

The Harvard Club of the United Kingdom



◆ News & Notices ◆ March / April 2011

Upcoming Events

◆ 5 April 7:30-11pm

First Tuesday Drinks with HBS Alumni Club of London, jointly hosted by Stanford GSB.

Venue: Inn 1888, 21 Devonshire Street, London W1G 6PB Contact: Jin W. Jeong at jjeong@mba2008.hbs.edu.

◆ 3 May 7:30-11pm

First Tuesday Drinks Contact: Jin W. Jeong at jjeong@mba2008.hbs.edu.

◆ 17 May 12 -2:00pm

Spring Lunch with P.D.James at The Polish Club, 55 Exhibition Road, London SW7 Organised by the Seven College Conference of London. Price £28 plus opportunity to buy P.D.James's books. Contact: MargareTholstrup@aol.com

◆ *25 June

Harvard Dinner at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Guest Speaker, Ambassador Richard Murphy, AB'51, Lionel de Jersey Scholar '51 Contact: Joan Porter MacIver: jpmaciver@post.harvard.edu

**invitation enclosed*

See also events - www.hcuk.org

Brief details of upcoming events for inclusion should be sent to the Editor or to Sally Isaacs (sallyisaacs@hotmail.com) by 30th April. The May/June newsletter should be mailed by the middle of May.

Letter from the President

I may be the world's most optimistic man, but I believe I am noticing signs of spring in London. For those of you inclined to complain about the long and dark English winter, I urge you to take some comfort. You could have spent the winter in Cambridge! I got to spend a few days in Cambridge in February at the HAA Board meetings and spent most of my non-working time clambering over mountainous snow banks in Harvard Square. I sheltered from yet another Nor'easter in the Queen's Head Pub in Memorial Hall in the convivial company of a large and enthusiastic group of Harvard College British Club members (see the HCUK website for action photos!). Despite my natural optimism, I fear that Harvard springtime is still a little way off.

With spring comes the end of Harvard College admissions season, and an extraordinary effort by our members to interview and write reports on over 500 UK applicants. Many thanks to Verity Langley, Mike Ericksen and all of our interviewers. Without your hard work and dedication we could never accomplish this most vital task. We will be scheduling a welcome event for admitted students later in the spring and I hope that some of you will be able to join us.

Finally, I would be remiss not to mention the passing of Rev Peter Gomes, a preacher and moral beacon to generations of Harvard students and faculty. He was a positive force in many of our lives, and his death is a great loss to the entire Harvard community.

Best regards to the entire Harvard family in the UK,

Don Guiney AB'78

Interested in Interviewing?

If any club member is interested in interviewing prospective Harvard College students, then please get in touch. We need interviewers from all areas for next year. Please email Verity Langley, Interview Coordinator, at vll@me.com for more information.

The current Harvard Cambridge Scholars, Laurence Holland (Trinity College), Laurel Gabard-Durnam (Emmanuel College) and Nischal Basyntat (Jesus College), joined interviewer Joan Porter MacIver at United World College of the Atlantic, St Donat's Castle, interviewing twelve students. Come and meet the scholars at the Harvard Dinner on 25 June.



Global Networking Night

Over 265 Harvard alumni/ae and guests turned out for the latest edition of the HAA's Global Networking Night. Notwithstanding the last minute change of venue to accommodate the much larger than expected crowd or inclement weather on the night, Harvard grads of all ages, degrees and employments gathered in the ballroom of The Lansdowne Club to color code their name tags according to career interests and make the most of a fantastic networking event. The London event was one of many GNN events occurring simultaneously around the world on the same day organized under the auspices of the Alumni Association.



Left: Don Guiney, HCUK President with undergraduate attendees at the HAA Global Networking Night.



HCUK president Don Guiney reminded the assembled crowd that the evening was a unique opportunity not only to pursue career interests but to also make new friends with others who share the bond of a Harvard experience and that the HCUK was proud to be able to make it happen locally. By arrangement with the Lansdowne Club the evening had to end at 9pm but there were still a large number of attendees at that hour who would have been happy to stay longer. In the end, while the numbers caught the organizers a bit by surprise, this event set the standard for others to come in the future.

Robert Gould AB '67

The Rev. Peter Gomes 1942-2011

The Rev. Peter Gomes, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, passed away on Feb. 28. "We are deeply saddened by this loss," said President Drew Faust. "For 40 years, he has served Harvard as a teacher in the fullest sense — a scholar, a mentor, one of the great preachers of our generation, and a living symbol of courage and conviction."

Some personal reminiscences

I first met Peter Gomes as a undergraduate when I was invited to lunch at the Signet Society. While the rest of us ate, his distinctive voice held forth with authority and wit on every subject from current events to Harvard traditions (indeed, particularly Harvard traditions). That voice became very familiar as I attended many of his sermons. A few years after I graduated, he spoke at a Harvard Club event in Los Angeles at a movie studio. I was standing outside the theatre, where his name was on the Marquis, and this voice boomed, "My mother would be absolutely thrilled to see my name in lights in Hollywood."

Peter was a regular visitor to London as he rode the circuit of Harvard ties between Southwark Cathedral (where John Harvard was baptised) and Emmanuel College, Cambridge (where John Harvard matriculated). One of my roles as President of the Club was to organise lunches and dinners with people who would delight and engage Peter and similarly fall under his spell. Peter was equally at ease with politicians, educators and

anyone from the art community. He enthralled them all. Despite fastidious planning, inevitably we had a logistical problem. One evening, we had arranged to meet at the Oxford and Cambridge Club to head off to the dinner party, but Peter was nowhere to be found. We waited and waited and no Peter. We eventually went to the dinner and still no Peter. Finally, a taxi driver rings me and says "I have Harvard's preacher; where do you want him?"

Peter was always quick of wit and sometimes irreverent. Once when we were together he stumbled while admiring a statue. I helped him up to his feet and he looked at me and said, "I have risen, indeed!"

The last time I saw Peter was when he was preaching at Southwark Cathedral on the 400th anniversary of the baptism of John Harvard. I was there with my newborn son Andrew and, in the John Harvard Chapel, Peter blessed him. Ave atque Vale.

Brandon Bradkin AB '89, JD '92
President HCUK 2006-2010

