

MUSINGS IN THE TURL

An Occasional Newsletter of the Northern California Branch of the Oxford Society

Number 8

November 2000

From the Secretary

The last issue of this Oxford Society newsletter was ages ago, and the *Directory of Oxonians Residing in Northern California* for the year 2000 is six months late. I owe all of you a deep apology as well as an explanation. From the end of last year through the month of June I was engaged more than full time in preparing an overdue manuscript for publication. In July, I contracted Lyme Disease, which is curable but totally debilitating. I am fortunate in now being able slowly to start picking up the pieces of life, and catching up with the Oxford Society is at the top of the list. As you will know, our scheduled events have gone forward, but the informational side has not.

It is only fair that our subscribers should have the 2000 *Directory* yet within the year, and as soon as possible. Our normal publication time is in the spring, and to provide reasonable spacing between the two, the *Directory* for 2001 will come out in May. Significant changes in our listings will be reflected between the two, for about forty new Oxonians are added annually, mainly in the spring, and

about thirty move away. We now presently carry about five hundred on our mailing list and all of these will be listed in the forthcoming *Directory*.

The Oxford University Society

The world will change for the Oxford Society on January 1st, when the worldwide Society will cease to be essentially a private club and will become the "Oxford University Society," as the University's official alumni association with automatic and free membership for all graduates. The Oxford Society office will be merged with the Oxford University Alumni Office, and Mr. Tim Lewis, presently head of the Oxford Society, will become head of the Alumni Office and of the new Society. The small blue Society publication, *Oxford*, will be discontinued and the new Society will have informational space in the University publication, *Oxford Today*. As a branch of the new Society our role and structure will scarcely change, for we have always welcomed all Oxonians to our events and we list all Oxonians in

the *Directory* who wish to be identified. While membership will be free in the Oxford University Society, its branches, as its active arms, will necessarily continue ask for an annual subscription fee to cover expenses, for there will be no money flowing from Oxford to us (nor from us to Oxford). We anticipate no change from our present \$15 annual subscription.

News from Members

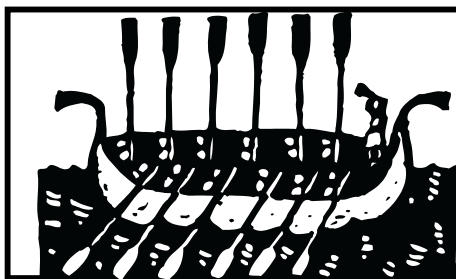
Susan and Simon Tuffs (New College) of Pacific Grove are happy to announce to our membership the birth of their son, David William, on August 17th. Our hearty congratulations!

Receipt of Forthcoming Directory

If you have sent in your subscription for the current year (2000) and do not receive a copy of the 2000 *Directory* by the end of December, please inform the Secretary.

Email Addresses

For those of you who have not submitted your email address for the *Directory* and who wish to do so, please send an email to Kelley Evans of the Steering Committee. He is kevans@onramp113.org.



Moving?
Be sure to send
us a change of
address.

Questionnaire

The Oxford Society in Northern California has held a variety of events during its eight years of activity. Our aim is always to have the types of events that our members find the most interesting. For this reason the Steering Committee and Secretary would greatly appreciate your filling out and returning the questionnaire below (but do not feel constrained; further comments of any sort will be welcomed).

Please rank the following by number (1, 2, 3, . . .) in order of interest (1 being of most interest).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> the annual Pre-Christmas Party | <input type="checkbox"/> joint meetings of specific focus with other alumni |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tours of historic houses | <input type="checkbox"/> groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> group attendance at plays | <input type="checkbox"/> tours of museum displays |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tours of famous gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> garden parties |
| <input type="checkbox"/> talks by and receptions for noted senior members
of the University of Oxford | <input type="checkbox"/> wine tasting socials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tours of art exhibits | <input type="checkbox"/> art lectures or expert lectures in other fields |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tours of scientific interest | <input type="checkbox"/> family oriented event |

[All tours normally led by experts or docents. All events include a social if possible.]

Please suggest further types of events or specific events that you would like to have us sponsor.

The Oxford Society
255 Ursuline Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95403