

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENARY OF THE ABOLITION OF THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

2007 marks the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade and the College is planning to mark the occasion with a series of events which reflect the importance of the contribution made by members of the College to the abolition movement as well as the continuing significance of slavery as an issue in contemporary society.



Peter PECKARD
1717-1797

Magdalene can claim, in a very real sense, to be the fountain head of the abolitionist movement since our Master, Peter Peckard (1717-1797) both preached against slavery in Great St Mary's from the 1780s onwards and, as Vice-Chancellor, set the subject for the Latin essay which caused Clarkson to embark on his campaign for abolition. Magdalene is therefore joining with St John's, the college of Clarkson and Wilberforce, in a programme of events in February 2007 to mark the bicentenary.

The College's contribution will include:

- 1 A symposium on *Slavery Past and Present* to be held in the Cripps Court Auditorium on Friday 16 February at which the principal speakers will include Mark Malloch-Brown (Magdalene, 1972) Deputy Secretary General of the UN; Sir Richard Jolly (Magdalene, 1953), Honorary Fellow; Dr Ronald Hyam, Emeritus Reader and an authority both on Imperial History and the life and work of Peckard; Aiden McQuade, Director Anti-slavery International and John Simpson (1962) BBC World Affairs Editor. The symposium is open to all who are interested and the registration fee is £10 (including buffet lunch). It will run from 10.30am to 3.30pm. To register contact symposium@magd.cam.ac.uk



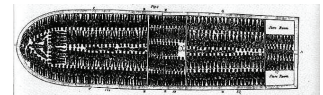
WEDGWOOD anti-slavery plaque



Samuel ARNOLD
1740-1802

- 2 A performance of Arnold and Coleman's comic opera *Inkle and Yariko* (1787) a hugely successful musical comedy intended as a polemic against slavery. This will take place on the evening of Friday 16 February, also in the Cripps Auditorium and will be a joint production by Magdalene College and Opera East, with Oliver Gooch (Magdalene, 1997) as conductor. The performance will be of a new edition of the opera specially prepared by Dr Richard Luckett. Tickets are £20.00 and are available from inkle+yariko@magd.cam.ac.uk

- 3 A small exhibition relating to Peckard will be included in the major exhibition of materials relating to Clarkson and Wilberforce to be mounted in St John's College ante chapel.



- 4 A guided walk round Cambridge sites of anti-slavery significance is being arranged, probably for the weekend of 17/18 February and details will be announced when they become available.

St John's main contribution to the celebration will take place on Saturday and Sunday 17 and 18 February, but there will be a lecture by Professor Ruth Simmonds, President of Brown University, probably at 5.30pm on 16 February in St John's.