



Wesley House | The Methodist College in Cambridge since 1921

A reflective, cross-cultural community of prayer and study for students and scholars in the Wesleyan tradition

NEWSLETTER | MICHAELMAS TERM 2014

Dear Friends

After a very busy summer, it is hard to believe that term has already begun in Cambridge. We marked this on 6th October with drinks in our temporary offices at 19A Jesus Lane, a service of Holy Communion in Wesley House Chapel (which involved tip-toeing through the scaffolding) and a private dinner hosted for us by Westminster College. It was a pleasure to welcome some of our 20 non-resident students, trustees, our chaplains, and Doug and Shirley Lewis, visiting from Washington.

4 JULY COMMEMORATIONS



The start of term service was a very different event from the last act of worship held in the court on 4 July. On that occasion more than 250 people gathered to mark the end of initial training at Wesley House, including the President and Vice-president of Conference, former Principals, Brian Beck, Ivor Jones and Philip Luscombe, and other guests of honour including Peter Gutteridge, the great-grandson of our founder, Michael.

Highlights of the event included speeches from Charles Banks, the oldest living student, and from

Christina LeMoignan describing what it was like to arrive amongst the first cohort of women to train at the House, and from Catherine Dixon, a recent graduate.

For the occasion, three limited edition sets of original linocuts of the library, the chapel and a detail from the chapel were produced, to be sold in aid of the bursary fund. A few remain to be sold, framed, at £75 each plus p&p. If you would like to purchase one please contact administrator@wesley.cam.ac.uk



SINCE 4 JULY

Since July the site has been sold to Jesus College and a lease taken for 120 years on the eastern part of the site. Building works have commenced with demolition of the Rank gatehouse.



To keep up to date with the physical changes to the site please consult our building blog. This is available at: <http://wesleyhouseproject.wordpress.com/>

Here is a picture of what used to be Flat 30 taken from the now roofless top of the Rank concourse.

GET INVOLVED THE LIFE OF THE COLLEGE

With 20 students and Federation teaching to attend to, Cindy and I are busy with many of the usual term time engagements, and it is good to be back in the routine of morning prayers each day. If you would like to join us in praying for former students of the House each day, and for our partners around the world, I attach the prayer list for this year, with apologies to those whose dates have flown by already. From the end of October it will be possible to use the 'prayer space' on www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/prayerspace to pray with us each day. Please also remember me as I travel to South Africa and to Kenya during early November, and then to the USA later in November for further talks with partner institutions and to meet potential students for 2014-15.

HOLINESS: THE JOURNAL OF WESLEY HOUSE, CAMBRIDGE



Also on the new website it is now possible to sign up to receive the new journal entitled, HOLINESS: THE JOURNAL OF WESLEY HOUSE, CAMBRIDGE. This is planned to be a major peer-reviewed journal which will come out three times each year. In addition to the main articles there will also be reflective practice articles from around the world, book reviews, film reviews and creative writing. If you would like to sign up to receive an email prompt when each edition is ready, please visit www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/holiness. The first edition is due at Pentecost 2015 and will be on the theme of HOLINESS AND EDUCATION. The second edition is to follow in Advent 2015 will explore the theme of HOLINESS AND THE CHRISTIAN HOPE. We are also looking for contributors and reviewers, so once you've explored the website, do contact our commissioning editor, Janet Morley, on commissioningeditor@wesley.cam.ac.uk

The journal will be free to read online and we are looking for sponsorship to help keep it free for readers. The Trustees are delighted to announce that the Scholarship, Research and Innovation part of the Discipleship &

Ministries Learning Network has promised a significant annual contribution towards costs. If you would like to contribute, then please contact Janet as above.

SHORT COURSES 2015



We are now recruiting for our two short courses running during the Easter Vacation, this year, hosted by Westcott House whilst we are rebuilding:

- **Empowering Ministry through Supervision, 23-25 March** is the long-standing ecumenical training course in supervision skills which we have run successfully since 2006.
- **Preaching and Praying the Passion, 30 March-1April** is a course for preachers exploring the theology of the cross. This course is suitable for local preachers, probationer & ordained ministers, supernumeraries and ecumenical colleagues. The aim of the course is to offer a taste of Cambridge with keynote lectures given by leading theologians as well as workshops offered by the Wesley House staff. This year's lecturers include **Prof Morna Hooker-Stacey** and **Prof Tom Greggs** – both Methodist local preachers as well as academic theologians. The course is offered in a devotional atmosphere during the first part of Holy Week with regular acts of prayer and concluding with a service of holy communion.

Comments from last year's participants included, 'This is the sort of refreshment we all need. It inspired me to inspire others.' Mark Gilks, local preacher from London. Places are going fast, so do sign up.

To book, check the website and contact [administrator@wesley.cam.ac.uk/](mailto:administrator@wesley.cam.ac.uk) 01223 741041.

DEVELOPMENT IN MINISTRY

Those of you in ministry may be interested in some of the opportunities for development through academic programmes at Wesley house. This year we have three new students beginning on our **Professional Doctorate Programme**, researching variously 'the co-creation of meaning in postmodern evangelism'; 'attitudes to sexuality in British Methodism today' and 'developing a Pentecostal pastoral theology'. If you feel inspired, get in touch with Cindy to think about a proposal...

Alternatively, if research is not your thing but you want to engage in a part time degree with an international cohort of students and excellent teaching, think about making an application for our new DMin programme. Why not bring an ecumenical colleague along with you to track 2?

- **Track 1 – Transformative Leadership in Wesleyan Perspective**
- **Track 2 – Creative Ministry for Church Renewal in a Changing World**

Suitable for those who have completed a theological degree and 3 years of ministry, this is a part-time taught degree involving independent study plus two fortnights in Cambridge per year for two years, followed by a dissertation. The degree is designed for those who want to think more broadly and deeply about their ministry, rather than for those considering research. The modules will be taught by Wesley House staff and by guest teachers of international reputation including Ted Campbell, Judith Lieu, Sathi Clarke, Bruce Birch, Tim Macquiban, Dion Forster & Diana Butler-Bass. Please be in touch with me if you are interested to receive more details and information about how to apply. Do also share the opportunity represented by Track 2 with ecumenical colleagues. Flyers can be downloaded from our website.

FOUNDERS AND BENEFACTORS

Wesley House was founded by a challenge grant made by Michael Gutteridge more than 100 years ago. To make good on the new Trust purposes of Wesley House, this summer we launched a bursary fund, providing opportunities for students to study in Cambridge, both from the British Methodist church and from other parts of the world, who would otherwise be prevented by financial considerations. The fund will also benefit from the balance of the original endowment that remains following the redevelopment of the site.

At our annual service of thanksgiving for Founders and Benefactors on 12 November 2014 we shall be giving thanks for the £13,000 so far donated by individuals and churches, and also for the £100,000 grant we received from the Maurice & Hila Laing Trust towards transitional costs. Do look at our website for ways to give, or contact our Transition and Development Director, Bob Evans, on 01223 741041. Two ideas for now include:

Legacies and Bequests: If you are one of the 6 out of 10 people who have not yet made a will, or if you made it several years ago and your circumstances have changed, please consider what you might do to protect your loved ones and help Wesley House to support its students in future.

Give as You Live: You can support Wesley House at no cost to you, just by shopping online. Thousands of online retailers (including John Lewis, Expedia, airlines and train companies) will donate a percentage of your online purchases to us if you sign up for the scheme and nominate Wesley House as your charity. Just go to <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/> and sign up. You can then nominate Wesley House as your chosen charity. you can then download an app which will put a small *Give as You Live* flag in the corner of the screen every time you shop online at a participating store.. It is completely secure and very easy to use.

IN CLOSING

At the start of term service we sang the Charles Wesley hymn, *Come let us anew our journey pursue*. As we sang it the line that stood out for me was 'by the patience of hope and the labour of love'. This is by no means an easy year in the life of the College. It is strange to be shut out of the site and living in temporary accommodation; there is grief over colleagues who have moved on and a whole way of life that has ended; and yet also there are new relationships to be built and now and then glimpses of the future appear. In the meantime we attend to



Judith Lieu signs the new Trust Deed that makes possible the admission of lay and overseas Methodist and Methodist-related students to Wesley House.

God in the present, trusting that as so many people - volunteers, contractors, staff and students, alumni and friends - give of themselves whole-heartedly, God will honour those gifts of time and prayer and money and weave from them something lasting and glorious.

With my best wishes for the connexional year

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Leach". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, rounded initial "J".

Jane Leach | Principal