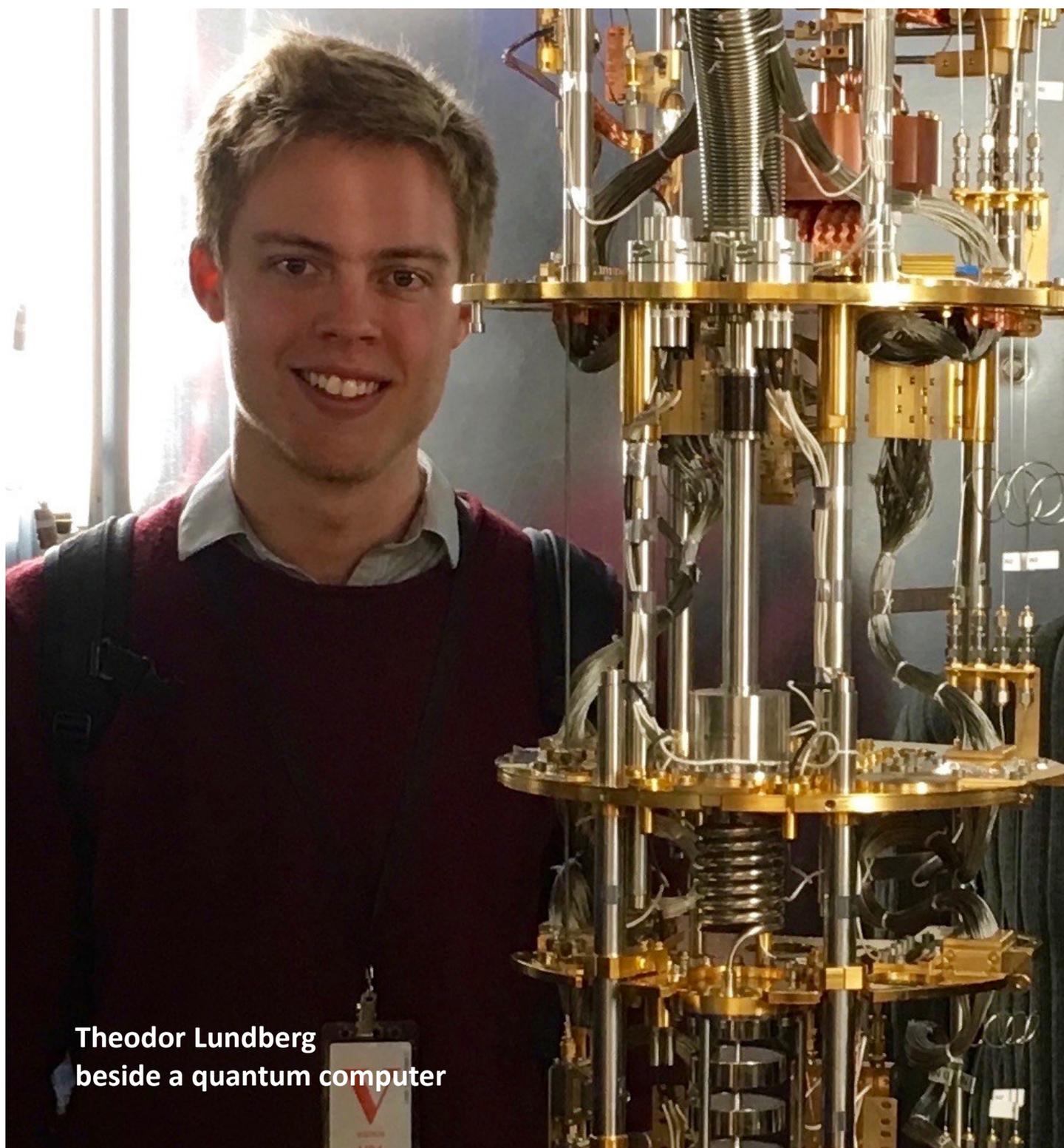


**THE ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY**

**SCHOLARSHIP REPORTS 2020**

[www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk](http://www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk)

Reg. Charity No 313202



**Theodor Lundberg**  
beside a quantum computer

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## SUPPORT

# THE ANGLO-DANISH SOCIETY'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

From its first award in 1959, the AngloDanish Society's charitable Scholarship Programme continues to grant scholarships for the purpose of post graduate study or research to British and Danish Students for study in the other country.

It is an investment in our youth that underpins our aim of strengthening relations between Britain and Denmark.

This funding makes a real difference to Scholars by enabling further research and providing them with an opportunity to enjoy the whole experience of living and working in another country.

The Society and its Scholarship Programme rely entirely on the work and commitment of its volunteers, with no paid staff, no overheads and very few administrative costs and we need your help in raising funds to ensure that we can continue this valuable work.

Please respond generously to this appeal.

Payments:

Bank transfer - to NatWest (please add your surname as the reference):

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The Honorary Treasurer  
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## THANK YOU

# **Matthew Grouse**

## **MMus in Composition**

### **Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus**

As I approach the end of my first academic year living in Denmark, and studying a Master's degree in Composition at the Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus, I realise there is a lot to reflect upon. I predominantly applied to study in Aarhus because of the fantastic Composition Faculty (Simon Steen-Andersen, Niels Rønsholdt and Juliana Hodkinson), who are all leading composers in the field of mixed-media composition, which is the area I am most interested in pursuing. Being able to collaborate with exceptional, international young musicians at the academy has undoubtedly helped me to build relationships with performers who sensitively interpret my music. This will ultimately help me to grow as a composer. I have also been able to rediscover my love of performing music. Examples include giving the premiere of my own work 'Polyglots' at Pulsar Festival alongside Aarhus-based ensemble, *Current Resonance*.

The support from the Anglo-Danish Society has been absolutely essential in allowing me the freedom to really invest in my studies and the development of my creative voice. I have benefitted from new contacts and opportunities made in Denmark, which include the creation of a new work for choir, virtual singer and video, which had its premiere postponed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. It will eventually be performed by RAMA Vocal Ensemble in Aarhus. Alongside this, I have managed to keep a strong current of activity in my freelance career in the UK, with commissions for The Hermes Experiment, guitarist Sasha Savaloni, Glasgow-based production house, Cryptic.

During my studies, I have developed totally new skills, particularly in technology-aided composition and programming, which have most tangibly manifested in the creation of an audio-visual-tactile performance, 'CONTACT'. This involves custom-built paintbrush synthesizers allowing musicians to paint sound and the audience experiencing music through mini-vibration motors.

This is the first time I have moved to a new country on my own, and it has been one of the most enriching decisions of my life to date. I am spoilt living in Frederiksbjerg, near the sea, and forests, whilst being right in the centre of town near amazing cultural institutions like AROS. Jeg elsker at bo i Danmark!

# **Theodor Lundberg**

## **PhD in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology**

### **Cambridge University**

As the second year of my PhD in Quantum Physics at the University of Cambridge draws to an end, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Anglo-Danish Society for its generous support throughout the past year. The support has enabled me to continue my research into how quantum physics may be leveraged to construct more powerful and energy-efficient computers; so-called quantum computers. While today's quantum computers are too small to realise these advantages, larger quantum computers could help e.g. simulate new energy materials that could cut carbon emissions and vastly improve drug discovery. Getting to such large scale is tricky but given the unparalleled access to state-of-the-art equipment and unique collaboration with industry in Cambridge, I believe I am in the perfect place for pursuing such research.

My research has so far been progressing well and has already led to three publications, the main results of which I was invited to present to world-leading researchers in my field at conferences in Tokyo, Japan and

San Sebastian, Spain last autumn. Without support from the Anglo-Danish Society, it would have been harder to afford to travel to these conferences.

As a result of the industrial relevance of my doctoral research and my good progress, I was recently awarded an IBM PhD Fellowship as one of 24 PhD students worldwide. This fellowship will support my research for two years starting October 2020, thus allowing me the flexibility to extend my PhD into a fourth year.

Besides the financial support and academic aspects of my PhD, I would like to highlight that I have immensely enjoyed the very warm welcome from all members of the Anglo-Danish Society at the events I have taken part in and that I have made close friends with the two other Scholars in Cambridge. For this I am also very thankful!

## **Kristoffer Johansen**

### **PhD in Pathology**

### **Cambridge University**

As a humble Dane, the task of conducting a 4-year PhD on two continents in the world's leading research institutions seemed daunting, but immensely exciting. After two years in USA at the NIH (National Institutes of Health), I moved to Cambridge in January 2019 to continue my research. The goal of my research has been to understand the intricate mechanisms controlling the location and activation of the immune cells that safeguard against infections of other cells and cancers (so-called T cells). By removing proteins in these cells using sophisticated molecular biology tools and investigating how a lack of a specific type of protein affects activation of the cells, I have identified multiple proteins that are crucial for this process. This will help the scientific community with manipulating these cells in patients with cancer, infectious diseases or autoimmunity.

I have always been fascinated by how immune cells manage to activate in the right context and location and combat a broad range of pathogens and diseases. I truly believe that the key to regulating these processes lies in understanding and modulating the signals that control the location and activation. I have been incredibly fortunate to be able to conduct my studies in some of the leading research groups in the field, collaborating with brilliant scientists, many of whom I consider my scientific idols.

It has been a gratifying journey, and I have learned more than I could have imagined. I aim to bring back this knowledge to Denmark to establish myself as a top academic researcher collaborating internationally with my colleagues in UK and USA, and hopefully translate my discoveries into novel therapies in the longer term. I would be amiss not to mention the contributions of the Anglo-Danish Society as being instrumental to my PhD. Firstly, the funding has allowed me to worry less about my economic situation – doing a PhD in the UK is no shortcut to riches! Secondly, and probably more importantly, the Anglo-Danish Society scholarship, and the events the Society organised, allowed me to get to know like-minded students; students that have become dear friends for life.



Kristoffer Johansen (left) after receiving an award for best poster at conference

# **Julie Nørgaard Bonde Jensen**

## **MA Screenwriting**

### **The National Film and Television School**

For as long as I can remember, I have been a storyteller. As a child, I would entertain my friends and family by coming up with stories and fairy tales, and I would get completely lost in films and TV. Becoming a screenwriter has been a lifelong dream of mine and being accepted into The National Film and Television School, as one of ten screenwriting students, has been a dream come true.

The school is fast paced and very demanding, but the reward is priceless. We learn by doing, and in the last year, I have seen my writing come to life on stage at the Soho Theatre in London, in a short film directed by another student at the school, and in a monologue shot in a TV studio. I have written my first feature film in a module aptly titled "Movie in A Month", and I have written two 60-minute pilot scripts for TV, and an animation that is currently being produced. The school allows us experience in every aspect of screen and playwriting, so we're well-equipped for the industry once we graduate.

The last six months have been challenging in so many ways, not least because of the pandemic, but also because I lost my dad to brain cancer quite suddenly. However, I know he's with me during these strange times, and as writers, we are fortunate enough to be able to write from anywhere in the world, even during a pandemic.

Everything I have learned at the school has been invaluable. It has opened so many doors for me, and I can't wait to see what the future holds. And as I sit here now, working on my graduate script, I know that none of this would have been made possible for me if it weren't for the generosity and support of The Anglo-Danish Society. They have played a huge part in making my dream come true. I can't thank them enough.

# **Katrina Bromhall**

## **PhD in Fisheries Ecology**

### **National Institute of Aquatic Resources, the Technical University of Denmark**

My fascination with marine biology was nurtured from a young age. My father, a wildlife cameraman, brought great inspiration, as well as a range of exotic pets, which he filmed in the studio at the end of the garden. By the age of eight I was set on studying coral reefs and was adamant I would be moving to Australia (as soon as possible!)

I am fortunate to have satisfied my eight-year-old self's dreams, having worked as a research assistant on the Great Barrier Reef. However, my attention shifted to ecosystem-based fisheries management when I conducted a project in Fiji on artisanal fishery. The importance of sustainable fisheries becomes so evident when you live in a community where a healthy marine environment simply meant a reliable food source. I started my PhD at the Technical University of Denmark in the Ecosystem Based Marine Management department in 2018. My PhD research focuses on the impact of bottom contacting fishing gear (e.g. trawls, dredges, and seines) on sandy seafloor habitats. My particular interest is in whether some fishing gears have lower impact than others, and whether fishing gears modified to reduce seafloor impact are actually an improvement. To do this, I use the invertebrate community that lives on the seafloor and measure how the community changes in response to fishing gear impact. The results will improve our understanding of the seafloor community's mortality and recovery rates from fishing gear impacts and will be used to advise

**Katrina Bromhall during a summer course in Svalbard**



**Mina Haghbin (far right) and her fellow musicians**

Lasse Voss



sustainable fisheries management.

My stipend from the Anglo-Danish Scholarship contributed invaluablely to my PhD development as it supported me in attending a 6-week summer course in Svalbard where I developed my taxonomy skills, as well as allowing me to participate in a statistics course. I feel incredibly grateful for both these opportunities and I thank you very much.

**Lasse Voss**

**MPhil in Basic and Translational Neuroscience**

**Cambridge University**

“Did you expect to be here one year ago?” Those were the words of Jesus College Boat Manager, JC, minutes before the famous rowing competition ‘Lent bumps’ was about to start. JC was right. I didn’t expect to study at one of the world’s best universities on that day one year ago, and I couldn’t have done it without the monetary support from the Anglo-Danish Society.

My master’s degree in ‘Basic and Translational Neuroscience’ at the University of Cambridge started with some classes and training in different aspects of neuroscience, such as developmental neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience, and clinical neuroscience. Along with this, we had some ‘lab-rotations’ where we went to different laboratories that specialised in a specific neuroscience method. We had time to get ‘hands-on’ experiences with these methods as well as discuss them with world-leading experts. Besides the academic experiences, I also started rowing with Jesus College Boat Club, where I captained the men novice’s first boat as stroke most of the period.

After a term with classes and lab rotations, I started working in a lab that investigates a novel target to potentially delay dementia and other neurodegenerative diseases. This was a very exciting period because it gave me a lot of insight into the cross-disciplinary work that is required for developing a drug – from basic research to clinical trials. My role was to develop an assay to determine how the activity of our drug target is regulated, and how we can regulate it. Unfortunately, the adventure in Cambridge came to an abrupt end due to Covid-19. All universities suddenly closed, and I travelled back to Denmark. During the time in Denmark, I have been busy writing essays, analysing data as well as writing my thesis. Next year I will work in a laboratory in Aarhus whilst applying for Ph.D. positions all across Europe – and potentially go back to the UK sooner rather than later.

Many thanks for your support and the amazing experience at the Royal Banquet. I am honoured and grateful for being part of this society.

**Mina Haghbin**

**Masters in Performance, Violin**

**Royal College of Music in London**

Studying in London has been one of the biggest experiences I could ever have dreamed of!

Finding a professor who inspires you so much and with whom you can build a personal relationship and to grow your musical skills and abilities as much as I have had the opportunity to do is rare. The Royal College of Music is a music conservatory at the very top of the music world, and I have been placed in some of the best projects, including the COE (Chamber Orchestra of Europe). I have also played contemporary/modern music

and all other styles under the baton of some of the world's greatest conductors who regularly visit RCM to inspire aspiring students and show us a glimpse of real working life.

I have got a nice circle of friends and colleagues and have gone from not having much to do in the beginning to suddenly having a full schedule, including chamber music groups - a quartet, trio and a duo with a pianist. With my pianist I had the incredible opportunity to play at the Royal Banquet at Drapers' Hall for HM Queen Margrethe II and a large number of London-based Danes. We performed a piece by Carl Nielsen and it felt marvelous to be performing for such a group of people alongside the inspiring singers from ROH and the bagpipers.

With the support I have received from the Anglo-Danish Society, it has been possible for me to attend the RCM with funding for tuition, living expenses and housing, kindly supported by the KFUK and "Dronning Ingrid's Kollegieboliger", as well as the support from the other scholarships I have received.

I love and will always love London for its charm, diversity and many cultural offerings.

I will slowly start my professional career and start auditioning for orchestral positions all over Europe. Studying at the Royal College of Music I have gained many friendships and created international relationships alongside the incredible lessons I have had with my professor and the orchestra – all of which have given me a taste of the professional life one faces after finishing studies.

## **Peter Sherwin**

### **recipient of the Ove Arup Foundation Scholarship**

### **Nordic MSc in Cold Climate Engineering**

### **Technical University of Denmark**

It is with great pleasure that I am able to thank you, the Anglo-Danish Society and the Ove Arup Foundation for your support. It has been greatly beneficial in allowing me to develop my knowledge and understanding of the Arctic built environment.

I am now reaching the end of the two-year Nordic Master in Cold Climate Engineering based at the Technical University of Denmark, and taught, in combination with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, across Denmark, Greenland and Svalbard.

I commenced the masters in 2018 for my love of the polar regions and concern for their rate of development. I had, and still retain, an ambition to further my specialist cold climate engineering knowledge in order to lead the response to the unique challenges faced by the fragile polar regions. Through your support I believe that I have progressed a long way in achieving this ambition. Surprisingly, in addition to gaining further specialist technical skills, resultant of the masters, my interests have also significantly diversified across the polar social and political disciplines.

The need for a holistic understanding of the Arctic social-ecological system including the role of built infrastructure development is currently paramount. This is for the fact that Arctic development is on the rise, and knowledge of the questions that should be asked to achieve sustainable development does not currently exist. Assessing and making inroads into addressing these concerns was the focus of my master's thesis.

My specialised yet diversified knowledge around cold climate development is as a result of having had the opportunity to study in Denmark, Greenland and Svalbard, learning specialist skills, and experiencing unique social and natural environments unattainable elsewhere. For this opportunity I am very grateful to the Anglo-Danish Society.

# Ashleigh Edwards

## MSc in Biology

### University of Copenhagen

My first experience of Denmark was in 2016 when I came to Copenhagen to carry out a year-long Erasmus traineeship organised through my undergraduate programme at the University of Manchester. My time in Denmark was full of very “hyggelig” moments, thanks to a vibrant international community and friendly Danes, and I also had the opportunity to experience working in an academic environment. I grew so fond of Denmark, I decided to apply to the Master of Biology programme at the University of Copenhagen at the end of my Bachelor’s degree, which I was fortunate to be accepted onto in 2018.

During my studies, I have worked in Sebastian Marquardt’s research group at Copenhagen Plant Science Centre. My research project involved using CRISPR/Cas, the gene editing tool, to investigate the genetic mechanisms that drive cold tolerance in plants. This is important, as the climate crisis is increasing our need to understand how plants survive in different environments so we can better inform future agricultural practices. It is likely that CRISPR/Cas will play a large role in developing climate resistant crops, therefore any research that involves the use of CRISPR also presents an opportunity to improve and refine it for future research in plant biology, and hopefully one day, in agriculture.

I want to emphasise how grateful I am to the Anglo-Danish society for this scholarship. It enabled me to buy textbooks and materials for courses that I might have otherwise had to forgo and attend conferences with my research group that have provided an invaluable opportunity to hear from scientists working in my field of interest. The lockdown in Denmark and the subsequent lack of access to research facilities meant I decided to postpone my graduation, an impossible choice without the financial support I have received from the Anglo-Danish society for the past year and so I feel even more fortunate to be in this position. When I have completed my Master’s, I hope I can apply the skills I have gained over the past year to a PhD in Denmark.

Thank you, Anglo-Danish Society, for all the work you do to support young people like myself in the UK and Denmark – I hope you can continue!



**University of Copenhagen**

