



A Place for You

Hertford College Donor Report 2020

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From the Editor

You will notice that this year's Donor Report is a little different. As part of our commitment to reduce our environmental footprint, we have slimmed down our report considerably to just 28 pages in total. But you can find additional content on our dedicated website, either via this URL (HCDonorReport2020.com) or the QR codes included on the individual reports. We hope you like the postcards and would love to see some of them take pride of place on your mantle pieces!

Looking back over 9 years

By Will Hutton



By the time many of you read this I will be a former Principal; I was the future once, as David Cameron said of his departing self. The future is now Tom Fletcher's, who I have got to know well over the last few months as I have tried to pass on all I have learned about Hertford and Oxford. He is a great appointment. Hertford is fortunate to have him.

Talking to Tom has made me realise how far we have come. The college I walked into on the morning of 1 September 2011 was certainly friendly, inclusive and a tightly-run ship. I hope nobody will take umbrage but for all that, it was a ship that creaked at the seams. It was uncertain who it was and above all lacked self-confidence. It did, though, perform pretty well academically. The college that Tom takes over has got a much better infrastructure, hard and soft, than it had then. It has more sense of itself and takes justified pride in its achievements, especially over access and its new professionalism, while I hope having lost none of its friendliness and inclusivity. Over the next decades – the disastrous impact of COVID aside – Hertford promises to do very well indeed, and even improve on its already strong academic standing.

I should acknowledge immediately that there is always a certain amount of luck involved in running any organisation, and I have been lucky. The fellowship has had a wholesale and strengthening makeover while I have been Principal – it is younger, more ambitious, research and teaching hungry, and more diverse, with the number of women fellows doubled from nine to eighteen.

There has also been a transformation in the capacity and reach of our academic office, which after all is the hub of any college. It is what we are all about. Many colleges have decided to relieve the Senior Tutor role (in effect Academic Director) from a tutorial fellow who has direct experience of teaching challenges, and instead turn to a professional administrator who might hold the post, sometimes, for ossifying decades. We have opted for a hybrid model: to retain a fellow as Senior Tutor who still teaches at the tutorial coalface, but to support him or her with a professional registrar and director of admissions (a role now held by the indefatigable and dynamic Lynn Featherstone) – thus combining the best of both worlds.

The office has been further strengthened on two dimensions very important to me. We have steadily built up our access and communications capacity, with an additional focus on STEM subjects. Dr Kathryn Boast, a new appointment made possible thanks to the generous support of Pip Wilson (1993), specialises in recruiting candidates in STEM subjects, particularly trying to interest women. Another new appointment, Nathan Stazicker, combines schools outreach work with great social media and communications content. They are steadily increasing student interest in Hertford and making innovative waves – take a glance at *Unsung Heroes of Science* on our website for example. I'm grateful to all of our alumni who have supported our outreach work; I hope you feel proud of what you have helped us achieve.

Ever since the launch of the Tanner Scheme, Hertford has been an Oxford leader in admitting state school students. But now we have made the reputation really live: this year over 80% of our offers were to state school candidates, the second highest in Oxford, up from just over 60% when I arrived. But this must not be done with any sacrifice in academic quality. So in parallel we have strengthened the support we give to students by offering additional advice and coaching on how to approach learning,



Ever since the launch of the Tanner Scheme, Hertford has been an Oxford leader in admitting state school students.

provided by the new Porter Fellow for Academic Skills Dr Catherine Sloan, a post made possible by the Porter Foundation. The demand is high and growing.

We've also strengthened our ties with our 60-strong lecturers, giving them a role in academic committee, meeting and briefing them regularly and holding an annual dinner, so there is a growing sense of a teaching community that shares common goals and high aims. The library has been revitalised under Alice Roques and our academic results are sharply improving, as is the collective mood. Our chaplain Mia Smith is the liveliest of Anglican live-wires, and the choir – with no auditions – makes the sweetest of sounds. Even the agnostic irreligious find the chapel's music sometimes jaw-droppingly good. Overall, Hertford is a community at ease with itself, working hard and having fun. The online videos the students and fellows made for the 2020 Virtual Open Day, edited with stunning professionalism, showed real love of Hertford. It was, they concluded, the perfect college. I was very proud. I shall apply myself!

Financially we have managed all this while posting financial surpluses for eight consecutive years (which would have been nine if COVID had not intervened). Here another decision that might have gone wrong turned out well: when the outgoing (and outstanding) director of our international conference business left after my second year, I decided to nominate two co-directors to succeed her. It might have been a fraught relationship as many predict job share at this level to be, but Caroline Rice and Andrew Hemingway have increased the turnover by more than a half. Its profits, along with a great increase in our donations from you, dear Reader – as Jane Eyre might have said had she been Principal – have together underpinned Hertford's growth under my Principalship.

I think a turning point in the college's relationship with our alumni was the 2014 Bridge to Bridge bike ride – from the Hertford Bridge to the Bridge of Sighs in Venice. It was certainly enjoyable in its own right, even if slightly bonkers (14 days dedicated to cycling?), and raised a more than useful quarter of a million pounds. But one of the unexpected by-products was people taking notice that Hertford was now the kind of college that did things like biking 700 miles to Venice to raise money for student support. And they liked it. Julia Thaxton, the then incoming Development Director, was a bit bemused, but she and I bonded

over the exigencies of organising and then riding on it together with a number of our alumni (including Tom Fletcher!)

That first bike ride became the springboard for a sense that Hertford was on the move, and was followed by more bike rides and other challenges. Alumni smiled on us, and our Development Office became ever more professional with some outstanding events, posts and publications, reaching a pinnacle with their efforts over lockdown. Gradually donations began to rise. Many thanks to all of you.

With greater self-confidence has come a willingness to strengthen our existing estate and build anew. Two major initiatives are in train: doubling the study spaces in a made over, modernised library, and increasing our accommodation by nearly 100 beds in what will become a Hertford graduate campus between Winchester Road and Banbury Road. Planning permission will be sought over the next twelve months for both. We raised a £20 million bond with the financing in mind and, again with the support of our donors, we will make Hertford one of the best equipped colleges in both bedrooms and study space in the university. We are deeply grateful to those who have already supported the early stages of our estates strategy

I am leaving a six figure sum to Hertford in my declaration of wishes in my will – and I urge you, if you haven't, to please do the same. Hertford is a great institution that deserves all of our support. Those of us who have ridden the wave of the near 50-year rise in property prices find ourselves better off than we ever expected and, frankly, we were lucky: let's give something back to those who follow. There is an old Greek proverb that society grows great when old men and women plant trees under whose shade they know they will never sit. Let's plant some trees!

And once again many thanks for all the support and fun over the last nine years. I have enjoyed it enormously. Must write my application form to come back as a fresher!

Bursar's view

By Jamie Clark



The question posed most often to Bursars, and consuming most of their attention right now, is how COVID impacts their college finances. So, while there are more interesting and imaginative matters that I could choose to report on this year, none seem quite so urgent, or relevant, to focus on here.

If there is one lesson from the extraordinary events of this year, it is that our world can change very rapidly around us. I'm conscious that as I write - part way through the long vac, with a good couple of months left before we hit next term - I may be reflecting a context that is no longer relevant. Our current assumption is the return of students and staff by October, albeit with various distancing and other measures in place. Looking slightly further, we assume that we may be back to running events and conference business at some point in 2021. All of these assumptions may have been revised by the time you read this.

Key to understanding the financial "hit" for college is appreciating how we typically balance the books; in particular, that our core teaching and student domestic services come at a net cost. Take undergraduate tuition as an example. We receive under half of all tuition fees charged (the majority goes to the University), and spend on average an additional £3,000+ per undergraduate to provide tutorial and other academic services. Similarly, an additional cost is incurred providing

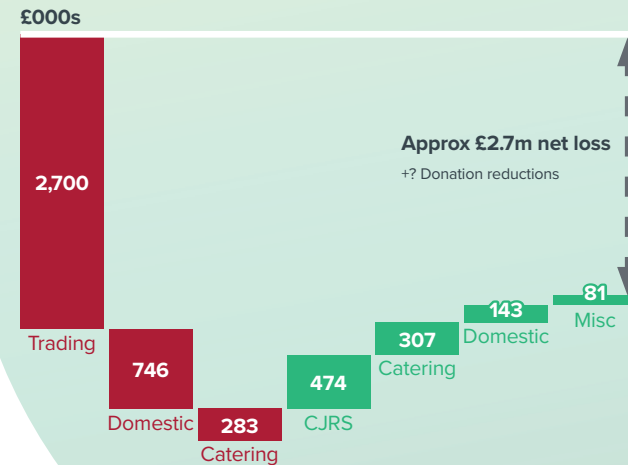
heavily subsidised accommodation and catering services. The average undergraduate is a net cost to the college of about £6,000 every year, and we have over 400 of them. We rely upon a combination of endowment income, donations and conference business to support this.

The balancing act



And then came COVID. The single biggest problem is that it has brought domestic service provision to an abrupt halt, which affects both sides of our equation. We have lost student rental income for a whole term (so far), which increases our domestic subsidy requirements. At the same time, one of our largest sources of balancing income – conference trade – has dried up entirely. Clearly we have been able to save in some areas, and have also chosen, as have other colleges, to make use of government assistance where we can (e.g. by furloughing staff). Even with this, our net loss up until the end of July is around £2.7m.

COVID: Counting the cost



Looking ahead to the next academic (and financial) year, we expect a further loss of around £2m. Some of this is certain, as it relates to the late summer conference business this year, which we know is not going to be possible. Some is based on our working assumptions outlined above. This is of course subject to revision.

There is a widely held view that all Oxford colleges are wealthy and must be well able to withstand this sort of heavy blow. To an extent this is reasonable, when we take the long view. Some colleges have reasonably substantial endowments that do provide a broad base of financial security. However, such assets are not much help in the short term. For the most part, endowments are permanent: colleges can spend the income but must preserve the capital. The income generated is generally fairly stable, and cannot be dialled up or down at short notice. The current challenges are that our income has diminished, but most expenditure remains. The problem right now is not about assets, but about cashflow. (Our endowment funds did suffer a significant decline in value, reflecting the movement in financial markets. Although much ground has already been recovered, reductions in dividend levels are reducing the income we receive from investments.)

Colleges seek to use their resources as fully as possible, to maximise benefit in accordance with their charitable objectives. Income and expenditure, as well as cashflow, are finely balanced. From most colleges, COVID could not have chosen a worse part of

the financial year to happen. Just as cash is at a low point (a quirk of how tuition fee reconciliations work across the calendar) and colleges are relying upon Easter and then summer conference trade to replenish bank accounts, the tap is switched off. To make matters worse, the usual Trinity Term domestic income is also lost. An endowment offers no immediate help.

To put some numbers on this: in Hertford's case, by this time next year, we predict that we will have consumed around £5m more cash than we generate from day to day operations AND endowment income combined. That needs to come from somewhere.

In this respect we are lucky enough to have a range of options. While allocated in the long term for estates strategy purposes, we have access to relatively liquid funds from the proceeds of the Bond Placement (£20m) we arranged in 2017, as a temporary source of cash. We also have some element of expendable endowment and unrestricted funds invested in financial assets that have not suffered in value, and would thus not crystallise a loss if liquidated. Finally, we have arranged short term bank financing at very favourable rates, should we need it. This puts us in a relatively fortunate position, and provides a significant buffer against cashflow demands for the time being, and for some time ahead.

However, the loss is real, and by effectively reducing our free reserves has clear consequences for our ability to fund all that we would wish. Most immediately, we have scaled back our capital projects to only the priority investments. We are continuing with the initial planning phases for both the Library and Winchester Road projects, as well as some of the more critical remediation items. In some areas we have been able to revise our plans by postponing certain requirements to reduce the overall cost over the next few years. Other projects have been put on hold for now, pending a re-plan of our funding strategy.

In summary, although the financial impacts are significant, we have responded satisfactorily to the immediate challenges. We hope for a better financial outcome next year, but are reasonably positioned to deal with an extended period of downturn, should that be the case. Beyond this, we need to adjust and revise our plans and ambitions for investment, and consider our funding options carefully. By next year's report, I hope to be able to share details of how we have done that.

Taking the helm in turbulent times



By Frances Wheare, Director of Development

I joined Hertford halfway through what has turned out to be an extraordinary academic year, taking over from Julia Thaxton. Over the last six years, under Julia's leadership, Hertford's Development office became a force to be reckoned with: donations have risen, engagement has flourished, and Julia has brought together a fantastic team. I arrived at the Lodge on my first day with no small amount of trepidation, considering what big shoes I had to fill, but excited and ready to get stuck in.

We all know what happened next. If there's one thing COVID-19 has taught us, it's that you can't predict the future, but you can prepare for it. The financial effects of COVID-19 will continue to be felt for some time but, as our Bursar writes, we are fortunate to be in a relatively resilient position for the foreseeable future.

This is thanks in no small part to the loyalty and generosity of our supporters. We know that with your continued support we will be in the best possible position to face whatever challenges may follow.

Indeed, the year had got off to a flying start with a generous donation from alumnus Nick Carn (1976) in support of the redevelopment of the Cattle Street site, in particular the library. Nick has also included a bequest to Hertford in his will. We are enormously grateful to Nick, who becomes our second Foundation Fellow, and to all those who have supported our capital works so far.

Having started my career in Oxford in the Department of Computer Science, I'm happy to see how generously our alumni and friends support both this subject and the areas it intersects with Philosophy. We are grateful for the continued support of the Finistere Charitable Foundation for Peter Millican's outreach work, including the BEBRAS and Turtle projects. We are also delighted to announce that the law firm Clifford Chance has funded Hertford's second Philosophy Fellow, Carissa Véliz, who specialises in AI and Ethics, as well as supporting outreach activity and undergraduate bursaries.

Outreach, access and student support have always been at the heart of everything we do, and we're grateful to everyone who supports this work. I'd particularly like to highlight the Drapers' Company – who, at 20 years and counting, are amongst Hertford's longest standing donors – for continuing their support of graduate scholarships. You can read about the experiences of a Drapers' Scholar on lockdown on our dedicated Donor Report website.

One regret in joining Hertford when I did is that I had just six months working with Will Hutton (of which five have been conducted through a computer screen). The respect and high regard in which Will is held by the Hertford community has been wonderful to see, and I have been told on many occasions that his leadership is the reason for alumni involvement. Elsewhere in this publication, Will has expressed his intention to leave a legacy to the college, and I'm delighted that his relationship with Hertford will continue as a member of the Warnock Society.

Will is going to be greatly missed, not just in Hertford but across the Oxford community. However, we are excited to have welcomed Tom Fletcher as our new Principal. I know how much he is looking forward to getting to know our alumni and friends, and leading Hertford into a new era.

Lockdown notwithstanding, life at Hertford carried on, albeit with some significant modifications. We all quickly adapted to much-mentioned 'new normal' of online living. Zoom has become the indispensable sixth member of our team, and during the past six months we have held eight online events; from the first virtual John Donne lecture to a Philosophy reunion evening hosted by Peter Millican, with webinars by four of our Fellows addressing different areas of the current crisis. At the time of writing we are planning a series of online events for Michaelmas Term and beyond, so do let us know if you have any suggestions.

In his farewell webinar, Will Hutton said that the thing he would miss most about Hertford was the camaraderie. We've tried to maintain that sense of community in an age of social distancing, and we hope you've enjoyed what we've been doing. That said, it hasn't escaped our notice that much of our communications recently have been somewhat one sided, and that's why our telethon this year will be slightly different, with an emphasis on hearing your views on our plans for the future. We'd love to hear from you though so don't wait for a phone call – you can find our contact details, as well as our social media channels, within this publication.

I often think about what would be dominating the headlines this year if it weren't for COVID-19. Climate change, surely, would have greater prominence. I know that this is an issue many of you care deeply about, and we are committed to doing everything in our power to reduce our footprint. As a first step you may have noticed that our publications are now being sent to you in compostable wraps, printed on FSC-certified paper. We will also work with the catering team to ensure that when we are able to hold events again, our menus will be sustainably and ethically sourced, and our Estates Strategy will continue to follow sustainability standards.

“

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Had it not been for COVID-19 you would doubtless be reading a very different piece by now, sharing plans for the new Graduate Centre in Winchester Road and the Library renovation project. We are fortunate that these two projects have been funded until planning permission is submitted, and our intention is to proceed. As Will reflects earlier in this magazine, Hertford continues to improve its standing in the Norrington table, and we are one of the leaders in outreach and improving the diversity of our student body. Our estates strategy means that our buildings will match and facilitate our ambitions, providing an environment for our students to thrive.

Last year, in these pages, Julia asked the question, 'What next?' In an increasingly uncertain world, with the threat of second waves, further lockdowns and recession looming over us, this becomes a difficult question to answer. What I can say is that, although Hertford must, and will, adapt to the realities of a post-COVID world, our essence and our core values must, and will, remain the same. We will continue to prioritise accessibility and inclusivity, providing a welcoming environment for our students to thrive, regardless of background and circumstance. And we will continue to invest in everything that makes an Oxford, and Hertford, education so special, from the quality of teaching and resources to our infrastructure and surroundings – not forgetting our countless societies and groups.

We are enormously grateful to every single one of you for your ongoing support. From the smallest gift to the largest, every single donation helps – and I look forward to thanking you in person one day.

As Will reflects earlier in this magazine, Hertford continues to improve its standing in the Norrington table, and we are one of the leaders in outreach and improving the diversity of our student body.

Warnock Society

1944

Anonymous
Richard Lloyd

1945

Anonymous
Tim Eccles

1947

Peter Nicholls

1951

George Jupe
Michael Port

1952

Michael Harris
David Henderson
Philip Hobson
Patrick Jeffers
Francis Scott
Tim Strevens

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
Mark Drake

1957

Anonymous
Peter Loveday
Gerald Paterson
Ronald Pattinson
Judy & Peter
Whiteman

1958

Rodney Chambers
Timothy Lawrence

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

Anonymous
Tony Champion
Tim Cornish
Geoffrey Dobson
Graham Jones

1965

John Crook
Mike Henderson
Stephen Potel

1966

Peter Hollins

1967

Anonymous
Philip Chapman
Brian Fortnum
Edwin Gale
Victor Rayward-Smith
Ian Reid
Phillip Runchman
Robin Selby
Mike Wyatt

1968

John Dewar

1969

Anonymous
Colin Berry
Alex Bristow
Simon Webb

1970

Walter Bodmer
Andrew Binks
Neil Swindells
John Wells

1971

Alan Barlow
Roderic Mitchell
Graeme Marshall
David Worskett

1972

Anonymous
Peter Dart
Lindsay Forbes
Tom Hutton

1973

Mellor Hennessy
George Patton
John Salmon

1974

Stephen Taylor

1975

John Asquith
Robert Lusardi

1976

David Brennan
Bill Jamieson
Stephen Massey
Paul Rose

1977

Amanda Benton
Edward Fisher
Nicholas Haag
Keith Lyall

1978

David Budd
Paul Chaston
Rose Jackson
Adam Johnson
Malcolm Wood

1979

Peter Beckford
Gary Collins
Elizabeth McManus

1980

Anonymous
Jonathan Searle
Sheila Sharp
Duncan Stone

1981

Sukhvinder Kaur-Stubbs
Lorne Whiteway

1982

Isobel Collyer
Jacquie Glomski
Markus Jaigirder
Stewart Kennedy

1983

Anonymous
Ian Whitmore

1985

DB Lenck

1986

Martin Dunsby

1987

Peter Aeberli
Jonathan Sharp

1988

Phil Smith

1989

Pete Houston
Ian Whittaker

1992

Nancy O'Brien
Stuart

1995

Matthew Briers

1996

Jo Briers

1997

Hermione Ruck
Keene

2003

Jessica Tooby

2004

Andrew Voysey

2007

Dan Millichip

Other

Barry Ryan
Angelina Gibson
Will Hutton
Ann McAfee
Philip Pentney
Tim Fletcher

We are grateful to all alumni and friends who chose to support Hertford with a gift in their will.

With our thanks

Donors by Matriculation

1940

John Oram †

1945

Tim Eccles
Keith Haywood †

1948

Michael Fish
Norman Perrin

1950

Peter Coulson
Colin Curley
Robert Graham
Peter Harkness
Christian Stover

1951

Dennis Bonney
Edward Greenwood
Ed Pomeroy
George Jupe
Michael Port

1952

Michael Harris
Patrick Jeffers
Denis Price
Allan Scott

1953

John Crowhurst
Mike Essex

1954

Thomas Charlesworth
Richard Christophers
Alan Fraser †
Michael Kirby
David Loewe
John McLaughlin

1955

John Wroughton

1956

Robin Carey
Gordon Davy
Mark Drake
Alan Freeman

1957

Simon Frazer
John Jordan
Ronald Pattinson

1958

Ian Barnett
John Beck
Michael Brignall
Rodney Chambers
Richard Copley
John Fry
Ian Gunn
Richard Hartley
Philip Myerscough
Charles Phythian-Adams
Andrew Stubbs †
Tom Wansbrough †
Brian Wilson

1959

Robin Cocks
Charles Gibson
Brian Glover
David Grant
Jeffrey Preston
Hugh Sturzaker
Roger Trafford
Richard Willcock
Colin Wright

1960

David Baker
Iain Cheyne
Martin Davies
Rex Goad
Peter Johansen
Geoff Martin
Nick McCave
Peter Poulter
Clive Prior
Michael Ross
Mike St John
Roger Westbrook

1961

Anonymous
Alan Bowers
Christopher Craig
Ian Crichton
Andrew Cunningham
Andrew Davies
Malcolm Duce
Jonathan Fletcher
Martin Friend
Gary Gauss
John Guyatt
Ted Laing
David Mander

Eric Martin
Anthony Quigley
Peter Sabine
Keith Sheather
Clive Williams

1962

Robert Bearman
David Catrall
John Doble
Alan Fearnley
David Gallifant
Michael Knee
Ian Michael
Richard Scott
Peter Stokes
Warwick Wilson

1963

Clive Eiles
Christopher Fance
Leo Horton
John Leigh
Christopher Mockler
Richard Partridge
Chris Plunkett
Ray Proctor
Patrick Walsh-Atkins
Derek Winstanley
Julian Whitehead

1964

Mike Brumage
Tony Champion
Jim Copper
Peter Edwards
Julian Hay
David Holton
Graham Jones
Tony Mitcheson
Chris Morton
Adrian Oldknow
Mike Paul
Roger Sherman
George Spencer

1965

Andrew Blake
David Cornwell
Jeremy Dawkins
Ivor Fiennes
Richard Groom
Mike Henderson
Alan Hinchcliffe
Graham Johnson

Nick Keith
Rodney Nelson-Jones
Anthony Swing

1966

Steve Greenwald
Peter Hollins
Howard Johnson
David Levy
Bob Morrow
Mick North
Chris Osland
Rupert Perry
David Walker

1967

Robin Bynoe
Philip Chapman
David Clark
Edwin Gale
Richard Harington
Raymond Leonard
Christopher Morle
Robin Selby

1968

Anonymous
Lindsay Bashford
Peter Bingham
Meredith Childerstone
John Clark
Ken France
Robert Peel
Richard Ward
William Webster

1969

Paul Aynsley
Jonathan Bynoe
Alan Gelb
Neil Kinghan
Ken Patterson
Tom Robinson
David Tester
Nigel Wilkes

1970

Brian Belchers
Walter Bodmer
Colin Bradley
Chris Dowell
Tom Greenshields
Nigel Henson
Chris Humphries
Barry Levy
Henry MacDonald

Paul Manduca
Donald McCready †
James Scrymgeour-Wedderburn
Neil Swindells
John Wells

1971

Anonymous
David Arscott
Kevin Bounds
Crispian Cartwright
Peter Crowley
Jonathan Davies
Peter Friend
Anthony Jones
Peter Lane
Graeme Marshall
Philip Masson
Graham Rogers
Alan Sandall
Tony Smith
Jonathan Swallow †
Joe Szurszewski
Mike Waller
David Worskett

1972

Bulent Atalay
Simon Attwood
John Burrows
Richard Fisher
Lindsay Forbes
Tom Hutton
Peter Ireland
Stephen Jukes
John Landers
Bernard Murphy
David Newman
Pete Owen
Christopher Smale
Jeremy Stevens

1973

Jon Billowes
Phil Davies
George Drinka
Mike Frederick
Stephen Gill
Bob Grant
Steven Jones
Paul Masters
Peter Newman
Stephen Pratt
Mark Szymanski
Mark Teversham
Mark White

1974

Alice & Rob Barrigan
Paul Batho
David Harrison
John Johnson
Stephen Kinsey
Antony Longworth
Anne McGlashan

Robert Norton
Pat Rhodes
Martin Spencer
Kate Stross
Stephen Taylor
Boris Tyzuk
Tim Wheeler

1975

Rosalind & Mark Atkins
Paul Hughes
Robert Lusardi
John Mason
Dave McCabe
Stuart McLaren
John Needham
Michael Ratcliff
Paul Simpson
Kirk Tellwright
Sarah Walker
Richard Watts
Kevin Wesbroom
Kenneth White

1976

Robin Arthur
Anthony Bailey
Jane Bird
Nick Carn
Nicholas Fishwick
Jon Fitton
John Hughes
Colin Hughes
Barry Lester
Janet McCourt
Martin Milnes
Peter Norman
Alan Radford
Neil Simister
Julian Worth

1977

Hilary Allison
Tessa Bamford
Amanda Benton
Henrietta Ewart
Edward Fisher
Jenny Hopper
Robert Mellors
Sheila Niven
Nick O'Brien
Richard Quinn
Robert Taylor
Adam Williams

1978

Jenifer Batten
Duncan Brack
Xanthe Brooke
Naomi & Michael Clarke
Angela Fane
Sarah Gooden
Trevor Hicks
Ed Hundert
Adam Johnson
Ian Jones

Michael Joynson
Simon Kirby
Peter Manning
Dix Roberts
Fiona Robertson
Peter Whatley
Michael Wheeler

1979

Anonymous
Francesca Barrow
Bridget Calvert
David Cooke
Philip Dutton
Sarah Hewitt
Meryl James
Oliver O'Toole
Debbie Sarjant
Mary Wood

1980

Grace Belfiore
Stephen Bell
Eric Beste
Rachel Blissett
Alastair Blundell
Andrew Callard
Emilio Cattaneo
John Clark
Roger Edbrooke
Ed Farquharson
Christopher Godfrey
Julie Hazell
Chris Hornby
Julian Kiely
David Knight
Simone Lobo
Fiona Macaulay
Garrett Nagle
Andy Tighe
Basil Zotiades

1981

Anonymous
Lis Bellamy
Julia Brookes
David Eatough
Ian Gatt
Mark Glover
Guy Leaf
Penny Neu
John Nixon
Amanda Rumming
Kath Shailer
Jacqui Smith
Ian Valentine
Gerry Wait
Jeremy White

1982

Michael Adamson
Frank & Wendy Ashcroft
Robin Ashworth
Monica Buckley
Yolande Chan
Colin Cook

Lewis Findlay
Fran Gunning
Eleanor Hellier
Markus Jaigirder
Tom Jensen
Mossy Kennedy
Andrew Leonard
Phil Martin
Anna Morgan
Michael Nicholls
Salman Ullah

1983

Gilbert Benz
Malcolm Dowden
Mike Fordham
Nick Foulkes
Paul Meader
Vicky Pollitt
Simon Pride
Gabrielle Remedios
Mike Shiels
Martin Talbot
Stephen Tickell
Heather Walton
Ian Whitmore

1984

Elizabeth Akka
Paul & Elaine Fiddaman
Barbara McGowan
Timothy Monelle
John Newman
Vicky Rietkerk
Deborah Shears
Julian Stander
Fiona Yates

1985

Anonymous
Chris Barber
Marian Berkowitz
Chris Birkle
Cicely Brown
Douglas Busvine
Paul Gleeson
Shahriar Khan
Martin Lipton
Simon Mason
Huw Peach
Cindy Von Kaufmann
Sarah Wells
Joanne Wicks
Jock Wills
James Wilson

1986

Anonymous
Sarah Barwood
Martin Dunsby
Philip Jones
Jonathan Park
Rob Pritchard
Nick Rollason
John Schilizzi
Don Ting

Peter Wiley

1987

Anonymous
Peter Aeberli
Harvey Dobbs
Andrew Dodd
Philippa Goodwin
Ailsa Holland
John Jardine
Guy Mason
Joseph Stokoe
Karen Thompson
Ian Thompson
Judith Toms
Tooba Zaidi

1988

Anonymous
Anonymous
Ruth Boardman
Sheila Chapman
Roanna Doe
Michael Doyle
Gareth Dunn
Chris Harris
Robert Jones
Robert Keys
John Millar
Steven Ngo
Vernee Samuel
Alison Stevens

1989

Richard Butterwick-
Pawlikowski
William Hancock
Andrew Lee
Iain Lownes
Emily Muffett
Eklavya Sareen
Mark Warren
Ian & Leslye
Whittaker

1990

Anonymous
Matthew Bailey
Colin Black
Tom Brody
Charlotte Elston
Joanna Forbes
L'Estrange
Clare Forsyth
Rachel Gauke
Chi Man
Isabelle Mast
Carol Pearson
David Shelton
Daren Wake
Richard Wilkinson
Andrew Yorke

1991

Jeremy Goodwin
Roland Harris
Judith Hudson

Hsin Loke
Richard Millns
Roderich Moessner
Charlotte Morgan
Heather Newton
Tim Polli
Stephen Reid
Katherine
Rouendaal
Britta Von Lewinski
Gareth Williams
Jayne Woodside
Alice Yew

1992

Paula Clarke
Margaret Gray
Eric Hayman
Thomas Heath
Michael Hunter
James Hylins
Vickie Kottler
Sarah Ryan
Joanna Willmott

1993

David Head
Andrew Hull
Scott Loftus-Reid
Aaron Punwani
Emily Rayfield
Pauline Robson
Natasha Standen
Pip Wilson

1994

Natasha Ashdown
Amanda Berlan
Eleanor Blair
Jennifer Calver
Helen Campbell
Greg Davidson-
Shrine
Ed Ethelston
Daniel Harvey
Sarah Hemsley
Janet Henderson
Jo Hewitt
Elizabeth Hibbert
Graham Hinde
Richard Hogwood
Andrew Huddleston
Nick Jefferson
Edmund Jolliffe
Nicola Kohn
Katherine Lucarotti
Alex New
David Nicholls
Catherine O'Hare
Emma Plunkett
Rahul Rao
Louisa Reid
Guy Reid
Gillian Roll
Sandip Sengupta
Sam Tomlinson
Rachel Turner

Chris Vann
David Vince
Ken Yap

1995

Calvin Cheng
Emma Cremin
Harry Dunlop
Paul Jessop
Michaela Lowrie
Catherine Martin
Matthew
Middleweek
David Parish
Barney Stueck
David Tunley
Victoria Walton

1996

Paul Armitt
Lisa Bate
Oliver Bullough
Katharine Byers
Alistair Feeney
Adam Gross
David Ingham
Mateusz Lasik
Colin Leckey
Matthew Mellor
James Redfern

1997

Alistair Allen
Marianne Butler
Charlotte Buxton
Duncan Chisholm
David Daker
Aidan Liddle
Helen Manley
Chantal Taylor
Rachel Williamson
George Woods

1998

Anonymous
Charlie Apps
Tom Bashford
Melissa Ellis
Tom Elliston
Rory Galloway
Marina Hamilton-
Baillie
Kitty Hung
Chris Meier
Richard Paterson
Louise Peckett
Alex Preston
Amy Reyniers
Donald Stark
Catherine Travers
Nina Winter
Helen
Wolstenholme

1999

Anonymous
Tim Boswell

Jude Bunting
Guy Clark
Nick Collins
David Doan
Sharat Dua
Helen Hardman
Glyn Kennington
Robin Norton-Hale
Kate & Malcolm
Parks
Bao Pham
Ashan
Ramakrishnan
Simon Ramsden
Sam Roake
Ben Steele
Ruth Tarrant

2000

Stephan Bockett
Kelly Hagedorn
Ben Joyce
Victoria Laurie
Michael Newbold

2001

Anonymous
Mussayab Abbas
Fiona Coady
David Dierksheide
James Fisher
James Grigg
Christopher Jones
Jan Lasik
Huw Lloyd
Will Lynn
Marsha Ma
Robert Pace
Simon Pritchard
Philip Smelt

2002

Vicky Arnold
Callum Bailey
James Gilbert
Chris Godwin
Scott Johnston
Mike Loydon
Samuel Peacock
Bridget Phillipson
Amy Savage
Rachel Sharples
Jonas Vibell
Tristan Walker

2003

Judith Cohen
Rhiannon Guibert
Antonia Halker
Joseph Jones
Alexander Le
Anne-Sophie
Leonhardt
Morag Taylor
Jessica Tooby
John Whitworth

2004

Rebecca Cooper
Bethany Ehlmann
Edward Lamb
John Marnham
Viral Mehta
Daniel Okusaga
Abigail & Peter Orr
Laura Pettit
Russ Taylor
Andrew Voysey

2005

Eleanor Bull
Emma Gerald
Alexander Gilkes
Lisa Inledon
Emma Jones
Pierce Louis
Thomas Lowe
Thomas Nunn
Yvonne Ow
Tom Roberts
Phillip Robinson-
Moore
Holly Rouse-
Sweeney
Adam Samoon
Poppy Street
Kelsey Traher
Katharine Tuohy
Elizabeth Weinfield
Eric Wilkins

2006

Tosin Awoyinka
Dan Cariad
Dewan Chowdhury
Jesse Freedman
Alok Gupta
Joanna Hemmings
Eve Jackson
Swapandeep Mann
Isti Nadas
Alex Simons
Katie Traxton
Alex Van Besouw
Alexander
Woodham
William Wu

2007

Matthew Barrett
Fiona Butterfield
Simon Coppack
David Edelman
Ella Fry
Holly Foster
James Golden

Sarah Harvey
Dorothea Hill
Rohan Kandasamy
Sungmin Kim
Luke MacLeod
Emily Richey
Michelle Sahai
Alex Woolgar

2008

Anonymous
Jeremy Boon
Nicholas Buchanan
Simon Gage
Sharon Hubmann
Charles Janeway
Sarah Kelly
Ling Lu
Anna Pietrowski
Nicholas Smith
Alice Thornton

2009

Laila Dowse
Lauren Eyland
Dominic Farrell
Nikolina Ionova
Natalie McDaid
Dan Parker
Joanna Raisbeck
Adam Rheinberg
Markus Salonen
Earth Sivakul
Rachelle Tilly
Adam Tyndall
Jonathan Ward
Richard Winslett

2010

Yiyang Bao
Lizzy Fitzgerald
James & Carol
Holley
Matthew Jones
Katy Kiernan
Sarah McKinnon
Tajinder Sandhu
Andrew Turner

2011

Kiran Barhey
Aneasha Chauhan
Alethia Kang
Adam Knight
Eva Miller
Louise Murgatroyd
Rhys Owens

2012

John Alekna
Joy Aston
Brian Balchin
Helen Carswell
Frederick Harris
Justin Hubbard
Rachel Hunter
Tomos Rees

2013

Eric Clement
Jessica Rush
Anna Solomkina
Richard Tanburn
Daniel Valentine

2014

Francis Chmiel
Calla Glavin
Annie Taylor
Jacob Vivian
Khai Yen

2015

Andrew Boczek
Martin Gellermann
Nathalie Mylog
Peter Norgaard

2016

Scott Reu
Rebecca Stephens

2017

Nathan Appanna
Josephine Bellman
India Cosgrove
Jacob Kalnins-
Holtom
Lauren Keiller
Harriet Thomas

2018

Alison Carrington
Alexander Diwan
Lizzy Skells
Olivia Stakem
Susannah Webster

Friends of Hertford

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Americans for
Oxford
AT&T
Gaenor Bagley
Carissa Bardsley
Adrian Beecroft
Timothy Bellman
Chris & Louise
Bracebridge
Brewin Dolphin &
Co Ltd
Robert Brown
Jenna Christiansen
Clifford Chance LLP
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Caroline Glackin
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Ryan Grimes
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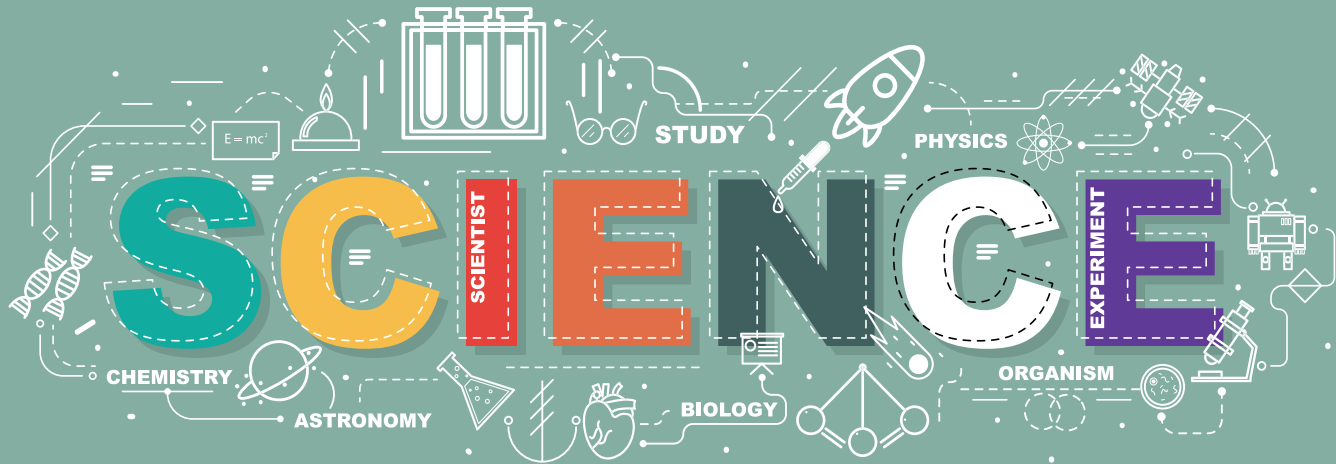
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UNSUNG HEROES OF



A place for

breaking down barriers

Uncovering Unsung Heroes of Science

By Dr Kathryn Boast, STEM Outreach Officer



Read more about the
Unsung Heroes of Science
competition online

Who has history forgotten? Whose story has been left out of the textbooks? Whose work gets overlooked? Now, more than ever, these questions feel relevant. From climate activism to the Black Lives Matter movement and calls to decolonise the curriculum, young people are taking matters they care about into their own hands. In its second year, our 'Unsung Heroes of Science' competition received a record 56 submissions, testament to the motivation of our competitors to share and celebrate those people who have hitherto been excluded from conversations and history books.

The video competition – unique among Oxford colleges – challenges teenagers to uncover the story of a scientist who deserves to be better known by creating a two-minute video about them. With lockdowns and school closures creating an unprecedented environment, for the first time this year we opened up the competition to young people

from around the world, to create a video on their own or in teams of up to three. The entries flooded in, with videos created by students living as locally as Oxford and as far away as New Zealand!

Selecting this year's winners was once again the unenviable job of Prof. Alison Woollard, a Fellow in Biochemistry here at Hertford and Oxford University's Academic Champion for Public Engagement with Research. The top prize for 2020 is to spend time behind-the-scenes at the BBC with Hertford College alum Fiona Bruce, although this will of course have to wait until some of the current pandemic restrictions are lifted!

First place was awarded to an incisive exploration of the work of Howard Florey and Ernst Chain, who turned Alexander Fleming's discovery of penicillin into a drug that could be mass produced, saving millions of lives during the Second World War. Second and

third prize went respectively to videos on fashion designer-turned-researcher and sustainability champion Suzanne Lee and pharmacologist and Nobel Prize winner Gertrude Elion. The International Award was won by a student from Bangalore who created a brilliantly witty video about Brahmagupta, an Indian mathematician who in the 6th century invented the concept of zero. One team who created a highly commended video on Dr Narinder Singh Kapany, the "father of fibre optics", reached out to their Unsung Hero and were delighted to receive a reply congratulating them on their achievement.



Hertford
College



A place for

warm welcomes

Hertford's New Lodge

By Dave Haxell, Head Porter



Have a look at the lodge transformation online

People often ask you where you were when significant events happened in history. I remember the assassination of JFK: I was playing with a friend in the house when my mother told me, and I remember her being upset. Elvis seemed less important (I was in Melbourne at the time). I remember when the Berlin Wall took a tumble – I was off the coast of Spitzbergen at the time (don't ask) – and I thought we would embark on a new safer and happier world; that was a good one.

Now the question will be where you were when the new Lodge was constructed, refitted, updated and recycled. Our old wonky, split level Lodge with the wonderful hidden step designed to trip up the unwary was replaced by the Collegiate equivalent of the Star Ship Enterprise. Our one screen CCTV from which we ruled the world has now been upgraded into a vast reality wall, and a whole empire that was once hidden to our eyes has now opened up as surely and as brightly as a sunrise over the Serengeti. Mind you, I have yet to see any Wildebeest in

Holywell Quad – and that statement should not be taken as a challenge for any returning alumni, si vous plait.

Up to date computers – 3 in total (yes I know!) – now mean that we can keep abreast electronically with all aspects of college life and, of course, we can still ignore the emails just as well as we could on the old steam driven 'puters. The office upstairs in what was rather quaintly described as the mezzanine level has been replaced by high ceilings, meaning that we can gaze heavenwards in wonderment and excitement just like the cathedral at Amiens.

However, the Buttery, which for those of you without a college map in your head lies approximately due north of the Lodge, has been commandeered and has now become my office. On more restful days I can gaze across Catte Street and into the windows of the Bod. It is here that we feed our psychopathic cat Simpkin when he is not attacking students or tourists (two legs good, four legs better, cheers

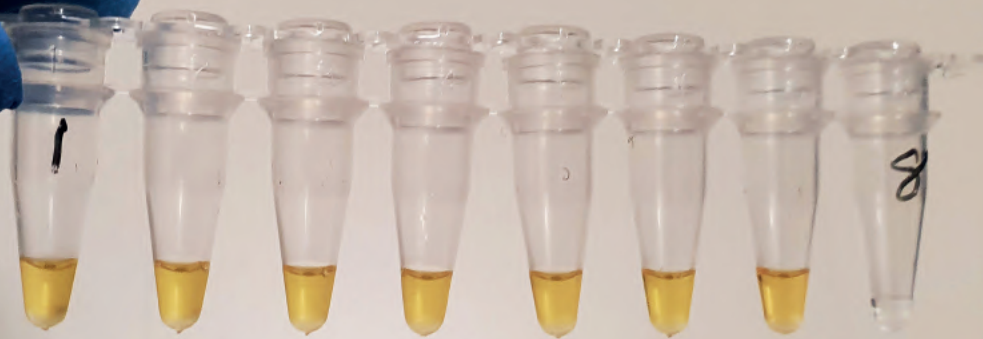
George) and make our sustaining brews of builders' tea and coffee.

My grandmother once had a little barometer apparatus which looked like a Bavarian log cabin. It came with two doors in which little figurines, appropriately dressed in traditional alpine costumes, popped out of either the left or right doors to forecast rain or sun. Well, hold onto your lederhosen folks because we now have two doors into the Lodge! I can't say it's much of a weather barometer; more of a temper gauge: if one Porter emerges from a door it may mean a minor misdemeanour has occurred within the quad, but if two porters emerge from both doors at the same time then my word, look out! Someone has committed a felony of great magnitude!

So, here we are in a space age Lodge, lost in a very strange chapter of life with no students, staff or Fellows needing our services or comments (requested or otherwise) but rest assured your alma mater is in good hands.



Hertford
College



A place for

vital research

COVID-19 Rapid Testing Research

By Professor Zhanfeng Cui, Professorial Fellow in Engineering



Read more about the
COVID response online

Professor Zhanfeng Cui and Professor Wei Huang (synthetic biology), their students and researchers from OSCAR created a team with a strong engineering and design background to help combat the pandemic. They volunteered their time on top of routine work commitments and focused their efforts on fast, accurate and portable test kits. Lab work began in late January, and a working prototype was created less than 3 months. When the UK entered lockdown in March, the group received special dispensation to continue research in the now empty labs.

The gold standard PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test requires specialist training, equipment and materials. Tests are therefore limited to designated testing facilities and can only be performed by trained personnel. Global demand for reagents has led to unprecedented shortages. Together, these factors contribute to the relatively slow and low levels of testing that have been reported. Instead, the Oxford test uses specific primers

and RT-LAMP (reverse transcription loop-mediated amplification) technology to amplify tiny amounts of viral RNA and RNA fragments – as few as 10-20 copies – to confirm presence of the COVID-19 virus from patient samples. RT-LAMP only requires a single heat treatment step, in place of the multiple cycles required for PCR, enabling much quicker results. This ‘one pot’ test can give results just 30-45 minutes after adding the sample, making it over three times faster than current methods.

The results are easy to read: a simple colour change from pink to yellow indicates presence of the virus. This type of test detects whether a person is currently infected and infectious. Importantly, it is also capable of detecting asymptomatic carriers and so is a useful tool as the UK and other countries continue to relax lockdown.

During the early stages of the outbreak, the prototype tests were validated using patient

samples from Shenzhen Luohu People's Hospital in China. As patient numbers rose in the UK, the refined test kit was rigorously validated with clinical trials at hospitals including the John Radcliffe in Oxford. Speed has been crucial in the response to the pandemic – for testing, lockdown and initiating a response. Having the team located in China and the UK allowed a coordinated, rapid response to begin research before the threat of COVID-19 hit the UK. As a result, the team was able to develop the test kit in only three months. In June, Prof. Cui and Prof. Huang's group, with colleagues from Oxford University Innovations (OUI) celebrated two further milestones: CE mark certification and launch of a social enterprise spinout, Oxسد Ltd. The CE mark enables the test to launch commercially. Priced at around £20 per kit, it is hoped the tests (Oxسد RaVid Direct) will become widely available and will be a useful tool for informing safe quarantine procedures.



Hertford
College



A place for

students to flourish

The student experience

By Fenella Sentance (English, 2017)



Hear from some other
Hertford Bursary
recipients online

If I ask myself honestly what I appreciated most from my bursaries, the answer is maybe much more unromantic, and a lot more pragmatic – Oxford has too many problems to still be let off the hook as just charming. Having free money in my bank account made my life easier as a Hertford student, and it helped me to enjoy the late-night essay drives of studying English, often with the help of the corner-shop on Holywell Street, run by a very kind woman, who often let me have stuff for free when I forgot my bank card (equally, much money was spent there). Support made studying at Hertford better, and it changed my life to get to come here.

It was a big surprise to discover just how good education and life could actually be, and to have a new sense of my own abilities spring up around me when I arrived at Oxford (quite miserable, and looking for something new). Probably unlike most Oxford colleges that

you might wander around or visit on the sunny Oxford open days, Hertford is truly unique and so lovely (arguably the best college you can find in the city) – it places empathy at its core, and is beautifully committed to its own gentle mythology and quiet history of activism, justice, and immigration – from Alain Locke to Neil Tanner.

It is a place we all get to call home, and which values the differences that we share: a giving, reciprocal, and codependent community of equally cared for hard-workers. Bursaries are a crucial part of achieving that, because they help the students to function at their best. More than anything, it was just a convenient gift to have all of that much-needed money be effortlessly deposited into my already mostly fine bank account for me by staff-members, and to be hoisted out of my overdraft each term (especially since I never even actually remembered to pay my bills on time, and was

always hassling the Bursary, each Michaelmas, forgetting whether you're supposed to pay online, or with the card machine...). It's safe to say that you're looked after at Hertford, and that it at least pays the students well as a college.

So, Hertford has it all, and gives everything it has. The best bits of Oxford, without the stuffy parts. I've always felt that Hertford highlights the best of the University, and makes those aspects brighter, and stand up in bold. Hertford is a honey pot: we all give to it; it funds what deserves; and it equally apports itself to what it values – everyone, and every department. And, if Oxford's reputation has suffered in terms of how it treats and pays its students, staff and academics, at least Hertford can know it's high on the league tables that matter: access and outreach, in all of its forms. And also one of the only colleges that lets you sit on the grass in the front quad during Trinity.



Hertford
College



A place for

perfecting your stroke

Hertford College Boat Club

By Alison Carrington (Medicine, 2018) Boat Club President



Read more about the
Hertford College Boat
Club online

When the 2019/20 HCBC committee first met to discuss the upcoming year, no one could have predicted the period of turmoil that would ensue.

Our first challenge came with profuse rainfall throughout Michaelmas and Hilary terms which resulted in significantly reduced water time for all crews. Outings became few and far between but the challenges of teaching new members how to row alongside keeping crews competitive remained. Regrettably, this disruption resulted in the cancellation of Christchurch Regatta, Torpids and other regattas we had planned to compete in. Furthermore, government restrictions due to Covid-19 resulted in the remote delivery of Trinity Term and put a halt on club-based activities. Summer Eights was abandoned as the whole country went into lockdown.

Nevertheless, the passion and enthusiasm of members of the club has allowed us to continue to foster the growth of strong

squads. We took measures to adapt and optimise our training in these unusual circumstances, many of which would not have been available without generous alumni support. We found that coaching of all squads at the OUBC tank in Ilfley proved the next best alternative to outings, allowing us to continue to train novices and maintain the inclusivity of the club. Utilising this vital training resource would not have been possible without donations to the club. We have also used this period to review our equipment with the Men's blades being refurbished thanks to the support from HCBC alumni.

With all club-based training suspended in Trinity term, we embarked on the challenge of maintaining the health and wellbeing of our rowers remotely in preparation for the return of conventional training and competing. The women's side successfully participated in coached Zoom circuit training bi-weekly and are continuing training via video call in the vacation. Our ongoing Strava competition

for current members and alumni has seen athletes rack up impressive hours of cycling, running and more and looks to set us in good stead for when term resumes.

The challenges faced last year have highlighted the huge impact that alumni donations have on improving the quality of training and inclusivity in the club, such as running tank sessions for beginners in lieu of outings. We are proud that we can uphold the inclusionary ethos of college across the club, with subscriptions free for freshers and affordable for other members. We have seen unparalleled commitment from members this year, especially from beginners who can count the number of outings they did this year on one hand! Despite last year being rather anomalous, I am confident that the club will advance into next season with a competitive campaign for future regattas having learnt much from the obstacles encountered this year.



Hertford
College



A place for

lasting memories

Leaving a legacy

By Barry Ryan (*Global Business*, 2016)



Hear from other legators
on why they chose to give
on the website

The importance of higher education has never been more evident than in this time of pandemic, global economic disruption, political instability, and a general diminishment of trust in many core societal institutions. The research capacity of colleges and universities, the reliability of studies and information released by them, the continuity represented by such institutions in a time of crisis, all demonstrate how much we depend on the excellence – and integrity – of higher education. Beyond the immediate context, the future of this and successive generations will be built upon the education they receive from the finest colleges and universities. The fellows and alumni of such institutions have, and will continue to, powerfully impact the future of society.

Clearly, Hertford College is a perfect example of such a critically-important institution. Its long and distinguished history is impressive. Yet the future is never guaranteed – as the world and many corporations, governments, and even universities – have lately discovered.

A key means of fostering the longevity of outstanding educational institutions, however, is to plan and provide for long-term financial support. And one of the best ways to do this is through legacy giving by individuals who recognize the importance of the continuity of institutions such as Hertford College.

My own legacy commitment to Hertford arose from a long association with several remarkable individuals from the college, starting five hundred years ago (!) with William Tyndale. Tyndale's affiliation with the Hertford and Oxford of old led, ultimately, to the formation of the William Tyndale Society, which I serve as vice chair. In turn, that society has held a number of conferences and other events hosted by Hertford, since the 1990s. Thus, I came to know the college and its people.

Those relationships grew and I ended up leading a number of summer programs, housed at Hertford, from American universities where I have served. The relationship, and the appreciation I held for Hertford, only grew and grew.

If you are like me, you have been approached by numerous worthy institutions for financial support of various kinds. For me, the conviction that Hertford was a compelling recipient of a legacy gift was irresistible. The accomplishments of Hertford's fellows and alumni are made apparent every year and well-chronicled in college publications. Seeing what a difference Hertford College makes through each of them, continually renews my conviction that supporting the continuance of the college is a priority.

Being invited to become a member of Hertford College's Warnock Society, populated by similarly-minded people, has been a real highlight of my association with the college.



Hertford
College



A place for

academic curiosity

Graduate study

By Galina Alova (Geography and the Environment, 2018)



Learn about other
funded graduate
students online

I joined the Hertford graduate community in 2018, when I commenced my DPhil at the Oxford's Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment. In my doctoral studies, I focus on the energy sector, exploring how companies, including electric utilities, adapt to the global low-carbon transition, and apply quantitative research methods, in particular, machine learning-based techniques to address my research questions. One of my keen research interests lies in studying the decarbonisation of African economies, stemming from my time when I worked as an economic adviser to the Minister and Permanent Secretary of Industrialisation and Trade in Namibia, and led a work stream on greening resource-rich countries' extractive sectors at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. Although I had already built a successful career prior to my DPhil, I was keen to pursue my academic ambitions, contributing to the literature on the energy transition. I have therefore greatly appreciated the opportunity to study at Oxford

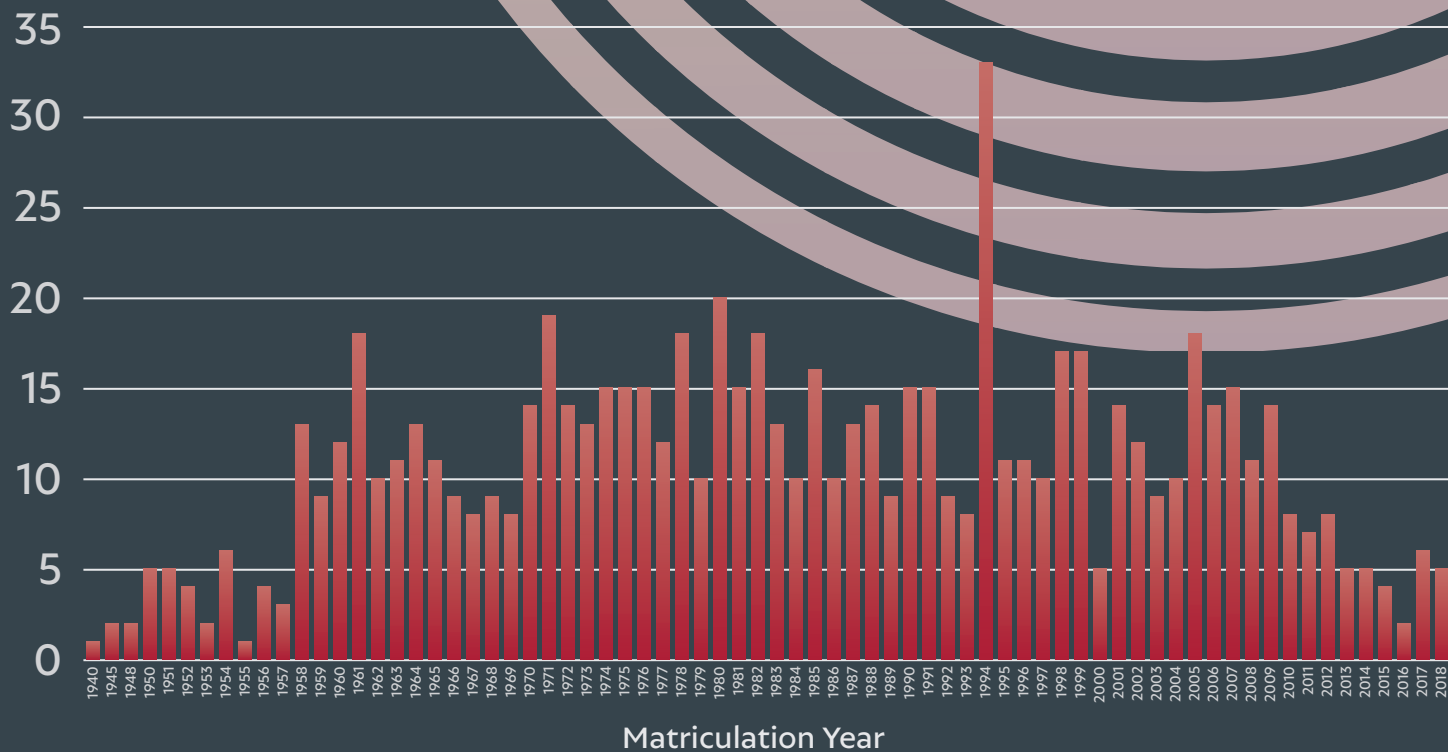
and Hertford. So far, my time here has been a joy. I got acceptance of my first paper at a top journal in my field, and am working on a number of forthcoming exciting projects that I believe can bring significant value to both the academic and practitioner communities.

Hertford has been an integral part of my positive experience at Oxford. I greatly value the funding I received from the UK Government and the University of Oxford to support my DPhil journey that has given me a privilege of research independence and freedom. This includes the 73 Scholarship from Mark Teversham and Peter Newman, two Hertford alumni, that has contributed to my college fees. Besides the financial support, it has offered an invaluable opportunity to connect to the donors who had studied at my department in the '70s and hear about their experience at the School of Geography, Hertford and Oxford in general. This personal touch to my funding has significantly enriched my experience at Oxford.

Moreover, I have cherished Hertford's open-minded community striving for equality and diversity. Oxford can seem at times a daunting and overpowering place, and therefore having a support network in a form of college is all-important. In my second year, I served as an academic officer of the MCR, being responsible for managing the liaison between the graduate community and the college. In this capacity, I learned about Hertford's ceaseless efforts to improve the academic experience for its existing students as well as to enable new deserving candidates to pursue their studies at Oxford. I also organised termly academic soirees, where graduate students from very different disciplines had a chance to present their research to their college friends in a safe and often non-expert, yet intellectually stimulating, environment. I have enjoyed immensely those pleasant engaging evenings at Hertford and received a lot of positive feedback from the MCR members. Such warm and welcoming events are at the heart of Hertford's life.

Facts and figures

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£187,803.06

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