

The "Sir Stuart Goodwin Travelling Fellowships" - 1949 to 1959.

(Founded by Sir Stuart Goodwin, D.L., J.P., LL.D., Chairman of the Neepsend Steel and Tool Corporation, Sheffield)

In each year between 1949 and 1958 a "Sir Stuart Goodwin Fellowship" was awarded to one member of Christs College who had graduated about three years earlier and who had some industrial experience, ten Fellowships in all. A further nine Fellowships were awarded to members of St John's College.

This was a notable and pioneering initiative. Britain was in the austerity period immediately after WW2. Industries needed to rebuild, and learn from other countries - especially the United States. But that was difficult. Travel was an expensive, time-consuming adventure, not just a routine activity. International telecommunications services were extremely limited.

Sir Stuart Coldwell Goodwin (pictured) was a Sheffield Industrialist, Chairman of Neepsend Steel and Tool. He decided to provide funding for Travelling Fellowships specifically for young graduate engineers - unlike the far broader Fulbright Programme which started at about the same time. For personal reasons he chose to support members of Christs and St John's Colleges.



Candidates for the Fellowships were interviewed by a six-member panel - which included Lucan Pratt, Senior Tutor and Admissions Tutor throughout most of the Goodwin Fellowship period. The panel also had an influential and charismatic Secretary, David Hardman.

David Rennie Hardman graduated from Christs in the 1920s, entered politics, and became Parliamentary Secretary for Education in Attlee's Labour Government. After losing his Darlington seat in Parliament he withdrew from politics to pursue educational and literary interests. He had already published poetry, and he now became a Shakespearean scholar, writing two books. The Goodwin Fellowship work led him to the Secretaryship of the Sir Ernest Cassell Educational Trust and Mountbatten Awards. (That later led to the institution of the Mountbatten Memorial Award at Christs). He then had a period as Professor of English Literature at Elmira College, followed by his Professorship of International Studies at Macalester College.



David Hardman was more than just Secretary to the Goodwin Committee. He was the administrator and facilitator, friend and advisor to the Fellows. During my own Fellowship year I met him, quite by chance, on a train travelling south from New York City - an enjoyable journey.

I was the 1955 Goodwin Fellow. My company, Decca Radar, had set me to work with transistors, which had only recently become commercially available following the 1949 invention of the Point Contact Transistor at Bell Labs in 1949. The company agreed that it would be highly advantageous for me to secure the Fellowship. I actually commenced my Fellowship in mid 1956, returning to Decca a year later. In fact it was a rather special year for me! My fiancée travelled out to join me in the middle of the period and we married in 1957, at Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Soon after the completion of the last Fellowship, a celebratory dinner was held in London. Sir Stuart and Lady Goodwin were present, together with most of the Fellows, with wives and partners, and a number of those who had served on the selection committees. Sir Stuart presented wives/partners of Fellows with a presentation case of Sheffield scissors. Our scissors are still in regular use after nearly 60 years.

David Hardman published a small booklet "Ten Years" providing a record of the Fellowship, with an introduction by Lucan Pratt.

Much has happened over 60 years, but the Goodwin Fellowship remains an important part of my education and early career. I'm sure the other Fellows would agree. Thank you, Sir Stuart!

David Cawsey (1949)

Reference.

"Ten Years" David R. Hardman

The Goodwin Fellows (Christs College)

1949 J L C Wright (matric 1943);

1951 R P Andrew (1944);

1952 J R Crabtree (1943);

1953 J D Hall (1944);

1954 S T Blakemore (1944);

1955 D Cawsey (1949);

1956 J D Wallis (1949);

1957 D F Marshall (1950);

1957 B Ward (1950)

1958 j E White (1952)