

FRIENDS OF OLIVER RACKHAM #8

UPCOMING EVENTS, RACKHAM RESEARCH NEWS & STORIES, BOOK DEDICATIONS, WORKS IN PROGRESS & PAST EVENTS

April 3, 2017

UPDATE: THE RACKHAM ARCHIVE

Once again your response to our request for help in digitizing Oliver's red and blue field notebooks has been great! Thank you all so very much. Dr Lucy Hughes, archivist at Corpus Christi College where the Rackham Archive is held, reports that 59 out of 698 Red Notebooks (8.5%) and 121 out of about 375 Blue Notebooks (32%) have been scanned and should be uploaded next month. Scanned examples can be seen here: <http://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/rackham>.

If you would like to sponsor the digitization of one or more notebooks, please contact Dr Lucy Hughes lcb15@corpus.cam.ac.uk to work out the details. Your sponsorship can be acknowledged on the Cambridge Digital Library website with Oliver's notebooks or anonymous, as you wish. If you are a UK taxpayer your donation can also be Gift Aided. *It costs about £40-45 for each notebook to be scanned, proofed, uploaded and hosted on the Cambridge Digital Library server.*

The Rackham Archive at Corpus also includes about 14,000 Rackham slides. So far 2,288 slides have been digitized. If you are interested in contributing to scanning the Rackham slides, please contact Dr Lucy Hughes lcb15@corpus.cam.ac.uk. *It costs about £250 to scan 500 slides.*

UPDATE: THE RACKHAM HERBARIUM

Photography of the Rackham Herbarium, stored at Cambridge University Herbarium <http://cambridgeherbarium.org/>, has now been completed. Cataloging of the collection continues. If you would like to visit the Rackham Herbarium or have a question about it, please contact Christine Bartram cb248@cam.ac.uk.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 13, 2017 (Thursday) — Pamela Abbott writes that the Cambridge Conservation Forum (CCF) will hold its third Oliver Rackham Memorial Guided Walk in Hayley Wood at 5pm on Thursday 13 April 2017. You will be treated to a guided wander through the oxlips and spring flora of Hayley Wood by Louise Bacon and Richard Dowsett. The event will end with a few words and a toast to Oliver's memory.

This is a free event and all *Friends of Oliver Rackham* are very welcome to attend.

If you are interested in coming please book via this link:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/ccf-oliver-rackham-memorial-guided-walk-spring-2017-tickets-32918900317> or the CCF website:

<http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk/event/oliver-rackham-memorial-guided-walk-hayley-wood> , or CCF Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/cambridgeccf/> .

May 13, 2017 (Saturday) — The first Woodland Trust Oliver Rackham Memorial Event will take place on Saturday 13th May 2017 at the kind invitation of the

Marks Hall Trust, whose woods Oliver knew well

<http://www.markshall.org.uk/about-marks-hall/history/>.

There will be lectures by Dr David Morfitt on 'The History and Ecology of Lime Woodland — illustrated with material from Warwickshire' and Prof Ian Rotherham on 'Ancient Woods & Shadow Woods — a legacy of Oliver Rackham'. Dr Lucy Hughes, archivist for the Rackham Archive at Corpus Christi College Cambridge, will also talk about Oliver's field notebooks on Chalkney Wood and Markshall Estate, which have been digitised for the occasion. These will be followed by a buffet lunch and guided walks led by Jonathan Jukes (Markshall Estate) and Simon Leatherdale (Chalkney Wood).

Tickets are available at £25 for lectures and lunch and £30 including a guided walk; any proceeds will go towards future memorial events. For bookings and further information please contact:

<https://woodlandtrusttickets.cloudvenue.co.uk/oliverrackhammemoriallecture>.

[If the link does not work, try cutting and pasting it into your browser, or telephone The Woodland Trust's supporter services team at +44 330 333 3300, or email rsvp@woodlandtrust.org.uk with **Oliver Rackham Memorial Lecture Tickets** in the subject line.]

RACKHAM RESEARCH NEWS AND STORIES

This new section to the FOR Newsletter will comprise short reports about research or other activity that carries on the Rackham Tradition, or uses the Rackham Archive, the Rackham Herbarium, or other Rackham legacy materials. Or, short stories about Oliver. If you are so inclined, please send a paragraph or two (but not three!) to share with the Friends of Oliver Rackham.

I am pleased to launch this new feature with contributions from Rob Jarman and Oliver's cousin Philippa Sims.

SWEET CHESTNUT IN BRITAIN -- DELVING INTO OLIVER'S NOTES

Zoe Hazell (Historic England's Senior Palaeoecologist) and I recently spent a very productive morning working through Oliver's files on sweet chestnut and also his notebooks for the Forest of Dean. We were searching specifically for information that Oliver had gathered in the 1970s for his *Ancient Woodland* book and its references to ancient sweet chestnut woods and veteran trees in Britain. This is to inform our research on the origins of sweet chestnut in Britain – is it really a Roman introduction, as so often alleged? Or an earlier, or later, introduction? Or not an introduction at all, but indigenous? We were delighted to find detailed records of chestnut woods that Oliver had visited and noted from historical records (and not just in East Anglia!); and some insightful correspondence with a wide range of people who had sent Oliver information on sweet chestnut trees and also possible building timbers of sweet chestnut. It was especially rewarding to find Oliver's detailed notes of the visits he made with me to Chestnuts Wood & Welshbury Wood in the Forest of Dean in 1993 and 1994: although we wrote a joint paper on Welshbury and its limewoods, I had never seen his detailed site notes and field sketches – fabulous! Lucy was extremely helpful in highlighting relevant extracts and picking notes from the archives for us, ready for our visit. We were allowed to photograph some items – making subsequent research so much easier – thank you very much! Thanks especially to Oliver for keeping such wonderful records...

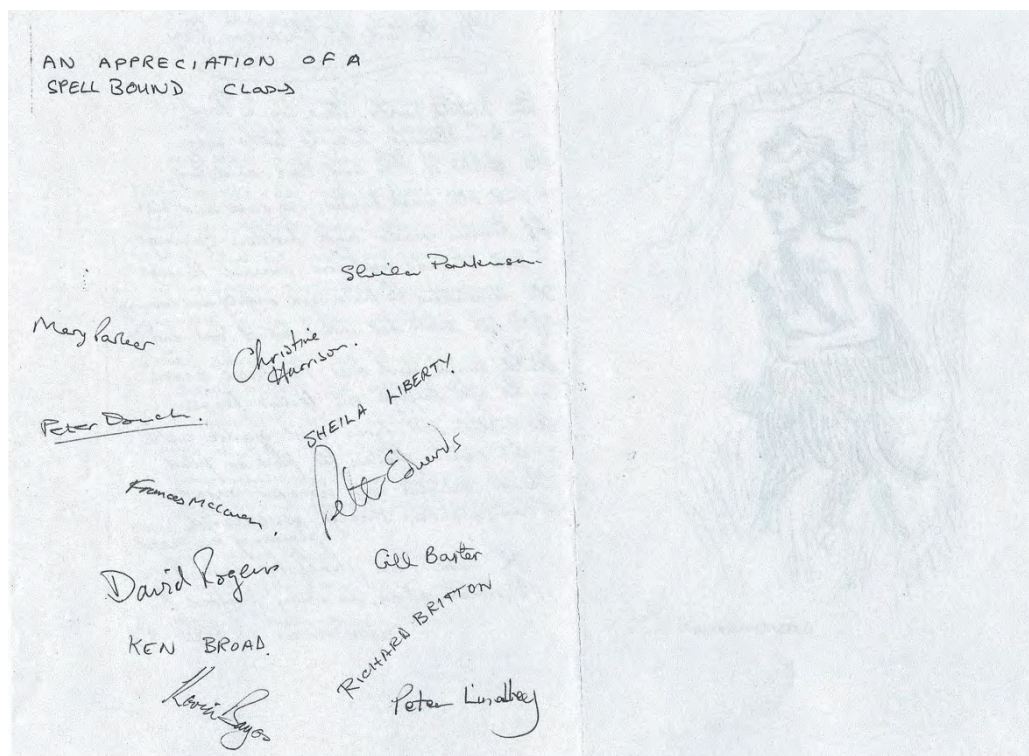
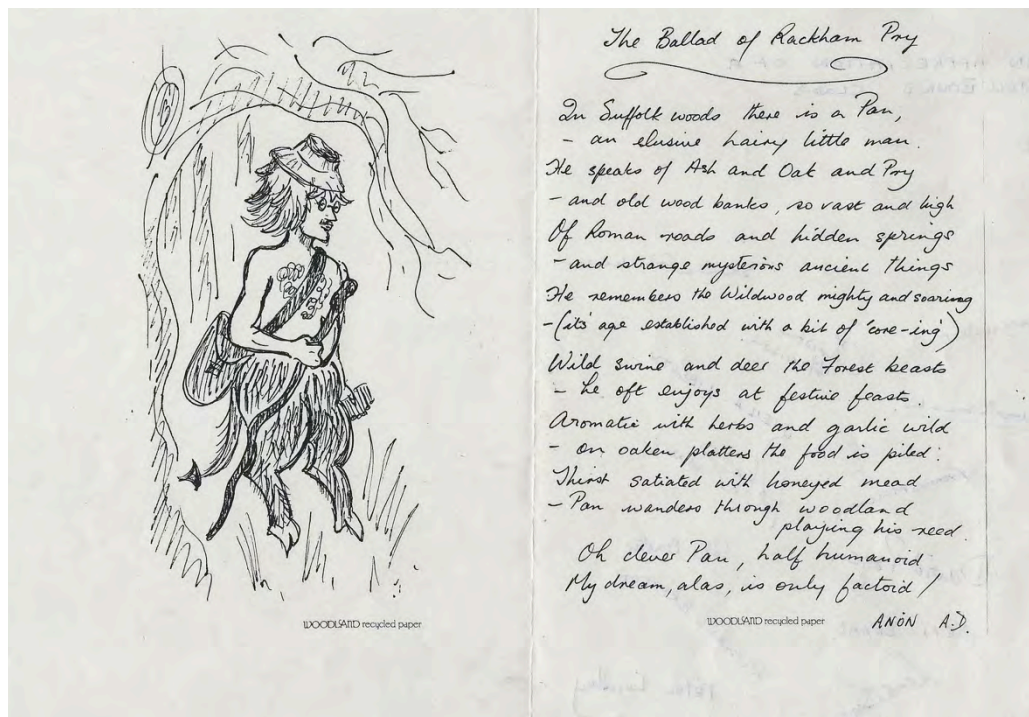
Rob Jarman

PhD student, University of Gloucestershire

(Downing College 1970-73: Geography Pt 1; Natural Sciences Pt 2)

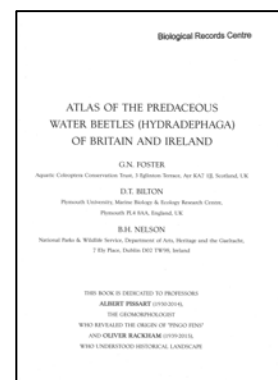
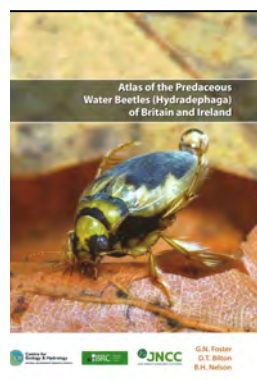
THE MYSTERIOUS BALLAD OF RACKHAM PRY

While going through Oliver’s personal papers Philippa Sims found the following poem and drawing penned by a “spellbound class”. There is no date, but it is signed by a number of people. If you can shed any light on this wonderful tribute to Oliver — when it was written? what class it was? — please do let us know. In the meantime, enjoy!

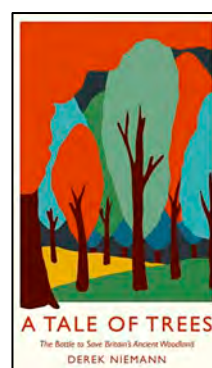


BOOK DEDICATIONS

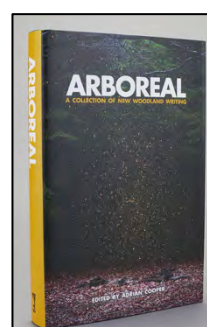
- Chris Preston writes that the 2016 *Atlas of the Predaceous Water Beetles (Hydradeephaga) of Britain and Ireland* by GN Foster, DT Bilton & BH Nelson was co-dedicated to Oliver! Oliver's influence has certainly spread far and wide. [http://www.field-studies-council.org/publications/pubs/atlas-of-the-predaceous-water-beetles-\(hydradeephaga\)-of-britain-and-ireland.aspx](http://www.field-studies-council.org/publications/pubs/atlas-of-the-predaceous-water-beetles-(hydradeephaga)-of-britain-and-ireland.aspx).



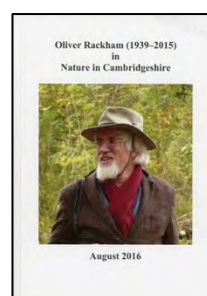
- Derek Niemann's book *A Tale Of Trees: the battle to save Britain's ancient woodland*, published by Short Books in October 2016, highlights Oliver's and George Peterken's roles in the salvation of Britain's ancient woodlands. <http://www.whispersfromthewild.co.uk/books-by-derek-niemann/a-tale-of-trees/>.



- Arboreal: A Collection of New Woodland Writing* published by Little Toller Books and edited by Adrian Cooper, is a collection of essays and articles exploring what woodlands mean to us. The anthology was inspired by and dedicated to Oliver. <https://www.littletoller.co.uk/shop/books/little-toller/arboreal/>.



- Nature in Cambridgeshire* published a special issue that is a collection of all the articles Oliver published in this journal. If you are interested in buying a copy please contact Mark Hill at moh@ceh.ac.uk.



- Professor Alper Çolak, writes that a book he is co-editing with Ian Rotherham and Simay Kirca, *Ancient woodlands and trees: A guide for landscape planners and forest managers*, will be dedicated to Oliver Rackham. Oliver's contribution is titled 'The Archaeology of Trees, Woodland, and Wood-Pasture'.

- Professor Mauro Agnoletti and F. Emanuelli are editors of the book, *Biocultural Diversity in Europe* (Springer Verlag) that is dedicated to Oliver. The book can be purchased at <http://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319263137>.

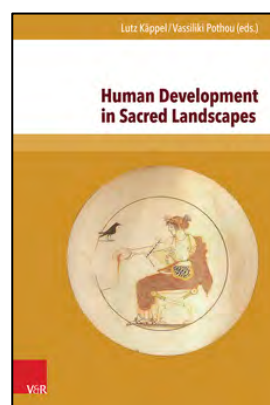


- Professors Mauro Agnoletti and Ian Rotherham edited a special issue of *Biodiversity and Conservation* dedicated to Oliver Rackham: *Special Issue: Landscape and Biocultural Diversity*. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 24.13, December 2015. <http://link.springer.com/journal/10531/24/13/page/1>.

- Professor Diego Moreno writes that the book Gabellieri N & Pescini V (eds.), *Biografia di un paesaggio rurale Geografia, storia e archeologia ambientale per la riqualificazione di Case Lovara* (promontorio del Mesco La Spezia) is dedicated to Oliver. It is published through the Laboratorio di Archeologia e storia ambientale (LASA)) at Università degli Studi di Genova (Italy). http://www.oltre.it/biblioteca/store/comersus_viewItem.asp?idProduct=3215.

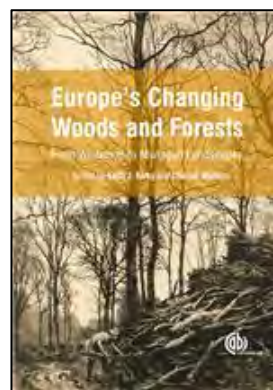


- Dr Vicky Pothou writes that the book Kappel L & Pothou V (eds) *Human Development in Sacred Landscapes: Between Ritual Tradition, Creativity and Emotionality*, Göttingen, 2015, is dedicated to Oliver. It is the proceedings from the conference *Human Development in Sacred Landscapes* held in Delphi Greece in May 2011 and includes an article by Oliver, 'Greek Landscapes: Profane and Sacred'. http://www.v-r.de/de/human_development_in_sacred_landscapes/t-0/1032904/.



- Professors Charles Watkins and Keith Kirby dedicated their book *Europe's Changing Woods and Forests* to Oliver. The book is a follow-up to the proceedings from a conference held in 1996 that marked the 20th anniversary of original publication of Oliver's *Trees and Woodland in the British Landscape* in 1976.

<http://www.cabi.org/bookshop/book/9781780643373>.



WORKS IN PROGRESS:

- The Rackham Archive at Corpus Christi College consists of Oliver's field notebooks, papers, slides, and photos. It is under the care of Dr Lucy Hughes, college archivist. If you are interested in consulting some of this material please contact Dr Lucy Hughes at lcb15@corpus.cam.ac.uk. The goal is to digitize this collection and to make it accessible to interested scholars and friends around the world.

If you would like to sponsor the digitization of one or more notebooks, please contact Dr Lucy Hughes lcb15@corpus.cam.ac.uk. Some digitized notebooks can be seen here: <http://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/rackham>.

If you have a story or memory about Oliver that you would like to contribute to the Rackham Archive for posterity, please write it up and send it to Dr Lucy Hughes lcb15@corpus.cam.ac.uk.

- The Rackham Herbarium, stored at the Cambridge University Herbarium <http://cambridgeherbarium.org/>, contains 17,000+ items, mainly from Britain and Greece (especially Crete), but also significant samples from Texas, Japan, and Australia. All items have now been meticulously photographed. Cataloging continues. Those interested in viewing the Rackham collection or have enquiries about it should contact Christine Bartram cb248@cam.ac.uk.
- We continue to compile a list of tributes and obituaries for Oliver (with links where available). *If you know of any additions, please send them along and they will be added to the document.*
- Oliver's carpentry workshop. The preservation and reassembly of this workshop is a collaborative effort between The Carpenters Fellowship <http://www.carpentersfellowship.co.uk/> and Woodland Heritage <http://www.woodlandheritage.org/>. Its final location has not yet been decided.

If you have any photos of Oliver's woodworking skills please send them to me or Valerie Cooper v.c.cooper30@gmail.com for eventual inclusion in the Rackham Workshop exhibit.

- Wheatfen Fund for Oliver Rackham. Wheatfen, near Norwich, played a large part in Oliver's early life and, through the naturalist Ted Ellis, his chosen career. The center is an important nature reserve and education center. Further details can be found on the website: <http://www.wheatfen.org>.

Since his death, Philippa Sims, Oliver's cousin, has organized donations to Wheatfen in Oliver's memory. The goal is £1000. Donations are still welcome. If you would like to do so, please send your cheques made out to 'The Ted Ellis Trust' to Philippa Sims at 26C Shotesham Road, Poringland, Norwich NR14 7LG.

- Woodland Trust's Fund for Oliver Rackham. The Woodland Trust's Fund for Oliver Rackham will sponsor annual lectures and walks inspired by Oliver's interests. If you would like to offer your ideas or support for a Rackham Memorial lecture or walk, please contact Paula Keen at paulakeen@woodlandtrust.org.uk.

The first Rackham Memorial Event will take place on Saturday, 13th May 2017 at Markshall Estate www.markshall.org.uk/visitor-information/ (see page 2 above).

- Additional veteran tree dedications to Oliver's memory are being planned in Crete, Epirus, Sardinia, and Texas. We will keep you posted.

PAST EVENTS

DECEMBER 2016 —

- The current issue of *The Letter* 95, the journal of Corpus Christi College Cambridge, contains several entries pertaining to Oliver:
 - 1) Stuart Laing's 'Domus' includes a photo of the christening of *Rackham the Red*, the new ladies rowing boat, and several mentions of Oliver.
 - 2) Peter Carolin's fascinating article 'Working with the past' also mentions Oliver.
 - 3) 'The Oliverium' by Jennifer Moody and Wick Dossett, is a short write-up of the symposium held for Oliver in August 2016 (see below).
 - 4) 'Oliver Rackham and willows: portrait of a photograph' is a thoughtful essay about the man by Susan Ranson.
 - 5) The Bursar reports that the conversion of Oliver Rackham's house in Newnham into two Fellows' flats is complete, and notes: "This is a crucial addition to our housing stock and hopefully will inspire future occupants to levels of distinction comparable to those achieved by the benefactor!" (p. 57).
 - 6) The report on 'Rowing' includes more details about the ladies' boat *Rackham the Red* and their successes this year (p. 98)
<http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/about-us/publications/the-corpus-letter/>.

SEPTEMBER 2016 —

- 25 September — Trees in Autumn – an Oliver Rackham Memorial Event at Wheatfen. Richard Hobbs took people around the Ted Ellis Trust Nature Reserve at Wheatfen (Norfolk), where Ted Ellis himself introduced Oliver to many of the wonders of the natural world. Philippa Sims reports that the event was a great success. Photos of the crowd can be seen on the Wheatfen Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/108886053969/>.

For more information about Wheatfen contact David Nobbs (Warden) 01508 538036, or follow this link <http://www.wheatfen.org/tethtml/home.html>.

AUGUST 2016 —

- 13–14 August — The Commemorative Symposium for Professor Oliver Rackham at Corpus Christi College Cambridge took place on two days with over 200 attendees.

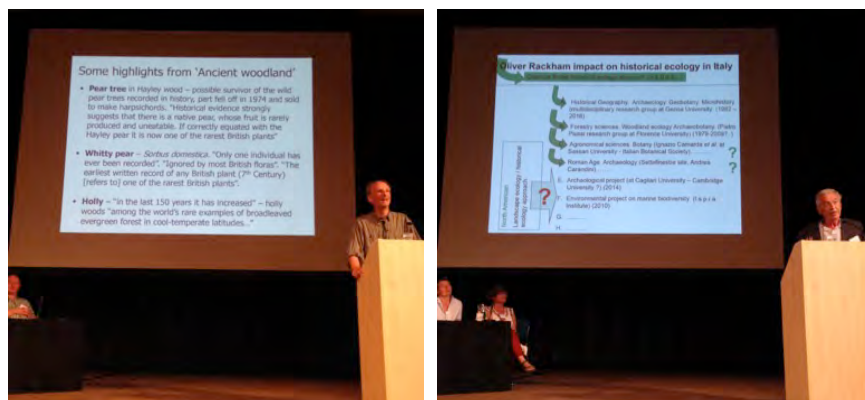


Participants at the Symposium, West Road Concert Hall. Photos Sarah Wordsworth

The first day was action-packed, beginning with talks about Oliver at Corpus (Stuart Laing), his archive being curated there (Lucy Hughes), and his herbarium at Cambridge University Herbarium (Christine Bartram). This was followed by a splendid keynote talk by Richard Mabey. After lunch there were presentations on *Oliver and British Woods* (Ian Rotherham, Adrian Newton & Louise Bacon) and *Oliver and the Mediterranean* (Jennifer Moody, Peter Warren, Diego Moreno & Roberta Cevasco). An international panel then discussed *Woodland and Landscape Conservation and Management* (William Sutherland, Henry Art, George Peterken, Paula Keen, Gloria Pungetti, & Kalliope Padiaditi). Peter Grubb summed up the meeting and thanked all the presenters and panelists.



Left: Dr Lucy Hughes. Right: Christine Bartram. Photos Melissa Moody



Left: Prof Adrian Newton. Right Prof Diego Moreno. Photos Melissa Moody

These events were followed by an exhibition in the Parker Library (organized by Christopher de Hamel, Steven Archer, Jo Willmott, Berthold Kress & Lucy Hughes) of College silver, the Ely Coucher Book (kindly lent by Gonville & Caius College), samples of Oliver's field notebooks and herbarium specimens; a moving recital in the chapel (The Revd James Buxton); drinks on the lawn in Old Court and a magnificent dinner with fine wine in College Hall. The menu included 'A walk through Hayley Wood' and 'Rackham of lamb'!



Dinner in College Hall. *Photos Wick Dossett*

Day two began with a Communion Service in the College chapel (The Revd James Buxton & The Rt Revd Michael Bourke), and then alternating talks on Oliver's architectural discoveries in Corpus's Old Court and elsewhere (Peter Carolin) and excursions to Hayley Wood (orchestrated by Peter Grubb with significant input from Louise Bacon, Ed Tanner, Richard Dowsett, Vince Lea, Rob Jarman, Stephen Tomkins, David Coomes, Jenny Mackay & Mark Ricketts).



Left: Dr Ed Tanner leading a group around Hayley Wood. Right: Prof Peter Grubb.
Photos Wick Dossett and Jenny Moody

For other details please see write-ups on the College's website: <http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/news/commemorative-symposium-for-oliver-rackham/> and in Corpus's journal *The Letter* 95 <http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/about-us/publications/the-corpus-letter/>.

JUNE 2016 —

- Corpus Christi College Boat Club held the Naming Ceremony for the new Women's 1st VIII at 10:30am on Saturday 11th June at the Boathouse. The boat is named *Rackham the Red* in honour of former Master, Prof Oliver Rackham OBE. At the ceremony the Boat Club Senior Treasurer, Dr Ben Pilgrim, gave a short account of the reasons behind choosing the name and thanked all those who contributed towards the boat. The boat was then blessed by the Dean of Chapel and formally named by the Master.

APRIL 2016 —

- 28 April — Paula Keen, of The Woodland Trust, began revisiting woodland sites in Wales recorded by Oliver Rackham, with the view to finishing up the research begun by Oliver many years ago.
- 23 April — PLACE (People, Landscape and Cultural Environment) of Yorkshire held a woodland conference in Oliver Rackham's memory in Ilkley, North Yorkshire <http://place.uk.com/calendar-of-events/>.

Dr Margaret Atherden writes that 65 people attended the conference and that there were five speakers:

- 1) Prof Melvyn Jones gave a fascinating talk about Walls, Woodbanks and Worked trees, explaining the evidence for past woodland management that can be gleaned from archaeological features.
- 2) Tim Laurie spoke about his research work on the distribution of relict limewoods in the north-east Pennines – many of them recorded from inaccessible locations on cliffs or steep river banks.
- 3) Tom Lord considered the documentary and archaeological evidence for former wood pasture in Upper Ribblesdale, including surviving woodland ground flora and stone walls designed to exclude wolves.
- 4) John Weir, who works for the Forestry Commission, gave a provocative but entertaining talk about the challenges of managing woodland in a changing climate, such as dealing with a large range of new pests and diseases.
- 5) John Grimshaw, Director of the Yorkshire Arboretum at Castle Howard, demonstrated the importance of the tree collection there for future conservation.

In the afternoon there was a guided walk around Middleton Woods, led by Prof Terry O'Connor.



The book based on the conference will be published in 2017. For more information please contact Dr Margaret Atherden at place@yorks.ac.uk.

MARCH 2016 —

- 5 March — The British Bryological Society's two East Anglian groups (Cambridge and Norfolk & Suffolk) organized a Rackham Memorial Excursion to Bradfield Woods on 5 March 2016, 11 a.m. Richard Fisk, Suffolk bryophyte specialist, led the excursion. Bradfield Woods was seminal to the evolution of Oliver's extraordinary career, as were the deep friendships he forged there with James and Ann Hart, Colin and Susan Ranson and so many others.

FEBRUARY 2016 —

- 26–27 February — Sarah Morrish, a wildlife artist who attended Oliver's courses at Kingcombe, dedicated an exhibit to him at the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Botanical Art Show. <http://www.natures-details.com/>.

DECEMBER 2015 —

- Posthumous publication of a manuscript found on Oliver's computer after he died:
Rackham, Oliver. 2015. 'Brandon Park Fungi 1959–2014: Change and Stability in Occurrence', *Suffolk Natural History: Transactions of the Suffolk Naturalists' Society* **51** 26–32 and Plates 13–15.

Many thanks to Martin Sanford, the editor, who organized the publication and to the executors of Oliver's estate Mr Timothy Harvey-Samuel and Ms Jennie Pratt.

NOVEMBER 2015 —

- 27 November — The Cultural Association of Greveniti, a small village in the Eastern Zagori, (Greece) dedicated their 2016 village calendar to their Sacred Forest, the Thalys project and the idea of a tree dedicated to Oliver Rackham's memory. http://greveniti.blogspot.gr/2015/11/blog-post_27.html [you must scroll down through the entries to see the calendar.] (also see August entry below.)
- 26 November — *The Letter* **94** (the journal of Corpus Christi College Cambridge) contains a number of articles and tributes to Oliver. The opening paragraph by Stuart Laing, Master, sets the tone. Other highlights include: Jennifer Moody's article 'A Giant of a Man' describing adventures with Oliver in Crete; Peter Carolin's article 'The Chapel crypt', which reveals the history and rediscovery of the Chapel crypt, where Oliver is interred; Drew Milne's poem *Ash Lichen* dedicated to Oliver; Lucy Hughes's section 'Then and Now', which includes a 1973 note by Oliver on Chapel chairs; The Revd. James Buxton's account of the Chapel describing Oliver's funeral and interment in the crypt; and Peter Grubb's tribute to Oliver in the 'In memoriam' section. <http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/about-us/publications/the-corpus-letter/>.
- 14 November — the Cambridge Conservation Forum held their 6th working party in Hayley Wood. They will hold this event annually in Oliver Rackham's memory. Oliver participated in all but one of the previous work parties. <http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk/news/great-day-out-woods> ; <http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk/event/6th-ccf-working-party-hayley-wood-memory-oliver-rackham>.

OCTOBER 2015 —

- 18 October — Oliver's memorial stone was dedicated during Evensong in a ceremony led by The Revd. James Buxton and Master Stuart Laing at the Chapel of Corpus Christi College, where Oliver is buried in the crypt.



Oliver Rackham's memorial stone.

Photo Wick Dossett

- 17–18 October — The first National Coppicing Day took place on Oliver's 76th birthday: 17 October 2015. At least five events happened at various woods around Britain celebrating this occasion, including a two-day event at Hardwick Wood organized by the Cambridge Conservation Volunteers (<https://www.facebook.com/coppicedayUK>).
- 13 October — The Wildlife Trust introduced a new award "... in honour of the renowned naturalist Oliver Rackham who died in February. Oliver was a supporter of the Wildlife Trust and warden of Hayley Wood for many years. The award was given to mark an *Outstanding Contribution to Conservation and Wildlife Monitoring* across our three counties. The worthy winner of this award was Colin Carpenter, warden of Flitwick Moor, Bedfordshire." <http://www.wildlifebcn.org/news/2015/10/13/annual-awards-agm>.

AUGUST 2015 —

- 13 August — Lectures for a veteran tree dedication to Oliver were held in Greveniti, Epirus, and organized by Dr Kalliopi Stara and her colleagues.

JULY 2015 —

- 17 July — A proposal dedicated to the memory of Oliver Rackham to include the Sacred Forests of Epirus in the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO) by the Greek Ministry of Culture, Education and Religious affairs, was approved! <http://ayla.culture.gr/?p=374>. Warm congratulations to Dr Kalliopi Stara and her colleagues listed therein, who organized the proposal.
- 5–10 July — Prof Gloria Pungetti organized a tribute to Oliver at the 9th IALE (International Association of Landscape Ecologists) World Congress held in Portland, Oregon. 'Tribute to Professor Oliver Rackham and Debate on Biocultural Landscapes'.

MAY 2015 —

- 29 May — Hay Festival Rackham Memorial Lecture by Clive Anderson, president of The Woodland Trust: <https://www.hayfestival.com/wales/index.aspx>.
- 26–27 May — Marinescapes Conference in Piraeus, Greece was dedicated to Oliver's memory: <http://www.civilscape.eu/civilscape/content/en/news/pages/1423848755.xml>.

APRIL 2015 —

- 26 April — Janet Ainsley, the current secretary of Tiger Hill LNR http://www.lnr.naturalengland.org.uk/Special/lmr/lmr_details.asp?C=0&N=&ID=469, writes: "A special gathering took place at Tiger Hill LNR on the 26 April 2015 to celebrate and recognize the immense contribution of three distinguished conservationists in the setting up and running of Tiger Hill Local Nature Reserve: William Palmer (1905–984); Colin Ranson (1936–1989); and Oliver Rackham (1939–2015). A replacement plaque was placed by Rosemary's great grandson, Edward Austin, beside the oak tree planted by Rachel Price, Rosemary's granddaughter, in honour of Colin Ranson in 1990. Two new plaques were placed beside the small-leaved limes planted in 1977 - but now dedicated in honour of William Palmer in 1984 and Oliver Rackham in 2015."
- 23–24 April — ECSLAND Conference on European Sacred Landscapes in Sassari, Italy was dedicated to Oliver's memory: http://www.cclp.group.cam.ac.uk/conf_ecsland_goal&topic.html.

- 17 April — Cambridge Conservation Volunteers held a guided walk through the oxlips and bluebells in Hayley Wood in Oliver's memory. This was a walk Oliver had guided for the last five years, and he had just agreed to do it on this date the weekend before he died. Over 50 friends, colleagues and woodland experts from near and far participated. They toasted his memory around where the fire had been when he had last joined the coppicing party in the autumn.
<http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org.uk/event/oliver-rackham-memorial-guided-walk-around-hayley-wood-fully-booked>.
http://www.plantlife.org.uk/about_us/blog/the_oliver_rackham_memorial_walk.

MARCH 2015 —

- 4 March — Interment of Oliver Rackham in the chapel crypt
- 3 March — Funeral for Oliver Rackham in Chapel, Corpus Christi College Cambridge. <http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/news/oliver-rackhams-funeral-service-addresses/>.

FEBRUARY 2015 —

- Facebook page set up for Oliver Rackham by Dr Guy Sanders
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1551598301765933/>.
- Almond tree planted for Oliver in the Corinth dighouse garden by Dr Guy Sanders.