



# The Cambridge Society of NSW

ABN 90 499 855 279

56 Edgecliff Road, Woollahra NSW 2025

Telephone: 02 9386 4889, Mobile: 0424 243 369

email: tomsuzieruse@smartchat.net.au

## MAY 2007 NEWSLETTER

---

### VICE CHANCELLOR'S DINNER

2007 events commenced with a formal dinner for visiting Vice Chancellor Prof Alison Richard, who was accompanied by her husband Prof Bob Dewar and a number of other University and College senior officials. The dinner was held in MacLaurin Hall, Sydney University, and 220 Cambridge alumni and guests attended. Professor Richard is the 344th Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge and is the first woman to hold the position full-time.



*Professor Alison Richard*



*Trivia Quiz Winners*



*Dinner in MacLaurin Hall*

The evening was a spectacular success. The night included a fun trivia quiz prepared by Committee Member Brindha Gunasingham. Professor Richard's speech was the highlight of the evening and she gave us some great insights into her views on the current status of the University, emphasising the qualities it shares with other great universities, what makes it distinctive and the current challenges being faced by the University. Particularly gratifying were her remarks about how the university values its alumni and how it is now making a significantly increased effort to remain in touch. She and her colleagues willingly answered a wide range of questions from the floor.

While it was not the focus of her goodwill visit, Prof Richard explained "The Cambridge 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign" to raise 1 billion pounds by 2012. The money will be used for endowments to support the educational and research excellence for which Cambridge is so well known throughout the World. Good progress has been made to date and further donations are sought. For more information go to [www.cam.ac.uk/800campaign](http://www.cam.ac.uk/800campaign)

---

## **URGENT REMINDER – MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION**

*Dear Cambridge Alumnus*

*Please renew your CAMSOC membership if you have not done so to date. Failure will result in relentless reminders!! Annual fees have been held at the very reasonable rate of \$40.00 for some years now.*

*A renewal form is at the back of this newsletter. We look forward to your continued support!!*

---

## **DRINKIES!!**



*Oxford and Cambridge Alumni joined forces on 10 August 2006 for 'Nineties and Noughties' drinks at the Lord Dudley Hotel in Paddington. Many thanks to Michele Grahame (Cambridge) and Katie Saunders (Oxford) for organising a most successful evening.*



*The next Nineties and Noughties drinks will be on July 26 at a venue to be finalised. All are welcome!! Contact Katie Saunders on [katie.saunders@au.mcd.com](mailto:katie.saunders@au.mcd.com), or Ian Ross on [rossib@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rossib@ozemail.com.au) or just turn up*

---

## WINTER FEAST 2006

*The 2006 Winter Feast was held at The Royal Sydney Golf Club on Thursday 21 September, by courtesy of former Chairman, Robert Wilson, who also acted as Master of Ceremonies for the function.*

*The date suggested the theme The Night of the Equinox. When it was realised that Stravinsky's famous ballet celebrated a Russian pagan festival and caused a riot when first performed in Paris in 1913, guests arrived to the more sedate strains of Vivaldi's Four Seasons. The theme was reflected in different bright coloured spring flowers on each table topped by a juxtaposed sun and moon.*

*120 guests enjoyed champagne and canapés over increasingly animated conversation, before proceeding to their tables named after some of Cambridge's most famous and infamous pubs. The venue was quite splendid, with great food and wine and impeccable service that set a relaxing transition-to-spring mood.*

*All this set the scene for the highlight of the evening: informative and entertaining talks by art gurus Joanna and Edmund Capon. Joanna spoke of her role as Honorary Curator of Art at the Children's Hospital at Westmead in developing the art collection at the hospital, and its purpose in supporting the treatment, recovery and wellbeing of the hospital's patients and their families and the hospital staff. She gave us extraordinary insights into the issues she has dealt with in a program that is unique worldwide and sets a leading global benchmark.*

*Long term Director of the Art Gallery of New South Wales and husband of Joanna, Edmund followed with an amusing if not hilarious exposé of the Archibald Prize. He spoke of the prize's origin and history, its nature and why it has endured when no other similar competition has done so anywhere in the world primarily because of its evergreen contemporary nature, how it importantly reflects Australian history through the ages, and of course the controversy that so often embroils it. Reflecting his other passion, Edmund made a number of disparaging remarks about so-called football codes that do not use a round ball!*

*After a short period of audience questions to Joanna and Edmund that allowed them to amplify some of the points they had necessarily only touched upon, guests enjoyed the customary provocatively funny vote of thanks from Vice Chairman, Christopher Dawson, and a short wrap up from Chairman, Ian Ross.*

---

## A NIGHT WITH THE STARS AT SYDNEY OBSERVATORY

*On 8 November a sell out 40 members gathered at Sydney Observatory to do a little star gazing. Some had gathered earlier at the Lord Nelson Hotel for a light meal and a pre-observatory drink. Committee Member **Carole Jackson** organised eminent astronomer and broadcaster Prof Fred Watson to talk with us about "Astronomers Behaving Badly". Fred entertained us with examples and at the same time we learned many facts about our universe.*

*Fred is a consummate presenter on things astronomical and all present enjoyed his wit and deep knowledge. The group toured the telescopes but due to cloud cover we were unable to gaze at the stars. The Observatory staff gave us an in-depth explanation of the whole facility and the various exhibits on display. A further highlight was the 3D space theatre experience. One could not help but feel like an insignificant speck of dust as we took a simulated space ride, speeding through the billions of galaxies making up our universe*

---

## **GIRTON COLLEGE CHOIR**

*The Girton College Choir presented a programme of Brahms – Poulenc in conjunction with the Woollahra Philharmonic at 2:30pm on Sunday 10 September at the Mary Immaculate Church, Victoria St Charing Cross, Waverley, followed by a sensational afternoon tea. CAMSOC NSW contributed the cup cakes.*



*The afternoon was wet and windy and the venue was perfect for Girton's Director of Music, Martin Ennis, to lead his charges on a musical tour de force, much to the benefit of the large audience. The singing was absolutely sublime. No wonder this marvellous choir has won international prizes, including the Gold Medal in the mixed chorus division at the Takarazuka International Chamber Chorus contest, and the Grossman prize for the best choral sound, awarded by the conductor of the Vienna Boys' Choir. After re-fuelling at a post concert reception, those who stayed on heard further informal, choral treats.*

---

## **THE CAMBRIDGE ALUMNI OFFICE FOR UP TO DATE NEWS**

*If you want to keep up to date with University developments, get in touch with the Cambridge Alumni Office by emailing*

*[alumni@foundation.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@foundation.cam.ac.uk)*

*If they do not have your details you will not be receiving the twice a term Cambridge Alumni e-bulletin, which is a comprehensive review of University activities and well worth reading*

*They welcome your feedback and look forward to keeping you informed about University events.*

---



## YOUR COMMITTEE AT WORK



*Ian Ross, Carole Jackson, Alison Ross, Chris Dawson, Brindha Gunasingham, Suzie Ruse*

### ***At the Society's AGM on 31 May 2007 the following committee was elected:***

<i>Chairman:</i>	<i>Dr Ian Ross</i>		
<i>Vice Chairman:</i>	<i>Christopher Dawson</i>		
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Alison Ross</i>		
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Christophehr Golis</i>		
<i>Committee Members:</i>	<i>Brindha Gunasingham</i>	<i>Carole Jackson</i>	<i>Ed Hossack</i>
	<i>Larry Lucas</i>	<i>Martin McCurrich</i>	<i>Rhys Goodey</i>
	<i>Liza Rybak</i>	<i>Bruce McAdam</i>	
	<i>Chandra Senaratne</i>	<i>Robert Wilson</i>	

**Tony Leadley** entertained us royally at the **2007 AGM** with an interesting and passionate presentation of the 1953 Boat Race won by Cambridge. (Tony was the good looking oarsman in the middle of the boat). There were many comparisons with the current event and Tony was able to present statistics on the winning times (around 19 minutes in those days compared to about 16 now) the relative weights of the crews (they were much smaller then) the qualities of the shells and the level of professionalism (non – existent then). We saw film of Tony's crew training by rowing the many miles to Ely and then film of the race itself. Cambridge was, of course, victorious by several lengths and film of that crew is still used today to exemplify fine technique. It took Tony 40 years to track down the film and it was well worth the effort! Thank you Tony! We also watched the 2007 race, where Cambridge was again victorious!

---

## FUTURE EVENTS

### ***Please put these dates in your diary***

- July 26 – Combined Oxford and Cambridge Drinks – Venue to be finalised
  - September – Winter Feast – Venue and Date to be notified
  - October 7 Cricket vs Oxford at St Paul's College Oval Sydney University
  - December 2007 – Christmas drinks – Union Club. Details to be finalised
- 

## CRICKET



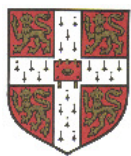
All leather flingers and willow wielders need to put Sunday 7 October 2007 in their diaries!!!

More sedentary types need to do the same, because an appreciative audience will be essential!!!

The Oval at St Paul's College Sydney Uni has been booked.

CAMSOC's honour is at stake as our Oxford colleagues have thrown out the challenge.

**If you are interested please contact John Rothnie-Jones at [johnrothniejones@iinet.net.au](mailto:johnrothniejones@iinet.net.au)**



# The Cambridge Society of NSW

## **Membership Application / Subscription Renewal Form - 2007**

If re-applying and your details have not changed, please just complete your name.

### **Personal Details**

Title/Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Cambridge Details**

Faculty: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Honours/Other Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you permit your details to be included in the Society's Directory? Yes [ ☐ ] No: [ ☐ ]

### **Fees**

Annual Subscription: ..... \$40.00

### **Payment**

Please post this form to the above address with a cheque for \$40 to 'The Cambridge Society of NSW', 56 Edgecliff Road, Bondi Junction, NSW 2022.

### **OR**

Email the completed form to [tomsuzieruse@smartchat.net.au](mailto:tomsuzieruse@smartchat.net.au) and make **payment** by direct deposit to the Cambridge Society's St George Bank account (please include surname on transfer)

**Account Name:** Cambridge Society of NSW

**BSB:** 112 879

**Account No:** 036-502-926

---