

Gazette Supplement



Encaenia 2012

Congregation

20 June

1 Conferment of Honorary Degrees

The Public Orator made the following speeches in presenting the recipients of Honorary Degrees at the Encaenia held in the Sheldonian Theatre on Wednesday, 20 June:

Degree of Doctor of Civil Law

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI

Chairman of the National League for Democracy, Burma, and member of the Burmese parliament

Quid multa? Hodie enim agmen honorandorum ducit femina cuius apud nos praesentia verbis facundius loquitur. Tubis pompa plausu eam honestamus; quae magnificentia nihil valeret nisi signum esset spei atque admirationis in pectoribus nostris funditus conditae. Hoc igitur ei dicimus: 'Necesse est ut in conspectu permultorum huc regrediaris; at non obliviscimur te simul ad antiquos lares et ad urbem memoriae plenam redire. Hic studuisti, hic amicos paravisti, hic iuventutis gaudia cognovisti, hic uxor et mater vitam umbratilem egisti donec amor patriae ardorque libertatis vindicandae domum te vocaverunt; sed coniugem filiolosque dilectissimos relinquere cogebaris, ita ut relictus ad locum natalem in exilium quoddam converteretur. Multos per annos solitudinem vix tolerabilem sustulisti, patientiam atque fortitudinem paene incredibilem praebuisti. Maxima nunc laetitia te rursus Oxoniae versatam salutamus; tuo in animo qui affectus misceantur, nescimus, nec decet amplius exquirere. Hoc tamen adfirmamus: silentium tuum clarius strepitu forensi et armorum clangore sonuit; in tenebris tantis parvula tua lucerna orbem terrarum illuminavit; tranquillitas tua mundum commovit. Intellegimus igitur nos in hoc theatro sedentes simul velut in theatro cunctarum gentium fabulam spectare

cuius finis adhuc maneat incertus. Quare in praesenti exspectamus speramus oramus.'

Praesento stellam orientalem, fulgidum magni populi lumen, Aung San Suu Kyi, Collegii Sancti Hugonis alumniam, Collegiorum Sancti Hugonis et Sancti Antoni sociam honoris causa adscriptam, Praemio Nobeliano nobilitatam, ut admittatur honoris causa ad gradum Doctoris in Iure Civili.

Admission by the Chancellor

Libertatis propugnatrix invicta, quae exemplum fortitudinis tuis civibus totique orbi terrarum praebuisti, ego auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Iure Civili honoris causa.

Paraphrase

There is little need of words; for today the line of honorands is led by one whose presence among us speaks more eloquently than any language. We honour her with trumpets, procession and applause, but all this magnificence would mean nothing were it not the outward expression of the hope and admiration deep within us. This we say to her: 'Of necessity, your return here is a public event, observed by many eyes, but we do not forget that you are also coming back to your old home and to a city full of memories. Here you studied and formed friendships, here you knew the delights of youth, here as a wife and mother you lived a quiet domestic life, until your love of country and passion for the cause of freedom summoned you back; but you were forced to leave behind a beloved husband and children, so that your return to your native land was made into a kind of exile. For many years you bore the burden of isolation, displaying patience and endurance to a degree not easily imagined. We hail you with joy as you appear in Oxford once more; as for yourself, we do not know what

mixture of emotions you feel, and it would be impertinent to intrude on them. But this we declare: your silence has sounded louder than the jabber of politics and the clang of military power; out of deep darkness your little lamp has shone across the planet; your stillness has moved the world. Sitting in this theatre, we are conscious that we are also spectators of a drama played in the theatre of the nations, one whose ending is as yet unsure. And so for now we wait and hope and pray.'

I present a star shining in the east, the light of her countrymen, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, graduate of St Hugh's College, honorary fellow of St Hugh's and St Antony's Colleges, Nobel Laureate, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law.

Chancellor

Unbowed champion of liberty, who have given your people and the whole world an example of courage and endurance, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law.

BARONESS (ELIZABETH LYDIA) MANNINGHAM-BULLER

Former Director General of the Security Service

Saepenumero homines nostris Encaeniis celebravimus qui res in conspectu omnium gesserunt, et in hoc saeculo, cum nuntii per interrete ut virus velocissime feruntur, difficillimum est a vita privata oculos vulgi arcere; atqui feminam hodie produco quae eo nota est quod ignota. Vergilius, cum Aeneas sub terram duxisset, deos inferorum umbrasque silentes ita obsecravat:

sit mihi fas audita loqui, sit numine vestro
pandere res alta terra et caligine mersas.

Mihimet, qui ne res audivi quidem, vel maius obstat impedimentum. Itaque librum consului cui *Quis Ille* inscribitur,

ubi speravi eam aliquid de se dixisse, sed
 βοῖς ἐπὶ γλώσσηι μέγας βέβηκεν. Hoc
 tamen adfirmare ausim: nemo nunc in
 hoc theatro sedet quin beneficium opera
 eius et labore receperit. M Cicero 'salus
 populi' inquit 'suprema lex esto'; salutem
 nostram haec, ut ita dicam, pro virili parte
 defendit. Rude iam donata, propter merita
 senator designata est; et cum primam
 sententiam apud patres dixisset, prudentes
 et brevitatem orationis laudaverunt et
 sagacitatem. Illo enim tempore magistratus
 homines coniurationis suspectos in
 carcere per longius volebant tenere; quibus
 haec restitit. Ita se et securitatis populi et
 libertatis propugnatrix praebebat. Multas
 sane res gessit quas nescimus; unam saltem
 e caligine in lucem proferre possum: ubi
 otium habet, fit upilio; oves diligenter ut
 olim cives tuetur, neque a stercore et fimo
 abhorret. Sed cum saepe negotiis publicis in
 urbem adhuc vocetur, arieti ardor aliquando
 est continendus.

Praesento tenacem civitatis custodem,
 Elizabetham Lydiam Baronissam
 Manningham-Buller, Excellentissimi Ordinis
 de Balneo Dominam Commendatricem,
 Vigiliae Occultae quondam gubernatricem,
 Aulae Dominae Margaretae et alumnam
 et sociam honoris causa adscriptam, ut
 admittatur honoris causa ad gradum
 Doctoris in Iure Civili.

Admission by the Chancellor

Dux fortis et constans, quae ab hostibus
 atrocissimis rempublicam servavisti, ego
 auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis
 admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Iure Civili
 honoris causa.

Paraphrase

On these occasions we have often enough
 celebrated eminences whose careers have
 been conducted in open view, and these
 days, when gossip can quickly go viral on the
 internet, it is hard indeed for people to keep
 their private lives out of the public eye; and
 yet today I present a lady who is famous for
 being unknown. When Virgil leads his hero
 below ground into the realm of the dead,
 he utters a prayer to the gods of the lower
 regions and the silent shades, asking that
 he be allowed to speak what he has heard
 and to reveal things sunk deep in the earth
 and darkness. I, who have not heard things
 at all, face a yet greater obstacle. So I have
 consulted *Who's Who*, in the hope that she
 might have said something about herself
 there, but 'a big ox has sat on [her] tongue'
 (Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*, 36–7 [ie 'I must
 keep quiet']). Still, I venture to assert this:
 there is no one sitting in this theatre now
 who has not benefited from her labours.

Cicero laid down that the people's safety
 should be the highest law, and she has
 guarded our safety, as the Romans might
 have said, manfully. Once she had retired,
 her qualities earned her a peerage, and her
 maiden speech in the House of Lords was
 hailed alike for its brevity and its good sense.
 At that time the government was proposing
 to extend the period in which terrorist
 suspects could be kept in custody, and she
 argued against them, proving herself to be
 a champion of liberty as well as security. We
 are bound to be in ignorance about much of
 what she has done, but there is one matter
 which I am able to bring to light out of that
 deep darkness. When she has time free, she
 turns into a shepherd; she watches over her
 flock with the diligence that she previously
 devoted to watching over us, and mucks in
 with a will. But since she is still frequently
 summoned to town by the call of public
 service, the ram is quite often required to
 postpone his enthusiasm.

I present a tenacious guardian of the nation,
 Elizabeth Lydia Baroness Manningham-
 Buller, DCB, formerly Director General of
 the Security Service, graduate and honorary
 fellow of Lady Margaret Hall, to be admitted
 to the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil
 Law.

Admission by the Chancellor

Strong and steadfast leader, who have
 preserved the nation from savage enemies,
 I on my own authority and that of the whole
 University admit you to the honorary degree
 of Doctor of Civil Law.

Degree of Doctor of Letters

DAVID JOHN MOORE CORNWELL
Author

In obscuram silvam iterum est eundum.
 Ecce enim vir ut Democritus ille Iunior
 paucis notus paucioribus ignotus; nam licet
 verum eius nomen non multi agnoscant,
 cognomen ignorat fere nemo. Famam autem
 non solum propter libros ipsos bene meruit
 sed quia id genus narrationis quod colit
 non paulum mutaverit. Apud Graecos et
 Romanos fabulae commenticiae haud multi
 aestimabantur: litterarum existimatores
 de eis silebant; Tacitus, cum vitam Petronii
 breviter exponeret, de *Satyrice* nihil
 dixit. Recentioris aetatis docti fabulas
 oratione soluta compositas multo magis
 laudaverunt; eos tamen qui de occultis
 arcanorum exploratoribus scribebant adhuc
 censorio supercilio conspicabantur. Hic
 vir, dum iuvenis est, libellum de nece inter
 generosos perpetrata illo stilo quo excellabat
 Agatha nostra exaravit; quod lepido sane
 calamo est executus. Sed cum primum de
 exploratore illo a frigore reverso scripsisset,

omnes novum sidus in caelum ascendisse
 viderunt. Non enim viros pulcherrimam
 quamque facile allicientes vestituque grandi
 alea ludentes depingit; immo fraudem dolos
 homines velut in caeno et tenebris errantes
 repraesentat. Praeterea cum argumento
 fabulae lectores arrigit, tum loca tam vivide
 describit ut nos oculis auribus naribus ea
 sentire videamur.

In alio libro 'Sunt senes,' inquit, 'qui
 Oxoniam regressi credunt ipsos lapides sibi
 de sua iuventute loqui.' Addit Georgium
 Smiley, eum qui primas partes in suis libris
 non raro agit, aliter credidisse. Quidquid ipse
 de urbe nostra iudicat, magna liberalitate
 chartas in scriniis suis conditas Bibliothecae
 Bodleianae dedit; quare non solum bonum
 scriptorem sed bonum etiam amicum hodie
 salutamus.

Praesento fabularum textorem
 artificiosissimum, David Iohannem Moore
 Cornwell, aliter Iohannem Quadratum
 nominatum, Collegii Lincolnensis et
 alumnum et socium honoris causa
 adscriptum, ut admittatur honoris causa ad
 gradum Doctoris in Litteris.

Admission by the Chancellor

Scriptor ingeniosissime, qui lectores simul
 delectas et commoves, ego auctoritate mea
 et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum
 Doctoris in Litteris honoris causa.

Paraphrase

Again I must plunge into the dark wood,
 since here is a man to whom could be
 applied the words from Robert Burton's
 epitaph in Christ Church Cathedral: *paucis
 notus paucioribus ignotus* [known to few,
 unknown to fewer]. For though not many
 people may recognise his real name,
 his *nom de plume* is familiar to almost
 everybody. He has earned his fame not
 only from his books in themselves but
 because he has substantially changed the
 nature of the genre in which he writes. In
 classical antiquity novels were not highly
 regarded: the critics say nothing about
 them, and when Tacitus wrote his short
 sketch of Petronius, he failed to mention
 the *Satyricon*. In more recent times prose
 fiction has not lacked critical esteem, but the
 writers of spy stories continued to be rather
 looked down upon. Among our honorand's
 early works is a tale of murder among posh
 people in the manner that Agatha Christie
 made her own; and indeed it was deftly
 done. But when he published *The Spy Who
 Came in from the Cold*, everyone realised
 that there was a new kind of star in the
 firmament. Not for him heroes who casually
 seduce beautiful women and play the casino
 in dinner jackets; instead he depicts deceit,

treachery and characters stumbling through dirt and gloom. What is more, he combines gripping plots with so vivid an evocation of places that we seem to see, hear and smell them.

In *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* he writes, 'There are old men who go back to Oxford and find their youth beckoning to them from the stones.' He adds that George Smiley (the leading role in several of his books) was not among them. Whatever his own feelings about this city, he has most generously donated his papers to the Bodleian Library; and so today we hail not only a fine writer but a good friend.

I present a most skilful weaver of tales, David John Moore Cornwell, alias John le Carré, graduate and honorary fellow of Lincoln College, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

Admission by the Chancellor

Ingenious novelist, who both entertain and disturb your readers, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

PROFESSOR DREW GILPIN FAUST

President of Harvard University and historian of the American Civil War and the American South

Qui de rebus Americanis scribet, plerumque victorias imperium semper auctum prosperitatem fere in annum crescentem persequetur. Sed abhinc centum quinquaginta annis hanc felicitatem interruptit bellum civile, et exterarum gentes caedem et vastationem

populumque potentem
in sua victrici conversum viscera dextra

maesti obstupefactique viderunt. Feminam nunc produco cuius maiores per multa saecula clarissimum locum sua in patria occupaverunt: proavus senator creatus est; atavus ingentis nominis in theologia potitus; ipsa in latifundiis eius regionis e qua magna illa seditio erupit est educata. Anno salutis MCMXCVII librum de matribus inventionis (ut dicit) edidit. Erant iam qui vitis mulierum septentrionalem Americae partem habitantium studuerant; haec tamen feminas amplioris ordinis in meridionali regione natas – quas antehac docti aliquantum praetermiserant – perscrutari maluit. Acuto calamo aerumnas earum descripsit quae ante bellum omnia famulis commiserant, nunc necessitate coactae laborabant pueros educabant vulneratos fovebant. In celeberrimo e libris suis, cui titulus *Haec Doloris Respublica*, nec κλέα ἀνδρῶν nec viros μάχην ἐς κυδιάνειραν ruentes sed angorem cruciatus tormenta

describit. In hoc enim bello nova armorum genera stragem in immensum auxerunt, quam nova ars photographica acerbissime monstrabat, ita ut mors, ut putat, pectora omnium Americanorum funditus inquietaret. Quas res sermone non tumido sed eloquenti exposuit.

Ad laetiora transeo. Hanc enim ob hoc quoque honestamus, quod prima e sexu muliebri ad summum munus in vetustissima suae patriae universitate ascenderit. Protinus magnae eam difficultates ibi circumsteterunt, divitiis haud paulum imminutis. Atqui nosmet (da veniam quaeso, domina) sane gauderemus talibus angustiis pressi. In tempore hoc incerto ducem se et custodem universitatis sagacem praebuit; ipsius domum Cantabrigiae custodit Clio canis, quae omnes praeter dominum et dominam dicitur momordisse. Mentem ipsius animumque Musae et Clio et Melpomene afflatu suo inspirant.

Praesento rerum scriptricem humanissimam, academiae gubernatricem indefessam, Catharinam Drew Gilpin Faust, Universitatis Harvardianae Praesidem, ut admittatur honoris causa ad gradum Doctoris in Litteris.

Admission by the Chancellor

Historiae magistra oculatissima, quae et in libris et per facta tua doctrinam promovisti, ego auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Litteris honoris causa.

Paraphrase

The historian of the USA can for the most part expect to tell a tale of victories, a continual enlargement of power, and prosperity increasing almost by the day. But a century and a half ago civil war broke into this happy condition, and the world in horror and dismay watched killing and devastation and 'people strong... whose conquering swords their own breasts launch' (Lucan, tr Marlowe). The lady whom I now present is descended from forebears who have played a distinguished part in their country's history across the years: a great-grandfather was a senator; a remoter ancestor was the famous theologian Jonathan Edwards; and she herself was brought up on those broad acres which gave rise to the Confederate secession. In 1997 she published *Mothers of Invention*. The women of the northern United States had already been the object of research; she for her part gave her attention to the upper-class ladies of the south, whom scholarship had largely overlooked. She gave a telling account of the travails of women who before

the war had left everything to their slaves but now found themselves forced to face physical toil, bring up their children, and nurse the wounded. In her most famous book, *This Republic of Suffering*, she described not the valiant deeds and glorious battles familiar from epic poetry but misery, pain and anguish. In this war new kinds of weaponry vastly increased the scale of the slaughter, which was in turn pitilessly exposed by the new art of photography, so that death, as she argues, became central to the American experience. She tells the story in measured but eloquent language.

On a more cheerful note, we also honour her as the first woman to head her nation's oldest university. Immediately she had to confront a crisis, on account of the sharp fall in its endowment. (I hope she will forgive the reflection that we would be thrilled to be crushed by poverty like hers.) In tough times she has proved herself a shrewd leader and guardian; her own home in Cambridge is guarded by Clio, a dog named from the Muse of History, who is said to have bitten everyone except her owners. The Muses of History and Tragedy combine to inspire her own work.

I present a humane historian, a tireless guide of her university, Catharine Drew Gilpin Faust, President of Harvard University, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

Admission by the Chancellor

Penetrating mistress of the craft of history, who have advanced learning alike in your books and by your actions, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

SIR HOWARD STRINGER

Chairman of Sony Corporation

Iaponicorum industriae sollertiae artificio quis laudem recuset? Haud facile imaginem photographica facere vel orbem phonographicum audire possis nisi machinis eorum utaris. Qui autem suam ἀμταρκειαν diligenter servaverunt, neque exterarum gentium auxilium requirere videntur. Hodie tamen virum honestamus qui illa claustra refregit et in societate Iaponica ad summum fastigium ascendit. Inter Cambrenses natus, populum animosum atque eloquentem nec nimia verecundia impeditum, in Anglia educatus, tum Oxoniam venit, ubi historiae studuit magistrumque suum (o si sic omnes) maximi dicitur aestimavisse. Mox adhuc iuvenis ad Americam perrexit, ubi multos per annos apud societatem televisificam operatus est et multa ibi praemia recepit.

Quare si totum aetatis cursum illo modo degere maluisset, successu haud parvo fructus esset; sed novos campos explorare avebat, novas laureas mereri. Itaque in mercatorum tabularium se contulit, quo in loco adeo floruit ut societatis suae dux primo in America tum toto orbe terrarum fieret. Multi quidem illo tempore naufragium fecerunt; hic vir ut bonus navis rector suos per saxa et tempestates sollerter advexit.

Quamquam modo in Asia modo in America longa per tempora habitavit, patriae non oblitus est domumque in comitatu nostro Oxoniensi possidet. Ludum seriis miscere novit neque ei est monendum ut in loco studium lucri ponat. Libros colligit, arte cinematographica maxime delectatur, de fortunis athletarum Cambrensiarum ardentem exquirat. Optimus convivator, Oxonienses Oxoniaeque fautores Novi Eboraci et in California magnifico hospitio accepit. Cui nunc et grates offerimus et laudationem.

Praesento virum commercii peritissimum, verum universitatis nostrae amicum, Howard Stringer, equitem auratum, societatis Sony gubernatorem, Collegii Mertonensis et alumnum et socium honoris causa adscriptum, ut admittatur honoris causa ad gradum Doctoris in Litteris.

Admission by the Chancellor

Mercator sagacissime, qui tanta negotia rebus in arduis bene sustinuisti, ego auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Litteris honoris causa.

Paraphrase

Who could fail to admire the industry, skill and ingenuity of the Japanese? One can hardly take a photograph or listen to a disc without using their manufactures. They have a strong sense of self-sufficiency, and seem to feel no need to turn to any other country for support. Today, though, we honour a man who has broken through that barrier and risen to the very top of a Japanese company. He was born in Wales, among an eloquent, spirited people, not lacking in self-confidence, and schooled in England, after which he read history at Oxford, where he is said to have acquired a deep admiration for his tutor (an attitude which one would wish to be universal). Still in his early twenties he moved to America, where he worked in broadcasting for many years, winning a number of awards; so if he had chosen to continue on that path for his whole career, his achievement would have been large; but he was keen to explore new fields and win new laurels. Accordingly, he turned himself into a businessman,

with such success that he came to head his company first in America and then worldwide. It was a time when many firms were shipwrecked, but this expert helmsman guided his ship dexterously through rocks and tempest.

Despite long periods of residence in Asia and America, he has not forgotten his native land, and indeed keeps a home in our own county of Oxfordshire. He knows how to relax as well as work, and has no need of Horace's advice to his friend to put aside the pursuit of profit for a while. He collects books, is passionate about the cinema, and takes a keen interest in Welsh sport. He is also renowned as a host, and has entertained our alumni and other supporters magnificently in New York and Los Angeles. We now offer him our gratitude and this expression of praise.

I present a most skilful businessman, a true friend of this University, Sir Howard Stringer, Chairman of the Sony Corporation, graduate and honorary fellow of Merton College, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

Admission by the Chancellor

Shrewd man of affairs, who have successfully borne the weight of a great enterprise in testing times, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

PROFESSOR CHARLES MARGRAVE TAYLOR *Philosopher*

Sunt qui existiment philosophiam in republica gubernanda paulum valere; ita Cicero Catonem reprehendit quia sententiam tamquam in Platonis πολιτεία diceret, non ut homo inter homines. Putant alii philosophos res solum explicuisse nec satis contendisse ut eas meliores redderent. Virum autem nunc produco cuius exemplo et hos et illos confutare possis. Ubi praemium Rhodesianum adeptus primum apud nos studuit, philosophorum Oxoniensium doctrina in magna orbis terrarum parte praevalere; qui credebant si verborum significationem recte interpretarentur, rerum quoque naturam fore ut intellegerent. Quos haudquaquam neglegebat, sed rationem eorum ad alias quaestiones adhibere malebat. Constat inter doctos eum studium τῶν πολιτικῶν, quod illi forsitan aliquantulo fastidio intuerentur, dignum atque etiam iucundum rursus reddidisse. Nam cum scit res perdifficiles et perobscuras lucido sermone explanare, tum ea quae pectora humana in imis medullis commovent vult perscrutari; quare de more

atque cultu de civitate de omnibus denique per quae 'inter se mortales mutua vivunt' copioso sermone disputavit. Multos post annos Professor Chicheleanus creatus huc iterum se contulit, sed amor patriae maior erat quam ut diu apud nos maneret. Dixit Cicero, ubi de legibus disserebat, sibi atque omnibus municipibus duas esse patrias, unam naturae, alteram civitatis; simili modo hic vir, Quebeciae alumnum, modos examinavit quibus cives ibi Francogalli pietatem erga avos pariter et rempublicam praestent. Adde quod hic, et θεωρητικῆς et πρακτικῆς διανοίας magister, ter vel quater suffragia populi petivit, quam rem solum non optime gessit. Sed vocem, etsi non in parlamento sonuit, in Canada aliisque terris intento animo auscultant plurimi.

Praesento philosophum prudentem et fervidum, Carolum Margrave Taylor, Excellentissimi Ordinis Canadae comitem, Academiae Britannicae socium, Collegii Balliolensis et alumnum et socium honoris causa adscriptum, Collegii Omnium Animarum socium bis electum, ut admittatur honoris causa ad gradum Doctoris in Litteris.

Admission by the Chancellor

Sapientiae et humanitatis exemplum, tu qui humani generis societatem summo ingenii acumine descripsisti, ego auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Litteris honoris causa.

Paraphrase

There is a view that philosophy is of little value in the public sphere; Cicero criticised Cato for arguing as though he were in Plato's Republic rather than the real world. Others complain that philosophers have merely interpreted the world, instead of striving to make it better. But I now present a man whose career can refute both these judgements. When he first arrived here as a Rhodes Scholar, Oxford Philosophy was dominant in English-speaking countries. This school emphasised the interpretation of language: an exact analysis of words was the road to understanding the world. Our honorand, for his part, respected this approach, but his particular interest was in applying it to other kinds of question. His colleagues agree that he made political philosophy, which was perhaps a little looked down upon in the heyday of the analytic philosophers, seem respectable again and even fun. He has the gift for clarifying abstruse and obscure subjects, but he is also concerned to investigate those matters which stir deep human emotions; accordingly, he has written extensively about culture and community and the

various ways in which, as Lucretius has it, 'men live in interchange one with another'. After many years' absence he returned here as Chichele Professor of Economic and Social Theory, but he was too much of a patriot to stay long. Cicero observed in his treatise on laws that he and other provincial Italians had two loyalties, one of birth, the other of citizenship; in similar spirit this son of Quebec has weighed the means by which his French compatriots can express both an ancestral and a national identity. A master of both theoretical and practical wisdom, he has stood for parliament three or four times, the only part of his career that has not met with complete success. But although his voice has not sounded in the House, many indeed are those who listen to it intently, in Canada and abroad.

I present a philosopher both judicious and passionate, Charles Margrave Taylor, CC, FBA, graduate and honorary fellow of Balliol College, twice elected a fellow of All Souls College, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

Admission by the Chancellor

Pattern of wisdom and liberality, who have analysed the nature of human community with keen intellect, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

Degree of Doctor of Science

DR HENRY JOSEPH MACAULAY BARNETT
Neurologist

Apoplexis ictum quis non timet? Nemo sane est quin amicos vel cognatos habeat illa peste afflictos vel sit ipse percussus. Recte igitur humani generis amicus vocatur qui, ut hic quem videtis, rationem eius arcendae invenerit. Iterum hominem e Canadensibus clarissimum produco; at hic Novi Castelli in septentrionalibus nostrae patriae partibus natus est. Festive dicit domum natalem antea lupanar fuisse; pater tamen erat sacerdos et episcopus creatus trans Oceanum cum suis migravit. Ipse tirocinio completo ad Britanniam reversus aliquod tempus apud nos Oxonienses studuit, tum domum rursus petivit. Magnam ibi famam propter multa praeclare reperta mox nactus est. Causam cuiusdam generis apoplexis, quam docti antea debilitati cordis affinxerant, venis coartatis attribuendam esse monstravit. Cum conlegis hic primus probavit medicamentum iam ad parvos morbos leniendos adhibitum arterias quoque protegere aliquantum valere. At cum hoc, utile sane et salutare, neque apoplexin nec dementia omnino prohibere posset, alios modos morbi sanandi quaesivit, comperitque si venae in

cervice sitae velut tubuli illuvie obstructi detergentur, sanguine ad cerebrum facilius fluente multo minus fore morbi accessionis periculum. Praeterea doctos docuit quomodo corpora hominum forte temere selectorum scrutati aestimare possent utrum senio an sanguinis densitate an ea dulcedinis repugnantia quam διαβήτην vocant maxime periclitaretur. Quare ab omnibus princeps eorum habetur neurologorum qui causas apoplexis exquirunt. Ruris amoenitatum amator, avium observator intentissimus, avus proavusque diligens et dilectus, otium optime meritum nunc in agresti regione Ontarionis agit; sed cruda viro viridisque senectus.

Praesento Hippocratis antistitem insignissimum, Henricum Iosephum Macaulay Barnett, Excellentissimi Ordinis Canadae comitem, Institutionis Robartsianae conditorem et quondam rectorem, ut admittatur honoris causa ad gradum Doctoris in Scientia.

Admission by the Chancellor

Artis medicae magister praestantissime, cuius operae permulti sanitatem vitamque ipsam debent, ego auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Scientia honoris causa.

Paraphrase

Stroke is a cause of universal anxiety, for there is surely no one who does not have friends or family who have been assailed by its ravages or maybe suffered attack himself. So anyone who, like the man whom you now see before you, has found ways of preventing it is rightly hailed as a friend of the human race. Once more I present one of Canada's most distinguished citizens; this one, though, was born in the north of our own country, at Newcastle upon Tyne. He is amused by the thought that the building in which he was born was formerly a house of ill repute; however, his own father was a clergyman, whose appointment as a bishop took him and his family across the Atlantic. The son came back to England after finishing his training and worked for a time here in Oxford before returning home again. There his many discoveries soon made him a legend. He demonstrated that some strokes which had previously been attributed to cardiac events were actually brought about by narrowing of the arteries. He and his colleagues were the first to prove that the humble aspirin could not only serve to soothe the minor discomforts but could also provide the arterial system with a measure of protection. But useful though this pill might be, it could not prevent stroke or

dementia; so he sought further for a cure and found that if the carotid arteries, like blocked drains, could be cleared out, blood would flow more freely to the brain and combat the risk of attack. He also taught the scientific community how the use of randomised trials could show the relative risk impact of such factors as age, blood pressure or diabetes. Accordingly, he is by general consent the world's leading stroke neurologist. A nature lover and a passionate bird watcher, a loving and beloved grandfather and great-grandfather, he now enjoys a well earned retirement in rural Ontario, but to adapt Virgil,

in his years were seen
A youthful vigour, and autumnal
green.

(tr Dryden)

I present a most distinguished hierophant of Hippocrates, Henry Joseph Macaulay Barnett, CC, founder and former director of the Robarts Research Institute, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

Admission by the Chancellor

Eminent master of the medical art, to whose work so many owe health and life itself, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM DANIEL PHILLIPS
Physicist

Lucretius, quem moles et machina mundi tanto amore cepit, semina rerum perpetuum contrudi dissolvi eiecta recedi nullo denique tempore in eodem loco remorari docuit. Et recte. Hoc enim rerum naturae studiosi nostra aetate reppererunt: vaporis corpuscula minima, si in eo tepore exstant quo nostris in aedibus frui solemus, non minus velociter quam sonus continuo moventur. Nemo antea hos motus satis cohibere poterat; hic tamen quem nunc produco atomos luminis radiis oppugnavit et vi magnetis spirisque ferreis velut in plagam coegit. Sed cum plaga ipsa non adeo valeat ut atomos diu retineat, vigor earum proprius immodico frigore est suppressendus. Quod tanta peritia hic fecit ut paene ad extremum gelationis gradum pervenerit qui naturae foederibus conceditur. Itaque per eum stat ut docti nunc melius sciant quibus modis semina luminis et materiei inter se mutuo agant; ut melius intelligent quae vis sit in vaporibus si frigidissimi sint facti; fortasse ut machinas construere possint ad temporis intervalla per atomos vel exactius metienda.

Ipse eam alacritatem praebebat quam in corpusculis repressit. Constat inter omnes eum, licet multis iam honoribus cumulatus sit, se semper comem lenem humanum praeuisse; nullum in eo fastum, nullam esse superbiam. Dicunt amici puerili quadam voluptate arcanis naturae studere; haudquaquam sane ei opus est ut illo Domini Nostri praecepto moneatur, 'Nisi efficiamini sicut parvuli, non intrabitis in regnum caelorum.' In hoc autem a Lucretio dissentit: Deum in rerum natura percipit, et contra homines scientiam naturalem religioni repugnare adfirmantes disputavit.

Praesentem molecularum domitorem et frenatorem, naturae rerum indagatorem sollertissimum, Gulielmum Danielem Phillips, apud Universitatem Marylandianam professorem, apud Balliolenses quondam professorem Eastmanianum, praemio Nobeliano nobilitatum, ut admittatur honoris causa ad gradum Doctoris in Scientia.

Admission by the Chancellor

Parvarum rerum domine magne, cuius conspectum corpuscula vel minutissima evadere nequeunt, ego auctoritate mea et totius Universitatis admitto te ad gradum Doctoris in Scientia honoris causa.

Paraphrase

Lucretius, a man enchanted by the idea that the universe is an enormous machine, held that the basic constituents of matter are ceaselessly active – colliding, separating, thrust apart. Modern science has confirmed this picture; indeed the molecules of gases at room temperature are in constant motion at approximately the speed of sound. No one had found a way of calming them down, until the man whom I now present bombarded them with laser beams and used a coil with a magnetic field to trap them. Such a trap, however, is too weak to hold the atoms within it for long, unless their innate vitality is restrained by extreme cold. Our honorand managed this with such success that he came very close to absolute zero. His work has taught scientists a better knowledge of the interplay between the components of light and matter; it has led to a better understanding of the behaviour of gases at extremely low temperatures; and it may lead to the design of atomic clocks even more precise than those which exist at present.

In person, he displays the liveliness which he has forbidden to his molecules. Everyone agrees that for all the honours with which he has been laden, he remains gentle, friendly and approachable, with no airs and graces

about him. His friends say that he retains a childlike delight in doing physics; evidently he has no need to be warned by the gospel saying, 'Except ye become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.' Indeed, he differs from Lucretius in this, that he sees God in nature, and he has taken part in the debate about science and religion, arguing against those who hold the two to be incompatible.

I present a man who has tamed and controlled molecules, a most skilled investigator of nature, William Daniel Phillips, Professor at the University of Maryland, former Eastman Visiting Professor at Balliol College, Nobel Laureate, to be admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

Admission by the Chancellor

Great master of little things, whose eye even the tiniest particles cannot escape, I on my own authority and that of the whole University admit you to the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

2 Encaenia

The Public Orator delivered the following Oration 'in commemoration of the Benefactors of the University according to the intention of the Right Honourable Nathaniel, Lord Crewe, Bishop of Durham'.

Orator: *Honoratissime Domine Cancellarie, licetne anglice loqui?*

Chancellor: *Licet.*

Orator:

Thank you, sir. I know it's showing off, but I like to demonstrate that I can do English too. First, though, a word of ancient Greek. 'Encaenia' means 'renewals'. This is the day on which we look back on the past with gratitude, at the present with pleasure though, I trust, without complacency, and at the future with hope. We are a very old university, but we are also new. At this time each year we think of the fresh young shoots constantly springing from our ancient soil, richly fertilised as it is by old decaying organic matter, well rotted. I see some of it before me today. This is also the time when we honour a small number of people who have achieved high distinction in various fields – usually a judicious mixture of Oxonians (to suggest that we do a respectable job of educating people) and the rest of the world (to suggest that our outlook is global). We invite them for the date of Encaenia, and occasionally, if that is impossible for them, we ask them back the next year. I regret to report that one of today's graduates has kept us waiting

nineteen years. Well, it has been worth the wait. All honorands of course are equal, but none of them will mind my adding on this occasion that some are more equal than others. This is a special day for us. But as I have already indicated in a learned language, there is really no need for words. I shall keep on saying that. Welcome, Daw Suu – welcome back.

The motto 'never apologise, never explain' has sometimes been attributed to an Oxford don, indeed to a Balliol man, not altogether surprisingly. And indeed the relentlessly hearty tone of this oration usually leaves no room for hesitation or uncertainty. But I have to confess that I made a mistake last year, when I implied that Mr David Willetts was educated at Cambridge. He is, of course, a Christ Church man, and like most of those who govern us read PPE. A junior member of the oratorical research team has been disciplined. Clearly I should apologise to someone, but I am not quite sure to whom. When I admitted my error to one of our high functionaries, the reply was, 'Oh, we thought you were referring to the Vice-Chancellor.' Worse and worse: I shall never be a Pro-Vice-Chancellor now. Eager to ingratiate myself, I have googled 'Oxford Vice-Chancellor inspirational' – a million results. 'Vice-Chancellor honours inspirational teachers' – ah well. Of course, if you get rid of the Vice-Chancellor, you do much better: google 'Oxford inspirational' on its own, and the results exceed 7,000,000. We would expect no less. The news story referred to one of the happiest events of the year, when we celebrated schoolteachers, nominated by their former pupils, for their work in transforming young lives, and all of us tutors were reminded that we have exacting standards to live up to.

Among the 7,000,000 reasons for being inspired by Oxford is the quality of our students. We have had a splendid gift from BP plc for student support and for the BP Professor of Economics. Deservedly, there has been much publicity for the munificent donation by Mrs Mica Ertegun to establish Ertegun House and the Mica and Ahmet Ertegun Graduate Scholarship Programme in the Humanities. This year two prize-winners from each of the divisions have been singled out for recognition today; their names are in your programme books, and some of them have been rounded up and corralled below the Chancellor. I ask them to stand now to receive the tribute of your applause. Another sign of our intellectual vitality is the extraordinary range of subjects appearing in the lecture lists. It seems to have been an especially good year for Friedrich Nietzsche, though I was not

myself present when representatives of *The Journal of Nietzsche Studies*, *Nietzsche-Studien*, *New Nietzsche Studies*, *Estudios Nietzsche*, *Nietzscheforschungen*, *Quadernos Nietzsche*, and *The Nietzsche News Center* gathered in this city to hear a lecture entitled 'Do we need a new Nietzsche journal?' – my nomination for the shortest lecture of the year.

The visitor of University College, Oriel and Christ Church has marked sixty years in these offices, and the nation has celebrated her, damp but enthusiastic. Once consequence of this jubilee year is that I have learnt about the privileged bodies. There are 27 bodies which have the privilege of presenting a loyal address to the sovereign and hearing a reply from the sovereign's own lips. The University of Oxford stands second in this line of precedence, with only the Church of England ahead of it. This University may have been founded by King Alfred – or so we have sometimes claimed in our more rhapsodical moments – but the church was founded by Jesus Christ; so we gracefully defer. The privileged bodies have exercised their right four times in the present Queen's reign, at her accession and at each of the three jubilees. Accordingly, a Budget Rent-a-Van containing the Vice-Chancellor, Proctors and assorted University worthies set out from Wellington Square for Buckingham Palace one sunny day in March. As we swept into the Palace forecourt, we could see a mass of tourist cameras pointed at us, and it may be that even now in Shanghai or San Francisco a family is clustering round the video to watch the arrival of the state rent-a-van, with the legend www.budget.com proudly emblazoned on its side. Better that, I suppose, than www.conspicuous expenditure.com. As for the ceremony itself, Her Majesty sat serenely for an hour while a succession of dignitaries, from the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Mayor of Maidenhead, told her that she was absolutely wonderful in every possible way, and I thought I could cope with a good deal of that myself.

The one politician present was Mr Johnson of Balliol, representing the Greater London Authority. He assured the Queen that London had always been foremost in its loyalty to the Crown. I'm not sure about that. I seem to remember that there was some awkwardness in the 1640s, and Oxford had to step in. A couple of months later, in the local elections the nation swung against the government. The one exception was in the capital, where the prospect of losing an Oxonian as mayor was more than Londoners could face. Meanwhile, this University, like

others, was exercised when Mr Osborne of Magdalen proposed in his budget to limit higher-rate tax relief on charitable giving. The Deputy Prime Minister explained that the change was needed because rich people 'living literally on another galaxy' were not paying British taxes. Sounds fair enough to me. But then Mr Clegg is a Cambridge man – literally from another planet. Of course, once Mr Osborne learnt that his alma mater disapproved of his plans, he dropped them right away.

Two more of us have made a small contribution to the jubilee. Professor Nick Mayhew, Keeper of the Heberden Coin Room, served on the committee selecting the commemorative coinage, and I was myself consulted on a Latin motto proposed for it. Accentuating the positive as always, I was able to report that the word 'et', 'and', was correct. The other words were not. I was then asked for my own suggestions, the shortest of which now appears on the £5 piece, and I now know that I have written two words that will endure – a pity it is not more than two. The words, imagined as spoken by the Queen, are '*Dilecta regno*', 'I reign beloved.' The events of this month have surely justified that claim. I am hoping, once again, if not for a knighthood, then at least for a special mention in the impact section of the REF – on which Wikipedia can provide reliable guidance as on so much else. You may have noticed the statement that precedes some of its entries: 'This article may contain original research. Please improve it... Statements consisting only in original research may be removed.' That's the spirit.

Let's keep positive. We came second in the boat race. I would not revert to that vexing day but for the performance of the Isis eight, which achieved the fastest time by a reserve crew and the third fastest recorded by any crew on the Tideway – a remarkable feat. But naturally it is the academic achievements that we value most. This year we have won the Queen's Anniversary Prize for the eighth time – more often than any other university. On this occasion the award went to WildCRU, the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit. Our website marked this success with pictures of various endangered species – the gibbon, the Bornean clouded leopard, and the Ethiopian wolf – and the unit's director, Professor David Macdonald, who was shown with a broad smile and a cheetah beside him. The cheetah is smiling too; so Professor Macdonald may be an endangered species himself. Meanwhile, naturalists in the Philippines have succeeded in photographing the Mindoro warty pig, one of the world's shyest animals.

It must be the warts. Honestly, we hardly noticed.

The Times Good University Guide has ranked us in first place for the eleventh year in succession. In other league tables we bob up and down a bit. Now this oration is nothing if it is not educative, and I have pointed out before that the essence of academic judgement is to select from the mass of material before one. Last year the spotlight fell on the QS World Rankings, which gave our humanities the number one slot, this year on the Times Higher Education World Rankings, which have put us first for Medicine, overtaking some American institution. Overall, they ranked us the best university in Europe. We can hope for our medical research to get even better, as the Mathilda and Terence Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology Trust has made a magnificent gift for the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology research building and core funding for the next ten years. Since rheumatology is the subject, we can sincerely say, in the words that newlyweds use in their thank-you letters, that this is a gift that we shall value more and more as the years go by.

Lord Franks, I believe, has hitherto been the only person to head two Oxford colleges, and the Second World War came between these appointments. No such catastrophe has marked Mr Andrew Dilnot's progress from St Hugh's to Nuffield, where he will succeed Professor Steve Nickell; Dame Elish Angiolini will be his own successor. Professor Paul Langford will retire from Lincoln, Lord Macdonald of River Glaven will follow Sir Neil Chalmers at Wadham, and Professor Werner Jeanrond will take over from Dom Felix Stephens at St Benet's. Professor Margaret Snowling will be Sir Michael Scholar's successor at St John's. Professor Snowling is an expert on reading disability and St John's say that she is just what they need. It is noticeable how much older heads of societies are at the time of appointment than they used to be. Indeed, we are always anxious to avoid ageism: the University Museum of Natural History has welcomed its latest resident, a hominid 1.9 million years old, and more cautiously, Wellington Square has added two years to the retirement age. At the New Year, Professors Geoffrey Hill and Diarmaid MacCulloch were knighted, Professor Lionel Tarassenko received a CBE and Professor Robert Walker an MBE. In the Birthday Honours Professor Lorna Casselton has been awarded a CBE and Professor Ann Buchanan an MBE. Professor Casselton's research is on the sexual development of fungi, but this family-friendly oration is able

to reveal no more. The British Academy has elected seven of us to its fellowship – Professors John Baines, Cécile Fabre, Andrew Hurrell, Laura Marcus, Lyndal Roper and Jeremy Waldron and Dr Ruth Harris – while Professors Dominic Joyce and Ian Walmsley have become fellows of the Royal Society. We congratulate them all.

As always, I call to mind those friends and colleagues who have died in the past year, among whom were John Bailey, Fellow of All Souls, Giles Barber, Fellow of Linacre, Sir Zelman Cowen, Provost of Oriel, Robin Denniston, Student of Christ Church, Ursula Dronke, Fellow of Linacre, Sir Michael Dummett, Fellow of New College, Keith Gore, Fellow of Worcester, David Grahame-Smith, Fellow of Corpus Christi, Joseph Hatton, Fellow of Exeter, Richard Hawkins, Fellow of Keble, Christopher

Jones, Fellow of St Peter's, Patricia Kean, Fellow of Lady Margaret Hall, Frank Parkin, Fellow of Magdalen, Siegbert Prawer, Fellow of Queen's, Steven Rawlings, Fellow of St Peter's, Bede Rundle, Fellow of Trinity, James Urmson, Fellow of Corpus Christi, and Bryan Warren, Fellow of Linacre.
Requiescant in pace et in aeternum luceat eis Dominus Illuminatio Mea.

A few of these names are known to the wider world; each of them means something special to someone here today. I learnt something about the use of memory a little while ago, when I visited East Moreton in Dorset. Lawrence of Arabia – Colonel Lawrence of Jesus and All Souls – is buried in the village cemetery, and a few visitors each day come to see his tomb. But in the church there is a memorial of another kind: an engraved glass window, designed by

Sir Laurence Whistler of Balliol, placed in tribute to a pilot killed in the Second World War. It shows his crashed Spitfire and the house that he shared with the wife to whom he was so briefly married. But there is no name, and like other visitors to the church, I do not know who he was. It is an expression of love, both public and hidden. There is no attempt to guard a name from time's oblivion: the act of devotion is enough. And so it shall be with us. Today we think with thankfulness on all who have served this University, past and present, known and unknown. We too shall be forgotten, almost all of us, but memory itself and the habit of gratitude abide.

This is an especially memorable day. After all, it may be – just possibly – the day on which classical Latin prose has achieved its biggest live audience ever. Cicero can eat his heart out.