

NEWNHAM COLLEGE

US COMMITTEE

Issue 3

P.O. Box 286303 · New York, NY · 10128-0013 · 212-714-4547

November 2006

NEWNHAM STUDENTS CALL ALUMNAE IN THE US

By Victoria Elenowitz and Lisa Jeschke.



Some participants pictured counterclockwise from LL corner: Principal Dame Patricia Hodgson, Sissi Zhao, Jackie Chen, Hannah Davies; Lizzie Lawrenson, Katherine Guiver and her dog, Kramer.

Following successful telephone campaigns in Britain which raised over £400K for Newnham in the past two years, Newnham students conducted the first USA/Canadian calling campaign last month. It was a great success. 71% of those reached made gifts to the college and over \$50,000 was raised. Selena Gablah, a second-year Arch. and Anth. student commented, "The campaign enabled us to get a real sense of community". It was an inter-generational experience: the alumni were updated about their college and the students profited from careers advice and insights into past college life. Sissi Zhao, second-year Economist, made calls throughout the US and Canada. She recalled with enthusiasm talking to Ms. K.J. Weaver, retired international economist for the US Embassy, who spoke good Chinese and Mrs. Avis Waring who gave Sissi unexpectedly warm thanks for helping Newnham by making the calls. Sissi says she may do her MBA in the US longer term.

Stories of wartime experiences shocked and surprised the students: one alumna recounted that she had had to look after a load of babies overnight at Newnham as they could not be brought to the local hospital and another spoke of doing chores such as getting up before 7am to clean the college library, according to Hannah Davies, third year physicist, and Lizzie Lawrenson (studying Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic).

Lizzie mentioned that current affairs were sometimes the subject of discussion. Some alumnae wanted to talk about the future of single-sex education and some reviewed current foreign policy in the US and Britain. Anecdotes about boyfriends climbing in and out of college and other high jinks were also recalled with amusement.

Several of the students said they had wanted to make the calls to give something back to the college and all felt they would definitely like to do this again given their warm reception and the interest alumnae took in their studies and prospective careers. All sent their thanks for our generosity and good wishes on behalf of the college to the many Newnhamites scattered throughout America. After the calling was over, Dame Patricia Hodgson, new Principal of Newnham invited the group to the Lodge for refreshment, where some of the photos (above) were taken.

Website Reminders

- The log in (**sidgwick**) and password (**peile**) for the website should be in lower case letters, even though they are proper names.
- We have a new page with helpful Careers Links at www.newnhaminamerica.org/careers.html

DR. GILL SUTHERLAND VISITS WASHINGTON DC AND NEW YORK

By Rhoda Dorsey

On Tuesday, September 5, Dr. Gillian Sutherland spoke on "Who Were the Cloughs?" to an appreciative group of Newnham alumnae and friends at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington. Our hostess was Dr. Heather Wolfe, Curator of Manuscripts at the Folger. Gill's engrossing talk on Anne Jemima Clough and her niece Blanche Athena Clough was based on her recently published book, *Faith, Duty and the Power of Mind: The Cloughs and their Circle, 1820-1960*, and made abundantly clear the major impact these two women had on Newnham as first and fourth principals. Following the talk and questions, the group enjoyed wine, cheese, and lively conversation inspired by our lecturer.



You can purchase a copy of Dr. Sutherland's book from Cambridge University Press at www.cambridge.org.

By Margaret Campbell

On 6th September a group of 25 Cambridge alumni and other friends in New York gathered at the home of Margaret Campbell and John Gillespie (Caius) in Brooklyn Heights to meet Gill Sutherland (pictured left) and hear her talk about her recent book on the Clough family. In addition to the Newnhamites there were alumni from several other Cambridge colleges including Caius. Gill's lively talk on the Cloughs highlighting the challenges in developing higher education for women and illuminated by some fascinating comments on Anne Jemima's life in Charleston delighted us all and encouraged us to enjoy a biography which, containing much interesting historical material, is also a great read. Afterwards there was enjoyable conversation with Gill as the Newnhamites, in particular, welcomed the chance to see her again and catch up on news from the college.

Newnham Characters on the Stage

Look out for 'Lenka', a 'Newnham Fellow' in Tom Stoppard's new hit play 'Rock 'n' Roll' currently playing in London's West End! Intellectual and vibrant, she also gets her man (actually somebody else's) ...twice! For a plot more closely inspired by real Newnham events, George Bernard Shaw's 'Mrs Warren's Profession', from 1902, features a math genius from Newnham.



More on 'Rock 'n' Roll': http://www.musicomh.com/theatre/rock-roll_0706.htm

More on 'Mrs. Warren's Profession': http://www.britannica.com/nobel/micro/733_92.html

NEWNHAM FELLOW AWARDED £1.1M RESEARCH GRANT

Dr. Jenny Morton, Newnham Fellow and Director of Studies in Science and Medicine as well as University Lecturer in Pharmacology, has been awarded a grant this year from High Q Foundation, a New York non-profit organization coordinating efforts to search for treatments for Huntington's Disease (HD).

HD is caused by an inherited gene mutation. It causes programmed degeneration of brain cells and results in emotional disturbance, loss of intellectual faculties and uncontrolled movements. Jenny's work concerns the identification of specific abnormalities in the function of the HD brain and includes research into drugs which may restore the cognitive, social and sleep deficits caused by the disease. Her unit recently found that circadian clock genes are not expressed properly in HD mice. This prevents their biological clocks from working and creates sleep disturbances. Such knowledge has pointed to possible medications to alleviate HD sleep disturbances. Her unit has 16 staff and is renowned as one of the foremost laboratories in the world working on HD. Her laboratory takes a multidisciplinary approach, including behavioral studies, post mortem tissue analysis and pharmacological-study and tissue-culture approaches to developing a treatment for HD. A native New Zealander, she visits the US each year so we hope to arrange for some of you to meet her.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEWNHAM US ALUMNAE

• FASCINATING FOOD

Patricia Ault Gadsby (N'66 Modern Languages) writes: 'I'm an editor and writer, and the magazine I've been associated with the longest is Discover, which covers science for the general public. I joined Discover in the mid-80s, as a senior editor for Biology and Medicine. This may surprise my Newnham contemporaries who probably remember me -- if they remember me at all -- as a Modern Linguist, tennis player and foreign service brat who gave dinner parties. But perhaps it's not such a stretch. My growing-up years in tropical Asia imprinted me with an abiding fascination with the natural world. Talking to scientists doesn't faze me -- I married one, David Gadsby (Trinity '66, now at Rockefeller University in New York). I tackle writing about science much the way I tackled Hegel and Proust, as a translation job -- take something bundled in a foreign language and open it up to another kind of readership in a language that's familiar and clear and easy on the ear.'



Patricia Gadsby at Cambridge



Patricia Gadsby today.

These days I divide my time between New York and Woods Hole, on Cape Cod, where David has a second lab. I'm still a contributing editor for Discover, but I've narrowed my focus tremendously: what can science tell us about food and eating? I've written about the origin and genetics of chocolate, the micro-organisms in sourdough, our senses of taste and smell, the diet of the Inuit (one of the world's oldest and fast disappearing) and the chemistry of fish smells. It keeps me off the streets -- and when I'm lucky it takes me to the forests of the Amazon, the shores of Buzzards Bay and some really good restaurants in Paris.'

Read Patricia on chocolate at <http://www.discover.com/issues/aug-02/features/featchocolate/>

• ROUND TRIP NEW YORK TO NEWNHAM



Left to right: Marion Turnbull (N '98 Nat. Sci., now a genetic counselor in Colchester), Marina Barinova and Kate Marsh (N'98 Nat. Sci. now at University College London studying medicine)

Marina Barinova (N'98, Economics) came to Newnham through the Columbia-Cambridge University Study Abroad Program. She read Part II Economics and on returning to New York joined Morgan Stanley (Operations Department) becoming involved in the bank's risk management and anti-money-laundering activities.

She sent photos of a visit she made back to Cambridge this summer (on our website) and writes: "Every time I return I receive a warm welcome from my Newnham friends. This year I arrived on the wings of soccer fever and though neither the US nor England made it to the Final I got to support both teams with my friends at my side".

- **PHILOSOPHY AND [FAKING] FUR**

Catharine Roth (N'67 Classics) is an adjunct teacher of philosophy for the Community Colleges of Spokane, WA, her husband's hometown, to which they moved after his retirement from the US Air Force in 1998. She is self-deprecating about her teaching claiming they 'let her' teach philosophy (in spite of her Harvard PhD. in classics and decades of teaching experience). She has translated and annotated a variety of Greek and Latin texts and is Managing Editor of the Suda Online Project (a massive 10th century Byzantine Greek encyclopedia). Greg and Catharine are involved in a variety of Scottish heritage organizations including St. Andrew's Society and Spokane Highland Games. Around 1812, local (often Scottish) fur traders who were following in the footsteps of David Thompson, the famous explorer of the Canadian Rockies and Columbia River, set up a trading post of the NorthWest Company called Spokane House. Catharine sent this picture of her husband, Greg, and herself in period fur trader costume from a historical re-enactment of the traders' activities. She has a son, who is a research assistant and graduate student at U.C. Davis and a daughter working as an attorney for the US Senate. Both are planning weddings for 2007.



Greg and Catharine re-enact the North West Company fur trade near Spokane circa 1812.

- **INTRODUCING THE US COMMITTEE MEMBERS: ANNA IVEY**



Anna Ivey at ease.

Anna Ivey spent a year reading History at Newnham as an undergraduate visiting from Columbia University in 1992-1993. Under the guidance of Dr. Gill Sutherland as her Director of Studies, she focused on the French Revolution and was awarded the Newnham History Prize. She has fond memories of the Seeley History Library, but to this day wonders whether there is any truth to the legend that it was inadvertently built facing the wrong direction, with all those space-age windows capturing so little sunlight. Just a myth? She welcomes any definitive answers to this question that perplexes her still.

After college, she attended law school and joined the Corporate Group at the Los Angeles law firm Irell & Manella, representing clients such as Disney, AOL Time Warner, Williams-Sonoma, Hewlett-Packard, CSFB and Mattel in mergers and acquisitions, securities law, and public and private financings. She later joined the Entertainment Finance Group at Gipson Hoffman & Pancione, also in Los Angeles. There, she worked on the financing of major motion pictures starring actors such as Samuel L. Jackson, Paul Newman, Bruce Willis, Kevin Spacey and Renee Zellweger. Missing the university setting, she left legal practice behind to work at the University of Chicago and Stanford University. Today, she is an author, speaker, consultant and blogger about college and graduate school admissions and also about education and career choices facing young adults.

Anna has been a member of Newnham's US Committee for several years. She now compensates for the chill of Seeley by living in hot, humid, and relentlessly sunny Orlando, Florida, where she is eager to hear from other Florida-based alumnae.