

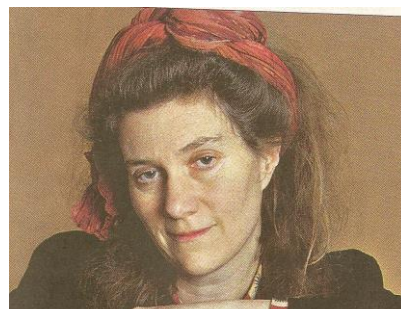
Patron: Lord Cobbold DL
Ivry, Lady Freyberg
Nicholas Cobbold OBE

ANNABEL FREYBERG (1961-2013) A Tribute.

January 2014

Typically those of us who have limited writing skills make a poor showing when it comes to portraying an event of almost indescribable tragedy. This is just such an occasion.

Annabel's story ended last month when she died of cancer aged only 52, having been diagnosed some 18 months previously, a matter of days after the death of her 9 year old daughter, Blossom, from a children's strain of the same disease.



Annabel Freyberg. Courtesy The Daily Telegraph,
December 10th 2013

The eldest daughter of Ivry, Lady Freyberg, a patron of this Trust, and granddaughter of General Lord Freyberg VC, one of the most decorated and wounded soldiers of all time, Annabel was a gifted writer who was particularly appreciated by editors for her ability to write well on a wide range of subjects. In the course of her career she wrote for the *Catholic Herald*, *The World of Interiors*, *The Independent*, *The Evening Standard* and *The Daily Telegraph* as well as publishing her own book, *Ceramics for the Home*.

Although interior design and ceramics were spheres of special interest her most extraordinary legacy must be the accounts she wrote for *The Daily Telegraph* of Blossom's 5-year battle, so ably assisted by the Great Ormond Street Hospital and subsequently her own struggle when the diagnosis was unquestionably terminal. She described in an almost happy-go-lucky but very moving style the help she has received from a strange collection of carers and therapists and declared that she was not afraid of dying, only anxious as to how it would happen. She was excited near the end by receiving work from her favourite *World of Interiors*, which she said connected her to the real world. Her final account for the *Telegraph Magazine*, published on 14th December was completed just two days before she died.

Anthony Cobbold
January 2014

Note. Annabel Freyberg is acknowledged as a distant relative of Elizabeth Cobbold and a Wol regular in the February 2014 issue of *The World of Interiors* by her friend, Marie-France Boyer writing about Elizabeth's famous scissor-cut Valentines in Georgian Ipswich.