

# BIN BROOK

The Magazine of Robinson College, Cambridge

# Inspiration



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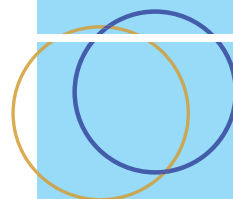
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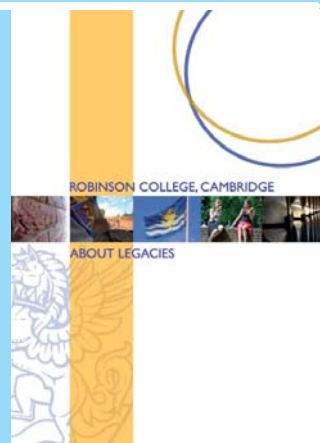
24/25 - Annual Reunion for years 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001



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To book go to [www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/alumni2/viewnews.php](http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/alumni2/viewnews.php)

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**Front cover photograph: Tom Aggar rowing By Tom Dyson (2003)**

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# Animate Yourself



Caracatures from The Door To Adulthood

Claire Violet Hanley, MML and Social Anthropology (1997) talks about the inspiring work she is doing in animation and film, exploring complex ideas through plasticine, and how this can help people confront difficult issues within themselves.

My time at Cambridge (1997 to 2001), while precious and fulfilling, was not as plain sailing as it otherwise might have been. It wasn't until much later, at the age of 29, that I got a diagnosis for a traumatic condition that had been with me since infancy. In effect, I had been living with the emotional capacities of a four-year-old child, a form of post-traumatic stress disorder or developmental trauma. It had arisen from intense stress at around the age of four, and froze me emotionally at that age – but had in no way affected my intelligence. Misdiagnosed for years, and thus also not given the right treatment (or even sometimes given exacerbative treatment instead) this had been perplexing to most around me.

In hindsight, I realised that had my condition been diagnosed accurately back at University (this is a new and cutting edge field of trauma research) with the benefit of good understanding and communication things would have been much easier. I often thought of the Michel Foucault quote I had memorised for one of my Social Anthropology tripos exams: “knowledge is power...” I had the knowledge but

no means with which to effectively communicate it.

By the start of 2010 the diagnosis was confirmed by a second specialist – both of the opinions incidentally given by Cambridge graduates. In the spirit of Cambridge academia, I myself had many times tried to communicate my issues intellectually, but I realised that academic text was not adequately going to answer the questions people asked of me. I could not communicate the functionings of raw emotion in any other way than through an emotional, childlike method. In a flush of “Oh well, I'll just be myself and do something childish!” I turned to a medium any four year old would use; plasticine.

My first film, “The Door To Adulthood; the role of support in the origins and treatment of trauma” was made off the cuff, with a cardboard box and some plasticine, for less than a tenner (most animations cost a minimum of £1000 per minute). Its simplicity belied the complexity of the theories behind it, but I was happy that it seemed to appeal to a wide audience and answer a question I was asked





Claire Interviewed by one of her characters. Child character below.



very frequently “Why do some people get over an abusive childhood and not others?” In addition to answering a frustratingly common query, I also wanted to steer away from an emphasis on genetics, pharmacology and labelling, and highlight the environmental factors that affect the development of a person’s emotional well-being. It is my belief that western cultures can often shield themselves from societal realities or from things they do not comprehend by shifting the locus of blame onto the victim or even pathologising the victim’s brain chemistry or personality. When a local charity endorsed the film and asked to use it nationally at conferences, I felt immensely pleased. The plasticine had already done more good than any of my essays!

Plasticine characters, I found out, by virtue of not being real human beings, were a non-threatening way of providing an emotional buffer between the subject matter and the audience. Whereas the use of real people could overwhelm an audience when exploring sensitive subject matters, plasticine did not. Thus, I realised my venture could be more than just a childish folly and allow me to explore some areas that would otherwise be too taboo or too morally complex to involve the use of real people (for example child protection).

Monmartre had authorised me to use his music for my film and the Community Channel subsequently broadcast it. The film is now being used as a training aid by charities and will be used as part of the NHS emotional first aid project, training professionals who work with 5-11 year olds and 11-25 year olds to better understand the role of emotions and prevent mental ill health in later life.

The film has been shown and discussed at the London Science Museum (Dana Centre) as part of the Developing Identity event organized via the Institute of Psychoanalysis in partnership with Rich Pickings/London Short Film Festival. “The Door to Adulthood” will be shown in Times Square, New York in August.

My next film “The Swan Who Kept Paddling” is about a swan which appears to glide through life effortlessly but whose effort and relentless paddling beneath the water go unnoticed. This phenomenon is common not just amongst people with unseen disabilities but, I now discover, almost everyone! I am blessed with a very understanding and supportive GP, who has known me for many years. He made the swan analogy one day, and I was so overwhelmed finally to feel understood, that I rushed home and started making plasticine river banks!

I am planning future films relevant to trauma bonds and attachment issues, as well as conflict/war trauma and wider social issues. Ultimately I’d like to make academic theories more accessible through short films with an emphasis on correcting stereotypes and balancing media portrayals. Hopefully, if I keep paddling it might just work out!

[www.violetanimations.com](http://www.violetanimations.com)

The composer of the score to the film Amélie De





# Cambridge and a career in screenwriting.

Zoe and Stan Lee after a pitch

Zoe Green (1996) shares her memories of Robinson and talks about the winding journey that she has taken towards working on the silver screen in Hollywood.

I came up to read English in 1996 under Dr Weiss and Dr Jarvis. My group of five included David Pinson who tragically passed away this summer. Dave was a vibrant and larger than life character from the first. I have a vivid memory of racing to hand in an essay in Adams Road at some ungodly hour only to encounter David on the front doorstep on the same errand. He was naked apart from a large and luridly coloured bath towel and a pair of flip flops, and seemed blissfully unaware of the chill hurtling across the fens! I later directed him in a production of Edward II at the ADC. He always combined his acting, drinking and essay crises with remarkable stamina and huge amounts of cheerfulness. I hadn't seen him for years when I learnt of his death but he is one of those people who won't easily be forgotten.

Looking back on Cambridge now in my early 30's I feel a hunger for pure study which sadly I think I lacked at the time! I'm amazed by the fact that I once could roll out of bed and into the University Library, summoning all the available tomes of the world to my fingertips for eight

weeks straight, at no charge, whilst being fed! I wouldn't mind transplanting my current consciousness into a nineteen year old body and trying the Tripos again...

What I did do at Cambridge was try to live my version of how university life should be, and to my mind that involved directing plays, making clunky short films with the architecture department's Betacam, and dressing up in strange costumes and forcing my friends to punt to Granchester and camp overnight while dancing around fires. I lived out in Mill Road with my friends Henry and JG and we furnished our first adult home with items from the Salvation Army opposite and lived on frozen pizza and cheap wine. I had an oil lamp and liked to write essays on Keats by lamplight! I look back and it seems funny, but I also read the essays again recently and I like my teenage conviction. I developed a firm belief that I should work in film, and so in those pre-internet and pre 9/11 days, I used to fly to New York every long vacation on a student work visa through Columbia University and call every single production office in Manhattan offering my services



until someone took a shine to the earnest British accent and hired me as an on-set or off set drudge. I didn't mind walking for 5 hours a day around NYC delivering script sides or deal memos. I fell in love with America and decided that its unique brand of optimism and pioneer spirit suited me fine. But I didn't have a real work visa. So I headed back to London. Then came the post College doom and gloom years. I wish an adult at school or College had mentioned these. Nowadays it's called a Quarter Life Crisis - then it was just Not Done to be struggling with the cold hard reality of fruitless job searching in the arts while banker friends threw money around like water. Eventually I managed to get a job temping at The Guardian/Observer and from there had a lucky break writing a sidebar one day when Claire Armistead the Books Editor ran out of time while I was opening her post. "You went to Cambridge didn't you? You write the piece, I'll fix it!" she said and then, reading through it said "Hmm. Well. This is quite good. I'll run it". She did. I was happy for days. I reviewed books for both papers solidly for two years and then got a place at UCLA graduate film school in Los Angeles. I landed there two days before 9/11 and watched the twin towers collapse on TV in the temporary undergraduate dorm room I had been housed in for orientation week. There was no way of getting home. So I stayed.

Nine years have passed, which amazes me! I completed the MFA program in about four years - as well as the technical requirements and dissertation elements at UCLA you're required to complete and submit three films to the faculty. At that time two of them had to be cut on physical film on an old fashioned flatbed, the sound mixed on mag, and the negative color corrected on weird 60's machines which we were told Coppola had used. I was writing my first sci-fi feature screenplay on the side while studying, and I got the proverbial 'lucky break' on a plane back to LA when I was seated next to a nice fatherly guy who asked to read some of my work sometime. I bit the bullet and sent him the script. It turned out that he was the showrunner for a Marvel TV adaptation of Wolverine and The X-Men and I was hired onto the first season. I got a manager from that, then an agent, and have spent the last five years exclusively writing for film and TV - although

I am now beginning my first season's meetings on young adult fiction which would be an exciting new departure.

My daily life involves reading 'material' - basically underlying existing literary properties which any given studio is considering adapting. I meet with the production company and if they like my basic take on the material, we shape a pitch and go in to the studio together. I usually have to beat another few writers to the job, who are being groomed by the production company concurrently. This is stressful - like we're pretending to have an exclusive relationship but we all know we're sleeping around! Other times, a producer who likes my writing samples will approach me with an original idea and we'll try and develop it together and set it up at a studio. Following the X-Men job I was hired by director Rob Reiner to write a fantasy movie for him, then George Clooney's company hired me to adapt the novel 'The Diamond Age' into a mini-series. I sold 'Tigress', a superhero(ine) movie with Stan Lee, to Disney, and recently 'Gargoyles', with Lauren Schuler Donner, to them. Next I'm hoping to start spreading my wings into fiction and directing my own material. Ultimately, if I'm able, I'd like to be able to accumulate both the resources and connections to start a foundation for young girls and women worldwide - both those who are educationally deprived or who have been victims of abuse or neglect. I'm currently beginning this quest by developing projects with Participant Media here in LA, who always link their movies to a social action campaign.

I live with Patrick, a fellow screenwriter, in Hollywood - where at the time of writing it has been raining for six days solid and there's not a crisp palm tree in sight! For current Robinson students or recent graduates interested in a career in screenwriting - I will use the old adage that if there's anything else you think you could do better, then do that instead, but if not, and if you are fully prepared for years of struggle, rejection and possible relocation to the USA, I'd be happy to talk with you about how to get started. Patrick and I also teach classes on Hollywood screenwriting and you can reach us through the contact form on our site [www.script-emergency.com](http://www.script-emergency.com).

Zoe with friends at Robinson. Zoe this year.



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# Alchemy and Rowing:

Tom Dyson (2003) studied Natural Sciences (Chemistry) at Robinson and talks about how he ended up being the Lead Coach for the GB team, and working with top athletes such as Tom Aggar and Helene Raynsford.

During my time at Robinson, someone much older and wiser once told me “you can work and have a social life or work and play sport but never have all three”. Despite making sport my work, I can confidently say that this statement stretches far beyond the Red Brick walls to the world of international rowing.

Upon graduating I decided it was time to get away from academia for a while, (to be honest, after my first year results it was never going to be my ultimate calling!) and took a position at The King’s School, Paramatta, one of Sydney’s top rowing schools. I’d always wanted to know why Australian schoolboy crews had the edge over their British counterparts and as it turned out a year of stuffing envelopes, carrying boxes and supervising P.E. classes was one of the only ways in. As with most jobs though, it is what you make it. After a short time I’d crafted out a post spending much of my time off the river teaching those who arrived at the school with little educational grounding to read and write fluently, and as much time as possible on water shadowing the then head coach.

Clearly there are tougher jobs out there than watching the sunrise over Sydney harbour, but I’d be lying if I didn’t admit to being a little concerned as to what I had lined up for my return to the UK in June 2007; at that stage, to be precise, absolutely nothing.

I’d never considered rowing coaching a full-time career option until I was handed the number of the then Lead Coach for GB Rowing Team’s Paralympic programme a month before I was due back in the UK. Fast forward 10,000 airmiles, two job interviews and I find myself as a Performance Coach working towards rowing’s first appearance at a Paralympic Games.

You would be forgiven for thinking that Paralympic Rowing training is the namby-pamby cousin of its more oppressive and time-consuming Olympic counterpart but my first week would shatter this illusion. While it falls short of the mileage covered by the country’s top Olympians by virtue of the lower speeds involved, the working hours of the rowers I work with are no less daunting. In the run up to the Beijing Paralympics I was solely responsible for the Mixed Trunk and Arms Double Scull, my first experience of leading a crew on the World stage, culminating in a slightly unsatisfying 5th place. The games themselves, though, were far from an anticlimax. Ultimately my need to coach someone to a world-leading performance drove my decision to extend my coaching career when the then Lead Coach chose to return to his native Australia immediately after the games.

Far from being handed the Lead Coach role, I was made to earn it leading a team that had just come off the back of being crowned the world’s top Paralympic





GB Adaptive team with medals 2011. Tom Dyson below

rowing nation. With no one to fill the role left vacant by my halfway promotion, I set about building a new programme that prioritized the two Gold Medal rowers from Beijing, the Arms and Shoulders single scullers Tom Aggar and Helene Raynsford. When I first took over coaching Tom Aggar in 2009, Tom had already won a World Championships on his international debut and had become the first Paralympic Champion in his class a little over a year later. It would have been easy for him to sit back but I was fortunate that he was interested in seeking out his real potential.

By seeking, I mean digging deep; his training programme is at least six days a week, at least two 90-minute training sessions each day and the best part of this, is that every minute of it is done with his arms due to the disability affecting his lower limbs. In 2009, 20% of the season was spent on overseas training camps, periods of even higher intensity with up to 14 days of 3 sessions per day. It was this level of dedication on Tom's part that has seen him add two further world titles to his name in 2009 and 2010, both by margins of over 13 seconds.

Oddly enough, my job as a coach is a minor part of my day to day role with much of the time spent putting in place a National Lottery and Siemens-funded system to support these top performers. From organising camps, to designing custom seating and managing a team of staff that includes a new performance coach, physiotherapist, strength and conditioning coach,

physiologist and lifestyle advisor, my days are more admin.-based than you might expect. As things move towards London 2012 though, my one hope is that the programme I have worked hard to set up will stand on its own two feet as I turn my attention to coaching the nine individuals that will have the honour of representing their country at a home Paralympics. While it remains to be seen if the team can retain its status as the top Paralympic rowing nation on September 3rd 2012, or if Tom can add a second Paralympic title to his name, I hope some of you will be there to see it.







basen Kelly

Cambridge

M.C. O'Reilly  
Bow

J.T. O'Brien  
2

M.D. Whalley  
5

A.G. Robson  
6

R.J. Charles-Jones  
4

S.D. Rowland-Jones  
3

B.J. Bannenberg  
7

J.L. Whittaker  
Stroke

R.A. Beltinson

Figure 1 The inaugural RCBC 1st May boat from Mays 1981.

## 30 years of RCBC: Memories of bumps campaigns from down the years

This year marks thirty years of rowing at the College and so the boatclub and old blades society are putting on a special dinner at the May bumps to commemorate this occasion (more below). As a celebration of this, Ed Parrott (2002) has put together a set of stories from old blades reminiscing about their own successful bumps campaigns. This focuses on stories from the two ends of 'Binson history, recounting some of the first bumps campaigns of the early '80s and some of the successful bumps stories of the 2000s.





Figure: 2 The 1982 May boat in full flow.



Figure 3: The boat club performed particularly well this year, claiming the Mitchell cup, to be recognised as the most successful college boat club across the year

sadly, John Whittaker, stroke, would later die during term at Robinson.

By 1982 the CUCBC committee had decided to move the boat up a few divisions but this made little difference to the result; the 1982 May Boat also bumped four times – the quality of the oppo was gradually rising and this time we got Magdalene 2, Catz 2, Magdalene 2 again, and LMBC 4. We had bought a second-hand Donoratico by then, hiring a van and trailer to go and get it from Abingdon School I think. It was quite a fine boat, probably a bit too delicate for the rough and tumble of the Cam, but quite fast. We had moved boathouses to Downing by then as well.

In my final year we bumped three times, and so I preserved my record of never having been bumped. I can't remember who we got other than Kings I, our first top boat scalp. As a boat club we won the Mitchell Cup after solid showings right through the club. We got coaching from various quarters, including some from John Sergeant who was a Fellow in College – that's him with the Leander tie in the Mitchell Cup photo. Geoff Barnard, by then in Goldie, was stroke.

## Kirsty Dodds (née Harrison) – Lents 2003

After shaky beginnings (literally? - Ed) a new Senior First VIII started to emerge out of rowing week in January 2003. There were 5 ex-novices in the crew along with 3 existing seniors: Claire Willer, Maria Podinovskaia and myself plus Adam Taylor as our

## Dickie Bannenberg – The first bumps campaigns (1981-1983)

We initially set up camp in Jesus. I can't remember if we had our own boat then or had to borrow one but we got some money from the JCR for a new set of Sutton Macon blades. We had chosen blade colours, fairly conservatively, of the Robinson blue with two gold bars. We figured it was better to stick to the general Cambridge college blade scheme rather than do something offbeat although I think we had a couple of weeks with large yellow Rs on the blades as a trial and so people would know who we were!

Coaching was a bit spasmodic. We got a bit from Tony, the Jesus boatman, and for the Mays I recruited a mate in Magdalene. As a brand-new college and crew, we were started off pretty low and bumped Fitz 6, Queens 7, Trinity Hall 4 and Queens 6, all before 1st Post I think! Five of us had rowed at school and the other three we got started from scratch. Very



Figure 4: The 1st ladies pick up the flag and their greenery after their fourth bump, their bank party looking on.



Figure 5: The customary greenery after another successful bump!

cox. Before we could blink, Lent Bumps 2003 was upon us as a very inexperienced, nervous yet hopeful 'Binson crew paddled up to the start.

**BANG** – It has to go down as the most manic and over-excited Bumps start I have ever been in. We were rating much higher than planned and the 2:1 ratio of the stroke went completely out the window. But somehow, perhaps more to do with good luck (and a first rate pasta faff the evening before!) we got the Bump at 1st Post Corner.

Day 2 thankfully was a little more controlled than the day before and with our new found mantra (courtesy of Bruce Bye) of “Pineapple Chunks” rather than “Kit-Kat fingers” to get the ratio settled down, we moved in for the Bump in the gut. In fact, over the course of the week, we were never going to get out of the gut.... Bump No. 3 came as swift as the first two which just left CCAT for our blades. They made us work a little harder but we caught them for a spectacular finale outside The Plough in full view of the crowds braving the not quite Spring-like weather. What a turn-around!!!!

**Seven years on I am still incredibly proud of the work ethic and determination of the crew.**

## Ed Parrott – 2nd boat blades: Mays 2004

The RCBC 2nd boat has traditionally been a boat filled with successful bumps campaigns over the years, and the 2004 Mays campaign lifted the boat into its highest position ever in Division 2 with a successful

blades assault played out in the glorious sunshine that typified that year's May week. The term had started well, with the early Head of the Cam head race won by over 35 seconds from our target on the first day of bumps, Homerton, so we were feeling confident rowing down to the start on that Wednesday.

The week started with a terrible row that resulted in our boat bumping Homerton before first post – we knew we had been lucky though and our cox (Charlie Dyson) let us know in typical fashion! The

next day we fared better; against a strong and experienced Darwin 1st boat that was closing in on Trinity Hall II in front of them we slowly and purposely reeled in crew in front with some excellent lines through the corners before bumping them just rounding Ditton corner. Our third row against Trinity Hall II had less pressure – we knew we had the whole course to hit them as they were rowing over head of the division so again we took our time and slowly drew them in through the corners, bumping them in exactly the same place! This particular bump got used in a “motivational” recruitment video at subsequent novice rowing meetings, so hopefully inspired further success at some point!

The final bump of the week, taking the crew into the 2nd division and winning their blades, occurred late on Friday evening against Clare II. As a crew we felt tired, and could really feel it two minutes into that last race as the whistles slowly began to come. As soon as we heard two whistles though, the whole crew voted as one to finish this thing off asap, and with some large, surging, powerful strokes we closed the half a length required and hit the crew before



first post, letting out a huge cry of emotion in the process as we realised that we had done it: we had put the 2nd boat into the second division!

Whilst the results for the 2nd boat since those halcyon days almost seven years ago have been a little less successful, those days will come again...

## Mark Sydenham – Mays 2003

RCBC 1st Men started the 2003 Mays 7th on the river in front of a St Catharine's crew full of university oarsmen. Throughout the term the threat from Catz loomed ominously and this helped to focus our training and gradually we started to believe that the Robinson underdog could overcome our more illustrious rivals. A win in 99's regatta showed that the hard work from the crew and coaching team was starting to pay off and we went in to the bumps quietly confident!

Everyone was expecting a very hard first day but from the start we managed to pull away from Catz and bumped Jesus half way down the Reach. The next day we put in an even better performance to bump Emmanuel and were left chasing the LMBC crew that we had shared the boathouse with all year! This was a tougher race but we relentlessly hunted them down and bumped just after the railway bridge. The final day we were chasing Downing for blades and for the final few minutes of the race were within a couple of feet of the bump. Sadly Downing managed to hang on for the row-over.

Seven years on I am still incredibly proud of the work ethic and determination of the crew and grateful for the fantastic coaching support we received from so many Old Blades. Although blades eluded us, we had taken the boat club to 4th place on the river with a crew in which everyone had noviced at Robinson.

## Dinner details

Robinson College Boat Club and the Old Blades Society would like to invite you to join them for the club's 30th Anniversary Dinner on Saturday 18th



Figure 6: A picture of perfection – all eight rowers working together was key to this crew's success.



Figure 7: The 1st May crew from 2003 that took the club to its highest ever finish – 4th on the May river.

June 2011. Over the past 30 years, RCBC has grown in to a vibrant club which has regularly challenged the top crews on the river. We hope that the 30th Anniversary will provide an opportunity for former members from all eras to come back, meet old crew mates and get to know the current generation of 'Binson rowers.

The dinner will be combined with the 2011 Mays Dinner so offers a great chance for Old Blades to spend the day supporting RCBC on the river before coming along to the dinner in the evening. Pre-dinner drinks will be at 7.30pm in the College garden before a 3 course dinner in the Hall at 8pm. The cost of the dinner is £33 per person and includes wine, port and coffee. We hope that you are able to join us to celebrate this milestone in RCBC's history. Please book online using the link below. If you know of other Old Blades who may wish to attend, please forward details of the dinner to them. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mark Sydenham ([mds48@cantab.net](mailto:mds48@cantab.net)) or Simon Bushall ([sfb35@cam.ac.uk](mailto:sfb35@cam.ac.uk)).

<http://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/alumni2/newsitem.php?id=324>



# From Robinson to Tanzania

## Flying Medical Service

Natalie Freeman spent two months over the summer on medical elective in Tanzania, East Africa, getting experience in medicine and learning more about how illness is investigated, diagnosed and treated in a resource-poor setting. She talks to Bin Brook about her experiences.

My friend Peter and I spent our first three weeks at St. Francis Designated District Hospital, a rural 371 bed mission hospital in Ifakara, southern Tanzania. We went to Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Moshi for the next three weeks, a larger referral hospital in the north serving over 11 million people. The last week of our elective we spent with the Flying Medical Service (FMS) based in Arusha, the larger neighbouring town of Moshi.

The FMS was founded in 1983 by Pat Patten (an American pilot) along with his cousin (an air mechanic) when the flight borders closed between Kenya and Tanzania. Their aim was to continue the provision of basic healthcare, previously provided by the Kenyan service, to the Maasai tribal population.

The Maasai are a semi-nomadic tribe living in the semi-arid Rift Valley region of Kenya and northern Tanzania. Traditional Maasai lifestyle centres around their cattle which constitute their primary source of food, with their diet consisting of meat, milk, blood and maize. Houses are made from mud, sticks, grass and cow dung, with many tiny remote villages far from regular health care facilities and very difficult to access by road. The FMS currently flies a regular, two-week schedule to 25 airstrips supplying both preventative and curative healthcare to women and children.

We travelled in one of their two six-seater Cessna 206 planes along with two pilots and a clinical officer from the

hospital in Emboret, the village where the mission base is situated. We flew to two villages each day, each flight lasting around 20 minutes at an altitude of approximately 150m, so the views from the plane were absolutely stunning! We could see scatterings of tiny settlements dotted around the miles of rolling flat plains.

We originally thought we would be assisting other doctors with the antenatal clinics, but it soon became apparent that the pilots were not medically qualified and that we would be running these ourselves! This was slightly daunting at first but after some explanation of what to do from Pat (lead pilot) a few basic Maasai phrases, and armed with knowledge from our recent Obstetrics and Gynaecology finals, we got to grips with things fairly quickly.

Our clinics were held in mud huts, with an examination couch for the pregnant women made simply out of sticks. The clinical officer did a general medical clinic in one half of the hut while we did the antenatal clinic in the other.

The women paid 500 Tanzanian shillings (approximately 25p) for an antenatal screening card which they would bring every month to their check-up. For each lady we checked her blood pressure and looked for ankle swelling as a simple screen for pre-eclampsia. We looked for any signs of anaemia and estimated gestational age (using only our hands as there was no tape measure available). Depending on the stage of the pregnancy we asked 'Je mtoto anacheza?' (Is the baby moving?) and tried to find





Opposite page: TJ & Pat (pilots), Peter and me. This page, starting at the top going clockwise: Maasai hut, view of Maasai settlement from the plane, the clinic room with examination bed and supplies, Maasai woman and child outside the clinic hut, Maasai women and children coming to clinics.

the foetal heartbeat using a small hand-held ultrasound probe. Nearly all the women we saw appeared to be healthy with normal pregnancies or only minor complaints, which was great to see.

Each woman was given medication to treat any worm infection at the start of her pregnancy, antimalarials at 20 and 30 weeks and iron and folate tablets on a monthly basis. Tetanus injections were also done if needed.

We also did some baby weighing clinics, which could get incredibly busy, sometimes with over 90 babies in a morning! The scales were hung from the roof of the hut or a nearby tree and the babies placed in special cotton harnesses, which could be hooked on the end. We plotted weights on growth charts to check all children were growing as expected and thankfully no children I saw fell within the red 'danger' area of being underweight for their age. We then vaccinated various children against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, hepatitis B, measles, TB, typhoid and polio according to their age. Since Pat had worked with the FMS for over 20 years, he felt immunisation programmes were something that had made a significant contribution to reducing childhood mortality.

The FMS is funded by a variety of different sources. The government provides much of the medications and equipment, with fuel being subsidised largely by income from the emergency evacuation service they also provide, which often involves transporting tourists who are acutely unwell to the larger referral hospitals, such as the one in Nairobi. The pilots are all volunteers and donations are also a major source of funds, with a small proportion from

the Maasai population themselves from the antenatal and growth charts they pay for.

For me this was definitely one of the highlights of the elective as we were able to really contribute directly to the healthcare of the local population by actually running the clinics ourselves, putting into practice all the knowledge we had learnt for our recent exams. Being thrown in at the deep end almost and practicing independently has also really improved my confidence in communicating with and examining patients as well as being very rewarding. Moreover, the people were great and the scenery was absolutely beautiful!

Overall I had the most amazing two months! I learnt a huge amount of medicine and feel I have become more confident in recognising many clinical signs and in formulating plans for further investigation and management of patients. I have also learnt a lot about the Tanzanian culture through interacting with the doctors, students, nurses, patients and all the locals, who were all so welcoming and friendly, and am very grateful to have had the opportunity to have seen and done so much.

I would like to thank the following trusts for their generous support, without which my elective would not have been possible:

The Indigo Trust (via Robinson College)  
The Desmond Hawkins Award  
Addenbrookes Abroad  
The Dorothy Johnson Charitable Trust



Dr Isabella Alexander (Fellow) and her husband Matthew Conaglen welcomed the arrival of Robert Alexander Conaglen, a little brother for Katharine, in September.



Born to Carole Dobson (née Johnson 1994) and her husband Dr Mike Dobson of Exeter University, a daughter, Ginevra Aurelia Georgia, on 10 August 2009.



Max, was born on 3rd July after an eventful labour, doing superbly now. A son to Sarah and Andrew Withers (1997).

Linda Ball (1992) 2004-2007: Principal Investigator (Molecular Biophysics) at Structural Genomics Consortium, University of Oxford. 2007: Moved to Berlin to take up current position as research group leader in structural biology at the Leibniz Institute of Molecular Pharmacology, Berlin, Germany. May 2008: birth of first daughter, Gemma Lianah March 2010: birth of second daughter, Sophia Luisa.



Ruth Norris (1998) and husband Miles would like to (belatedly) announce the arrival of Evie Annabelle Norris. Born on 21st November 2009 at a whopping 8lb 10oz and has been fighting sleep ever since!



Dr Paul Smith (Former Fellow, 2000) and Aileen Fyfe are delighted to announce the birth of their second child, Emily, born on 6 September 2010. They have recently moved to St Andrews, where the snowy winter weather is a shock after the balmy climate of Galway.



Dr Rachel Oliver (Fellow) and her husband Dr David Bloore are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, James Philip Bloore on 16th November 2011, weighing 8 lb 15 oz.



Anne and Philip Moser (1987) are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Gabriel, on 6 August 2010; a brother for Lily.

Deborah Finding (1996) had a daughter, Gretel Rose Mackenzie Finding on 8/12/09 and in February 2010 got her PhD from the Gender Institute at LSE. She is now working as a freelance journalist and academic.





Esme Harriet Irons was born on 6 November 2010 to Sarah Irons (née Stocks) and Oliver Irons (both 1998).



Deryck (1992) and Sara Shepherd are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter, Molly, on 26th April 2010.



Silvia and Ian McBride (1992) have had a baby boy called Jack Ian McBride. He was born on 3rd September 2010 at St Thomas' Hospital, London.



Benedict Martin Ledbury, a second son, was born on June 23 2010, in North Adams Massachusetts, to Helen and Mark Ledbury (1986). Helen and Mark became US citizens in December, just before moving to Sydney, Australia, where Mark has been appointed Power Professor of Art History and Visual Culture and Director of the Power Institute at the University of Sydney.



Dr Markus Steiner (1997) and Clare Fellow 2000-2003, and Dr Bronwen Steiner (née Newman, Clare 1994) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Aino Eleanor on 9 November 2010.



Natalie Curry (Newnham, 1993) and husband Savvas Polyviou (1995) had a baby girl, named Nefeli, born August 2010.



Christian Keane (1992) and his wife Elinor Keane gave birth to their daughter Emily Jane Keane on 1st June. James (4 years) and Benjamin Peter Keane, born 2nd July 2008 are delighted with their little sister. Christian has recently been appointed Associate Minister and Director of Student Ministry at St Leonard's Church, Exeter.



Will Mandy (1996) and Chloe Houston Mandy (1997) are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Edgar George William, on 13 November 2010, weighing 10lb 11oz. Hopefully a future demon bowler.



Claire Jeffery (College Chef) and her husband Tom are delighted to announce the arrival of their son Rory on 23rd September 2010.



Jonathan Reeve (1991-94) with wife Anna and sons Leo (3) and Max (1). We are living in Melbourne in Australia, just near the beach which the boys love. I'm the General Manager for IT and Marketing for Aussie Farmers Direct a fresh food home delivery business. Email is jonathanreeve@hotmail.com for anyone who wants to catch up.

Preeti Capildeo (1998) was promoted to senior associate at law firm SNR Denton last year: her field of practice is energy law.

Dr Brian McCabe (Fellow) has been appointed Director of the Sub-Department of Animal Behaviour at Madingley. The Sub-Department is part of the Department of Zoology and has played a distinguished part in the development of Ethology over the last 50-60 years. The Sub-Department is now host to about 40 researchers from four University departments, working not only on Animal Behaviour but also Behavioural Neuroscience, Neuropharmacology and Evolutionary Genetics.

Barry McCormick CBE, (Founding Fellow of Robinson, 1977-80) After eight interesting years as Chief Analyst/Chief Economist in the Department of Health, Barry is resuming academic life and moving to Oxford University Department of Economics, and Nuffield College, as Director of the Centre for Health Service Economics and Organisation.

Tom Karsten (1988) has recently re-located back to Washington, DC from Moscow, Russia with his wife and two sons. Tom and his family welcome visitors and he can be reached by email at <tomkarsten@yahoo.com>.

On the 19th of January Elliott Schwartz (Senior Member) celebrated his 75th birthday, and one week later he heard the premiere of a new work commissioned by the Portland Symphony Orchestra for the occasion. His three-movement composition (the final movement of which was composed at Robinson during the 2010 Michaelmas term) is entitled "Diamond Jubilee." On the 1st of May Schwartz will be in New York as featured composer at a Merkin Hall (Lincoln Center) concert on the Continuum series. He is working on a flute concerto to be performed on 18th September in Washington, DC by the Verge Ensemble.

Mandy Palmer (formerly Bull, née Maltby, 1980) is happy to announce her forthcoming marriage to Ian Palmer on 16th April 2011. Ian and Mandy have been together for 22 years and have two children: Ellie (16) and Adam (9).

Sandra Smith (Fellow) has a new translation of Irène Némirovsky's, *The Wine of Solitude* coming out in October. She has also been commissioned by Penguin to do a new translation of Camus' *L'Etranger* (The Outsider), publication date sometime in 2012.

A. R. Boed (1997) was recently promoted to lead the Hague office of the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda where he is serving as Senior Legal Officer and Chief of the Appeals Chamber Support Section.

A great turn out from Robinson alumni at the April 2010 wedding of Lisa Bailey (1989) & Major Nigel Anderson. Left to right: Sarah Randall (née Davies, 1989), Karen Waller (née Postlethwaite, 1989), Karen Trueman (née Murphy, 1989), Hywel Davies (1987), Ben Trueman (1987), Rebecca Ehata (née Forwood, 1989), Jim Washer (1987), bride, groom, Beth Rogers (née Harding, 1989), Nick Creak (1989), Karen Peart (née Hunter, 1989), Paul Watson (1989), Darren Peart (1989), Debbie Chan (1989), Kris Armstrong & Penny Avril (both 1989).



Martin Paton and Annette Atkin (both 1999) were married on 13th June 2009 at St Peter's Church in Buxton. They shared a fantastic day with many family and friends, including a number of Robinsonians: Lisa Colbear, Catherine Lowrie, Dyfrig Davies and Adam Pickett (all 1999). They would also like to thank Sam Sanders-Hewett (1999), Dave Hall (1999) and Nick Skehin (2009!) for acting as ushers.





In August 2010, Andrea Pasquill (1998) married Dom Veney in Buckinghamshire in front of family and friends including a dozen old Robinsonians. Caroline Cummings (nee Symonds, 1998) and Sarah Binham (1998) served as bridesmaids.



Emily Smith (1996) and Bruno Waterfield were married on 17 October 2009 near their house in the Mayenne, France.



Anne Collett (2000) married Ian Dexter (Pembroke, 2000) on 4 September 2010 at the Limestone Caverns, Dudley. We are living in Birmingham where Anne is an accountant at Poundland.



Dr Anna Santarsieri (2004) is currently working as a doctor at Addenbrooke's Hospital. She was married on Saturday 14th August 2010 to Dr John Rudge, who is a University Lecturer in Geophysics and Teaching Fellow at Trinity College.



On 24th April 2010, Alastair Newman (2002) and Serena (née Aylward, 2003) were married at Beckenham Baptist Church, Kent. Numerous friends from Robinson College attended and Rev Dr Maggi Dawn (Chaplain) led prayers.



Eleanor Pownall (1994) married Dr Tom Gorsuch (Christ's, 1996) on 20 November 2010 at Rostherne Church, Cheshire. The wedding was attended by a number of Robinson friends including Laura Edwards (1994), Pindy Gaiinda (1994), Rebecca Kane (1994), Annabel Lait (née Sainsbury, 1994), Alice Neal (née Pitkin, 1994), Will Santer (1994), Zoe Silver (1994), Andy Smith and Jo Thornhill. The couple honeymooned in the Lakes and India.



Michael Marchant (1998) married Caitlin Smith (Caius, 1998) in Chiddingfold, Surrey on 31 July 2010. Caroline Cummings (née Symonds, 1998) was one of our witnesses, and we were also joined by other Robinson friends; Sarah Binham, Richard Evans, Kathryn Hardwick, Helen Harrison, Jon Hewett, Alex Marsh and Andrea Pasquill (all 1998).



Jonathan (1990) and Sophie Collier (1993) now have 3 children (Lucy Alexander and Sam) to keep us busy. Sophie is working as a Consultant Microbiologist at the Royal Free Hospital and Jonathan has completed his PhD and specialist training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.



Andrew Smith (1993). After ten years trying, we recently (in December 2010) won one of London's most prestigious five-a-side leagues – the TopCorner Caledonian Rd Premiership Title. The team was set up in 2000 by an ex-Robinson student (Peter Colman, 1993) and it currently includes Giles Slinger, Andrew Smith, Brendan McGurk and Adam Mitton, who all attended Robinson College in the mid 1990s. The team is called Diamonds FC – after the strip that Robinson wore in this golden period for Robinson football.



Alex Strick van Linschoten (2002) published a book last year (to critical acclaim, including reviews in *New York Review of Books* and others), on his work in the middle east and has two books coming out this year. Full details on the books at:  
[www.mylifewiththetaliban.com](http://www.mylifewiththetaliban.com) (pub Jan 2010)  
[www.anenemywecreated.com](http://www.anenemywecreated.com) (pub April 2011)  
[www.poetryofthetaliban.com](http://www.poetryofthetaliban.com) (pub April 2011).



Edwin Yee (1989) writes: I head the Business & Legal Affairs of Sony Music Entertainment in the Asian and Middle East region. I am a father of one; my daughter Joanna is 8 years old. I enjoy my work life as well as family life tremendously. I would love to catch up with any Robinson College alumni in the region.

Mark Galeotti (1987), currently the Academic Chair of New York University's Center for Global Affairs, has been promoted to full professorial rank and received the 2011 SCPS Teaching Excellence Award. His twelfth book, *The Politics of Russian Security*, was published by Ashgate in 2010.

Julia Bramble (1983) is Mum to 6 gorgeous children, is really loving family life in Devon and has recently set up her own business as a Social Media Manager. You can follow Julia on Twitter: @JuliaBramble, or join her on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JuliaBrambleSocialMedia>, or visit her website: [www.JuliaBramble.co.uk](http://www.JuliaBramble.co.uk)

In the Record for 2010 a sentence at the top of page 84 was inserted from elsewhere by an oversight. Please delete from your copy all from 'He was also a keen fisherman' to 'bewildering fashion'. We apologise for this misattribution, which will also be noted in the next edition of the Record.

Keith Kahn-Harris (née Harris, 1991), had his second book published in July 2010 by Continuum: *Turbulent Times: The British Jewish Community Today* (co-authored with Ben Gidley).

Tim Luckhurst (1980) contributed a chapter, 'Compromising the First Draft', to *Afghanistan, War and the Media: Deadlines and Frontlines*, edited by Richard Lance Keeble and John Mair (Abramis Academic, 2010), which was launched at the Frontline Club in London. His latest essay, 'Dr Hack I presume? Liberal journalism in the multimedia age', will be published in April in *Face the Future*, (Abramis Academic). Tim contributed to debates about journalism and media regulation on outlets including BBC Radio, Channel 4 News and BBC News Channel and in *The Independent*. He has been delighted to have frequent opportunities to return to Cambridge to visit his daughter, Phoebe, who is reading English at St Catharine's, and his son, Toby, who is reading history at Trinity Hall. On a recent visit he was pleased to accept an invitation to speak about the Future of Journalism to the editorial team at The Cambridge Tab.