



Hertford has survived many challenges. In 1816, the former Hertford College was dissolved due to lack of funds, and the front façade of the college collapsed in the street in 1820. It was the benefactors of the late 19th and early 20th centuries who transformed the college's prospects: Baring and Michell, Boyd, Jeune and Lady St Helier; the Drapers. Without their generosity, the college could not be the flourishing home of academic prowess and fair access that it is today.

In 2016, it falls to us to do the same. Enclosed in this letter you will find a booklet about leaving a legacy to Hertford. Most of us start writing wills when we buy a house or have our first child; we want to ensure our loved ones will be taken care of after our passing. The same applies to charitable causes close to our hearts. Remembering Hertford in our wills is a simple and powerful action that will enable the college to respond to and thrive in the uncertain future ahead.

The change of the college's fortunes over the past 200 years is almost unthinkable – and yet it is undoubtedly true that the actions of those generous men and women mentioned have transformed the college beyond recognition. 50 years ago the college had only 12 Fellows and two staircases with running water – just think where we could be in another 200 years!

The publication enclosed is an introduction to the simplicity and importance of legacy giving. It gives an idea of what your planned gift could achieve and how you can include Hertford in your will – even if you have already written one. Anything left to a charity is exempt from inheritance tax, and you can also reduce the tax due on the rest of your estate. We hope you enjoy reading it (and you may find some familiar faces among the photographs...)

I hope this missive inspires you to join me in leaving a legacy to Hertford. We will be giving the gift of education to the generations of young adults yet to walk through our gates and safeguarding the future of the college.

With best wishes,

Will Hutton
Principal

