HumSci News

Keeping Friends of Human Sciences in touch

December 2016

Welcome from the Head of the Institute

Welcome to this year's newsletter which illustrates the humanity of those who read Human Sciences and their engagement with the world around them. You will find this issue rich with experiences and fulfilment of lives well lived. I should like to pay tribute to a member of our group, Astier Almedon, who was lately a professor at Tufts University, who died earlier this year. She was a warm, inspired and happy person with whom I loved to sit and chat with over Human Sciences lunches we had back in the late 1980s.

Contained within this newsletter is a summary by Abby Fraser who organised a marvellous careers "soiree" enjoyed by participants and audience alike. She is too modest. I want to congratulate her on an enterprising and exciting evening. And I should like to thank my former student Ben Rinck whose employers helped fund the project. I hope Abby's vision will be taken up by students who follow and that more of us will want to share our histories and futures with present students.

Naomi Freud (St Catherine's, 1988)

Congratulations to

Fran Bennett, Senior Research and Teaching Fellow at the Department of Social Policy and Intervention who was appointed OBE for services to social science in the 2016 New Year Honour's List. Fran is the convenor of the Social Policy option which was offered to Human Sciences students for the first time in 2014–15. Fran has a particular interest in social security policy, gender issues, and poverty, income distribution and participation. She has written extensively on social policy issues for the UK government, non-government organisations and others. She is one of the UK independent experts on social inclusion for the European Commission. Fran gave a talk at the 2016 Alumni Weekend in the Department of Social Policy on "Inside the 'Black Box' of the Family. The talk can be watched at http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/inside-black-box-family

Susana Carvalho, Associate Professor in Palaeoanthropology, who has been awarded a Philip Leverhulme Prize in Archaeology in recognition of her outstanding research. Philip Leverhuleme prizes have been awarded annually since 2001 in commemoration of the contribution to the work of the Trust made by Philip Leverhulme, the Third Viscount Leverhulme and grandson of Williams Hesketh Lever, the founder of the Trust. Susana is the convenor of the Finals paper on Human Genetics and Evolution and she lectures and tutors on Human Evolution for both Prelims and Finals for the Human Sciences degree. Her work is at the foundation of the new academic sub-discipline: Primate Archaeology. Her studies have revealed the behavioural patterns and contexts that generate modern chimpanzee tool assemblages that can be compared with those recovered from the past, for apes and humans.

David Coleman, Emeritus Professor of Demography and former Head of the Institute of Human Sciences, who, together with Helen Epstein, was awarded the 2016 Population Council's Olivia Schieffelin Nordberg Award for excellence in writing and editing in the population sciences. The award was presented at a reception at the Population Council in New York on Monday 7 November. The Olivia Schieffelin Nordberg award was created to honour the legacy of Dr Nordberg whose work as an editor, writer, and director of publications helped disseminate important information on international population issues over three decades. The award recognizes individuals with exceptional writing and editing skills and demonstrated achievements in writing on population that combines exceptional scholarship with appeal to a broad readership or a record of editing technical material on population to make it accessible to varied audiences. Julia Bunting, OBE, President of the Population Council and a Human Sciences alumna, said "Dr Nordberg's contributions to the field of demography and population sciences have greatly influenced how the world thinks about population dynamics. We are delighted to honour the two individuals, who, like Dr Nordberg, have dedicated their careers to sharing important insights on population issues with the world."

Dr Zuzanna Olszewska, Associate Professor in the Middle East in the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, who has been awarded the Houshang Pourshariati Book Award in Iranian Studies for her book *The Pearl of Dari: Poetry and Personhood among young Afghans in Iran*. The award was announced by the Middle East Studies Association at its annual award ceremony in Boston on Thursday 17 November 2016. Dr Olszewska lectures and tutors in Social Anthropology for the Human Sciences degree and is currently the convenor of the core FHS series of lectures on Key Themes in Social Anthropology.

Clare Lorraine Phipps, Human Sciences graduate of Somerville (2011), who has been elected as Chair of the Green Party of England and Wales Executive. After graduating from Oxford, Clare completed an MSc at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, during which she was diagnosed with idiopathic hypersomnia, which she first became ill with during her time at Somerville. As a disabled feminist, Clare has been involved in national campaigns including the court case to lift the ban on MPs job sharing, and recently in the campaign for the government to reaffirm their commitment to Civil Partnerships and extend them to all couples regardless of gender. She writes below why she thinks Human Scientists should consider getting involved in politics.

Why Politics needs more Human Scientists

The government elected while I was ill and intermitting from Somerville in 2010 has a strikingly homogeneous make-up. Aside from being overwhelmingly white, male and able bodied, a disproportionate number of its members had all graduated from the same course, at the same University.

The back-then fresh-faced Conservative Prime Minister Cameron had graduated from Oxford with a degree in PPE. This was also true of his cabinet ministers William Hague, Jeremy Hunt and Philip Hammond. Another 31 MPs who took up their seats in the Commons that May had studied that same course. The transition of power in 2010 triggered a leadership contest in the previously incumbent Labour Party. Oxford PPEists Ed Balls and David Miliband were beaten by fellow Oxford PPEist Ed Miliband.

5 years later, a term in Coalition with the Conservatives took its toll on the Liberal Democrats. They faced a rousting in the 2015 General Election: Former Lib Dem Cabinet members and Oxford PPE graduates Ed Davey and Danny Alexander both lost their seats. Labour failed to retake a majority in what was considered by many as a "shoe in" election and Miliband stood down – which was followed by not one but two leadership contests. In the first, Corbyn beat PPE graduate Yvette Cooper, in the second PPEist Angela Eagle was widely backed in the early stages as a main contender, but quickly stood aside.

In what might cynically be called a gamble pre-election by Cameron to secure power of course backfired this year as the Brexit results rolled in. With a whistle, Oxford PPE graduate David Cameron stepped down leaving Oxford graduate Teresa May to the premiership.

Given our UK political narrative since I matriculated has largely concerned graduates of just one course, it is perhaps unsurprising that much has been made in the media of how many of our current class of politicians are Oxbridge PPE graduates. "*Is PPE a passport to power*", "*Why does PPE rule Britain?*", the less flattering "*How an Oxford degree – PPE – created a robotic governing class*", and my personal favourite, the twitter account mocking the tendency of politicians without a manual background nevertheless dressing up in fluorescents on construction site visits as "*men of the people*": "*PPEists in PPE*".

It is clear that going to Oxford endows us with (or for many, solidifies) an enormous amount of privilege; privilege which means that we are more likely than others to find ourselves in positions of power. And for better or worse, a disproportionate number of those who enter the revered corridors of Whitehall have not only been educated at Oxford – they have also studied PPE.

Clare Phipps (front right) with (from left to right) Freda Davis and Mike Shipley (coChairs of the GPEW Regional Council) Amelia Womack, (GPEW Deputy) and Caroline Lucas MP and Jonathan Batley (Co-chairs of the Green Party)

Indeed, in the current socioeconomic system, those who are Oxbridge educated are very likely to be able to succeed in their chosen careers, which we are all often illustrious. Given the level of privilege with which we are all variously endowed, I am continually impressed by the careers of those Humscis I had the pleasure to study with, and the way with which they chose to use this power to give a platform to those who have not been as fortunate. They teach in deprived areas, they run social entrepreneurship projects, they work for charities combating poverty, they fight against climate change, they research in areas with potential to improve the life chances of those who currently have the poorest. These are all extremely important areas: and to my mind, they are all "politics".

My desire here is not to criticise what is taught in the PPE degree or our friends who have studied that course. But I want to make a challenge to fellow alumni and those students who are yet to consider it. Please consider "politics", in all its various guises, as a worthwhile career for a Human Scientist, and one you are aptly educated to follow. The workings of politics as a "system" (traditional politics versus issue specific campaigning or community activism, how the legislature works in various countries and at various levels) can be quickly learnt by those who have been

trained during their undergraduate courses to absorb and assimilate information quickly. But what a Human Sciences degree provides cannot be so quickly gained.

Human Sciences gives us an education in the problems and possible solutions for issues that dominate modern society: public health to socioeconomic and educational inequality, climate change and environmental destruction. Crucially, being a multidisciplinary course it also teaches us that solutions require a multidisciplinary approach, and gives us a basic grounding in those approaches. We know that the issues we face will not be solved by a "gung ho" approach, which make good headlines and sound bites, but do not work in the long term – making headway can only be done if we understand how to interpret well conducted analyses and use sociological and anthropological approaches to understand the factors acting behind the scenes of any social phenomenon. Indeed, such an appreciation may in fact lead us to conclude that something which appears "politically undesirable" (for example, high teenage fertility rates) may actually not be the same "problem" it appears to the tabloids to be.

In addition, the breadth of our study means that the potential of being moved from department to department – from one such as "Health" to another as different as "Justice" – with every cabinet reshuffle may still mean we have the basic level of knowledge of the area to at least understand what it is we do *not* yet know, and need to find out in order to be effective in that area.

There are thankfully a number of politicians of all colours (and all kinds, not just those who sit on the leathered green or red benches, but also those who are active campaigners in their local community in other ways) who have adopted this culturally sensitive and cross-discipline approach and who have not had the privilege of a Human Sciences, an Oxbridge, or maybe a University education at all. But there are also many more who have ample education and privilege, but who are not applying the approach that I believe is needed in politics to truly improve people's lives.

For me personally, Human Sciences at Oxford led to an MSc in Demography and Health, and the beginning of a PhD in a similar vein. This education and exploration taught me much about the problems facing the world at the same time as I became aware of how privileged I was in my ability to make an impact on those problems. With that kind of grounding I could see no option other than to getting stuck in – and importantly not only in academia, but at the coal face of politics on the ground. I really hope that others feel the same.

My epilogue however, is that my hope would be not that Human Sciences replaces or is seen alongside PPE as the new "passport to power", but that having had an education such as the one we have had, we would use that power to support the efforts of those who have not been so privileged, so that one day in my very optimistic future, no one degree can ever be said to "rule Britain".

Clare Phipps (Somerville, 2011)

Remembering Hazel Lee Nunn **(Human Sciences Graduate of Jesus College, 2001)**

30 December 1979 to 1 June 2016

Hazel was born and grew up in Hertfordshire and attended Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls where she made many strong and close friendships. She came up to Oxford to study Human Sciences in 1998. I met Hazel on our first day at College having sought each other out when we realised that as the only two Human Scientists in our year at Jesus, we would be spending a lot of time together. I was really fortunate, as Hazel's vivacious nature made friendship very easy.

Hazel was a fantastic study partner and I have so many memories of our time in Oxford. One of the wonderful aspects of the Human Sciences degree programme was its interdisciplinary content which meant we got to explore many more of Oxford's wonderful colleges and libraries than many of our contemporaries reading other subjects. We had tutorials about sloth defecation habits in the University museum surrounded by fossils and butterflies; we learnt about anthropological notions of purity while sitting in our tutor's living room in a beautiful house in Jericho; we drank herbal tea and read out our essays on the potlatch traditions of the Haida in North America, while our ethology tutor rolled up her cigarettes. Our degree was hard work, but it was never dull. It expanded our minds and it was a privilege to share this experience with Hazel. Hazel graduated with a first class honours degree and proceeded to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where she gained an MSc in the Control of Infectious Diseases.

In 2004, Hazel joined Cancer Research UK (CRUK) and became Head of Health Evidence and Information. In this role, Hazel had the responsibility of translating scientific research findings into information that could be easily understood by non-specialists. As part of this job, she was frequently interviewed in the media, including a number of interviews on the sofa for BBC Breakfast – most memorably when she created headline news by informing the nation that its beloved bacon sarnie increased the risk of contracting pancreatic cancer.

Hazel had a passion for travel and loved an adventure. While still working for CRUK, Hazel volunteered with VSO in Uganda, and also used the opportunity to explore many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Indeed Hazel travelled extensively across the globe, often visiting countries off the tourist trail and recording her adventures with the most beautiful photographs. Hazel climbed mountains; she abseiled ravines, she ran marathons; she swam in the wild. She truly embraced life.

Hazel left CRUK in 2013 to return to another discipline that was part of our Human Science degree by enrolling on an MSc in Human Evolution and Behaviour at UCL. In 2014, Hazel joined the population health team at the Wellcome Trust and in November 2015, she was appointed as Head of Research at Samaritans.

Hazel's life and her adventures were cut tragically short, as she died at just 36 years old.

Hazel's achievements, both professional and in her personal life, never ceased to impress and amaze me. I always considered her to be a 'proper' Human Scientist, who really put into practice all that she had learnt during her degree course at Oxford. She was a truly remarkable woman and she is very sorely missed by her family and her wide circle of friends.

Katrina Swanton (nee Tomlin) (Jesus, 2001)

Human Sciences Symposium 2016

On Saturday 20th February 2016, the annual Human Sciences Symposium returned to Magdalen Auditorium for another year of interdisciplinary fun.

This year, the theme was 'Outsiders' and we had five speakers discussing a diverse range of interpretations of this topic. In particular, we were lucky enough to host two Human Sciences alumni: Belinda Stewart-Cox OBE, who spoke on the impact that 'outsiders' can have on conservation efforts and Hannah Griffiths, who discussed the human rights issues experienced by 'outsiders' in Palestine. Belinda is the Founder and Executive Director of the Elephant Conservation Network in Thailand, while Hannah worked as a human rights monitor with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel. We very much enjoyed having two alumni as speakers as we felt it highlighted the variety of career opportunities available to HumScis after they graduate, and helped to inspire current students.

Our other speakers were Dr Katy Burke, Professor David Napier and Marco Narajos. Katy, as a practitioner in Palliative Medicine, provided a moving insight into the experiences of those suffering from terminal illnesses, who often feel isolated and like 'outsiders' due to their condition. David is a professor in Medical Anthropology at UCL and discussed risk engagement across a plethora of themes including cultural understanding, digital and global health, and migration. Finally, Marco is a medical student at Oxford who is also involved with the mental health charity 'Mind Your Head', and covered the poorer psychological health experienced by minority groups, who may feel as though they are 'outsiders' within a community. The talks ran from 1pm until 4pm, and were followed by a Q&A panel discussion, which was a new addition to the Symposium this year. This allowed the audience to submit questions to the speakers collectively, who each then responded from the perspective of their specialism. As is evident from the descriptions, the day covered an eclectic and thought-provoking mix of responses to the fundamental question of what it means to be an 'outsider', and was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved. We are definitely looking forward to attending next year's Symposium, and can't wait to see what the new committee have in store!

As always, if you are interested in attending any events, would like more information about the Human Sciences Society's work, or are willing to lend your time to helping a new generation of HumScis, then please get in touch with the Vice-President, Maurice Lange, by emailing maurice.lange@wadh.ox.ac.uk or email Sarah-Jane on sarah-jane.white@ihs.ox.ac.uk.

Lauren Martin (Third Year Human Sciences Student)

Human Sciences Symposium 2017 – "Speaking Truth to Power."

With 2016 throwing up many questions about the way politicians and the public consider information gathered by "experts", now seems the perfect time to discuss the relationship between "truth" and "power".

The Oxford Human Sciences Society in their annual symposium brings you "Speaking Truth to Power", a series of talks and question sessions seeking to shed new light on our relationship with academic knowledge. Our speakers will range across the human sciences, discussing everything from the psychology of climate change to how we can best use anthropological knowledge to inform tactics for controlling disease epidemics. Our speakers will be a mix of academics and activists, and promise to be diverse and stimulating.

The event will be held in the afternoon of Saturday the 25th of February in Magdalen Auditorium. Further details are available on Facebook and tickets can be booked through Evenbrite.

Maurice Lange (Second Year Human Sciences Student and Vice-President of the Human Sciences Society)

Human Sciences Careers Soiree

On Wednesday, 30th November the Human Sciences Society held the first annual HumSci Christmas Careers Soirée at Magdalen College Auditorium. The event, sponsored by EY and arranged in collaboration with Ben Rinck (2012), saw 9 presentations by past and present HumScis showing their careers and the paths that led to where they are today. The event was well attended by current students, some alumni and tutors and the breadth of careers presented meant there was something applicable to everyone's interests. After the presentations had finished, everyone was invited into the atrium of the building for mulled wine, mince pies, networking and catching up. I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all the HumSci grads who offered to present and who participated with such enthusiasm at the event. I would also like to extend the invitation to any alumni who would be willing to give a talk or dedicate some time chatting about their career to current students as all found it incredibly worthwhile and came away with some great careers advice to take with them throughout and beyond their degree.

Abby Fraser (Third Year Human Science Student and President of the Oxford Human Sciences Society)

2016 Prizes

The Bob Hiorns Prize

The Bob Hiorns Prize for the best performance in the Final Honour School of Human Sciences was awarded to Beth Thorne, New College.

The Wilma Crowther Prize

The Wilma Crowther Prize for the best dissertation was awarded by the 2016 Board of Examiners to Chris Williams (St John's College) for his dissertation *on 'What factors influence the mating patterns of women in Hong Kong? Educational Homogany and Intersectionality'.* We asked Chris to tell us a bit about his dissertation.

Most Human Scientists will know the gender ratio in China is male heavy, but few may know that the gender ratio in Hong Kong is substantially weighted towards a surplus of women, particularly between the ages of 20 and 40 years. This fact, coupled with East Asian newspapers emphasising Hong Kong women's strong desire to 'marry up' (hypogamy), made me wonder what factors influence these women's marital choices.

I chose to focus my work on educational assortative mating, because significant improvements in gender equality have enabled greater access to education for women in Hong Kong. This was contradictory to historical anthropological texts, which indicated women were not entitled to education and many job opportunities. It appeared as though cultural opinions about women had changed. I looked to see if this was true with demographic data.

Following a statistical analysis of marriage registers. I found women were placing an increasing emphasis on educational marital homogamy, or in other words, it was becoming increasingly more common for partners to have the same educational attainment at the time of marriage. This peaked in 2007 when 87.6% of marriages involved couples with the same educational attainment. The decrease following 2007 supported Smits, Ultee and Lammers' (1999) assortative mating theory, where industrialisation eventually results in women having the opportunities to place an increasing importance on romantic love and subsequently a decrease in educational marital homogamy. A contemporary anthropological literature review on marriage in Hong Kong supported these notions.

Finally, I conducted an additional hypothesis through grounded theory, which postulated improvements in gender equality are fewer for female foreign domestic workers. The data and literature supported this hypothesis but more research is necessary to identify the marital choices of this group and to understand the implications of the intersectionality of gender, migrant status and socio-economic status in Hong Kong to ensure vulnerable groups are sufficiently protected.

Chris Williams (St John's, 2006)

Gibbs Prizes

This year the main Gibbs Prize for the best performance in Prelims was awarded to

Gabrielle Lynch (St Hugh's College)

and book prizes were awarded to

Lara Sharrock (St Hugh's College)
Ella Grodzinski (Mansfield College)
Maya Shahor (St Catherine's College)

Clarendon-Lienhardt Associate Professorship in the Anthropology of Africa with a Tutorial Fellowship in Human Sciences at St Hugh's College

The Clarendon-Lienhardt Associate Professorship in the Anthropology of Africa with a Tutorial Fellowship in Human Sciences at St Hugh's College has been advertised and will be filled in time for the academic year 2017–18. This new post will contribute to the teaching of Social Anthropology for the Human Sciences degree as well as being involved in the selection, teaching and pastoral care of Human Sciences students at St Hugh's College. We are very grateful to everyone who contributed to the fundraising for this post.

An Accidental Career in Conservation

"How will I ever endure this tedium for three whole months" I thought after only three hours in a bamboo blind overlooking the Huai Kha Khaeng River in west Thailand. With pen and notebook on hand, I was sitting ten feet above the ground, numb-legged and sticky hot, waiting in vain for a peafowl to appear on the sand bank opposite. That was thirty years ago.

That dismal experience was the start of an unexpected love affair with a place rather than a person – although that came too the following year. My time in Thailand had its ups and downs – I burned

out at least three times over the years – but it was also a grand, fulfilling adventure which hijacked my middle life and gave me an accidental career in conservation.

In spite of being a moderately mature student with four years' in publishing under my belt, I came to Oxford to read Human Sciences with no game plan other than to get a degree. I had asked to upgrade my coordination role on the 'Peoples of the Wild' series at Time-Life Books and become a trainee researcher, but was told I needed a degree. "OK" I thought, miffed "I'll get one".

I chose Human Sciences over English (my top subject at school) because it seemed more practical and interesting. I often wonder what I would have become if I'd chosen English instead. An accidental reporter, perhaps, or a sleuth of some kind. Who knows? Instead I tapped into my work experience and a childhood spent in tropical lands with people unlike me and a father who loved butterflies and birds and regularly carted us into the bush for wild weekends.

An added bonus of being a human scientist in the early 1980s was having the lovely Wilma Crowther as my tutor. It was because of her, in fact, that I came to LMH at all. At very short notice, and quite outside the normal admissions process, she'd arranged for me to be interviewed by a pride of Human Sciences tutors from the course's diverse disciplines. Sat in comfy armchairs around a fireplace in St John's, the interview quickly developed into a stimulating discussion about the pros and cons of mixing disciplines and whether popularising anthropology is effective. I held my own, evidently, and was offered a place, but only if I was happy to join Wilma at LMH. Happy? I was thrilled. She was wonderful.

Thirty years on, I could now argue with even greater conviction and a lot more evidence that Human Sciences is a terrific degree for anyone wanting to work in wildlife conservation. Its different components – ranging from zoology to anthropology and, in my case, social psychology – provide good grounding in a field that is as much about people and their preferences as it is about wildlife. Even more so if you want to work 'in the field' as I did. Throughout my time in Thailand, I regularly engaged with people of different ethnicities, education and status to do what I did.

When I left Oxford, I still had no clue what I wanted to do and the bemused careers advisor was just as flummoxed as me. No matter. The immediate future was taken care of by a somewhat naïve research project I'd organised through the Oxford Exploration Society. In my second year, I'd stumbled upon the fact that the green peacock of Southeast Asia is the largest pheasant, was almost unstudied, hugely threatened and beautifully photogenic. A perfect project. I and a few friends would go to Thailand for three months (it was there or Indonesia and Thailand appealed to us more) to find out why green peafowl are so rare while blue peafowl, their South Asian cousins, are still so common. After that I would work out what to do in life.

Yorkshire Television intervened. I was offered a job as a researcher by Adam Hart-Davis on his science education programme. My qualification was not so much that I knew about science but that I'd been a science drop-out at school. Adam is a super keen, madcap scientist whose logic was that if I thought his programmes interesting and intelligible, other potential drop-outs would too.

I hadn't wanted to drop out. I'd wanted to do biology A-level as well as English and French but wasn't allowed to. "Arts and science don't mix" I was told by my doctrinaire house mistress "and you clearly aren't a scientist".

I didn't shine at physics or chemistry, it's true, but I was good at biology so that judgement was a tad unfair. And to this day I cannot think of myself as a 'proper' scientist, but when I read Human Sciences less than a decade later, I discovered that mixing arts and science is not only possible but a very good thing. The niche I forged in Thailand often meant sharing scientific information with a lay audience. Proper scientists don't always do that well although they are better at writing academic papers than I have ever been. A paucity of papers is one of my regrets.

I loved being a researcher but didn't gel with big, unionised TV. If I'd worked for an equally wonderful producer in a small production company making programmes I'd want to watch, perhaps I'd still be there. Instead I went to Thailand after a year in Yorkshire and fell in love with Huai Kha Khaeng.

Huai Kha Khaeng is a gem of a wildlife sanctuary, buffered by other conservation areas on three sides (including one called Thung Yai) and by reserve forest along its eastern boundary. It survived the depredations of 19th and 20th century traders because it has no natural teak (that occurs further north) and is too dry for rubber (the cause of much clearance further south). It is also rugged and remote and difficult to access. As a result, it is still home to many imperilled species including *Pavo muticus*, the green peafowl. Best of all, its 2,780 square kilometres enfold the waterway that gives the sanctuary its name. It also encompasses the entire Huai Kha Khaeng watershed. A rare distinction indeed, for rivers so often serve as boundary markers.

I look back now on that first three months and see a time of troubled uncertainty. Did we know what we were doing? Barely. Did we achieve anything much? Not really, although our very presence there highlighted the fact that in those days (with Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and southern China emerging from civil strife and largely off limits), Huai Kha Khaeng had the only sizeable population of *Pavo muticus* known to survive in Southeast Asia, a startling fact, given their blue cousins' omnipresence in India. The explanation for this, and thus the answer to our research question, became blindingly obvious quite quickly. While blue peacocks in South Asia consort with Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of wisdom, and are therefore sacred, and safe from hunters, green peafowl enjoy no such taboo. They are captured for the live-bird trade, killed for food and feathers, and their eggs are often cooked by dry season fires. Like all pheasants, they nest on the ground. And because they roost in open trees and shriek their presence at dawn and dusk, they are easy prey. Sitting silhouettes.

Back in Thailand in 1987, hoping to make something more of what we'd started, I watched a protest brewing. The government of the day, led by a crusty old general, wanted to build another hydro-electric dam on the upper reaches of the River Mae Khlong, also known as the River Kwai. Two vast dams had already harnessed that same river system further south. Even the World Bank (a keen advocate of mega dams in those days) thought this third dam, known as Nam Choan, was economically unviable and environmentally damaging. But Japanese donors stepped in. The pay-offs would have been appealing.

A cluster of enraged conservationists coalesced around the cause. From the civil service, NGO, and university sectors, aligned with journalists and local residents, their aim was to stop the whole dam project. Galliant Davids against the Goliath of government. International wildlife NGOs thought it a hopeless cause. Local campaigners thought it important to try. Essential, in fact, because the dam's reservoir would have split Thailand's largest and most important conservation area into three quite

separate parts by inundating the Mae Khlong valley and its two main tributaries, one of which was the Huai Kha Khaeng.

I was asked to join the campaign team because I was a native English speaker and, by then, I knew the target area well enough to share information with a readership outside Thailand. Plus I had time. That elusive career path still eluded me.

Unbeknownst to all of us, that campaign launched the national conservation movement in Thailand, and my accidental career. When I agreed to help, I thought I'd be writing letters a couple of evenings a week for 2-3 months. In fact the campaign lasted eighteen months and hooked me full-time. I wrote scores of letters to diverse specialists around the world asking them to support our cause. Everyone agreed, but most wanted me to provide more detailed information. That led to a forensically detailed, minutely referenced cover story for *The Ecologist* and obliged me to learn about dam construction, hydrology, riparian ecology and much else besides. I don't think I've ever worked so hard to meet a deadline. For us it was an all-or-nothing campaign. As a result we won, for no politician or senior civil servant was as committed to the cause as we were. For them it was just another project. For us it meant the future of Thung Yai-Huai Kha Khaeng as Thailand's premier conservation area and thus the future of nature conservation in Thailand.

The Nam Choan campaign was an exhilarating experience as well as being formative. It forged loyalties and friendships that survive to this day and have rewarded me in myriad ways.

One of those friendships was with Seub Nakhasathien, a quiet but passionate government ecologist. When I met him, he was in charge of a wildlife rescue project at a dam being built in south Thailand. He knew by then that it was pointless relocating wildlife from an inundation zone because alternative habitats are either unsuitable or occupied. The only option for stranded animals was to 'rescue' them. Most died, which was just as well, for life in captivity would have been grim.

Seub and I walked the length and breadth of Thung Yai's 3,690km^2 (almost twice the size of Oxon), collecting data and taking photos that refuted claims put out by dam proponents that the area was already degraded. By the time the Nam Choan Dam was cancelled in 1988, we had forged a partnership that was personal as well as professional.

Within months, the new government tried to let commercial loggers into the wildlife sanctuaries. We campaigned against that too, helped by government officials who were not allowed to take sides, although Seub ignored that ruling and was fearlessly outspoken. By dint of its dates, Huai Kha Khaeng would have been the first sanctuary to be logged and, as a side-line, stripped of its wildlife by the loggers themselves. The campaign was short-lived, however. Mother Nature stepped in to teach everyone a lesson.

For several days rain fell non-stop in southern Thailand, soaking the soils and filling the rivers. Nothing unusual in that since it was the monsoon season. But then the earth began to slip during the night, taking with it rocks and rubber trees that stippled the slopes of one entire valley. Houses were flattened, roads buried, bridges felled, crops crushed and hundreds of people and animals died. It soon became clear that this catastrophe was caused by legal loggers logging illegally up hillsides,

replacing stable native trees with shallow-rooted rubber. The country was outraged. Even more so when word got out that every concessionaire was corrupting the logging system. That meant many valleys around the country were similarly at risk. The government caved in and within weeks Thailand had a logging ban that is still in place today.

By then conservation was a household word and the government changed tack. Seub was asked to draft a world heritage nomination for Thung Yai-Huai Kha Khaeng to become a natural world heritage site. Unlike most colleagues, he spoke good English having studied for an MSc in the UK. His boss also knew that Seub would ask me to write the nomination for him. For a year I worked as an unofficial volunteer for the Thai government, preparing its nomination to UNESCO. Meanwhile, Seub was pressured into becoming the head of Huai Kha Khaeng to stop the hunting and logging that was damaging the sanctuary. He did not want the job at all. He was a wildlife researcher, not a protected area manager, and he knew it would be a political minefield. But his friend Weerawat was head of Thung Yai and he felt obliged to help.

Writing the nomination was a slow process, partly because I was inexperienced and had so much to learn (about plate tectonics, for example, and the influence of soils on living things) but also because so much information was in Thai. At night, Seub would read a document out loud, roughly translating it, while I noted the facts I thought I'd need. Most of the time I worked on the veranda of the house we shared in Huai Kha Khaeng using car batteries to run my laptop (years later I raised funds to buy solar panels for the sanctuary). By March it was so hot I worked in wet clothes to keep cool, but in April I retreated to an air-conditioned room in Seub's house in Bangkok.

His job, meanwhile, became increasingly dangerous. He stopped the army from training in the sanctuary when soldiers were seen hunting wildlife instead of fictitious foe; he banned monks when they took to setting snares in lieu of meditation; and he caught policemen in uniform felling valuable trees. Doing his job effectively meant thwarting those who were used to pilfering the country's natural resources. When he learned that the Minister of Agriculture, the top politician in his hierarchy, was the ultimate beneficiary of the illegal logging operation, he knew he would never get the support he needed to protect Huai Kha Khaeng properly. His boss, though senior, was also a political pawn.

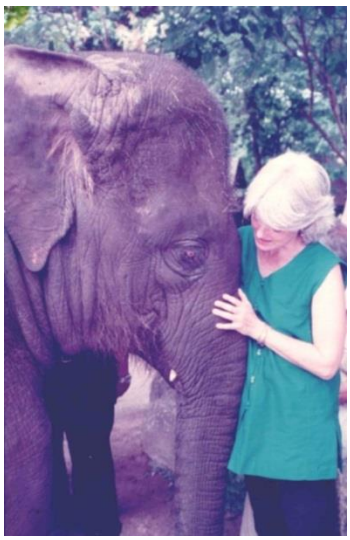
Shortly before I returned to the UK for my annual visit and Thai visa renewal, poachers with AK47 rifles wounded forest rangers equipped with antiquated firearms. Good men paid a pittance who were following Seub's instructions for a government that did not care about conservation, or about them. Not only was Seub facing failure at Huai Kha Khaeng, he was also risking the lives of men he knew for a cause that was hopelessly corrupted. An intolerable prospect.

On 1 September 1990, just before dawn, Seub shot himself in the house at Huai Kha Khaeng. Publicity turned his funeral into a national affair. Thousands came from all over the country to pay their last respects and H.M. King Bhumipol, echoing popular sentiment, sponsored his cremation. A common man had never before been honoured in this way. The royal citation commended Seub's honest and outspoken commitment to public service. A rare attribute, even now.

Journalists we knew from the Nam Choan Dam campaign joined the nightly services of the funeral wake. Newspaper front pages ran stories for weeks, detailing what Seub had faced; the dangers, the corruption, the political interference. A fund was started and in barely a month, it raised the equivalent of half a million pounds. The fund became a foundation and I was asked to be a trustee, the only foreigner on the board. Still dazed from the shock of his death, I said yes. I had no other plan. My life and nascent career were, by then, so closely linked to Seub.

I thought I would give the Foundation a couple of years before coming back to England. I could not see myself staying longer. Seub's successor, Chatchawan, also a trustee, was now in charge of a sanctuary that everyone wanted to visit, while I had the curious qualification of knowing more about the place than anyone else. We became allies, helping each other through uncharted terrain. The world heritage nomination had been submitted a few months before and I helped steer it through the assessment process. In 1991, it became the first natural world heritage site in mainland Southeast Asia, a heartening coup for Thailand and the source of much pride.

The Seub Foundation's mandate in those days was to support ranger welfare, environmental awareness, wildlife protection, and research, most of it focused on Thung Yai-Hai Kha Khaeng and adjoining national parks and wildlife sanctuaries of the western forest area. Working with Chatchawan and the head of the sanctuary's research station, I raised funds for myriad projects, some of which I also managed. For several months, until it became a museum, I continued to live at the house where he had died, laying to rest the rangers' fears that his ghost would haunt the place. A barking deer began visiting every evening – grazing, resting, fearless. The rangers believed it was Seub's spirit. It stayed for months, until construction began on a Seub Memorial Centre. I then had the unsettling experience of working with a sculptor to create a larger-than-life size bronze of Seub to oversee the sanctuary forever. When the sculptor spliced off the top of Seub's head to remodel the clay, I fainted. His statue is so life-like that even now I feel funny seeing it.



In the end I gave the Foundation nine years. When I left, I took with me the elephant project I had started with a government colleague but found myself leading when she left to do a PhD. Another act of fate in my career. We (by then a team of four) moved to Kanchanaburi, just south of Huai Kha Khaeng, to focus on the Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary where human-elephant conflict – specifically crop-raiding – was more intense than anywhere else in the western forest area. The project started slowly with a series of interview surveys but was interrupted when my brother and my father died less than two years apart.

Back in the UK, I did an MSc at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology while I waited for life to calm down. When it did, I worked with DICE colleagues to apply for a Darwin Initiative grant to link my project in Thailand with the one I'd worked on for my MSc in Kenya. Both of them addressed human-elephant conflict in very different circumstances but with similarities that were instructive. It was a rewarding collaboration that re-launched my Thailand initiative as the Elephant Conservation Network (ECN) and hooked us up with the Zoological Society of London.

Ten years and over twenty projects later, I handed ECN and its team of ten to ZSL and returned to the UK, a few months shy of turning sixty. By then I had spent almost 30 years in Thailand and the love affair had run its course.

Belinda Stewart-Cox (Lady Margaret Hall, 1984)

This article first appeared in Lady Margaret Hall's Journal, 'The Brown Book' and is reproduced here with permission.

The Gorongosa Paleo-Primate Project

On the 25th of July 2016, Mary Sadid and I were lucky enough to travel with a team of academics from across the world to Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique. We travelled with the lofty ambition of unearthing the secrets of the hominin history of Mozambique, a total unknown compared to that of countries to the North and South. This being the first year of a new project, of course we didn't quite get that far, but the experience we had in South-Eastern Africa was one which we will both treasure and learn from for years to come.

The Gorongosa Paleo-Primate Project was initiated as part of a drive by those in charge of the park to make it a centre of pioneering and significant research. We were there to begin the journey, as the team investigated current primate behaviour, learned about the current geology and sought sites for excavation of fossils, amongst other goals. We were led by Susana Carvalho, our human evolution lecturer and all round primatology, archaeology and paleoanthropology polymath, someone we both gained an attachment to.

After we had acclimatised to the warthogs in the swimming pools, and appreciated the fact our rough African adventure wasn't going to be so rough, as there were indeed swimming pools for the warthogs to frequent, we began our work in earnest. Our first 9 days were spent atop an abandoned concrete building, legs dangling over the edge, binoculars fixed on the middle distance. Working with Dora Biro, from Oxford, we were attempting to record movement of baboon troops across the visible area, in relation to vegetation type, time and other animals. Counting every animal visible within our 90 degree line of sight every 15 minutes for 9 days may sound like an extremely dull task, but there was plenty to entertain. Attempting to work out which troop was which, baboons gruesomely hunting antelope, lions passing through. Even in the in-between time, there was a kind of serenity in the methodological nature of the task and the utter decay of conversation quality after 9 days on a hot building with the same three people.

Once the preliminary data had been collected and Dora returned to the UK, Mary and I joined a group of Mozambican students partaking in a mammalogy course. I think the most significant thing we took from this was the comparison we could now make between British and Mozambican universities. Access to academic journals anywhere I want them is one thing I will never take for granted again.

In the final week of my stay, we left the comfort of the Chitengo camp for a 6 hour car journey north, where we would camp for three nights and excavate a cave during the day. The roads were predictably terrible, but with Mark, the park's head of research, running ahead, machete in hand, clearing the way, we arrived safely. Camp was set, arrangements for assistance from the local villagers made, and we planned for the next two days of excavation. Susana and Dave Braun would be heading into the cave, taking up layer by layer to hopefully reveal some old rocks with fossils in tow. Mary and I sieved the mud which came up from the cave, finding nothing but modern bone for the first day, and practically nothing the next. The experience was one of much hilarity as Susana and Dave turned frustration into surreal humour, something I admired especially after descending into the cave myself! We found nothing in the cave, but again, I learnt a lot about working in Africa, the rigour of field research and the delights of a fresh bucket shower after a day in the heat. On our return, we went via a potential outcrop which had been identified by Jörg, one of the geologists, on Google Earth. Here, we found what we were looking for. Fossils rested simply and innocently on the surface. They were all around, as if taunting us for our exertion in the cave the past few days. Sadly, the exploration was short, and I was due to return home the following day. The team returned to

that site after I had left and found a fossilised proto-elephant, amongst other things. Still no hominin, but certainly promising for the future.

As should be obvious, my time in Mozambique was an eclectic series of events. From getting to know the inspirational, if slightly eccentric American billionaire who initiated the park's restoration, to meeting Mozambicans of all backgrounds, it was truly eye-opening. Being around such a varied and international team of academics was utterly fascinating, and truly educational. It was a three-week opportunity which will have impact on my life for many years to come.

I would like to thank Susana immensely for selecting me to be part of the team and for guiding everything so expertly so that it was the most enriching experience it could possibly have been.

Maurice Lange (Second-Year Human Sciences Student)

The Rich are getting Richer, the Poor are getting Robbed

Much fuss is made about financial inequality, but what about inequality of crime? It's a question that has never been properly answered. Last year, *The Spectator* put out an appeal for help with social questions that weren't being addressed by politicians or academia. One was whether the much-lauded fall in crime has been concentrated in richer neighbourhoods. Strangely, the Home Office seems never to have looked into it. It's an area I know something about, having previously worked on profiling areas across the country based on their inhabitants' wealth, health, and various other factors for a number of demographic studies. So *The Spectator* commissioned me to carry out the study.

The crime rate in England and Wales has fallen to its lowest level since the 1980s. Surveyed crime is down by two-thirds on its peak in the mid-1990s, and, although there was a small increase in 2015, crime recorded by the police is down by a fifth over the last ten years, indicating an apparent increase in the quality of life. The crime rate in England and Wales has fallen to its lowest level since the 1980s. Apart from a small increase between 2014 and 2015, the number of crimes recorded by police has continued to fall year on year, indicating an apparent increase in the quality of life. However, as *The Spectator* suspected in its original challenge, this veneer of success conceals huge inequality in crime rates and the reduction of crime rates between the richest and poorest parts of the country.

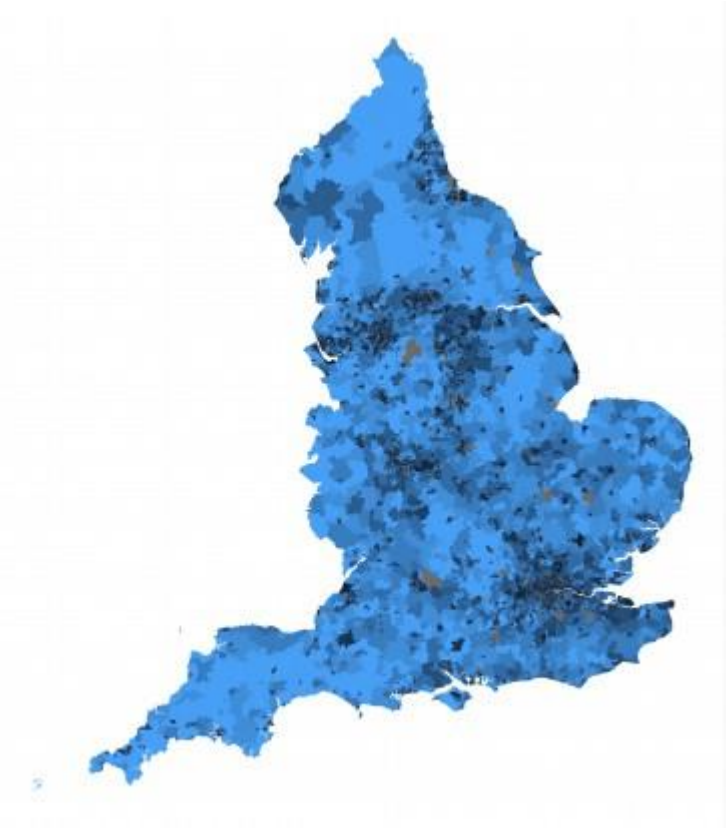
I looked at 7,040 neighbourhoods: so-called Medium Super Output Areas (or MSOAs) in England and Wales to compare crime rates and income in recent years. Between 2011 and 2014 alone, crime fell 8 per cent, with the annual crime rate falling in two-thirds of the areas I looked at. Despite this positive trend, there was a great deal of variation in both overall crime rates and the extent to which crime rates had changed between areas. This variation in crime rates turned out to be strongly related to average incomes. The poorest 10 per cent of areas had a crime rate 83 per cent higher than the richest areas between May 2014 and April 2015. Yes, we always suspected that the poor areas have higher crime, but now we can put a figure on it.

More worryingly, between 2011 and 2014, the richest areas saw a 12 per cent reduction in crime rates compared with a reduction of only 3 per cent in the poorest. So the progress has been unevenly distributed: and there is, of course, almost twice as much crime to cut in the poorer areas.

The maps below show how wealth, crime rates, and the reduction in crime rates are spread out across the country (darker colours indicate higher numbers – so higher incomes, higher crime rates, or higher reductions in crime rates depending on the map).

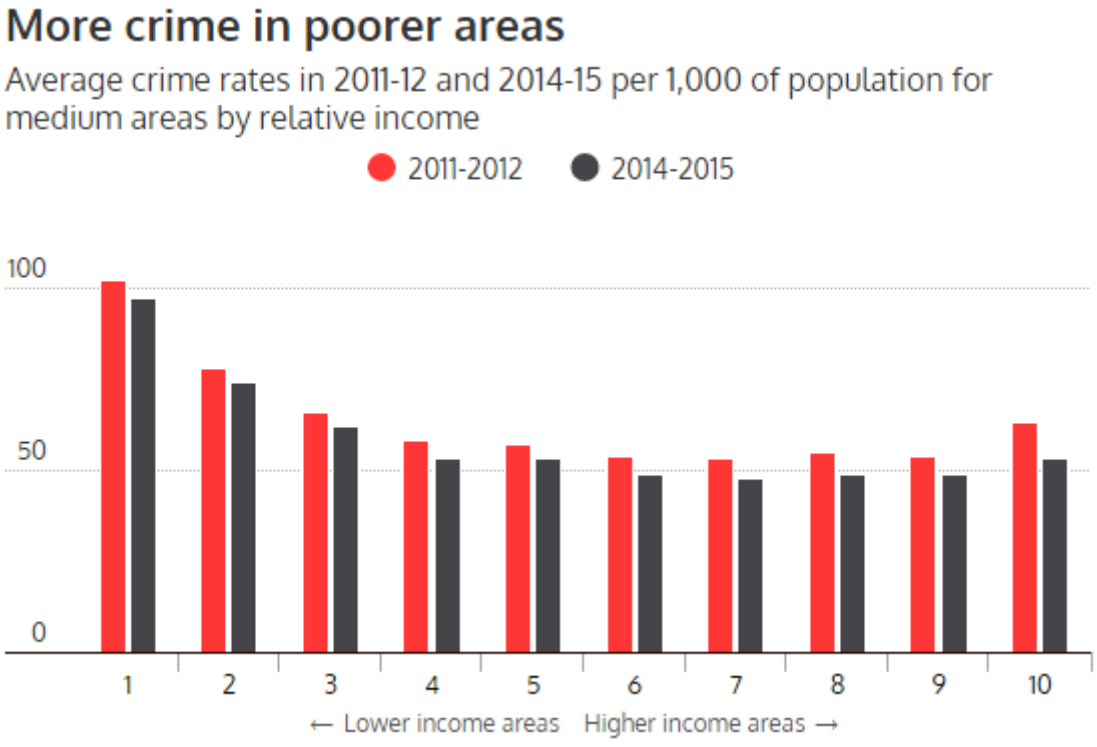
Income by MSOAs in England

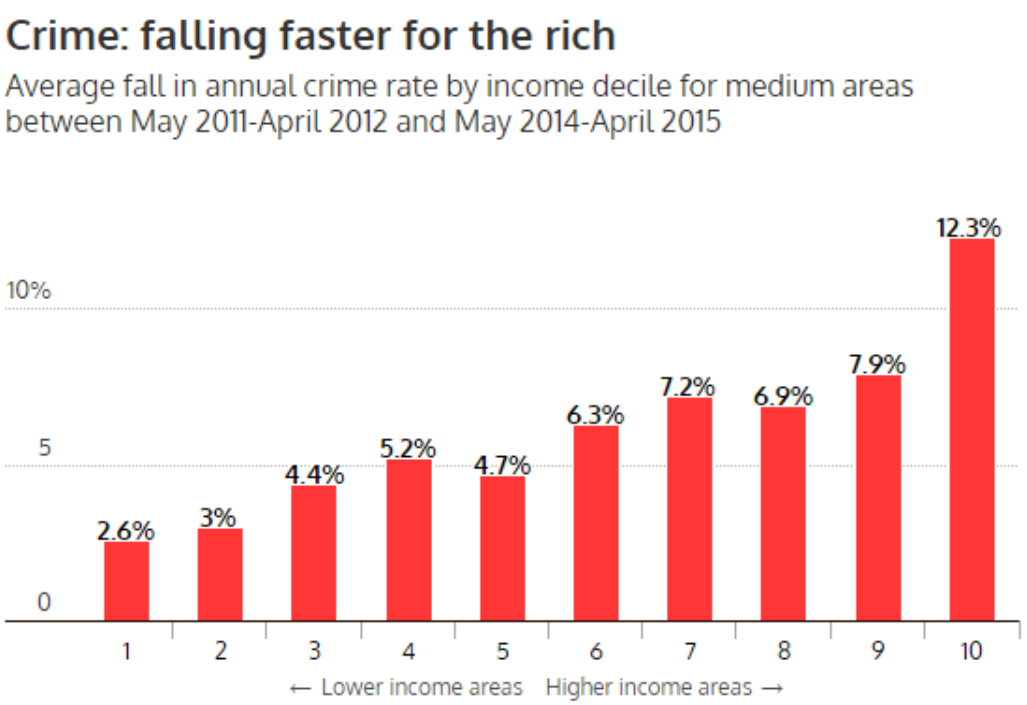
Crime rate in MSOAs in England in 2014



Reduction in crime rate between 2011 and 2014 by MSOA in England

In order to show these differences more clearly and to compare the very richest and poorest groups, I chopped the areas up into deciles, creating groups from the poorest 10 per cent to the richest 10 per cent. The charts below clearly show the difference in actual crime rate and change in crime rate between rich and poor areas.





The difference between the richest and poorest is particularly stark, but the relationship between average incomes and crime rates as well as the relationship between average incomes and the change in crime rate were clear and statistically significant across the range of areas studied. Evidently whatever has caused crime to fall recently has been disproportionately effective in places where wealth is concentrated, leaving people living in poorer neighbourhoods behind.

Note on methods:
The ONS has freely available records at the MSOA level containing mid-year population from 2012 and average weekly incomes from 2007-8. The police provide street level records of crime in England and Wales that are published monthly and the figures I used cover the period from May 2011 to present.

Unfortunately there are no income or wealth records available at a similarly detailed level, partly due to concerns about anonymisation and partly due to the fact that with a smaller sample of households there's a greater risk of one or two outliers skewing the results.

To calculate the annual crime rate by MSOA, I used reference tables from the government's Neighbourhood Statistics website to match the locations of crimes with MSOAs. I then added up the total number of crimes for each year (starting in May and ending in April). I then divided the number of crimes (multiplied by 1,000) in each MSOA by the population to get the annual crime rate per 1,000 population.

To get the reduction in crime, I calculated the percent change between the crime rate for each area in the period 2011-12 and 2014-15. I then repeated the process including excluding 'antisocial behaviour'. The results I've given in this article exclude antisocial behaviour, but the trends and differences were materially the same whether or not it was included.

Declan Clowry (Jesus, 2012)

This article first appeared on The Spectator Coffee House Blog and is reproduced here with permission.

The Sciences of Meaning

When I began the Human Sciences course in the very early days in 1971, there was a strong feeling amongst some of us that a revolution was needed if the social or human sciences were going to come of age. Of age that is with their elder and formidable brothers, the physical and biological sciences.

At some point during the course, I came to the gradual and then inexorable conclusion that the proper subject of the social sciences is 'Meaning'. It is meaning in all its various aspects of purpose, motivation, values, ideals, design and human direction, that lies at the basis of the human condition. Or to put it another way, there is a virtual world inside our heads, and I had decided to have a go at mapping at least a small part of it. A part much played with by humour because, in this case, I had decided to enlist the jester as my guide.

Accordingly, if you look at this following website, where I have presented a part of what I now know about both the logic of jokes, and therefore the landscape of meaning that they playfully attack, you will see where this took me. Namely, to a plateau populated with many kinds of toys, models, duplicates, fakes, works of art, and puppets, and a valley populated with a vast army of shadows and reflections. All amplified in a collection of international cartoons and photos in a colourful and amusing way. And showing, it seems to me, and perhaps to you too, that a 'science of meaning' is indeed a possible goal of the Human Sciences.

The site is: scienceofmeaning.com

And I would be most grateful for any negative feedback on both the content and its presentation, because of course that will help me improve what I have written.

I hope you find it as enjoyable and as interesting as I do.

Alaric Wyatt (The Queen's College, 1975)

Meeting Minds: Alumni Weekend 2017

The University's Alumni Weekend in Oxford will take place this year from 15–17 September 2017. The Institute of Human Sciences is very pleased that Dr Tristram Wyatt, Senior Research Associate in the Department of Zoology and Emeritus Fellow of Kellogg College has agreed to give a talk in the Pauling Centre on Saturday 16 September as part of the alumni weekend. His talk will be on the subject of Human pheromones of which he is a leading expert. Look out for further details of the alumni weekend at https://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/alumni_home

Graduate News

1974

Geza Tatrallyay (St Catherine's) has written a new book, *The Expo Affair*, a memoir which was published in in April 2016 by Guernica Editions. This is the story of three Czechoslovak girls who approached Geza when he was working at Expo 70, the World's Fair is Osaka, Japan in 1970 to help them defect to Canada. This is the second in a trilogy of Cold War escape memoirs; the first one *For*

the Children, the story of Geza's own family's escape from Communist Hungary in 1956 when he was seven was published last year, as was *Cello's Tears*, a collection of his poems written throughout his life in different countries (including some when he was at Oxford). A thriller, *The Rainbow Vintner* will be published in December 2016 while the second book in the trilogy of thrillers, *Twisted Traffic* has been accepted for publication in 2017, as has another collection of poems, *Sighs and Murmurs*. You can find out more about Geza and his books at www.gezatatrallyay.com.

1982

Elizabeth Cooksey (St Hilda's), Professor of Sociology at The Ohio State University, was appointed Director of the Center for Human Resource Research at OSU in July 2015. The Center has a staff of 60 researchers, archivists, data managers and IT professionals and is best known for its 50-year involvement with the National Longitudinal Surveys.

2000

Louise Mann (Mansfield College) has been enjoying life in beautiful Yorkshire for 11 years. There are a few different things that occupy her time, but the one she is most pleased to share is that she has now been a foster carer for nearly 6 years. Louise is part of a particular scheme called Supported Care that comes alongside and offers support to families at difficult times in their lives when social services needs to be involved. With this extra support relieving pressure, it is amazing to see change and families flourishing. Louise finds it a privilege to be involved in this work and it's not full time, so if anyone reading this is interested in being involved in something similar where they live, she would encourage you to do so.

2001

Philomena Keet (Magdalen) is a British writer and researcher with a social anthropology PhD on Tokyo street fashion from SOAS, University of London. She lives in Tokyo with her husband and children. Her second book, *Tokyo Fashion City. A Guide to Tokyo's Trendiest Fashion Districts*, which she produced with photographer Yuri Manabe, has recently been published in the UK. The book, which is part guide book and part street style photo album, highlights eight trendy Tokyo neighbourhoods – each with its own unique fashion culture – to see what young Tokyoites are wearing, where they're shopping, what they're eating and drinking, and where they're hanging out.

Isabel Thomas (Mansfield) was shortlisted for the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2016, for her book *How To Change The World* (Oxford University Press, 2015). https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/book-prizes/young-peoples-book-prize/ Her latest books for children are *Self-Destructing Science: Space* (Bloomsbury, 2016), *What on Earth? Wind / Water* (QED, 2016), *23 Ways to Be An Eco Hero* (QED, 2016) and the graphic text *Great Artists* (OUP, 2016). She is also working with the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division at Oxford to publish a new resource for the Parents for STEM Futures project, which will encourage children aged 7-11 – especially girls – to consider science, technology, engineering and mathematics careers. Isabel is really interested in blending arts and science education, and she'd love to hear from other Human Scientists working in the same area! Isabel blogs at www.isabelthomas.co.uk

Nic Timpson (St Catherine's) is an Associate member of the Institute of Human Sciences, having been an assessor for the Human Genetics and Evolution paper and having previously given lectures

and tutorials for Human Ecology. Nic has had roles in genetic association studies for BMI, overweight and obesity, birthweight, lipid profile, adiponectin, bone health, cortisol, thyroid function, allergic sensitization, educational attainment, and pigmentation. Alongside this, assessment of the causal impact of body mass index (BMI) on important health outcomes, such as ischaemic heart disease (PLoS Med 2012) has been a key focus. Work to date has included the development of methods capable of interrogating networks of cross-linked epidemiological relationships (IJO 2011, Circulation Research 2015) and the and the application of similar analysis of causal effects for thyroid, uric acid, vitamin-D, vitamin-C and had key roles in studies on interleukin 6 (relevant for drug repositioning) and statins (relevant for long term drug effects). Nic has used longitudinal resources and appropriate analyses to assess the differential contribution of BMI loci through the lifecourse (PLoS Gen 2011) and has been part of the multi-omic enrichment of the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children. This has given him first-hand experience of metabolomic data and most recently whole genome sequence data through work leading the UK10K consortium (Nature 2015). As a result of continuing to develop approaches to inform causality in complex networks of association, he has developed a MRC programme focused on the development and application of Recall by Genotype studies. Maximising the benefits of statistical power and causal inference, these studies which collect rich phenotypic data across strata of biologically informative genetic gradients. Along with this, he co-leads a work package within the CRUK Integrative Cancer Epidemiology Programme, the newly supported NIHR BRC in Bristol and is a Wellcome Trust investigator (for work focusing on the aetiology of BMI driven health outcomes).

2002

Charlotte Inglis (Lady Margaret Hall) has been made Head of the Maritime & Arctic programme at the European Climate Foundation – normally based in Berlin – but is currently on a 4 month secondment to the sister organisation here in Rio de Janiero, Brazil. One of the team's key projects sees it collaborating with a global coalition of environmental partners seeking to phase out the use of shipping's filthiest fuel (Heavy Fuel Oil) in Arctic waters. The Antarctic is already safeguarded from this threat – it's now essential to protect the other pole. Charlotte led the proposal which was awarded €1.4 million to support the work on phasing out HFO use in the Arctic. Whilst in Rio, Charlotte lived life to the full – from performing in the cast of both Opening Ceremonies for the 2016 Olympics and Paralympics to spending evenings learning partner samba and dancing forró.

2003

Catriona Horey (nee Matthews) married her husband in Edinburgh in October 2015 and they enjoyed a blessing of their marriage in Gloucestershire in May 2016. They live in Battersea, London, and are expecting their first child. Catriona works as a leadership and personal development coach and is a Certified Professional Co-Active Coach with The Coaches Training Institute and an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coach Federation. She loves her work and partners with both organisations and private clients (who include leaders in social innovation, high potential professionals, and women looking to redefine and embrace their professional and personal priorities). Catriona and a business partner also offer individual coaching and team development days that take place in, and use the power of, nature.

2010

Sonia Chandaria (Mansfield) got married on 6 August 2016 to Avi Tillu (Mathematics, Magdalen, 2007–2010).

2013

Jessamy Lowe (New College) completed a Masters in health population and society at LSE on the ESRC PIC studentship last year and now works in medical communications. Her Masters' thesis is published online as part of the Centre for Longitudinal Studies working paper series.

Dylan Townley (Magdalen) has been a freelance actor-musician since early 2014, and this year he was Music Director and performer in a show called 'How to Win Against History' which won The Stage Edinburgh Award, a Broadway Bobby Award, and finished as the top-rated show of the whole festival; it will go on a national tour next year. He is currently training with Olivier Award-winning improvised musical company Showstopper, and will be touring to Australia for a third time early next year as pianist in the comedy group Racing Minds, who have an audio-book series of comic stories coming out soon commissioned by Audible.

2015

Vicky Clayton (New College) has done a Masters in Human Decision Sciences and has started a blog series to help her remember what she learnt. The blog is partly about the process of making good decisions and partly about patterns of human behaviour and can be found at https://medium.com/@vickyclayton

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If you don't currently receive our newsletter by e-mail and would like to do so and be added to the Human Sciences e-mail list to receive updates on Human Sciences events, please contact sarah-jane.white@ihs.ox.ac.uk

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You can also keep up with all the latest news from Human Sciences by following us on Twitter @Oxford_HumSci We are happy to pass on any news about HumScis which you think our followers might be interested in. Do contact sarah-jane.white@ihs.ox.ac.uk if you have news for us to Tweet!

Human Sciences Society Facebook Group

The Human Sciences Society has a group on Facebook which can be found at https://www.facebook.com/groups/93254436688/