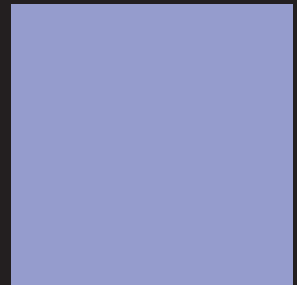
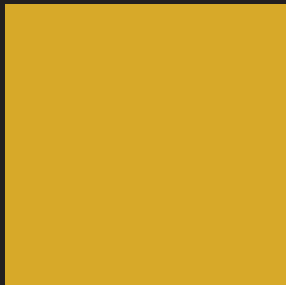
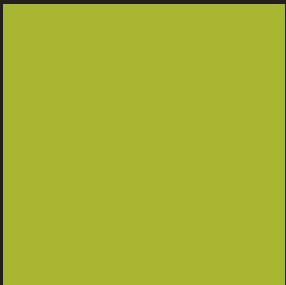


OXFORD BROOKES
CHANGING
PEOPLE
& PLACES

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY



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“WE'RE HOME TO CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH AND SOME OF THE BEST UNIVERSITY TEACHING IN THE WORLD...”

CHANGING PEOPLE AND PLACES

OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY ENGAGES – THROUGH TEACHING, RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER – WITH SOME OF THE MOST CRITICAL ISSUES FACING THE WORLD, WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN THE SUCCESS OF OUR CITY AND REGION.

Brookes' ethical and environmental stance lies at the heart of all its work. In this unique environment our staff and students move beyond the traditional boundaries of higher education and find new ways of bringing about positive and lasting change in their chosen fields.

Postgraduate students from the Centre for Development and Emergency Practice leave Brookes to work abroad helping to rebuild communities after humanitarian catastrophes ranging from earthquakes to wars. Researchers in biology are helping to understand how cancers develop, while our nutritionists work with the UK's leading food producers and supermarkets to improve the nation's diet.

Even when we work with individuals – like our poetry project with refugees that you'll read about later – we still change society in countless ways. Others, like the highly innovative My Strong Family Consultancy, provide focused support for families in trouble and help shape policy and practice in government agencies.

We're home to cutting-edge research and some of the best university teaching in the world and this means 4,000 international students choose to study with Brookes. We also nurture some of the world's best athletes and have centres of excellence in, amongst other sports, rowing, rugby and cricket. In Beijing our rowers achieved one gold and three silver medals.

Our reach is international, but we also work hard to make ourselves a resource for the immediate community in Oxford, contributing to the business, heritage, culture and confidence of the region. We were one of the first universities to sponsor an academy school and leading academics in our Institute of Education are helping to raise the aspirations of local students at the new Oxford Academy.

Brookes has been at the forefront of developments which have now been adopted at many other institutions, including being recognised as the world's first Fairtrade university and prioritising environmental issues.

We may not always shout about it, but I passionately believe that my colleagues at Brookes, through their endeavours, are quietly changing the world for the better.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to share our work with you.

Professor Janet Beer,
Vice-Chancellor, Oxford Brookes University

CHANGING PEOPLE: OUR HEALTH

“THE GROUND-BREAKING NUTRITIONAL RESEARCH CARRIED OUT BY JEYA HENRY AND HIS TEAM AT OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY IS HELPING TO IMPROVE THE DIET AND HEALTH OF THE NATION.

JOHN HARWOOD, FORMER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY.



PICTURED JEYA HENRY, PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF THE FUNCTIONAL FOOD CENTRE, IS RESEARCHING FOODSTUFFS THAT MAY PREVENT DISEASES.

WE ARE WHAT WE EAT

OXFORD BROOKES IS SHAPING THE DIET OF THE NATION. OUR RESEARCHERS LEAD THE WAY IN PROVIDING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE FOOD WE EAT.

Working alongside the food industry and retailers, government organisations and charities around the world, Brookes is researching functional foods that protect against disease whilst delivering nutrition.

Brookes is establishing the UK's first dedicated Functional Food Centre, to undertake research and consultancy in this exciting new area – testing new ingredients, developing products, conducting human trials, collating data to support food health claims and providing training for health professionals and the food industry.

Functional foods include fish oils to enhance cognition, foods to reduce cholesterol, and foods such as berries that may slow the ageing process.

Research shows that there are powerful links between diet and chronic diseases like cancer, heart disease and diabetes. Our research findings enable food companies and retailers throughout the UK, Europe and worldwide to improve the health of populations.

CHANGING PEOPLE: OUR HEALTH

PICTURED CHRISTINE CALDERADO AND ASHER-BEN PEARL OF THE MARY HARE SCHOOL IN NEWBURY, BERKSHIRE.



A HEARING FUTURE

DEAF CHILDREN WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OF SOUNDS, WORDS AND GRAMMAR CAN STRUGGLE WITH LITERACY.

It can be extremely difficult for them to understand the way sounds are represented on the page and Oxford Brookes researchers have shown how cochlear implants help young deaf children achieve the same reading age as hearing children.

New research in collaboration with the Ear Foundation is exploring whether those early advances in reading are sustained as GCSEs approach. Researchers are also examining how teenagers with cochlear implants process sounds when developing reading skills and whether they need extra support in school to achieve the good results needed for a successful career.

“PROFESSOR MARGARET HARRIS IS AN INTERNATIONALLY RESPECTED RESEARCHER IN CHILD LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT. DETECTION OF DEAFNESS AT BIRTH AND COCHLEA IMPLANTATION IN THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE HAS CREATED A SEISMIC SHIFT IN THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A GROWING NUMBER OF DEAF CHILDREN.

DR IVAN TUCKER OBE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MARY HARE CHARITY.



PICTURED
BRIAN SPICER EXERCISES AT
THE CLEAR UNIT IN BROOKES'
SPORTS CENTRE.

GETTING MOVING

THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH CONDITIONS LIKE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, STROKE, AND SPINAL CORD INJURY CAN BE SEVERELY LIMITED BY LOSS OF MOBILITY.

Through its Clinical Exercise and Rehabilitation (CLEAR) unit, Oxford Brookes' Movement Science team is making a difference by drawing up practical exercise regimes to transform their everyday activities.

This research is informed and guided by a group of service users who draw on their experiences of life with a physical or sensory disability.

The team also carries out research into new approaches for safe exercise for conditions ranging from the common to the rare.

Staff train exercise practitioners to take these innovative exercise techniques out to groups of disabled people across the UK.

“ WITHOUT THE CLEAR UNIT I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REGAIN MY FITNESS AND... QUALITY OF LIFE.

RICHARD JONES,
CLEAR UNIT USER.

CHANGING PEOPLE: OUR HEALTH

UNDERSTANDING CANCER

WE KNOW RADIATION CAN DAMAGE OUR BODIES. EVERY DAY, WE ARE EXPOSED TO NATURAL RADIATION FROM SOURCES LIKE THE SUN.

Medical staff and flight crews can receive far higher levels of radiation exposure. Professor Munira Kadhim and her team at Oxford Brookes are researching how radiation can damage the genomes which carry our genetic information and how this damage can be passed onto cells in future, causing cancer.

How are we affected by different types of radiation? The team's answers will have profound implications for understanding how cancer is triggered and treated and the risks of radiation exposure at work or even in nuclear incidents.

Irradiation can cause delayed damage, so the effects of exposure to radiation may take years to appear.

Professor Kadhim's important work will feed directly into understanding health risk assessment and therapy and the risks of working in particular environments.

“ THE WORK AT BROOKES WILL ADVANCE SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING, AND HAS LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS FOR IMPROVING CANCER TREATMENT AND REDUCING RISKS FROM RADIATION EXPOSURE.

PROFESSOR DUDLEY GOODHEAD, FORMER DIRECTOR, MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL RADIATION UNIT.



PICTURED
MUNIRA KADHIM, PROFESSOR
IN RADIATION BIOLOGY, WHO IS
DISCOVERING HOW RADIATION CAN
CAUSE CANCER.

CHANGING PEOPLE: OUR STUDENTS

“HYBRIDS ARE AMONG THE MOST COMPLEX VEHICLES TO MASTER, DUE TO THE MARRIAGE OF AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE AND ELECTRIC MOTOR... THEIR INCLUSION IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE ADVANCED THINKING DEMONSTRATED BY FORMULA STUDENT COMPETITORS.

DAILY TELEGRAPH, 2008.

PICTURED
MOTORSPORT ENGINEERING
STUDENT MARTYN BANHAM
WITH THE FORMULA STUDENT CAR.

FORMULA STUDENT

HAVING BUILT AND DESIGNED A PIONEERING HYBRID RACING CAR, OXFORD BROOKES STUDENTS ARE LEADING THE FIELD IN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

The car's performance at Silverstone in July 2008 represented an astonishing achievement and created a huge amount of media interest, particularly as vehicles powered this way will be allowed in Formula One this year.

Motorsport has long been a forcing ground for advanced technology and by working on hybrid power systems in racing, Brookes hopes improvements in this

technology will be found. Hybrid power systems will not produce pollution-free transport, but they can make any power system more efficient. Advances in hybrid technology make any power system work better.

CHANGING PEOPLE: OUR STUDENTS

PICTURED
PRO BONO LAW STUDENTS
BRIAN PUTMAN AND
MIKAL LAURA ANDERSON.



PRO BONO LAW STUDENTS

BROOKES' STUDENT-LED PRO BONO SCHEME HARNESSES STUDENTS' SKILLS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

Each year, about 90 law students become involved in various projects, each with its own student liaison, a principal student pro bono co-ordinator and relevant members of academic staff.

Students have assisted in cases involving Amicus, Asylum Welcome, Bail for Immigration Detainees, the Citizens' Advice Bureau, Innocence Network UK, the Oxfordshire Short-Term Advocacy Service, the Oxfordshire Youth Offending Team and the development NGO Pro-Natura UK.

In July, a group of students helping Pro-Natura UK intend to travel to the rainforests of British Guyana to work with local Amerindian communities in protecting endangered environments.



THESE STUDENTS ARE FIGHTING FOR CAUSES EITHER ROOTED IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY OR INVOLVING MARGINALISED PEOPLES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD. THROUGH THIS LOCAL AND GLOBAL ADVOCACY, THEY ARE ACHIEVING JUSTICE FOR THOSE WHO WOULD OTHERWISE RECEIVE LITTLE LEGAL HELP.

CLIVE STAFFORD SMITH,
HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER
AND DIRECTOR OF
REPRIEVE.

CHANGING PEOPLE: OUR EDUCATION

HANDS-ON SUPPORT FOR ACADEMY

OXFORD BROOKES IS ONE OF THE FIRST UNIVERSITIES TO CO-SPONSOR AN ACADEMY.

As well as its role as trustee and governor of the new Oxford Academy, Brookes is providing active, practical support and expertise in learning.

Teenagers will receive academic mentoring from students at Brookes and be able to sample university life, with activities such as masterclasses in the Academy's specialisms of sport and maths.

Brookes is also working with Academy staff to plan and evaluate curriculum activities and professional development, so that the Academy delivers the very best in teaching.

The early years

Brookes recognises the importance of establishing a strong educational foundation for young children, even before they enter the school system. Qualification levels in this sector have traditionally been low, and Brookes is improving the quality of learning for young children with foundation and further degrees. Practitioners working with children from birth to five years can demonstrate excellence in practice and lead others in delivering the Government's new early years curriculum.



“OXFORD BROOKES
UNIVERSITY'S
ROLE IS HELPING
TO TRANSFORM
THE ACADEMY,
PROVIDING REAL
HOPE AND LONG-
TERM BENEFITS
FOR ALL INVOLVED.

ANDREW SMITH,
MP FOR OXFORD EAST.



PICTURED
HILARY LOWE, ASSISTANT DEAN AT
THE WESTMINSTER INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION (LEFT) AND OXFORD
ACADEMY TEACHER KATHERINE
FULLER WITH YEAR 7 PUPILS.

TEACHERS TAKE THE LEAD

BY TRAINING TEACHERS TO BECOME LEADERS, OXFORD BROOKES IS HELPING CHILDREN OF ALL BACKGROUNDS AND ABILITIES TO ACHIEVE THEIR BEST.

Gifted and talented pupils, for instance, are benefiting through an initiative run on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families, in which Brookes has trained 5,000 teachers of this challenging group of youngsters.

Brookes' education specialists also contribute to major government policy developments and guidance – in gifted and talented education, in improving standards in early years education, and creating better opportunities for children with special needs.

Meanwhile, the Detailed Assessment of Speed of Handwriting (DASH) project is another example of excellence.

It combines the expertise of research psychologist Dr Anna Barnett with those of the educational publishing company, Pearson.

The assessment helps teachers spot students with slow handwriting so they can plan how best to support them in the classroom and written exams.

CHANGING PLACES: OUR COMMUNITY

“IT HAS BEEN AMAZING. IT'S BEEN VERY INSPIRING AND AN EYE-OPENER. I HAVE LEARNED A LOT. I HAVE LEARNED HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH PEOPLE A LOT MORE AND I'M MORE CONFIDENT IN MYSELF.

**MAYA FRANCIS,
TEENAGE PARTICIPANT
IN THE ROOTSCAPE
PROJECT.**

**PICTURED
PROFESSOR GEORGIA
BUTINA-WATSON, HEAD OF
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, WITH
TEENAGERS ELLIA TOWNSEND AND
CALLUM BLAKE WHO TOOK PART IN
THE ROOTSCAPE PROJECT.**

LEARNING IN THE COMMUNITY

OXFORD BROOKES PRIDES ITSELF ON PREPARING STUDENTS FOR WORKING LIFE.

We have developed a range of opportunities and partnerships with the community to enhance people's practical learning experience. Moreover, the community benefits directly from the skills and resources on offer from the university.

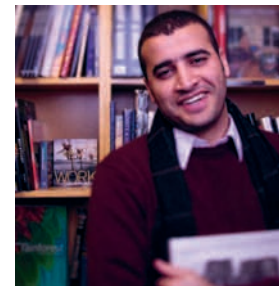
An ongoing project working alongside Thames Valley Police on their Neighbourhood Policing project is looking at how community perceptions of crime and disorder form and how well neighbourhood consultations are used.

In another project, UrbanBuzz:Rootscape, tutors have taught teenagers from the Blackbird Leys estate and Cowley area about regeneration, urban design, planning and architecture.

Equipped with the skills to analyse their urban home, the young people have drawn up ideas for a new youth development centre. The project was delivered in partnership with Oxford Youthworks and Mayim voluntary organisations.

CHANGING PLACES: OUR COMMUNITY

PICTURED
PALESTINIAN WRITER
YOUSIF QASMIYEH.



SEEKING ASYLUM IN WORDS

PAIRING UP TALENTED REFUGEE WRITERS WITH SOME OF THE UK'S BEST POETS, BROOKES IS GIVING ASYLUM SEEKERS A VOICE THROUGH THE WRITTEN WORD.

The poetry collection – featuring at this year's Oxford Literary Festival and to be published by Heaventree Press – will allow a wide audience to hear the stories of refugees and asylum seekers.

The project is run in partnership with the charity Asylum Welcome and gives a chance for talent amongst asylum seekers to surface in the modern arts in ways that could potentially change their lives.

“ASYLUM SEEKERS AND POETS ARE BOTH SEARCHING. REFUGEES ARE TRYING TO FIND A HAVEN FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES; WRITERS A HOME FOR STORIES, DREAMS, AND IDEAS. IT IS ALSO WORTH REMEMBERING THAT MANY POETS ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES BECAUSE OF THEIR IDEAS. SO I THINK THAT WHEN OXFORD BROOKES BRINGS THESE TWO WORLDS TOGETHER THEY GIVE US 'OUTSIDERS' A PLACE WHERE ALL OUR WORDS, AND ALL OUR LIVES ARE VALUED.

BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH,
POET.



PICTURED
VOLUNTEER IRIS COLLETT AT
THE SHOTOVER DAY CARE CENTRE
IN OXFORD.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

PUBLIC CARE IN THE UK FACES VAST PRESSURES AS PEOPLE WITH LONG-TERM CONDITIONS AS WELL AS THE WIDER POPULATION LIVE TO A GREATER AGE.

Health and social care services in the UK face tremendous strains as many of us, including people with long-term conditions and disabilities live longer. It is crucial that in future both services work together to provide truly effective and efficient care.

Through its Institute of Public Care (IPC), Oxford Brookes has helped managers in primary care trusts and local authorities in the North West of England with an innovative development programme to commission practical, joint services to address these needs.

An extensive website backs up the programme, now going into its third, successful year.

“IPC’S NORTHWEST COMMISSIONING ROADMAP, CREATED TO BUILD A REGIONAL COMMISSIONING COMMUNITY ACROSS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE, HAS TURNED OUT TO BE VERY POPULAR AND INFLUENTIAL.”

DAVID JONES,
CARE SERVICES
IMPROVEMENT
PARTNERSHIP.

CHANGING PLACES: OUR COMMUNITY

STARTING OUT RIGHT

FAMILIES IN TROUBLE CAN LACK SUPPORT WHEN THEY NEED IT MOST.

Oxford Brookes is reaching out to these families through the Strengthening Families Programme 10-14 (UK).

The programme works with young teenagers and their parents to cut the risk of poor behaviour or drug and alcohol misuse.

Having adapted a highly successful US programme for the UK, Brookes’ staff are now delivering this programme through the My Strong Family Consultancy and have trained hundreds of others to do so across 24 English local authorities as well as in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

“THE EFFECT OF THE STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROGRAMME ON SOME OF THE MOST CHALLENGING FAMILIES HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE TO WITNESS.”

JACCI SPASHETT,
SENIOR PARENTING
PRACTITIONER,
DEPARTMENT FOR
CHILDREN, SCHOOLS
AND FAMILIES.



PICTURED
SHERRY KNIGHT TOOK THE
STRENGTHENING FAMILIES
PROGRAMME WITH HER CHILDREN
MARCUS AND STEPHANIE
CHAMBERS AND WAS INSPIRED
TO BECOME A TRAINER HERSELF.

CHANGING PLACES: OUR WORLD

“*OXFORD BROOKES’ MASTER’S IN DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGENCY PRACTICE IS RECOGNISED AS A WORLD LEADER. HUNDREDS OF ALUMNI ARE NOW PLAYING A VITAL ROLE IN GOVERNMENT, NGO AND UN AGENCIES IN MANY OF THE WORLD’S MOST DIFFICULT PLACES.*”

DR HUGO SLIM, DIRECTOR, CORPORATES FOR CRISIS.

PICTURED
A GIRL FROM DEGHAGO VILLAGE IN THE SOMALI REGION OF ETHIOPIA PHOTOGRAPHED BY LUCY STRICKLAND. LUCY HAS BEEN STATIONED IN THE AREA AS PART OF OXFAM GB’S DROUGHT EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROJECT.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

HUMANITARIAN WORKERS TRAIN FOR WAR, POLITICAL TURMOIL AND NATURAL DISASTERS.

Aid workers train at Oxford Brookes’ renowned Centre for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP).

Lucy Strickland studied for her master’s degree between 2006 and 2008:

‘I went to Afghanistan to undertake my MA field research focusing on girls’ education and bringing girls back into the schools after years of Taliban exclusion,’ she explains.

‘Working in Afghanistan was a huge security risk. I was there in 2007 and 2008 and I spent a lot of that time under lockdown. I couldn’t even walk to the shops. I had to be with a male guard.’

She is now helping Oxfam in Ethiopia:

‘This programme works to support farmers and their families to get through the recurrent drought and beyond. Rains have failed to come and the subsequent humanitarian needs are tremendous. We are funded by donors such as Bob Geldof’s Band Aid Trust, as well as by UN agencies.’

Her next posting looks likely to be in the Sudan or Gaza.

CHANGING PLACES: OUR WORLD

PICTURED
DR RAJAT GUPTA, READER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE, WHO CREATED A COMPUTER PROGRAM TO MAP THE CO₂ EMISSIONS OF ENTIRE STREETS.



CARBON COUNTING

HOUSEHOLD ENERGY CONSUMPTION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER OF THE UK’S CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂) EMISSIONS.

Cutting these emissions is crucial if the UK aims to meet national and international targets to slow climate change. But practical tools to help planners, architects and local authorities measure and reduce emissions from UK homes have been few and far between.

DECoRuM is a powerful computer model developed at Brookes which estimates CO₂ emissions from housing, evaluates the potential for reducing emissions and calculates the cost benefits of building in different energy efficiency measures and renewable energy technologies.

In the Oxford Solar Initiative project (led by Brookes and Oxford City Council), DECoRuM was used to

identify hotspot homes and forecast householders’ energy savings by installing solar systems.

As a result 500 energy efficiency measures were installed, including the deployment of 120 solar photovoltaic systems.

“*DECoRuM PROVIDES THE MEANS WHEREBY LOCAL AUTHORITIES CAN MAP THE ENERGY/CARBON CONDITION OF HOUSING IN THEIR LOCALITY AT RELATIVELY LOW COST COMPARED WITH TRADITIONAL SURVEY TECHNIQUES, AND TO EXPLORE POLICY AND LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS.*”

*DAVID VINCENT
DIRECTOR, PROJECTS,
CARBON TRUST.*

A WORD FROM OUR CHANCELLOR

“I’M PROUD TO
BE ASSOCIATED
WITH A
UNIVERSITY
WHOSE
TRAJECTORY
IS UNRIVALLED.



WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED
THIS GLIMPSE INTO SOME OF THE
FASCINATING ENDEAVOURS UNDERWAY
AT OXFORD BROOKES.

This overview can only touch on the pool of knowledge and passion that I see around me here at Brookes. I’m proud to be associated with a university whose trajectory of growth and achievement is unrivalled among modern UK universities.

Oxford Brookes is a place of learning, but also of freedom – as Eleanor Roosevelt believed, ‘human rights begin in small places at home’. Universities give people of every age and background the ability to question, to reason, to think for themselves – to challenge dogma and ignorance.

Brookes is building all the time on its reputation as a beacon of liberal and progressive education, with a strong ethical commitment.

Unlike many organisations, universities have the capacity to indulge in utopian thinking – but at Brookes we also have the ambition to transform that thinking into research, tangible evidence and practical application.

The key to future prosperity in the United Kingdom and around the globe is an increasingly skilled population. We need universities with Oxford Brookes’ vision for the future to give people opportunities, but also to make people live up to them.

Shami Chakrabarti,
Chancellor,
Oxford Brookes University

THE HISTORY OF BROOKES

1865

Oxford School of Art is founded, as one room on the ground floor of the Taylor Institution, St Giles, Oxford city centre.

1928

John Brookes is appointed Vice-Principal of the Oxford City Technical School and Head of the School of Art.

1956

John Brookes retires. Institution’s name changed to Oxford College of Technology.

1970

The College of Technology becomes Oxford Polytechnic.

1992

The Polytechnic becomes a university under government legislation. It honours John Brookes’ memory by choosing the name Oxford Brookes University.

1996

Brookes judged top new university in the influential Times newspaper league table.

2000

Brookes merges with Westminster College to create an Institute of Education.

2001

Brookes wins prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize for MSc course in Development Practice for humanitarian professionals.

2001

Jon Snow is elected Chancellor, succeeding Baroness Helena Kennedy QC.

2007

Professor Janet Beer is named as Brookes’ third Vice-Chancellor. The university receives its second Queen’s Prize for its MSc course in Primate Conservation.

2008

Shami Chakrabarti is elected as Brookes’ third Chancellor.

100%

of our electricity
comes from
renewable sources.

19,000

students at
Brookes.

75%

of research at Brookes is
internationally recognised.

8

Oxford Brookes
rowers were in the
GB squad at the
2008 Beijing
Olympics, winning
one gold and three
silver medals
between them.

OXFORD BROOKES CHANGING PEOPLE & PLACES

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY

In 2003,
we became the
first

university in the
world to be
awarded
Fairtrade status.

This booklet is
printed on
100%
recycled paper.

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students from

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countries.



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