



The Churchillian

The Newsletter of the Churchill Hall Association

2016-17



CHURCHILL
HALL



Founder Members present at the 60th Anniversary Dinner
(version with names available on request)

Message from the Chairman

Fellow Churchillians

As you will read in a separate article, the Churchill Hall Association (CHA) organised a very successful dinner last year, attended by some 30 Founder Members of the Hall. To follow that success was going to be difficult. However, before the Committee had a chance to begin work on the 2017 Annual Dinner, we were invited to join three of the other Halls at a joint dinner. We decided to go with this idea for 2017, but will start with a pre-Dinner reception in Churchill before we walk over to Wills for the dinner itself.

As a committee we agreed this change for 2017, but I feel strongly that we must guard against CHA losing its identity. In future (or alternate) years, we may return to having our own dinner in the Holmes. Of course if we became very successful we could now move back to the main building and the Dining Room. We might also take over the hosting of a joint Dinner in the Churchill Hall Dining Room. If you have views on this subject please let us know

On a personal level I have much enjoyed over the past five years being Chair of the Association but feel, especially with the changes relating to the Dinner and the University, it is time to hand over the reins to another Churchillian. If you would like to be considered for this position (or, more generally, for a place on the Committee) please email me (davidfasb@aol.com) with a short summary of your CV by 21st April 2017. The Committee will decide on a successor and hopefully the hand-over will take place at the next Annual Dinner 2017.

Finally may I thank all the Committee for their efforts and especially Alastair Scott as Secretary to the Association.

David Clarke
Chairman, Churchill Hall Association (CHA)
Churchill Hall 1963-65

Churchill Hall Association Committee Objectives

Your Committee has developed a set of objectives for themselves which are included here. You will see that our aspirations are very considerably broader than the roles that we have taken on to date – lots more to do!

The Churchill Hall Association (CHA) comprises all those who are or have been resident at Churchill Hall, or who have had a substantive attachment to the Hall, for a period of at least one year.

The objectives of the CHA Committee are:

1. To contribute to building an engaged and supportive CHA community by:
 - Organising and holding events, such as an annual dinner.
 - Publishing materials, such as an annual newsletter.
 - Encouraging members to support the life and work of Churchill Hall by contributing, for instance, to the purchase of items or the funding of projects.
 - Keeping in touch with Hall life, for instance by meeting with members of the JCR.
 - Encouraging members to give advice and support to current students and young graduates.
 - Doing such other things as the Committee regards as contributing to the general objective.
2. To consult with and represent the views of members
 - On matters raised by the University or Churchill Hall and of concern to members, or
 - On matters of particular interest to members relating to the University or Hall.

Message from the Warden

More than Bricks and Mortar...

Last summer saw the final phrase of renovation works at Churchill Hall which fully modernised the main building. As such, our JCR, dining room and library now look refreshed and ready for years more service to the hall community. And with these works completed, it seemed worth addressing the community whom the hall houses in my thoughts this year.

Many of you doubtless look back on your days at university as “the best of your life;” I know I certainly do. (I liked them so much I never quite managed to leave university....) And yet changing times and the changing climate of expense and pressure make modern student life far more problematic for many. Where I cheerfully ambled to my bursar to pick up a termly maintenance cheque from my county council, Churchill residents are now handling loans and juggling jobs to make ends meet. They hear of the cheques I received with a mixture of incredulity and envy. Students, of course, still love their life and their learning at the University of Bristol, and you are all aware of the life of student loans and the like from the news. And yet the human cost of the new regime needs to be considered for it leaves students such as those for whom I have the privilege to be a warden facing tough choices. Selecting the right course, making the right choices and building a career profile are issues of more immediate pertinence from day one at university.

In such a context many students will feel the pressure and will look to the University to provide a wide range of support services. And it is in this context that Bristol has



launched a wide-ranging review of its pastoral services about which some of you as alumni have doubtless been contacted. (Incidentally, if you have views about Bristol's residences and how they can contribute to student wellbeing, do feel free to contact me directly.) The work of myself and my team is front and centre in the review process because we are often the first people who realise a

student is facing issues. We're also a friendly informal face who they've known since they arrived.

Quite what the outcome of the pastoral review will be cannot be known as I write. And yet we can be in no doubt that Bristol's halls of residence have been, are and will remain at the core of the community-building process which allows students to settle, flourish and succeed academically and personally.

Treasurer's Report

The main financial activity of the Association revolves around the Reunion Weekend dinner. These dinners are planned to break even. In 2016, we had a small shortfall on the Weekend (approximately £12.)

The Association currently has assets in hand of just over £3,000. This has been built up historically from when membership fees were charged and includes historic donations and legacies.

As we see no need to hold such large levels of reserves, we have agreed a donation of between £1,000 and £1,200 to the Hall to contribute towards the cost of a grand piano to develop the musical talent within the Hall.

The £2,875 which was donated as a result of the appeal to Founder Members is not included in these figures and will not appear in the Association accounts. This is to ensure that there can be no query over compliance with the regulations relating to Gift Aid. See article "CHA Founder Members' Appeal" for details of how this money is being spent.

Keith Walton
Hon Treasurer, CHA

CHA 60th Anniversary Dinner, 2016

The Dinner was held on Saturday 9th July in The Holmes and marked the 60th Anniversary of the founding of Churchill Hall in 1956.

There were a total of 69 guests including 30 Founder Members who were resident in the early years of the Hall.

The guest of honour was The Chancellor, Lady Hale of Richmond and her husband – Julian Farrand.

The guest speaker was Sophie Hatchwell, teacher and PhD student in the Department of History of Art, who gave a short talk on *Speeches & Celebrations: Churchill at Bristol*.

We were fortunate with good weather and the evening started with Professor Robert Mayhew, Warden welcoming everyone to the reception on the Patio outside the Holmes, overlooking what is now the Botanical Gardens. Old acquaintances were renewed and a group photograph taken of the 30 Founder Members. (See cover page of this Newsletter)

All Founder Members were given a copy both of the book, *Heroic Chancellor*, for which Sophie Hatchwell did the research; and also of the *Booklet of Mini-Biographies*, which contains the life stories, plus 'then' and 'now' photos of all Founder Members present (plus a few who were unable to be there)



Michael Richardson, Founder Member, 1956-59 said grace before the meal.

David Clarke (Churchill 63-65), Chairman of Churchill Hall Association, welcomed everyone to the dinner. He said it was so wonderful to have a sell-out dinner and especially to see so many of the 'original' Churchillians (and their partners). He expressed a warm welcome to the present Chancellor - Lady Hale of Richmond and our speaker – Dr Sophie Hatchwell – who gave a talk about Sir Winston Churchill who was Chancellor of the university for 35 years. David remembered that while he was in Hall, there was an annual toast of a glass of madeira to Winston Churchill on his birthday. He thanked the committee who help run the CHA and paid special thanks to our Secretary - Alastair Scott – who had largely organized the Dinner especially persuading the Founder Members to attend.

The Chairman introduced the speaker – Dr Sophie Hatchwell.



Having graduated at the University of East London, Sophie obtained an MA from the Courtauld Institute and a PhD from Bristol University last year. She is currently teaching on the BA History of Art programme. Sophie has conducted research on Churchill's links with the University of Bristol for Sir David Cannadine. This project resulted in Sir David's lectures in 2015 in Bristol and at the Imperial War rooms in London, together with a book "Heroic Chancellor- Churchill and UoB 1929-65"

Sophie spoke about Churchill's relationship with the University. There was a visual cultural history and much archive material available from which David Cannadine's book was produced. Churchill was appointed Chancellor in 1929, following a period in the 20's when he was falling out of favour. As Chancellor, he was involved in Celebratory events and as a speaker. He conferred degrees on Neville Chamberlain (1931) and Ernest Bevin (1945). The 1950's were even more Ceremonial and he was involved with Churchill Hall both a campaigner and supporter. He allowed his Crest to be used by the Hall and received a tiepin as a gift from the Hall for this. Churchill continued as Chancellor until his death in 1965.

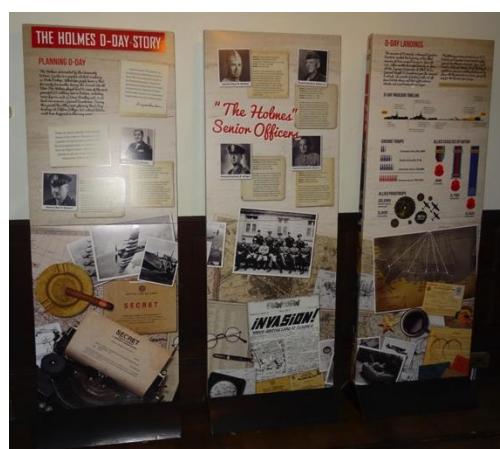
Lady Hale thanked Sophie Hatchwell and proposed a toast to Churchill Hall and all who sail in her.

The dinner concluded with Hugh Willis, Founder Member, 1958-61 proposing the final toast, and the evening ended with a chorus of "I am a Bristol Man"

The many messages received after the Dinner confirmed that it was greatly enjoyed – though this was actually clear from the general noise levels! The eating and drinking and speechifying were all tasty or attractive or amusing, but what really elevated the occasion to greatness was the making and re-making of connections, and the re-visiting of all those memories. Special time, special place



Various hall archive material was on display in the Holmes entrance hall including both The Holmes D-Day story and the Hall Almanac.



CHA Founder Members' Appeal

At the suggestion of various Founder Members, following the Dinner, an appeal was launched to make a contribution to a project specifically for the benefit of Churchill Hall and its students.

We are pleased to report that this post-Dinner appeal raised £2,875. We thank those who contributed to a really meaningful expression of their appreciation of the value of their time in Churchill Hall in the 1950/60's.

The Association has agreed with the Warden to purchase the following:

- Two benches to be placed in the Hall arboretum.
- Two up-lights and two down-lights for the stage
- Four music stands with lights

These items will enhance the students' stay in Hall and complement the newly refurbished Hall buildings.

Churchill Hall Annual Reunion and Dinner, 15th July 2017

Reception and Hall Tour Churchill Hall: 18:30

Dinner at Wills Hall: 19:45

This year, as an experiment, we are holding a combined Annual Dinner, along with the Hall Associations of Wills, Badock and Manor Halls. This will take place at Wills Hall.

The Dinner will be preceded by a Reception at Churchill Hall, when there will be an opportunity to look round the newly refurbished buildings.

The guest speaker at the dinner will be Paul, Lord Boateng (LLB 1973, Honorary LLD 2007) MP from 1987 – 2005, High Commissioner to South Africa (2005 – 2009)

On Sunday morning, following the Service at the Monica Wills Memorial Chapel, there will be an opportunity for a guided tour of the Botanical Gardens in the grounds of The Holmes and, after that lunch will be available at Wills Hall.

Bookings for all the above events and accommodation can be made using the form on the next page. Alternatively, you may [download](#) the form.

The Dinner will form part of the 'Best of Bristol Alumni Weekend 2017', and all Churchillians are encouraged to book up for this.

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/alumni/events/alumni-weekend-2017/>

Churchill Hall Association

The Churchill Hall Association welcomes ideas and other feedback - together, of course, with letters or articles for the 2017 Newsletter. Please make contact via email at churchillhallassociation@gmail.com

Appendix: Annual Reunion Dinner Accommodation booking

CHURCHILL HALL ASSOCIATION

BOOKING FORM FOR REUNION WEEKEND 14 – 16 JULY 2017

ACCOMMODATION (at The Holmes with breakfast at Wills Hall)		Per Room	No of Rooms	Total
FRIDAY NIGHT BED AND BREAKFAST (only available if also booking Saturday night)	Single Room – shared facilities	£35.00		
	Single Room – En-suite facilities	£40.00		
	Double Room (4ft bed) – shared facilities	£55.00		
	Double Room (4ft bed) – en-suite facilities	£60.00		
SATURDAY NIGHT BED AND BREAKFAST	Single Room – shared facilities	£35.00		
	Single Room – En-suite facilities	£40.00		
	Double Room (4ft bed) – shared facilities	£55.00		
	Double Room (4ft bed) – en-suite facilities	£60.00		
MEALS (at Wills Hall)		Per Person	No of people	
SATURDAY 18:30	RECEPTION AT CHURCHILL then REUNION DINNER including wine (black tie or dark suit)	£36.00		
SUNDAY 13:00	LUNCHEON	£13.00		
OTHER EVENTS				
SUNDAY 11:30	TOUR OF BOTANICAL GARDENS #	£5.00		
TOTAL				

IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED NUMBER OF ROOMS AVAILABLE, BOOKINGS FOR ACCOMMODATION WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IF YOU ARE ALSO BOOKING FOR THE DINNER.

If we are unable to accommodate you in The Holmes, we can arrange rooms at Wills Hall which will be single with shared facilities or at Durdham Hall single en-suite. Do you wish to take advantage of this YES/NO

Please send this form to Keith Walton, 7 Simmonds Road, Walsall WS3 3PT with a cheque payable to Churchill Hall Association or email to cha@keithwalton.plus.com and pay by bank transfer to HSBC sort code 40-11-07 account number 31038419 Churchill Hall Association. Please give your name as reference

If you have any queries, please contact me on 01922 478714 or by email to cha@keithwalton.plus.com

If you are booking from overseas the IBAN is GB58MIDL40110731038419 and the SWIFT (BIC) MIDLGB2119D

The bank's address is 56 High St, Erdington, Birmingham B23 6RT

Your Name	Years in Churchill Hall
Address	
Phone Number	Email
Name(s) of your guest(s)	

Any requests regarding rooms or dietary requests for the dinner

If you would like to be seated with any others who may be coming to the dinner, please give their names

Final date for booking 26 June 2017. Refunds will be given for cancellation before that date. Later cancellations can only be refunded if there is a replacement booking.

#Bookings including Botanical Garden tour must be received by 1 JUNE 2017.

Booking Form Notes for the Reunion Weekend 14 – 16 July 2017

Please read these notes in conjunction with the booking form

Accommodation

Accommodation is available in The Holmes but, as the number of rooms is limited, it is only available for those attending the Annual Dinner. IMPORTANT – please note that most of the rooms with shared facilities are on the second floor, with access via steep narrow stairs. If this would be a problem to you, please make a note in the “requests regarding rooms” section of the booking form.

In view of the limited number of rooms in The Holmes, we have made arrangements for accommodation (all single rooms) at either Wills Hall (with shared facilities) or Durdham Hall (with en-suite facilities) if we are unable to accommodate you. Please indicate on the booking form if you are happy to accept this option, if necessary.

If you require accommodation for the weekend without booking for the dinner, please contact Wills Hall Association (www.willshallassociation.org.uk phone 020 8789 3760) regarding booking a room there.

Hall Parking

The University has introduced car parking charges at the Halls of Residence. However, we understand that there is a concession for the Reunion Weekend. You will have to display a special permit, which will be available at event registration tables and at each Hall. Please ensure that you collect a permit and display it at all times. (There is no change to parking arrangements on the University precinct car parks, where you can park freely from 5:00pm on the Friday.

Booking Deadlines and cancellations

The final date for booking is 26 June but note that there is an earlier deadline of 1 June for bookings including the tour of the Botanical Gardens (which is to meet the requirements of the Garden Staff.) Tickets will be issued for the Garden Tour in due course.

If you find that you have to cancel, refunds will be paid if the cancellation is received before the final booking date. As we have to make a commitment to the University at that time, refunds of late cancellations will only be given if we receive a late booking which can replace the cancelled booking.)