

A Dirty Weekend in Hospital: Mischief Wednesday 13 June 2007 -BBC2

Tim Samuels leads an army of 100 people who have all been affected by the killer bug MRSA into ten of the hospitals with the worst record for MRSA in the country to give them a good clean. The volunteers turn up unannounced to raise awareness that the majority of deaths each year due to the superbug could be prevented if there were better standards of hygiene in hospitals.

This programme was made in 2005 and members and friends of MRSA Action UK were brought together to make a very public statement about what we thought of the standards of cleanliness in our hospitals. Trained by infection control nurses we went armed with gloves, mops and buckets and cleaned in the public areas of ten of the UK's dirtiest hospitals. The Department of Health refused to comment on our actions at the time.



Claude, Dale and Mavis with Tim Samuels in the background, mixed feelings of triumph at making a protest but shock at what we found



Moya's team were so good at cleaning that the hospital called security to keep them there



Tom Snowball behind the camera for a change!
Tom was a star and helped the team go out and buy mops and buckets for the sortie



Tim Samuels and friends at breakfast



After the debrief, a toast to the people
who worked hard to make the event a success

Power to the People About Tim Samuels



Despite being a scruffy schmo from Manchester, Tim is actually an acclaimed documentary-maker with several top awards under his belt. Tim, 31, originally started out as a TV reporter after joining the BBC as a trainee from university.

He went on to become an investigative correspondent for the Newsnight programme, exposing miscarriages of justice on death row and working undercover in Belfast to show new forms of racism.

By the age of 30, Tim had won an unprecedented two Royal Television Society awards - including Young Journalist of the Year, and Best British News Story. He has also won TV Journalist of the Year at the Race in the Media Awards, and been commended by Amnesty International and the New York Festivals for his human rights journalism.

But Tim swapped the hardcore investigations for stirring up a spot of trouble. Last year, he led a hundred MRSA victims on a mass impromptu clean-up of our dirtiest hospitals for the BBC documentary *A Dirty Weekend in Hospital* - which won Best Current Affairs documentary at the Banff World Television Festival 2006.