The Romans called them the Dog Days, caniculares dies. Journalists refer to them as the silly season. It's certainly hot, and things have slowed down. But in these days of air-conditioning and Arctic cruises, the term Dog Days hardly applies; and with newspapers teetering on the brink of extinction, the silly season now extends to twelve months of the year. We bring you no news of men biting dogs, but a great deal of news about an exciting fall season at the President’s College – particularly our Shakespeare’s Greatest Hits Tuesday, September 7

**SHOWCASE 2010**
Sunday, September 19

Riding with Chaucer
Monday, September 27

The U.S. Supreme Court
Wednesday, September 29

Moby-Dick Book Club
Thursday, September 30

Operas of Puccini
Sunday, October 3

Directing Coram Boy
Tuesday, October 5

Beethoven’s Shadow
Wednesday, October 20

London Theatre
November 12-19

Showcase on Sunday, September 19 (we look forward to seeing you there), and our trip to London in November (if you’d like to go, please hurry: we already have ten deposits and can accommodate only sixteen people at most). Note that the fall program will begin in advance of Showcase: I will be leading a discussion of key sonnets of Shakespeare, for those who like to talk (and argue) about poetry and puzzle over its meaning.

But that’s not all. In early July, the Reference Department of the Mortensen Library moved into newly created space, thereby freeing up its present office, which we are now planning to turn into a dedicated meeting space for the President’s College. I need hardly say that this positive development in the progress of our little intellectual community will change everything: not only will the space make it possible to schedule most of our courses in a single location, but the space will be equipped to address our requirements – furniture tailored to our needs, sound-proofing, and the latest in technology, including videoconferencing capabilities.

All of this is possible thanks to the generous support of many of our friends, particularly the members of the Mortensen Library Board of Visitors. But the Board of Visitors is also expecting us to play our part, so we are launching a campaign to raise $50,000 to supplement the money already raised by the board. You will be hearing more about this in due course. In the meantime, we would love to hear from you. There will be lots of ways to contribute: outright gifts, but also pledges, and various naming opportunities.

It’s going to be a great year. Sign up now, ignore those dog days, and join your friends in the President’s College!

Humphrey Tonkin