Hertford College
Donor Report

What we’ve achieved together

2020 - 2021
From an extraordinary year
As I write this report, I find myself reflecting on a year that none of us would have chosen, in which our students, staff, tutors and alumni have had to cope with uncertainty, anxiety, frustration and fear. We have been reminded how much we owe to the scientists at Oxford and elsewhere who pushed back the boundaries of how we confront a pandemic, but also how much we owe to the people who have supported us all through these lockdowns. In the case of Hertford this included the catering staff, porters, cleaning teams and others who worked throughout to support students living and studying in college. It included the tutors who adapted to new ways of teaching and supporting their students as they faced new challenges. It included the students who kept at it, despite the sacrifices they were asked to make on behalf of the wider community.

And, of course, it included our supporters, alumni and friends. At a time where difficult decisions have had to be made, we are truly grateful to everyone who has continued their support of Hertford. Regular gifts, major donations, and legacies all contribute to our ability to keep our operations running without interruption. They help us support our students and develop our staff, and provide a safe environment for them. This Donor Report highlights some of the ways in which you have supported us over the past twelve months, and the impact this has had.

During this last year, I have learned that sometimes a role like this requires you to be, not do. I experienced the reality that the quiet work of community building is harder online than in person. I came to recognise that sometimes just keeping the ship afloat in the harbour is more important than sailing it off in search of new adventures. We speak often of Hertford’s values of kindness, tolerance and self-awareness. All were tested hard this year, but undoubtedly strengthened. Throughout, I’ve been hugely impressed by the attachment our people, including our alumni, feel to Hertford.
I hope that we will feel some normality returning in the 2021-22 academic year. But we also have to accept that normality will be different. Like everyone, higher education must learn lockdown lessons fast. For me, this means being clear about where we add value, and developing the people and plans to deliver that.

Universities in the future will need to be more open, more digital and more agile. We spent much of the year asking our people what Hertford should aspire to be and do over the next decade. Amongst other things, you told us that Hertford can be a frontline for a better society. And so, in May, we set out a series of aspirations focusing on how we can maintain this whilst achieving academic excellence, pioneering sustainability and opportunity, building community and citizenship, and developing world-class facilities.

As part of this effort, we want to expand our access and student support programmes, with a goal of eliminating financial barriers to studying here. We will reach carbon net zero no later than 2030. And we will launch an innovative ‘Head, Hand and Hertford’ programme, preparing students for the challenges of the 21st century.

Your continued support is essential to this effort. We have taken a significant financial hit during the pandemic, and we must invest in our infrastructure and people if we are to thrive in the decade ahead. But this is not just about money.

We want you to feel that Hertford is still your home, not just somewhere you come back to for the occasional gaudy. We are putting in place initiatives to make it easier to visit, stay, eat and drink here, and to be part of developing the next generation of Hertford students. Please keep an eye on my regular bulletins for more news.

With the turbulence and distance of 2020/21, we have had to miss out on much of what pulls this community together. The online alternatives have been a vital innovation but cannot be a substitute for the human connection and camaraderie on which a college thrives. As I always tell the students, please think of those rituals, rites of passage and gatherings as postponed, not cancelled. The quad will fill again.

I wouldn’t have chosen this year. I had anticipated this role being more handshakes and Hobbes than hand sanitisers and hobs. We were building the plane as we flew it. But I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else but Hertford. Whatever year you have had, I hope that it will also strengthen your feeling of attachment to this extraordinary place and this special community.

See you soon.
Opportunity Fund donations help to transform students’ lives through access and outreach, undergraduate bursaries, and scholarships for graduates.

£170,792.30

DONATIONS TO THIS FUND

218 donors
Oxford students have had to find their feet and navigate their studies through turbulent times over the last 18 months. However, Hertford has remained both physically and metaphorically at the centre of my student experience. The financial support the college provides, thanks to alumni donations, is just one of the many things that makes Hertford what it is today. As you’ll be aware, term-time at Hertford is a whirlwind of learning, meeting new people, and trying new things – sleep can wait for the vacation! The bursary has allowed me to participate fully in day-to-day Oxford life and experience a world-class education without the weight of financial burden. It’s a testament to the culture of inclusion that is found in every corner of Hertford.

Personally, I use the bursary to subsidise my meals and take advantage of Hertford’s in-house catering. I truly believe building connections over meals is a central part of college life and the bursary has allowed me to experience this. You don’t usually have the same conversations in MacDonald’s as you do in our beautiful hall!

Now in the final year of my degree, I am reflecting on the endless opportunities Hertford has given, and I’m grateful for how our incredible community has created a platform for a prosperous future for past, present and future students alike.

Anoop Dey
PHYSICS, 2018
Oxford has always been the city I have felt most at home in. Born in Pakistan, raised in Surrey, and now residing in North Wales, I have seldom experienced belonging and stability. Since I came here the very first time, on the UNIQ summer school, I knew that Oxford was the place for me. I have learnt to associate the city with inspiring conversations rather than the pretty architecture (although that still awes me each day), and I continue to be inspired by the people who make Oxford so unique. On my freshers’ household form, I was able to specify that I wanted a household with which I could discuss Rousseau and Rossetti one hour and then learn TikTok dances together the next - that conjunction of enriching intellectual conversations interrupted by bouts of laughter is how I’d sum up Hertford. When I received my offer, I was concerned that financial constraints would prevent me from taking up my place at Oxford. I arrived at university grateful and shocked at the generosity Hertford and its donors showed me, and I leave with an even greater sense of gratitude and honour for the acceptance I have been shown.

A DONOR’S PERSPECTIVE

Looking back, I remember my first student loan repayments back in 2001: they were £85 per month. That was it, no tuition fees on top and I could afford the repayments on my starting salary. Now in 2021, funding an undergraduate bursary costs me £70 per month with Gift Aid, while the costs of an Oxford degree for students from low-income backgrounds must seem impossibly daunting. Funding a Hertford bursary is my contribution towards trying to level the playing field. It seems a small price to pay to keep Oxford within reach for students from the poorest backgrounds.

Sohaib Hassan
ENGLISH, 2019

Christina Haberditzl
PPE, 1995
Over the last few years, and especially during the pandemic, we’ve been able to consider what really matters in our access and outreach work. While talking to older pupils about the application process will always occupy an important place, more and more we’ve been thinking about how to work with younger students. How can we empower potential applicants to become more active learners and develop their own thinking skills? Through our different programmes and the various stages of our provision, what starts as one big idea – going to university – gradually develops into a set of meaningful skills and experiences which are eventually passed on to the next generation.

**Ages 7-11**

We work with a charity called The Brilliant Club to introduce primary school pupils to the type of research-led learning that they can experience at university. It’s really important that pupils in this youngest age group are able to see university as part of their future.

**Nathan Stazicker & Dr Kathryn Boast**

OUTREACH OFFICERS

**Ages 11-14**

Working with pupils in Years 7, 8 & 9 means we can help them think about what they want to do after school and equip them to get there. We work with these pupils to develop their understanding of university research and what a degree involves, usually with workshops in school or with a discovery day in Oxford. We’re working closely with our East England consortium colleagues at Balliol and Wadham to develop new tailored programmes which will support pupils in this age group.
Ages 14-16
Key Stage 4 is often all about GCSEs, but it’s also a great time to work with pupils who are discovering the subjects that really make them tick. Pupils in Year 10 & 11 might visit Hertford for an aspiration day to dig into why they might want to apply to Oxford in the future. As well as introducing our undergraduate role models and taking part in an academic taster session, we’ll also spend time addressing worries and concerns which might come with thinking more about university. “What career will an academic degree lead to?” for example, or “How will I be able to afford it?”

Ages 16-18
For pupils without the knowledge and support at school or home, the application process can seem to be a daunting journey. That’s why in Year 12 we offer pupils events like our Next Steps Essex webinars with Cambridge or our in-depth Swiftstream programme for pupils in Medway. These are designed to develop both knowledge and experience, helping with everything from course choice and motivation, to personal statements and interviews. If a pupil has already been introduced to Oxford, we can now use this precious time to build skills rather than just sharing information. We also try to help pupils develop their subject interest and the ability to talk about it. From Springboard, our collaborative bank of video resources from graduate students, and our Unsung Heroes of Science competition, to intensive programmes like Geography Club (see Kitty’s piece overleaf) and Physics Club, we are working hard to provide stepping stones to individual learning opportunities.

Ages 18+
If a pupil chooses to apply and is made an offer, it’s a delight to see them join the Hertford cohort. At this stage, there are lots of opportunities for our students to take part in initiatives from the other side – our undergraduate ambassadors are one of the most important aspects of our outreach provision. By sharing their own experiences, ambassadors can not only help school pupils to understand Oxford but also be a relatable role model. Our events with The Brilliant Club, for example, are often staffed by students who have taken part in the programme themselves and can link up all the experiences they gained as an 11-year-old participant with the insights they now have as an undergraduate.

We are grateful to the anonymous donor who generously funds our STEM Outreach Officer post.

OPPORTUNITY FUND | 9
Choosing to study Geography at Hertford is probably the best decision I’ve ever made, so I naturally jumped at the opportunity to develop an outreach initiative to encourage others to do exactly that. The undergraduate course is diverse, challenging, and, in some ways, worlds apart from Geography at school, so Hertford’s online Geography Club was set up to demystify university-level Geography for GSCE and A Level pupils. Throughout a series of seven tutorial-style Zoom sessions, we aimed to provoke interesting discussions and prompt critical thinking about a diverse range of topics, from climate change attribution to sustainable development. Each week we planned a presentation and discussion outline for breakout rooms, introducing a new topic from the undergraduate syllabus.

Working as a team of five ambassadors, we were admittedly nervous about how the sessions would go (particularly with over 100 sign-ups ranging from Year 10 pupils to university applicants)! However, we were pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm and sophistication of ideas we were met with. It was great to see pupils getting stuck into complicated topics and engaging in lively debates. After the final session we were overwhelmed by the gratitude of the participants and were asked when we’d next be running the programme! Having received the Tanner Award for my contribution to the Geography Club, I am so grateful for the contributions of Hertford’s donors. The culture of access and outreach at Hertford is really what sets it apart and I hope our efforts have helped to show what Geography and Oxford have to offer.
Donations ensure that Hertford can continue to thrive through exceptional teaching and research, a revamped estate and flourishing student societies.
It is now some two years since we agreed our Estates Strategy. Despite the obvious challenges that recent global events have presented, we have been able to make progress in many areas, and I’m pleased to be able to provide a brief update.

When we set out our plans, our scope encompassed new buildings and improvements to the current estate. We knew we had allowed a maintenance gap to grow and needed not only to close the gap, but also to put us on the front foot; prevention is almost always less expensive than cure. In other areas, our future plans will clearly place greater or altered demand on our underlying infrastructure, and upgrading this in key places is thus a pre-requisite. Much of this work goes relatively unseen. The most obvious for current members, simply on account of the unavoidable disruption at times, has been the overhaul of our main site power supply. This £1.2m project is now complete, with several months of cable replacement topped off with a brand-new substation in NB Quad, supporting new power network supplies.
Built to last: our estates strategy

Artist’s impression of restored 18th century chapel space within the redeveloped library, MICA Architects
This upgrade increases our available power supply fourfold, supporting recent growth in demand and providing capacity for new developments such as the library. It will also allow us to consider a switch away from gas, likely to be a key strand of our carbon reduction strategy.

We also identified a number of small to medium sized projects aimed at delivering some immediate, significant improvements to existing facilities, and have been able to complete a number of these so far. Highlights include a remodelled and extended Lodge (with brand-new post room opposite), and relocation of the Academic Office to a suite of newly refurbished and larger offices – both completed just prior to
the first COVID lockdown. One consequence of the latter event has been extended periods of almost no accommodation demand. We took the opportunity this afforded to bring forward some of our planned upgrade work for student rooms and were able to complete a much-needed full refurbishment of Holywell Quad.

One of the larger projects planned is the development of new graduate accommodation at Winchester Road. This has grown into a joint development with two University departments, and two other colleges, led by Hertford. Each has their own area, which comprises land currently owned by either Hertford or the University. As part of the scheme, we will expand our own share of the site, acquiring two existing buildings from the University. This will allow us to build around 60 units of new en-suite accommodation and a graduate ‘hub’. The eventual Hertford facility will be able to accommodate around 130 students, allowing us to offer rooms or flats to all, or most, of our graduates that request them.

Set within a conservation zone, this project presents many challenges, but we have made steady progress through the planning process and hope to be able to conclude our final design submissions for a planning application early 2022. Central to the design is the desire to complement the Victorian architecture and landscape, rejuvenating and enhancing this important area of north Oxford.

Our most prominent and central project is the refurbishment and extension of the library. This £15m development will double the existing space available for both readers and books. It will extend the current footprint under half of OB Quad and up into the Old Lodgings, and will remodel all existing spaces, including the original college chapel which has served as the library for almost 100 years.

The new facility will be home to a modern archive library, allowing us to store and make available on site our entire collection for the first time. It will also include a series of new rooms for meetings, seminars, and collaborative work, as well as a brand-new lecture and hospitality suite, complete with roof terrace (pictured overleaf). The building will also be served by a new lift, providing access to all library areas as well as other rooms in the west range.

An important part of the planning considerations has been to understand the archaeology of the OB area, and several large excavations have already been undertaken to that end. So far we have found the remains of a medieval cess pit, but more will undoubtedly come to light. We hope to hear the results of our planning application early in 2022. We aim to fund the library almost entirely from donations, and it is thus one of the key priorities for our development efforts. So despite the recent challenges, with which we are all too familiar, the implementation of the estates strategy has been able to continue at a decent pace. We have certainly not stood still, and look forward to now being able to accelerate.
Your generosity allows us to work together to achieve far more than we could alone.
Thank you

Our donors around the world

Sweden
People's Republic of China
Japan
Hong Kong
Thailand
Singapore
Malaysia
Australia
New Zealand
Donors by matriculation year

1940
John Oram†

1944
Derek Conran†

1948
Michael Fish
Norman Perrin
Chris Sellick

1949
Jimmy Hartley

1950
Peter Coulson
Colin Curley
Robert Graham
Peter Harkness

1951
Dennis Bonney
Roy Burgess†
George Jupe
Edwin Pomeroy
Michael Port

1952
John Bowen
Michael Harris
Patrick Jeffers
Colin Morgan†
Denis Price
Allan Scott

1953
John Crowhurst
Mike Essex

1954
Anonymous
Thomas
Charlesworth
John Ingleton
Michael Kirby
David Loewe

1955
David Cutler
John Wroughton

1956
Robin Carey
Gordon Davy
Mark Drake
John Lewis

1957
Simon Frazer

1958
John Jordan
Roger Kirkus
Ronald Pattinson
Michael Standen

1960
John Staples
Roger Wheeler
Clive Williams

1962
Robert Bearman
Chris Brooks
David Cattrell
John Doble
Alan Fearnley
David Gallifant
Michael Knee
Ian Michael
Richard Scott
Peter Stokes
Warwick Wilson

1963
Toby Atkinson
Chris Baron
Clive Elles
Christopher Fance
Leo Horton
Richard Partridge
Chris Plunkett
Ray Proctor
Paul Thompsett
Julian Whitehead

1964
Mike Brumage
Tony Champion
Jim Cooper
Alan Dobson
Peter Edwards
Julian Hay
Graham Jones
Tony Mitcheson
Chris Morton
Adrian Oldknow
Mike Paul
George Spencer
Richard Summers

1966
Raymond Chadwick
Andrew Cullis
Steve Greenwald
Peter Hollins
Derek Leslie
David Levy
Bob Litt
Paul Lusk
Bob Morrow
Mick North
Chris Osland
Rupert Perry
Peter Titchener
Alex Vinter
David Walker

1967
Robin Bynoe
Philip Chapman
David Clark
Julian Clarke
Richard Harrington
Stephen Johnson
Tony Oliver
John Ratcliff
Phillip Runchman
Robin Selby

1968
Anonymous
Lindsay Bashford
Meredith Childerstone
John Clark
Ken France
Ian Walsh
Richard Ward
William Webster
Paul White

1969
Paul Aynsley
Alex Bristow
Rod Brown
Christopher Halsall
Neil Kinghan
Ken Patterson
Eric Pawson
Tom Robinson
Andrew Seber
Clive Sherwood
John Whitaker
Nigel Wilkes

1970
Mark Andrews
Brian Belchers
Walter Bodmer
Colin Bradley

1971
Anonymous
Anonymous
David Arscott
Bill Banks
Ephraim Borowski
Kevin Bounds
Crispian Cartwright
Peter Crowley
Jonathan Davies
Matt Durcan
Mick Evans
Peter Friend
Christopher Hinton
Anthony Jones
Peter Lane
Neil MacKenzie
Graeme Marshall
Philip Masson
Charles Nixon
Graham Rogers
Alan Sandall
Tony Smith
Mike Waller
Thomas Watkin
David Worskett

1972
Bulent Atalay
Simon Attwood
Lindsay Forbes
Tom Hutton
Peter Ireland
Stephen Jukes
John Landers
Brent MacGregor
Bryan Massingham
Martin Morgan
Bernard Murphy
David Newman
Pete Owen
Christopher Smale
Matthew King
Ling Lu
Nicholas Smith
Ollie Stephenson
Alice Thornton

2009
Anonymous
Sophie Ackers
Claire Castles
Natalya
Din-Kariuki
Laila Dowse
Lauren Eyland
Dominic Farrell
Michael Flood
Sophie Flynn
Joe Hitchen
Christopher James
James Lester
Thomas Little
Dan Parker
Adam Rheinberg
Earth Sivakul
Rachelle Tilly
Adam Tyndall
Annabel Walker
Richard Winslett
Alice Young

2010
Yiyang Bao
Lizzy Fitzgerald
Timothy Hogwood
James Holley
Lloyd Meadhbh
Houston
Fiona Johnston
Katy Kiernan
Seaver Milnor
Sam Parsons
Tajinder Sandhu
Brigita Seguis
Yaoshun Wang
Sakura Zhi

2011
Kiran Barhey
Jennifer Feyer
Adam Knight
Nicholas Ng
Rhys Owens
Helen Spooner

2012
Joy Aston
Brian Balchin
Max Brodermann
Helen Carswell
Alice Drew
Freddie Harris
Justin Hubbard
Rachel Hunter
Ksenija Yeeles

2013
Jamie Biondi
Marcus Meer
Jessica Rush
Anna Solomkina
Daniel Valentine

2014
Hani Awad
Khai yen Chew
Kaitlin Lloyd
Stephanie Richards

2015
Xueying Fu
Chandan Sinha

2016
Jonothan Webb

2017
Joshua Cleary
James Howard
Bridget Simpson
Mitchell Tate

2018
Weidong Chen
Vicki Herrington
Philipp Schellhaas

Friends of Hertford
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Karen Addison
Americans for Oxford Credits
BC Partners - UK
Boston Consulting Group - London Office
Chris Bracebridge
Chevron Humankind
Clifford Chance LLP - London
Deutsche Bank
The Drapers’ Company
Edison International
Robert Ellmann
Jason Fiddaman
John Finley
Patrick Foster
Thomas Fritz
Angelina Gibson
Andrew Goudie
Hertford College Choir
Heather Howard for Peter Howard (1975)
J P Morgan Securities Inc
Keasbey Memorial Foundation
Delaney Kerkhof
Abby Deng-Huei Lee
Legal & General Group Plc
LLL Foundation
Mayer Brown LLP - London
James Miller
Peter Bennett Foundation
John Pickford
Anca Popescu
The Porter Foundation
Prudential Plc
Tim Sahr
Vanguard
In memory of Julian Walters (1940) & Mary Walters
Wellington Management UK Foundation
West Coast University
YourCause

† deceased
Dr Catherine Sloan joined Hertford in 2019 as our inaugural Porter Fellow for Academic Skills. This role, the first of its kind in Oxford, has responsibility for coordinating on-course academic skills support. Dr Sloan is also a Career Development Fellow, undertaking her own research into the history of childhood.

My position as Porter Fellow for Academic Skills means that Hertford is able to provide freshers with a comprehensive introduction to university life, delivered both at a Welcome Day in September, and during Freshers’ Week in October. Students are introduced to Canvas (Oxford’s online learning platform) and our academic skills website which holds study guides for freshers. They’re also given practical advice such as strategies for timekeeping and note-taking.

During term, undergraduates have access to different forms of support through Hertford’s academic skills programme, from one-on-one meetings to group workshops which target concerns at specific points of term, such as revision or exam technique. I also organise dissertation workshops for final-year students in all subject areas and run regular ‘Shut up and study!’ and ‘Shut up and write!’ sessions for students wanting to better structure their day. These have proved particularly useful for those studying from home or self-isolating.

In general, most students sign-up independently while a smaller number are referred by tutors, the Welfare Team, or as a follow-up to their formal academic
review with the Senior Tutor and Principal. All students also now have access to a range of study skills materials on Hertford’s dedicated academic skills website. These include written and video guides on note-taking, avoiding plagiarism or getting the most out of research articles, as well as a study guide aimed at providing additional support for students from under-represented backgrounds. These materials ensure that students in all years have access to academic skills support when they need it, regardless of location, subject or time zone.

In my own research I have moved forward with several individual and collaborative projects, despite pandemic closures making access to archival and library material challenging. My research focuses on the social and cultural history of modern Britain, and particularly the history of childhood, youth and education. Whereas much scholarship has focused on the importance of mass culture in shaping childhood, little attention has been paid to culture by children. I look at children’s own writings to examine education from the often-ignored perspective of individual learners and their families, rather than educators or officials, and to uncover the long-standing continuities in experiences despite the rise of mass schooling and institution-building. More broadly, I hope to expand on my thesis research to produce a pre-history of youth culture, before the turbulence of the 1960s.

We are grateful to the Porter Foundation for their generous support, which enabled us to establish this fellowship.

Dr Catherine Sloan
PORTER FELLOW FOR ACADEMIC SKILLS
Dr Andrew Cropper joined Hertford in 2018 as a Junior Research Fellow (JRF) in Computer Science, focusing on machine learning.

Approaching the end of my fellowship, I have recently been reflecting on the overwhelmingly positive impact it has had on my research and academic career. A JRF is a postdoctoral position that allows the holder to engage in full-time research. It is also an independent position, meaning that I do not have an academic supervisor.

This independence has allowed me to work on a non-mainstream research topic. In machine learning, the vast majority of research focuses on ‘big data’ methods which require huge amounts of data and computational power—typically this means hundreds of power-hungry computers. By contrast, my research focuses on methods that require little training data and which run on standard laptops. This ‘small data’ approach is important because for many important problems we do not have access to thousands of examples to learn from. Without the freedom of a JRF position, I may not have been able to work on this unorthodox yet valuable approach.

In addition to research, I am grateful for opportunities during the JRF to teach and supervise students, including several excellent Hertford undergraduates. One of the students whose summer project I supervised has now continued into the DPhil programme at Oxford and I am currently supervising two more Hertford student projects. I have also benefitted enormously from meeting other college members from across a broad range of disciplines; talking over lunches and dinners has been a particular highlight.

I cannot overstate the positive impact of the JRF has had on my academic career, and I am extremely grateful for the generosity of the donor who supported this post. It has allowed me to transition into an independent researcher which, in turn, allowed me to apply for more funding to continue my research. Earlier this year, I was awarded a five-year Fellowship by the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) to start my own research group to design novel algorithms that themselves design novel algorithms, i.e. to build an ‘automatic computer scientist’. I could not have secured this EPSRC Fellowship had I not had my JRF and the support of Hertford. Although the JRF is coming to an end, my connection with Hertford will thankfully not, as the college has extended my association in a non-stipendiary capacity. I look forward to continuing to help grow computer science and artificial intelligence at Hertford and to further participate in this wonderfully supportive and enriching community.

Dr Andrew Cropper
JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

We are grateful to the anonymous donor who generously supports this JRF.
Sustainability & Future Fund donations secure a lasting legacy for the next generation

620 donors

£249,826.78 donations to this fund

Hertford 2030
I think we’ve all run out of ways to describe the past year and a half. Unprecedented, extraordinary, unusual, exceptional, the dreaded ‘new normal’… None of these rather clichéd words or phrases seem to adequately convey the impact of the pandemic or, indeed, the wearying familiarity of successive lockdowns. In any case, I suspect you’re all sick to death of hearing about the effects of the pandemic, and if you’re anything like me, you’ll be itching to start thinking about and planning for the future.

It’s tempting to think of this as a lost year, but there have been some bright spells! Barring 2017/18 and its transformational $2m donation, this has been our most successful year to date for fundraising, continuing the steady upward trajectory which started back in 2015. We’re so grateful to everyone who supported us this year, and for everything you’ve helped us achieve. Turning the college into a COVID-secure environment is no mean feat, and it is in no small part down to the generosity of our alumni and friends that we have had the capacity and flexibility to respond to the challenges that have come our way. It gives us real confidence as we start planning for the future.

Hertford 2030 is an ambitious vision for the years ahead. Academic excellence will stay at the heart of everything we do, and we will continue to attract the best and brightest students whilst also providing a home for world-leading research. We have a duty to provide a happy, comfortable and stimulating environment for our students – a place where they can learn, yes, but also acquire new skills and make friendships for life. Our facilities, which enable so much of this, are in dire need of an upgrade. And we’ve committed to do all of this within the framework of reaching carbon net zero and biodiversity net gain by 2030.

If you’re anything like me, you’ll be itching to start thinking about the future.

There will be many ways for our alumni to contribute to Hertford 2030, all of them greatly valued. And, like all charities, we will continue to rely on the generosity of our supporters. With your help we can continue to subsidise the education of every single student at Hertford and give them the same experiences you enjoyed. We know that charitable donations are not entered into lightly, but we hope that this report has given you an idea of how we use the money you so generously donate. And perhaps these stories, facts and figures will give those of you who don’t currently give something to ponder.
“As for so many of us, my time at Hertford was truly formative. It’s an experience I want to be available to others, from as diverse a set of backgrounds as possible.”

Andrew Voysey
GEOGRAPHY, 2004
Leaving a legacy to Hertford is a straightforward and meaningful way to support our next generation of students. Whether small or large, all legacy donations play their part in ensuring that we’re able to welcome students – whatever their background – to a college which meets their needs.

Members of the Warnock Society, founded in 1999 to recognise the generosity of those who have included Hertford in their will, support the college in many ways. For some, leaving a fixed amount to Hertford suits their plans, while others choose to donate a percentage of their estate. Others choose to leave larger sums still, and this year the college was fortunate to be the sole beneficiary in the estates of two alumni.

Colin Morgan (English, 1952) joined Hertford after a short stint in the Royal Air Force. Prior to this, he attended the Sir George Monoux Grammar School in Walthamstow, where he wrote for the school magazine. Derek Conran (Modern History, 1944) also came up to Hertford after spending time in the military. He joined the college on a Cadet Commission in the midst of the Second World War which enabled him to spend six months in education before being commissioned into the Royal Tank Regiment. Derek would go on to become one of the founding members (and, later, President) of the Hertford Society, remained a keen member of the Boat Club throughout his life, and took the helm of one of the college’s first capital fundraising campaigns to build the Holywell Quad.

Both Colin and Derek chose to leave an unrestricted legacy to Hertford, giving college the flexibility to apply their donations to the areas of greatest priority. This varies from year to year depending on current circumstances, and in this instance we were able to direct both legacies towards the renovation and extension of the library, arguably the college’s greatest priority in the coming years.

Our alumni are an integral part of the Hertford community, whether you are a regular visitor to college like Derek Conran or somewhat more remote like Colin Morgan. We hope that you might join Derek, Colin, and many others in remembering Hertford in your will.
The Warnock Society was created in 1999 to recognise the generosity of those alumni and friends who have included Hertford in their will. Geoffrey Warnock, who was Principal for 17 years, left a legacy to the college; it was his commitment to our future that inspired us to thank our legacy donors in his memory.

1944
Derek Conran†
Richard Lloyd

1945
Anonymous
Tim Eccles

1947
Peter Nicholls

1951
George Jupe
Michael Port

1952
Michael Harris
David Henderson
Philip Hobson
Patrick Jeffers
Colin Morgan†
Francis Scott
Tim Stevens

1953
Alan Broome
David Clay
Bob Coupe
Quintin Knight

1954
Malcolm Busfield
Jim Catty
Michael Kirby
David Loewe

1955
Clive Aldred
David Cutler
John Langley
David Moseley
John Wroughton

1956
David Cressey

1957
Anonymous
Peter Loveday
Gerald Paterson
Ronald Pattinson
Judy & Peter
Whiteman

1958
Anonymous
Rodney Chambers

1959
Charles Gibson†
David Grant
Jeffrey Preston
Hugh Sturzaker

1960
Rex Goad
James Hemsley
Mike St John
Roger Westbrook
Marc Wigan

1961
Christopher Craig
Malcolm Duce
David Elkington
Colin Harris
David Mander
Eric Martin
Hugh Nicklin
Ken Waters

1962
Chris Brooks
John Doble
Neville Gaffin
Michael Gee

1963
Bob Eastwood
Christopher Fance
John Mollon

1964
Tony Champion
Tim Cornish
Geoffrey Dobson
David Hackett
Graham Jones

1965
John Crook
Mike Henderson
Stephen Potel

1966
Peter Hollins

1967
Philip Chapman
Brian Fortnum
Edwin Gale
Victor Reyward-Smith
Ian Reid
Phillip Runchman
Robin Selby
Ian Sharp
Mike Wyatt

1968
John Dewar

1969
Anonymous
Colin Berry
Alex Bristow
Gary Green
Simon Webb

1970
Andrew Binks
Walter Bodmer
Neil Swindells
John Wells

1971
Alan Barlow
Graeme Marshall
Roderic Mitchell
David Worskett

† deceased
“It delights me to know that some future student will benefit from my legacy as there is no better gift than the education and experience of Hertford, which shaped my own life in so many ways”

ROSE JACKSON, 1978
Hanging on the telephone

Eloise George (History, 2020) chats to us about her experience as a telethon caller. For more about the results of our telethon, look out for the next edition of the Donor Report.

Why did you want to join the telethon?

Being involved in the Hertford JCR has made me passionate about the college, the work that can be done and just how vibrant our community is. But it’s also made me realise how financially constrained progress is, and how necessary it is to have funding in place. I really wanted to do my bit to be able to facilitate this.

Equally, being in college you sometimes feel like you are in a bubble, so the opportunity to hear the experiences of alumni and where Hertford has taken them sounded really appealing. So it was supporting development, as well as my own personal curiosity, that made me want to be a telethon caller.

What aspect did you most enjoy?

The variety - I spoke to everyone from doctors to gemmologists, lawyers, consultants and more. I enjoyed hearing from people in a range of careers that either I’d never have thought of, or that have just seemed very out of reach. For instance, I was lucky enough to get advice on investment banking from somebody who had done high level financial management. It was so cool getting that insight into different industries and worlds. All the alumni were lovely and genuinely enthused to hear about the college and share how much Hertford still means to them. It was really nice to see the lasting impact that Hertford has had on people and that there is still a sense of Hertford community. Also, as a caller, I valued the teamwork and camaraderie with the other callers – our shifts were actually really fun!

Tell us about your best call

I had a particularly sweet call where I asked an alum for his favourite Hertford memory. He said: “During Freshers’ Week, I was in the Porters' Lodge to get a key because I was locked out of my room. I turned round and bumped into a girl, and 30 years later we’re still married.”
I was also really lucky to have so many great calls after we had a gaudy for early 70s matriculation years, which would have been a completely different Oxford to the one I know: at that time women still weren’t even admitted! I also enjoyed speaking to quite a few people who had been recipients of the Tanner Scheme, which is obviously a really big part of Hertford history and set a precedent for our pioneering access schemes. So, getting to hear about that, and understanding quite how strong the legacy of access is at Hertford, how it began, and how we can keep evolving felt really important.

How does ‘Hertford 2030’ resonate with you as a student?

Personally, it resonates very deeply. A lot of the time when an educational institution does a fundraiser the students can feel a bit separate and it can feel like a corporate priority, compared to what the actual priorities for the community are. But Hertford 2030 is something that affects the whole community positively, and I like the fact that there are tangible goals to it. Within this 10-year timeframe, we will develop our access exponentially, we will improve our buildings, we will extend the library, we will make sure that we’ve got more funding, make ourselves more sustainable. The fact that we have these tangible goals for achieving our aims means that I know even after I leave Hertford, I’ll be able to look back and chart how these goals are going, and I’ll know what the end results should look like. Also, it resonates with me because my matriculating year and the years around me will want to continue to support those aims throughout our early professional careers. What I really admire about the 2030 pledge is that, say in the Sustainability Fund, we aim to reach net zero carbon emissions, and biodiversity net gain five years earlier than the University as a whole. It’s not just priorities that benefit Hertford, it’s priorities that aim to set a really strong example. I think it really encapsulates Hertford as a college - we’re saying “this is what Hertford is about, and this is the example we want to set for the wider community” and I am really proud of that. I think it’s very representative of how the student body feels about Hertford.

What’s your message to those alumni you didn’t get to speak to during the telethon?

It sounds very clichéd, but at the end of every bop or every game, as I’m sure all the Hertford alumni will remember, there’s usually a chant of “I’m Hertford till I die!” I think that spirit is still really strong. To all the alumni we couldn’t reach: you are very much still part of our community, and even if you can only donate £5 towards a project, you are still helping the college to thrive, and your involvement alone helps to keep our wonderful community going strong.

We want you to feel connected to college too. It’s not just about pouring money into funds: we want you to then come back and appreciate the results of your kindness for yourselves. So I would really encourage you to come and have a look around – we students are always really happy to see and speak to alumni. I would encourage alumni to get in contact with college, speak to the Principal, or contact the Development Office. We really want to help you understand what we’re doing and make you feel as much a part of the Hertford community as when you were students like us.
Facts & figures

We are very grateful to be supported by alumni who matriculated between 1940 and 2018, as well as to our other friends and supporters. Spanning almost eight decades of Hertfordians, you are absolutely central to both our proud heritage and our ambitious future.

In 10 years, our annual donations have increased by more than 180%.

Year | Donors | Donations |
--- | --- | --- |
2011 | 575 | £499,123 |
2012 | 593 | £411,933 |
2013 | 612 | £625,624 |
2014 | 648 | £756,964 |
2015 | 611 | £519,436 |
2016 | 796 | £728,000 |
2017 | 878 | £924,361 |
2018 | 880 | £1,963,000 |
2019 | 966 | £1,239,314 |
2020 | 805 | £1,347,529 |
2021 | 913 | £1,410,746 |

Total donors & donations 2011-2021

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The Donor Report is published by the Development Office for alumni and friends of the college. The opinions expressed are those of the writers and are not necessarily the official views of Hertford College.

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