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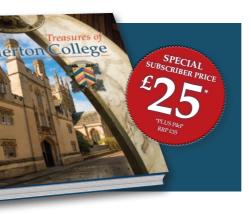
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> Martin Taylo Warden of Merton College

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This richly illustrated book, which will be published in October 2013, will feature archival and architectural highlights spanning the 750-year life of Merton College. Following an introductory history, this collection of treasures will comprise incisive text from members and friends of the College complemented by specially commissioned photography, to reveal the stories behind the formation and growth of the first fully self-governing Oxford College.

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Readers will learn more about objects familiar to all, such as the 15th-century Gatehouse made possible when Henry V granted a royal 'licence to crenellate', as well as encountering artefacts most likely never before seen, such as the sculpture of the founder, Walter de Merton, placed so high in the Chapel as to be invisible. They will find there a spectrum of topics that ranges from the grand, as in the famous carving of St John the Baptist, under which all who enter Merton have passed; to the heroic, such as the diary and photographs of Sandy Irvine, would-be conqueror of Everest; through to the everyday, like the 17th-century tennis balls found during the 1980s restoration of the Chapel.

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