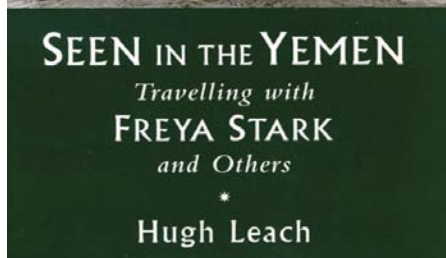


Two of the voices heard in the Westminster Abbey choir at the Royal Wedding on 29 April belonged to Jerome Finnis, OA 1995, a senior associate in Hogen Lovell's International Arbitration Group, and Jonny Herford, OA 2003, who is currently studying on the opera course at the Royal Academy of Music. ■

Seen in the Yemen: Travelling with Freya Stark and Others

Hugh Leach, OA 1953, gave a talk on 18 May at the Royal Society for Asian Affairs about his travels in the northern Yemen in the early 1970s, both on his own and in the company of such distinguished travellers as Dame Freya Stark, Wilfred Thesiger and Dame Violet Dickson. The talk accompanied the launch of a book of the same title, copiously illustrated with beautiful black-and-white photographs taken on his two 1930s screw-thread Leica cameras, which evocatively record what seemed to be an unchanging way of life. ■



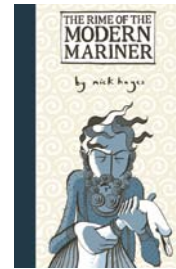
Botany: A Blooming History

Tim Walker, OA 1976, Director of the University of Oxford Botanic Garden, presented BBC4's fascinating and authoritative three-part series *Botany: A Blooming History*, the story of how botanists, in trying to answer the question what makes plants grow, uncovered the secret to life on the planet and came to understand the natural order of the plant world. ■

Dr Walker will give a lecture at the School to the Biology Society on 14 October



Rime of the Modern Mariner



The Rime of the Modern Mariner, published by Jonathan Cape last April, is a graphic novel by Nick Hayes, OA 2000, political cartoonist on the Guardian. Described as a beautiful morality tale for our times, the book

is an update of Coleridge's epic poem *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. Maintaining the rhythm and beat of the original, together with its haunting atmosphere, the new version focuses on the North Pacific Gyre where a slow-moving whirlpool gradually masticates the world's plastic rubbish, said to cover an area twice the size of Texas and to be 9 kilometres deep. ■

Greek Rugby Internationals

Twin brothers Mark and William Martin, OAs 2001, whose mother is Greek, have recently been capped for the Greek national rugby team, playing international matches against Finland, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Israel. Mark, a Maritime Business graduate of Southampton Solent University, is a shipbroker in Athens whilst William has just graduated in Politics and Economics from Bath University. ■



OAs at the Oxford Playhouse

Full Circle – an evening of conversation, debate and laughter in the company of Tom Hollander, OA 1984, David Mitchell, OA 1992 and Sister Frances Dominica in aid of *Helen and Douglas House*. 6.30 pm Sunday 2 October

Earthquakes in London by Mike Bartlett, OA 1999, comes to Oxford in October following last year's premier at the National Theatre and the Senior Drama Production in the Amey Theatre in December. Tuesday 1 – Saturday 5 October