



# THE THOURON AWARD

A Newsletter for the Thouron Community  
2013-2014, Number 22



## Mayor of Philadelphia Visits William Penn's gravesite escorted by two Thourons.

Luke Butler, Br '06, has worked for the Mayor of Philadelphia, Michael A. Nutter, for several years and for the past couple he and Dr. David Leslie-Hughes, Br '64, have been discussing that no Pennsylvania-elected official has ever paid an official visit to the gravesite of William Penn, who is buried with his first and second wife and some of his numerous children at Jordans Meeting House in Buckinghamshire. Since Mayor Nutter was scheduled for a visit to London this past November, the two Thourons decided they would facilitate a get together. David met Luke and the Mayor at Heathrow Airport and drove to the meeting house where they were greeted by the Clerk, Douglas Butterfield, the Mayor of Beaconsfield, Sandy Saunders and other community leaders. The Philadelphia contingency were escorted into the meeting house for a history of William Penn and Jordans before 10 minutes of silent reflection in the Quaker tradition. Mayor Nutter read from Penn's Prayer for Philadelphia and presented the Clerk with an official copy of the prayer. After the service, Mayor Nutter laid stones from William Penn's Pennsylvania estate, Pennsbury Manor, at the grave of William Penn. He then planted a tree sapling from Pennsbury Manor in the garden and presented the meeting house with a plaque marking the occasion of the official visit. Following the ceremony everyone retired to the house for tea and cucumber sandwiches.

*Luke Butler far left, Davie Leslie-Hughes, third from left, Mayor Michael A. Nutter fifth from left.  
Photo: Kait Privitera, City of Philadelphia.*

## AWARDS 2013

### American Scholars

**Jacob Blumenfeld-Gantz**  
MPhil in Public Policy,  
Cambridge, One year

**Elena Gooray**  
MSc in Cognition in Science  
and Society, University of  
Edinburgh, One year

**Cassi Henderson**  
MSc in Bioscience  
Enterprise, Cambridge, One year

**Tarub Mabud**  
MSc in Epidemiology, Imperial  
College, London, One year

**Allison Mishkin**  
Master's in Social Science of  
the Internet, Oxford, One year

### British Scholars

**Luke Butcher**  
Manchester School of  
Architecture, Master's in  
Architecture, One year

**Daniel Davies**  
University of Edinburgh, MA in  
English, One year

**Katherine Drage**  
Cambridge, LLM, One year

**Alexander Eisenthal**  
University of Sussex, PhD in  
English, Two years

**David Lewis**  
Oxford, MA in South Asia  
Studies, Two years

**Isabel Lockart-Smith**  
University of East Anglia, MA  
in English, One year

**Benjamin Partridge**  
Oxford, PhD in Chemistry, Two  
years

**Aled Richard-Jones**  
Oxford, LLM, One year

# Writers in the Family

Are all Thourons good writers? It often seems that way, as we encounter the words of Thourons in newspapers, magazines, and books, as well as ghost-written speeches. Many Thourons see their writing as an adjunct to their main profession, whether it be medicine, teaching, or law, while others actually describe themselves as authors. We hope to cover all our Thouron authors as fully as possible, but for this newsletter I start with 10 who have made writing their principal profession.

If you consider yourself an author and I did not find you, please find me and chastise me with a full account of your publications. I will certainly put you in the next newsletter! For the most part I have tried to allow our writers to speak for themselves. In instances where I needed to add some details about their accomplishments I have done so. In instances where their enthusiasm went beyond my word limits, I played editor timorously.



David Bradley. Photo: Robert Hill Long

**David Bradley Jr., Am '72**, recently left his post in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Oregon in order to dedicate all of his time to writing. He is looking forward to completing some projects he claims to have been working on for “too long.” David is the author of two novels, *South Street* (1975) and *The Chaneyville Incident* (1981) which was awarded the 1982 PEN/Faulkner Award and an Academy Award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts

and Letters. Recently, both novels have been released in electronic editions by Open Road Media. Although his short story “You Remember the Pinmill” was published in 2013 in *Narrative*, since 1985 Bradley has worked primarily in creative nonfiction, with pieces in *Esquire*, *Redbook*, *The New York Times*, *Philadelphia Magazine*, and *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. In regards to the Thouron Award, David has an interesting perspective, which probably resonates with many of us.

From David:

*While I know the intent of the Fellowship was (and is) to foster Anglo-American understanding, for this American it worked in reverse. I applied because by the time I graduated from Penn some of my best and closest friends, and many of my classmates, were Thouron Fellows, and I think I learned more—and certainly gained more appreciation—of England, Wales and Scotland from them than from actually being in the UK. But what I learned once I was abroad was about being an American. The lessons were not always easy, and the understanding not always welcome. I saw my country through foreign eyes, and realized that my vision had been both myopic and monocular. Since then, I have found it impossible to just accept so many things that my fellow citizens, our leaders, even our artists often leave unexamined. I would like to think being a Thouron has made me a better American, although I am sure there are many who would disagree.*

## AWARDS 2014

### American Scholars

#### Christina Economy

Master's in Public Policy,  
Cambridge, One year

#### Allison Pearce

MPhil in Advanced Computer Science,  
Cambridge, One year

#### Carson Woodbury

MPhil in Biological Sciences (Genetics),  
Cambridge,  
One year

### British Scholars

#### Shahnaz Ahsan

Oxford, MSc in Nonprofit Leadership,  
One year

#### William Lord

University of St Andrews,  
MA World History, One year

#### Kevin Luan

King's College, MSc in Oral Biology,  
One year

#### Edward Palmer

St George's Medical School,  
Master's of Bioethics, One year

#### Joshua Powell

University of Nottingham,  
Master's in Environmental Studies,  
One year

#### Sam Waterman

University of Sussex, PhD English,  
Two years

## ALUMNI NEWS



Lizzie Glen Ballagher

**Elizabeth Glen (Ballagher), Br '71**, graduated with the very first cohort from the then new University of Ulster. She studied English literature and Latin at Penn. After completing her master's she began a career in teaching first in Philadelphia and then in Western New York. She now lives and works in England. Lizzie writes under the pen name Elizabeth Gibson

From Lizzie:

*For me teaching and writing were always intertwined: the one informing, challenging and enhancing the other though I do admit there were years on both sides of the Atlantic when teaching eclipsed writing altogether! I remained in the US teaching and writing until 1984, when the first novel, The Water Is Wide, was published simultaneously on both sides of the Atlantic. Other novels followed in succession: Men of Kent, Old Photographs, Parallel Lives and The Daisy Ring. By then it was the difficult 1990s; I was finding it hard to juggle family, teaching and writing commitments; thus in 1995 I returned to full-time teaching and put the fiction firmly on the shelf for a later date.*

*In the interim, however, I continued to write poetry; teaching poetry from all centuries of English, Irish and American literature has certainly helped keep poetry at the front of my mind! Only twenty or so poems have been published in anthologies and magazines, so it's a good thing I don't depend on writing now to make a living! The most exciting recent development has been the setting to music of my poem Merciless Day by composer Simon Mold for performance as one small part of a requiem mass to be performed later this year in Wales; this will be to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WW1 in Europe.*

*A popular saying when I lived in Philadelphia was "Right on!" To which I say, I write on, brothers and sisters. All power to any Thouron writing elbows!*

Lizzie's websites: <http://www.lizzieballagher.com>  
[www.myspace.com/lizzieballagherpoetry](http://www.myspace.com/lizzieballagherpoetry)

### ALUMNI NEWS

**Besan Abu-Joudeh, Am '12**, submitted her dissertation this summer to SOAS and returned to her family in Virginia. She is currently taking three math courses at George Mason University, working as an economic history research assistant, and also preparing her applications for PhD programs.

**Giselle Aris, Am '07**, received her MPhil in International Development in 2009 from Oxford. In 2013 her research was published as *Producer Organization: A Market-led Approach to Tackling Poverty in the Rural Philippines*. Immediately following her graduation, Giselle spent two years working in small-town India, where she played a leading role in designing, managing, and scaling a dairy social enterprise. The enterprise now employs more than 30 staff, has more than 3,000 farmer members and shareholder owners and, according to Giselle, sells the best buttermilk in southern India! For the last two and a half years she has been working for the International Development division of Land O'Lakes, Inc., a U.S.-based cooperative agribusiness corporation. As a Senior Technical Advisor, Giselle focuses on enterprise development and technology. She began her work with the organization in Tanzania, followed by Zimbabwe and is now based at the organization's international headquarters in Washington, DC.

**Aimee Bailey, Am '06**, is working as a resource planner for the City of Palo Alto. One of her projects is the implementation of the Local Solar Plan which has a goal of generating 4percent of the city's energy use with local solar systems.

**David Bendell, Br '11**, graduated from the School of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania in 2013 with a MSc in Nursing (MSN) and Healthcare Administration and a minor in Healthcare Informatics. David relocated to Cleveland to commence employment at the Main Campus of the fourth best healthcare system in the USA, the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. He survived the 10 grueling weeks of nursing orientation and is now officially a full

## ALUMNI NEWS



Lorene Cary at the William Penn Charter School's Gummere Library.  
Photo: Bas Slabbers/for NewsWorks

**Lorene Cary, Am '78**, is a senior lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania, Creative Writing Program. Lorene says it takes between three and five years for her to finish writing a novel, although her newest book took between five and six years, partly because of her extensive edits but primarily because Lorene said it took time for her to soundly craft the authentic sense of family and family history she wanted

to portray. Her latest novel, *If Sons, Then Heirs*, called “an absorbing and moving tale” by *Publishers Weekly*, “centers on the unforeseen complications that arise when Alonzo Rayne, a construction company owner in Philadelphia, returns home to South Carolina to urge his great-grandmother to sell her land so the family can pay for long-term care.” As part of a Distinguished Speaker & Artists Series, sponsored by William Penn Charter School, Lorene talked about her approach as an author:

“Each book feels a bit different. It is a new thing. Each one is a different process for me.” Lorene added that in all of her books, she looks to keep her writing easy to work through: “I like prose to be as close to transparent as possible — like Pop Rocks. You stop thinking about the prose, but the story stays.”

Lorene’s other books include, the best-selling memoir *Black Ice*, an American Library Association Notable Book for 1991 often taught in colleges and high schools; *The Price of a Child*, a 1995 novel chosen as the first One Book, One Philadelphia selection; *Pride*, a contemporary novel; and *FREE! Great Escapes on the Underground Railroad*, a collection of true-life stories for young readers. Lorene’s essays have appeared in publications including *Newsweek*, *Time*, *Essence*, and *O Magazine*. Of additional interest are the five videos shot from Lorene’s original scripts, depicting the lives of nine enslaved Africans in the household of President George Washington as well as the free black men and women who helped two of them run to freedom. These videos are included in The President’s House memorial on Independence Mall in Philadelphia. For arts activism, her writing, and for her teaching as a Senior Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania, Lorene has received the Philadelphia Award, the city’s highest honor. Lorene lectures nationwide and has received six honorary doctorates, the most recent from Swarthmore College in 2013. Lorene is married to the Rev. Robert C. Smith; they live in Philadelphia.

Quotes are extracted from an article by Aaron Moselle for Newsworks. The full article can be found at: [http://www.newsworks.org/index.php?option=com\\_flexicontent&view=items&id=33136:lorene-cary&Itemid=1](http://www.newsworks.org/index.php?option=com_flexicontent&view=items&id=33136:lorene-cary&Itemid=1)

Lorene’s website: [lorenecary.org](http://lorenecary.org)

Lorene studied at the University of Sussex. Eight years later she was asked to write about her Thouron Year experience for *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. Her article can be found at: <http://www.upenn.edu/gazette/0497/cary.html>

time employee of the Foundation. David is taking on additional administrative responsibilities at work, developing healthcare products outside of work and is investigating various PhD opportunities both in the USA and abroad, in the fields of patient safety, process improvement and healthcare informatics. David recently started dressmaking, song writing, experimenting in the kitchen and exploring his new home of Cleveland.

**Hannah Bill, Br '10**, resides in Brussels and works for the US law firm, Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton. She claims there is a major upside to living in Belgium: “Friends from Penn are regularly passing through Brussels so I get to see a good amount of people from the law school when they are in town.” Sounds like a fun invitation to me.

**Norman Blackwell, Br '73**, was appointed the new chairman of Lloyds Banking Group in December 2013. In a statement issued by Lloyds, Lord Blackwell said: “This is a great opportunity to be part of helping the bank go even further in serving customers and supporting the UK economic recovery as it returns to full private ownership.”

**Sourav Bose, Am '11**, took time between his studies to travel to India, partly to spend time with cousins and partly just travelling through Darjeeling and Kalimpong and other hill stations. In January he began rotating clinics in pursuit of a medical degree.

**Francis Campbell, BR '96**, is to become the Principal of St Mary’s University College, south-west London. It is the oldest Roman Catholic College in the UK and on the verge of gaining full university status.

**Janine Catalano, Am '06**, is the Alumni Relations Manager at the Courtauld Institute of Art. She continues to expand her work on the intersection between food and art and has curated several “Art Dinners”, taught a course on “Culinary Culture” at the Victoria and Albert, spoken at the Tate and on BBC Radio 4 and published a number of articles. She is a founding director of Salon Edesia, a partnership which



Jennifer Egan.  
Photo: Pieter M. Van Hattem/Vistalux

**Jennifer Egan, Am '85**, studied at Saint John's College, Cambridge and received a Master's in English Literature. She has taught numerous master classes in creative writing. Her book *A Visit from the Goon Squad* won the 2011 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction, which described the book as "a novel at once experimental in form and crystal clear in the overlapping stories it delivers." It has been published in 31 languages.

Jennifer recalls the interview process of the Thouron selection weekend as both exciting and frightening. She has a bad fear of public speaking and the Thouron weekend was the first time she had ever presented herself publically. She used the same method that weekend that she still uses to this day, "sheer over preparation."

Getting the award she says was a Godsend. At Cambridge she was engulfed in literature for the first time. She had read books about books, plenty of literary theory but she had not actually read the works themselves. St John's College gave her the time to immerse herself in Shakespeare, nineteenth century novels as well as Greek tragedies. She credits her erudition and education to her time at Cambridge. In fact she can't imagine life without that time; indeed "everything else that happened, grew out of that experience."

At Cambridge she wrote her first novel, a "God-awful book" one so bad that it became difficult to catch up with her friends because they didn't want to talk to her since they didn't know what to say about her book. At Cambridge she met her husband and travelled extensively around Europe and even went to the USSR and to China. Jennifer's novels are filled with experiences from those travels. Her words of wisdom to any potential Thouron writer: "Even if your first novel is so bad that people avoid you because they don't want to talk about it, you can indeed have a writing career. The secret is 100 percent stubbornness. Hang in there. My success was incremental. The quantum leap came with my last book."

Jennifer's website: <http://jenniferegan.com>

## ALUMNI NEWS

specializes in translating artistic and cultural disciplines into enjoyable and enlightening events. Janine coordinated the Thouron farewell and welcome dinner for our 2013 American scholars and 2014 British scholars by hosting a 'Historic English Supper' at St John's.

**Tim Cooke-Hurle, Br '04**, is the proud father of Crofton Cooke-Hurle, born on November 26, 2013

**Robert Cooper KCMG, Br '69**, was appointed Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in the 2013 New Year Honours for services to international peace and security. Sir Robert is a British diplomat and currently serves as Special Advisor to the European Commission on Myanmar and is a member of the European Council on Foreign Relations.

**Michelle Danso, Br '08**, specializes in Prime Brokerage agreements and provides legal counsel for Man Group PLC in London. She is working to become a UK solicitor.

**Simon Engelhart, Br '05**, is adapting to life as a New Englander in his new post as Assistant Professor at the University of Rhode Island. His recent paper in Geology was picked up by *Earth Magazine*, <http://www.earthmagazine.org/article/scientists-demonstrate-strengths-and-shortcomings-method-determining-ancient-earthquake-size>

**Madeleine Evans, Am '09**, works in private equity for the American firm TPG evaluating risk and value. Her nonprofit association Finance Matters is a cross-corporate community of finance professionals with an interest in helping the financial industry drive social change. In her spare time Madeleine likes to run and last summer ran a half marathon in Switzerland, a big change from the 800-meter race she ran at Penn.

**Suzanne Evans (Wagner), Br '01**, is an assistant professor of Linguistics at Michigan State University. Suzanne continues to collaborate with faculty at Penn and this year was awarded an NSF grant with William Labov, who is a well-known Penn sociolinguist. They are studying how young people's speech

## ALUMNI NEWS



Rose George at her TED talk Filmed in February 2013

**Rose George, Br '93**, is a journalist who turned author and most recently turned public speaker. She has given TED Talks twice, once on the unmentionable topic of toilets and once on the highly ignored world of the shipping industry. To hear her TED Talks go to:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/rose\\_george\\_let\\_s\\_talk\\_crap\\_seriously](https://www.ted.com/talks/rose_george_let_s_talk_crap_seriously)

OR

[http://www.ted.com/talks/rose\\_george\\_inside\\_the\\_secret\\_shipping\\_industry](http://www.ted.com/talks/rose_george_inside_the_secret_shipping_industry)

Each of Rose's TED Talks has had over a million viewers.

From Rose:

*When I reached UPenn, I had little idea about careers. I had studied modern languages at Oxford — French and Italian — and I had thrived and loved it. But modern languages at Oxford aren't very modern. I had to fight to study a mid-twentieth century writer, Gesualdo Bufalino. I was desperate to learn about "the real world," whatever that was, so chose to study International Relations at Penn, and was delighted to be given a Thouron. IR was not a great fit for me though: I didn't realise that it was also another modern language, this time of political science jargon such as zero sum games and the like. I switched to comparative politics and loved it. I still remember with pride my expertise — long since forgotten — on the economics of the Chilean wine industry. One of my professors returned an essay to me with a comment something like, "vivid writing is all well and good but no substitute for substantive research." I must have taken the comment about vivid writing to heart, because although I considered several internship possibilities on Capitol Hill when I left Penn, and I also had a place at a law conversion course in the UK, when I won an internship place at The Nation in New York, I took that with little hesitation. It was the right decision. Oxford*

changes after the transition to college. Participants for the study are drawn from colleges in Philadelphia and Michigan. Suzanne expects Philadelphians to exhibit the most linguistic change, since many think the local accent is 'bad' by contrast with Michiganders who believe that they speak the best English in America

**Femi Fadugba, Br '10**, is now working as a Senior Associate at the Boston Consulting Group in Chicago. He advises clients in the Industrial Goods and Energy sectors on strategy and operations. Femi travels extensively all around the US for work and has also travelled to Brazil and Nigeria for various work related projects.

**Joseph Farmer, Br '06**, is currently undertaking pupillage at Fountain Court Chambers in London. Joseph married Georgina in February, 2011.

**Marc Feigen, Am '83**, is a management consultant counseling CEO's and Boards in the Fortune 200 on building industry-leading value in their companies. He is an expert in the role of the CEO and how CEO's create exceptional performance. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge last July. He serves as Executive Vice Chair of Cambridge in America and Chairman of the Johnian Society of the US.

**Diana Fox (Carney), Br '87**, recently moved from Canada to London with her husband and four children. In Ottawa she was working at a think tank on federal policy. Diana expects to be in London for five years or so before returning to Canada and may do post-graduate work. Her husband Mark is Governor of the Bank of England.

**David Gregson, Br '11**, is a sales engineer at a startup called Vungle, a video technology platform that allows apps to monetize through video advertising.

**Lorna Gunn, Br '10**, has joined the commercial graduate training scheme of Technip, a French offshore engineering company. She works in the Commercial Contracts Department. Her department, Technip Marine Operations Services, builds and charters the diving and oil

*taught me to read, think and write independently. Penn taught me to apply these skills to a totally different topic. And The Nation taught me how to apply all that to “the real world” and journalism. I have never strayed from journalism and writing since, and never wanted to. Twenty years later, I have still only had one staff job — as a senior writer and editor at COLORS magazine — and otherwise been freelance. I have travelled to around 50 countries, and done assignments in Afghanistan, Kosovo, and Iraq (including attending Saddam Hussein’s birthday party, twice). In 2004, I was asked by an editor at Penguin books to write a book about what’s it like to be a refugee. We chose Liberia because at the time, it was spitting out more refugees and displaced people, proportionately, than anywhere else in the world. I’m extremely proud of A Life Removed, as I wrote the manuscript in three weeks, and as it was my stepping stone into a life of writing books, which I love. My second book was The Big Necessity: The Unmentionable World of Human Waste and Why it Matters. This supposedly “unpalatable” subject was and continues to be fascinating. I am still being interviewed about it and asked to lecture about it, seven years on, and in February spoke at TED Long Beach on the supposedly unspeakable topic of toilets.*

*My third book is Ninety Percent of Everything: Inside Shipping, the invisible industry that puts clothes on your back, gas in your car and food on your plate, which — in the form of the UK version, Deep Sea and Foreign Going — has just won the Maritime Foundation’s Mountbatten literature award. I’ve been surprised and delighted that both books have been so well received, and nothing pleases me more than getting emails from seventh graders who have watched my TED talk on sanitation; or hearing from a former US merchant navy captain who thinks I got it right; or from a woman in Boston who read my book and immediately signed up to volunteer for her local seafarers’ centre. Or when I’m at a music festival and it’s raining hard, and a young man comes up to me and says he’s an engineer and has chosen to focus on sanitation after reading my book, and asks me to sign his t-shirt. I can think of no better satisfaction than knowing that I may have helped ignite a passion in someone for something that needs passionate people to turn their attention to it.*

*As for the connection between my books, I write about what interests me, and I try to interest people in things that I think are fundamental, that exist just on the edge of our perception — sewers, seafarers, refugees — but need a better spotlight. I’m often asked if I have had any formal journalism training, and I haven’t (I’ve never learned shorthand, though I’ve developed my own). My training was Oxford and Penn, where I learned how to translate complex subjects that may not seem immediately interesting — such as Chilean vineyards’ choice of green glass for their bottles — into something compelling, into “vivid prose,” by now hopefully accompanied by acceptably substantive research!*

pipeline laying boats and oversees the provisioning of supplies and manpower for the vessels. Lorna hopes that after two years she will be transferred to Houston as she would like to live in the US. She is finishing her Graduate Diploma in Law.

**Admas Habtesiasle, Br ’11**, graduated LLM two years ago with a prize for the highest GPA in his year. He then spent the summer on an intensive advanced-level Arabic programme at Middlebury College as a Kathryn Davis Fellow for Peace. The following year he spent in Amman, Jordan working as a caseworker for the UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency. Admas has secured pupillage with Landmark Chambers, London to become a barrister.

**Johnathan Hale, Br ’94**, was a visiting professor for two months last year at the Azrieli School of Architecture, Carleton University in Ottawa, teaching a graduate design studio and hosting a symposium in honour of Prof Marco Frascari, outgoing Director of the Azrieli School, and former chair of the PhD in Architecture programme at Penn. The event brought together many other former Penn PhD students, including another more recent Chair of Architecture at Penn Design, William Braham. In November he gave a series of lectures at South China University of Technology in Guangzhou, while visiting Nottingham University’s Chinese campus at Ningbo.

**Martin Hall, Br ’66**, is working part time on a PhD at Royal Holloway, University of London, in the History department. His work comprises a critical edition and translation of *De triumphis Ecclesiae*, by John of Garland. He had an article published on the same subject entitled, “An Academic Call to Arms in 1252: John of Garland’s Crusading Epic *De triumphis Ecclesiae*”, *Crusades*, vol. 12 (2013) In August he co-authored: *Martin Hall and Johnathan Phillips, ‘Caffaro Genoa and the Twelfth Century Crusades’* (Ashgate, 2013). When not writing Martin is Ambassador for the Money Advice Trust and Adviser to the Supervisory Board of Siemens Bank GmbH.

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Justin Marozzi, Br '94**, studied history at Cambridge University and received his MA in Political Science from Penn in 1995. As a journalist he has written for the BBC, *The Financial Times* and the *Economist*. *The Sunday Telegraph* touts him as “The most brilliant of the new generation of travel writer-historians.” To find out more about Justin and read his blogs go to: <http://www.justinmarozzi.com/about/>



Justin on the trail of Herodotus at the famous oasis of Siwa in Egypt's Western Desert

From Justin:

*As far as writing goes, I think one of the greatest things I got from the Thouron year was a real taste for living, studying and working overseas, something that has never left me. I am writing this from Mogadishu, where I am a communications advisor in the Office of the President. Writing comes in useful as part of the fight*

*against Al Shabaab. Within a couple of years of the Thouron, I was based in Manila as the FT's correspondent on the princely sum of \$500 a month plus lineage. If you didn't write, you didn't eat! Writing books came after that. My father had given me an early interest in travel and the Middle East and the year in Philly was supposed to be an immersion in politics. I think Tiger quietly approved of the fact that far more time was spent in the Racquet Club of Philadelphia than on campus. How else can a young man learn about cigars? A piece of advice for (British) Thouron scholars? I'm about the last person to give any, but if you are interested in politics and thinking about Political Science, ask yourself if you are ready to give a presentation on "Spatio-temporal Parameters and the Postulates of Orientational Substitutability". If the answer is no, have a think about International Relations. Or join the Racquet Club. And if you are seriously thinking about writing, go for it. Don't listen to sensible people who tell you you're always going to be poor. They're right.*

Books published:

- *South from Barbary: Along the Slave Routes of the Libya Sahara*
- *Tamerlane: Sword of Islam, Conqueror of the World* — *Sunday Telegraph* Book of the Year, 2004
- *Faces of Exploration*
- *The Man who Invented History: Travels with Herodotus* — *Washington Post* Book of the Year, 2009
- *Baghdad: City of Peace, City of Blood* — forthcoming, Penguin, 2014

**Kimberly Hsu, Am '08**, is currently working at the US-China Commission as a security and foreign affairs analyst while attending Georgetown Law at night.

**Ann Jacobson (Lauinger), Am '69**, has written a new collection of poems, *Against Butterflies*, which recently won the Vernice Quebodeaux Poetry Prize and was subsequently published by Little Red Tree Publishing. Ann is a member of the literature faculty at Sarah Lawrence College, along with her husband Joe Lauinger, Am '68.

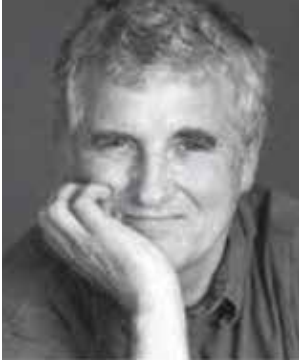
**Nimit Jain, Am '09**, describes the past year at Yahoo as an “absolutely incredible journey, a wild ride!” From defining the product process and aligning Yahoo's product direction to amplifying the innovative spirit and speeding up execution, Nimit continues to assist CEO Marissa Mayer to increase Yahoo's product driven culture and ensure product excellence across all its services.

**Anne Jarvis (Gerbner), Am '76**, teaches English, creative writing and journalism at Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia. She is the Director of Independent Study and helps students propose courses that fall outside the school's formal curriculum such as Classical philosophy, American Sign Language, and Spanish politics. Anne also supervises the January Junior Project, a month of first hand experience in the real world required of all students for graduation. Most recently, in the spirit of the Thouron Award, Anne has been working on establishing a student exchange between Winchester College, England, and Germantown Friends School, Philadelphia.

**David Kirton, Br '11**, taught English to 13-18 year old Chinese students last year at Shenzhen's most prestigious language center, Pattison English, and worked on his Mandarin. David returned to London in November and took an internship at Bamm doing secondary research. He is presently a writer working for The Day News and Media Ltd.







Peter Prince

**Peter Prince, Br '61**, is the author of nine novels, including *Adam Runaway* and *Play Things*, which won the Somerset Maugham Award, and many film and television screenplays, including *The Hit*, starring John Hurt, Tim Roth and Terence Stamp, and the BAFTA-winning, Emmy-nominated PBS/BBC *Oppenheimer* series. He lives in London with his wife Linda.

From Peter:

*I went to Penn as an undergraduate Thouron Award scholar many years ago. JFK was President, motor traffic was allowed to wander seemingly almost freely across the campus, the football team was perennially horrible, and our Miss University of Pennsylvania was the future film and TV star Ms Candice "Cappy" Bergen (long ago).*

*I had come to America without much idea of what I wanted to do with my life. I did enjoy writing and while I can't say that three years at Penn exactly confirmed that as a career for me they did keep the notion bubbling (under), not least because of my signing up for the creative writing course established by the writer Jerre Mangione. In fact I think I won a prize for a piece of writing while on this course which must have encouraged my ambition.*

*But I think college days are a little early for serious writing; one needs a bit of exposure to the outside world, or else one has nothing to write about except college days. In the latest edition of my first novel, *Play Things*, I wrote in a foreword about how I had turned my experience working at an adventure playground in a tough South London neighbourhood into fiction.*

*On publication, *Play Things* did OK, winning the quite prestigious Somerset Maugham Award and being turned into a BBC film, the first of two films that had their beginnings in novels of mine. There followed a number of other published fictions. They had various themes and settings — but none of them reflected the nearly five years I had spent in America, both at Penn and then at Columbia.*

*In fact it still puzzles me that I never really made use of my time in the US in my writing, except maybe that those years helped give some authenticity to various commissioned screenplays with trans-Atlantic themes, such as the BBC/PBS *Oppenheimer* series, about the 'father of the A-bomb', set in the US with an almost entirely American cast of characters for whom I had to write dialogue.*

*But fiction set 'over there?' — no. Probably I was deterred from the attempt by knowing there were more than a few talented American writers covering that ground. But in any case — perhaps it's a mistake to look too narrowly for significant 'influences' and 'origins'. There are also general and probably universal stimuli at work on every individual, not least on a writer, that shape his or her outlook on life and, if they're lucky and work hard, their art. First time living away from family, first time in love (CW '67), first car I bought, first time I saw and heard the Beatles, first time I tasted a hot fudge sundae — all these and so many other first times, both important and trivial, happened for me when I was a Thouron Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania.*

To see a full listing of Peter's screenplay credits go to his IMDb page:

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0697701/>

**Michael Masciandro, Am '12**, is interning at the West Publishing division of Thomson Reuters and applying to law schools.

**Gregg McClymont, Br '98**, is Scottish Labour Party MP for Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East. Gregg sat on science and technology, business, innovation and skills committees in the House of Commons before becoming Shadow Pensions Minister in October 2011.

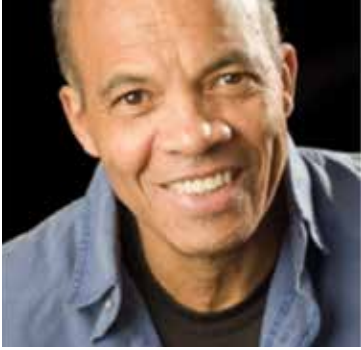
**David McGirr, Br '76**, has announced that he will retire from Cubist Pharmaceuticals in June. He is also chairman of the Audit Committee of two Biotech companies; Relypsa Inc, based in Redwood City, CA and Insmed Incorporated based in Princeton, NJ.

**Katherine Minarik, Am '98**, practices with her law firm Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP (recognised as the "Litigation Boutique of the Year" by *American Lawyer Magazine*). Her focus is on intellectual property and financial industry/investment litigation. She is based out of Chicago and was made a partner in 2012.

**Hilary Moore, Br '99**, has just released her new book and audio system, *Great Business English: Phrases, Verbs, and Vocabulary for Speaking English Fluently*. The system is aimed at international business people, who are intermediate or advanced non-native English speakers. Find out more at: [www.greatbusinessenglish.com](http://www.greatbusinessenglish.com). She is a communications specialist at McKinsey, and Mum to three-year-old Iona.

**Michael Moritz, Br '76**, and his wife Harriet Heyman have given \$5 million to the Julliard School in NYC. This gift will almost endow its Music Advancement Program. The course provides 65 students between 8 and 14 with ear training, instrument lessons, and theory classes on Saturdays, at low cost. The gift was in memory of Ms. Heyman's father, Carl K. Heyman, a public school student on Chicago's South Side who "had a good ear and could not read notes," according to a dedicatory note.

## ALUMNI NEWS



John Edgar Wideman

**John Edgar Wideman, Am '65**, had been our most elusive writer but recently I was able to speak with him personally. In our brief conversation John told me that he took every advantage he could of his Thouron year. The generous allowance enabled him to have free time for travel, which had a long-term effect on his writing. He wrote about his travels to Spain in later years. John is an Asa Messer Professor and Professor of Africana Studies and English at Brown

University where he teaches a variety of courses including creative writing, literary criticism and African-American literature

For words of wisdom from this prolific author, I have extracted some interesting excerpts from a 2011 interview, between host Michel Martin and Professor Wideman, recorded for NPR's "Wisdom Watch" on the program *Tell Me More*.

"John is professor of Africana Studies and Literary Arts at Brown University. He has written 13 novels, six collections of short stories and two memoirs. He has won many awards including the prestigious PEN/Faulkner Award twice and in 2011 the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award's Lifetime Achievement Award which recognizes works that help us understand racism and appreciate diversity.

*MARTIN: Do you mind if I ask — what fuels and continues to nourish your creativity?*

*WIDEMAN: When I wake up in the morning, I need the writing to go to. I begin there. And that's not an accident, I mean, that habit of getting up in the morning and going to my writing first thing. It's a habit I've kept for, oh, at least 35, 40 years now. And I don't miss many mornings. If I don't actually write, then I sit there and feel badly about not writing, or a rewrite or a re-read, depending, or do research. But that sense of beginning anew, and that sense of having a direction, or at least the urge to find a direction every day means that I have set aside a kind of place in my life for words and for language to live, and that place is — reciprocates, it gives me a place to live.*

*MARTIN: But I did want to ask if you have any wisdom for young writers?*

*WIDEMAN: Well, it's a tough hustle. And that said up front, I can't think of a better kind of work, because you do it for yourself, essentially. And it's something you can, at least I've found, that I can put all my energy and time and thought into, and it always, it's always returned. My investment is returned, not necessarily by the product of a great book or the book that everybody's interested in, but I very seldom feel that a work in progress is wasted. A work in progress is a privilege.*

*And for a young person, anybody who's sorting out and trying to make a life for himself or herself, to have the opportunity each day to set down, sit down and then set down, thoughts, words, it's a crucial, crucial way of staying alive, of not allowing yourself and not allowing the culture outside yourself to totally dominate your life. And that's what I could — that's what I would wish for young people that they can find a place in which they can speak for themselves and speak in an uncensored way, in an original way, and be part of making their own*

*Continued on page 12*

**Jason Nagata, Am '08**, graduated from the University of California, San Francisco School of medicine with distinction in global health and started a pediatrics residency at Stanford University. He continues to be involved in global health nutrition research in Guatemala and Kenya.

**Daniel Nieh, Am '06**, is living in Portland Oregon and working as a freelance Chinese-English translator and interpreter.

**Sherry Orbach (Lachman), Am '02**, was recently appointed Domestic Policy Advisor to Vice President Biden advising on education, labor, and immigration.

**Jessica Peake, Br '09**, is the International Human Rights Law Manager at UCLA School of Law and a visiting scholar. She had an article 'A Spectrum of International Criminal Procedure: Shifting Patterns of Power Distribution in International Criminal Courts and Tribunals' published in the *Pace International Law Review*.

**Michelle Peluso, Am '93**, is CEO of Gilt Groupe, a luxury fashion e-commerce site in NYC.

**James Richardson, Br '08**, is a Senior Analyst at the Education Endowment Foundation, part of The Sutton Trust. The foundation informs policy on the most effective way to close the achievement gap between poor children and their wealthier peers. He is also working with a group to establish a free (charter) school, and completing a PhD part time at Bristol University. James continues working as the chief education researcher with The M. Night Shyamalan Foundation in Philadelphia. Recently they published a widely acclaimed book using his research, called, *I Got Schooled: The Unlikely Story of How a Moonlighting Movie Maker Learned the Five Keys to Closing America's Education Gap*.

**Natacha Simons (Catalino), Br '02**, works in Shanghai for McKinsey specializing in leadership development. Natacha and her husband, who works for a pharmaceutical company, welcome visits from Thourons passing through Shanghai.

## ALUMNI NEWS

*environment. Too much is made for us, too much is given to us, even those of us who are underprivileged. The poverty is given to us, the difficulties are given to us. So how do we reverse that? How do we take back something? Well, for me it was writing. For you maybe it will be knitting or raising children or being a musician, but we have to strive to keep some parts of our lives under our control.*

For the complete interview go to: <http://www.npr.org/2011/09/15/140500184/wisdom-from-award-winning-author-wideman>

For a selected listing of John's awards, publications and articles go to the Brown web site: [https://brown.edu/Departments/Africana\\_Studies/people/wideman\\_john.html](https://brown.edu/Departments/Africana_Studies/people/wideman_john.html)



*Bee signing her book in McNally Jackson bookstore, New York, October 2013.*

**Bee Wilson, Br '96**, is a food journalist and author with a Political Science background. She has written three books about food and for us reminisces fondly about her life in Philadelphia.

From Bee:

*I studied for an MA in Political Science at Penn. The Political Science program allowed me to take options in History as well as Politics. The most relevant for my future career was a course on American History given by the late Edward C. Carter II, a delightful teacher. He was the librarian of the American Philosophical Society and combined scholarship with warmth and charisma. When he spoke, it was as if the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists were still alive and debating in the room with us. It was particularly magical to study that period of American history in Philadelphia, where it all happened. I could never quite get over the fact that the U.S. constitution, a document of such vast geopolitical significance, had been created in these cute chocolate-box buildings.*

*For my dissertation for that course, I decided to write about American culinary history and Professor Carter pointed me in the direction of the Library Company of Philadelphia, founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin. Since then, I've done research in many different libraries in Britain, France and Australia. But I don't think I've ever enjoyed any research as much as the hours I spent sitting in this picturesque Philadelphia room thinking about early American cookbooks and*

**Bernadette Spina (Tiso), Am '99**,

continues in her role as Deputy General Counsel & Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees, New York Blood Center. She is thrilled to announce the arrival of her son Luke Christopher born on November 12, 2013.

**Frances Stead (Sellers), Br '82**, will soon take on a new role as senior writer, for the *Washington Post* Sunday magazine. In her new role, Frances will produce original stories for the magazine, A1 and other sections of the paper.

**Daniel Stedman Jones, BR '03**, married Beatrice last July. He is a barrister, practising in public, environmental and planning law. He qualified and was taken on as a tenant at 39 Essex Street in 2012. Princeton University Press published his PhD, *Masters of the Universe: Hayek, Friedman and the Birth of Neoliberal Politics*, in book format in 2012. He is currently researching his next book about the transformation of the idea of the free market in the post-war United States.

**Richard Stevenson, Am '81**, was named Europe editor for *The New York Times* in March of 2013. He oversees coverage of European news across all platforms including *The International New York Times*.

**Melissa Teixeira, Am '08**, was awarded a Fulbright US Student Program scholarship to Brazil in History. She is currently working on her doctorate in philosophy at Princeton University.

**Casey Thomas, Br '10**, is working at a tech startup in San Francisco called BackOps, a back office outsourcing company. Casey helps to run the sales, marketing and operations.

**Dominique Tobbell, Br '01**, published her first book *Pills, Power, and Policy: The Struggle for Drug Reform in Cold War America and its Consequences*. The book provides essential historical context for understanding how corporate interests came to dominate American health care policy after World War II. Dominique is enjoying a year of leave on the McKnight Land-Grant Professorship she was awarded by the University of Minnesota from 2012-2014

*Thomas Jefferson's love of parmesan cheese. And it was the moment that sparked my later food writing career.*

*When I got back to England, I started work on my PhD on nineteenth-century French political thought, continuing the Political Science I'd done at Penn. But I kept coming back to food. I got married and became a crazily ambitious home cook for a while in a way that happens to a lot of people in the first years of marriage. I would stuff goat's cheese and truffle oil into hand-made tortellini just as a garnish for soup. I got to the semi-final of a TV programme called Masterchef. But I also had a yen to return to the food history that I'd first studied in Philadelphia. When I met the deputy editor of the New Statesman magazine, I asked if she would consider letting me do a few food articles for her. I ended up writing a weekly column for that magazine for 5 years, followed by my current column, 'The Kitchen Thinker' in The Sunday Telegraph, which I've been writing for 10 years. For a while I thought of food writing as my hobby, but after a Research Fellowship at St John's in Cambridge, I stopped being an academic and became a full-time food writer.*

*Last year, my latest book was published, Consider the Fork: A History of How We Cook and Eat. It's a history of everything from pots and pans to fire, to ice to knives, interspersed with personal thoughts about the utensils I love to use in my own kitchen. I talk about such things as how our teeth changed after we adopted the knife and fork; or why American cooks measure ingredients with cups while British ones weigh them using scales. It has done especially well with American readers, which couldn't please me more.*

*I owe so much to that Thouron year. Ever since, America has been a constant point of comparison, something that widens my perspective on food and life in general. For one thing, anyone who has lived in Philly couldn't make the mistake that some British people do of thinking that American food is nothing but burgers and fries. Although I didn't have a kitchen most of the time, I have many great food memories. La Colombe did the best café au lait and buttery flaky croissants I'd tasted outside of France and there was a little Japanese lunch truck near the campus where I bought teriyaki chicken and cucumber sushi. It was also the year I started reading the great American food writers, from M.F.K. Fisher to Ray Sokolov, and I still feel a deep admiration for American food writing, which seems both more serious and less snobbish than some British food writing.*

*Through a happy accident, my sister, has ended up teaching at Penn, as a professor in the Classics Department. It's such a pleasure going to visit her and reconnecting with this city, with which, thanks to the Thouron, I feel such kinship.*

#### Books:

- *Consider the Fork: A History of How We Cook and Eat*, 2013
- *Swindled: From Poisoned Candy [Sweets in the UK!] to Counterfeit Coffee*, 2008
- *The Hive: The Story of the Honeybee and Us*, 2004

#### Awards:

- BBC Radio 4 food writer of the year, 2002
- Guild of Food Writers Food Journalist of the Year, 2004, 2008, 2009
- *Consider the Fork*: Shortlisted for the Fortnum and Mason Food book of the year
- *Swindled*: Shortlisted for the Guild of Food Writers food book of the year

**Gerald Turner, Br '64**, is a managing director at FOCUS a unique middle market investment bank. Prior to joining Focus, Gerald co-founded and chaired Potomac Capital Group, LLP, a Northern Virginia based mergers and acquisitions firm. He is a managing partner at Seraphim Capital, a London based early stage venture capital fund. Gerald also serves on the Board of Kidney Kids, Inc., a charity devoted to supporting children with kidney disease and their families. Gerald is a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, the world's oldest extant (surviving) biological society which remains a leading modern forum for debate and discussion of natural history.

**Scott Weber, Am '97**, is now an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Science and Technology Policy Fellow. The AAAS began as an effort to help bridge the divide between public policy decisions and science.

**John Wind, Am '83**, owns Maximal Art, a fashion jewelry and gift company, which continues to grow as they enter their 29th year in business. 2013 was a milestone for John as he had his first solo show of fine art work, at the James Oliver Gallery in Philadelphia. The show was very well received, and as a follow-up he was invited to exhibit at the Select Fair during Art Basel Miami last December! To see more, go to [JohnYWind.com](http://JohnYWind.com)

**Andy Wolk, Am '70**, currently teaches Directing at the American Film Institute. He was a creative advisor at the Sundance Institute's Filmmaking Lab and has also taught screenwriting at the University of Pennsylvania. Andy has been a writer and director on numerous television shows and films receiving awards such as the Emmy, Humanitas and Writers Guild Awards."

# In Memoriam

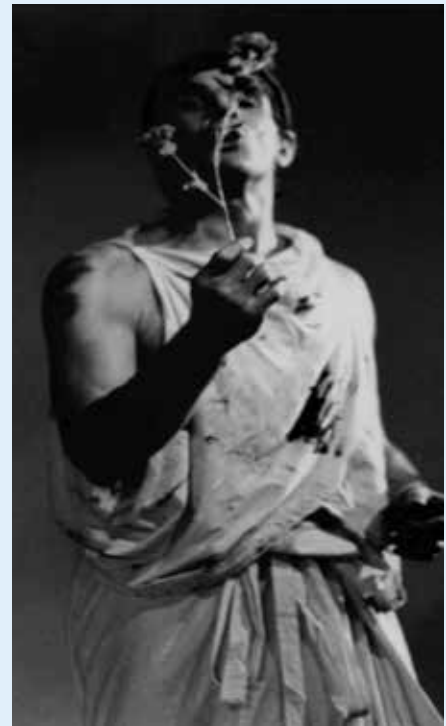
## Henry Clay Smith III, Am '67

In the 53 years since the Thouron Award began, hundreds of former Scholars have said, "It changed my life," but few, if any, were as transformed as Henry C. Smith III, who died suddenly and unexpectedly in May 2013. Henry was a Wharton graduate when he went off to Edinburgh to pursue an M.Sc. in political economy. Two years later he was a dancer. Not only that, but according to his brother, "he changed from a 'jock' into someone who valued relationships, motion, and grace."

The transformation began at Edinburgh, where he founded the Edinburgh Theatre Ensemble and became enamored of performing arts. He spent the next year in London studying acting at RADA and dance at the London Contemporary Dance Theatre, where he also became interested in aikido. Later training at Juilliard and the Merce Cunningham Dance Company gave him the foundation for his career.

Henry was the founder and artistic director of Solaris Dance Theatre and Video, the umbrella organization for his two companies, the Lakota Dance Theatre and Aikikai of Philadelphia, a dojo. He traveled the world with the Lakota Dance Theatre and with aikido workshops, making friends wherever he went. His gentle nature, evident even in casual conversation, would seem to be in opposition to his work in martial arts, but he expressed a wish to "create a sense of loyalty, harmony, and camaraderie" through his work.

Henry's own loyalty to the Thouron Award and to Tiger Thouron was extraordinary. He never missed a Thouron event, whether in the U.S. or the U.K. and often brought his two sons, Henry IV and Wilson, with him so that they might understand the importance of the Thouron Award to his life. It is hard to imagine that we will no longer see him and hear about his extraordinary activities. We will miss him.



*Henry in a performance at University of Edinburgh*



*Henry with his two sons, Henry (L) and Wilson, at Hampton Court for the celebration of the Thouron 50th.*

# From Anglophilia to Anglomania

with Alderman and Sheriff Sir Paul Judge, Br '71 — by Carole Clarke

As a lifelong Anglophile, I thought I had reached the Elysian Fields with my 20 plus years of work for the Thouron Award but that was before **Sheena Stewart, Br '71**, and I joined Paul Judge in September for his installation as Sheriff of the City of London. Over the course of several days I had the ultimate English experience, with all the historical ceremony, ritual — and silliness — that the English do so well.

It started with an email invitation to join Sir Paul Judge's many friends in subscribing to the creation of his shrieval badge, which would be worn on a chain draped across his shoulders throughout his year as Sheriff. A chance meeting with Neal Howard, AM '69, made me belatedly aware that shrieval was the adjective for sheriff!

We learned from Paul that beginning in Anglo-Saxon times the Sheriff was appointed by the monarch to keep the peace and to collect taxes. However in 1132 King Henry I agreed that the citizens of London could elect their Sheriff, and this annual election every Midsummer Day has continued for all of the last 881 years.

Paul's election to the Sheriff position was the culmination of years of service. While most Sheriffs come by either the livery company route or the aldermanic route, he is both an active livery company member and an alderman, officially the "aldermanic Sheriff." Paul is a member of the Worshipful Company of Marketors and was Master of the Company in 2005-06. At the same time, he is Alderman of the Ward of Tower, one of the 25 wards comprising the City of London. Only the aldermanic Sheriff can become Lord Mayor, a position that may well be in Paul's future.



Paul received his chain of office, with his shrieval badge, at the Guildhall ceremony, which included a procession of costumed aldermen, judges, and wardens carrying antique silver maces; and the recitation of several oaths. In the coming year he will carry out more than 400 functions, both ceremonial and practical, chief among them supporting the Lord Mayor in promoting the City's interests and attending the judges at the Old Bailey, which hears the very worst murder and other cases. To ensure that the Sheriffs are always available to attend the judges, they live in special apartments at the Old Bailey.

At the Sheriffs' Breakfast, Paul and the other new Sheriff were welcomed into the room at Plaisterers' Hall with rhythmic clapping to the accompaniment of what sounded like a Gilbert & Sullivan tune on the piano. After lunch and speeches, the clapping resumed, this time to send them on their way. (The whole thing had the air of Gilbert & Sullivan — perhaps *Trial by Jury!*) And did I mention that the minister Paul chose as "his" chaplain, the Venerable David Meara, Rector of St. Bride's, always offers Grace in rhymed couplets?

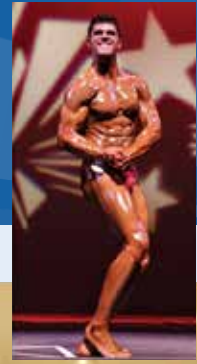
One enticing tidbit came out of the speeches — the announcement that Paul's first duties as Sheriff would be to

accompany sheep and shepherds over London Bridge and then to preside over the Pearly Kings and Queens Costermongers' Harvest Festival. Irresistible!!! So Sheena and I returned to the City two days later, too late to see the sheep crossing but in time for the amazing Harvest Festival. For close to three hours we were treated to the sight of Maypole dancers, two teams of Morris dancers, the Pandemonium Drummers, a military band, and, most colorfully, a full contingent of Pearly Kings and Queens. Standing quietly on the sidelines were a miniature donkey with a cart full of harvest vegetables and two magnificent shire horses pulling an old brewery wagon. And there was Paul, wearing his fur-trimmed scarlet robe, lace jabot, and shrieval chain, presiding over the whole thing. He even joined the other worthies in a dance around the Maypole as the audience sang "Land of Hope and Glory." That last, with its combination of ceremony and utter silliness, was perhaps the highpoint of my Anglomania!

But it wasn't over yet. We followed Paul in the shrieval Rolls Royce, plus the Pearly Kings and Queens and the Morris dancers through the streets of London to St. Mary-le-Bow for the special Costermongers' Harvest Festival Service. The service ended with the organ playing a Fantasia on "*Oranges and Lemons*." Can you get more traditionally English than that?!

At every formal occasion that Sheena and I attended, we were asked about our connection to Sir Paul — one person even asked, "Why are you here?" The answer, of course, was the Thouron Award, a "gift that keeps on giving," even to people like me, whose connection is only tangential. My continuing thanks to Paul and to Thouron.

# Mr. Penn 2014 is a Thouron Scholar!

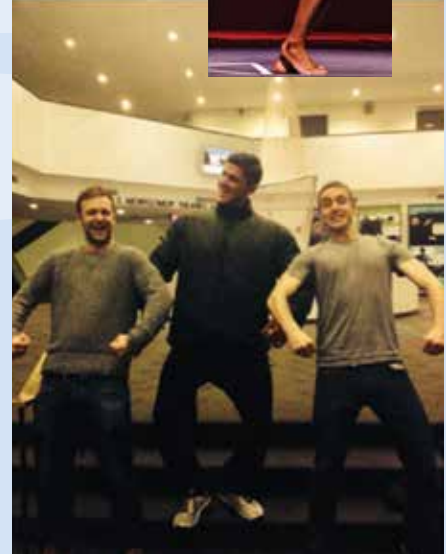


When the British Selection Committee chose David Lewis as a Thouron Scholar in 2013, never did we imagine that once he reached the shores of America that he would put his natural build to the test. The first I heard of this was an email that arrived early in January of 2014 when I was in London for the 2014 selection weekend. David sent an email announcing the day of the competition and inviting his friends and his friend's friends, their residence halls and their dogs too, to attend the event. It sounded to me like he was a little nervous and needed all of the support he could get. He assured us all that this was "the first time I've ever pranced around on stage before a good 800 or so folks in a red man-thong."

He finished his email by saying ludicrous cheering; posters and general encouragement will also be welcome. My understanding from reports later is that is precisely what David received. Thouron scholars came out in support of David and he won the big trophy and the title of Mr. Penn. As David is at Penn for two years working on an MA in South Asia Studies it will be interesting to see if he is willing to defend his title next year. For photos of the competition you can go to [upennbodybuilding.com](http://upennbodybuilding.com)

*Top: Mr. Penn 2014*

*Bottom: David Lewis Br '13 with Tom Watkins, Br '12, and Rossa O'Keefe-O'Donovan, Br '12, after the competition.*



## THE THOURON AWARD

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