



CLARE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

1994 30th Anniversary Reunion Booklet

Simon Anam (1994)

Following a few aimless years post-Clare, I joined a financial news and data start-up in London in 2000, where I worked for the next 22 years! I spent 2009 to 2021 in Hong Kong, and loved the experience of living in an amazing new city, traveling around Asia-Pacific and living in a low tax environment. Returning to the UK in 2022, I set up a consulting business, and have taken my foot off the accelerator somewhat to spend time with family and reconnect with life here. I've been very lucky, and am still in contact with several friends from my time at the college, and would happily hear from anyone I've lost touch with (so long as I don't owe them money or borrowed CDs).

I married my wife Katja in 2006, and we have three boys: Zac, Ansgar and Yannick. I enjoy the same mix of arts and sports that I did whilst at Clare, and my Spotify playlist tells me my tastes have barely moved on in the intervening years. Other than that, I love hiking, traveling and wine, and plan to see out my days in the mountains somewhere.

Jason Boland (1994)

How time flies, it seems a distant memory and like yesterday (almost) that I graduated in Medicine from Clare in 1999, having spent over 5 years at the most beautiful college in the world (not biased!). Since then, I have worked as a doctor around the country (including the dark side – Oxford) and have been combing the practice of medicine with travelling, having explored well over 100 countries, some many times.

I am a Professor in Palliative Medicine and Education at Hull

York Medical School, where I have developed and directed medical courses for under-represented groups of students and doctors. I also lead the final year of the medical degree course, where I oversee and nurture about 250 students a year become doctors. My national/international influence on medical education, has resulted in me being awarded the highest accreditation from Advance HE, the Principal Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy. I combine medical education leadership with research, having over 100 peer-reviewed publications. I get invited to lecture internationally, so can combine work with pleasure. In the other half of my time, I am a practicing consultant in palliative medicine, where I lead and develop the specialist clinical team, delivering symptom management and end of life care to a range of patients in hospital, community and hospice.

Although this keeps me busy, I ensure I have time for the most important part of my life, from which I get the most pleasure, which is in my time with my wonderful wife and 2 amazing boys.

I wish you all well for the next 30 years,

Jason



Sarah Bradley (Prof Sarah Dance) (1994)

After Clare, I went to Brown University in the USA where I carried out a PhD in Applied Mathematics. I came back to the UK in 2002 and joined the University of Reading. I'm now a Professor in Reading, jointly held in the Department of Mathematics & Statistics and Department of Meteorology. I am also one of the Directors of the National Centre for Earth Observation (NCEO). My research is in the mathematics of hazardous weather and flood prediction. I'm lucky enough to work on problems that make an impact on operational forecasting and warning using satellite data and ground-based remote sensing.

I married my husband Chris Bradley in 2006, and we have a fantastic 13 year old son, Simon.

I'm sorry not to be able to join you for the reunion this year, and hope that I will nevertheless be able to catch up with some of you in other ways!

Kate Caroe (1994)

Hi everyone,

This photo is of me and my daughter Emma who graduated from Clare this year! It's been really nice to be back in Clare visiting her, and hearing her sing in the choir.

Since I left Clare, I have mostly been home educating our six children, but now I also run a social enterprise called OutoftheBox and a choir called Steel City Choristers.

OutoftheBox uses story to form community and create safe places to explore values and facilitate personal and group growth in a setting that is playful and authentic. We run training courses and retreats and it's used in lots of different contexts.

Steel City Choristers is an independent cathedral-style choir that we set up after the controversial closure of Sheffield Cathedral choir. We are pioneering ideas for developing new audiences for church choral music, and are currently raising money for an endowment fund to secure our future. If anyone has any connections who could help please let me know! Thanks :)



Kate Carpenter (1994)

Kate has spent the 27 years since leaving Clare becoming comfortable talking about herself in the third person, preparing for this exact moment.

Along the way, she also did a PhD in neuropharmacology; married Rich; worked in publishing, medical communications, and medical education; lived in California; played some rugby; coached some rugby; had some fun; had some kids; and hung out with the most amazing friends. Not necessarily in that order.



Mark Chacksfield (1994)

Time has flown since the last dinner ten years ago.

Kay and I have moved out of London to the beautiful countryside just north of Oxford, and added a dog to our three children. The village is full of fun and dynamic people, and we love it there.

The timing of our move was fortuitous - in the summer of 2018 not long before the pandemic hit. Whilst as an ENT surgeon dealing with airway and breathing issues, Kay and her team went through some fairly difficult days, as a family we were surrounded by space and fields - life was a lot harder for our friends stuck back in the city.

The kids continue to thrive. George (17) has discovered rowing and the benefits of a co-ed sixth form. He is applying to study NatSci, albeit rejecting Clare as a candidate college because it was covered in scaffolding (I don't think he realised they were going to take it down). Arthur (14) is a madcap engineer through and through - think Elon Musk without the Alt Right views. Helena (11) starts at senior school as I write this, but really only wants to ride/own/be(?) a horse.

I continue at the Bar as an IP litigator. Work takes up a lot of time, but now much of it from home which I love. The work life-balance is much better, and in the past few years I have also taken on a number of trustee roles in environmental and medical charities. That has introduced me to a range of really interesting people and issues, and it's fulfilling and fun. I can't recommend it enough.

Some of our best and closest friends remain those made at Clare. Together we have shared good times and tougher ones, and I look forward to seeing them, and catching up with the rest of you, on the 28th.



Charlie Ferrero (1994)

After graduating from Cambridge, I spent a happy summer as a research assistant in the UCL Geology Department. Initially based in London, my highlight was an extensive period of fieldwork in the Spanish Pyrenees. During the day I assisted with the drilling of the famous Ainsa turbidite deposits, and balanced this with evenings spent sampling the local specialities of rioja and wild boar stews.

The following year, I started a Masters at Imperial College London, focusing on petroleum geoscience. This was followed by a PhD in computational geology, an opportunity to drill down (pun intended) into some of the minutiae of oil and gas exploration. Completing my PhD in 2003, I decided that an academic career was not for me and ended up going into management consulting. I spent ten years - in London - in that role, with many enjoyable trips around the world to places I would not normally have visited, including memorable visits to Juneau in Alaska, Luanda in Angola and many many trips to Riyadh and Manama. Towards the end of that period I relocated to the Middle East and after a decade in consulting, I transitioned from consultant to client and joined the energy company offshoot of Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund Mubadala, where I continue to work to this day.

Peter Gray (1994)

Unlike most bios, all of us reading this booklet probably already know everyone in it, and many of us have caught up at past reunions, even if we have not managed to stay in touch in between them. As such, the below is a brief summary of what I've been up to so we can talk about more interesting things than my career when we get together.

After around 10 years working for a US firm in the City, in 2010, I moved with same firm to Dubai. I have lived there ever since. That firm became insolvent in 2012, after which I moved to another US firm with an office there. I suffered an ignominious exit from there in 2015 (I can tell you about it if you're really interested) which amounted to a major career setback. I decided to remain in Dubai and set up my own firm there.



I merged with an Emirati friend's firm in 2017, creating ADG Legal, a Dubai firm which practises both local and international law. Initially, we focussed on disputes, but have since added other specialisations, so we are now what is known as a full-service practice. Today,

ADG Legal is one of the largest independent firms in Dubai, and now also has offices in Abu Dhabi and Alexandria, Egypt.

I spend my time travelling around the Middle East and Africa, including less travelled destinations, such as Somaliland and DR Congo. I work on complex disputes and white-collar crime, as well as helping with other partners on transactional matters.

I have two lovely children, a son aged 14 and a daughter of 11, both of whom are at school in the UK.

Graham Hazel (1994)

Post-Clare, Graham continued studying Maths for slightly too long, and has a PhD certificate signed by Arnold Schwarzenegger. Returning to the UK, he spent several years at a start-up creating lighting algorithms for video games, collaborating with NVIDIA, Disney, LucasArts and EA among others, resulting in an acquisition by a large tech company. After bouncing around various roles in R&D, VR and AI, a side-project got out of hand: he is currently CEO of RealBridge, the first online bridge platform to integrate Zoom-style video calls into the game experience. Initially inspired by the mission to bring social contact back to bridge in the time of COVID, RealBridge now has thousands of regular players aged 6-106 in over 50 countries, and in 2021 received the EBU Tony Priday Award in recognition of its pivotal role for the bridge community during lockdown. When not at real or virtual tables, Graham can often be found dancing to, singing or playing the blues, funk or swing music at various locations around Cambridge, where he lives with his wife Katherine and two children. He is a named inventor on eight granted patents, in the fields of Computer Graphics, Internet-of-Things and Artificial Intelligence.

Owain Johnson (1994)

In the sooty *Midlands* is born a child,
Endow'd with Wit and Temperament mild.
Owain by Name, A Sprig of Proud *Johnson*
Blood,
The Graces with their Virtues do him Flood.
A comely Youth, deep reader of Letters,
He chafes to break dread *Walsall's* Fetters.
So, forsaking Villa's Charms, Industrial
Fires,
He sets his Heart on the Dreaming Spires.
There, amid Spanish Texts, Confusion great,
The Boy matures to Manhood's full Estate.
Ecuador, Graduation, *Nunhead* and the
Dole,



Now paid Employment is our Hero's Goal.
A spell in *Peckham's* Job Centre? He quails,
Works in Bookshops and – alas – in Telesales.
An Analyst in *London*, in *Chile* a Reporter,
A Move to *Caracas*, Chaos at Close Quarter.
London's Siren Call Brings this *Owain* Home,
Love, Marriage, a Child; He should not Roam.
Yet stay! Some wand'ring Sprite sits at his Core;
And the *Johnsons* quit *St Albans* for *Singapore*.
Welcome a second child, then on to *Dubai*,
Camels, skyscrapers, oil and desert sky.
Father Time strolls on, the Wanderlust is muting,
He bestirs himself for *London* and commuting.
His working Home *Chicago's* storied Exchange,
Traded markets his Scope, his Joy, his Range,
Now he prides himself a Man of Affairs,
Contracts, Targets and Bonus all his Cares,
Yet Evenings come and *Johnson* often ponders,
On Places he's lived, the Sights, the Wonders,
The People, the Laughs; tho' Memory is Blurring.
Say, *Johnson*, could that wand'ring Sprite be stirring?

Gail Kent (1994)

Gail currently works at Google as the Global Public Policy Director for Search, News, and AI. Before this, she spent several years at Meta, overseeing policy for Facebook Messenger and Instagram DMs. Her tech career followed 17 years in the UK National Crime Agency, specialising in international organised crime and communications. Married to Tim Colbourne (also Clare 1994), after time in Rome and London, they now live in California with their teenage children and a very large cat. Gail avidly follows UK and US politics and one day wants to run again for public office.

Yasmin Lilley (1994)

Yasmin is a lawyer at Willis Towers Watson (WTW), a global broking and consulting company, where she conducts and oversees internal and external investigations into

allegations of financial impropriety and/or business crime across WTW. Before joining WTW in 2018, Yasmin worked in the compliance and investigations team of a global law firm. As a Clare linguist, Yasmin has enjoyed the opportunities over the years to use her languages in these global roles. In her spare time, Yasmin enjoys learning new languages, travelling, singing in the local choir and playing the castanets.

Emilie McMeekan (1994)

Emilie McMeekan: I am a journalist with more than 24 years' experience, as former features editor of the Evening Standard and former deputy editor of Tatler and ES Magazine. In 2017 I went freelance and it's been a rollercoaster. I am the co-founder of The Midult, an online movement for grown-up women, co-writer of the book *I'm Absolutely Fine: A Manual for Imperfect Women*, as well as co-host of the podcast *I'm Absolutely Fine*. I am also the features director of digital strategy platform CORQ where, improbably, I track social media trends on TikTok, as well as reporting on the global creator economy. You'd think after all this I'd be relaxed about writing a biography but I haven't slept since the reunion email arrived...



Anne Phillips (1994)

Dr Anne Phillips is a Consultant Gastroenterologist sub-specialising in managing inflammatory bowel disease working part time at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. She lives on the edge of the Peaks with her husband Dom, 6 year old Conor and her dog Grizzly in a home requiring ongoing extensive renovations. She is also a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserves and has deployed to Afghanistan and Sierra Leone as a consultant physician.

Heather Shepherd (nee West) (1994)

'On completing my architecture degree from Clare in 1997 I moved all the way to Oxford to work for The Oxford Architects Partnership. I loved my year in Oxford, met my husband and made many good friends among the bellringers there. I returned to Cambridge for the Part Two of the Architecture course, where we were encouraged to think outside the constraints of work, be creative and enjoy the process of design. I built walls in clingfilm, wrote essays on German films and reimagined Kings Cross much as it has since become! In 2000 I moved to London and a job in Wimbledon with Marcus Beale Architects. I worked there for the next 15 years on some wonderful projects including the redesign of the porters' lodge at Oriel College in Oxford, Clare's sister college. During this time I got married to Mark Shepherd, moved to Guildford and had three children: Emma, Katy and Jon.



With the perspective that a family brings and the realisation that I had outgrown the office in Wimbledon I took the plunge and set up my own architecture practice in 2015. Weyside Architects, named for the river Wey that runs through Guildford, is now a thriving company, with three directors and lots of interesting work. We work mainly in schools and on residential jobs, both new buildings and refurbishment projects and with a special interest in conservation work. We work with people we like, on projects that interest us and are proud of what we do. We have kept the company small so that we each do the whole job, no delegation and no management, just architecture. The career I chose at 17, the age my daughter is now, has proved better than I could have imagined - I have been very lucky.'

Andrew Stones (1994)

Andy worked as a business strategy consultant from 1998 to 2005, initially at the COBA Group, which was acquired by PwC in 2001. He was based in London, Frankfurt then Zurich, specialising in market due diligence on the acquisition targets of private equity clients. Since then he has remained in Zurich, first at the bank Credit Suisse (CS), which was taken over by UBS in 2023. He started at CS as a project manager in Private Banking Business Development, followed by a role coordinating the approval of new products across all divisions of the bank. He is now in the New Business team of the UBS Global Wealth Management Division in Zurich.



Andy lives in Winterthur with his wife Heidi and children Melissa and Jeremy. He enjoys swimming, ballroom dancing, skiing and hiking in the Swiss mountains

Sam Taylor (1994)

After completing my English degree at Clare, I was lucky enough to secure a place on the BBC News Trainee scheme, and have continued to work there since then, in a range of roles across journalism, operations and transformation. I'm currently Chief Operating Officer for BBC News & Current Affairs, having previously been Editor of the BBC News at One, Controller of the BBC News Channel, and Head of Live & Breaking News. It's meant I've been able to work on big stories, elections and events across the UK and around the world; to lead the design of the newsroom at BBC Broadcasting House; and to be part of the amazing team that's



evacuated BBC staff from Afghanistan, Ukraine and Gaza in recent years. I moved from London to work from Salford in 2021, and now live in West Yorkshire with my partner, son and twin daughters who are heading towards A-Levels and GCSEs next year, as well as supporting Arsenal men and women's teams. They also put up with my continued support for Shrewsbury Town, intertrailing and modern architecture.

Jan Waszink (1994)

I am very sad to miss the Reunion dinner in Clare this September, due to a conference appearance planned a long while ago. From the study of Classics in Leiden, the Netherlands I came to Clare in September 1994 for the M.Phil in European Literature, with Dr Philip Ford as my supervisor. My focus was on early modern Latin, with a future PhD in mind. I remember that academic year in Thirkill Court with a bunch of other international graduate students as one of the best and most memorable in my life: with unmanageable reading loads, endless talks over mugs of tea, and the Friday dinners in Hall and subsequent enjoyment in the MCR defining the weeks. Also I learned that random leftovers from yesterday, mixed in a bowl,



constitute a salad. I continued in Cambridge for a second year, starting the work towards my PhD under the supervision of Richard Tuck in Jesus. In the autumn of 1996 I moved back to Amsterdam for a position as a PhD student studying the reason of state-theory of Justus Lipsius (1547-1606). I finished this book (a study and edition) in 2001. Not very long afterwards I married, and in subsequent years two children were born, one of whom is already in university herself. I have worked in various academic teaching and research roles in the Netherlands since my PhD. I have spent much time studying and editing the historical works of Hugo Grotius (1583-1645), culminating in another edition-plus-study in 2023. At the moment I am the principal investigator of a larger project on the reception of the Roman historian Cornelius Tacitus in early-modern political thought, based the Historical Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw -- research definitely does take you places.

Richard White (1994)

Richard completed a PhD in developmental biology in 2002 and married Kate in May of the same year. They went to live in California and Richard worked for 5 years at the University of California, Irvine and tried to learn to surf. Returning to the UK in 2007, he has worked at the Sanger Institute, the University of Cambridge, and is now at Queen Mary, University of London in Mile End. In 2010, Richard took some coding courses and switched from doing lab experiments to working as a Bioinformatician.

Kate and Rich have 2 kids and outside of work, Rich spends a lot of his time organising and coaching kids' cricket.