year so far has been a flurry of activity. On the academic front, I’ve enjoyed the intensity of two terms, discovered the Oxford tutorial system, and read more than I could have imagined possible. In sum, the course has been intense but manifestly rewarding. Outside of study, I’ve had the privilege of representing the Oxford Union at the World University Debating Championships in Vancouver, and completed the task of publishing an article with the Virginia Journal of International Law. As the course draws towards its close I’m contemplating my future options, and hoping to take up employment with an international non-government organisation. In the interim, however, I hope to enjoy an Oxford summer, perhaps take a punt on the river, before the difficult path to exams begins.”
2006 – 2008 Anthony Jones, from Sydney, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies) with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Chinese. During the course of his degree he won scholarships and prizes for English, Latin, Ancient Greek and modern Chinese. His honours thesis however focused on Classical Chinese language, specifically the semiotic implications of the third-century BCE Daoist philosophical text Zhuang Zi. While at university, Anthony was involved in debating, representing Sydney University at Australian, Australasian and World championships, and winning the award for Best Debater in Australia at the 2001 Australian intervarsity championships. He also edited Honi Soit, and wrote for the university’s literary journal, Hermes, and the Sydney University Dramatic Society. Following graduation, he studied at the Guoji Guanxi Xueyuan (College of International Relations) in Beijing over the 2004-05 Chinese winter. During 2005 & 2006, Anthony worked at the NSW Government Cabinet Office in the Premier’s policy advice unit on rural water and natural resources policy. At the same time, he has been pursuing further MA research in the area of early Classical Chinese literature – this time the ritual poetry of the ancient Book of Songs.

"Having now completed a third of my law degree at University College, I am happy to say that all my expectations as to the intellectual rigour and interest of the course have been fulfilled. At the same time, I am also glad that the stories of the wide range of extra-curricular activities here at Oxford have been proved true. I have had the good fortune to play in the erratic but sometimes sublime Univ rugby XV, to win a choral exhibition, to be elected as secretary of the Univ graduate community and to participate in a number of trivia and University Challenge teams. I thank the Oxford Australia Committee for the continued opportunity here at Oxford, and look forward to Trinity Term 2007 and beyond."

2006 – 2009 Phil Manners, from Armidale, New South Wales, currently in Sydney, graduated from the Australian National University in Canberra with a Bachelor of Economics (Honours and University Medal) and a Bachelor of Science majoring in mathematics. Since graduating he has worked at the Reserve Bank of Australia and at the Centre for International Economics. Initially, he undertook research into monetary policy and exchange rates, futures markets and monetary policy in an uncertain world. At the Centre for International Economics he was involved in micro economic issues such as regulatory reform, the impact of trade and investment liberalisation and the assessment of economic policies.

"My first year of the MPhil in Economics proved very rewarding. We were lectured by about 15 different people across three subjects, providing lots of diversity of opinion and teaching style. Highlights included understanding why the success of government auctions has been so varied, how difficult (and dangerous) it is for a government to take on a general role of welfare maximisation and why some countries are so much richer than others. This coursework culminates in three exams in June.

In my own time I researched the role played by foreign direct investment in promoting development, the incentives provided by different regulatory schemes and submitted an essay arguing that government intervention to dampen price movements can reduce a country’s ability to adjust to natural resource scarcity. The essay earned me entry to the St Gallen Symposium on the Power of Natural Resources in Switzerland in May. I also attended the annual conference for the Centre for the Study of African Economies in Oxford and many of their weekly seminars.

On the sporting front, I helped the proud Nuffield Lions football team achieve promotion to first division for the first time in many years. I also played loads of squash, tennis and cricket. But the major achievement for me was definitely surviving my first English winter! " 
2006 – 2009 Olivia Murphy, from Canberra, graduated with a University Medal in English from the University of Sydney in 2005. "I've had a wonderful year so far. Mainly I've been working on my thesis, but since my last report I've given two conference papers: one in March, to the British Association for Romantic Studies' postgraduate conference at the University of Leeds, on eighteenth-century novelistic heroines; and one in April, to the David Nichol Smith Seminar at the University of Otago (NZ) on Jane Austen's juvenilia and "Persuasion".

With two other DPhil students I've started convening the Romantic Realignments seminar, which meets to hear papers weekly during term time, and we're organising a conference for late September, on Romanticism and War.

Last term I was in a play, "Oedipus Tyrannos", which we performed in Christ Church Cathedral during their arts week. Other than that, I've been working as a library assistant at Worcester, which is a lovely quiet job, going to see plays in London and Stratford-upon-Avon, and hanging around the Oxford Literary Festival, which was lots of fun."

2006 – 2007 Erin Schwarz, from Adelaide, graduated from the University of Adelaide in 2004 with a Diploma in Languages (Japanese) and a Bachelor of Arts majoring in English. She was awarded First Class Honours in English in 2005. "My year at Oxford has been intense and rewarding. I embarked on the MSt in English Language and Literature having never studied the Romantic and Victorian period before. While the course has been challenging (both intellectually and in terms of workload), it has given me an excellent overview of the period, which has prepared me well for further study.

Being at Oxford has brought literature to life in new ways for me: not only have I been able to see and touch original manuscripts, but I have had the opportunity to experience the country and culture out of which British literature has grown. For example, my understanding of Wordsworth's poetry was greatly enriched by a trip to Grasmere to see his old house and his beloved Lake District. Over the past year, I've enjoyed participating in a large number of College social events and also some activities with the Walking Club."

2006 – 2010 Shelley Wickham, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined degree in Science and Arts, with a major in Russian Language and First Class Honours and the University Medal in Physics. "During the first year of the Doctoral Training Centre 4-year D.Phil course, we are taught a range of intensive coursework modules. For the past two terms I have been attending these modules in order to prepare for the interdisciplinary project I will research in the final 3 years of the course. My introduction to the course has been very successful, and I have already learnt a great deal of theoretical knowledge and experimental techniques in advanced Biology, as well as improving my skills in advanced statistics and programming. We have also had some interesting practical modules, including such work as sequencing a stretch of our own DNA, and marking cells with fluorescent markers. Alongside the content of the course, there is also a strong emphasis on developing interdisciplinary communication and presentation skills. We are often required to give presentations, sometimes as many as 3 or 4 per week, to an audience of diverse backgrounds. I have found this intensive method of learning really helpful, and benefitted a lot from the experience.

In the coming term we will undertake a number of advanced modules more closely related to the research undertaken by groups belonging to the DTC, and following this we will be required to choose more specific topics for our ongoing DPhil research projects. I'm very much looking forward to applying these new skills and insights to a research project in the coming terms."

2005 – 2006 and 2007 -2008 Brenda Tronson, from Werombi, New South Wales, graduated from University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science (Hons). Brenda completed her BCL in July 2006 and has been granted a deferral to work as an associate with Justice Crennan QC before continuing her studies with a M Phil in Law.
"Thanks to the Scholarship Committee allowing me to defer my scholarship, this year I’ve been working as a judicial associate. I’ll be heading back to Oxford in October to start the MPhil in Law - my dissertation will be a comparative study of judicial attitudes towards economic implications of equality rights decisions. I’m not wishing away my associateship just yet, but I am looking forward to going back to Oxford - to the flexibility of full-time study and all the extra-curricular activities I’m

2004 – 2006 Eloise Scotford, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined science/law degree and a University Medal in Law in 2001. After graduating she worked as associate to the Chief Justice of Australia and lectured in Property Law and Equity at the University of Sydney and University of New South Wales. She undertook a Bachelor of Civil Law in Oxford in 2005-6, pursuing interests in environmental law and regulation, and European Community law. She is now MCR President of Magdalen College.

Eloise is also a Clarendon Scholar and was awarded the Eleanor Sophia Wood Postgraduate Research Travelling Scholarship from the University of Sydney to supplement her living and travelling expenses.

“Having completed my BCL last year, this MPhil year has been a time for much more fun and involvement in Oxford life. The richness of academic and extra-curricular life continues to be astounding. The terms pass frighteningly quickly, filled as they are with much learning, opportunity and Oxford beauty. My MPhil thesis concerns EC environmental law, and I am looking to extending my thesis into a DPhil project. I should be in this inspiring place for a little while longer, and I am very grateful for all the financial support that has made my time here so far possible.”

2003 – 2006 Mark Thomson, from Adelaide, graduated from the Australian National University with two First Class Honours degrees and University Medals in Latin and English Literature. He began a Doctor in Philosophy (DPhil) in Classics, specialising in Late Antiquity, at Keble College, Oxford in 2003. Mark Thomson recently completed the final draft of his thesis. He has returned to Australian, to take up a sessional vacancy in Ancient History at the Australian National University. Mark will be lecturing on aspects of Roman urbanism to undergraduate and postgraduate students. He will also be Visiting Scholar at Fenner Hall.

“Over the past few years, I have been on a thesis on the subject “The Historia Augusta and Late Roman Literary Culture,” which is now nearing completion. The Historia Augusta is one of the more enigmatic books in Latin literature. It is a series of biographies of Roman emperors from Hadrian to the Carinus (117-285), attributed to six authors, writing in the reigns of Diocletian, Constantius I and Constantine. During the nineteenth century, critics gradually realised that the whole thing was an enormous hoax, perpetrated by a single forger, writing late in the fourth century.

Whenever you read something faintly odd or disreputable about a Roman emperor of the third century, then it was probably derived from the Historia Augusta. So, for instance, the claim that the Emperor Heliogabalus travelled around Rome in a wheelbarrow, dragged by four naked ladies, is not an accurate historical observation, but rather the work of our forger. The suggestion that the Emperor Maximinus (“the Thracian”) was a seven-foot tall barbarian, perpetually drunk, who could win half a dozen wrestling bouts in a single afternoon (without breaking into a sweat) is also a fabrication. The claim that the Emperor Tacitus ordered all the books of his ancestor, the historian Tacitus, copied and placed in the libraries of Rome represents yet another devious invention. The list is almost endless.

The author of these bizarre lies was something of a genius, and he inflicted untold horrors upon classical studies: bogus authors, senators, buildings, dates, coins, letters and laws, even a few spurious emperors. As well as trying to find the genuine historical materials hidden beneath these inventions, I have tried to place some of this nonsense in its context, to integrate it into the culture of its day. In the process, I have found that some very important people in the later Roman empire had what could be described as a sense of humour, which they exercised under the most outlandish pseudonyms. The attempt to unravel their elaborate in-jokes and codes involves some difficult philological problems and casts light upon many aspects of life at Rome around the turn of the fifth century.”
2003 – 2006 Simon Baptist, from Hobart, graduated from the University of Tasmania with a combined science/economics degree and First Class Honours and University Medal in Economics in 2002.

“I’ve been a Lecturer in Economics at New College this year, and am Vice-Captain of the Oxford Uni Korfball Club (and in a non-University thing, I am also the Chair of the Oxfordshire Korfball Association). Things have all been doing well with my studies, I’ve made some good progress on my D.Phil. I’m researching productivity and technology in African and Asian Manufacturing firms. Why aren’t African firms as successful as those in Asia? Is there any evidence of technological change within Africa? What do the differences imply about policy to encourage growth of these firms in Africa? I am also starting to look at the links with behavioural economics and psychology by investigating if measures of worker’s happiness are related to firm performance which is quite interesting.”

2002 - 2005 Corin Throsby, from Sydney, graduated with the University Medal in English Literature from the Australian National University. She then worked as a journalist at Fairfax for two years before starting a Master of Studies in English at Somerville College, which she completed with a Distinction. She has published articles on Lord Byron, Joseph Conrad and literary responses to the sinking of the Titanic. She is writing her doctoral thesis on Byron and the birth of celebrity culture in the Romantic period. Corin is at present also working as Welfare Dean at Merton College.

“Now that my time in Oxford is coming to an end, I am appreciating more than ever the beauty, intellectual richness, and fun of the place. I am deeply grateful to the Oxford Australia Fund for enabling me to come here. I have no doubt that my Oxford experience -- the things I’ve learned and the people I’ve met -- will continue to influence and shape my life long after I’ve left.”

2002-2005 Nicholas Apostoloff, from Canberra, graduated with a Masters degree in 2005, a University Medal in Engineering in 2000 and a Bachelor of Information Technology in 1998 from the Australian National University. He began his DPhil in October 2002 at Brasenose College, specialising in Computer Vision.

“I am submitting my thesis on automatic methods for video segmentation and matting this month and will be sitting my DPhil. examination on July 6. While writing my thesis, I have been working as a Research Assistant for Prof. Andrew Zisserman on a project involving the automatic detection, tracking and identification of people in video. This is a real-time realisation of a previous project that automatically identified cast members in the popular TV series, Buffy the Vampire Slayer. At the end of July, I am moving to San Francisco to pursue a research and development career in the post-production industry for film and television. Eventually, I hope to settle back home in Australia and continue my research there. I would like to thank the Oxford-Australia fund for helping me with my research and wish the fund all the best for the future.”

2004 – 2005 Naomi Hawkins, from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland with degrees in science and law and a University Medal in Law in 2002. She pursued a Bachelor of Civil Law degree with a focus on commercial, comparative and intellectual property law. Naomi also received a funding supplement from the University of Queensland to support her scholarship

"Since completing my Bachelor of Civil Law in 2005, I have continued my studies at Oxford. I am now undertaking my D.Phil in law, funded by a Biomedical Ethics Studentship of the Wellcome Trust. My research examines and analyses the impact of patents over human genes on the translation of medical biotechnology research into clinical application, in the context of the development of genetic diagnostic tests. I am fortunate to be based at the Ethox Centre within the Division of Public Health and Primary Health Care, a multidisciplinary research group of clinicians, philosophers, lawyers, social scientists and psychologists who examine the ethical, legal and social implications of health care.

I continue to enjoy living in Oxford; it truly is an amazing place. I have made a number of very good friends, in diverse disciplines, and from various countries. When I am not pursuing my research, I appreciate the social side of Oxford life, and have become involved in the Oxford University Dancesport Club, and social and competitive Ballroom and Latin-American dancing. good friends, in diverse disciplines, and from various countries. When I am not pursuing my research, I appreciate the social side of Oxford life, and have become involved in the Oxford University Dancesport Club, and social and competitive Ballroom and Latin-American dancing."
Sir Vincent Fairfax Life Sciences Scholarships

In its 40th anniversary year, 2002, the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation made a donation of $120,000 to honour the Oxford graduate and founder of the Foundation, Sir Vincent Fairfax CMG. This generous donation has provided funding for two three-year life science research degrees at Oxford University. The two scholarship holders, Mr. Jonathan Lo and Mr. Jason Wong, have now successfully completing their studies.

2003 - 2006 Jonathan Lo, from Melbourne, graduated from the University of Queensland with a First Class Honours degree and University Medal in Engineering in 1996 and a Master of Engineering Science in 1998. Based at Balliol College, he is working in the Medical Vision Laboratory, specialising in the area of diagnostic medical analysis, such as tumour detection and disease localisation. He was also awarded a full Clarendon Fund bursary from the University of Oxford to assist with his university and college fees.

"During the last academic year, I have continued my work in developing computed-aided breast cancer detection using MRI images. My effort is put into trying to extract physiologically important information out of the images and use it for cancer detection. Instead of using the image intensity, we have used T1 relaxation time (an intrinsic value unique to the underlying tissues), and showed that it provides a better accuracy in detection. I went to an international conference in Washington D.C. during April 2006 to present my papers, and I was accepted for a conference in Copenhagen during October.

I had my viva on the 13th of February. The viva lasted for 2 and a half hours, and I went through with minor corrections (what a big relief!). I went to an international conference in Washington D.C. during April 2006 to present my papers, and I was accepted for a conference in Copenhagen during October.

I had my viva on the 13th of February. The viva lasted for 2 and a half hours, and I went through with minor corrections (what a big relief!). And I have left Oxford to HK straight after for the Chinese New Year. Currently, I am working in Japan, and living in Tokyo.”

2003 – 2006 Jason Wong, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a First Class Honours degree in Bioinformatics in 2002. Based at Linacre College, his DPhil research involves the development of a computational tool intended to help the understanding of genomes. Jason successfully completed his DPhil in November 2006.

"Following the completion of my D.Phil in October 2006, I have commenced a post-doctoral fellowship in Ireland at University College Dublin continuing research in the area of mass spectrometry based proteomics. Later this year I will take up a NHMRC CJ Martin post-doctoral fellowship that will support my research overseas for another two years before I return to Australia. I am most grateful for the academic opportunities that the Oxford-Australia scholarship has opened up for me.”

The Annual Scholarship Luncheon

The annual Luncheon for the Oxford Australia Scholars took place at St John’s College on the 6th of June. As I was visiting Oxford for research purposes, I was able to attend the lunch party with all the current Oxford Australia scholars, Mr James Fairfax AO and senior members of the University. I was very pleased to also see some of the former scholars.

In November 2006, a get-together was organised for the new scholars to meet in Oxford by Kwan Hee Lee. The Committee wishes to thank him for organising this on behalf of the “new” scholars.
University College Old Members' Fund - Past Scholars

The generous support from the many members of University College now living in Australia, has made it possible for the University College Old Members'-Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund to continuously maintain an Australian student reading at University College since 1999. In October, 2007 Rhys Davies, (see p. 3) will begin reading for a D Phil in Physics. as the fourth scholar this Fund has sponsored.

1999-2001 Jonathan Pearlman was the first scholar the University College Old Members'Fund supported. He read Art and Law at the University of New South Wales gaining a BA (Hons) and LLB. He completed an MPhil in modern English literature.

"Receiving the Oxford Australia Scholarship in 1999 allowed me to realise a long-held dream of studying English literature at Oxford. After completing an MPhil in 2001, I joined the Sydney Morning Herald as a trainee journalist. I have since worked in the newspaper's investigations team and on the foreign desk and am currently a state political reporter in the Herald’s bureau at the NSW Parliament. So, aside from leaving me with great memories, the scholarship and my time at Oxford have helped me with my next step in life by enabling me to break into journalism."

2001-2002 Kathleen Neal (nee Hutson) has a science and arts degree from the University of Melbourne. She completed a Masters of Studies Historical Research (Medieval History) at the University of Oxford.

"The past year has been a stimulating and exciting one for me in terms of career development, and I continue to build on the wonderful foundation afforded me by my MSt at Oxford. Whilst simultaneously completing a PhD in neuroscience to assuage my seemingly eternal curiosity, I have become a reviewer for two local medieval history journals, Journal of the Australian Early Medieval Association, and Parergon, the journal of the Australia and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies. In this role I have relished the professional challenge of engaging critically with the work of other scholars. My own historical output continues apace. I am currently preparing some of my previous work on the hagiography of Irish saints for publication. I have also achieved a great deal of progress towards my next project, a study of the letters of Eleanor of Provence. The generous people at the National Archives in London have made high quality digital copies of a subset of the letters, and I am busily working on transcribing and translating them. I hope this will eventually result in a printed edition. I have also recently been appointed an Honorary Fellow of the newly formed School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne."

2004 – 2007 Kwan Hee Lee, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a double degree in Science and Electrical Engineering, with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Engineering.

"DPhil Thesis: Submitted and viva completed in 2 years and 11 months! Since the last newsletter my time in Oxford has been about bringing a sense of "completeness" to the DPhil. The final six months of 2006 was spent tying any up loose ends from my experiments, analysing the data, and (most importantly) writing up the various chapters for my thesis. In the days leading upto Christmas, while the UK was covered in a blanket of thick fog, I submitted my thesis at the Examination School. Walking out, with many of Oxford’s building covered in a misty fog, it was a surreal experience...

My DPhil thesis, titled "Fabrication, Spectroscopy and Modelling of III-V Nanostructures for Photonics", deals with understanding the fundamental physics behind light emitting nanostructures. These are very small semiconductor structures (~1000 atoms) and this represents next generation of material for optical and electronic application. The DPhil has been a culmination of my collaboration with various groups ranging from Hitachi-Cambridge Laboratory, University of California Santa Barbara (where I spent 6 months as a visiting researcher) and Technical University Munich. During this time, I was the lead author on 4 international journal papers, and co-author on 10 more. There are several more in the works...

Since submitting my DPhil, I have commenced employment as a Research Engineer in the flat panel display industry (e.g. LCD TVs), with a major global, electronics company. I am currently based in northeast Asia, and this should provide valuable industry experience, when I return Australia."
### James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Fund - Past Scholars

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>Daniel Piggott</td>
<td>Graduated from the University of Queensland with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Law. He completed the Bachelor of Civil Laws with distinction. Studying law as a James Fairfax Oxford Australia Fund Scholar helped me to develop the skill set I needed to progress my legal career in both practice and academia. The broader thinking learned in my studies helped me to branch out of a traditional commercial litigation practice into areas of public interest. This included recently conducting a pro bono case in the Federal Court and High Court of Australia that refined the law relating to the Commonwealth’s power to deal with aliens. I have now joined the private bar in Brisbane, where I hope to continue my involvement in public and constitutional law in addition to building a commercial litigation practice. Academically, my studies have allowed me to hold a position as a visiting lecturer in law at the University of Queensland, teaching both graduate and undergraduate students. I have also published articles in Australia and England, and presented a number of professional seminars.</td>
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<td>2001 – 2004</td>
<td>Patrick Porter</td>
<td>Read Law and History at the University of Melbourne from 1995 to 2000 and has a First Class Honours degree in history. He was awarded a DPhil in Modern European History at Magdalen College, having completed his MPhil with distinction. Patrick is now a lecturer at the University of London. Thanks to the generosity of the James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholarship, I was able to complete a DPhil in Modern History at Magdalen College, Oxford. My doctoral thesis, (which survived the viva!), examined religious rhetoric in the British and German armies in the First World War. I worked as a Tutor at Oxford in both British History and the comparative history of the First World War. I also worked as a Teaching Fellow at the British Defence Academy, where I have just been appointed as a Lecturer in Defence Studies.</td>
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<td>1999-2002</td>
<td>Benjamin Kelly</td>
<td>Read Arts and Law at the University of Sydney. He completed his DPhil. in Classics in 2002 at Brasenose College, and has been an associate lecturer in the History Programme at the ANU since 2003. The Oxford Faculty of Classics is one of the largest in the world. Doing graduate work at Oxford therefore offered me opportunities to develop a wide range of technical skills and to experience a considerable variety of approaches to my subject. Moreover, Classics at Oxford is not just a large Faculty, it is a flourishing one. It is one whose senior members are distinguished by their constant willingness to engage with the work of their colleagues and of graduate students, and to debate issues of fundamental cultural importance. It is easy, I think, for junior members of Australian humanities departments to lose sight of the higher cultural purpose of their work under the crush of research production targets, grant proposals, quality reviews, strategic planning, and the like. Having experienced the vibrant atmosphere of a large European Classics faculty, I have been left, I hope, with an enduring sense of what is really important in my professional life: to study the classical origins of Western culture, to help to transmit the classical tradition to future generations, and to interact with academic colleagues and students with generosity and collegiality.</td>
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<td>2000-2003</td>
<td>Garry Bowen</td>
<td>Won the University Medal for Theoretical Physics at the Australian National University in 1999. He completed his DPhil in Physics in 2003. Since leaving Oxford I have continued research in physics, specifically in the field of quantum information theory. I have spent the last three years at the University of Cambridge, where I also have a position as a Junior Research Fellow at Churchill College. The James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship allowed me to undertake a doctorate as part of one of the leading quantum information research groups in the world. Developing a research career would have been considerably more difficult without the support of the Oxford-Australia fund, and I am very grateful for the opportunities it has provided for me.</td>
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<td>1999-2001</td>
<td>Patrick Mackerras</td>
<td>Read Mathematics for his Bachelor of Science degree at the Australian National University from 1994 to 1997 before gaining a James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship to Christ Church College, Oxford. He studied Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE).</td>
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1998-2001 Dale Smith read Law and Arts at the University of Melbourne and was the recipient of the first James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship to be awarded. He completed a DPhil in Law at Oxford.

"I was a recipient of a James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholarship from 1998 to 2001, as a result of which I was able to complete a DPhil in Law at Oxford University. In the process, I was afforded the opportunity to meet, and learn from, many of the leading figures in my discipline. I am currently a lecturer in the Faculty of Law at Monash University, and the training I received at Oxford has proven to be of enormous value as I embark upon an academic career.”

Dale Smith

Past Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

2005 - 2006 Catherine Eakin, from Kempsey, New South Wales, graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours in 2001. Since graduating, Catherine has worked as a tipstaff to a Supreme Court Judge in NSW and has been employed in a financial services and corporate advisory practice. At Oxford, Catherine read for a Masters degree of Bachelor of Civil Law at St John’s College.

"The 2005-2006 academic year I spent as a Chevening Oxford Australia scholar reading for the BCL enriched my life academically, professionally and personally. The rigour of the Oxford curriculum and tutorial system provided me with the opportunity to refine my analytical skills, learn from internationally acclaimed scholars and to befriend and exchange ideas with students from all around the world. I was challenged to consider why and how we regulate, the significance of the shift from national to European law, and the ways in which Australia is both ahead of and behind the United Kingdom in formulating regulatory policy. Reading for the BCL in Oxford’s glorious surrounds is a year I will never forget, and the broad ranging knowledge I acquired has proven an invaluable resource in my day to day work in private practice.”

Catherine Eakin

2005 - 2006 Alexander (Sandy) Phipps, from Canberra, graduated in 2003 from the Australian National University with degrees in Arts (History/Politics) and Law. In 2005, Sandy took up a Chevening Oxford-Australia scholarship to read for a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) at St Edmund Hall. Since completing that degree in July 2006, Sandy has remained in England, working as a litigator at a London law firm. He has drawn heavily in his new role on his BCL studies, particularly in the fields of private international law and civil procedure.

"Having the opportunity to study at Oxford by virtue of the Chevening Oxford-Australia Scholarship programme was a remarkable experience. The BCL was the most intellectually rigorous course of study I have ever undertaken, by virtue of the inherent nature of the degree and, perhaps more importantly, the enthusiasm and ability of my fellow students. But of course these same features made it an immensely rewarding and enjoyable experience as well; and this is not to mention the opportunities for travel and the pursuit of non-academic interests that my time in Oxford presented. I would therefore recommend wholeheartedly the scholarship to prospective students; and would thank Professor White and the Fund committee for their support and on-going work in support of the scholarship programmes.”

Alexander Phipps
Past Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

2004 - 2005 Andrew Battison, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours in 2002. He has read for the Masters degree of Bachelor of Civil Law at St Anne’s College and is looking forward to putting his new knowledge to good use.

After graduating from the Australian National University, Andrew practised in the fields of litigation and takeovers, and securities law in Sydney. At Oxford he has pursued his interest in these areas and the developing relationship between commercial law and improving compliance with human rights.

Andrew also won a scholarship from the international commercial law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer to supplement his Chevening scholarship.

2004 – 2005 Jodi Gray, from northern NSW, graduated from the Australian National University with a combined science/law degree in 2002 with two First Class Honours in science (Psychology) and law as well a University Medal in Law. Before leaving for Oxford, Jodi worked as a solicitor in Sydney and as a volunteer for the international humanitarian law section of the International Committee for the Red Cross. Jodi undertook a Bachelor of Civil Law with a focus on public international law including the law of war and international human rights, comparative human rights, international dispute resolution and conflict of laws.

“I focused on international law and human rights and am finding all the subjects I studied fascinating. The small group tutorials (a characteristic of Oxford study) are both challenging and rewarding. There is much to absorb from an academic standpoint in Oxford with regular seminars on timely international law issues presented by leading practitioners, policy-makers and academics throughout the world. I am feeling very privileged to be in such a setting and learning a great amount. Aside from the academic, Oxford also provides through its collegiate system a great opportunity to become involved in new sports. I took up rowing in first term and rowed in the Christchurch Regatta for novices - and novices we were! It was all a lot of fun.”

2003 – 2004 Sophie Rigby, from Canberra, was awarded a Bachelor of Economics degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours from the Australian National University.

“I studied for the BCL at Christ Church in 2003-2004. The experience of studying at Oxford, with its tutorial system, is truly unique. The BCL well deserves its reputation as the most rigorous postgraduate taught course in the common law world, and it is immensely rewarding to have completed it.”

2003 – 2004 David Tomkins, from Sydney, was awarded a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours from the University of Western Sydney. He read for a Bachelor of Civil Law at Jesus College.

"After completing the BCL in 2003-2004 (thanks to the Chevening-Oxford Australia scholarship) I received a scholarship to study in Trier, Germany for a year where I undertook an LL.M in German and European law. During my time in Trier I also held a post as a research assistant for Professor Birk at the Institute for Labour Law and Industrial Relations in the European Community (http://www.iaaeg.de/). The year in Germany living, working, and learning in a different language, culture and legal system was most rewarding and really complemented the experience of coming from Australia to Oxford.

I have since returned to Oxford to complete the M.Phil. My dissertation is on Judicial Review of Emergency Powers. I’m currently considering whether or not to stay on for the D.Phil. Either way, once I am finished here I will very much be looking forward to returning to Australia.

My time as a Chevening-Oxford Australia scholar was invaluable, not only academically but also personally. The Oxford BCL is a unique opportunity to work with some of the best minds in the field (both students and academics). I was continually challenged in my thoughts and perspectives and am eager to put to use what I have gained here when I return home. On the extra-curricular side of things I have had no trouble getting involved with music, drama and sport. And one of the greatest things about Oxford is the opportunity to meet interesting and intelligent people from all over the world and from just about every academic discipline imaginable.”
2002-2003 Sarah McCosker graduated from the University of Queensland with a combined Bachelor of Arts Honours degree (1998) and Bachelor of Laws degree (2001), receiving double First Class Honours. She worked as an Associate to a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland and gained her qualifications as a barrister before going to Oxford in 2002. She completed the BCL in 2003, and the M.Phil in Law in 2004, and is currently completing her D.Phil in Law, with all three degrees concentrating on international law.

"I received the Chevening Oxford-Australia scholarship in 2002 to undertake the BCL at St Hugh’s College. This began what has come to be a very full and rewarding time at Oxford over the past four and a half years. After completing the BCL I did the M.Phil in Law at Brasenose College, writing my thesis on the relationship between international law and diplomacy in international dispute settlement. I have continued working on this topic for my D.Phil, which I am completing this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my very busy time at Oxford. Between 2003 and 2006 I worked as the Assistant Dean of Brasenose College, which gave me the opportunity to play an active role in my college community. In the first year of my D.Phil I also worked at the Law Commission of England and Wales. In 2005-2006 I taught international law in Oxford, both to undergraduate students and to diplomats on the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme. This was a great experience, and an excellent complement to my doctoral work in international law. Another highlight was my involvement in Oxford’s pro bono law program for four years (Oxford Pro Bono Publico), serving as the Chairperson of the program in 2005-2006. On the non-academic front, I enjoyed a range of activities in Oxford—competing for my college in rowing, singing in the Oxford University College choir, acting in the Oxford University Dramatic Society, and working as an Assistant Editor then Editor of the Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal.

I moved to Canberra in August 2006 to take up a position as a lawyer with the Office of International Law with the Attorney-General’s Department, where I am working in international human rights law. I am enjoying translating my postgraduate studies into practice, and the experience I have gained at Oxford is proving very valuable. I am currently completing my D.Phil, which I am looking forward to submitting this year. I will always be immensely appreciative of the many opportunities that the Chevening Oxford-Australia Scholarship has provided me.

2001-2002 Hoi Trinh has a double degree in Arts and Law from the University of Melbourne (1990-94). He has worked as a solicitor with refugees since 1997. He completed the Master of Studies in Forced Migration course at Magdalen College on a Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship.

Since my graduation at Oxford in 2002 thanks to my Chevening Scholarship, I’ve managed to fulfill my ultimate dream: to find a home for some 2,000 stateless Vietnamese refugees left stranded in the Philippines over the last 17 years. Starting with Australia, to date most of this stateless population has been resettled in Norway, Canada, and the U.S.

Receiving the scholarship not only enabled me to complete my masters in refugee studies, but it has also given me much credibility in this line of work whenever I have to deal with government officials or organisations.”

2001-2002 Laura Dawes has a first class honours degree in mathematics and statistics from Murdoch University and was awarded a University Medal in Science. She completed a Master of Science in Economic and Social History, specialising in the History of Science

"After completing my Masters studies at Oxford as a Chevening Oxford Australia Scholar in 2001-02, I lived in Hanoi, Vietnam for two years where I taught maths and physics and worked at as an honorary Canadian(!) at the Canadian Embassy. On returning to Canberra in 2004, I had a busy year getting married in April and starting a new job at the Australian National University. I am now at Harvard and am just about finished my second year of a PhD, also in History of Science. The Chevening was the means to an exceptional experience and one which I continue to build on and for which I am and will be forever hugely grateful.”
Past Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

2000-2001 **Matthew Harding** read Law and Arts at the University of Melbourne from 1992 to 1997. As a Chevening Oxford Australia scholar, he completed a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL).

"After I finished my BCL, I stayed on in Oxford to undertake a DPhil degree in law, which I recently completed. In January 2005, I was appointed a lecturer in the Law School at the University of Melbourne. I now live and work in Melbourne.

The scholarship has meant that I have been able to start my academic career by taking the BCL, which has led to my research degree, and my current appointment! I have also made a lot of friends through spending that year in Oxford, from all over the world."

2000-2001 **Chester Brown** read Arts and Law at the University of Melbourne graduating with a double First in 1997/1998. As a Chevening-Oxford Australia scholar, he completed a BCL at Oxford. He was subsequently awarded a Menzies Scholarship, and studied for a PhD in international environmental law at the University of Cambridge.

"I received the scholarship in 2000 to undertake the BCL at Oxford University. I was in residence at Magdalen College, and I completed the BCL with Distinction in 2001. I then went on to St John’s College, Cambridge, to begin a PhD in public international law. My doctoral supervisor was Daniel Bethlehem QC, who is now the Legal Adviser to the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Since completing my PhD, I have been working as an Associate in the International Law and International Arbitration Group at Clifford Chance LLP, an international law firm, based in London. The main focus of my work is the arbitration of disputes arising under investment treaties. This has seen a large growth in recent years due to the many bilateral and multilateral investment treaties which permit investors to bring international proceedings directly against States. I am also a Part-time Lecturer in Public International Law at Queen Mary, University of London.

Receiving the Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship has enabled me to follow my interest in public international law, and it has also opened up a world of possibilities in international legal practice and in the academic field. In addition, during my year at Oxford, I met my wife, Catherine, who was also studying for the BCL. So the year in Oxford will always be very special!"

1999-2000 **Sacha Moran**, from Sydney, graduated from Sydney University with first class honours and the University Medal in Arts (Politics) and First Class Honours in Law. He read for a Bachelor of Civil Law at University College. He is now a commercial barrister in Sydney.

"The calibre of teachers within the BCL course is exceptional, and the mixture of students from common law and civil law backgrounds exposes different approaches to common problems. My own BCL subjects all related to international law, public and private, but the BCL offers a very wide range of legal topics from Roman Law to Corporate Insolvency. Oxford’s tutorial system is rigorous and quite unlike anything I had experienced before, as was the gently tribal college system. My experience at Oxford has been an invaluable tool, and has repaid the effort many times over."

1999-2000 **Kimberlee Weatherall** read Law and Arts at the University of Sydney from 1993 to 1997.

"I studied the BCL at Magdalen College from 1999-2000 on an Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship. It was an important stepping stone - from Magdalen, I was lucky enough to be offered the opportunity, the following year, to study for the Masters of Law at Yale Law School, one of the most prestigious in the US. I’m sure that being at Oxford, and my work there helped me stand out to the Yale selection committee. My BCL thesis was published in the Modern Law Review, and was awarded a prize for the best publication in that year.

After Yale, I returned to Australia and commenced as a Sesqui Lecturer in Commercial Law at the University of Sydney Law School. After four years as a Lecturer at the University of Melbourne Law School and the Associate Director of the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia, where I continued to research issues that I started to look at in Oxford: the enforcement of intellectual property, the conceptualisation of intellectual property rights as property rights, and the development and reform of intellectual property in a more interconnected world."
I have left the University of Melbourne (and the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia) and am now a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Queensland, in Brisbane, and associated with the Australian Centre for Intellectual Property in Agriculture up here. I’m really pleased with the move, as it has given me a new set of colleagues and challenges!

The Chevening-Oxford Australia scholarship gave me the start I needed to launch myself into global academia and in particular the international group of scholars studying IP law. Through the St Peter’s Centre, during my stay at Oxford, I was exposed to a large number of important scholars and developed the taste for academic and legal debate. I still look back at that year as a very special one and an amazing opportunity.”


"Upon returning to Australia in 2002, I co-founded a leading research organisation, L21 Pty Ltd, of which I am the Managing Director. I have completed or am in the process of completing commissioned senior projects for leading Australian and global think-tanks on foreign and security policy such as Chatham House in London, Centre for Strategic & International Studies in Washington, ASPI and SDSC in Canberra and Centre for Independent Studies in Sydney. The Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship allowed me to study with some of the best students in the world and learn from pre-eminent scholars in my field. I returned to Australia with a greater global perspective and a much more developed and mature understanding of many things in my field of work. I have also made some lifelong friends from many countries around the world. The opportunities flowing from the scholarship are genuinely rare ones and I am thankful to be a recipient of it.”

1998-1999 Justine Isemonger graduated from the University of Sydney with degree in B Ec and an LLB (First Class Honours). Justine read for a BCL at St John’s College.

"Following an arduous but thoroughly enriching year in Oxford, I stayed on in London for two years working for law firm Slaughter and May. Since returning to Australia I have worked as a corporate solicitor at Freehills (along with a number of other Oxford graduates) and recently returned to part-time work following the arrival last year of my second son, Thomas - big brother Daniel having been born in 2003. Although my time at Oxford now seems a world away, the opportunity I had through the Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship to study in such an environment, and to be taught by leading scholars, is something I will always value. The skills I developed and knowledge I gained benefit me every day in my practice, and the friendships I made and the personal experiences I enjoyed have undoubtedly enriched my life.”