

# Bin Brook

**Robinson College Newsletter** 

Lent Term 2005

#### THE COLLEGE'S FINANCES

It has been an enormous pleasure to meet so many of the College's friends and alumni at our events in London, Cambridge, New York and Hong Kong in the last year and a half.

Some of you may recall my article in the Easter 2002 *Bin Brook*, laying out the College's financial situation and the impact of the decline in State funding upon our ability to offer a world-class education to students today and in the future. Many of you when you attend College events ask me about the position now. Pleasant social occasions are not always the best environments in which to talk about money so I hope that you will find this update useful as a rather more detailed picture than the few snippets of information gleaned from social chit-chat.

As many of you are aware, College teaching is partially funded from the College Fee (supplementary funding received by the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford and Durham), but for Robinson in 2003/4 the income was £665,000 less than the full cost to the College of educating our students (a "shortfall" of approximately £1,750 per undergraduate). Furthermore, the College Fee reduces in real terms by just over 2 percent each year. We subsidise the education of each undergraduate student therefore from the College's conference business and with generous gifts from our Members and Friends.

However, difficult though this financial shortfall is to manage, there are some real changes since I last wrote about this topic in *Bin Brook*. Robinson has been generously supported by Fellows, Members and Friends who contribute according to their means and individually and collectively produce significant results that have a very real benefit for the life of all in College. Examples of this include the construction of the Maria Björnson Outdoor Theatre (see the last two issues of *Bin Brook*) and the forthcoming appointment of a new College Teaching Officer in Economics – generously supported by a consortium of alumni who read economics, or now work in related areas. In this latter case, each contributor has committed to one or more "shares" in the post for a total of 5 years. For each share the supporter makes a donation of £21 per month, or £250 per year, plus gift aid for those who are UK taxpayers.

Of course, there is still a long way to go. Indeed, I rather fear that for most of us intent on preserving the Cambridge



collegiate system this is a journey without end. "Shares" remain available in the Economics Fellowship as we go to press and we are seeking similar support for College teaching in Pure Mathematics, English and Law and urgently need to provide more accommodation for our graduate students as well as further support for our Bursaries Fund as we enter an era of so-called "top-up" fees. Donations from Members, Fellows and Friends are essential in balancing the College books each year and will continue to be so as the College fee reduces further. No element of the much-vaunted University "top-up" fees, payable to the University not the Colleges, will enter the College system directly.

In 2003/4, less than 24% of Robinson's income came from academic fees and charges. Only a further 8% came from income generated by the modest investment portfolio that Robinson, as Cambridge's youngest undergraduate and graduate college, has built up. The balance was made up by income from conferences, student accommodation and residential services and gifts from our friends and alumni. These figures illustrate just how far has been the move away from the historical state funding previously available to former generations to cover the full costs of undergraduate or postgraduate education. This has been the subject of great public debate in recent years. Few can remain unaware of the increasing need for Colleges and Universities to seek other income streams. Academic fees and charges provide just under 24% of College income, a proportion

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#### COLLEGE



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that is already exceeded by income from endowment, investments and philanthropic donations, which in 2003/4 came to some 27.3% of Robinson's income.

Steps are already underway to improve the profitability of Robinson's conference business and student charges are - of necessity - under review. However, philanthropic donations will also be an increasingly important resource for the College if it is to achieve its aim of excellence in teaching, scholarship and research across the Arts, Humanities and Sciences.

From time to time, when I explain this situation, I am asked "is it worth it?" To my mind, there is only one conceivable answer to such a question. The opportunities offered to students who study at Robinson are superb, from the small group teaching in support of lectures, library study and lab time which enable each student to achieve his or her potential, to all the other activities in which Robinsonians excel – whether on the river or the rugby pitch, performing with Brickhouse or the choir,

or supporting their fellow students by taking office within the RCSA. These experiences shape our Members and mean that Robinson today is the embodiment of our Benefactor's and founding Warden and Fellows' vision: a confident, progressive, forward-thinking, and enterprising academic community, genuinely mixed by gender, race, politics, education, religion and social background. All of us here at Robinson are proud of our reputation for success and strive to provide ever-wider access to academic excellence in a friendly, informal atmosphere. Our Members' achievements, in all walks of life, enrich the communities within which they choose to live and work.

If you would like to help Robinsonians continue to excel, you will find a donation form in the centre pages of Bin Brook, where you will also be able to book your tickets for the 2005 Annual Reception – this year at the House of Lords, thanks to the kind invitation of Lord Lewis. I very much look forward to seeing you there.

David Yates, Warden

#### TWICKENHAM AND LUNCHES

A group of around 25 alumni and their guests enjoyed the Varsity Match at Twickenham on 7 December – despite the unfavourable final score! Everyone once again enjoyed the hospitality of London Welsh Rugby Club before and after the match and we were delighted that former Senior Tutor, Chris Hughes, and his wife Maureen were able to join us for lunch. As Adam Law (1990), who brought along a group of work colleagues and clients, put it "We did indeed have a great time, although we all agreed that the third streaker really wasn't up to scratch! Will definitely be along next year, and will look forward to hearing from you in the not too distant future for super advance sales!"

Meanwhile, in College itself, we welcomed the Freshers' Parents to lunch on Saturday 4 December and the Graduands' Parents on Saturday 15 January. The Choir gave a wonderful performance of carols under the Christmas Tree at the December lunch and the Warden launched the new "Friends of

Robinson College" scheme in January. For more on the Friends of the College, which allows families and friends to stay in touch with College and attend its events, see the page opposite.

The events programme continues to be busy and we are especially looking forward to this year's **Annual Reception on Tuesday 28 June 2005**, which will be at the **House of Lords** by kind invitation of Lord Lewis. Our guest speaker will be Lord Griffiths of Forestffach, father of Owenna Griffiths (1992), which will put the seal on what will be a splendid occasion.

Due to security requirements at the House of Lords, we must supply a list of names and addresses of all those attending. Therefore, this year we are not sending out invitations to everyone in advance, but asking you to **request tickets for yourself and your guest by name**. You will then each be sent personalised invitations that you will need to bring along and present at Black Rod's gate in order to gain access. To apply for

tickets, please use the form in the centre pages of this edition of Bin Brook or email development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 339036. As usual, there will be no charge for tickets for the Annual Reception, but we greatly welcome gifts to defray the costs of running the event, which will be c£45 per person this year for champagne, canapés, invitations and so forth. There is a gift form in the centre pages of this edition of Bin Brook.

## EMAIL NEWSLETTER AND EVENTS INFORMATION

The Development Office is now offering a monthly email news and events digest to keep alumni and friends updated on forthcoming activities and events such as concerts, subject dinners and the Annual Reception. To join the circulation list, please email

development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk.

#### **Mrs Amanda Spivack**

We are tremendously pleased to be welcoming Mrs Amanda Spivack to the Development office team as Events Co-ordinator from 14 March 2005. Amanda has a great deal of experience as an event organiser and fundraiser, having worked previously for Scope, the RSPB and The Wildlife Trusts in the northwest and northeast of England.

Future articles on the events programme will come from Amanda and you'll be hearing from her about the arrangements for forthcoming events.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 28 April – Champagne Concert Robinson College Chapel

Saturday 14 May – MA Congregation and Dinner Robinson College

Friday 17 June – May Ball Robinson College

Saturday 25 June – Steinway Concert Robinson College

Tuesday 28 June - Annual Reception House of Lords

Saturday 24 September – 20th and 25th Annual Reunions in College for 1979, 1980 and 1985 matriculands.

Further details for all events may be found on the alumni pages of the Robinson College website at www.robinson.cam.ac.uk.

#### FRIENDS OF ROBINSON COLLEGE

At the recent Parents' Lunches, as at many previous ones, a number of those attending said that they wished that there was a formal mechanism for staying in touch with Robinson after their son's or daughter's graduation.

With this in mind we are launching "The Friends of Robinson College" and inviting parents, friends and relatives of our College Members to become Friends.

Friends will receive the College magazine, *Bin Brook*, twice a year and – if

they wish – monthly email news updates to keep them informed about achievements, activities and events. They will be invited to join us for College and Alumni events, such as the Varsity Match, the Annual Reception (this year at the House of Lords, thanks to the kind invitation of Lord Lewis of Newnham) and concerts, and may book College accommodation and conference facilities, at prevailing alumni rates, subject to availability. The current alumni rate for conference facilities is a 10% discount on list price and Robinson is renowned for the quality of its catering and service.

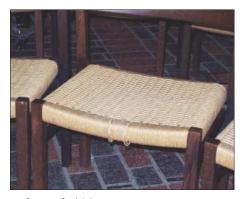
To become a Friend of Robinson, please email development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk or telephone

01223 339036 for a membership form. There is no membership fee for Friends, but we ask Friends to make a regular monthly, quarterly or annual donation according to their means. Donations from the Friends will be used to support College activities, such as supervision teaching, sports and music, and facilities, like the Library, maintenance of the buildings and the beautiful gardens. By becoming Friends of Robinson, families will not only remain in close contact with the College and an important part of our community, but will help Robinson to continue to offer excellence in education to outstanding students from all backgrounds and walks

# COMMEMORATE YOUR CONNECTION WITH ROBINSON COLLEGE

Why not commemorate your time at Robinson, or a family member or friend? Sponsor a Chapel Chair and have your connection with the College or a special person remembered in the Robinson College Chapel.

Each donation of £80 plus gift aid will allow us to refurbish a chair and add a plaque commemorating the donor, or a person that the donor nominates. Donors may make a single payment, or spread their gift over time, paying a monthly or annual amount. Sample chairs are pictured here.



Before refurbishment



After refurbishment

As you know, Robinson College Chapel was built as an integral part of the College. It is non-denominational and visitors are welcome at all services. The Chaplain is available to provide pastoral care for all members and staff of the College, *regardless* of their personal faith or beliefs.

Readers will remember from their visits to the Chapel, that it is full of beautiful detail with glorious stained-glass windows by John Piper – the artist who designed the windows for the new Coventry cathedral after the Second World War – behind the altar and in the side chapel. Decorative bronze-work enhances the main door and gate and the main chapel houses one of the best modern organs in the country. The Chapel is frequently used for concerts and performances, as well as for worship. It is a wonderful place in which to commemorate you connections with Robinson – to sponsor a chapel chair, please complete the form in the centre pages of this edition of Bin Brook, or download it from www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/alumni/support.php returning your gift leaflet to the Development Office, Robinson College, Grange Road, Cambridge CB3 9AN.

# PROFESSOR RAY EGERTON



In June Professor Ray Egerton (Bye Fellow 1983/4) retired from his chair at the University of Alberta, and visited Robinson College. He has recently been honoured by the "Most Distinguished Scientist" award of the Electron Microscopy Society of America, due in part to his pioneering book "Electron Spectroscopy in the Electron Microscope". This book was started at Robinson College and has revolutionised electron microscopy throughout the world. At a celebration dinner, he and his wife Maria, recalled their life in Robinson with their young son, Robin.

Professor L M Brown

#### TRUSHA'S TRAVEL REPORT



Fosters. Despite what

you may have been led

to believe by British

advertising, you can't

even buy it here.

Arriving in Australia after spending the previous four months in China and South East Asia was something of a culture shock. Home away from home, some might call it! No more squat toilets, fewer chopsticks, less rice, and a clear lack of temples around every corner! Plus there was the added shock of real prices again after being so used to paying two pounds for a full meal. Only once away from it all did I even begin to appreciate the beauty and character of countries such as

China where a depressing communist past has combined with modern development to produce what can only be described as a memorable and eye-opening experience.

Foreigners are still something of a novelty in China. The kids that we were teaching told us on numerous occasions how strange we looked. In my own case I was apparently beautiful despite being "black" and having "big eyes". The funniest moments were probably getting stopped in places such as Tiananmen Square in Beijing where random

people simply wanted to have their photos taken with us. However, in hindsight, it is easy to understand why someone who looks completely different in a country where to put it simply there is a clear "normality", is of so much interest.

In comparison, Australia still strikes me as a somewhat cultureless country, especially in cities such as Sydney that appear to be populated by more backpackers (usually of the British and Irish kind) than native Australians. However, in a way it's fairly unsurprising considering the country's clear rejection of its aboriginal history.

However, in many respects Sydney is an exhilarating city. It boasts a spectacular view in terms of the Harbour bridge (which I can now say I have climbed... I even have the

certificate to prove it!) and the opera house. It's a view that's very difficult to get bored with and even after three months here it is the one thing that I am still amazed by. It's fair to say that the bright lights of Sydney are always shining!

Many people might try and argue that Sydney lacks atmosphere and a certain buzz... but nothing can be perfect all the time. In fact, there are many things that the city does very well. For example the atmosphere on New Year's Eve as

100,000 people waited around all day in the Australians do not drink botanical gardens for the breathtaking fireworks display (even better than Trinity and Johns' May balls put together) was simply unbeatable.

> So what else does this country, which gives us the great show that is "Neighbours" (which, by the way, every Australian hates and every British person here loves) have to offer? Well to clear one thing up for any of you who might be thinking of making the trip out here, the Australians do not drink

Fosters. Despite what you may have been led to believe by British advertising, you can't even buy it here. Now, once you have recovered from that shock, there is so much more to see here than just cities and beaches. Next month I will be off to see the famous outback and sights such as Ayers Rock... although I'm only brave enough to stay out there for a few days! I have learnt very quickly that this is indeed an amazing country, but don't expect to come here and learn about a new way of life. Despite its proximity to Asia, it's very much just another place that could so very easily be home. If only it wasn't for the weather reminding you that it's not!

Trusha Patel (matriculation 2001, Economics)

#### **GEORGE COUPE (1924 – 2004)**

All members of Robinson College will be saddened to learn that Commander George Coupe died on the 5th September 2004.

George was appointed to the staff of Robinson College in July 1975 after a very successful career in the Navy. His wide experience in the Navy proved an important factor in his contributions to the foundation of the college. George came to Cambridge in 1941 when he was 17, on a scholarship to Selwyn College to read History. At the end of his first year he was "called up", joined the Royal Signals and was posted to Burma. It was here that he met Flo, a young Queen Alexandra nursing sister from Scotland, who became his wife in 1946 on their return to the UK. Flo and their subsequent family of two daughters, Wendy and Christine, played an important part in George's life and the life of Robinson College.

George returned to Cambridge and graduated with a degree in History. After a brief period as a schoolteacher, he joined the Navy as an instructor officer. He spent the next twenty years in various branches of the Navy attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

He was appointed as Warden's assistant in July 1975. Alan Sharpe was appointed as Senior Tutor around the same time. Henry Woolston joined the college as Bursar the following May, thus completing the initial administrative team for the college. With a number of Fellows appointed, the next three to four years were spent in building the college and formulating its structure of administration and teaching.

George played a major role in virtually all these operations. A few examples may illustrate the variety and imagination that he contributed to the establishment of the college. He realised that at this time many teacher-training colleges were being closed and he surveyed all the colleges that were taking degree courses via the council for National Academic Awards, as their libraries would contain books that were of academic interest to the new college. He identified Hockerill College as a potential source for some of the courses covered in the University. He was able to buy the books at a relatively low price, and this purchase provided a base from which to start the college library. As a bonus, the books had been catalogued and the cost for having to do this would have exceeded their purchase price, a fact that very much appealed to the college donor, Sir David Robinson.

George was also a major participant in the design of the college tie, scarf and sports equipment. He organised the sporting facilities for the new college, arranging the rental of the Emmanuel grounds at the end of Adams Road and the squash courts over the road from the College. This very much appealed to his interest in sport and during his period in the College he vied with the Head Porter in following the success and achievements of the college sports teams.

He was secretary of many of the college committees and in particular was secretary to the College Council from its initiation. He fulfilled this role for 16 years and was a fountain of knowledge on the decisions taken by the Council.

His initial role within the college was Warden's assistant, but he subsequently became Junior Bursar and a fellow of the college. This placed him in direct charge of the college staff. He took this position very seriously, knowing not only the staff but also their families and often their personal problems. George was a very approachable person and attended to personal staff problems with tact, always taking time to deal with these situations, no matter how busy he was.



From the very earliest days, George personally looked after, and introduced to fellows and staff, any academic visitors to the college. Many visitors, who stayed at Robinson, looked upon him as their initial point of contact even after a period of years. His easy manner and personality equipped him ideally for this function. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of past visitors and students.

It would be impossible to fully itemise the variety of roles and contributions that he made to the college. However, on retirement in 1991, he undertook the formidable task of Archivist to the college. There was no one better prepared to undertake this task. He laid a firm foundation for the college archives and retired from this in 2003. George's final appearance in college was for his 80th birthday celebration on St. George's Day, 23rd April 2004. This was a great event, organised by the Deputy Warden, Mary Stewart. It was indeed a special occasion when George, although not well and in a wheelchair, accompanied by one of his daughters, Wendy, rose to the occasion to the delight of the very large audience who had gathered to wish him a happy birthday.

I shall conclude this account by quoting from a letter sent to Wendy, from a colleague in the Navy, which shows how little George's character changed with time:

"It would be impossible to list George's virtues; he had them all in full measure. He was never known to speak ill of anybody and exemplified Christian charity. He exuded calm and his company was a joy".

In my experience this was a fair assessment of George, as we know him in Robinson College.

Jack Lewis (Professor the Lord Lewis of Newnham – Former Warden of Robinson College)

#### THE FELLOW AND DIRECTOR OF STUDIES IN ECONOMICS

Recently, Robinson has been approached by another College with a view to making a joint appointment of an Economics Teaching Fellow to take up post this autumn. The Fellow would be based at Robinson but would split his/her teaching equally between the two Colleges. This gives us an excellent opportunity to make a high-quality, shared teaching appointment that is unlikely to be repeated in a timeframe that will fit our schedule again. For the half-time appointment we need a total of £104,310 over five years and we already have £49,550 pledged towards that from 14 alumni. This leaves a balance of £10,952 per annum (or £8,550 plus gift aid tax reclaimed from the Inland Revenue if the donor(s) are UK tax-payers) to be

Robinson, like all Cambridge Colleges, provides teaching on a one-to-one or small group basis in addition to the lectures and practical lessons provided by the University. This enables our students to explore the themes and concepts presented in lectures and practical lessons in a much more detailed manner, thus providing them with a far greater understanding of the subject.

This College teaching can be provided in two ways, either by a College Teaching Officer (CTO), or by a University Teaching Officer (UTO). CTOs do not hold University teaching appointments and are on the College payroll. UTOs do hold University appointments and are only paid by the College for the teaching that they undertake for us in addition to their University duties. However, as a consequence of the University's more general financial constraints, there are fewer new UTO posts in the humanities and social sciences than there are in the sciences and medicine, and those new appointees who are engaged by the University are frequently attracted to the wealthier and more strongly endowed

colleges than Robinson. Both CTOs and UTOs are Fellows of the College. College teaching is partially funded from the College Fee (supplementary funding received by the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford and Durham), but for Robinson in 2002/3 the income was £559,000 less than the full cost to the College of educating our students (or approximately £1,400 per undergraduate). Furthermore, the College Fee reduces in real terms each year. We subsidise the education of each student, therefore, from the College's conference business and with generous gifts from our Members and Friends.

There are advantages and disadvantages to the College in both teaching options. CTOs are more expensive to the College (at full costs of approximately £42,000 p.a. compared to £13,500 p.a. as a College cost for a UTO), because they are directly employed; on the other hand they have far more time available to take on additional College work. A CTO has more time available to become Director of Studies for a subject at Robinson than have UTO colleagues, who also have to undertake work in the University Faculty or Department. A Director of Studies is responsible for all aspects of a student's academic life; he or she advises students, organises teaching, monitors progress, and ensures all appropriate support is available. In addition, CTOs also take on further College responsibilities, for example, acting as Senior Tutor, sitting on the Education Committee or becoming the College Archivist or Fellow Librarian and attending a wide range of College events, such as Open Days, Parents Lunches and so forth. Thus, a CTO provides essential support to Robinson in return for the additional investment of College resources needed to support the post.

At Robinson, we know that retirements and transfers away from

Cambridge in the next three years will mean that we shall require new CTOs or UTOs in Economics, English, Pure Maths, and Law. These are core subjects, historically and actually. It is very difficult to imagine a college which didn't offer English and Maths being successful, and the relationship between the subjects in a college is organic: the loss of these would have a significant negative impact on those remaining. All four subjects attract very good students, but Law and Economics are particularly attractive to applicants from non-traditional backgrounds in terms of university entrance. This is because a vocational/professional dimension can be very important to first-generation applicants to higher education and Cambridge, and to applicants from schools with little experience of encouraging their pupils to apply to Cambridge – not least in terms of justifying the significant cost of that higher education.

The 14 donors to date have each chosen to take a number of "shares" in this 5-year appointment. Each "share" commitment means that the alumnus/a will donate £250 – or £21 per month – (+ Gift Aid for UK taxpayers) per share per year for each of the 5 years. They choose whether to do this each year as a single sum, or to establish a monthly payment of £21 per share. Higher rate UK taxpayers may also claim back the difference between the higher and lower rate tax paid on the gift, reducing the net cost of each share to £192 per annum to the donor.

If you would like to become a "shareholder" in the Economics Teaching Fellowship, or to support College Teaching in all subjects, please complete the donation form in the centre pages of this edition of Bin Brook, or email development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 339036.

The cost of a full-time College Teaching Officer over the next five years is:

	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	Total
Stipend	£25,699.00	£27,930.00	£29,694.00	£31,828.00	£33,177.00	£148,328.00
Pension & NI	£6,425.00	£6,983.00	£7,423.00	£7,957.00	£8,294.00	£37,082.00
Room	£2,323.00	£2,428.00	£2,537.00	£2,651.00	£2,770.00	£12,709.00
Allowances	£1,284.00	£1,284.00	£1,284.00	£1,284.00	£1,284.00	£6,420.00
Administration	£546.00	£556.00	£566.00	£576.00	£586.00	£2,830.00
Academic Expenses	£250.00	£250.00	£250.00	£250.00	£250.00	£1,250.00
	£36,527.00	£39,431.00	£41,754.00	£44,546.00	£46,361.00	£208,619.00
Average annual cost						£41.723.80

These figures assume recruitment on point 12 of the university scale, advancement by one point per annum, and cost of living increases at 3% per annum with allowances remaining frozen.

## STUDENT TELEPHONE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Robinson is to launch its first student telephone fundraising campaign this June with the aim of updating alumni and supporters of the College on life in Robinson today and seeking your support to help the College continue to offer a first-class education, with excellent opportunities to take part in a wide range of sports, performing arts and social activities.

Robinson College is unique. As Cambridge University's only purpose-built co-educational undergraduate and postgraduate College, the College and its governing fellowship have a progressive and highly inclusive approach to their mission of providing world-class education to students from throughout the globe. But, in 2003/4, only 24% of our funding came from academic fees and charges and only 8% from investment income, as the College's youth means that it has not yet had time to build up its endowment, and as state support continues to decline. The College Fee (supplementary funding received by the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford and Durham) reduces in real terms each year as part of a phased reduction in Government funding. Even before the full impact of this reduction is felt, for Robinson in 2002/3 the income was £559,000 less than the full cost to the College of educating our students (a shortfall of approximately £1,400 per undergraduate). We subsidise the educational costs of each student, therefore, from the College's conference business and with generous gifts from our Members and supporters.

It is a founding principle that no candidate applying to Robinson should ever be evaluated on political, racial, religious or social grounds. This commitment to access through merit alone was the over-riding, guiding value for our founder Benefactor, the late Sir David Robinson, and the founding Fellows.

The telephone fundraising campaign aims to generate gifts for the Annual Fund, which is used to support those areas of College infrastructure or services in greatest need from year to year, whether the buildings, the gardens, the library or College teaching. The students who take part will receive full training, be paid for their work and receive free accommodation and meals in College for two weeks after May Week. We will be writing to those alumni and friends of the College who will be receiving calls in advance of the Campaign. If you would particularly like to be included or excluded, please don't hesitate to contact the Development Office on development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk or 01223 339036.

If you are a current student and would like to be one of the callers, contact Helen on hec39@cam.ac.uk for an application form.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Antonia Collins (1996) married Dr James Rubin on the 15th January 2005. Several Robinson friends attended the wedding in Henley-on-Thames

Emily Halliday (1993) married Lee Tearle on the 18th September 2004 in Cheltenham. Lee is a graduate of St. Catherine's, Oxford.

Jill Kitchen (1999) married Dean Lin (1999), a Robinson exchange student from Columbia University, New York. They married in the US on the 28th December 2003, with a blessing service here at Robinson on 28 March, 2004.



Sarah Major (1994) married Tom Ingall (above) at the Sheffield Marriott Hotel on Sunday 5th September 2004.



Nicola Mitcham (1994) married Huw Thomas (above) in September 2003. They both attended the Reunion in September 2004.

Giles Slinger (1993) married Lucy Crampin (Clare College, 1994) in Nottingham on the 7th August 2004.

Jeremy Davey (1986) and Liza Bowsher became engaged to be married in Seattle in March 2004. The wedding is planned for 25th June this year.



Andreas Papademetris (1997) married Nicoletta Constantinidou on the 19th September 2004 in Cyprus (above).

Lucy Gradillas (née Goddard, 1991) is pleased to announce the arrival of her daughter Adelaida Anna Luisa Gradillas, in May 2004. Adelaida's godparents are Robinsonians, Lucy Harding (née Mermagen 1991), Ted Bell (1991) and Dave Gordon-Shute (1992).



Graham Poole (1985) and Vanessa are pleased to announce the birth of Alexander Lee-Ying Poole (above), who has already joined the jet-set with his first trip to Ohio to visit grandparents and friends.

Congratulations to Andy (1989) and Karen Telford who were married on the 23rd October, and Barry (also 1989) and Pippa Davies who tied the knot on the 9th October, 2004.

#### **Professor Sumet Jumsai**

We were happy to hear from Professor Sumet Jumsai during October, 2004. He was elected Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 2001, Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne, Australia in 2002 and member of the French Académie d'Architecture 2002. He would be happy to hear from members of Robinson who are visiting the Far East. Emails can be passed via the Development Office on development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk

#### MRS DOREEN FORDHAM

Doreen Fordham retired from the College kitchens after 27 years' employment with Robinson. Doreen started work in 1977 in Adams Road, and watched the College being built. We wish her well in her retirement.

## APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Esther Bramley has been awarded the Learning and Skills Council "Apprentice of the Year Award" for Cambridgeshire. Esther completed her apprenticeship in the gardens department here at Robinson under the watchful eye of Desmond O'Grady and all his staff. Congratulations, Esther.

#### **RUGBY**

Joe Ansbro was named TCS man of the match in the recent Cambridge University game against the RAF for the two early tries that he scored. Joe is in his first year at Robinson reading NST Bio.

#### **FAME AT LAST!**

"From The Guardian Saturday January 22, Araucaria:

20 Across "Birds get on with old king that's admitted member of Cambridge body" (8, 7)

Geddit?" (As one Professor of English Linguistics put it when emailing a Robinson Fellow to announce that Robinson has finally gained full recognition as an established Cambridge College by being the answer to a crossword clue in The Guardian!).

#### **HELLOS**

Lewis Westbury (temporary IT support) Simon Brewer (Chef de Partie) Joe Dennis (Database developer) Przemyslaw Leonowicz (Cleaner) Colin Smith (Cleaner)

#### **GOODBYES**

Doreen Fordham (Chef)
Sam Miller (Apprentice Gardener)
Marie Dixon (Assistant to the Tutor for Admissions)
Gary Rowney (Cleaner)

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#### JOHN ST BODFAN GRUFFYDD

It is with great regret that the College announces the death of J. S. Bodfan Gruffyd, Honorary Fellow of Robinson College and designer of the College gardens.

The central area around the Bin Brook owes its character to his vision. His 1979 plan sought to maintain diversity but to provide unity through linking the new College building to the Thorneycreek garden by means of an elevated walkway over the Bin Brook stream.

He envisaged "a wild woodland water garden" focusing on the Bin Brook and a new small lake at the heart of the site, with a feeling of park and informal woodland, while at the same time keeping the sense of the more formal gardens beyond.

His visits will be greatly missed and a full article on his work at Robinson will appear in the 2006 edition of *The Robinson Record*.



#### **ANN BOUZAN (SMITH)**

It is with great sadness that we report the death on 21 December 2004 of Ann Bouzan.

Ann joined the staff of the Conference Office in June 1991 in the capacity of Conference and Events Co-ordinator and her organisational skills were soon apparent as she was 'thrown in the deep end' co-ordinating a number of conferences and events during the first of many busy summers.

Many readers will have had dealings with Ann when booking the Party Room or the Auditorium or Teaching Rooms and will

remember the kindness and patience she always possessed.

She was due to retire on her 60th birthday in February 2005, but alas, this was not to be. She will be greatly missed by all her friends and colleagues.

#### **PHILIP WRAGG**

The College was saddened to hear of the untimely death of Philip Wragg (matriculation 1980, Modern Languages) in September 2004.

He leaves a widow, Carole, and two sons and will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

