

# Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund



October 2011

From the Chairman, Oxford  
Australia Scholarship Fund



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Oxford Australia Scholarships  
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The Oxford Australia Scholarships, including the James Fairfax, University College, Magdalen College, Ian Wilson and soon to be Brasenose and Lincoln College Scholarships, once again attracted an outstanding field in 2011. The Scholarship awards are judged solely on academic performance as indicated by transcript, personal statement and referees. We congratulate our scholars who in the last few years have gained Fellowships at Oxford and Cambridge and success in their many fields both in Australia and overseas.

The Committee does not look at the subject balance of applications in making its selections but I have done so for candidates over the last five years for this newsletter. There have been about equal numbers of awards for arts, science, law, engineering and medicine and, I am glad to say also, in areas such as music, archaeology, visual arts and public health. The Committee recognises the continuing support and collaboration with Oxford University through some of our applicants winning Clarendon Scholarships. The success there has been high. We are very glad to provide for cross-disciplinary and cultural subject scholars as well as for second undergraduate degrees - where candidates have shown themselves to be in the top bracket. The support of Australian University Vice Chancellors' scholarships to some scholars is greatly appreciated.

At the scholarship lunch on 9 June, the available space in the St John's College Senior Common Room was filled with current and some past scholars. In the future we hope to have all past scholars living in Britain come to the lunch at least biannually as well as current scholars. The intention of this newsletter is to communicate to our donors the wealth of success and to allow our past and present scholars to know one another.

I would like to thank the Committee members most sincerely for their dedication to the large task of selection: Professor Wilfrid Prest, University of Adelaide; Associate Professor Lynne Pressley, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Professor Peter Rathgen, Vice Chancellor, University of Tasmania. Particular thanks go to Lynne Pressley who is leaving the Committee after being a very valued member since the inception of the Scholarships.



The photo shows some 16 scholars who were able to join the Scholars lunch in Oxford. We were sorry that illness prevented James Fairfax from being able to join us on this occasion. We thank the President of St John's College, Sir Michael Scholar, for hosting the occasion and Professor Kate Nation of St John's College and Professor Paul Langford, Rector of Lincoln College, for joining us at the lunch.

John White

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## 2011 Oxford Australia Scholarship Awards

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Hilary Martin

*In 2011, the Oxford Australia Fund is supporting four new scholars, three of whom have Clarendon awards.*

**2011-2014 Hilary Martin** graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Science majoring in genetics. On a university exchange, Hilary was able to spend the last semester of her undergraduate degree at the University of California, Berkeley, where she was involved in several research projects. She is particularly interested in the origins and consequences of normal genetic variation in humans. At Oxford she plans to carry out research for a DPhil in Clinical Medicine, assessing the clinical and translational value of "next-generation" DNA sequencing technologies in finding disease-causing mutations. Hilary will also be supported by a Clarendon Scholarship.



Mimi Zou

**2010-2013 Mimi Zou** graduated from the University of Sydney with First Class Honours and University Medal in Economics and Social Sciences in 2007 and with First Class Honours in Law in 2009. She began her BCL studies in 2010.

*"My Oxford experience to date has had a transformative impact on my personal and professional outlook on life. The BCL is a challenging, intellectually rigorous and immensely satisfying learning experience. I have really enjoyed the unique opportunity of being taught and supervised by 'rockstar' legal scholars whom I have long admired. It is also an incredibly humbling and inspiring experience to become classmates and friends with the brightest young legal minds and the future leaders from all corners of the world. I have fully immersed myself in university and college life, such as serving as BCL representative on the Law Faculty Board, volunteering for Oxford Pro Bono Publico, editing a law journal, organising bops as social secretary of our graduate common room, playing football and rowing for my college. I am also very fortunate to be appointed as a Junior Dean at St John's College for 2011-2012. I am enjoying Oxford so much that I will be staying on to complete my DPhil in Law. The wonderful experiences that I have had so far, with more to come, would not be possible without the generous support of the James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship, for which I am deeply grateful."*



James Hillis

**2011-2014 James Hillis** graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2009 with First Class Honours in Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery and also with Bachelor of Medical Science. He has been President of the Australian Medical Association of Victoria's Doctors in Training Subdivision and champions the role of doctors providing a public health voice to the community. James intends to further his interest in stem cell biology by working towards a DPhil in Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics with a focus on the role of subventricular zone neural stem cells in multiple sclerosis. James has also been awarded a Clarendon Scholarship to support his studies.



Clancy Reid

**2011-2012 Clancy Reid** graduated from the University of New South Wales with a BA, First Class Honours and University Medal in English and this year expects to complete his LLB on exchange from UNSW at University College London. His Honours thesis explored the importance of satire to late modernism, particularly in the novels of Wyndham Lewis and Evelyn Waugh. At Oxford, he plans to study first for a Master of Studies in English, focusing on the early collaboration between T S Eliot and Ezra Pound and their contest over the work of art in modernist aesthetics.

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## Honorary 2011 James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholarship

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Kate Mitchell

*In 2011, one 'Honorary James Fairfax Oxford Australia scholar' is being provided with an additional nominal payment to supplement a Clarendon award.*

**2011-2012 Kate Mitchell** graduated from Bond University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts (University Medal) and Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and University Medal). Since graduation she has worked as an Associate to Justice Michelle Gordon in the Federal Court of Australia and as a lawyer in Melbourne. At Oxford, supported by a Clarendon Scholarship, Kate will study for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Magdalen College focusing on comparative public law and socio-economic rights.

## Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford

**2010-2011 Anne Carter** graduated from the University of Adelaide with First Class Honours in both Arts (History) with a University Medal and in Law. She was then an intern at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in the Hague, Associate to the Hon Justice Bleby in the Supreme Court of South Australia and then to the Hon Michael Black Chief Justice of the Federal Court. Anne is now working for an MPhil in Law at University College, focusing on human rights law and evidence law. She is supported partly by a George Murray Scholarship from the University of Adelaide and a Graduate Scholarship from Oxford Law Faculty (incorporating the Roy Goode Scholarship).

*"I am thoroughly enjoying my second year here. The Oxford Law Faculty offers an unparalleled environment for research with its rich library resources, diverse discussion groups and seminars and vibrant research community. My research combines my strong interests in both human rights law and evidence law and my thesis topic is one with theoretical and practical implications in both the UK and Australia. I am actively involved this year in Oxford Pro Bono Publico. I also enjoy college rowing and look forward to Summer VIIIs. Oxford provides a unique environment in which to study and live and I am fortunate to have formed many strong friendships which I'm sure will endure well beyond my time in Oxford!"*



Anne Carter

**2010-2012 Andrew Cichy** graduated from the University of Western Australia in first Commerce then Music, completed with Honours in Performance being the first organist to have done so at the University in a decade. With language skills in Italian and Polish, he began his Master of Studies in Musicology at Oxford in 2009 on a Clarendon award and passed with distinction. He is now working towards his DPhil in Music, focusing on "English Catholic Liturgical Music after the Reformation: behind locked doors or on distant shores".

*"This year has been the busiest and most productive of my life. I have undertaken much archival research including at Ushaw College (Durham), the British Library, Downside Abbey, the Vatican Library, the Archives of Propaganda Fide, the Royal Library and State Archives of Brussels, the archives of the Diocese of Mechelen and the English Convent at Bruges. I uncovered primary sources that are unique, hitherto unknown and unused by music scholars. The result, I hope, will be a thesis that not only makes a substantial contribution to scholarship in my field, but also that presents a large number of new sources for study and further analysis. I now have networks and collaborative research relationships with a number of scholars in related fields and have discovered scholars researching the same period and subject as me but for completely different ends so we are able to collaborate without fear of competition. As a performer I have enjoyed advanced organ technique lessons, improvisation and choral conducting lessons. In March I gave a concert-lecture at the London Oratory (in the Little Oratory) which concluded a day of lectures at the Victoria and Albert Museum on the subject of 'Catholics and Collecting'."*



Andrew Cichy

**2010-2013 Paul Gray** graduated with BSc (Psychology) Honours degree and BA Sociology and Aboriginal Studies from the University of Sydney in 2007. Paul, a descendant of the Bogan River Wiradjuri from NSW, is the first Aboriginal Australian student to graduate with Honours in Psychology. Since graduation he has worked as a psychologist with the NSW Department of Human Services, Community Services Division providing assessment and intervention for children in out-of-home care. Paul has been awarded a Charlie Perkins Scholarship to support his D Phil work where he will explore the mechanisms of risk and resilience for children exposed to early traumatic experiences. He plans to apply these additional skills and knowledge in the service of his community on his return to Australia.



Paul Gray

**2010-2011 Zachary Vermeer** graduated from the University of Sydney in 2008 with First Class Honours in Law and the University Medal as part of his combined Arts/Law degree. While at Sydney he was awarded prizes in Philosophy, English, Latin, Classical Greek and German. At Oxford, Zachary has studied for a BCL, supported by a Clarendon award linked to Somerville College and a James Fairfax Scholarship.

*"The Oxford experience has not only lived up to my expectations, but surpassed them. It has been a privilege to be taught by some of the world's finest public lawyers and legal philosophers. The traditional tutorial system has provided the perfect way to hone skills in legal and philosophical analysis and argumentation. One legacy of my year here is a greatly developed knowledge of the philosophical and theoretical underpinnings of public law; another is the firm friendships with an extraordinarily diverse and talented array of fellow students from all over the world. Finally on the plethora of extracurricular activities on offer, I have attended (and tentatively participated in) debates at the Union, brushed up my French and German at the Language Centre, enjoyed captaining the college University Challenge team, served as the College MCR's welfare officer and battled Christ Church as a member of the Somerville croquet team (although, in this case, with more zeal than skill!) I would like to thank the Oxford Australia Fund and its sponsors for making this wonderful year possible."*



Zachary Vermeer

## Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford



Amber Hood

**2010-2012 Amber Hood** graduated with First Class Honours from Macquarie University in Ancient History and has spent 2009-10 on a MSc in Archaeological Science at Oxford.

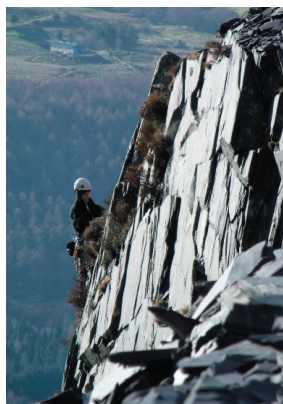
*"My time at Oxford has been truly remarkable. I have found my studies to be challenging and rewarding, my life enriched and fun-filled and Oxford to be absolutely wonderful! I will complete my MSc Archaeological Sciences in September 2010 and directly commence my DPhil. I'll continue to focus on Egyptian Chronology, although will now include scientific dating techniques in my research, in addition to relative dating methods. I have tried to make the most of the experiences Oxford presents both academically and personally, hence, in addition to my studies, I find myself rowing for my college (Merton), one of the Merton MCR Social Secretaries and President-elect for the Clarendon Scholars' Association. I'm very much looking forward to continuing in Oxford for another three years!"*



Lucie Moore

**2010-2011 Lucie Moore** graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics and Statistics) and Bachelor of Commerce (First Class Honours in Economics) in 2009.

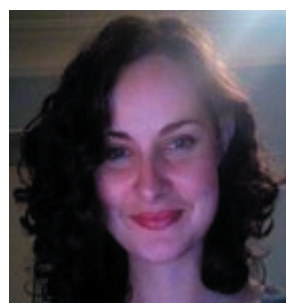
*"My first two terms at Oxford have flown by in keeping up with the number of academic and social activities that make studying here challenging and fun. Most graduate students are international which has given me the opportunity to make friends with people from all over the world. In my Economics MPhil class alone, there are students from 28 countries. The course structure of the first year of the Economics MPhil program, comprising core subjects for every student, enables collaborative learning and I appreciate the inclusive environment this creates. Outside of study, I have enjoyed the opportunity to learn to row outdoors in beautiful scenery and was recently elected the Arts Representative for Brasenose College's Hulme Common Room. Over the summer break, I will spend three months doing field work in Bangladesh for my MPhil thesis. I am working on two projects with a Yale University Professor: one is a collaborative project with the Bangladesh National Board of Revenue, which aims to evaluate different ways to increase the unduly small tax base in Bangladesh and to decrease tax evasion."*



Edward Hancock

**2009-2012 Edward Hancock** graduated from the University of Sydney in 2006 with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering (1st Class Honours and University Medal), and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.

*"I have thoroughly enjoyed the second year of my DPhil at Oxford, which has been a lot of fun and a lot of hard work. My research has been focussed on developing systems and control theory and applying it to biological system models, such as modelling the feedback and dynamics of genetic networks in the cell. I have submitted a few papers on my research over the past year and will be presenting some of my work at a conference in San Francisco at the end of June, planning also to make a lab visit to Caltech (California Institute of Technology) following the conference. I have been heavily involved in college activities for the past year, including being the Secretary of the Christ Church Graduate Common Room and, for about 4-5 months, the Acting President. I have also been involved in organising the Christ Church Commemoration Ball, to be held at the end of Trinity Term. I am very grateful to my sponsors for giving me the opportunity to study at Oxford and I plan to continue to take full advantage of all the University has to offer."*



Alys Moody

**2009-2012 Alys Moody** has a First Class Honours degree and University Medal from the University of Sydney in English, with a second major in French. Her DPhil research stems from the image of the starving artist in modern literature.

*"My first year at Oxford has been extremely exciting, challenging and intellectually stimulating. My work has benefited enormously from the dynamic intellectual community within Oxford and in England's south-east more generally. I've had the opportunity to present my research at conferences in Paris, Reading and also Oxford and in the process to discuss my work with many exciting minds in my field. I've also been involved in a range of other academically-driven activities, from organising conferences to editing journals and serving on committees and all of these have been very productive and often surprisingly entertaining. More than work though, Oxford has been a welcoming and easy place to arrive in as a foreigner. My time here has been productive but it has also been fun, entertaining and socially rewarding. Through college, my faculty, friends, and scholarship-based events, I have made many wonderful, valuable friendships with brilliant people from all over the world. I have found Oxford thus far to be a place that brings together exciting people, thinking exciting ideas, in a very congenial atmosphere and I look forward to the years I have still to spend here."*

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## Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford

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**2009-2012 Maeve Eason Hubbard** graduated from the University of Melbourne with a First Class Honours degree in Science, focusing on marine biology.

*My first year at Oxford provided a range of wonderful opportunities, both academic and social, that surpassed all expectations. My DPhil research is focused on characterising how the photosynthetic apparatus of marine phytoplankton has evolved in response to changing levels of carbon dioxide in the world's oceans over a time scale of millions of years. This is an exciting field of study to be involved in, as photosynthesis by marine phytoplankton constitutes a crucial component of the global carbon cycle. If we can better understand the factors that limit the rate of photosynthesis by these organisms, it will enable more accurate prediction of how anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide may affect phytoplankton ecology, and ultimately the global carbon cycle. As part of my research, I was lucky enough to join the Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT) research cruise in October 2010. The AMT programme studies the ecology of phytoplankton communities in their natural environment, with sampling conducted in the Atlantic Ocean, between the UK and Chile, over a six week period. Taking part in this cruise enabled me to collect a unique set of field samples for my DPhil research and also provided an insight into the challenges and excitement associated with conducting scientific research in a remote location. Since returning to Oxford, I have been kept busy processing the samples collected on AMT, as well as taking my laboratory-based research in a number of new directions. Outside of my studies, I continue to enjoy the stimulating social and cultural life that Oxford has to offer. The college system provides a unique opportunity to meet and make lasting friendships with scholars with a diverse range of academic interests and life experiences, from all corners of the world. I'm incredibly excited to be spending 2011 and beyond working among this community and would like to thank the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund for the financial support that has made it possible."*

**2009-2012 Jaani Riordan** has Bachelor of Computer Science and Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and University Medal) from the University of Melbourne.

*"Since arriving in Oxford, my research has focussed on the legal responsibility of internet intermediaries (such as ISPs, search engines and social networks) for defamatory statements authored by others. In my second year, I expect to broaden this research to consider their liability for IP infringement and cybercrime, and to conduct some field work in Silicon Valley. The project is proving as interesting as it is topical, and I am excited by the prospect of systematising this emerging field. This year I have endeavoured to take full advantage of the opportunities on offer at Oxford. On the sporting side, I have greatly enjoyed coxing for Magdalen in the college regattas, training for the upcoming novice fencing varsity match, representing Magdalen in croquet and cricket, and learning ballroom dancing. I have been fortunate to attend many interesting lectures, concerts and conferences in Oxford, Cambridge and London, to resume Spanish lessons, debating and mootng, to play violin in various Oxford orchestras and chamber groups and to pursue my interest in photography among Oxford's picturesque architecture. I would like to express my gratitude to the James Fairfax-Oxford Australia fund and its donors for their generous support of my research and for making possible these experiences."*

**2009-2010 Alexander Taylor** graduated with First Class Honours in Arts (Art History) from the University of Melbourne, with previous study at the University of Queensland and the University of California, Berkeley.

*"I have had a wonderful year at Oxford. With its broad reading list and excellent lecture program my Masters in History of Art and Visual Culture has substantially contributed to my development as a scholar. My own research has focused on the work of mid-twentieth century sculptors Henry Moore and Alexander Calder. I have been pleased to make use of the Moore archives in Perry Green and the major exhibition at Tate Britain. While at Oxford, I have given papers on my work at the St Catherine's MCR and at a young researchers conference at the University of Liverpool. Outside of study, a highlight of my year has been singing tenor in the Oxford University Student Chorus - especially Beethoven's Mass in C, alternately sublime and insane and not wholly unlike Oxford itself!"*

Alex has been awarded a University of Melbourne Rae and Edith Bennett Travelling Scholarship which will support him during his planned DPhil studies.



Maeve Eason Hubbard



Jaani Riordan



Alexander Taylor

## Current James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars in Oxford



Ben Fulcher

**2008-2011 Benjamin Fulcher** completed a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours and University Medal in Physics at the University of Sydney in 2007. At Oxford he is reading for a DPhil in Physics.

*"This year, my third in Oxford, has been another really amazing one. Having come to terms with the over-stimulation this town offers (!), I've again tried to make the most of it. I've been playing cello in the University's Philharmonic Orchestra and been a member of Balliol's graduate student committee. I also started a University-wide seminar series on Time Series Analysis, which has been well-received. Coming into my last 6 months here, my own research is starting to come together - I am looking forward to having it complete and reflecting on the whole experience. I am extremely grateful to the James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Fund for supporting me and my work throughout these uniquely stimulating years in Oxford."*



Michael Molinari

**2008-11 Michael Molinari** graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2004 with a Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Chemistry/Biochemistry). He obtained an MSc in biomedical engineering while on a British Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholarship in 2007-08 and is continuing to work for a DPhil in Engineering Science.

*"My DPhil project involves developing applications of therapeutic ultrasound in orthopaedic surgery. In contrast to ultrasound imaging familiar to most people, therapeutic ultrasound focuses acoustic energy to a small point, much like a magnifying glass does with light; this focal point can be placed inside the body and used to 'burn out' tumours and other tissues completely non-invasively. My recent work has been looking at ways to monitor what is going on inside the body during treatment to know what tissue is being 'burnt out' and how long this is taking; we hope to have a prototype for animal studies by the time my doctoral research is completed. But Oxford is also about extracurricular activities. This year I have been fortunate to win a Blue as captain of the Oxford squash team (recently beaten by Cambridge), and to complete a relay swim across the English Channel to raise money for neo-natal care. The cricket season is coming up again and I look forward to the odd afternoon spent standing out in the middle. Finally, my studies here would not have been possible without the support of the Oxford Australia fund, and I would like to thank all donors for their support."*



Neil Rabinowitz

**2008-2011 Neil Rabinowitz** graduated from the University of Western Australia with First class Honours in Physics and Mathematics. After completing an MSc in neuroscience at Oxford in 2008, he is now working on a DPhil in the Auditory Neuroscience Laboratory within the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics.

*"Working on the brain is a delightful enterprise for a scientist, since it's full of surprises. In the last few months I've discovered a new way in which the auditory system adapts to the sounds we're hearing. We've known for a long time that we adjust to a wide range of sound intensities - this is what lets us function in both the quietness of a night in the forest to the hooting drama of crossing the street. But the important sensory information within these contexts may lie in either small or large changes from the average sound intensity. A subtle increase in the level or pitch of an approaching car's engine can be as relevant as a loud honk. By playing sounds with very carefully controlled statistics, and recording the responses of auditory cortex cells, I've found that if sounds have only small changes, cells become more sensitive to these changes. Strangely, although a given cell may also care about low frequency sounds, how sensitive it is to these depends on what is happening in higher frequency ranges too. We can use subtle cues, but prefer the obvious when it's available."*



Melissa Duncan

**2007 - 2010 Melissa Duncan** from Brisbane, graduated from the University of Queensland in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in both mathematics and physics and in 2006 graduated with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Mathematics.

*"I am currently focussed on finishing my thesis whilst trying to make the most of my last summer in Oxford. My work is mainly concerned with mathematical structures related to supersymmetry. I've also had a great opportunity to explore topics in the wider field of mathematical physics thanks to frequent seminars and interacting with other graduate students here. I will certainly miss the lively academic environment and also the social scene in Oxford. I'd like to thank the Oxford Australia Fund for their support and am grateful to have had many chances to meet the other Oxford Australia scholars over my time here."*

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## Current University College Old Members' Scholars in Oxford

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***The generous support from 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.***

**2009-2013 Edwina Christie** graduated in 2008 from the University of Sydney with First Class Honours in English and the University Medal. In 2009-2010, she studied in Oxford on a James Fairfax-Clarendon award towards a M Studies in early modern English literature. In 2011-2013 Edwina will be supported in part by a University College Old Members Scholarship to continue her studies for a DPhil.

*"In September last year, I needed to return to Australia due to family illness and was unable to begin my DPhil immediately. Thanks to the generosity and understanding of the Oxford Australia Fund and the English Faculty, I was able to defer my studies until 2011. It has been a real pleasure to be able to spend so much time with my family over the last six months and to take some time to reflect on the research I have completed thus far. I have written several book reviews, completed an article on scribal culture in the eighteenth century and given a paper at the ANZAMEMS conference. Outside academia, I have also returned to professional singing and have recorded an album of jazz standards, 'Paper Moon'. I am looking forward to returning to Oxford in July to recommence research.*

**2008 - 2011 Justin Richards** is following his earlier Melbourne University First Class Honours degree in physiotherapy and subsequent MSc in Science and Medicine in Athletic Performance with work for a DPhil in Public Health in Oxford.

*"In the past year I have completed the primary data collection phase of my research. I was based in Gulu, Northern Uganda for a period of 6 months where I assessed the physical and mental health of 11-14 year old children. I evaluated the impact of a community-based sport-for-development programme on these outcome measures. This case-study will form the backbone of my thesis which examines the effect of sport-for-development programmes in post-conflict settings. Returning to Oxford after a challenging time in the field has been a pleasure. The buzz of extra-curricular activity and academic debate continues to be an enriching experience that offers new opportunities every day. I have now commenced the data analysis stage of my DPhil and I look forward to completing my write-up for submission later this year. I also hope to utilise the networks that I have developed while here at Oxford to disseminate my findings to the wider academic community and throughout the sport-for-development sector. I am very grateful for the University College Old Members' - Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund that has helped make this all possible."*



Edwina Christie



Justin Richards

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## Current Magdalen College - Oxford Australia Scholar in Oxford

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***The generous support from a number of members of Magdalen College, now living in Australia, has made it possible for the Magdalen College Old Members' - Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund to assist, with additional financial support from the College itself, an Australian student to study at Magdalen College. The first student commenced in 2006.***

**2008-2011 James McComish** graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2006 with First Class Honours degrees in both law and arts (history and art history). He is reading for a DPhil in history with a focus on political and legal authority in mid-Tudor England.

*"Oxford provides a physical and intellectual environment in which one's historical imagination can really flourish. While here I have greatly benefited from the expertise and guidance of senior scholars, as well as from the friendship and enthusiasm of fellow students. Outside of study, Oxford has afforded me a rich variety of social and cultural opportunities, and a particular highlight this year has been the chance to represent Magdalen College on University Challenge. As always, I'm immensely grateful to the donors and administrators of the Oxford-Australia fund for their generosity in supporting my work."*



James McComish

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## Former Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholars

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Prue Bindon

**2007 - 2008 Prue Bindon** graduated from The Australian National University in 2001 with degrees in Arts and Law (First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law). Prue worked in private practice in Sydney and Canberra and became an Associate to the Hon Justice Dyson Heydon AC of the High Court of Australia. The Magdalen College scholarship, together with a Clarendon Bursary, enabled Prue to read for a Bachelor of Civil Law, from which she graduated in 2008 with distinction and the Herbert Hart Prize in Jurisprudence.

*"Reading for the BCL at Oxford was an amazing experience which I shall never forget. It has given me a thoroughly fresh perspective on private practice to which I have returned, albeit in the new context of Hong Kong. The opportunity to ponder and dissect the fundamental principles of the common law through the subjects I studied for the BCL provided me with a very solid foundation to enter practice in a new common law jurisdiction. Additionally, I find that the network of Oxford alumni throughout the world gives my time in Oxford a lasting presence on a social front as well. I am hugely grateful for the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia scholarship that made this all possible."*



James Goudkamp

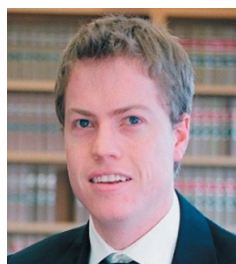
**2006 - 2009 James Goudkamp** graduated from the University of Wollongong in 2003 with degrees in science and law with First Class Honours and University Medal in law. He was an Associate Lecturer in Law at Wollongong in 2004-2005 and an Associate to the Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG of the High Court of Australia in 2005-2006. As the first recipient of the Magdalen College-Oxford Australia Scholarship, James read for the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Law, MPhil in Law and DPhil. He is a Junior Research Fellow at Jesus College, Oxford, and a Visiting Fellow at the University of Wollongong.

*"I have been very fortunate to be able to study at Oxford. This is a wonderful environment in which to work and it has been a privilege to be able to spend several years thinking about some of the philosophical puzzles that the law presents."*

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## Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

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Ross Abbs

**2009-2010 Ross Abbs** obtained First Class Honours degrees and University Medals in both law and ancient history at the University of Newcastle. He then worked as an Associate to Justice Michael Kirby of the High Court of Australia and as a researcher at the Victorian Law Reform Commission. At Oxford he studied for the degree of Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL).

*"I have appreciated the non-specialised character of the degree and have benefited greatly from the expertise of my teachers who are leading thinkers in their respective fields. I have also found value in the insights of my fellow students whose diversity of experience undoubtedly enriches the Oxford experience. Oxford itself is a wonderful place to live, and in many ways I will be very sad to leave. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Fund for making it possible for me to study here."*

**2008-2010 Zevic Mishor** graduated from the University of New South Wales in 2005 with First Class Honours and University Medal in physiology and psychology. At Oxford he obtained a MSc in neuroscience and a MSc in social anthropology.

*"Soon after leaving England and returning home I commenced my PhD in Anthropology at the University of Sydney. After two intense years at Oxford I'm trying to apply and integrate the knowledge learned there into this doctoral degree. I'll be doing fieldwork amongst the Shipibo people of northern Peru, studying their shamanic practices and overall cosmologies and using these studies as a springboard for deeper philosophical investigations. Ultimately I hope to shed more illumination onto the wide frontiers of non-ordinary human phenomenological experience. Drawing again on knowledge learned at Oxford, I'm also involved in tutoring and teaching activities at the University of Sydney and the University of NSW."*



Zevic Mishor

**2008 - 2009 Kim Anderson** graduated from the University of Adelaide with First Class Honours degrees and University Medals in Computer Systems Engineering (2004) and Law (2006). He served as Associate to the Hon Justice Vanstone in the Supreme Court of South Australia and practised as a solicitor in Melbourne. Kim completed his Bachelor of Civil Law (with Distinction) at Oxford in 2009 and has returned to commercial practice in Sydney.

*"My experience at Oxford was immensely enjoyable and rewarding - without a doubt the highlight of my academic career. To interact on a daily basis with many of the leading scholars in my fields of interest was a rare privilege. The vibrant social and extra-curricular life of Oxford was also very stimulating. It has been satisfying to draw upon what I learnt on the BCL in commercial practice, although I must confess there are times when I fondly imagine being back once more amidst the dreaming spires!"*



Kim Anderson



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## Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

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**2006 – 2010 Shelley Wickham**, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined degree in Science and Arts, a major in Russian Language and First Class Honours and the University Medal in Physics.

*"I am now in the final stretch of my DPhil course in the Life Sciences Interface Doctoral Training Center. My thesis is in bio-nanotechnology and involves using DNA as a building material to construct nano-machines. I have also been able to use DNA nanostructures as a tool to help us better study and understand protein motors that occur in living cells. I recently attended an exciting Gordon Conference on Nanostructure Fabrication in Boston and will be speaking at the Institute of Physics 'Physics meets Biology' conference here in Oxford in September. The Fairfax Oxford-Australia lunch this year was another enjoyable event and it's great to catch up with Professor White and the other scholars each year. I am currently looking into options for post-doctoral research next year and want to continue working at the interface between physics and biology. I have had a wonderful time during my studies in Oxford and will be sad to leave but am looking forward to the opportunities ahead."*



Shelley Wickham

**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. After graduation, he worked at Accenture and the Allen Consulting Group on projects involving public policy (health and education), regulatory economics and economic modelling. He completed the MPhil in Economics with Distinction at Oxford in 2009 and is now pursuing a DPhil, focussing on time series econometrics methods.



Andrew Whitby

**2006 - 2008 Anthony Jones** studied a BA in Law at University College on a James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship, having previously earned an MA and BA with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Chinese from Sydney University. He graduated from Oxford with First Class Honours and prizes in Jurisprudence and Land Law. While at Univ, Anthony was Secretary of the MCR, a Choral Exhibitioner, a fast (though admittedly erratic) bowler for the Univ XI, and a sometime second-row forward for the XV.

On his return to Sydney, Anthony worked as speechwriter to the Hon Bob Carr, former Premier of NSW, and a policy advisor to the Hon John Hatzistergos, NSW Attorney-General. Anthony is currently studying for the bar in London, and will in September 2011 begin pupillage at Brick Court Chambers, a leading public and commercial law set of chambers in Temple.



Anthony Jones

**2006 – 2009 Olivia Murphy**, from Canberra, graduated with a University Medal in English from the University of Sydney in 2005.

*"My time in Oxford passed very rapidly. My DPhil thesis was on Jane Austen and literary criticism and I have now written it up. Since my last report I have returned to Australia and submitted my thesis. I shall be back in Oxford in October for my viva, and until then I'm working as a research assistant on an ARC Discovery Project about Shakespeare memorialisation in Australia (quite a departure from Jane Austen!) and as a tutorial fellow at the Women's College, University of Sydney. In my spare time I've also begun working on some new research projects.*

*I want to thank everyone involved in the Fairfax-Oxford Australia fund for making my research and my time in Oxford possible. I have benefited immensely from being part of that community of scholars, and from access to Oxford's resources and my wonderful supervisor."*



Olivia Murphy

**2006 – 2008 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.

*"I had a terrific time studying the MPhil in Economics at Oxford. Highlights included a course in international economics, lectures by many of the best people in the field as well as captaining Nuffield College in football. My study in Oxford serves me very well back in Australia, and I am using many of the techniques I learnt in the UK in my work at the Centre for International Economics."*



Phil Manners

**2006 – 2007 Erin Schwarz** graduated from the University of Adelaide in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours in English) and a Diploma in Languages (Japanese). At Oxford she read for the MSt in English Language and Literature, and was awarded the degree with Distinction.

*"My year reading for the MSt passed very quickly and afforded many opportunities for academic and personal growth. Being at Oxford gave me a rare opportunity to experience literature differently, in a new cultural context, and I particularly relished the chance to work with the manuscripts and first editions at the Bodleian Library. As I expected, the MSt in English was a challenging course, demanding an acutely analytical mindset and well-developed skills in argumentation. However,*



Erin Schwarz

## Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars



Patrick Delaney

*there was a wonderful amount of support on offer not only from my tutors and College, but from the friends I made whilst in Oxford. After my degree, I spent some time as a Publications Intern at the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion and then as a Journal Publishing Assistant at Wiley-Blackwell. I am now a Digital Production Editor at Oxford University Press and am immensely enjoying contributing to the University's endeavours in a very practical way. I'm certain that my degree from Oxford opened the door to the publishing industry for me and that it will continue to be a great advantage to me in my future pursuits. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford-Australia Scholarship Fund Committee for enabling me to pursue something that would have otherwise remained only a dream and for going out of its way to provide an exceptional level of support."*

**2006-2007 Patrick Delaney**, from Canberra, graduated from the Australian National University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Laws (University Medal) and Bachelor of Arts (majoring in International Relations and Philosophy). He read for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Christ Church, Oxford, graduating with Distinction in 2007. Patrick worked in the Ministry of Justice (UK) in 2008, and was judicial associate to Judge Shi Jiuyong (China) and Judge Leonid Skotnikov (Russia) of the International Court of Justice in 2008-9. He has published work on transnational corruption and discrimination. Patrick is presently an Associate in the New York office of Davis Polk & Wardwell.



Brenda Tronson

**2005 - 2006 and 2007 - 2008 Brenda Tronson**, from Werombi, graduated from the University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Science (Hons). Brenda completed her BCL in Oxford in July 2006 and her MPhil in Law in July 2008, having been granted a 12 month deferral in order to work for the Hon Justice Crennan at the High Court of Australia.

*"Having completed my studies at Oxford, I am now working as a barrister back in Sydney. My post-grad work is providing a good theoretical base for my work here, and I'm aiming to establish a practice at least partly in human rights law, the area in which I wrote my MPhil thesis."*



Eloise Scotford

**2004-2006 Eloise Scotford** from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with a combined degree in science and law, with the University Medal in Law in 2001. As a postgraduate student at Magdalen College, Eloise completed a Bachelor of Civil Law with Distinction in 2005-6, an MPhil in Law in 2006-7, and a DPhil in Law in 2007-10.

*"After completing my MPhil, I took up a three-year post as a Career Development Fellow in Environmental Law at Corpus Christi College, Oxford (2007-2010). This was a Faculty-based teaching and research post in which I taught undergraduate EU law and administrative law for Corpus Christi and undergraduate and postgraduate environmental law for the Faculty. During this time, I also finished my DPhil - a comparative project on Australian and European environmental law - which I successfully defended in December 2010. I have now taken up a permanent post as Lecturer in Law at King's College London, which I am enjoying enormously. It is thanks to my Oxford funding that I find myself in this very fortunate position today. I am hugely appreciative."*



Naomi Hawkins

**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.

*"Following my BCL (funded by the Fairfax scholarship), I remained in Oxford to undertake my DPhil in law, funded by the Wellcome Trust. After completing the DPhil in 2009, I worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Health, Law and Emerging Technologies in the Department of Public Health at the University of Oxford. Since September 2010, I've been working as Lecturer in Law at the University of Exeter. I will always be very grateful to the James Fairfax Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund for giving me the opportunity to begin my studies in Oxford."*



Simon Baptist

**2003 - 2006 Simon Baptist**, from Hobart, graduated from University of Tasmania with a combined ce/economics degree and First Class Honours and University Medal in Economics in 2002.

*"I graduated with my DPhil in Economics in 2009 and am working full time for a consulting firm, Vivid Economics. It is a small firm - I was the third employee and we are now six; most work is UK-based but we have done some Australian projects - something I'm trying to encourage! The firm aims to put economics to good use and we focus on projects where we can deliver both a public and a private interest. Recently we have worked on climate change projects such as modelling the strategic and competitive implications of carbon pricing in various locations and advising various parties in the international climate negotiations. It is good to be working in a job where I can feel proud of what I'm doing. Without the experience at Oxford I would not have had the opportunity or the skills to be able to engage in this work. I'm hoping to further build my company's Australian connections, and in the future I'd love to be involved in opening up the Australian office!"*



Mark Thomson

**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 his DPhil in Classics, specialising in Late Antiquity, and prepared the final draft of his thesis before returning to Australia in 2007 to take up a sessional vacancy in Ancient History at ANU.

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## Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

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*"My thesis was "The Historia Augusta and Late Roman Literary Culture". These biographies of Roman emperors from Hadrian to the Carinus (117-285), apparently written in the reigns of Diocletian, Constantius I and Constantine were realised in the nineteenth century to be an enormous hoax, perpetrated by a single forger, writing late in the fourth century. As well as trying to find the genuine historical materials hidden beneath these inventions, I tried to place some of this nonsense in its context, to integrate it into the culture of its day."*

**2002 - 2005 Corin Throsby**, from Sydney, graduated with the University Medal in English Literature from the Australian National University. She completed her Master of Studies in English at Somerville with a Distinction. Her doctoral thesis was on Byron and the birth of celebrity culture in the Romantic period. Corin then worked as Welfare Dean at Merton.

*"With my time in Oxford at 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 from the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Information Technology in 1998, a University Medal in Engineering in 2000 and a MPhil in Computer Vision in 2002. He was awarded his DPhil thesis in Computer Vision in 2007 after a enjoyable five years in Oxford.

*"I now live in San Francisco with my wife and work for Digital Domain, the visual effects studio responsible for movies such as Titanic, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button and Tron: Legacy. As a senior software engineer, I am responsible for the research and development of new technologies to support future productions, focusing on facial motion capture and animation, and computer vision techniques. While industry is a dramatic change from academia, I am enjoying applying the knowledge I learnt at Oxford to real-world problems. I would like to thank the James Fairfax - Oxford Australia fund for helping me with my research and wish the fund all the best for the future."*

**2002-2003 Daniel Piggott** graduated from the University of Queensland with First Class Honours and a University Medal in Law. He completed the BCL 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 that I learned helps me every day in my practice at the Queensland bar. Academically, my studies allowed me to lecture in law at the University of Queensland, teaching both graduates and undergraduates. I have also published articles in Australia and England and presented a number of professional seminars."*

**2001 - 2004 Patrick Porter** 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 having completed his MPhil with distinction.

*"I am now a Senior Lecturer at Kings College London at the British Defence Academy. My first book was published in 2009 by Columbia University Press and Hurst, Military Orientalism: Eastern War through Western Eyes. I am now working on a history of American 'defence intellectuals' from Pearl Harbor to Iraq. On a British Academy grant I attended a conference in Oxford on 'War and Orientalism.' All of this would have been impossible without the Oxford Australia Fairfax Scholarship. My wife and I live in the Oxfordshire countryside."*

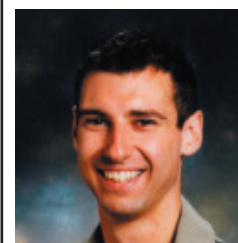
**2000-2003 Garry Bowen** won the Australian National University Medal for Theoretical Physics in 1999 and completed his DPhil in Physics in Oxford in 2003.

*"I have continued my physics research in quantum information theory. I spent three years at the University of Cambridge where I was a Junior Research Fellow at Churchill College. The James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship allowed me to undertake a doctorate with 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 provided for me."*

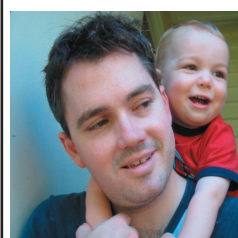
**1999-2001 Patrick Mackerras** read Mathematics for his Bachelor of Science degree at the Australian National University from 1994 to 1997 before gaining a James Fairfax Oxford-Australia Scholarship to Christ Church, Oxford to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE). Patrick has now resumed his teaching career and is greatly enjoying his time at Wycombe High School in England. In addition to teaching mathematics, Patrick is also now the Head of the Department of Religious Studies, Philosophy, Citizenship and Critical Thinking.



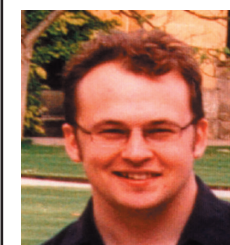
Corin Throsby



Nicholas Apostoloff



Daniel Piggott



Patrick Porter



Garry Bowen



Patrick Mackerras

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## Former James Fairfax-Oxford Australia Scholars

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Benjamin Kelly

**1999-2002 Benjamin Kelly** read Arts and Law at the University of Sydney. He completed his DPhil in Classics in 2002 at Brasenose College, and was a lecturer in the History Programme at the ANU between 2003 and 2007.

*"The Oxford Faculty of Classics is one of the largest in the world. Doing graduate work there 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 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. Academics starting out on their careers can 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 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. In 2008, I took up a position in a large history department in a Canadian university. The experience of being recruited to this post and my subsequent interactions with North American colleagues have underlined for me the high regard with which Oxford degrees are held."*



Dale Smith

**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 my D.Phil, which was on the relevance of the debate between moral objectivists and anti-objectivists to legal adjudication. 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 senior lecturer in the Faculty of Law at Monash University, researching primarily in legal philosophy. The training I received at Oxford has proven to be of enormous value in my pursuit of an academic career."*

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## Sir Vincent Fairfax Life Sciences Scholarships 2003-2006

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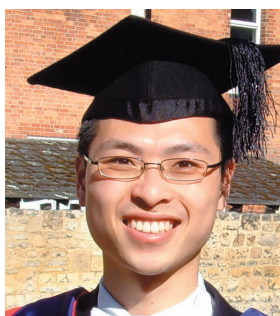


Jonathan Lo

**The Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, in its 40th anniversary year 2002, made a donation of \$120,000 to honour the Oxford graduate and Founder of the Foundation, Sir Vincent Fairfax CMG. This generous donation provided funding for two three-year life science research degrees at Oxford University.**

**2003 - 2006 Jonathan Lo**, from Melbourne, graduated from the University of Queensland with First Class Honours and University Medal in Engineering (1996) and Master of Engineering Science (1998). Based at Balliol, he worked in the Medical Vision Laboratory, specialising in diagnostic medical analysis such as tumour detection and disease localisation.

*"During the last academic year, I continued my work in developing computed-aided breast cancer detection using MRI images. My effort was put into trying to extract physiologically important information out of the images and use it for cancer detection. I presented papers at an international conference in Washington D.C. during April 2006 and a conference in Copenhagen during October. The experience of my study is very valuable and beneficial to me in many ways. After my graduation, I decided to apply my skill set in a different field. Currently, I am working as a quantitative researcher for an investment bank in Japan. The photo was taken after crossing the finishing line in the 2011 Tokyo marathon."*



Jason Wong

**2003 - 2006 Jason Wong**, from Sydney, graduated from the University of Sydney with First Class Honours in Bioinformatics in 2002. Based at Linacre College, his DPhil research involved the development of a computational tool intended to help the understanding of genomes.

*"My time at Oxford was immensely rewarding in many ways and I think provided the best possible environment for my studies. Since the completion of my DPhil in October 2006, I spent a year as a post-doctoral fellow at the University College Dublin. At the start of 2008 I returned to Sydney as a research fellow at the newly established Lowy Cancer Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. I am currently establishing my own research team in the area of cancer bioinformatics. I am most grateful for the academic opportunities that the Sir Vincent Fairfax Family foundation, in cooperation with the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund, has opened up for me."*

## Former University College Old Members' Fund Scholars

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

*"I finished my DPhil in October 2010 and I am now a postdoctoral research fellow in the maths department here at Oxford. I am working mostly on string theory and its overlap with modern geometry, although I am also trying to get more involved with developments in physics relevant to the LHC experiments at CERN. My time as a student at Oxford was thoroughly enjoyable, and I believe it has given me the best possible start to my career."*



Rhys Davies

**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. At Oxford, his DPhil was in Condensed Matter Physics.

*"Since January 2010, I have been a University of Queensland Postdoctoral Research Fellow, at the Centre for Organic Photonics and Electronics (COPE). This Fellowship provides me with an opportunity to be more independent in my research and further establish my research career. During the Fellowship, I will aim to develop high performance hybrid photovoltaic cells ("solar cells"). These are plastic (organic) solar cells which are modified by incorporating inorganic nanoparticles into the organic layer. This is expected to combine the benefits found in both organic semiconductors (flexibility, low cost) and inorganic semiconductors (high carrier mobility, material tuneability). This Fellowship allows me to combine my industry experiences and research skills from the DPhil at Oxford (optical properties of III-V nanostructures) which was made possible by the donors to the University College Fund."*



Kwan Hee Lee

**2001-2002 Kathleen Neal (nee Hutson)** has a BSc and BA from University of Melbourne. She completed a Masters of Studies Historical Research (Medieval History) at Oxford.

*"I am currently a doctoral student at Monash University, working on the correspondence of the royal government of England in the thirteenth century. Primarily based on original documents, my study has been greatly facilitated by the great training, especially in Latin and palaeography, which I received in Oxford during my MSt. As Chair of the Medieval Academy of America's Graduate Student Committee in 2010-11, and having particular care for collaborative opportunities for students, I often call upon my Oxford connections to provide advice and avenues for forging international connections among the student body. I am indebted to the Oxford-Australia Fund for its past support which continues to benefit me in such ways."*



Kathleen Neal

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

*"Receiving the Oxford Australia Scholarship in 1999 allowed me to realise a long-held dream of studying English literature at Oxford. Returning to Australia, I joined the Sydney Morning Herald as a trainee journalist. I then worked in the newspaper's investigations team and on the foreign desk as the foreign affairs and defence correspondent in the Herald's Canberra bureau. So, aside from leaving me with great memories, the scholarship and my time at Oxford helped me with my next step in life by enabling me to break into journalism."*



Jonathan Pearlman

## Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

**From 1998 to 2008, the British High Commission and the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund jointly funded two Chevening scholarships a year to the University of Oxford for one-year taught post-graduate courses in a range of fields.**

**2008-2009 Kate Purcell** graduated from the University of New South Wales in 2008 with First Class Honours and the University Medal in Law. She completed the BCL at Oxford in 2009 graduating with a First and is currently reading for a PhD in Law at the University of Cambridge with the support of the Cambridge Trusts' Cambridge Australia Poynton Scholarship and the St John's College JC Hall (Benefactors') Scholarship in Law.

*"My research considers loss and change of territory in international law and examines the legal implications of the various effects of climate change on geomorphology globally. In April and May 2011, I spent time as a visiting researcher in the Law Faculty of the University of the South Pacific in Vanuatu. This gave me the opportunity to visit several sites where increasingly frequent and intense extreme weather events are already reshaping the coastline, and to meet both with scientists and legal academics working in the area and members of affected communities. I was also able to meet with government officials to discuss their views on, and policy responses to, the threat of climate change and possible implications in interim international law. My time in Oxford was both academically stimulating and socially rewarding and*



Kate Purcell

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## Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

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*I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Scholarship Fund for making it possible. The BCL is excellent preparation for doctoral research and I would strongly recommend it to law graduates. I still spend a lot of time in Oxford, visiting friends and, of course, the Bodleian, and I have no doubt that Oxford will continue to be a part of my life for years to come - not least because of the enduring friendships and memories it has left me with."*



Phoebe Williams

**2008-2009 Phoebe Williams** followed her Sydney University Bachelor Medicine/Bachelor Surgery Honours degrees and her ANU Bachelor Commerce/Bachelor Science degrees with an MSc at Oxford in Global Health Science. Phoebe founded the charity "Hands of Help" in 2005 to improve education and health care in developing communities and to expose medical students to the issues facing developing world health. She was a winner in the Oxford 2009 "Idea Idol" entrepreneurship competition with her "Foresight Pharmaceuticals" hormonal gel to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS. After completing her MSc in 2009, Phoebe returned to Australia to complete her medical internship where she was awarded prizes in paediatrics. She hopes in the future to return to Oxford to study for a DPhil.

*"At Oxford, I carried out a research project in China investigating the health of migrant children then did an internship with the HIV/AIDS department of the WHO in Geneva. My time at Oxford was fantastic and passed so quickly. I sang in the College choir, ran at Varsity level and rowed. I felt incredibly fortunate to be there."*



Carla Bissett

**2007 - 2008 Carla Bissett**, from Newcastle, NSW, graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Engineering in Industrial Chemistry (Honours) from the University of New South Wales.

*"I completed my Oxford MSc degree in Water Science, Policy and Management with the aim of developing a career in the public policy and natural resource management sector, building on my previous experience in the private engineering sector. At the start of 2010 I commenced work as an analyst for the NSW Government's independent Natural Resources Commission, providing advice on matters relating to natural resource management primarily at a state and regional scale. Working in this new field is proving to be both challenging and rewarding. I am extremely grateful to the Oxford Australia Committee for providing me with the opportunity to study water resource management in an international context. Now that I am back in Australia, I hope I am able to use the knowledge I gained at Oxford to improve the management of our own natural resources."*



Catherine Eakin

**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 with First Class Honours in 2001. After completing her BCL, Catherine worked as a tipstaff to a Supreme Court Judge in NSW and has been employed in a financial services and corporate advisory practice.

*"The year I spent as a Chevening Oxford Australia scholar enriched my life academically, professional and personally. I was challenged to consider why and how we regulate and the ways in which Australia is both ahead of and behind the UK and European Union in formulating regulatory policy. This experience was an invaluable resource in my six month secondment at the Australian Securities and Investments Commission working in Strategic Policy. At a time of global financial crisis, a critical appraisal of comparative regulatory approaches has never been more vital. I am indebted to Professor White and the Scholarship Committee for the opportunity Oxford provided to refine my analytical skills, learn from internationally acclaimed scholars and to befriend and exchange ideas with students from around the world."*



Alexander Phipps

**2005 - 2006 Alexander (Sandy) Phipps**, from Canberra, graduated in 2003 from the Australian National University with degrees in Arts (History/Politics) and Law. He completed a Bachelor of Civil Law at St Edmund Hall in 2006 and has since remained in England, working as a litigator at a London law firm. Sandy 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, because 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 programs."*

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## Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

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**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. After graduating from the Australian National University, Andrew practised in the fields of litigation and takeovers, and securities law in Sydney. At Oxford, he read for the Bachelor of Civil Law at St Anne's College. He pursued his interest in these areas and the developing relationship between commercial law and improving compliance with human rights. Andrew was also awarded a scholarship from the international commercial law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer to supplement his Chevening scholarship.



Andrew Battison

**2004 - 2005 Jodi Gray** 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 as 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 found all the subjects fascinating and the small group tutorials 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 felt very privileged to be in such a setting and learned a great amount. Aside from the academic, Oxford provided a great opportunity to become involved in new sports. I took up rowing and rowed in the Christ Church Regatta for novices - and novices we were! It was all a lot of fun."*



Jodi Gray

**2003 - 2004 David Tomkins** graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours from the University of Western Sydney. He read for a Bachelor of Civil Law at Jesus College in Oxford.

*"After completing the BCL, I received a scholarship to study in Trier, Germany for a year where I undertook an LL.M in German and European law. This year was most rewarding and really complemented the experience of Oxford. I have since returned to Oxford and completed an MPhil with a dissertation on Judicial Review of Emergency Powers. I'm currently pursuing a DPhil which I should finish in 2010 on The Justiciability of Political Questions. I will then 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 use what I have gained here when I return home. On the extra-curricular side, I had no trouble getting involved with music, drama and sport. One of the greatest things about Oxford is the opportunity to meet interesting, intelligent people from all over the world and from just about every academic discipline imaginable."*



David Tomkins

**2002-2003 Sarah McCosker** graduated from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Arts (1998) and Bachelor of Laws (2001) with double First Class Honours. After working as an Associate to a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland, she qualified as a barrister before going to Oxford. She completed the BCL in 2003, MPhil in 2004 and DPhil in Law in 2009.

*"My year as a Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholar began what came to be a very full and fulfilling time at Oxford. After the BCL I undertook the MPhil in Law, writing on the relationship between international law and diplomacy in international dispute settlement - a topic I continued for my DPhil. I thoroughly enjoyed my very busy time at Oxford. Between 2003 and 2006 I worked as the Assistant Dean of Brasenose College and in 2005-2006 I taught international law to undergraduate Oxford students and to diplomats on the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme. I also worked as an Assistant Editor, then Editor, of the Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal, and was involved for four years in Oxford Pro Bono Publico. In August 2006 I moved to Canberra to work in the Office of International Law in the federal Attorney-General's Department, where I work primarily on international humanitarian law, international human rights law, refugee law and international criminal law. The knowledge and experience I gained at Oxford has proven extremely valuable. I will always be immensely appreciative of the many opportunities that the Chevening Oxford-Australia Scholarship provided me."*



Sarah McCosker

## Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars



Hoi Trinh

**2003 – 2004 Sophie Ward**, from Canberra, graduated with a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours from the Australian National University. Her Chevening Scholarship took her to Oxford for a Bachelor of Civil Law.

*"After completing the BCL at Christ Church, I returned to private practice as a competition lawyer at Freehills in Sydney. However, my BCL studies had sparked an interest in international trade law and this prompted me to move to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and then to work as an adviser to the Minister for Trade. I have since returned to competition law and am currently working in the Mergers Division of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. I often find myself drawing upon both the knowledge and the skills I acquired during my BCL year and am forever grateful for the opportunity I had to study at Oxford."*

**2001-2002 Hoi Trinh** has a double degree in Arts and Law from the University of Melbourne (1990-94). At Oxford he completed the Master of Studies in Forced Migration at Magdalen.

*"Since my graduation at Oxford in 2002, 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. I am currently working with International Lifeline Fund (ILF), a non profit US organization as its director of program development overseeing its clean water and fuel efficient stove programs in Uganda, Kenya and Haiti. To learn more about my work or intern with ILF in its Washington DC or Uganda office, please go to [www.lifelinefund.org](http://www.lifelinefund.org) or write to me [hoitrinh@lifelinefund.org](mailto:hoitrinh@lifelinefund.org)."*



Laura Dawes

**2001-2002 Laura Dawes** has a First Class Honours degree in mathematics and statistics from Murdoch University and a University Medal in Science. At Oxford, she completed a MSc in Economic and Social History, specialising in the History of Science and graduated with distinction. She took her PhD at Harvard, writing her thesis on the history of childhood obesity in the United States. Laura now lives in Canberra where she works as a historian of modern medicine, writing on obesity, health activism and the intersection of medicine and the law.

*"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. Oxford is the most stimulating, immersive scholarly community that I have worked in. The combination of its superb research facilities, the happy and deeply thinking company, and the inspiration that oozes from its sandstone pores makes Oxford the most excellent place to live and work. I am indebted to the Oxford Australia Fund for allowing me the time I spent there."*



Matthew Harding

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

*"After I finished my BCL, I stayed on in Oxford and gained a DPhil in law. In January 2005, I was appointed a lecturer in the Law School at the University of Melbourne and am now an Associate Professor there. The scholarship has meant that I have been able to start my academic career by taking the BCL, which led to my research degree and my current appointment! I have made many friends from all over the world through that time in Oxford."*

**2000-2001 Chester Brown** read Arts and Law at the University of Melbourne, graduating with First Class Honours in both degrees in 1997/1998. At Oxford, he completed a BCL with Distinction and was subsequently awarded a Menzies Scholarship to study for a PhD in public international law at the University of Cambridge. His doctoral work was published in 2007 by Oxford University Press - *A Common Law of International Adjudication*.

*"I am an Associate Professor at Sydney Law School, where I lecture in Public International Law, International Investment Law, International Dispute Settlement, and International Commercial Arbitration. I am also a practising barrister, and I am affiliated with Essex Court Chambers, London, and Maxwell Chambers, Singapore. Prior to coming to Sydney Law School, I served as Assistant Legal Adviser at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office where I advised on a range of public international law issues including international investment, State and diplomatic immunities, international arbitration, and the work of the International Law Commission. Before joining the FCO, I was a Senior Associate in the International Law and International Arbitration Group of Clifford Chance LLP, London, where I was involved in the settlement of international commercial and investment treaty disputes. I am extremely grateful for the British Chevening-Oxford Australia award, which provided me with an invaluable first step in my career."*



Chester Brown



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## Former Chevening-Oxford Australia Scholars

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**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 senior lawyer in the Office of General Counsel in Canberra.

*"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** graduated from the University of Sydney in Arts in 1995 and in Laws (with First Class Honours) in 1998.

*"I studied the BCL at Magdalen College. It was an important stepping stone as I was then offered the opportunity to study for the Masters of Law at Yale Law School, one of the most prestigious in the US. 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 Associate Director of the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia, 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."*

**1998-1999 John Cheong Lee** graduated with a BA in Philosophy with 1st Class Honours and Bachelor of Laws at the University of New South Wales in 1995 and 1998. He completed his Masters degree in 2000 on his Oxford-Chevening Scholarship and completed his Doctorate in International Relations in 2002, whilst at University College, Oxford.

*"On returning to Australia in 2002, I co-founded a research organisation, L21 Pty Ltd, of which I remain as the managing Director. I am also a Research Fellow at the Centre for Independent Studies in Foreign Policy, based in Sydney, and at the Hudson Institute in Washington DC. The British 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 Bachelor of Economics 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. On returning to Australia I worked as a corporate solicitor at Freehills (along with a number of other Oxford graduates) and later moved to Fairfax Media as an in-house lawyer. My boys Daniel (8), Thomas (6) and Samuel (6 mths) help ensure life is constantly busy and although my time at Oxford sometimes seems a world away, I keep in touch through the Oxford alumni magazines and functions in Sydney. 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."*



Sacha Moran



Kimberlee Weatherall



John Cheong Lee



Justine Isemonger

