

The Harvard Club of the United Kingdom



◆ News & Notices ◆ November/December 2007

Upcoming Events

◆ **23 November 3-4.30 pm**

John Harvard Memorial Lecture - The abolition of the slave trade act - 200 years on. Revd. Professor Peter Gomes of Harvard University. Unicorn Theatre, 147 Tooley St, Southwark, London SE1 2HZ
Contact: christiana.otun@southwark.gov.uk
Tel: 020 7525 7304

◆ **25 November 11.00 am**

Choral Eucharist at Southwark Cathedral in celebration of 400th anniversary of baptism of John Harvard in Southwark.
Revd. Professor Peter Gomes (Minister of Memorial Church at Harvard) with Dean of Southwark.

◆ ***5 December 6.00 pm**

"My Time Governing in Iraq" - an evening with Rory Stewart OBE at The British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH

◆ ***23 January 6.00 pm**

Reception and Celebratory Dinner with President Faust at the London Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square, W1 Contact: haa_alumnieducation@harvard.edu or call 00-1-617-495-1920

** invitation enclosed*

See also events listing on www.hcuk.org

Letter from the President

One of the great aspects of Harvard is its broad network of Alumni. This week one of the officers from the Beijing club, **Zhaolin Ding**, was in London and stopped by for a visit. The Beijing Club would like us to know that if any of our members are travelling to Beijing for work or holiday, they should feel free to contact the club (<http://clubs.harvard.edu/olc/pub/HAA/university/home.jsp?shortname=habeijing>). They also volunteered to offer advice and help in navigating the local business terrain.

We are fortunate to have club members with interesting backgrounds. Last year, we profiled **Don Guiney** who moonlights as Commissioner of Little League Baseball. Another club member devoted to sports is **Ingrid Jacobson Pinter '83**. To HCUK members, Ingrid is known as a former Book Prize chair and has been an active and superb interviewer for as long as I have been in England. Her younger brother was a good friend and rugby team mate of mine. Yet, it was only in reading the September-October "Harvard Magazine" that I learned that Ingrid was among the founders and first president of Radcliffe Rugby. The legend is that Ingrid watched a Harvard men's game and bemoaned that there was no women's equivalent. A friend prodded her to do something - she established the sport at Radcliffe and, most recently, taught her 12-year old son to tackle. The full story can be found at <http://www.harvard-magazine.com/2007/09/rugger-mothers.html>.

We have another first - we are thrilled to announce that **President Drew Faust** is coming to London in January. As you know, she is the first female President of Harvard University and is taking her first international trip as President to the UK. She is coming to London solely to meet alumni and speak with us. An invitation is enclosed with this mailing, and I do hope that many of you will join me in welcoming President Faust on January 23rd.

Brandon Bradkin AB '89, JD '92

Justice Online

Even if you haven't joined the HCUK discussion groups, we hope all members will register and look at this exciting HAA initiative of bringing **Professor Michael Sandel's** course Justice to Harvard alumni. We have three discussion group sessions on a monthly basis. **Donal McElwee** leads one on Wednesday at lunch time; **Timothy Corbett** leads one on Thursday evening at 6.30; and **David Devore** on Saturday at 11 am. All the sessions are in London. There are still spaces and there is no problem with joining later in the sessions - contact me if you want details (jpmaciver@post.harvard.edu). In January we hope to have a final wrap up session for the discussion groups and other club members will be welcome to attend - a notice will appear on the HCUK email notices.

Joan Porter MacIver '75 HCUK Justice online co-ordinator

Book Talk by Clotilde Dusoulier

In September, around 75 HCUK and Lansdowne Club members, guests and a number of C&Z groupies were totally charmed by Clotilde Dusoulier, who talked about her first book *Chocolate and Zucchini* and her style of 'good French home cooking'. Clotilde is best known for her blog, www.chocolateandzucchini.com. She will be shortly writing a book on the best places to eat in Paris so watch this space! A few members took my advice to stock up on the book for Christmas presents and Catheryn Kilgarriff, her publisher (Marion Boyars) was very pleased that all the books were sold out. On behalf of the HCUK I wish to extend our thanks to the Lansdowne Club and Marion Boyars Publishers for making this event possible.

Joan Porter MacIver '75



*Pictured at the Interviewers' Evening (see article overleaf), l to r: **Hattie Hartman** (Harvard Book Prize), **Marc Zao-Sanders** (Director: Pure Potential), **Janet Irons** (UK Admissions Officer), **Giovanna Vitelli** (VP Outreach) and **Keith Russell** (Chair/ Schools and Scholarships Committee)*

Interviewers' Evening

Over sixty HCUK member interviewers and volunteers gathered at the offices of McKinsey & Co. in central London for an extremely informative evening, which kicked off with a presentation by **Janet Irons**, Harvard College Senior Admissions Officer with responsibility for the UK, about new developments at Harvard. The evening touched on a wide range of outreach initiatives – many of them new this year - and concluded with an interesting discussion on interviewing students from the state sector.

Janet Irons spoke about: the arrival of President Drew Faust; the move of the Admissions Office to 86 Brattle Street; the first year without Early Action; the new undergraduate curriculum which will go into effect in 2009/2010; a change in the timing of when students must choose a concentration – now at the end of the third semester; improvements to undergraduate advising; the newly established School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; and plans for the new Allston campus. See www.hcuk.org for a full listing of “What’s New at Harvard?” complete with weblinks.

Keith Russell, co-Chair of the Schools and Scholarships Committee, gave an update on the interviewing process and the changes resulting from the elimination of Early Action admissions. He also highlighted the need for more interviewers outside of the greater London area.

Hattie Hartman, Chair of the Harvard Book Prize, spoke about the Book Prize as a tool for raising awareness about Harvard in UK secondary schools, and the need for more sponsors to underwrite the costs of the approximately 100 books we send out annually. Sponsorship is £30/year per school, and the Book Prize is a great way to develop a tie with a school and encourage applicants to Harvard. See www.hcuk.org for the current list of schools receiving books.

Giovanna Vitelli, VP for Outreach, explained how Harvard was trying to develop a regional presence outside of London; recent Harvard presentations in Sheffield, Manchester and Bristol were successful in raising awareness of the college, as well as informing new groups about the potential for studying in the US. The local schools or City Councils were keen to host Harvard’s visits, and as a result, we were able to speak to and meet a number of students, staff and parents from the non-Independent sector schools in the regions. The initial feedback we have received is very positive, and we are hoping to find more regional HCUK members willing to become involved in this exciting development.

Constable Country Walk

Over 20 HCUK members and guests turned up at Manningtree station on October 6th to join **Jane Baird** on a walk to Dedham and back. In Dedham we had lunch at the Boat House, which produced very lovely food, and provided a chance for everyone to talk. It was a beautiful autumn day and one could just imagine Constable’s paintings through nature. It was also a chance to talk as one walked – we all hope Jane will be willing to continue to lead us on these walks! Jane asked for a £3 donation per person and matched the total given and sent off a cheque for almost \$500 to the Harvard College Fund – a very generous gesture on her part.

Joan Porter MacIver '75

(Joan’s note: I have been meaning to walk in Constable Country for 20 years so I particularly wish to thank Jane for putting this together and prompting me to fulfil this goal.)

The final speaker, **Marc Zao Sanders** of Pure Potential, an organisation which runs enabling workshops for underprivileged sixth formers applying to university, spoke about issues of confidence, knowledge base and financial aid for applicants from the State sector, and highlighted the differences between the UK and the US application processes.

In HCUK Outreach, we have developed a number of projects recently that will enable Harvard to become better known as an alternative to UK education, and we are working with volunteers who have expressed interest in managing these projects going forward. These include working on a presentation to Heads of VI Forms at their annual conference; being asked to attend the annual LIDS (Large Independent Day Schools) Heads conference in 2008; further developing the “Harvard Teaching Fellows” idea to offer recent grads the opportunity to come work and live in the UK for a year while teaching at an affiliated school; working with the Eton Summer School, which offers residential courses for bright underprivileged students; and encouraging leading regional schools to sign up to become SAT Test Centres.

Among the HCUK projects which still need input and help are:

1. Completing a new Admissions portal for our own HCUK website, in order to make the process of applying to Harvard easier and more “UK-friendly” for prospective applicants – including information (in “English”!) about the US applications process, SATs, travel and culture, and so on. Ideally we would like to have someone who is IT-literate to help with the selection and layout of this website, so that we can offer it as part of our marketing efforts. Some of the design will involve creative application of what constitutes “travel and culture”!

2. We would like to hear from regional HCUK members, especially in the north near Manchester or Sheffield, who could complement the already good work being done by our few stalwarts in the area. This is not necessarily only for interviewing, but also for building relationships with area schools, usually through one specifically chosen school which acts as “clearing house” and point of contact for the area. HCUK have used this model successfully in the Bristol area and we are keen to work with other regions.

If you are interested in becoming involved in any of the above projects, please contact giovanna.vitelli@post.harvard.edu or any member of the Outreach Team. Thank you!



The current view of Dedham Mill without the haywain!