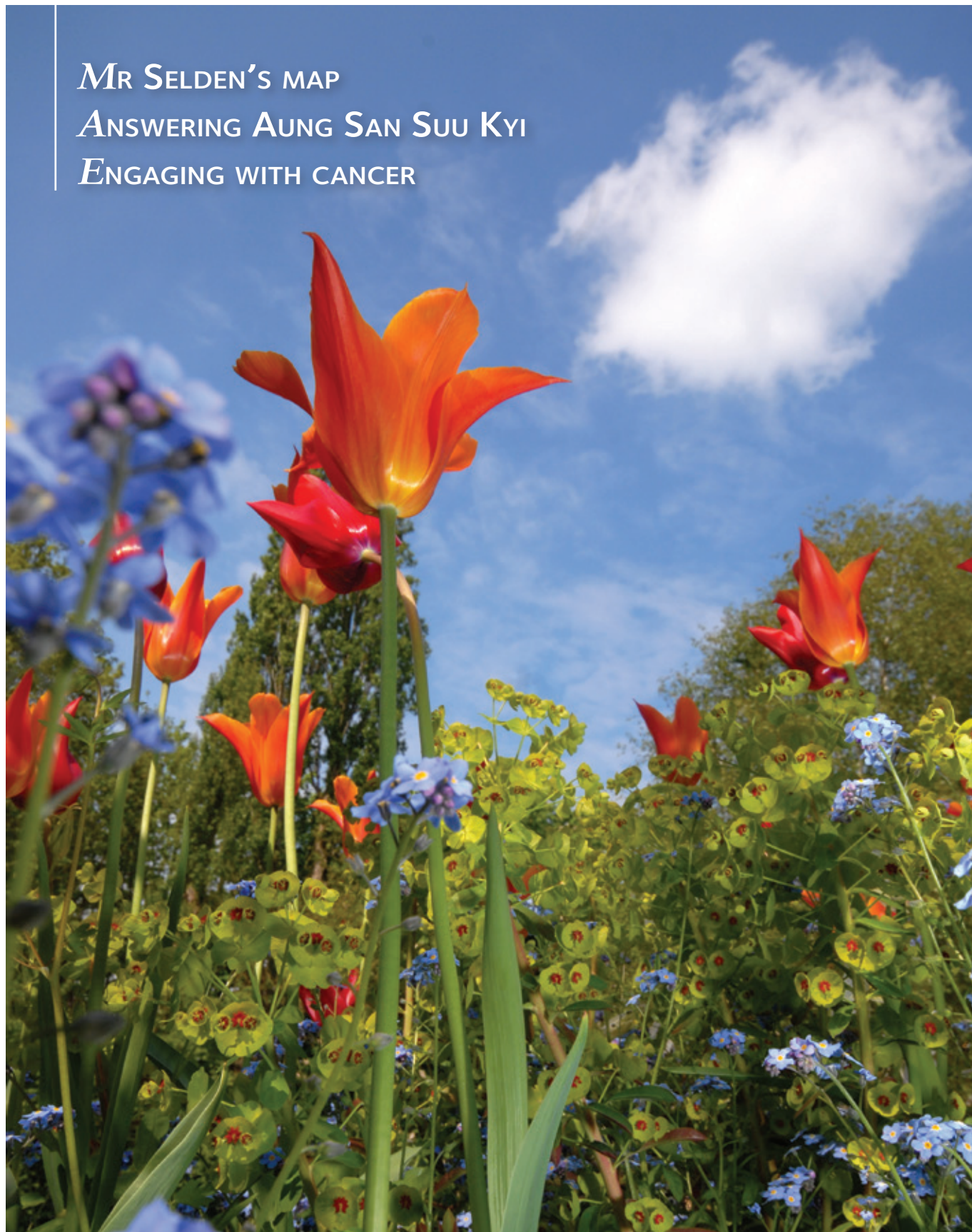

BLUEPRINT

Staff magazine for the University of Oxford | March 2014



MR SELDEN'S MAP
ANSWERING AUNG SAN SUU KYI
ENGAGING WITH CANCER



NEWS IN BRIEF

◆ Each year at Encaenia the University awards honorary degrees to a number of distinguished men and women. This year's honorees include the composer Harrison Birtwistle and the sculptor Anish Kapoor. Nominations are now being sought for 2015. Members of Congregation are invited to propose individuals who have achieved distinction in academia, the arts, business, industry or public life. Nominations should be submitted by 9 May. Details at www.ox.ac.uk/staff/news/nominations.html.

◆ Two University innovation centres will benefit from £15.2m of government funding as part of the Oxfordshire City Deal. £4.2m will go towards building an Innovation Accelerator at Begbroke Science Park to help science start-up businesses take their projects to market and to provide facilities for University researchers to develop innovative products and technologies; £11m will go towards the Oxford BioEscalator at the Old Road Campus, which will accelerate the creation of new bioscience companies and help them grow and move on to larger science parks in the region. The government funding will be matched by £17m from the University.

◆ The project to refresh the design and structure of the top-level pages of the University website is now in the build phase, with the first sites due to launch at the start of Trinity term. Known as oxweb, the pages provide information to audiences ranging from prospective students to current staff. The main University homepage, together with Undergraduate Admissions and the Student Gateway, will go live on 23 April. The refreshed Staff Gateway will launch on 11 August, followed by Graduate Admissions on 8 September. Details at www.ox.ac.uk/staff/news/university_website_1.html.

◆ Keep up to date with major IT projects and service developments through *News from IT Services*, the termly e-newsletter from IT Services. The first issue, available at www.it.ox.ac.uk/about/newsletter/issue1, includes overviews of the Service Desk Consolidation Project, which will bring together the service desks across IT Services, and the Integrated Communications Project, which will replace the University's telephone system by 2017. Sign up to receive an email alert when a new issue is published by sending a blank email to it-services-news-subscribe@maillist.ox.ac.uk.

◆ Do you know how you can store your research data securely, and are you aware what resources are available to help you manage your data? Visit researchdata.ox.ac.uk for advice about managing data on a day-to-day basis as well as storing it securely in the longer term. The website describes funder requirements for data and how you can meet them, provides links to tools and services to help you manage your research data, and outlines what training is available.

◆ The *Oxford English Dictionary* needs you! To commemorate the centenary of the start of the First World War, the *OED* is seeking earlier or additional evidence for a host of WW1-related vocabulary, including 'shell shock', 'demob' and 'skive'. While newspapers and magazines act as the source for many of the terms coined during the war, the *OED* team is aware there may well be earlier but less easily accessible sources such as private letters and diaries. Visit oed.com/appeals and submit your evidence in the comments field.



John Cairns



Greg Smolonski



Oxfordshire History Centre / Oxford University Images

FROM TOP: THE CHANCELLOR AT ENCAENIA; THE OTHER CHANCELLOR VISITS BEGBROKE; WW1 WORKERS AT KELMSCOTT FARM

◆ The University is consulting all staff on possible revisions to Statute XII. The statute governs major aspects of the employment of academic and academic-related staff, and relates to the procedures for redundancy, dismissal, disciplinary action, appeals and grievances. Those covered by the statute include professors, readers and associate professors; research staff and professional, technical and administrative staff employed at grade 6 or above.

The consultation, which runs until 4 June, focuses on four main areas: reviewing who is covered by the statute; simplifying the procedures under the statute; clarifying the statute's provisions; and revising the procedure for addressing grievances by strengthening settlement routes at local level.

This is an initial consultation, which seeks views on the desirability of possible revisions to the statute. If there is support for change, there will be a second consultation on the detail of any proposals. Further information at www.ox.ac.uk/statuteXII.

COVER:
SPRING
AT THE
UNIVERSITY'S
BOTANIC
GARDEN



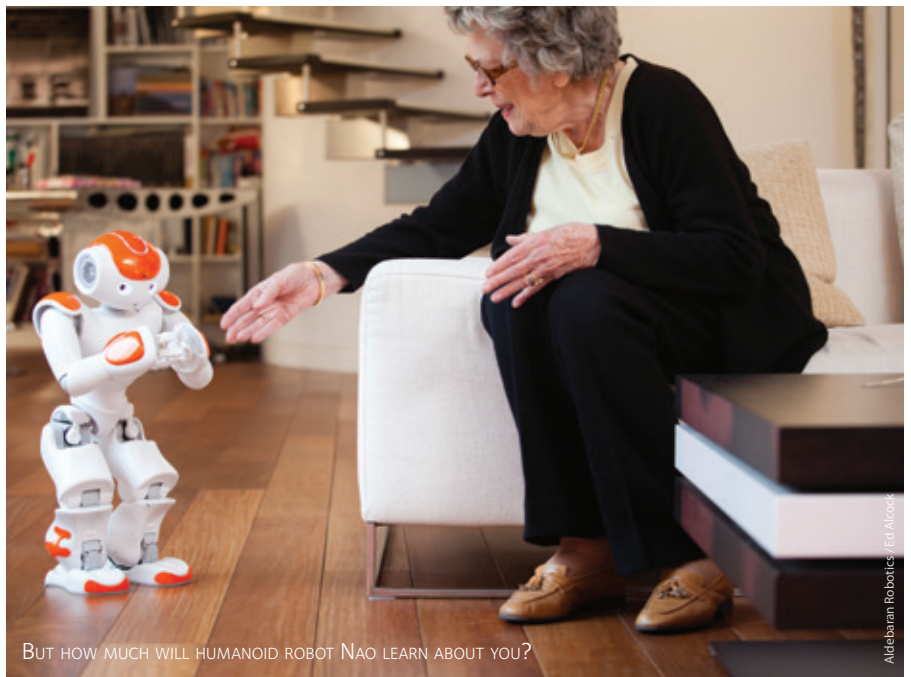
Photo by Greg Smolonski/
Oxford University Images

RESEARCH ROUND-UP

◆ The genetic impacts of the Mongol Empire, the Arab slave trade and European trade on the Silk Road have been revealed for the first time on a new interactive map produced by researchers from Oxford and UCL. The online map details genetic mixing between 95 populations across Europe, Africa, Asia and South America over the last four millennia, using sophisticated statistical methods of DNA analysis. Dr Simon Myers of Oxford's Department of Statistics and the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, co-senior author of the study, explains: 'Many of our genetic observations match historical events, and we also see evidence of previously unrecorded genetic mixing. For example, the DNA of the Tu people in modern China suggests that in around 1200CE, Europeans similar to modern Greeks mixed with an otherwise Chinese-like population. Plausibly, the source of this European-like DNA might be merchants travelling the nearby Silk Road.'

◆ People's racial prejudices are influenced by where they live, according to Oxford psychologists. The research team found that levels of racial prejudice among white people drop significantly when they live in mixed communities. Even the most prejudiced people who did not mix at all with ethnic minorities became more tolerant over time when they lived in areas where others were mixing. The researchers have called this positive effect 'passive tolerance', likening it to the negative effect of 'passive smoking' (where a smoky environment can increase your risk of lung cancer, even if you do not smoke yourself). 'If two white people with identical views went to live in different postcodes for a year, the person in the neighbourhood with more mixing between ethnic groups would likely leave more tolerant,' says Professor Miles Hewstone of the Department of Experimental Psychology.

◆ Married women or those living with a partner are 28% less likely to die from heart disease than unmarried women – despite the fact that marriage makes no difference to women's chances of developing heart disease in the first place. The results come from the latest analysis of data from the Million Women Study, a large UK study of women's health run by Oxford researchers. The study takes many factors into account that could have influenced the results, such as age, socio-economic status and lifestyle, but



BUT HOW MUCH WILL HUMANOID ROBOT NAO LEARN ABOUT YOU?

Aldebaran Robotics Ltd. Aldeco

the lower risk of death from heart disease remains. Dr Sarah Floud and colleagues at the Cancer Epidemiology Unit suggest that one explanation could be that the spouses of married women may encourage them to seek early medical treatment for symptoms, but there may be other reasons.

◆ Within the next decade 'sociable' robots could have a role as companions or assistants in our daily lives, and that raises privacy concerns, said Dr Ian Brown, Senior Research Fellow at the Oxford Internet Institute and Associate Director of the University's Cyber Security Centre, describing his research at this year's Oxford London Lecture on 18 March. The issue is around how much information is gleaned and stored by the robots, as these human-seeming devices could lead to people being less guarded about what they reveal. Dr Brown, with Oxford colleague Dr Joss Wright, is involved in an ESRC-funded project, 'Being there: humans and robots in public spaces', which explore ways of ensuring that people maintain some control over the personal information stored about them while still being able to enjoy the potential benefits of robotic technology.

◆ Two hitherto unknown works by the ancient Greek poet Sappho are to be discussed in a paper by Oxford papyrologist Dr Dirk Obbink. The poems came to light

when an anonymous private collector in London approached Dr Obbink, of the Faculty of Classics, with a piece of papyrus fragment. According to Dr Obbink, the poems are 'indubitably' by Sappho, a lyric poet born on the island of Lesbos. One poem is a substantially complete work about her brothers, while another is a fragmentary piece about unrequited love. Dr Obbink's 'Ancient Lives' initiative was launched in 2011 and has been asking volunteers for their help in decoding hundreds of thousands of online images of Greek papyri fragments. A related project entitled 'Proteus: capturing the big data problem of ancient literary fragments' has just been awarded funding by the AHRC.



Egypt Exploration Society and Imaging Papyri Project, Oxford

VOLUNTEERS ARE HELPING TO DECODE THOUSANDS OF GREEK PAPYRI FRAGMENTS, SUCH AS THIS SNIPPET OF A LOST GOSPEL FROM THE OXYRHYNCHUS COLLECTION

▶ For more information, visit www.ox.ac.uk/news and www.ox.ac.uk/staffnews

PEOPLE AND PRIZES



Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Visiting Professor of Astrophysics, has been elected as the next President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE). She will take up her post in October, becoming the first female RSE President.

Sir Drummond Bone, Master of Balliol College, is to be the next chair of the Arts and Humanities Research Council.



Martin Brasier, Professor of Palaeobiology, has been awarded the 2014 Lyell Medal of the Geological Society.

David Clary, President of Magdalen College and Professor of Chemistry, has been elected an Einstein Professor of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The award is made to distinguished international scientists working at the frontiers of science and technology; Professor Clary will give lectures associated with his award in Dalian and Beijing.

Sadie Creese, Professor of Cybersecurity in the Department of Computer Science and Director of the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre at the Oxford Martin School, has been named by Debrett's as one of the 500 most influential people in Britain in recognition of her work in cybersecurity.

Dr Stephen Darlington, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Music, and Organist and Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral, is to be made a Fellow of the Royal School of Church Music, in recognition of his exemplary daily standards of service and performance in cathedral music, and his nurturing of a generation of singers, organists and directors now working significantly in church music.



Steve Davies, Waynflete Professor of Chemistry, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Salamanca.

Marian Dawkins, Professor of Animal Behaviour, is one of the first people to be honoured by the RSPCA with its new Sir Patrick Moore Award, named in memory of the former astronomer and honorary RSPCA vice-president and presented for an outstanding contribution in the field of animal welfare science.

Dr Joanna Dunkley, University Lecturer in Astrophysics, has been awarded the Fowler Prize in Astronomy by the Royal Astronomical Society. She has played a leading role in a number of high-profile experiments measuring anisotropies of the cosmic microwave background (see profile, p7).

Anke Ehlers, Professor of Experimental Psychopathology, is the 2014 recipient of the Award for Distinguished Scientific Contributions to Clinical Psychology presented by the Society of Clinical Psychology.

Luciano Floridi, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics of Information, has been awarded this year's *Cátedras de Excelencia* prize by the University Carlos III of Madrid for his work on the philosophy and ethics of information.



Dr Clare Harris, Reader in Visual Anthropology and Curator for Asian Collections at the Pitt Rivers Museum and the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography,

has been awarded the 2013 E Gene Smith Inner Asia Book Prize by the Association for Asian Studies for her book *The Museum on the Roof of the World: Art, Politics, and the Representation of Tibet* (University of Chicago Press, 2012).



Dr John Hutchison, Reader in Materials, has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the Royal Microscopical Society.

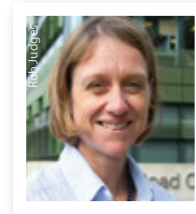


Linda McDowell, Professor of Human Geography, has been elected as Chair of the British Academy's Research Awards Committee. She is also a member of the Council and

the Research and Higher Education Policy Committee.

Martin Maiden, Professor of the Romance Languages, has been awarded the title of Commander in The National 'Faithful Service' Order by the President of Romania. The citation praises his work in promoting the Romanian language in the UK, especially at the University of Oxford, and for his role in

fostering academic collaboration between Romania and the UK and in promoting Romania's image abroad.



Alison Noble, Technikos Professor of Biomedical Engineering, has been elected a Fellow of the Women's Engineering Society.

Erlick Pereira, a senior neurosurgical registrar affiliated to the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences, has been awarded a Hunterian professorship by the Royal College of Surgeons.



Sir Peter Ratcliffe, Nuffield Professor of Clinical Medicine and Head of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, is one of four joint winners of the 13th Annual Wiley

Prize in Biomedical Sciences, which this year recognises advancements in the field of oxygen sensing systems.

Corin Sworn, University Lecturer in Fine Art, has won the Max Mara Art Prize for Women. Her winning proposal draws from the rich history and elaborate costumes of the *Commedia dell'Arte* and will reflect her continued interest in exploring stories around migration. Her bespoke residency will be divided between Rome, Naples and Venice.



Annette Volfing, Professor of Medieval German Studies, has been elected to the Committee for German Literature of the Middle Ages of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities.



Dr David Wallace, a member of the Philosophy of Physics group and Tutorial Fellow at Balliol College, is a joint winner of the 2013 Lakatos Award for an outstanding

contribution to the philosophy of science, for his book *The Emergent Multiverse: Quantum Theory according to the Everett Interpretation* (OUP, 2012).



NEW PROCTORS AND ASSESSOR

The University's new proctors and assessor for 2014–15 have taken office. The Senior Proctor is **Dr Kate Blackmon**, Fellow of Merton College, the Junior Proctor is **Dr Hubert Ertl** (far left), Fellow of Linacre College, and the Assessor is **Dr Paul Martin**, Fellow of Wadham College.

These three senior officers of the University are elected annually by the colleges. The Proctors ensure that the University operates according to its statutes and they are also members of key decision-making committees. They deal with University (as opposed to college) student discipline, complaints about University matters, and the running of University examinations; they also have ceremonial duties. The Assessor is responsible particularly for student welfare and finance.

SCHOCK PRIZE FOR OXFORD PHILOSOPHER



Professor Derek Parfit, Emeritus Fellow of All Souls College, has been awarded the 2014 Rolf Schock Prize in Logic and Philosophy

for his 'ground-breaking contributions concerning personal identity, regard for future generations and analysis of the structure of moral theories'. The Rolf Schock prizes are awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Music and the Royal Swedish Academy of Fine Arts in four fields: logic and philosophy, mathematics, the musical arts and the visual arts.

Professor Parfit is particularly renowned for his ground-breaking work *Reasons and Persons*, in which he set the direction for the mainstream of moral theory. The book's impact was momentous, not only for the ideas put forward, but also because of its style, characterised by numerous examples appealing to the reader's intuitions about moral matters.

BOD CHAIR SHORTLISTED FOR DESIGN PRIZE



The new Bodleian Libraries chair designed by Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby is among the nominations for Designs of the Year 2014

in the furniture category. Given annually by the Design Museum in London, the awards celebrate design across seven categories: architecture, digital, fashion, furniture, graphic, product and transport design.

The chair is being manufactured in the UK by Isokon Plus for installation in the refurbished Weston Library, which will open its doors to readers in October. The three-legged oak chair is only the third new chair developed specifically for the Bodleian since 1756. Barber and Osgerby won the 2012 Design of the Year award for their iconic design of the London Olympic Torch.

The 76 shortlisted nominations are on display at the Design Museum in London until 25 August.

DISPLAY FUNDING FOR PITT RIVERS



The Pitt Rivers Museum has been awarded £64,845 from the Museum and Galleries Improvement Fund, jointly financed by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the

Wolfson Foundation. The award will enable the purchase of a major new display case in which to exhibit one of the museum's most important collections – that brought back from Captain Cook's voyages to the South Seas in the 18th century.

The Cook-voyage collection has recently been the focus of a comprehensive conservation and research project supported by the Clothworkers' Foundation. The award from DCMS/Wolfson will now allow visitors to see for the first time the newly conserved and re-interpreted Cook-voyage collection displayed in a spacious, well-lit and better-sited case.

LEADING PRACTITIONERS

A number of Oxford researchers appear on the Science Council's recently published list of '100 leading practising scientists'. The list is intended, says the Science Council, to highlight 'a collective blind spot in the approach of government, media and public to science, which either tends to reference dead people or to regard only academics and researchers as scientists'.

To identify its list of 100, the Science Council organised a competition around 10 different 'types' of scientist roles, with categories such as investigator, entrepreneur, policymaker, communicator and business/marketing. The list of 100 has 10 different examples of each of the 10 types and gives a broad picture of the many different ways people work with science, making valuable contributions across UK society and the economy.

Listed in the 'explorer scientist' category are: **Hagan Bayley**, Professor of Chemical Biology; **Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell**, Visiting Professor of Astrophysics; **Dame Kay Davies**, Dr Lee's Professor of Anatomy; and **Fred Turner**, the biochemistry undergraduate who built a polymerase chain reaction machine in his shed for £250 with items he found at home to compare his and his brother's DNA. **Christopher Price**, Visiting Professor in Clinical Biochemistry, appears in the 'service provider/operational scientist' category; and **Colin Blakemore**, Emeritus Professor of Physiology, is listed as a leading 'communicator scientist'.



VIEWFINDER FOUND

These Castlemilk Moor sheep (p16) are at the University's Harcourt Arboretum, where every year a small flock is brought for a 12-week internship between September and December to graze the meadows after they has been cut in July, part of the conservation management plan for this scarce MG5 grassland. The sheep themselves are a conservation project: this flock represents half the national gene pool of this rare breed. Photo by Botanic Garden/Oxford University Images.

ARRIVALS BOARD

PROFESSOR OF STATISTICS



Arnaud Doucet, Professor and University Lecturer in the Department of Statistics; Tutorial Fellow in Statistics, Jesus College; member of the Oxford–Man Institute of Quantitative Finance; and EPSRC Established Career Fellow, took up this post in the Department of Statistics on 1 March. He also became a Fellow of Hertford College.

Professor Doucet is primarily interested in the development and study of novel Monte Carlo methods for inference in complex stochastic models. He specialises in Bayesian statistics, stochastic simulation, sequential Monte Carlo and Markov chain Monte Carlo methods and time series.

ANDREAS IDREOS PROFESSOR OF SCIENCE AND RELIGION



Alister McGrath, Professor of Theology, Ministry and Education and Head of the Centre for Theology, Religion and Culture at King's College London; and Senior Research Fellow, Harris Manchester College, will take up this post in the Faculty of Theology and Religion on 1 April. He will also be a Fellow of Harris Manchester College.

Professor McGrath is the author of many influential books on science and religion, as well as the bestselling textbook *Christian Theology: An Introduction*. His previous posts at Oxford included Professor of Historical Theology from 1999 to 2008. His chief research interests are the interaction of science and religion, the use of the natural sciences in the 'new atheism' of Richard Dawkins, and the renewal of natural theology as an intellectual and cultural interface between theology and the natural sciences.

NOTICEBOARD

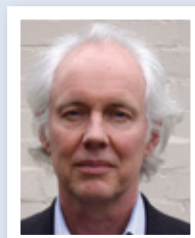


◆ **Richard Ovenden**, who has been Interim Bodley's Librarian since the departure of Dr Sarah Thomas last August, has been appointed Bodley's

Librarian. He took up the post on 10 February, when he also became a Fellow of Balliol College. Mr Ovenden has been at the Bodleian since 2003, having previously worked at the library of the House of Lords, the National Library of Scotland and the University of Edinburgh. As executive head of the Bodleian Libraries, he will take on the stewardship of combined collections numbering more than 11 million printed items, in addition to 50,000 e-journals and a vast quantity of other materials.

◆ **Professor Sir David Cannadine** has been appointed as the new Editor of the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* from 1 October. He will combine the editorship with his post as Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University and will also become a visiting professor in

Oxford's Faculty of History. Sir David is a specialist in the political, social and cultural history of modern Britain and its empire, and the study of history over time. He has a 20-year association with the ODNB, having been commissioned to write the biography of the historian G M Trevelyan in 1993; his most recent contribution was an essay on the Calthorpe family, Birmingham landowners and benefactors, in 2013.



◆ **Professor Charles Vincent**, previously Director of the National Institute of Health Research Centre for Patient Safety & Service Quality at Imperial College

Healthcare Trust, has taken up the post of Health Foundation professorial fellow in the Department of Experimental Psychology. He will be working on the measurement and monitoring of safety in the NHS and other healthcare systems and on developing research, and in improvement approaches in mental health and community settings.

EASING THE JOURNEY



Do you commute to work by train, bus or bike? If so, are you aware of the various discounts and travel-related schemes available to you as a member of University staff?

Discounts of up to 8% on train travel and 10% on bus travel, together with interest-free loans, are available through the University's train and bus pass schemes. The schemes are open to all members of staff paid through the main payroll.

In addition, promotions on particular train and bus routes are offered through the University's partnership with easitOXFORD, an organisation that supports local businesses in offering their staff sustainable transport solutions. Current offers include a free two-week 'taster' ticket on bus route 280 (Oxford–Headington–Wheatley–Thame–Aylesbury), and a free day ticket on all Oxford Bus Company services within the city zone. For details, email info@easit.org.uk.

With an easitPhotocard, you can also get 15% off First Great Western rail travel for journeys into and returning from Oxford – available on single and return tickets, as well as weekly, monthly and quarterly season tickets. To request a card, email edward.wigzell@admin.ox.ac.uk from your ox.ac.uk address with the words 'Card request' in the subject header, and state the internal address you'd like the card sent to. Once you've received your card, follow the instructions at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/travel/easitoxford to validate it.

The easitPhotocard also allows you, your family and friends to enjoy a range of discounts on bike repairs, hire and purchases. Walton Street Cycles (78 Walton Street, www.spoke.co.uk) is offering a 15% discount on servicing and accessories, as well as a 10% discount on in-store bike purchases and 12% off hire charges. And if you prefer power assistance with your wheels, take advantage of a 25% saving on a new electro-assisted folding bike from Beat Bikes – just visit www.beatbikes.com and enter discount voucher code EASIT125.

For details of travel-related offers and schemes, visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/travel and www.easit.org.uk/easitoxford.php.

SHE'S A STAR (GAZER)

By day Jo Dunkley attempts to understand the origins of our universe, but as night falls she takes to the screen to explain cosmology for the BBC, she tells *Jamie Condliffe*



The University's Sub-department of Astrophysics may spend its days looking at stars, but it's fast creating them, too. Take Dr Jo Dunkley: an award-winning academic, she now makes regular appearances on the BBC.

It's perhaps not surprising that she's so adept at explaining complex science to TV audiences. Asked about what her research involves, she casually replies that she 'tries to understand the origins and structure of the universe', before enthusiastically explaining just what that entails with great clarity.

Dr Dunkley spends her time analysing the Cosmic Microwave Background, which is part of the electromagnetic spectrum travelling through space. 'It's the most distant light you can see – an image of the universe when it was born,' she explains. 'I don't build experiments, though. I'm a theorist who analyses data. My job is to turn recorded maps of that light into properties of the universe: how old it is, how much it weighs, or what it's made of.'

That's not a particularly straightforward task. It involves creating thousands of models of possible scenarios of how the universe could have turned out, then slavishly comparing them to reality. 'We compare our experimental data to millions of theoretical universes,' she says. 'Until, eventually, we find one which matches.'

After studying Natural Sciences at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Dunkley arrived in Oxford in 2002 to undertake her DPhil in astrophysics. 'I just thought it was really neat that by pointing telescopes at the sky we could figure out the behaviour of the universe,' she recalls. After a brief spell as a Research

Fellow at Princeton University, where she worked on NASA's WMAP satellite science team, she returned to Oxford in 2007 and is now a University Lecturer in Astrophysics and Tutorial Fellow at Exeter College.

Since then, she's been involved with two large-scale international projects, analysing data from both the European Space Agency's Planck satellite, which orbits the Sun between Earth and Mars, and the Atacama Cosmology Telescope, which sits atop Cerro Toco in Chile and is one of highest observatories on the planet. Both yield rich and complex data, which Dunkley and her research group interrogate to learn about the universe's origins.

'Right now, I'm personally super-excited about our new work on gravitational lensing'

Working with data from Planck, Dunkley's team has been probing what happened during the Big Bang. 'We think that during the first trillionth of a second, the universe expanded extremely fast, laying down the seeds for the cosmic structure we see today,' she explains. 'Our analysis confirms many of those theories.' Elsewhere, her work at the Atacama Telescope provides more detailed views of smaller parts of the sky – but, as she points

out, allows her students to get much more involved with the research. 'It's just so much easier for them to get deeply involved and hands-on with a 5-year telescope project in Chile than a 20-year satellite mission in space,' she says.

'Right now, though, I'm personally super-excited about our new work on gravitational lensing,' she adds. The cosmic microwaves she analyses are actually subtly warped as they travel through space and interact with the mysterious substance that is dark matter. The result is a lensing effect that we can observe here on Earth. 'It's the best bet we have of figuring out the structure of the invisible universe,' she enthuses. 'It should help us understand dark matter and energy in the next five to ten years.'

That infectious enthusiasm was fostered years ago, and is being put to ever better use. 'I spent four months giving talks in London schools about cosmology in 2005,' she explains. Now, through giving more talks and training teachers in how to talk about astronomy, she's graduated to the small screen. These days you can see her explaining cosmology on the BBC's *Science Club* and *Stargazing LIVE*. 'I think it's a really important responsibility we have as publicly funded scientists,' she explains. 'But, most importantly, people just want to understand the world we live in and where it all came from. And it's a real privilege to help them.'

► Further information at www-astro.physics.ox.ac.uk/~Dunkley

UNIVERSITY, CHALLENGED

At Encaenia in 2012, Aung San Suu Kyi asked the University of Oxford to help restore university life in Burma. *Stuart Gillespie* reports on our response

With rays of sunlight piercing the windows of the Sheldonian Theatre, and an audience hanging on her every word, one of Oxford's most celebrated alumni laid down a challenge to her alma mater. 'I would like to see university life restored to Burma in all its glory. And I would be so grateful if my old university, the University of Oxford, could help to bring this about once again.' Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was receiving her long-awaited honorary degree from the university she attended as an undergraduate, having spent much of the previous two decades under house arrest in her native Burma.

Since that day in June 2012, Oxford has been working to answer Daw Suu's challenge and help rejuvenate higher education in the south-east Asian country, which is taking steps towards democracy following decades of military dictatorship.

Ed Nash, in the University's International Strategy Office, has been heavily involved with the project. 'When Daw Suu received her honorary degree in 2012, she challenged Oxford to support the redevelopment of Burmese education,' he says. 'The central University, departments, colleges and students have taken up this challenge, coming up with a range of ideas that have been advanced to varying extents.'

Oxford's aid to Burma is mainly focused on the University of Rangoon – formerly one of Asia's greatest educational institutions, but 'almost destroyed by half a century of military rule', said Daw Suu. Undergraduates have recently been readmitted for the first time since 1988, after being removed because the government feared their participation in political demonstrations. Professor Nick Rawlins, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Development & External Affairs), made two trips to Rangoon in 2013, meeting officials to assess the situation at the once-great university and introduce the areas in which Oxford could offer assistance.

Andrew McLeod, Stipendiary Lecturer in Law at Lady Margaret Hall, has been at the forefront of efforts to develop the Faculty of Law's links with Rangoon, having been involved in Burma's constitutional reform process for almost two years. 'Oxford's Law Faculty has formed a strong partnership with the Department of Law at the University of Rangoon and has taken concrete steps to help rebuild it,' he says. 'Professor Timothy Endicott, the Faculty Dean, visited last November and delivered the keynote address at a workshop, while I delivered a

short introductory course on constitutional interpretation to new undergraduates in January this year.'

He adds: 'Over 5,000 law reports, statutes and textbooks are currently on their way to Rangoon from the Bodleian Law Library through a partnership with the Constitution Trust, a charity I run. We're also planning a longer-term programme of assistance that will involve our law academics spending up to six months in Rangoon. The goal is to help re-establish Rangoon as a centre for teaching and research excellence in law.'

Other Oxford groups that have forged links with Burma include the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), which has a history of funding and training Burmese conservation professionals, and St Hugh's College, where Daw Suu studied PPE from 1964 to 1967.

St Hugh's and Balliol have been able to establish scholarships for Burmese students, thanks to the generosity of donors

In September 2013 St Hugh's held the inaugural Aung San Suu Kyi Summer School to provide intensive English training for high-performing Burmese secondary school students. The college has also, along with Balliol, been able to establish scholarships for Burmese students thanks to the generosity of donors. Students, too, have played their part: last spring, a group of eight Oxford students travelled to Burma at the invitation of Daw Suu, while an organisation called the Oxford Burma Alliance has been set up by students from both the city's universities.

The International Gender Studies Centre (IGS), based at Lady Margaret Hall, has just welcomed Dr Khin Mar Mar Kyi as the first Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Gender in Burmese Studies Junior Research Fellow. She will be researching the role of education and gender-responsive learning in Burma –

one of a number of projects being carried out at IGS. Dr Maria Jaschok, Director of IGS, summarises: 'Responding to the challenge issued by Daw Suu at Encaenia, IGS succeeded in winning funding from Daw Suu's Trust to establish the Junior Research Fellowship. But the JRF can only be a start. Additional extensive and thorough research is needed in a country which – and this is the consensus of all in Burma actively working for development – is starved of reliable and evidence-based research.'

Dr Matt Walton is Aung San Suu Kyi Senior Research Fellow in Modern Burmese Studies at St Antony's College. He has been studying Burma for over a decade and is a leading researcher into the country's society and politics. 'Part of my involvement in this collaboration is working with the Department of Politics and International Relations at Oxford and the newly established politics programme at Rangoon University to help with curriculum development. Faculty from the Central European University and the Open Society Foundations have also been assisting with this,' he explains. 'I'm particularly keen that people with expertise on Burma help with this project so that they don't end up with a generic politics curriculum, but rather with something that is particularly relevant for their current situation and also draws on Burmese and regional texts, not just standard Western texts.'

Fluent in the Burmese language and a regular visitor to the country, Dr Walton is well placed to assess the contribution Oxford can make to university life in Burma. He adds: 'A challenge that this collaboration presents is that Rangoon University is just one of dozens of universities in the country. We need to make sure the things we do for Rangoon are available to other universities as much as possible. I also think it will be critical that we begin to think not just about educational support that Oxford can provide in English, but also ways that we can help them to develop Burmese-language – and other ethnic minority-language – resources for teaching.'

More on some of the initiatives described above at www.lmh.ox.ac.uk/IGS/home/Myanmar.aspx, www.law.ox.ac.uk/newsitem=845, <http://tinyurl.com/o5r43fe> and www.sant.ox.ac.uk/asian/BurmeseProgramme.html



WHAT'S ON

EXHIBITIONS

Cézanne and the modern: masterpieces of European art from the Pearlman Collection
Until 22 June 2014

Ashmolean Museum

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www.ashmolean.org/exhibitions/cezanne

Exhibition of the Pearlman collection, which comprises work by Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masters including Cézanne, Van Gogh and Modigliani.

LECTURES AND TALKS

John Donne Lecture: Living with creativity
Friday 4 April, 5.15pm

Sheldonian Theatre

www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/events/john-donne-lecture-0

Tony Hall, Director-General of the BBC, talks about the challenges of recognising and encouraging creativity.

Samantha Shannon in conversation with Sam Thompson

Wednesday 30 April, 5.15pm

Convocation House, Old Bodleian Library
www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Bestselling novelist Samantha Shannon, author of *The Bone Season*, talks to Dr Sam Thompson, Lecturer in English Language and Literature at St Anne's College.

A view from the Pacific: re-envisioning the art museum

Tuesday 13 May, 5pm

Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum

www.humanities.ox.ac.uk/humanitas

Lecture by director and curator Michael Govan, who is the 2014 Humanitas Visiting Professor in Museums, Galleries & Libraries.

Human rights as human values

Thursday 15 May, 5.30pm

Lecture Theatre, Oxford University Museum of Natural History

www.linacre.ox.ac.uk/About/events

Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty, gives the 2014 Tanner Lecture.

CONCERTS

Gabriel Jackson's *The Passion of the Lord*

Friday 4 April, 8pm

Merton College Chapel

Tickets £20



Tanaxson Stage Coach © The Henry and Rose Pearlman Collection

www.merton.ox.ac.uk/events

Gabriel Jackson's *The Passion of the Lord* receives its world première in the first concert of the Passiontide at Merton festival.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Easter Trail

Saturday 29 March – Sunday 20 April

Museum of the History of Science

www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/events

Mathematical mystery trail for children aged 7 upwards.

I can see a rainbow

Friday 4 April, 10.30am–12.30pm and 2–4pm

Oxford University Museum of Natural History

www.oum.ox.ac.uk/visiting/whatson.htm

Drop-in event for the under-5s. Find a rainbow of colours in the museum and take home a rainbow streamer.

Cushion concert: Jazz All Stars

Sunday 6 April, 11am

Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, St Hilda's College

Tickets £7 / £5

www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp-music-building

Jazz concert for children aged 5 to 11 and their families. The concert features vocalist Natalie Williams and a line-up of some of the UK's finest jazz musicians.

DRAMA

Hidden Glory: Dorothy Hodgkin in her own words

Wednesday 7 May, 5pm

Somerville College

www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Filmed performance of a one-woman play about the Nobel-prizewinning scientist Dorothy Hodgkin, followed by a Q&A with the playwright Georgina Ferry.



A Secunza

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rough Music

Saturday 29 March, 8pm

OVADA, 14a Osney Lane, Oxford OX1 1NJ

Tickets £10 / £7

www.prm.ox.ac.uk/specialevents.html

Sonic adventure with Pitt Rivers Museum composer-in-residence Nathaniel Mann, featuring the beguiling sounds of ancient Chinese pigeon whistles and bronze tuned musical meat cleavers.

Digital day

Wednesday 16 April, 1–4.30pm

Oxford e-Research Centre, 7 Keble Road

www.oerc.ox.ac.uk/digital

Discover how to bring your research to life using innovative digital technologies. Drop in for as long as you like (1pm buffet lunch; 2pm presentations; 3pm open afternoon showcasing research and collaborations, networking and refreshments).

SPORT

The BNY Mellon Boat Race

Sunday 6 April, 6pm

www.theboatrace.org

The 160th boat race between crews from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The 4.5 mile course stretches from Putney to Mortlake.

BEYOND THE NOTEBOOK

Clare-Marie Grigg discovers a range of simple devices to revolutionise the way you work



It shouldn't come as any surprise in this day and age that there are many accessible, easy-to-use – and often free – smart technologies to help us work more productively. Yet, for some reason, very few of us make use of them. Many of us still use pen and paper to take notes in meetings, while our computers can often serve as little more than fancy typewriters with internet access. Few of us have encountered programs like voice recognition software, mind mapping, recording pens, and proofreading narration, to name just a few.

One person who works with these technologies and demonstrates them on a regular basis is Tim Jones, Assessment Centre Manager at the University's Student Welfare and Support Services. Jones often works with disabled students who might require specialist equipment, but he is quick to stress these technologies can benefit everyone.

One of the most basic efficiency methods he cites is using a smartphone or dictaphone to record information. You can even record audio, feed it through a voice recognition program (more on this later) and get a typed transcript. 'We should get out of the mindset that at the end of every lecture or meeting we need to have a written set of notes,' says Jones.

Taking things one step further is the LiveScribe Pen, which costs between £85 and £210. Jones demonstrates using special (though not particularly expensive) paper. He hits 'record' on his pen, talks and takes notes at the same time. Then he taps the nib on a line of written text he wants to hear, and the pen plays it back. His handwritten notes take him back in time.

A similar device already exists in the Mac version of Microsoft Word (although not Windows), he says. Go into 'View', select 'Notebook layout', then 'Audio' and tap the red record button icon. 'Like the pen, it links audio to what you're typing,' he says. 'Students love it because so many of them have Macs and it's built in. Yet no one seems to really know about it.'

Jones says the high point when he gives presentations is usually when he demonstrates voice recognition. 'Most people know about voice recognition, but they think it doesn't work. So when they see it being demonstrated and working very well, they're impressed.'

'Get out of the mindset that at the end of every lecture or meeting you need to have a written set of notes'

He speaks into a program, which then quickly and perfectly types out his words, including punctuation. It's 90% accurate, Jones says, and particularly useful for people who have pain typing or simply work better verbally. The main downside to this software is

that it recognises only one voice at a time and you have to set up a profile that becomes 'trained' to your articulation.

Something that works along similar lines is proofreading software. This narrates text from a typed document or email out loud – which is good for checking a written document by listening for mistakes. It's also helpful for people in a hurry who want to do their reading – or listening – whilst doing other things. The voice on the program Jones demonstrates sounds rather like BBC newsreader Moira Stuart.

An interesting tool for people who prefer working more visually is mind-mapping software, which is a way of brain-dumping on to a computer page. The software organises points into intuitive mind charts that mean you can plan the structure of an entire essay or article far more quickly than you normally would. Jones says there are hundreds of mind-mapping programs out there, including quite a few free ones. 'There are free versions of many of these programs. The [recording] pen is really the only thing you have to pay for.'

He adds: 'We need to stop doing things a set way and start thinking "I need to tailor this to meet my needs." If people do that more then they should be more effective, more productive.'

► For more information, visit the Oxford University Assessment Centre at www.ouac.co.uk or the Centre for Research into Assistive Technologies, Kellogg College at www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/researchcentres/alt. There is also helpful general information on assistive technologies at www.jisctechdis.ac.uk

A VERY ODD 'MAPP' INDEED

Stuart Gillespie sheds light on the Selden Map, believed to show shipping routes between Ming China and its trading partners



Once described as ‘a very odd mapp of China’, the 17th-century Selden Map is today one of the treasures of the Bodleian Library. Bequeathed to the Bodleian by London lawyer John Selden in 1659, the map brings to life in beautifully detailed watercolour the thriving maritime trade routes of the Far East in the late Ming period.

This month the map has gone on show at the newly opened Hong Kong Maritime Museum as part of an exhibition displaying highlights from the celebrated Chinese collections held at the University of Oxford. Entitled *Mapping Ming China's Maritime World – The Selden Map and Other Treasures from Oxford University*, the exhibition runs until 23 June and has been jointly organised by the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and the Bodleian Libraries. It was formally opened on 20 March at a ceremony involving Lord Patten of Barnes, the University's Chancellor and former Governor of Hong Kong, and Richard Ovenden, Bodley's Librarian. Guided visits to the exhibition, led by Richard Ovenden and Joshua Seufert, H D Chung Chinese Studies Librarian, were a highlight of the inaugural Alumni Weekend in Asia.

As the earliest known map showing shipping routes linking Ming-era China with markets in South East Asia and beyond, the Selden Map is the stand-out item among a host of treasures on display from the Bodleian and the Ashmolean Museum. However, little is known about the origins of the map, which has undergone extensive restoration work in recent years. Cataloguing the map for the Bodleian in 1721, the antiquary and diarist Thomas Hearne described it simply as ‘a very odd mapp of China. Very large, & taken from Mr Selden's’.

David Helliwell, Curator of Chinese Collections at the Bodleian, explains: ‘We don't know exactly when the map was made, nor do we know exactly where it was picked up in the Far East, but we imagine that it was probably made in the 1620s and acquired by a merchant of the East India Company, who brought it to London, where it passed into the hands of Selden.’

‘We imagine that it was probably made in the 1620s and acquired by a merchant of the East India Company, who brought it to London’

Up until that point, most Chinese maps had positioned China as the centre of the known world. But in the Selden Map, China only occupies a relatively small portion in the top half. The map's scope extends to the whole of the Far East, with the South China Sea as its centre point.

The immense significance of the map was realised in 2008 when visiting scholar Robert Batchelor noticed the very faint lines indicating trade routes and compass bearings from the port of Quanzhou to all parts of the region. Mr Helliwell adds: ‘This is a map drawn by ordinary people. It's drawn by

tradesmen – tradesmen who simply wanted to illustrate the routes on which they plied their trade. It was probably a map that almost had a half aesthetic function and it was probably displayed in the house of a rich merchant.’

Last summer the Selden Map was used by the Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH) as an example of the way in which academics from different disciplines can provide unique and varied insights into the same object. Among the Oxford scholars to cast their eyes over the map was Rana Mitter, Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China, who hailed its value in providing historical context for our understanding of the region today. ‘Looking at the map gives you a longer-term view – a reminder that the kind of understanding we have of this immensely important region has to be informed by an understanding that trade routes, relationships, commerce and people engaging with each other has a long history,’ he says. ‘The map is a marvellous example of that.’

Ros Holmes, a researcher in contemporary Chinese art, adds: ‘One of the most interesting things for me about the Selden Map is the sheer richness of the detailing itself. What first appears to be a 17th-century map about Chinese trade routes is actually a more complicated art historical object that attests to cross-cultural flows of knowledge and an exchange of ideas.’

▶ Learn more about the map at <http://seldenmap.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> and <http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/selden-map>



OUR PART OF THE DEAL

Martin Christlieb spends his days explaining cancer and progress in cancer research to the public – and he uses a board game to do it, reports *Jonathan Wood*

During the height of the recent floods, Dr Martin Christlieb drove back from Portsmouth in the dark and wet, trying to avoid blocked roads and traffic jams, only getting home at 1am. He'd just given a talk on cancer to a public audience, many of whom had their own experiences of the disease. He'd arrived in Portsmouth just in time for the talk, despite setting out from Oxford at 2.30pm. 'It's when you get a letter or email the next week that says "That was spot on," or "Progress is heartening," or "I didn't know that," that it reminds you it's all worthwhile,' Martin says.

Martin Christlieb is employed by the University's Department of Oncology to engage the public in cancer, our understanding of the condition and progress towards new treatments, and the department's research. Whether he's talking to school students, working with teachers, doing demos at science fairs or speaking to patients, he focuses on face-to-face engagement, with hands-on activities away from the department.

'People have donated to Cancer Research UK, people have paid their taxes... Our part of the deal is to say "This is what we're doing with the money"'

One of the activities he has developed is a board game in which pieces advance across the board whenever you roll a double on a pair of dice. Only this is a game where you don't want to move your pieces too far too fast. Progress up the board mirrors what happens to cells in the body as they begin to escape all the normal checks on growth and become cancerous. Landing on new squares sees your playing piece gradually pick up various 'hallmarks' of cancer. Perhaps you pick up some damage to the cell's DNA that doesn't get repaired properly; perhaps that cell escapes the normal systems that get rid of aberrant cells; perhaps it escapes controls that keep a lid on cell division. But our lifestyles and genes can influence our chances of getting cancer, so Martin adjusts the chances of each team making progress on the board

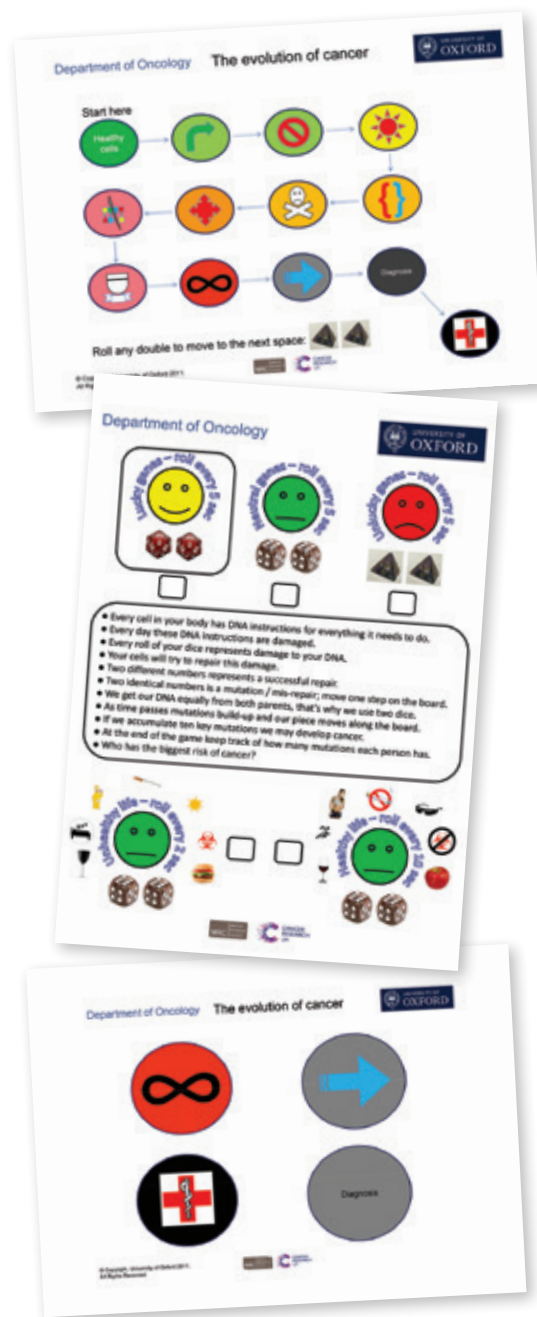
by getting them to roll the dice at different rates (lifestyle) or roll dice with different numbers of faces (genetics).

'The various hallmarks of cancer that cells develop unite to give truly malignant disease,' Martin explains. 'The game helps explain this. And I can link the different squares to research in the department. It helps give a 21st-century picture of cancer. It's a disease that is dynamic: a moving, mobile target. There are lots of ways each hallmark can develop. And while together they give us a disease we recognise as cancer, each person's tumour will be personal to them.'

Martin reports that the feedback has been very positive. 'Cancer groups and patients are really chuffed that we've bothered. A lot of time as a patient you find yourself having to process a lot of information at an emotional time. You might have had a seven-minute or fifteen-minute consultation. Here, this might be an hour and a half. Schools are also very positive that we've come with interactive resources and like the fact that we didn't come in and just talk.'

In the two years he's been employed in this role by Oncology, leaving behind a research career in chemistry then medical imaging, he's led 95 activities reaching well over 4,000 people. Martin says the point of his work is not to fundraise, not to recruit people to clinical trials. It's simply to raise awareness of the research the department is carrying out. 'People have donated to Cancer Research UK, people have paid their taxes – this is our part of the deal. We need to say "This is what we're doing with the money."'

He's clearly doing something right. A colleague told him of a group of sixth formers arguing on a train through rural Wales about the hallmarks of cancer and trying to Google his name to find the answer. This was on their way home from a UNIQ summer school at Oxford. 'That's a really nice story and suggests we had a real impact on them,' says Martin.



The board game and other resources are available at www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/The-Evolution-of-Cancer-Board-Game-6402998 and www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/The-Evolution-of-Cancer-Worksheet-6402999



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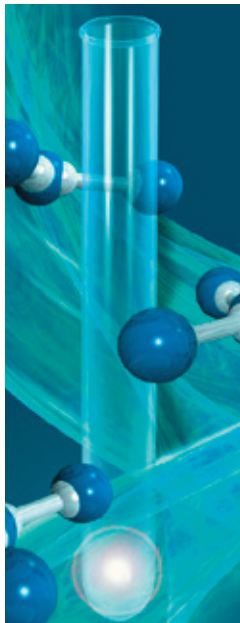
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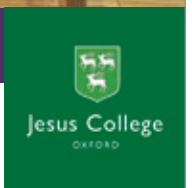
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WHY AM I HERE?

ROGER BODEN

Senior Member of the Oxford University Yacht Club

Firstly, what's your 'day job'?

I'm the Bursar of Keble College. The College Statutes state that 'The Bursar shall under the direction of the Governing Body have the care of the property, income and expenditure of the College and shall be responsible for the domestic economy of the College and the proper keeping of its accounts.' And that's what I do. (The Victorians knew how to write succinct job descriptions.)

And how do you come to be doing that?

I read PPE at Keble in the 1960s. Then, after a miserable year at Nuffield, I became by turns a fisherman, a teacher and, for 20 years, a merchant banker. I left the City in 1993 and Keble asked me to help with a Business Expansion Scheme transaction. Having raised £2m by shuffling paper I was then invited to become a Fellow by Special Election with the remit to 'make the College richer'. So I spent seven years trying to do that, and was appointed Bursar in 2000 on the retirement of my predecessor.

You're also a University sports club Senior Member - what does that mean?

All University sports clubs need a Senior Member and a President, and more volunteers are currently needed. Primary responsibility for a club rests with the junior members, who are ultimately answerable to the President, but the Senior Member is expected to keep an eye on things on the University's behalf and initiate appropriate action should things start to fall apart.

So what does it entail?

I'm Senior Member for OUYC, the Oxford University Yacht Club, which is lucky to have an active Senior Committee of OUYC alumni who promote the interests of the club and ensure that junior members are well supported, both for dinghy team racing and for yachting. I provide liaison between this committee and University sports officials. I also supply an Oxford venue for meetings, a bottle of gin and plenty of tonic water, crisps and twiglets to keep everyone focused. The Committee meets two or three times a year and has, for example, established a Boat Fund to which about 200 alumni subscribe annually. We use this to renew OUYC's fleet of 12 firefly dinghies on a four-year cycle.

And what does the President do?

The President is the head of the club, chairs its AGM and Senior Committee meetings and generally promotes its interests in the wider world of sailing.

Can anyone stand for these posts?

Anyone is eligible, though you need to be a member of Congregation to be a Senior Member. You don't need to be superb at the sport yourself, but clearly it's important to have a passion for it. We're fortunate in the strength of our alumni support, but it would be good to identify additional members of the University – post-docs, senior academics or admin staff – who might like to get involved.

So how did you come to be Senior Member for OUYC?

I sailed in three Varsity matches as a student and was active in the Oxford & Cambridge Sailing Society – which is essentially for blues from both universities – whilst working in the City. When I came back to Keble it took the Senior Committee about a year to noble me, and I've been Senior Member ever since.

Does it take up much time?

Two or three evenings a year for the Senior Committee meetings, the occasional phone conversation with Director of Sport Jon Roycroft, an annual discussion with the insurers, plus the occasional email exchange among members of the Senior Committee.

How can I find out more?

For sailing, just email roger.boden@keble.ox.ac.uk. For all other sports or to register interest for a Senior Member or President role, visit www.sport.ox.ac.uk/seniormember or contact jon.roycroft@sport.ox.ac.uk.

Finally, a memorable experience?

As President of the Oxford & Cambridge Sailing Society I started an annual 'Generations Tournament' on Farmoor Reservoir. I used to sail for the 1960s team and one year we couldn't rustle up crew, so I found three current OUYC members to help out. It was like seeing through a window that had been misted up. They were so sharp, so attuned to the boat, the wind and the water. It reminded me of when I used to be like that, and why this is such a great sport.



Blueprint is published bimonthly for the staff of the University of Oxford by the Public Affairs Directorate

Editor: Sally Croft

Designers: Laëtitia Velia/Katy Dawkins

Picture research: Janet Avison

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VIEWFINDER

WHERE ARE THESE WOOLLY WANDERERS? ANSWER ON P5.

