

The Methodist College in Cambridge since 1921

Newsletter

Easter Term 2017

From the Principal

The last month has been a memorable one at Wesley House with the long awaited opening of the new college buildings and the rededication of the college to the glory of God.

More than 600 people visited the college during the week for various events and we are so grateful for many expressions of support through the varied contributions of friends from all over the world—your physical presence with us, your donations, your prayers, you willingness to spread the word about the work we believe we are called to do.

The rededication of the college marks an important milestone in the re-founding of the college but there is still much for us to do together to ensure a stable and fruitful future. We are opening up a new area of work in online learning and we are pleased to announce the appointment of Hannah Bucke to lead that work. As we say goodbye to Cindy Wesley as Director of Studies, Carole Irwin steps into that role and I am delighted to report that from September, Richard and Diane Clutterbuck will be joining the tutorial team for a year.

We are also grateful at this point for the work of Judy Lieu who completed her term as Chair of Trustees on 30 April and we look forward to working with Stuart Jordan in that role on the next stage of the adventure.

Jane

The Revd Dr Jane Leach, Principal

Photographs of the Rededication week are available to download from <u>bit.ly/rededicationweek</u>





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Rededication week

We were delighted to welcome so many people to help us celebrate the end of our building project with a week of worship and events for the Rededication of College and commissioning of the new buildings to the glory of God.

On Monday 24th April we hosted the Methodist Studies Seminar as part of the bi-annual series of seminars held in a partnership between Manchester Wesley Research Centre, Wesley Studies Centre, Durham, The Queen's Foundation, Cliff College, Oxford Brookes University and Wesley House. Keynote addresses were given by The Revd Dr Brian Beck, former Principal of Wesley House, and The Revd Dr Jonathan Dean from The Queen's Foundation.

On Monday evening Wesley Church hosted a public lecture by Professor Eamon Duffy (pictured right) on "Reformation and the end of Christendom". A retiring collection generously raised £320 for the Wesley House bursary fund. We are grateful to Wesley Church for their support in arranging and hosting this event.



On Tuesday 25th April we hosted the annual Research Conference for the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network of the Methodist Church. The conference opened with a keynote speech from The Secretary of the Conference, The Revd Gareth Powell, and included papers from over 40 scholars on their current research projects.

Monday 24th April



On Wednesday 26th April we held an open-house afternoon for staff and students of the Cambridge Theological Federation to give our friends and colleagues an opportunity to tour the new buildings, meet our Global Advisory Board and join us for an ecumenical service of Evening Prayer.



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Rededication week (cont.)

On Thursday 27th April we held the Rededication events themselves which started with a visit from HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex. The Earl toured the new buildings and met various groups including members of the Stanfield family; current and past students and residents; current and past staff; the descendants of our Founder, Michael Gutteridge; the library committee; Trustees; the Global Advisory Board; colleagues from the Theological Federation and universities; and funders.





Following the Earl's visit the rededication itself took place. A processional party comprising the President of the British Conference, the Secretary of the World Methodist Council, the Chair of the Wesley House Trustees , the Chair of the Global Advisory Board, and the Principal of Wesley House, visited and blessed the Principal's Lodge, Greenhalgh Building, Asbury Flat, Gutteridge Building and the Gatehouse. This was followed by a Eucharist in the Chapel, at which Bishop Ivan Abrahams was the preacher. The order of service is available at <u>bit.ly/rededicationweek</u>

The day concluded with dinner in the new Dining Room in the Gutteridge Building, with grace said by the President of the Irish Conference and with speeches after dinner from the President of the British Conference, current student Ben Adams, Bishop Joseph Ntombura from Kenya and the Revd Dr Jim Waits, members of the Global Advisory Board. The celebration dinner was generously sponsored by our new catering partners <u>Flair Event Catering</u> and we are very grateful for their support for the College and for the excellent food and service offered at all of our events during the week. The collection raised \pounds 539 for the bursary fund.



Rededication week (cont.)

On Friday 28th April we welcomed alumni of the College to a lecture from the President of the Conference followed by lunch and tours of the college, to which we were also pleased to welcome former members of staff. The Alumni enjoyed spotting faces from the past on the annual College photographs which are now mounted on the staircase of the Greenhalgh Building and swapping notes on the new ensuite facilities as compared with rooms from their days at Wesley House.



pleased to welcome Methodist colleagues from around the Circuit and from farther afield for tea and tours at Wesley House, kindly provided by the Friends of Wesley House. This was followed by a Circuit Service at Wesley Church, led by the Superintendent Minister, The Revd Colin Smith, at which The Revd Dr Jane Leach was the preacher. We are grateful for the £600 received through the collection at the service. The service was followed by tea and a wonderful celebration cake, decorated with an image of the new college gates, made for the occasion by Mrs Margaret Beck.

Finally, on Sunday we were









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Staff changes

Dr Cindy Wesley concluded her time at Wesley House on 30 April. She writes, 'After six fulfilling years as Director of Studies at Wesley House and tutor for church history and historical doctrine in the Cambridge Theological Federation, I have now concluded my work in Cambridge. I'm deeply grateful for the friendship of my CTF and Wesley House colleagues. I will continue to hold each of you and the good work of the Federation in my prayers.'

To replace Cindy for the 2017/2018 academic year we are pleased to welcome Diane and Richard Clutterbuck to the Wesley House staff team. Richard is finishing his appointment as Principal of Edgehill College in Belfast and Diane comes with much experience of ministry, tutorial and supervision work. They have both worked overseas and with international students and we look forward to working with them.





Online learning: email Hannah

In addition to the distance learning MA we are now offering opportunities to study whenever and wherever you choose through a variety of non-accredited online courses available from September 2017, including:

- Courses for both individual and group study.
- Self-paced and real-time learning opportunities.
- Material from leading scholars.
- An online community sharing ideas and expertise.

Coming **September 2017**: 'Walking the Story'. Based on the book by Jane Leach, Principal of Wesley House, this course will explore pilgrimage, its role in Christian spirituality and its relevance in Christian life today. For group or individual study.

January 2018: 'Leadership as discipleship: a biblical view'. This course will explore some of the models of leadership that we use, and how well they serve the modern church. Examining the stories behind some of the leaders in the Bible, we ask what lessons they have to teach us. For individual study. For more information visit www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/onlinelearning or email online@wesley.cam.ac.uk.

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Trustee changes

After 7 years at the helm, and steering Wesley House through the changes that followed the Fruitful Field decision, Professor Judith Lieu decided that the completion of the building project and the **Rededication celebrations** marked a suitable time to step down as Chair of Trustees. The Trustees and Staff of Wesley House are very grateful for the time, effort and support she has given us through some difficult times. Judith is pictured with her thank you present of the book "Five Go On A Strategy Away Day"!





We are pleased to announce that The Revd Dr Stuart Jordan, a current Trustee, alumnus of Wesley House and one of the former Chairs of the London District, took over as Chair of Trustees from the beginning of May.

Stuart is contactable on chair@wesley.cam.ac.uk or by post at: Wesley House Jesus Lane Cambridge CB5 8BJ.

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Friends of Wesley House Garden Party

Tickets are for sale at

<u>friendsgardenparty.eventbrite.co.uk</u> for the annual Garden Party of the Friends of Wesley House which takes place on 1st July from 3-5pm.

Tours of the college will be offered if you've not yet had the chance to visit.

The annual Friends service will follow at 5.15.pm and will be conducted by the Revd Dr Paul Glass, Chaplain, Kent College, Canterbury, and Pastoral Visitor to the Methodist Schools Group.



Wesley House artwork

Read about the artwork displayed in Wesley House, including this stunning Crown of Thorns made for Wesley House by Michaela Youngson, on our website at: <u>www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/artwork</u>.



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