



THE OXFORD
AND
CAMBRIDGE
CLUB OF NIGERIA



Oxbridge Nigeria

ISSUE 1

Hereby wishing all our alumni a splendid and prosperous 2007! We take this opportunity to introduce to you **Oxbridge Nigeria** the Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria Newsletter, which is one of the many initiatives of the Executive Committee for this year. We hope through this medium to disseminate information about Club activities, alumni and relevant events from the respective places exchange insightful ideas that will ultimately impact the social fabric of Nigerian society, as well as enhance the interaction between the Executive Committee of the Club and all alumni.

Words from the President

Pre 2007...

The Presidential baton of the Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria changed hands on Wednesday, 5th July 2006 at the last Annual General Meeting of the Club held at the Lagos Motor Boat Club on the same day, also seeing a re-shuffle of other members of the Executive Committee. The newly elected officers are: Ms. Genevieve Onyiuke - President, Mr Dele Martins - Vice-President, Ms. Funke Adeyemi

. Hon. Secretary, Mr Alex Osunde . Hon. Treasurer, Ms. Stella Amachree . Ex-officio member, Ms. Funke Aboyade . Ex-officio member.

On 26th September 2006, one of our cherished foundation members, Chief Dr. Mrs. Olugbolahan Abisogun-Alo celebrated her 70th birthday anniversary, which was well attended by family, friends, Oxford and Cambridge Alumni and well wishers.

Also in September 2006, we sent out a Congratulatory letter to the then Hon. Minister for Culture and Tourism, Chief Olufemi Fani-Kayode, a third generation Cambridge graduate, on his appointment as a Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. We followed up with a courtesy call at his office in Abuja, which appeared on the 9 o'clock NTA News. Not quite 2 months later, Chief Fani-Kayode was made the Hon. Minister for Aviation, to which we offered our congratulations as well.

On November 28th 2006, we were received by the Omo NqOba NqEdo Oba Erediauwa OFR at the Oba's Palace in Benin when we paid him a courtesy call as the Life Patron of the

Club. The Oba is an alumnus of King's College Cambridge. Our entourage, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Hon. Secretary, and ex-officio member, Ms. Stella Amachree, was led by Past President Chief Hope Harriman. We were very well received by the Oba and his entire court, with gifts being exchanged and group photographs with the Oba and his court taken. Thereafter, Chief Harriman treated us to a sumptuous lunch and lavish entertainment at his Benin residence.

In place of our usual Christmas Party, we had a special Christmas Cocktail for all our alumni on Friday 22nd December 2006 at the Lagos Motor Boat Club and the Hon. Minister for Aviation, Chief Femi Fani-Kayode was the special guest of honour. The impressive event was sponsored by Virgin Nigeria Airways Ltd, whose CEO, Mr. Conrad Clifford, is an alumnus of Corpus Christi College Cambridge. His Excellency, the British High Commissioner to Nigeria, Sir Richard Gozney, honoured us with his distinguished presence as our Patron, being an alumnus (Alum) of St. Edmund's Hall, Oxford. The Hon. Minister for Aviation came with his full complement of staff and it was a convivial evening with senior members of the Club in attendance and mixing freely with all. Speeches were made by the President and the Hon. Minister, while the Vice-President, Mr Dele Martins moved an inspired vote of thanks! The event was subsequently well covered in most of our national dailies.

Upcoming Activities

I am delighted to announce that Chief Hope Harriman has kindly invited members and their spouses, partners, significant others(!) and children to a New Year Party at his residence on No. 4, Hope Harriman Street, Lekki Phase 1 on **Sunday 18th February 2007 at 1.00pm**. We appeal to all members who will be attending to contact the Hon. Secretary as soon as possible with an indication of the number of companions they will bring along, to allow us inform Mrs. R. Harriman with some certainty of the number of guests to expect in her house. His Excellency Sir Richard and Lady Diana Gozney have confirmed their attendance.

The Leader of the British House of Lords, Cabinet Minister and former Minister for Africa, Baroness Valerie Amos has been invited to deliver our 2007 Annual Spring Lecture. She will be the first woman ever to deliver the

Oxbridge Lecture Series and it promises to be exciting! We have left the choice of topic to her sole discretion but we are sure that it will be quite topical. The lecture has been scheduled for **Friday, 27th April 2007** at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs Victoria Island, Lagos and all alumni are invited to attend.

Finally, the much awaited Oxford and Cambridge May Ball is scheduled to take place on the traditional first Friday of June 2007. You are ALL invited and details will be circulated as the date draws nearer.

Genevieve Onyiuke

Alumni News

Boat Race: Cambridge VC invites Alumni

Join the **Vice-Chancellor Cambridge, Professor Alison Richard**, to watch the world famous **Boat Race** on **Saturday 7 April 2007**, aboard the MV Elizabethan moored at Putney Pier.

The Elizabethan is one of the largest vessels on the Thames for private charter, with an enviable reputation for excellent cuisine and service. It has a sliding roof, two spacious decks and a **unique upper-deck promenade walkway** enabling you to get incredibly close to the action. It is a perfect replica of an 1890s Mississippi Stern-wheeled Paddle Steamer and beautifully reflects the style and craftsmanship of that bygone era.

Tickets cost **£65.00 per person**; please make cheques payable to the **'University of Cambridge'** alternatively please call **01223 332288** to book and pay over the telephone or email the Alumni Office (see website). Please note: The Elizabethan has no disabled access and we regret that children under the age of 16 will not be permitted on board. **Early booking is advised.**

Tickets for this event include **reception drinks, a buffet lunch with wine, tea and coffee, Boat Race programme** and a **prime view** of the start of the races. There will be **on-board plasma screens**, enabling you to watch the whole **course**. Guest speaker to be confirmed. During the course of the afternoon, we will aim to go for a short cruise on the Elizabethan. However please be aware that this depends upon the Port of London Authority and cannot be guaranteed.

Timings for this event are as follows: From 1.00pm Alumni & guests to arrive at the MV Elizabethan moored at Putney Pier. Reception drinks to be served. 1.30pm Lunch 3.15pm Speaker(s) TBC 4.00pm Tea, coffee and biscuits 4.00pm Isis v Goldie Race 4.30pm The Boat Race 5.00pm Disembark*. *Please note: 6.00pm is high water. It is important that everyone disembarks at 5.00pm to avoid having to negotiate a flooded tow path!

Directions to Putney Pier:
Take the train from Waterloo, Vauxhall or Clapham Junction to Putney station. The London Underground District Line runs to Putney Bridge Station. Alternatively the 14 or 22 bus from Central London to Putney Bridge is available.

From the Cambridge Alumni website

Meeting Minds: Oxford Alumni Weekend

From **Friday 14 - Sunday 16 September, 2007**, Alumni and their guests are invited back on this weekend for Oxford's first collegiate university reunion. The programme includes a degree ceremony at which you can collect your MA, College events for old members; academic panels and lectures; concerts, theatre and sporting events; and special visits to libraries, laboratories, museums and gardens. We are expecting that many hundreds of Oxford's alumni will return to their colleges and University, to revisit their favourite Oxford places, and to meet again their favourite Oxford people. But during the weekend they will also have the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the Oxford of the twenty-first century, and to reconnect themselves with the distinguished international community that is Oxford.

Watch out for the Hilary edition of Oxford Today for further details on the alumni weekend.

The event website, **www.alumniweekend.ox.ac.uk** will be going live shortly with full details of the confirmed programme and online bookings. Booking opens online and by post in April and closes 31 July. To order a copy of the weekend brochure now, please send an email to **alumniweekend@ousoc.ox.ac.uk**.

From Oxford Alumni website

Alumni Benefits: Did you know..?

CAMCard

As soon as you enrol at Cambridge, you become a lifetime member of the University. To acknowledge this, the University provides the following services to all alumni:

Cantab.net is a free email-for-life forwarding service that offers you a permanent home for your email. Whether you're trying to get your first job, set up business contracts or just stay in touch with old friends, your '@cantab.net' address is the only one you'll ever need.

CAMCard entitles you to membership of the University Centre (the catering and social centre for Cambridge graduates), free entrance to College grounds and discounts from Cambridge University Press.

Credit Card a Cambridge-branded card that benefits the University with every transaction.

Lost and Found a service to help you find old University friends.

Gifts and Souvenirs a range of University of Cambridge-branded goods that are available from various retailers.

The Oxford Alumni Card

The Oxford Alumni Card was issued to all Oxford University alumni together with the Trinity 2005 issue of **Oxford Today** magazine. This is a new scheme introduced by **The Oxford University Society**.

The card will identify you as having a connection with Oxford to those on University and college premises, and should secure you a warm welcome. We are confident that the card, while not being able to guarantee entry to every University and college building, will at least get you a more friendly response, so do remember to bring it with you when you next come.

A growing number of other benefits are also available

to Oxford Alumni Card holders. We will be adding to these benefits continually, so it will be worth checking back regularly to see the latest list. Do note that you must register as an alumnus/alumna of the University of Oxford, in order to get an Oxford Alumni Card. For contact details, please visit the Alumni website as indicated above.

Personality Profile

The first President of the Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria: Sir Adetokunbo Ademola



Sir Adetokunbo Ademola, first Chief Justice of the Federation of Nigeria and the first President of the Club, was an illustrious son of an illustrious father. His father was the late Alake (Paramount ruler) of Egbaland in Western Nigeria (1920-62), Sir Ladapo Ademola. Sir Adetokunbo is among the most distinguished and most respected Nigerians in our nation's history. He had a brilliant career and over the years he built himself an International reputation, being a member of several world bodies.

Born on September 1, 1906, at Abeokuta, capital city of Egbaland, Sir Adetokunbo studied law between **1928-31** at **Cambridge University**, obtaining a BA degree. He received his MA. thereafter. He was called to the bar (Middle Temple) in London in 1934, and later became the first African ever appointed a bencher of the Inn. Back in Nigeria, Sir Adetokunbo worked from 1934-35 as crown counsel at the then Attorney-General's Office, then for a year as assistant secretary at the southern secretariat in Enugu, Eastern Nigeria. From 1936, Sir Adetokunbo practiced law until 1939, when he was appointed Magistrate of the Protectorate Court. In 1949 he became the third Nigerian to be appointed a Justice Judge. In 1948 he

served as a member of the Commission for the revision of court legislation.

In 1955, a year before Western Nigeria became internally self-governing, Sir Adetokunbo was appointed Chief Justice for Western Nigeria, thus becoming the first Nigerian head of the judiciary anywhere in Nigeria. Sir Adetokunbo's string of 'firsts' continued when, three years later, he became the first Nigerian Chief Justice of the entire Federation of Nigeria. He was knighted in January, 1957, and in 1963 was appointed one of Queen Elizabeth's Privy Councillors. Later that year, the Queen awarded him a KBE. He married Miss Kofo Moore, the first West African woman graduate - she took a **BA** at **Oxford**, and daughter of the late Eric Moore.

Sir Adetokunbo was the first Lagos member of the United Nations committee of experts advising on Labor Conventions and regulations. He was also a member of the United Nations International Public Service Advisory Board, member of the International Commission of Jurists, Executive member of World Peace through Law, Vice-President of the World Association of Jurists, President of the Nigerian Red Cross Association, Chairman of Nigeria Cheshire Homes, member of the International Olympic Committee, member of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs and President of the Reformed Ogboni Fraternity.

Sir Adetokunbo is one of the founders and the first President of the Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria. He was also one of the founders and one time chairman of the Metropolitan Club, a founder member of the Island Club and Vice Patron of the Yoruba Tennis Club, all situate in Lagos. Sir Adetokunbo was in the forefront of several peace moves in Nigeria.

CALL FOR SUBSCRIPTION

The Executive Committee implores all Alumni to pay their annual subscriptions of **N5,000.00** per annum per member, which have been long overdue for several years now. These subscriptions are essential for the smooth and efficient running of the Club's Secretariat, as well as to contribute towards our respective initiatives and activities. All cheques should kindly be made out to **'The Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria'** and should be

sent to the Hon. Secretary, Oxford and Cambridge Club of Nigeria at 3rd Floor, Ark Towers, Ligali Ayorinde Street, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Thank you and until the next edition, have a great year!