

The magazine of Linacre College, Oxford

LINACRE

News

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Cover image:



Cover image: Linacre students at Minster Lovell Hall (see p8).
Photo by: Marsaleete Anderson.



First Thoughts



Phil Sayer

A focus in this issue is the role that Linacre Old Members play in global diplomacy: we are hugely proud of their achievements. The College also plays an important role promoting international understanding by bringing together students and Fellows from a vast range of countries. Linacre is currently advertising its first Association of Commonwealth Universities Visiting Fellowship. ACU is a network of over 500 universities – most in the developing world. It is providing funds to bring an academic, in any discipline, to Oxford for a programme of visits, discussion or research planning – a fantastic opportunity for the University to build exciting new collaborations overseas and to help build capacity in the Fellow's home institution.

When Linacre was founded in 1962, postgraduates formed a little over 17% of the student body at Oxford University. Now postgraduates constitute very nearly half of all students. What is more, 45% of those students are taking taught postgraduate courses. Both the University and the College have had to adapt to these changes. One modification we need to make at Linacre is in our beautiful library – the former Cherwell Edge chapel. While it has always been a secure and peaceful venue for, among many things, a couple of hours of hard work, the book collection was at best eclectic – fun to browse but not the first place anyone would head to find essential study materials. But the growing population of taught-course students with long reading lists has placed new demands on the library. Much of the material is now on-line, and Fiona, the College Librarian, spends a lot of her time helping new students navigate the labyrinth of digital resources to find what they are looking for. She has also been proactive in making sure that we have all the important textbooks on the shelves at the start of term, ready when our students need to get hold of them quickly. The eye-watering cost of most academic books has put a big strain on the library budget, so I am very grateful to several Old Members for kindly supporting book collections. You will see details elsewhere in this issue of the beautiful bookplate, designed by Peter Holmes, which will acknowledge their gifts in every volume purchased. The next problem (but a rather lovely one) is where to put all of these wonderful new books!

Nick D. Brown

Message from the Common Room



Last term the Common Room, both physical and figurative, continued to be its interesting and vibrant self. Members of the CR organised some memorable events throughout Michaelmas. There was a scrumptious array of international potluck dinners, exchange dinners and cheese tastings, rounded off by the wonderful Christmas formal dinner provided by College. The Peer Supporters and Welfare Officer organised an empowerment workshop to help students navigate their way through academia. Skill and knowledge were wielded during our now annual

Green Pub Quiz, while tears and mulled wine were spilled during the traditional Christmas screening of *It's a Wonderful Life*.

As we move into Hilary Term the outgoing executive team and representatives hand over their duties to the incoming, no doubt silently vowing never to help tidy up after a party again. (This is fair – they worked very hard.) Our incoming Exec boasts two extra members: the often-unfilled Fellows Representative, who will work with us to continue making our Common Room an enjoyable space for students, staff and Fellows alike; and our very first OUSU Representative, who will be responsible for informing us about the wider University's plans, as well as representing us in OUSU elections. The Allotment Society is thriving; they are busy planning the new seeds for the year. The Green Students are hosting an open mic night for Linacre's talented, and our Social Secretaries have many treats in store – including a ceilidh, a treasure hunt and a celebration for the Lunar New Year. It is going to be another great term at Linacre and I for one can't wait for it to begin.

Philly Howarth, Common Room President

Linacre Tomorrow

With vital reference to today and the past, Linacre Tomorrow is basically what our Development work continually focuses on, looking to lift the level of all our activities and opportunities to an even greater level for the future. As you join with us, we consider some questions you might ask yourself.

WHY should I ... ?

What's the prompt for giving any kind of support to Linacre? It might be wonderful memories of your own positive student experience; awareness that times are hard financially for 21st century students; or the strong desire to see a great college thriving and building on its current success. We hope, too, that the generous gifts and involvement of many others will inspire you. Some recent donations and pledges from trusts not particularly well acquainted with Linacre – yet fired up by our mission – encourage us as College members, to deepen our support. The **Agnese Nelms Haury Trust** has made a gift of £120,000 for a First Nations Scholarship for a Canadian or US student; this is an enterprising venture giving opportunities to under-represented students, and is an exciting development, aided significantly by Supernumerary Fellow **Professor Diana Liverman**, who has been Linacre's link with the Trust. The **Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust** has made



Agnese Nelms Haury

a pledge of £93,000, matched by the University, and also with kind financial input from the Environmental Change Institute, for a student from Africa to be fully funded for the MSc in Environmental Change and Management. These two bodies have put their faith in Linacre; it's an inspiring pattern for us to follow.

HOW can I ... ?



Linacre student and telethon caller Carryn Yong

It may come as a surprise to read that the answer isn't simply: 'Give money!' Please think of mentoring young alumni or students, hosting an event in your home or city, meeting up with a Linacre member visiting your country, suggesting events or projects, and passing on details of potential funding bodies. One recent example of Old Member involvement is the completed **Brewer Street Scholarship**, endowing a College fee scholarship in perpetuity – this was the brainchild of **Dr Caroline Bucklow** (1978) who,

along with **Bruce Reynolds** (1973), has generously made significant gifts for the Fund, along with other kind donors. "Why 'Brewer Street'?" some may ask. For over two decades Linacre students lived in numbers 7 and 8 Brewer Street, and stories abound of the quirky nature of the building, an electricity meter which didn't need feeding being one we recall. Others are the 15th annual **Italian Linacre Lecture** (see page 4), organised totally by Linacre Old Members and in 2014 featuring three Old Member speakers; supporting one of our new **Book Collections** (see page 9) and building up our stocks of reading list books; and **answering the phone** which, roughly translated, means taking part in Linacre's first ever telethon since 2000, to parts of North and South America. If you are six hours' time or less from Oxford, enthusiastic students will be ringing you, in late February and early March, to reconnect, hear your news, and tell you about our latest projects. We would love it if you could spare 10 minutes to talk.

WHO can I ... ?

What are Development's latest plans for the future, and which students specifically could you help? You may wish to make a gift to Student Support; in that case there is a range of current options:

- **Anthropology Scholarship Fund**
- **Hicks Scholarship Fund** (for Economics)
- **Linacre House Trust** (hardship fund)
- **Patrick Heffernan Fund** (for student support)
- **Women in Science Scholarship Fund**



Lady Ursula Hicks

Or if you would like to help develop our Junior Research Fellowships, a donation to the **Paul Nurse JRF** (Biomedical Sciences), or to our **General JRF funds**, would be wonderful. We hope eventually to enable all our JRF funds to be fully endowed.

THANK YOU to the 200+ donors who have kindly given support since August 1st. In particular, as well as those named above, we warmly thank for substantial new gifts or pledges this autumn: **Santosh Jayaram** (2003) & Dawn Marshall (Patrick Heffernan Fund); **Dr Sue Whiting** (1972) (Women in Science Scholarship Fund); Hitachi Chemical (Hitachi Chemical Environmental Scholarship).

Linacre Events

15th anniversary



Warm congratulations are due to Linacre's Italian Old Members, who successfully organised the 15th annual Italian Linacre Lecture on October 11th, 2014 in Rome. We thank specifically, **Dr Rasmus Brandt** (1970), President of the Italian Linacre Society, who skilfully and thoughtfully arranged the whole day and also led a fascinating visit to the Non-Catholic Cemetery, and **Adam Gerrand** (1993), who hosted afternoon talks in the India Room at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and, with the Principal, **Dr Nick Brown** (1986) and **Dr Danae Maniatis** (2006), made up the panel of speakers. The afternoon's theme was: *Forests, Climate Change, and Environmental Governance*, and all three talks provoked much interest and discussion, followed by the customary dinner, much enjoyed by all, to round off the day. Many thanks are given to Rasmus for his dedicated organisation of the annual lecture and associated events over the past three years; we welcome **Professor Maurizio Lupoi** (1964) as incoming President of ILS, and **Professor Sabrina Bruno** (1990) as Vice-President, and very much look forward to the 16th ILL in 2015.

Anne Keene

Tanner Lecture in June



The 2015 Tanner Lecture on Human Values, hosted by Linacre College, will be given by Professor Peter Singer, Ira W DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University, on Tuesday, June 9th at 5.30pm at the Andrew Wiles Building at the Maths Institute. Everyone is welcome to the lecture.

Scholarship lunch

The annual lunch for the College's growing number of scholarship recipients was held on October 21st, enabling scholars to meet one another as well as learn about the donors who have so generously made these scholarships available. Although studies-related commitments meant that 50% of scholarship holders weren't able to attend, we were delighted to welcome those pictured below.



Business, finance and law



Members of Linacre's Business, Finance & Law Network met again in central London, on October 16th; we returned to a favoured venue in Leadenhall Market, where we had a record turnout, and enjoyed a fantastic evening. Please join us next time!

Informal photos are often taken at Linacre events, and may be used in College publications or on the website. Please let us know if you do not want to be photographed.

Linacre Events

In memory of Lt Col. Patrick Heffernan

In *Linacre News* Issue 46, plans for a memorial to Patrick were mentioned. A fund has now been set up in his memory; a number of kind donations have been made by Old Members who were students when Patrick was Domestic Bursar in 2001 – 2011, and these gifts, now £5,000 in total, will be put into a special Hardship Fund named for Patrick. We warmly thank all the donors. If you would like to make a gift, please contact Anne Keene at anne.keene@linacre.ox.ac.uk. The College will also commemorate Patrick with a special dinner later in this academic year; if you would like to attend, please contact Ros Connell at ros.connell@linacre.ox.ac.uk.

Holiday lunch

Linacre members staying in Oxford gathered around the Principal's table just before the Christmas holidays for an informal lunch hosted and prepared by him. Pictured (L-R): The Principal, Tyler Ambrose (Canada), Ndjodi Ndeunyema (Namibia), Rachel Rawana (Canada), Saviour Amanyoo (Ghana), Dr Gunes Unal (JRF, Turkey), Lily Liu (Taiwan), Ahadjon Ismatov (Uzbekistan), Jordan Mansell (Canada), and Vivek Kothari (USA). Also present but not pictured were Chika Eze (Nigeria), and the Principal's wife, Dr Roosa Leimu-Brown, who took the photo.



Linacre news and information

posted Friday on Twitter, Facebook & LinkedIn



Looking ahead...

March 26th – 30th • Linacre events in Canada
Please contact Anne Keene for further details.

Friday, 24th April • Linacre dinner in Vienna
With an after-dinner talk by **Professor Carolyn Gianturco** (1967), OM and musicologist: *Mozart's professional life in Vienna is well-known, but what was his rapport with his father? with his wife? with Antonio Salieri?* Contact rachel.rawana@linacre.ox.ac.uk for more information or to book. This is being held in conjunction with the 'Meeting Minds' Alumni Weekend in Europe, 24th -26th April 2015.

Tuesday, 19th May, 6.30 – 9.00 pm • London Summer Reception

This year we are delighted to invite you to come along to a summer evening reception at the Cinema Museum for sparkling wine, canapés, and a nostalgic journey through the artefacts and memorabilia of cinema before the multiplex. This quirky Aladdin's Cave is located in the former Lambeth Workhouse, a striking Victorian building which on several occasions was the temporary home of the young Charlie Chaplin and his destitute mother. Full details and booking information will be available on the College website, or contact marsaleete.anderson@linacre.ox.ac.uk. All Linacre Old Members and their guests are warmly invited.

Tuesday, 9th June, 5.30 • Tanner Lecture on Human Values

See page 3. All welcome. Enquiries to ros.connell@linacre.ox.ac.uk

Saturday, 4th & Sunday, 5th July 2015 • 2015 Gaudy

A weekend for 2001 – 2011 matriculands, featuring a Saturday night buffet dinner and ceilidh with live band and caller. Booking, programme, and accommodation details will be sent to all cohort members for whom we have an e-mail address, or contact marsaleete.anderson@linacre.ox.ac.uk

Friday, 18th September • Linacre Old Members' Dinner and visit to Pitt Rivers Museum

In conjunction with the Oxford University 'Meeting Minds' Reunion. Details will be posted on the College website in due course. All Old Members, Fellows, and their guests are welcome.

Keep up to date on Linacre events, which are published on the College website, <http://www.linacre.ox.ac.uk/old-members-friends/old-members-friends-events>

Diplomatic Linacre

It will come as no surprise that a college as internationally diverse as Linacre has a number of Old Members who play important roles on the world stage and in international relations. **Sir Bryan Cartledge** enjoyed an impressive diplomatic career, which included ambassadorial appointments to Hungary and to the former Soviet Union, before becoming Principal of Linacre, while former Ambassador **Nils-Johan Jørgensen** (1962) made his mark in the Norwegian diplomatic service. **Dr P Michael McKinley** (1975) has recently assumed his third ambassadorial appointment as US Ambassador to Afghanistan (see Grapevine, p14), while His Excellency **Jasem Al-Budaiwi** (1992) is Kuwait's ambassador to Seoul, South Korea. Others, too numerous to list, presently represent their countries in embassies, consulates, United Nations missions, and other international bodies. This focus specifically highlights some who currently serve in Embassies and Missions.

Dr Carolyn Browne (1981) British Ambassador to Kazakhstan



I was at Linacre from 1981 to 1985. Three things happened to me that year. Firstly, I managed somehow to convince Oxford University to award me a DPhil in exchange for my research on genetic transfer in multi drug-resistant bacteria. Secondly, I realised that I had become bored with scientific research and

needed a change of direction. And thirdly, I joined the Foreign Office. Why the Foreign Office? Someone bet me at the time that I wouldn't be able to, on the grounds that I was triple disadvantaged: I was female, I couldn't speak any foreign languages, and I was a scientist. Proving them wrong turned out to be the motivation which eventually propelled me into a career of exceptional variety – one which continues to fascinate me with the challenges and opportunities it presents every day.

In 1985, when I joined, it was still unusual to be a scientist (less so to be female) in the FCO. But that was changing. Among the 14 or so graduates who joined in my year was a graduate from the Royal College of Music; a fluent speaker of both Chinese and Hungarian; and the person who would in time become the Executive Director of Greenpeace. These days I'd say that the FCO fast stream intake is at least as varied.

I spent the first two years in London as the desk officer for UK/Irish relations. This was just after the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement – which, although it failed in its immediate aims, did start a process which would eventually give rise to the Good Friday Agreement 13 years later. I then spent time learning Russian – taught by recent refuseniks living in London while dreaming of the land which they had left behind – before arriving in Moscow in 1988. Gorbachev's *Perestroika* (and indeed also *Glasnost* and *Uskoreniye*) were already in the air. For the next three and a half years, I had a ring-side seat at the spectacle of the USSR slowly crumbling under the weight of its own internal contradictions. I travelled throughout the country – to every constituent Republic and to most of the smaller regions too. Among the many people I met were a number who remain vividly to this day in my memory – ordinary people just wanting a more decent life and risking their livelihoods (and more) to seek change. And I well remember the events leading up to the failed coup of August 1991, when Gorbachev was arrested, tanks appeared overnight on the streets of Moscow, and a little known regional governor called Boris Yeltsin seized the moment to defy those attempting to put the clock back.

Much of my career since then has been, one way or another, pursuing UK interests in a world irrevocably shaped by those events. After Moscow, I worked on European Union expansion – we had the famous front page of *The Sun* bellowing, 'Up yours, Delors!' pinned up on the wall of my office, to inspire us all – and then in New York where I was part of the UK's team on the UN Security Council. I was involved in policy responses to three areas of conflict – the breakup of the former Yugoslavia and the descent into war of the Western Balkans; the frozen conflict on the island of Cyprus; and the various conflicts arising in the states which had gained independence following the breakup of the USSR. Difficult times indeed. This was followed by work in London on human rights policy

Diplomatic Linacre

– I’m particularly proud that a British Government campaign against torture which I launched in 1999 is, 15 years later, still going strong – and work in Brussels for the UK Delegation to the EU to encourage the framing of an activist and purposeful European foreign policy. Still work in progress, I think. In 2007 I was appointed as the first female British Ambassador to Azerbaijan; and in 2013 I became the first female British Ambassador to Kazakhstan, where I continue to work. I’m now regarded amongst my FCO colleagues as being able to speak fluent oil-and-gas; both countries are exceptionally resource-rich. I’m also the first person in the FCO to qualify in the Azeri and Kazakh languages. In fact, the FCO had to write a syllabus and examinations in the Kazakh language especially for me. Who says that female diplomats in the FCO can’t be powerful?

Dr Jean de Lannoy (1994) *Deputy Chief of Mission, Belgian Embassy in Ukraine*



Jean de Lannoy, portrait
by Seiji de Lannoy

Old Linacre friends may be surprised to see me contributing to this issue. Indeed, after a DPhil in anthropology, I did not pursue an academic career but became a diplomat. One reason for this switch was a desire to deal with issues of wider relevance. I was also attracted by the greater ease to change countries and continents, as anthropologists often end up ‘cornered’ in a specific region. Having done a DPhil certainly helps thinking and writing, and fieldwork taught me to integrate deep into a society. Oxford and Linacre also gave me a worldwide network of friends, and I am always happy to reunite with them as I come to live for a few years in their respective countries. I would be as happy to be able to tap into former Linacrians’ expertise.

Jean studied history of art in Belgium before doing an MPhil and DPhil in anthropology, the latter based on two years of fieldwork in the Pacific nation of Vanuatu. After leaving Oxford, he worked for the Pakistani Embassy in Brussels, while preparing for the Belgian diplomatic recruitment exam.

By a twist of fate, one of my first tasks consisted in coordinating the EU position at the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in Geneva on a project of agreement dealing with ‘genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore’ (GRTKF in the organisation’s jargon) as intellectual property. Anthropology was perhaps an excellent background in an organization where technical work, ranging from copyright to patents and plants registration, is increasingly overshadowed by rivalries between groups of countries.

There is certainly an element of randomness in the life of a Belgian diplomat. After my assignment to WIPO, I was unexpectedly sent to Oslo. There was no shortage of fascinating topics in Norway, such as Arctic cooperation, the Spitzbergen Treaty, oil exploration, or the peace and mediation efforts of Norwegian foreign policy. A highlight of our stay was to represent Belgium at the Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony for Aung San Suu Kyi, which had been delayed for twenty years. After a little more than two years my position was suspended due to staff shortages and I was offered ‘NATO or Kiev’ instead. I am very thankful to my wife, Yuna (Linacre 2000) for accepting this lifestyle at the cost of a stable career for herself. Our children, still very small, adapt easily, happily looking toward a ‘bigger’ school at the next move, and adding early on words such as ‘revolution’ and ‘barricade’ to their vocabulary.

We opted for Kiev, thinking it would open new horizons. Arriving in Ukraine in September 2013, we were told ‘nothing ever happens here, but it is good for a young family’. Two months later, the Maidan revolution began and since then we have not stopped running from one surprise to the next. Contrary to impressions, life in Kiev remained mostly peaceful and our family stayed in the country except for some holidays – to our children’s regret no longer to the beaches of illegally annexed Crimea.

In the Belgian embassy in Kiev we are a small team of only two diplomats, ‘lean but mean’ (an edit from my boss). It means that we naturally develop an overarching view of the country – political as well as economic, societal and cultural – and work long hours. Following the clear election victory of reform-minded parties, and despite the foreign aggression, Ukraine should grab the chance to address decisively its numerous governance problems. As diplomats from EU countries we are committed to building bridges and to supporting the people of Ukraine in anchoring the rule of law and laying a solid and irreversible base for a democratic and prosperous future.

Diplomatic Linacre

Dr Jamieson Weetman (1999) *Political Counsellor Canadian Embassy in Bern, Switzerland*



I never set out to become a diplomat. I thought I would be a medieval historian. But I can pinpoint the day when all that began to change. As on many other days, I had been ploughing through 650-year-old documents in Medieval Latin. Leaving Duke Humphrey's Library and descending the Bodleian

staircase, I overheard a student on her mobile phone: 'What do you mean planes are flying into buildings?' Then I ran into a fellow Canadian student from Linacre. Her exact words were: 'The US is under attack! The Americans are going crazy!'

After getting home I went over to my only friends in Summertown House with a TV. We spent the next couple hours watching in horror and disbelief events unfolding in New York. Who was this Osama bin Laden? What was al Qaeda, and why was it attacking the US? None of this made any sense to me. I suddenly felt that the world I understood best had already been dead for over half a millennium.

As it happened, the entrance exams for the Canadian Foreign Service were coming up. A friend of mine who had done them the year before suggested I go for it. I hadn't given it that much thought. Now I saw in the Foreign Service an opportunity, as I announced self-importantly to my wife, Antonia, 'to become a man of my times.' I put my studies to one side for a few weeks and prepared. To my disbelief, I passed the exams, interviews, and security checks. I was in. With our newborn son, we were moving to Ottawa.

It was tough in the beginning. First came intensive language training – six months of studying French for eight hours a day. Then came my baptism of fire as desk officer for Canada–US defence and security relations, starting the day the US invaded Iraq. It was 'on-the-job training,' which is a euphemism for screwing up a lot and getting yelled at by stressed-out bosses.

I was also still trying to beat into submission my draft thesis on plague and religion in fourteenth-century London. The brutal sleep deprivation of new parenthood didn't make it any easier. I somehow managed to finish the DPhil, but was now living in a different world. Two years after watching 9/11 unfold on TV in Summertown House, I was walking by Donald Rumsfeld's office in the Pentagon and talking to US colonels about missile defence.

The steepest curve was learning how to write for the Department. No more long and serene periods of research and hours spent on crafting a single sublime paragraph. There was no time. Briefing notes, speeches for Cabinet Ministers, memos, and presentations were often required on an urgent basis. We cut and pasted, plagiarised, and massaged previously approved text. It felt intellectually dishonest, but it was the only way to meet deadlines.

Since that time there have been many memorable experiences: flying in a helicopter into a rebel camp in northern Darfur, Sudan; attending Commonwealth summits in Malta and Uganda; digging the embassy 4x4 out of the mud in Mali; hosting Bob Geldof, Annie Lennox, and (then opposition leader) David Cameron in Canada House; meeting Hereditary Prince Alois von und zu Liechtenstein in his alpine castle overlooking Vaduz...

I often think back upon my days at Oxford, including conversations with that distinguished historian of plague, Paul Slack, and wonder: what if? Could I have cut it as a real academic? Would I have done something worthwhile in my field? I don't know if I'll be a 'lifer' in the Foreign Service. Among my generation of diplomats the career is probably more fluid than in the past. People move in and out at different stages of their lives. Nevertheless, it has been a great experience. My life has gone in directions I never could have imagined all those years ago as I carefully unrolled fourteenth-century scrolls for the first time and thought about plague and religion.

Cover photo

Four Linacre students from the 2014 cohort are shown exploring the ruins of Minster Lovell Hall near Oxford. (Top to bottom: Matthew Davey, South Africa, MPhil in Geography and the Environment; Margot Leger, South Africa, MSc African Studies; Andrea Camacho, Colombia, MSc Environmental Change and Management; and Paul Amayo, Kenya, DPhil Engineering Science. The outing was the result of a winning bid in the CR Charities Auction in Michaelmas term, and included a country walk near Burford and pub lunch. Margot and Andrea are also two of the student callers for the upcoming Linacre telethon.

College News

A growing Linacre resource

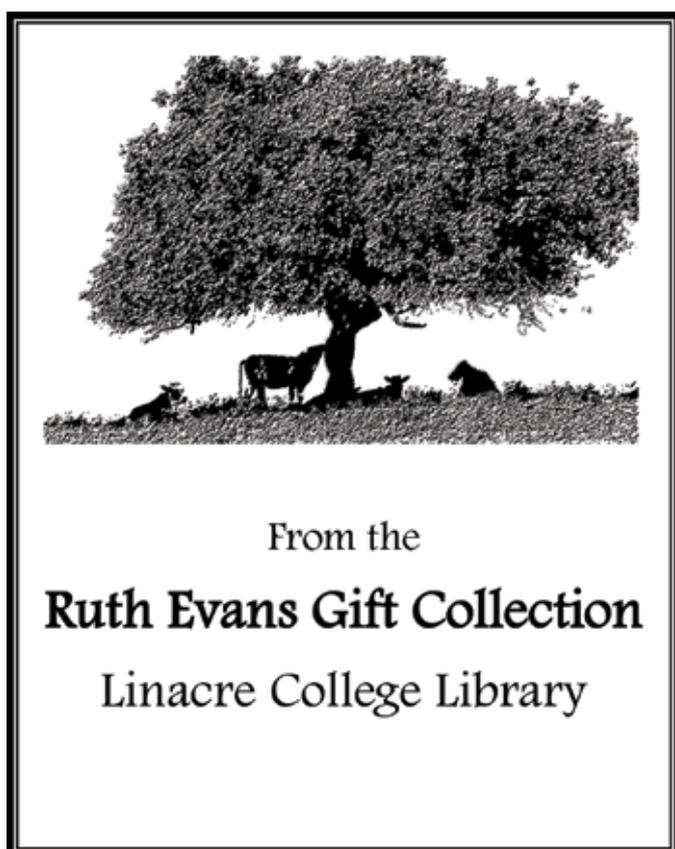
The Linacre Library is growing. It is not growing physically, but its acquisitions are taking on a fresh slant, as Fiona Richardson, Librarian, aims to build up reading list materials for Master's students, and effectively to source documents for those doing DPhils. In addition, sparkling new chairs have appeared in the main Library; the Library Assistant, Marie-Elizabeth Keil, is an active member of the Library staff; the Book Club is now an established Linacre fixture; the seven new chairs in the Reading Room are being regularly enjoyed; and **Book Collections** are being supported by kind donors. Much of the above work has been implemented thanks to Richard Robinson, who via a generous donation of £15,000 matched a College Contributions Committee grant of the same amount. To acknowledge Richard's gift, the Library has set up a substantial **Ruth Evans Gift Collection**, with books named for his wife, and displaying a beautiful bookplate designed by the Principal. The book collection concept appealed so much that we are now offering further ones, with naming of 20 books for £500; a new Linacre bookplate designed by current student Peter Holmes (see adjacent photo), will grace each of those books with the name of the donor, or friend. We warmly acknowledge the estate of **Dr Lorna McDougall** (1966), and gifts from **Dr John Holmes**, Fellow, and **Dr Juan Tan Boon** (1992), for three book collections. Please contact the Development Office if you would like to name a collection.

Winning design

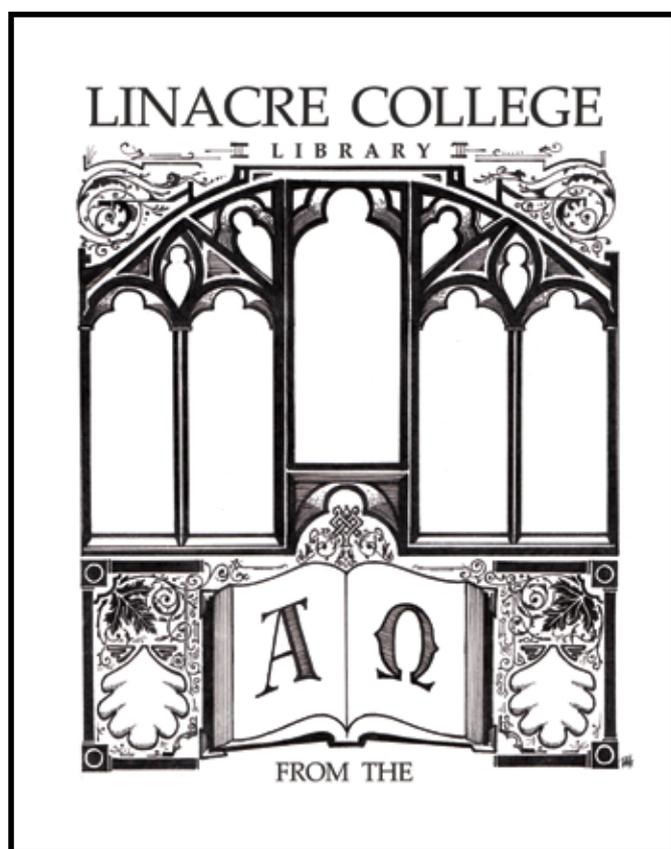


Principal and Peter Holmes

Congratulations to Linacre student **Peter Holmes** (2012, DPhil Biochemistry) on creating the winning design for the College's new bookplates. Peter hand-drew the design in pen and ink, drawing inspiration from the College. His design features aspects from Linacre's coat of arms, alludes to the Library's famous stained glass window, and is a wonderful example of how multi-talented Linacre's students really are. Peter will also be one of the student callers in the upcoming Linacre telethon.



Ruth Evans Gift Collection bookplate



New bookplate designed by Peter Holmes

Fellows' Focus

Dr Man Yee Kan

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology



I am interested in gender equality issues and have been researching on women's and men's time spent on paid work and unpaid work. Through analysis of time diary data, in which respondents reported what they were doing during the day by filling in diaries, I have identified some common trends in paid and unpaid work time between the 1960s and 2010s in 12 Western

countries. Rather disappointingly, women nowadays still undertake the major share of domestic work and caring work and have shorter paid work time than men. A more positive piece of news is that the trends reveal a slow and incomplete convergence of women's and men's work time over the years, suggesting men are doing more domestic work over time. However, gender segregation in domestic work poses a barrier to gender equality. Women continue to do the bulk of routine housework, such as cleaning, cooking and doing the laundry, and caring for family members. Men have disproportionately increased their contributions mainly on non-routine domestic work, such as home repairs and grocery shopping. The decline in women's domestic work time over the years is due largely to a reduction in the time they spend on routine housework, as well as to a less substantial increase in men's domestic work time. Despite equality in educational access and in legal requirements for equality of treatment in the workplace, women still take a primary role in domestic work, while men are doing more, although primarily in non-routine domestic tasks that are traditionally perceived as 'masculine'. This suggests that the influence of traditional expectations on gender roles in the division of domestic labour remains quite strong. The decline in women's domestic work time is driven by other factors such as the growth of demand for women's participation in the labour market and the diffusion of modern domestic technologies that increase efficiency in housework.

I have recently extended my research to the domestic division of labour in four East Asian countries: China, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. These countries have a very low fertility rate of about 1.3 children per woman. Given the cultural and historical differences among the East Asian countries, it is interesting to find out why they exhibit uniformly a low fertility rate. Is it at least partly because gender roles are still very traditional so that marriage and parenthood are not

attractive to women who have already caught up with men in educational attainment? Analysing survey data and time diary data, I investigate particularly the husband's role in married couples' decision on fertility. If the husband does more housework, will the wife be more willing to have babies? Past studies on countries with the lowest low fertility such as Spain and Italy have suggested that couples where the husband helps on housework are more likely to have more children. But little is known about East Asia. My preliminary findings have shown that there are both differences and similarities in men's housework participation among the four East Asian countries. In all the countries women do much more housework than men, but housework participation is the most segregated by gender in Japan and South Korea: women do a lion's share of cleaning, cooking and washing clothes, and most men never or seldom do these. In all the countries, having more children is associated with more housework for women but not for men. Women prefer having fewer children if their housework share increases. In other words, they aspire to have more children if their husbands increase their participation in housework. Given the social and institutional obstacles to men's greater housework participation in many East Asian countries, this finding bodes ill for the future fertility trends in the region. In the next stage of my research, I will investigate in great detail into gender segregation in different types of domestic work and the temporal patterns of housework.

Anglo-Japanese award



Dr Leonid Nikitenko, Linacre Adjunct Fellow and former JRF (2002-2004), is the recipient of a prestigious award from the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation supporting the development of his collaborations with scientists in Japan. This included a period of research in the Universities of Tokyo and Kumamoto in late 2014. During his visit to Japan,

Dr Nikitenko also delivered a lecture in Myazaki—the 'birthplace' of the molecule adrenomedullin, on which he has done the majority of his research since 1999. While in Japan, Leonid kindly represented the College at the memorial for the late **Professor Tetsuya Nosse** (1962) in Kobe (page 13) and also renewed his acquaintance with **Mr Takashi Uyeno** (1968), Honorary Fellow and Chair of the Linacre Japan Society, over lunch in Tokyo.

Fellows' News

Academic Distinction

Congratulations to the following Linacre Fellows and Old Members who have been awarded the title 'Professor' by the University in recognition of their outstanding contributions to scholarship.

Heather O'Donoghue, Vigfusson Rausing Reader in Ancient Icelandic Literature and Antiquities, was made Professor of Old Norse.

Michael O'Hanlon, Director of the Pitts Rivers Museum, has been made Professor of Museum Anthropology.

Matthew Gibney, Deputy Director of the Refugee Studies Centre, was made Elizabeth Colson Professor of Politics and Forced Migration.

Laura Peers, Curator for the Americas Collections at the Pitt Rivers Museum, was made Professor of Museum Anthropology.

Adjunct Fellow **Lesley Smith**, Fellow and Tutor in Politics at Harris Manchester College, was made Professor of Medieval Intellectual History.

Former JRF **Radek Erban** (2005-2008), Royal Society University Research Fellow at the Mathematical Institute, was made Professor of Mathematics.

Old Members include **Abigail Williams** (1995), Lord White Fellow at St Peter's College, who was made Professor of Eighteenth-Century English Literature.

Radu Coldea (1994), Fellow of Lincoln College, was made Professor of Physics.

Maria Quigley (1987) was made Professor of Statistical Epidemiology.

(Ed Note: If anyone has been overlooked inadvertently, I apologise and hope you will let me know.)

O'Hanlon book on Pitt Rivers

The quirky, eclectic collections of the much-loved Pitt Rivers Museum may seem unchanged since Victorian times, 'but they are actually the outcome of a lively history, curatorial ambitions, university politics and shifts in public taste'. Linacre Fellow **Professor Michael O'Hanlon**, Director of the Pitt Rivers, is the author of *The Pitt Rivers Museum: A World Within*, which explains the fascinating evolution of the thinking behind the museum. It is also beautifully and richly illustrated with photographs of artefacts, providing an 'armchair' tour of some of the museum's holdings. The book is available from Amazon, <http://www.amazon.ca/The-Pitt-Rivers-Museum-Within/dp/185759911X>

New Adjunct Fellows



A warm welcome to **Dr Rachel Malkin**, Departmental Lecturer in American Literature, who has been appointed a Linacre Adjunct Fellow by Governing Body for the 2014-15 academic year. Dr Malkin's research interests span 20th and 21st century American poetry and prose, including the post-1945 novel, modernism, C20th intellectual history, experience in American writing, contemporary romanticisms, American liberalism, Emerson's afterlives, aesthetic value, affect and politics.



Dr Simon Jackman returns to Linacre as an Adjunct Fellow. He is currently a Senior Innovation Fellow at the University of Oxford, and working on translational capabilities that will lead to exciting new interdisciplinary research and the development of new environmental services business streams at Oxford, and also in collaboration with the Satellite Applications Catapult.



Professor Simon Phillips was Astbury Professor of Biophysics and Dean for Research in the Faculty of Biological Sciences at Leeds from 1985 until 2008, when he took up the post of Director of the new Research Complex at Harwell. He is also Visiting Professor of Molecular Biophysics at Oxford, and Visiting Professor of Biophysics at Leeds, as well as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and winner of the 2001 RSC Award for Peptides and Proteins. His current research mainly focuses on the structure and function of proteins that process DNA, metalloenzymes and anti-cancer drug design. He uses x-ray crystallography and scattering, neutron scattering, and biophysical analysis of protein-nucleic acid complexes, as well as molecular biology and protein chemistry.

International Forestry Consortium

A new partnership to create an international consortium in forest genomics, spearheaded by Linacre Fellow **Professor John MacKay**, Wood Professor of Forest Science, has been established between Oxford University and Université Laval in Québec. MacKay, a recognised expert in forest genomics, has led large-scale multidisciplinary research projects since 2002. The consortium will focus on major scientific problems constraining forest productivity and sustainability in order to find ways to improve the health, productivity, and sustainable management of forests.

College News

Thanks and welcome

Flexibility and versatility are key requirements for College staff as administrative workloads change and expand. **Jenny Harris** is now back at her usual post in Linacre Reception, and continues as Archives Assistant, following an interlude as Development Assistant and Tanner Lectures Administrator. We are grateful for her adaptability, personal warmth, and attention to detail which she brings to any position in College. **Ros Connell**, Development Officer, is now preparing for her second lecture as Tanner Lectures Administrator.



In September we welcomed **Rachel Rawana** as the new Development Assistant. Rachel is also providing support in several areas of College office administration, including work with the Senior Tutor on Linacre's expanding portfolio of scholarships. With an academic background in international

relations, including a Master's in Global Affairs from the University of Toronto, and previous work for a Canadian NGO, Rachel has quickly felt at home at Linacre. She moved to Oxford from Canada following her marriage in August 2014 to Linacre's Junior Dean, Jordan Mansell.

Apart from the noise

Linacre's Operations Manager, Simon Barker, reported in August that, 'Apart from the noise, lack of hot water, lights going on and off, occasional unpleasant smell and no parking, my summer work strategy is all going well. If the aforementioned is causing a problem I suggest cotton wool, a thermos flask, eat more carrots, a peg and cycling to work.' Fortunately Linacre students and staff responded in similar good humour as major maintenance and upgrading works were completed over the summer in College facilities on the main site and in satellite accommodation. Items included new curtains, flooring, furniture, new shower rooms, two new kitchens in 189 Iffley Road, painting, and other improvements to keep Linacre facilities up-to-date and safe. There was a major overhaul of the fire alarm system in all buildings on the main site which now provides state-of-the-art monitoring which can pinpoint the exact location of a fire. Thanks go to Maintenance, who have been distracted from their own very busy schedule to help where necessary, but especially warm thanks to Housekeeping and their teams for their patience and tolerance of the mess and super hard work clearing up. Decorators returned in December, with completion in sight as we went to press. Fresh paint and new carpeting throughout the main OC Tanner Building lift the spirits of all, even in the January gloom. The result is sparkling and up-to-date, while highlighting the historic charm of the Victorian core of the College. Plans have been drawn up for the next round of maintenance work next summer – so we are hanging on to that peg and cotton wool.

Linacre reconnections

Sir Bryan Cartledge, former Principal of Linacre and now Honorary Fellow, reports on a happy reconnection with a Linacre member, as well as updates on two impressive careers in science.

At a lunch on 11 October at St John's College, Cambridge (of which I am an Honorary Fellow), I was delighted to find myself placed next to **Sheena Radford** (1987), whose spell at Linacre, 1987 – 1996, almost exactly matched mine. After being awarded her PhD at Cambridge, Sheena was elected to an EPA Cephalosporin JRF and subsequently to a Senior Research Fellowship at Linacre. While there she mentored **Louise Serpell** (1992) who is currently Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Sussex. Professor Serpell's research interests include neurodegenerative disease, such as Alzheimer's. She is a member of the Dementia Research Group at Sussex – a collective interdisciplinary research effort to identify early biomarkers for Alzheimer's and improve therapeutic treatments in order to prevent or delay the onset of this disease.

Sheena is now Professor of Biophysics at the University of Leeds and a Fellow of the Royal Society. She also holds the important position of Director of the Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology, an interdisciplinary research centre at Leeds which brings together over fifty academic staff from three faculties – biological sciences, physical sciences and medicine – who share the common goal of 'understanding life in molecular detail'. The Centre is currently host to over four hundred PhD students under a programme funded by the Wellcome Trust. Coincidentally, the present Master of St John's, **Professor Chris Dobson**, is also a former Linacre JRF and now an Honorary Fellow of the College.

Ghost window



Hidden by massive bookcases outside the Nadel Room, but rediscovered during refurbishment work, is a long-forgotten Linacre Reception window, complete with 'Enquiries' notice, adjacent to the Blue Door. Does anyone remember it?

In Memoriam

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of the following former staff and Old Members of Linacre:



Chris Meade, a former staff member, died 18 October 2014, following a long illness.

Dr Roy G Willis (1961), DPhil Social Anthropology, died 16 October 2014, aged 87. He was an Honorary Fellow in the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh.

Dr James E Moulder (1965), Philosophy, died 12 November 2014, aged 77.

Revd Christopher Back (1967), MA Theology, died on 10 November 2014, aged 67.

Professor Christine Temple (1981) died aged 56 on 22 October 2014. Christine was the Founding Professor (at 33 the youngest ever person to hold a UK Psychology chair) and first Head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Essex, where she remained until her death. I met Christine at a Linacre function in 2009 and she quickly enlisted my help for a book called *Picasso's Brain*, a study of the neuropsychology of creative genius. She survived one dangerous bout of cancer, only to be hit a year later with a different kind, but she was positive and active until the end. It was completely characteristic of Christine that my last meeting with her was pushing her round the Matisse Cut-out exhibition at Tate Modern at the end of August in a wheelchair, where she both expressed her appreciation and criticised my driving skills! She will be much missed by her Linacre friends, but most of all by her two teenage sons.

Frederick Mulder (1968)

Professor Tetsuya Nosse (1962)

All in College were very sad to hear of the death of Linacre's first Japanese alumnus and a Founding Old Member, **Professor Tetsuya Nosse** (1962), on 7 October 2014 at the age of 87. Professor Nosse completed a DPhil in Economics under Lady Ursula Hicks while he was a student at Linacre, 1962-1965. During his subsequent career he was Director of the Institute of International Relations at Osaka International University, and President of Kobe University of Commerce, and also published numerous books on Finance and Economics. He served as Chair of the Japan Linacre Society and Japan Campaign Committee.

Professor Nosse's life was remembered and celebrated at a Farewell Party in Kobe on Sunday, 30th November, organised by Linacre former Visiting Senior Member **Professor Masanori Tahira** (1973), and attended by other former colleagues and students, and Professor Nosse's family. **Dr Leonid Nikitenko**, Linacre Adjunct Fellow, represented the College during his collaborative research visit to Japan. Leonid kindly travelled specially to Kobe for this event and, as part of the memorial ceremony, made a few introductory remarks in Japanese and read a letter from Dr Nick Brown, Linacre's Principal, which he then presented to Professor Nosse's daughter. Letters from Professor Michael Whelan and Dr Anne Keene were also sent and presented to the family. Professor Nosse published a lovely book, illustrated with his own paintings, sketches and photographs, about the time he and his family spent in England, and their warm memories; a copy is held in the Linacre Library.

Decades

1960s

Ambassador Nils-Johan Jørgensen (1961) has published *West with the West Wind*, his third book in a beautifully illustrated series of stories for children.

Professor Ian McColm (1962) has a 3rd Edition of *Dictionary of Ceramic Science and Engineering*, published by Springer at the end of 2013. Throughout 2014 it has been in the top 20% of e-book sales and 'hits'.

Dr Kathleen Scott (1962) has just published her sixth book, *An Index of Images in English Manuscripts from the Time of Chaucer to Henry VIII*: British Library, MSS Additional & Egerton. This volume is the seventh in a series of which Scott is general editor. Her earlier two-volume work, *Later Gothic Manuscripts, 1390-1490*, won the first MLA award for distinguished work in bibliography. In 2003-2004 she was James P R Lyell Reader in Bibliography at Oxford. She has been

granted a Fulbright Scholarship, a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, and others. Her time at Linacre College was crucial for the writing of *Later Gothic Manuscripts*.

Professor Martin Rudner (1965) and his partner Angela Gendron delivered a training module on 'Intelligence and Statecraft and Multidimensional Security in the Caribbean' at the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean, situated at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago, in September 2014. Attendees included government officials, diplomatic personnel, and security and law enforcement officers. Dr Rudner presently has the status of Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.

Professor Bill Breed (1965) will be retiring from the University of Adelaide at the end of February, 2015 after 41 years of service.

The Grapevine

Decades continued

1960s continued

Professor Michael Krausz (1968), a former Visiting Senior Member, has authored six books and edited eleven volumes on topics including Relativism, Rationality, Cultural Identity, Metaphysics of Culture, Creativity, Interpretation of Music, and the Philosophy of R G Collingwood. He has taught at Bryn Mawr College since 1970, was appointed the M C Nahm Professor of Philosophy in 1991, and continues as Research Professor. His activities include art and music, with exhibitions in the US, UK and India (see krauszart.com). Since 2004 he has been the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Great Hall Chamber Orchestra of 46 young professional musicians.

1970s

Professor Anthony R Rees (1972) is the author of *The Antibody Molecule: From antitoxins to therapeutic antibodies*, published in November 2014 as part of OUP's Oxford Medical Histories series. His book comprehensively charts the history of medical developments within immunology, as well as provides 'a snapshot of the world of immunology and of the personalities that drove the field'. Further details are available at <http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199646579.do>.

Dr P Michael McKinley (1975) was appointed US Ambassador to Afghanistan in 2014. He has previously held two other US ambassadorial posts in Peru and Columbia, and also served as US Deputy Chief of Mission to the European Union, Uganda, Mozambique, and Belgium.

For those of you who enjoy ghost stories, **Pam Kelt** (1979) offers this free link to her latest short story, a supernatural chiller entitled *A Walk in the Park*: <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/501003>

Professor David Simon (1979) took up the challenging post of Director of Mistra Urban Futures, an international research and advice centre on urban sustainability based at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden in September. It operates by means of co-production research partnerships between universities and other sectors in Gothenburg, Greater Manchester, Cape Town and Kisumu, and is likely to add new locations in the near future. David continues (but now part-time) at RHUL, where he retains postgraduate supervisory and teaching responsibilities.

1980s

Professor John Keown (1980), Rose F Kennedy Professor of Christian Ethics at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, has been awarded a DCL (Doctorate of Civil Law) by Oxford. This 'higher doctorate' recognises a canon of publications which, as determined by assessors appointed by the Law Faculty Board, makes particularly distinctive, significant, and original contributions to the study of law. Professor Keown's work centres on the law and ethics

of medicine. He commented: 'I dedicate the award to those who taught me law, especially my undergraduate supervisor at Cambridge, Professor Kevin Gray FBA, and my DPhil supervisor at Oxford, Professor John Finnis FBA. I was extremely fortunate in having such eminent, dedicated and kind mentors. I'm looking forward to the graduation ceremony in June, which I gather will involve the Vice-Chancellor hitting me over the head with a Testament. Some of my family and friends will think that long overdue.'

Dr Messias Meneguette Jr (1982) and Dr Jose Alberto Cuminato are the co-authors of *Discretização de Equações Diferenciais Parciais: Técnicas de Diferenças Finitas*, published by Sociedade Brasileira de Matemática.

Professor Fiona Powrie, FRS (1986), Sidney Truelove Professor of Gastroenterology at Oxford and recently-elected Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, was appointed to the Directorship of the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology and to a statutory Professorship in the Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences, starting on 1 October 2014. Her research on the interactions between bacterial intestinal flora and the immune system is opening up new possibilities for the treatment of chronic intestinal inflammatory diseases.

1990s

Dr Nina Jørgensen (1994), Professor in the Faculty of Law at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, is currently a Visiting Fellow on the human rights programme at Harvard Law School.

Dr Thomas Peacock (1994) was recently appointed a tenured professor at MIT, where he runs the Environmental Dynamics Lab in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He is the recipient of an NSF Career Award in Physical Oceanography and Editor of the journal, *Chaos*. His research focuses on environmental flows and nonlinear dynamics, blending laboratory experiments with theory and field studies. Recent and upcoming field programs include the South China Sea and the Arctic Ocean.

Dr Lucilla Spini (1997) has recently taken up the newly created post of Head of Science Programmes at the ICSU (International Council for Science) in Paris with responsibility for the development and implementation of ICSU's scientific policy initiatives. Since 2001, Lucilla has worked on science/policy bridging, global environmental change, sustainable development and research coordination for a number of international organizations, including UNESCO, UNU, and the FAO. She is also a Giorgio Ruffolo Research Fellow in the Sustainability Science Program at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Dr Jeevani Mantotta (1998) is writing romantic comedy novels for Choc Lit Ltd under the pen name of Rhoda Baxter, taking inspiration from the bacteria she used to study (*Rhodobacter species*) during her DPhil in Microbiology. Her latest book, *Doctor January*, is set in a microbiology lab.

The Grapevine

2000s

Dr. Brendan Fisher (2001), whose new textbook is *A Field Guide to Economics for Conservationists* (Roberts and Company 2014), met up with **Lea Berrang-Ford** (2001), James Ford (Hertford) and **Michael Doust** (2002) for a short Linacre/ECI reunion in Vermont, USA. Most of the time was spent chasing the Fisher kids and the Berrang-Ford kids around the farms and forests of Vermont, but memories of unforgettable Linacre Bops were also revisited.

Dr Robert Muggah (2002), is Research Director at the Igarapé Institute, a Brazilian think tank, and also co-founded the SecDev Foundation in Canada. He works in the Americas, Africa and Asia on issues of violence prevention and the design of new technologies to promote safety. He is also a senior adviser to the United Nations and the World Bank. His recent TED talk on 'fragile cities' is now available at www.ted.com. Robert is writing a book with Simon and Schuster on the future of cities in the south. He was recently nominated as one of the top 100 most influential people in the world in reducing violence, and works with Google and Ericsson, among others, on developing data-driven approaches to promoting security and development.

Helena Maratheftis (2007) works as a designer and illustrator in London and has recently launched a collection of bone china mugs based on the microscopic structure of viruses; they are available on www.thefty.com. Helena draws on her background in biology for design inspiration.

Marriages



George Guszcza (2011) and **Karole Fristensky** (2011) were married on 11 October 2014 in a celebration attended by many Linacre friends. (L-R: April Le, Rakhi Voria, Sara Jameson, George and Karole, Dr Aaron Hanlon, Katja Maria Flueckiger, Jason Johnson, and Abdossalam Madkhali.



Hannah L (née Southon) Jennings (1999) and **Benedict Alexander Jennings** are delighted to announce their marriage on 2 August 2014 at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Most Precious Blood, Westminster, London.



Rommel Romato (2010) and **Dr Nizhreen Mapandi** were married on 26 July 2014 in Marawi City, Philippines. The photo was taken in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, where the wedding reception was held. They now live in London.

Births



Fanny and Julien Bisiaux (2009) are proud to announce the birth of their first child **Clovis** on 3 November 2014.



Dr John Cole (2006) and **Mrs Elizabeth Cole** are the happy and busy parents of twins, **Tyler and Grace**, born in 2013.



Ashminder Kaur (1998) is thrilled to bits with the arrival of her daughter, **Sahiba Balhazur Dhadialla Kaur**, on 6 October 2014. "She is already trying to 'talk' and voraciously staring at books between snacking and being burped, as well as very patient when mum has to take work calls. My plan is to send her up to Linacre when she is older so she can experience what a wonderful place it is and see my grandmother's bench."



Dr Mary Muers (2002) and **Jeff Pelling** are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter, **Agnes May Pelling**. Agnes arrived on 23 July 2014 weighing 8lbs 10oz (3.95kg) and now weighs plenty more and is full of smiles.



Catherine Preston-Schreck (2004) and her husband **Tony** are delighted to announce the arrival of their fourth child, **Oona Marcel**, born 4 September 2013 at their home in Illinois. Oona completes the family, joining siblings **Avery** (born in 2005 while Catherine was a student at Linacre), **Rowan** (2007), and **Isla** (2010). The photo captures the children meeting their sister when she was 3 hours old.



Jeremy (2009) and **Maren Vallerand** welcomed **Myla Grace** into the world on 30 January 2014.

Sporting Linacre

Varsity Rugby

The 133rd Varsity Match was one to remember as Oxford beat Cambridge by 43 points to 6 at Twickenham to achieve an Oxford record of five consecutive Varsity victories. In this historic afternoon in front of more than 30,000 supporters at Twickenham, Oxford also broke the record for the highest winning margin which stretched back to 1910 as they became the first to score more than 40 points in the historic battle between the two universities.

James Scaife, a member of the University team and Linacre DPhil candidate, commented: 'It was an incredible experience to be both part of this match but even more so the journey leading up to it. The positive attitude and comradery of the club continues to be our most important asset, something which I think really showed on the day.'



Linacre student, James Scaife, charges home a try against the Russian side, RC Slava.

Autumn Rowing Results

The 2014 Christ Church Regatta took place in a wet and blustery Oxfordshire autumn. Difficult conditions had led the organisers to decree that only X-status coxes and above, with the experience to navigate more challenging river conditions, could race one of the over 100 boats of novices, who were eager to show the results of two months of training. Champing at the bit, Linacre entered two boats.



Linacre Boat Club Women's Race



Linacre Boat Club Women's Team

From the start the women drew tough competition, narrowly losing their first round race to Wadham A. Victory over St Catz B the following day assured their survival, though requiring victory against St John's A. St John's were stunned by a powerful Linacre start, and struggled to pull away, but were gathered in by Linacre on the finish line. The final day saw Linacre versus Magdalen A. Magdalen, having confidently expected to leave Linacre on the start line, found themselves fighting to preserve the slenderest of leads. They finally dragged themselves over the line, Linacre snapping at their heels.



Linacre Boat Club Men's Race

While the women had been taking on the best, the men were clearing some of the lower boats from the water. A comfortable victory over St John's C on the first day set up a strong contest against Jesus B on Friday. The Jesus crew were full of pluck, but couldn't match Linacre's controlled power. A challenger worthy of their mettle appeared at the end of the day, Brasenose A. Linacre harried them from the start, Brasenose struggled to open clear water, and when finally Brasenose pulled across the line, Linacre were too close behind for comfort.

Both men's and women's crews had done well against stiff competition. The marshals record the results, showing how much distance a boat won by. Results of 'half a length', 'two lengths', etc are common. The result for the Linacre vs St Catz race was unique in this writer's experience: 'By miles'.

Ben Eacott (2013)