Benefactors
This academic year we are celebrating the 40th anniversary since women were first admitted to St John’s. The programme of events has been interesting and thought-provoking and has put a clear focus on issues of diversity, equality and inclusion, not only in our day-to-day activities in College but also in our continuing efforts to attract the brightest and best to St John’s, irrespective of background.

The College – and the University overall – are making significant progress on access. You may be aware of the new Opportunity Oxford programme: students invited onto Opportunity Oxford are made the standard offer for their course and then take part in a supportive bridging programme in the run-up to their first term. The programme is designed to explore and develop high-level academic skills that will help students with their studies here. It also gives an insight into what life as an Oxford student will be like so, when participants arrive to start their degree course, they can feel confident and know exactly what is expected of them and what to expect from Oxford. In the 2019 admissions round we offered five ‘Opportunity Oxford’ places, with 116 offers being made across the University as a whole. In addition, 50% of the offers made by St John’s to UK candidates were made to disadvantaged students and 67% were made to UK state-school applicants.

We have also made great strides in outreach, opening up College to many students who may not otherwise have considered applying to Oxford. Our Inspire programme is truly innovative with a stimulating digital offering. Thanks to a very generous donation, we have now also launched a three-year Pre-GCSE programme, working with younger secondary students and collaborating closely with their schools, on a sustained and regular contact programme with a large group of students. There will be independent evaluation of the effectiveness of this programme and we are hopeful that we have a great model that can deliver a significant impact and that could be rolled out more widely.

It was excellent to celebrate the opening of the new Study Centre last October and a wonderful opportunity to thank the donors who helped make the project happen. We continue to invest substantially in the renovation of College buildings with work in 2020 on St Giles House, a redesign of the Lodge, and on the third and final phase of the Library project, including conservation improvements to the Old Library and Laudian Library and the restoration of the Paddy Room to its original configuration of five tutor rooms.

You can read more about the College’s overall aims and ambitions in the Strategic Plan (you’ll find it on the website). I am always interested to hear your views and ideas, so please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

I look forward to meeting many of you during 2020, whether here or abroad, at a Gaudy, a lecture or a party.

Thank you again for your support and your encouragement – it means a very great deal to all of us in College.

Professor Maggie Snowling CBE FBA FMedSci
President
A transformational gift to St John’s has enabled the College to establish a brand new extension to its already ambitious access programmes and our wonderful new Library and Study Centre is now up and running – both projects which are at the core of the College’s aspirations and both made possible through philanthropy.

These two areas are very obvious – the first made so by the ever-growing numbers of potential students from schools who visit the College each term and the latter by the very beautiful new building which already feels like a very natural part of St John’s – but gifts from alumni also help to fund our Fellowships, provide graduate scholarships to outstanding young men and women and, perhaps most importantly, help all of our undergraduates make the most of their time here, regardless of their personal finances.

St John’s was not amongst the first colleges to establish a Development Office but, in the past financial year alone, over a thousand alumni chose to make a gift to this College, supporting all of the areas I’ve mentioned – and more – and we are extremely grateful to every one of you. We also hope that more of you will make the same choice this year!

Achievements such as this are very much a team effort; I am grateful to a wonderful team for all that they do. Jacob Ward continues to be an extremely able deputy to me; Angharad Jones and Alexandra Lindqvist Jones do a marvellous job of running our events programme and welcoming alumni back to College. James Driscoll and Stephen Kinnaird keep the office running smoothly; this year we welcome Conor Jordan to St John’s, who will manage our regular giving programmes and is keen to meet our alumni too.

I have been given an extraordinary warm welcome by Fellows and non-academic staff here, but I would also like to say thank you to all the alumni I have met who have been equally welcoming. Your commitment to St John’s is very apparent in all that you do for the College; I very much look forward to meeting more of you in the year to come.

Robert Crow
Development Director

Your commitment to St John’s is very apparent in all that you do for the College; I very much look forward to meeting more of you in the year to come.
Your Gifts

Your gifts have a significant impact on every aspect of St John’s life. In the 2018–19 financial year your gifts, totalling £2,161,532, were directed to the following areas:

- **Access and Outreach**: 39%
- **Other**: 1%
- **Library and Study Centre**: 2%
- **Tutorial Posts**: 2%
- **Graduate Scholarships**: 25%
- **Wherever the need is greatest**: 14%
- **Academic Programmes**: 8%
- **Student Support**: 10%

*Image: pie chart showing the distribution of funds.*
Following extensive archival research and ethnographic fieldwork in Brazil, I wrote up a thesis entitled ‘Music in the Urban Amazon: A Historical Ethnography of the Manaus Opera House’. During my time in Manaus, I observed rehearsals and attended over 50 performances at the Teatro Amazonas. These performances ranged from opera to classical chamber music, popular regional music, indigenous Amazonian rituals, a Beatles tribute band, jazz, hip-hop, drama, and a Linkin Park tribute band. I also conducted interviews and spent a substantial amount of time on site with members of the Teatro’s permanent staff, having casual conversations and observing the opera house’s daily life.

The Lamb and Flag scholarship (alongside generous funding from the St John’s College Special Grant) allowed me to spend this invaluable research time in Brazil and to write up my findings. My thesis is the first substantial English-language study of the Teatro Amazonas. Besides presenting a significant amount of information about this little-known opera house, it also seeks to combat the tendency to reduce the Amazon region to a utilitarian function or resource. By examining the Teatro’s activities, past and present, it moves beyond an antagonistic discourse of conservation versus development, presenting a critical examination of music in the urban Amazon.

I have also gained substantial experience in disseminating research during my DPhil, presenting my work at a number of conferences. I was invited to give papers at conferences in Campinas, Brazil (in September 2018), and at the University of Cambridge (in June 2019). I also spoke at the Latin American Music Seminar, hosted at Senate House, UCL (in May 2019), and at the TOSC@ Paris 2019 opera studies conference. At the British Forum for Ethnomusicology, Aberdeen (in April 2019), I presented both a paper and a poster.

Alongside my doctorate, I have been lucky enough to work for St John’s College as co-organiser of a concert series called the World’s Music at Oxford. The series, which I founded with two other St John’s students in 2016, has now been running for four years. It blends research into global musics with live performance, and aims to provide a platform for voices and musical styles rarely heard in Oxford. By using music as a platform to cultivate diversity, the series responds to press reports scrutinising diversity at UK universities. It also engages with topical social issues; for example, we hosted a Windrush 70th anniversary round table and concert in July 2018. Moreover, the events foster dialogue between researchers, performers, and members of the public: performances often include lecture-recitals, discussion panels, and Q&A sessions. Recent concerts have featured Bengali folk music, reggae, flamenco, and Korean taegum music.

For more information on the series and photographs of past events, see: www.theworldsmusicatoxford.com
Our world has changed. The heartland of economic and urban development has been shifting towards places that are traditionally labelled ‘developing’. Cities coordinating the world’s economy have been increasingly challenged by those that have been perceived as inferior for a long time. Walls that divide cities along various manipulated lines (such as North/South) are no longer impermeable. Instead, urban comparisons across the walls are ever more possible. This possibility is inspiring. It allows our current urban theories to be applied, examined, and developed in different contexts. It encourages new urban knowledge to be generated elsewhere. It advances a more global urban agenda, a future where most learning is no longer one-way.

My current research fits into the changed world order, the renewed comparative stances, and the more global urban agenda. One focus of my research was comparing the age, gender, and educational structures of the workforce between Beijing and London. Using the census data, I have found that both cities have a young, male-dominated, and highly-educated workforce. Their comparable economic capabilities in attracting many young, ambitious, and well-educated newcomers have played a key role. Economically, globalisation has brought Beijing closer to London than ever before. But when it comes to changing institutional arrangements, Beijing acts much more slowly. The retirement age there has remained unchanged since the 1950s, and caregiving is still almost all shouldered by women.

These ‘stubborn’ local practices have given Beijing a slightly younger and more male-dominated workforce than London. A global–local dialect thus emerges, in which the global force pushes cities together and the local one intervenes in the process, a dialect that could be a useful analytical lens for a more global urban research. This comparison was published in Cities, and for the academic year 2018–19, I have had three of five peer-reviewed papers published.

Comparisons between Beijing and London can be carried out on a continual basis, and this is my research interest for the foreseeable future. Outside of academic work, I have also become more involved in many activities in the University, joining the Student Advisory Group and volunteering to give geography taster sessions to Year 11 pupils.
In the academic year 2018–19, 186 St John’s students were awarded Special Grants. 118 Undergraduate Students and 68 Graduate Students.

Asia

Asia was a popular destination for students – 26 students travelled to this continent, and their trips took them to 13 different destinations, including Borneo, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Singapore, Sri Lanka, central Turkey and Vietnam. St John’s students volunteered with charities teaching English, presented at conferences, and learned about the culture and history of the places they visited.

Australasia

7 students went to Australasia, including Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Australia, to meet with external supervisors, attend conferences and enrich their research.

N.B. The total number of grants awarded is less than the total number of student visits, as several students used their grant to visit more than one country.

In total, £44,958 in Special Grants was awarded.

Enriching the student experience with Special Grants

UK

In the UK, students attended conferences and competitions, made use of archives and libraries, and conducted research in Aberdeen, St Andrews, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Durham, Newcastle, Leeds, Manchester and London. An additional 15 students were able to stay in Oxford over the Long Vac, to participate in projects, organise conferences and complete research.

Europe

Europe was the most popular continent for students travelling with their Special Grant. 26 destinations were visited by 94 students: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, the Canary Islands, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey. They took part in a variety of conferences, completed intensive language courses, and visited sites of archaeological, historical and cultural importance.

North America

The most popular country visited by St John’s students was the USA, with 29 students travelling to present posters at conferences, visit US universities, they are considering for postgraduate study, and participate in technical sessions at international meetings. Canada and Cuba were also visited.

South America

3 students visited South America, 2 travelling to Brazil for conferences and 1 volunteering at a wildlife research centre in the Amazon rainforest in Bolivia.

Africa

5 students used their Special Grant to travel to Africa, visiting South Africa, Egypt, Mozambique and Zimbabwe to conduct research for their theses, volunteer at wildlife research centres and present posters and talks at conferences.
The site of Aeclanum is a perfect case study for a multi-method archaeological investigation because it is almost entirely untouched archaeologically and has never been built over. The site consists of a forum, theatre, bathhouse, macellum, residential area and an early Christian church. I requested to work in the house with the peristyle (a court or indoor garden surrounded by columns) because of my interest in domestic architecture: whilst in this area of the site I worked in two trenches. The late antique phase of the peristyle was unearthed by excavators in the 1950s, and the goal during the 2019 excavation was to look for evidence of previous phases of occupation and construction of the structure and to establish its developing relation to nearby buildings, particularly the nearly adjacent Christian basilica. I found my time during the trench incredibly interesting and educational as I developed the skills that I had been taught last year as well as learning new ones.

A small trench had been opened near the entrance to the house, but unfortunately, this trench was near completion at the start of my two weeks. As a consequence, the first two days in trench consisted of taking measurements and photos, documenting them, and then ensuring that everything had been completed to a high standard before closing the trench. Following this, a new trench was opened over a threshold that joined the peristyle courtyard with another room. This was the trench in which I worked for the rest of my time at Aeclanum. In each of the two trenches we opened, we had the satisfying experience of immediately finding evidence – a wealth of loose tesserae pointing to early Imperial or late Republican mosaic flooring in the first trench, and walls whose placement and construction techniques indicated a very different earlier design to the structure in the second.

In the afternoons I chose to dedicate the majority of my time to helping clean and sort any ceramic or bone that had been found. I particularly enjoyed sorting the ceramics, having studied some of the types of pottery we were finding in the ‘Roman Archaeology: Cities and Settlements of the Empire’ paper. It was interesting to be able to categorise the pottery into their types to understand more about the trade connections of Aeclanum. I found that the activities in the afternoons helped me appreciate the artefacts that we were finding in the trench. They also allowed me to learn more about what was happening in the other trenches, past and present. I loved my time at Aeclanum and found excavating to be a fulfilling job; it was nice to see the finds that we had discovered in the morning being washed and categorised in the afternoon, knowing that they helped to contribute to the wider investigation.

On the day we arrived in Rome we visited the Pantheon and Trevi Fountain before walking to the Forum of Trajan, Colosseum and Arch of Constantine. For our first full day in Rome we visited the Palazzo Massimo alle Terme and Capitoline Museum. It was incredible to be able to see the artefacts, frescoes, mosaics and sculpture that I have studied over the first two years of my degree. I particularly enjoyed seeing the ‘Garden Room’ fresco from the Villa of Livia and the Nemi Bronzes. On the final day we got the train out to Ostia Antica. It was amazing to be able to walk down the Roman streets and see the remains of two-storey buildings. My two favourite buildings were the Forum Baths and Capitolium, due to their impressive scale and level of preservation.

Jemma Moorhouse (BA Classical Archaeology & Ancient History, 2017)

My time in Italy was full of memorable experiences which I will forever cherish and use in relation to my degree. It was incredibly special to work on an excavation for two weeks and visit the archaeological remains that I have studied for the past year and will continue to study, especially alongside my fellow coursemates with whom I could share my passion for the Roman world. All of this was thanks to the St John’s Special Grant.
Hibernating Bears in Alaska

Yi-Ge Huang (DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics, 2018)

I am very grateful to St John’s College for being awarded a Special Grant to travel to Alaska to observe and learn about hibernating animals in their natural habitat. Alaska has vast and diverse subarctic and arctic regions. I chose Katmai National Park and Preserve because it offered the best chance of seeing hibernation-capable animals such as the brown bear (*Ursus arctos*). Katmai is located in the South-West Alaskan peninsula, and is the stepping stone to the Aleutians (a chain of volcanic islands that stretches across the Pacific all the way to the Russian Far East). It was established in 1918 to protect a region that was devastated by the eruption of the Novarupta volcano, and has been an important habitat for salmon and thousands of brown bears, among other wildlife. I stayed in Brooks Camp, a campground famous for the opportunity to view bears.

Getting to Brooks Camp was not easy. It involved taking a four-hour flight from Anchorage from Vancouver (where I was already, presenting my research at the World Sleep conference), another one-hour flight from Anchorage to King Salmon (on a very small plane), and then a one-hour boat ride across Naknek Lake to the mouth of the Brooks River. Weather conditions in South-West Alaska are notorious for being harsh and unpredictable, so I was fortunate that all of my journeys were on time (travel insurance is essential!).

I finally arrived in the afternoon at Brooks Camp, in an area with one of the highest densities of brown bears globally. I brought my own sleeping bag and mat, but had to rent a tent and other camping items from Anchorage. Other necessary precautions included a can of bear pepper spray and a fog horn. There were twenty or so other campers from every part of the world, and I got to know almost every one of them. We would walk together as a group (safety in numbers) to the river and to Brooks Falls (where many bears were observed feeding on salmon). We spent most of our time on special raised viewing platforms that allowed up-close but safe bear viewing. I learnt that if the bears ate enough salmon, they would either go into hibernation early or they might have enough energy to completely avoid going into hibernation.

Yi-Ge is reading for a DPhil in Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics. He was awarded a Special Grant to travel to Alaska to study hibernating animals.

This was a trip that surpassed my expectations and truly amazed me. It was made possible by the generosity of St John’s (as well as tons of planning and some good luck!).
At St John’s, we have expanded the activities of our access and outreach team, notably including the launch of the St John’s Inspire Programme in 2018. The Inspire Programme is a series of events, visits, workshops and online contact for pupils in Years 9 to 13 from non-selective state schools; each component of the programme targets different age groups with unique forms of engagement, making this a complex and dynamic programme focused around pupils’ needs at different ages. The in-person elements of the programme currently centre on our linked London Boroughs of Harrow and Ealing, but we are delighted to be able to open the digital component of the programme to non-selective state-school pupils across the entire UK.

Our innovative Pre-GCSE Inspire Programme launched its trial in October 2019 with 24 participating schools and 336 Year 9 pupils enrolled across Ealing and Harrow. We have appointed Teacher Coordinators in each school, who deliver fortnightly after-school clubs across a variety of subjects to their cohort of pupils. In Michaelmas 2019, our coordinators delivered workshops focusing on DNA, human health, global justice and poverty. In Hilary 2020, we are developing clubs in Languages & Linguistics and Physics: pupils will learn how to tackle unfamiliar languages with some surprisingly simple tools and tricks, and experiment with lenses to learn about imaging a black hole.

In addition to these after-school clubs, we have also planned six full-day Aspiration Days per borough running...
on weekends over the next two terms; these include trips to the London Science Museum, an animal roadshow held in schools, and workshops led by the Globe Theatre and the UK Parliament Education Team. All pupils will be invited to attend Study Days at St John’s in March and June, at which they will meet current undergraduates, attend academic tasters and visit museums around Oxford, and we will also hold a summer school in July 2020 which will feature more of these activities. We will be working with these 336 pupils throughout the next three years, with each year involving a unique programme of in-school activities, field trips and visits to Oxford.

We also coordinate an online course for Year 11 pupils at non-selective state schools across the entire UK, hosted on our website sjcinspire.com. The course focuses on one central question (this year’s is: ‘What is the power of a volcano?’), approached from a variety of academic subjects; each class includes articles, quizzes, games and essay-writing competitions. 578 pupils are currently enrolled on the course, which will culminate in a summer school with 60 places in August 2020. As part of the summer-school application process, pupils will answer the course’s central question using what they have learned throughout the year. Through the Year 11 course, we are also directing pupils to further opportunities at the University: from learning about their link college to discovering Oxplore, we aim to build a connection with these pupils that goes beyond the online course itself.

Each component of the *Inspire* Programme aims to encourage pupils with exceptional promise to aim high, to stretch themselves academically and to be confident in making well-founded applications to a top university like Oxford. In the Pre-GCSE *Inspire* Programme, we encourage pupils to engage with their subjects beyond what is covered in the classroom, helping them to develop confidence in their skills and discover new interests. Given the success of our online Year 11 course, we will soon be expanding our digital offerings to include Year 10 pupils; this will allow us to work with more pupils than ever in expanding their subject interests and practising their essay writing as they prepare to sit their GCSEs. At Year 12, when focus shifts to detailed information on choosing a university course and the subsequent application process, we aim to give pupils the confidence and knowledge they need to make competitive applications and informed academic choices. In line with the goals of other Oxford initiatives like Opportunity Oxford and the Foundation Year, the *Inspire* Programme aims to make higher education more accessible to high-achieving pupils regardless of background, and we are excited to see where the coming years take the programme, as well as the pupils enrolled on it now.
The Library and Study Centre

Described in the Observer as ‘a quiet triumph of artistry, invention and environmental responsibility’, the new Library and Study Centre has already begun to attract awards as well as much positive attention.

More importantly still, it has proved hugely popular with staff and students alike. Although it’s fair to say that opinion remains divided about the day beds on the top floor, the 120 new desks double the amount of space available to readers – and they are much in demand.

None of this would have been possible without the generosity of 165 donors, who between them contributed over £2m to the project. Larger gifts are commemorated in the names of the rooms and other spaces like the Sidonie Thompson Bridge that links the twenty-first century building to its seventeenth-century neighbour.

The Mark Bedingham Seminar Room is one of the most prominent of these places, and provides exemplary accommodation for teaching as well as some wonderful views of the garden. Nearby are the Lin Family Study Room and the Felicia Taylerson Study Room, which is named in honour of an inspirational economics teacher, three of whose students went on to read PPE at St John’s.

And the work isn’t over yet. Having built the new library, attention now turns to a restoration of the old. In the Laudian Library, built in the 1630s to house a scientific collection that included a mermaid and a ‘monstrous flea’, the nineteenth-century bookcases will be restored and unsympathetic additions removed, enabling more and better accommodation for readers. In the Old Library, the changes of the 1970s will be undone and an area for quiet reading and exhibitions created.
Underneath the Old Library, the plan is to take the Paddy Room and return it to its original form: a row of five separate sets. These rooms will be fitted up for tutorial teaching and named in honour of distinguished current and former fellows. Generous alumni have committed to raise the funds – and already we look forward to welcoming them back when these state-of-the-art resources are re-opened.

We are enormously grateful to all those whose generosity has already helped transform the College in these important ways. There remain opportunities for alumni and other benefactors to contribute further and help complete this transformative project.

Professor Mark Freedland is one of those tutors whose students have endowed a room for him. Here he reflects on this honour:

'It is the most immense honour to have a tutor’s room named after me, and I rejoice at the fact that this has been a way of attracting the benevolence of alumni to the College and to the restoration of the Library in particular. I feel that I am in noble company in receiving this recognition, while being very acutely aware that there are other colleagues at least equally deserving of it. It seems to me most especially fitting – on the one hand obviously deserved beyond question, but on the other hand happily fortuitous as to its timing – that one of these rooms is being named after Donald Russell, surely the college tutor par excellence of his and my generation, and that he himself knew of this during his lifetime.'

Peter Thompson
(PPE, 1976)

St John’s changed my life. I matriculated in 1976 as the typical (I think) grammar school entrant and amongst the first generation of my family to attend university. Three years studying PPE at St John’s taught me, above all, to think and gave me the tools for a successful, and relatively short, financial career. At the same time, I made lifelong friends. I know that my excellent education and accommodation were even then subsidised by the College. So, I am delighted to be able to be a regular donor to support the College’s ever improving education and research; I just regret that I did not start giving earlier. My recent donations have allowed me to achieve two things. First, I, together with two of my alumni from grammar school, have been able to recognise an inspirational school teacher who got us to Oxford; the Felicia Taylerson Room in the new library is named in her honour. I was also delighted that the College agreed to name part of the new library in memory of my daughter who died young in a tragedy. The Sidonie Thompson Bridge is a wonderful way to remember her and a visit we shared to the College some years ago.

Edward Hocknell
(Literae Humaniores, 1980)

I came up to read Classics in 1980. I was taught by the great Donald Russell, who gave me several excellent pieces of advice: I should not apply for a job at the BBC, as television is a trivial medium; and I should marry a Scotswoman, because they are excellent bakers. I left College armed with the arrogant but useful belief that if I couldn’t understand something, then it’s quite possible that it doesn’t make sense. This has proved immensely useful in the world of finance.

I supported the new library in gratitude for what the College has given me; and to help it to attract others, like me, who are not from typical Oxbridge backgrounds. I’m sure that Maggie, our President, will ensure that this is achieved while maintaining the College’s lofty academic standards.
Michael McDonough
(Visiting Student Programme, Classics 1994)

Michael is the Senior Managing Director and Portfolio Manager of Blackwells Capital, an alternative investment manager focused on global fundamental and special situation investing in public and private securities across the capital structure. Previously, Michael was a Managing Director and Portfolio Manager at SAC Capital and Portfolio Manager at Perry Capital and Pine River Capital. He has served on public and private equity boards of companies in the technology, medical device/healthtech, consumer/retail, and financial services industries. He has lived and worked in Hong Kong, Tokyo, London, San Francisco, New York and the Middle East. Michael is an Arabic and Persian speaker. Michael is a major benefactor to St John’s, a member of the Development Board, and has hosted alumni events in Boston, New York, and Hong Kong.

Why do I give?
St John’s forever changed the trajectory of my life. I arrived to read Classics, and certainly there wasn’t a better place in the world over to do it. My tutorials from Dr Malcolm Davies were challenging, and as apt to venture into Poussin’s mythological portraits in the Ashmolean as they were to parse early Greek lyric poetry in his study. New to Oxford from America, Dr Davies and his sparkling wife, Dr Kathirithamby, looked out for every aspect of my time at SJC, inviting me to weekly dinners at their home as well as lectures and events throughout the University. It was a sensational and sublime academic experience.

Yet, these were only part of the enrichment I encountered. St John’s, and Oxford more broadly, inspired a grander world view. I met people from Zimbabwe, Burma and Madagascar, was selected to teach at a school in Nepal, earned a Half-blue playing lacrosse, capitated a third boat in the Christ Church Regatta and cultivated a lifelong zeal for vindaloo. I was also able, through the enterprising flexibility and graciousness of Dr Teal and Dr Bevan, to arrange separate tutorials in Economics at a vital moment in the European Monetary Union experiment. Both Bill Clinton and Boy George came to the Union to speak, while Tony Blair was on the cusp of becoming PM. My abiding memory of Oxford was waking up and believing anything was possible, and that there were people around who could help me pursue whatever goals and ambitions I had.

Why do you believe giving is important?
Attending SJC was a privilege, as is being a College member today. I have had the fortune of attending “peer” institutions outside of the UK and I believe no university offers such a commitment to intellectual inquiry as Oxford. I also believe SJC, with its fabled rigour and its best-in-class facilities, is the cynosure of the very best parts of Oxford. Part of our responsibility as alumni is to bridge the gap between the extraordinary quality of teaching and scholarship at St John’s with the means for the College to achieve its aims.

As someone who has spent his career as an investor, I believe the case for SJC is strong. It is a timeless place with a proven track record and dynamic leadership with an ethos of relentless self-improvement. The Fellows of the College and the team in the Development Office are “out for the best” and treat every benefactor as a partner. There is gratitude and stewardship. While Oxford has received criticism for its federal structure, its collegiate system ensures that philanthropy has a direct and targeted impact.

It is also worth emphasising that Oxford is a special place the world over. It’s an institution that celebrates robust debate, extols learning for its own sake and, while delighting in the occasional eccentricity, strives successfully for real-world relevance at the working level. Amidst the polarising foment of political and social invective sweeping universities more broadly, Oxford nurtures idealists. Its insistence on civil discourse, and its tradition of presuming the very best intentions in the spirit of dialogue, is to be cherished and protected. Giving ensures a financial independence that perpetuates an intellectual one.
Hannah Gilbert
(Arabic and Islamic Studies, 1993)

Hannah is one of the Client Directors at Moneyhub, a financial technology provider and open banking pioneer, a role that brings her passions for digital technology and financial wellbeing together to deliver better outcomes for people, businesses and their communities. Hannah has previously had an extensive corporate career in the mobile, telecoms and media industries spanning over 15 years. Alongside her undergraduate degree from St John’s, Hannah has two Master’s Degrees, one in Economics from SOAS, University of London, and another in Sustainable Tourism from the University of Western Sydney, both of which inspired her desire to close the loop between money and its impact. She is also currently on the Executive MBA programme at Cass Business School. Hannah is also the mother of two daughters and a qualified yoga teacher.

What motivated you to join the Steering Group for the SJC Women’s Network?

The celebrations to mark the 2000th woman matriculating into St John’s drew together the vibrant community of women connected to the College. The SJC Women’s Network was born out of that remarkable weekend with the aim of celebrating, inspiring, and empowering all St John’s women, past and present.

While I have kept in touch with many of my contemporaries from my time at St John’s, I have also enjoyed the opportunity to connect with other generations of alumnae and current members of the College.

A recurrent theme at SJC Women’s Network events is the power of proximal role models. Neither of my parents went to university, and my mother had a traditional role as a housewife, so sharing challenges with women whose experiences are relatable to mine within a trusted community has been a bonus. Alumnae from earlier years offer great perspective on career trajectories and changes as well as the perennial questions of work-life balance. Alongside this, younger alumnae can offer a refreshing perspective on College today and their aspirations, which broadens the dialogue. Both groups provide insights that are useful elsewhere, not least at work when framing recruitment, retention and flexible working policies.

Do you believe it’s important for the alumni of St John’s to ‘give something back’?

Giving something back, in whatever way one can, is an appreciation of the opportunities the College and earlier benefactors have given. Current students face a different financial landscape. Financial and non-financial support from the alumni community plays a role in ensuring continued progress in widening diversity of admissions and attainment.

However, I have also found that the relationship is definitely not one way. It is reciprocated in the intergenerational and intragenerational connections that are flourishing in the benefactor, alumni and wider College community.

If you would like further information about how to get involved with the SJC Women’s Network or any other initiatives within College, please contact the Alumni Relations team via alumni@sjc.ox.ac.uk or telephone 01865 610873.
The College presents its results for the year ended 31 July 2019 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued by the Charity Commission in 2014. A summary of the College’s consolidated financial activities is as follows:

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<th>2019</th>
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<td><strong>Incoming College Resources</strong></td>
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<td>Resources from charitable activities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding from the College Endowment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income and interest</td>
<td>17,447</td>
<td>16,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital gains</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital gains used to fund restricted activity</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>18,146</td>
<td>17,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Incoming Resource</strong></td>
<td>27,121</td>
<td>26,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College Expenditure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and research</td>
<td>28,336</td>
<td>24,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public worship</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and alumni relations</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading and sundry expenditure</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>29,641</td>
<td>25,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net College Revenue</strong></td>
<td>(2,520)</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of Endowment Movements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opening Endowments</strong></td>
<td>551,546</td>
<td>525,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment gains</td>
<td>33,911</td>
<td>44,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New endowments</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment costs</td>
<td>(6,388)</td>
<td>(6,096)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gains used to fund operating activity</td>
<td>(650)</td>
<td>(1,650)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gains on restricted endowments used to fund operating activity</td>
<td>(99)</td>
<td>(173)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gains used to fund fixed assets</td>
<td>(5,000)</td>
<td>(11,450)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing Endowments</strong></td>
<td>573,457</td>
<td>551,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net return</td>
<td>44,970</td>
<td>54,265</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The full Annual Report and Financial Statements are now available at: www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation/finance-and-funding.
Roll of Benefactors
This section contains the names of major benefactors, current as of 31 December 2019, and all donors who have given between 1 August 2018 and 31 July 2019.

△ Member of the Chancellor’s Court of Benefactors
◊ Member of Vice-Chancellor’s Circle

Major Benefactors

Sir Thomas and Lady White Benefactors (£1,000,000 +)
The Lord Fraser of Corriegarth 1965 △
Professor Ioan James Hon Fellow and The late Dr Rosemary James
Angus McLeod 1982 ◊
Graham Sharp 1979 △
Bernard Taylor CBE DL 1975 and Hon Fellow △

Laud Benefactors (£750,000 +)
Anonymous 1994 ◊

Rawlinson Benefactors (£500,000 +)
Nicholas Bratt 1967 ◊
Edward Hocknell 1980 ◊
Daniel Slifkin 1984 ◊
The Thompson Family Charitable Trust

Holmes Benefactors (£250,000 +)
Anonymous Friend
John Appleby 1962 ◊
Mark Bedingham 1974
Dr Peter Fan 1954
Dr Yungtai Hsu 1971 ◊
Matthew Lindsey-Clark 1981 and Frances Lindsey-Clark 1981 ◊
Roger Short 1958 and Susan Short ◊
Peter Thompson 1976

Fereday Benefactors (£100,000 +)
Stephen Barber 1974
The late Professor Elizabeth Fallaize and Professor Alan Grafen FRS Fellows
Dr Eugene Lambert 1984 and Jana Lambert
Michael Pragnell CBE 1965
Dr Simon Tong 1994

Casberd Benefactors (£50,000 +)
Anonymous 1954
Michael Barclay 1951
Professor Dorothy Bishop Hon Fellow
Professor Wendy Erber 1982 and Professor Gary Hoffman
Brenda Fielding Friend
David Fischel 1976
Angela Y Fu Friend
Brian Hill 1950
Nick Hunsworth 1976
Robert Kipling 1974
Dr Hugo Madden 1967
Michael McDonough 1994
Dr Nigel Meir 1975
David Ryan 1978
Gavin Sanderson 1976

North Benefactors (£25,000 +)
Anonymous 1957
Anonymous Fellow
Christopher Barfoot 1952
Roger Barnes 1957
Alexander Bashforth 1988 and Dr Pauline Bashforth 1988
The late Ronald Duff 1951
Michael Fitzpatrick 1975
Sir Stuart Hampson 1966 and Hon Fellow
Graham Heald 1971
David Hutchinson 1980 and Melanie Hutchinson
Peter Jarvis 1990
Simon Jay 1978
Martin Jones 1987
Nicholas Jones 1981
Dr Alastair Lawson Friend
Dr James Lin 1991 and Nisa Lin
Peter Loose 1953
David O’Connell 1982 and Janet O’Connell 1982
Dr Geoffrey Penzer 1962 in the name of J Ronald Penzer 1928
Timothy Polglase 1980
William A Scott 1975
Howard Smith 1986
Dr David Standring 1970
Robert Tann 1976
Dr David Thomas 1970
Richard Wake 1966
John Waters 1984
Dr Trudy Watt 1984
Norman Webster 1962
Mark White 1973

**Juxon Benefactors (£10,000 +)**

Anonymous 1949
Anonymous 1957
Anonymous 1982
Jonny Allison 1993
Henry Amar 1957
Rupert Atkin 1977
Garry Borland 1994
Dr Ian Bostridge CBE 1983 and Hon Fellow
Dr Anthony Boyce 1957 and Hon Fellow
Dr Alexander Bridges 1968
Richard Burns 1979
Sir Nigel Carrington 1975 and Hon Fellow
Bill Carson 1952
Michael Collett QC 1989
Philip Collins CBE 1973
Rupert Cox 1983
David Cullingham 1954
John Davidson 1978
Geoffrey Davies 1973
Jonathan Davies 1965
Peter Davies 1967
Michael Deeming 1963
Jim Dempsey 1974
Michael Diamond 1984
John Eckersley 1949
David Elmer 1968
Thomas Ewing 1995 and Claire Ewing 1995
Dr Robin Fabel 1955
Professor Stephen Ferruolo 1971
Robert D Garvin 1972
Dr Francis Goodall 1951
John Graham 1970
Dr Joseph M Hassett 2007
Dr Andrew Hodgson 1976
Michael Hodgson 1986
Alastair Hunter 1975
Peter Jones 1963
Allan Kaufman 1983

Piers Kenyon 1986 and Helen Kenyon
Dr Helen Lambert 1979
Cressida Legge CBE 1987
The Hon Keith Long 1976
William Mackesy 1978
Neil Matheson 1976
Carl Michel 1981
Denis Moriarty 1956
The Revd Peter Moth 1957
Sandy Murhead ACA 1972
Jonathan Nash QC 1981
Robert Needham 1952
Toby Owens 1989
Dr Robert Oxlande 1959
Will Pack 1990
Dr Anthony Pawley 1962
Bleddyn Phillips 1975
Dr John Richards 1975
The Rt Hon Sir Stephen Richards 1968 and Hon Fellow
Alastair Robinson 2000 and Rachel Robinson 2002
Graham Robinson 1992 and Dr Esther Robinson 1994
Sir Michael Scholar KCB Hon Fellow and Lady Scholar
Michael Servent 1989
Pratik Shah 1992
Robert Shaw 1974
Dr Kevin Singleton 1975
Patrick Smith 2000
Dr Gill Sutherland in memory of Alister Sutherland 1953
Rupert Swyer 1965
Dr Rashmi Tank 1988
Sir Geoffrey Tantum CMG OBE 1966
Dr Michael Tappin 1982
His Honour Judge Robert Taylor 1957
Corrinne Teo 1994
Professor Gwynne Thomas MRCP FRACP FRCP 1973
Roger Thomas 1974
Ben Travers 1953
Dr Jay Watson 1984
Matthew Whitwell 1983
John Wilshaw 1956
Dr Jonathan Wittmann 1970
Steven Woolley 1975
The Rickety Charitable Trust
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honors and Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Gilbert McMillan, Douglas Nicholson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Philip Boxweck, Gordon Parke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>James Minnis, The late Gerald Morarity QC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Professor Robert Spencer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Dr Hugh Dingle, The Revd Frank Wells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Dr Robyn Cain, Dr John Thompson CB CVO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Anonymous, Professor Anthony Guest CBE QC FBA, Professor Paul Harvey, Peter Hughes, Alan Jacobs, Michael Morality and Rachel Morarity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Anonymous (3), Michael Barclay, Sir Alan Bailey KCB CH, Hon Fellow, Dr Richard Goodall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Bill Carson, William Clare, Dr Alastair Fuge, Dr Lister Matter, The Revd Canon Francis McAdam, The late Ron Middleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Anonymous, David Faulkner, Michael Harris, Peter Holland, Dr Peter Howard, Peter Loose, Robert Thrify, Robert Waterhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Dr Robyn Cain, Dr John Thompson CB CVO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Anonymous, Dr Michael Baxendale, Michael Cross, Michael Godfrey, Gilbert McMillan, Anonymous (2), Dr Michael Baxendale, Charles Dixon, Dr William Anthony Gladstone, Peter Goodchild, Robert Lyons, Professor Bryce Nelson, Dr Robert Oldale, Christopher Parke, Dr John Mathias, The Revd Jonathan Edwards, Jim Dempsey, Stephen Barber, Professor Lawrence Oppenheimer, Michael Phillips, Dr Michael Prior, Robert Shaw, Duncan Straughen, Chris Tavare, Roger Thomas, Roger Tilford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dr Hannah Alfonsa JRF – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Mark Bedingham 1974 – host of an Alumni Reception and Dinner in Singapore
Professor Dorothy Bishop Hon Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Professor Katherine Blundell Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Sir Keith Burnett CBE FRS Hon Fellow – opened the Library and Study Centre
Sir David Cannadine 1972 and Hon Fellow – delivered the 2019 Founder’s Lecture
Dr Katherine Doornik fellow – speaker at the 2019 annual Women’s Network Dinner and speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Mike Fitzpatrick 1971 – host of an Alumni Reception in Melbourne
Robin Gorna 1984 – Chair of the SJC Women’s Network
Diana Holmes Friend – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Ruth Huddleston 1980 – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Nicholas Hunsworth 1976 – host of an Alumni Reception and Dinner in Hong Kong
Kate Kirkpatrick Friend – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Hermione Lee Friend – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Cressida Legge CBE 1987 – speaker at the 2019 annual Women’s Network Dinner
Michael Lok 2012 – host of an Alumni Reception and Dinner in Hong Kong
Professor Carolyne Larrington Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Dr Sabina Lovibond Friend – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Professor Philip Maini Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Michael McDonough 1994 – host of an Alumni Reception in Boston
Professor Linda McDowall Emeritus Research Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Professor Ross McKibbin Emeritus Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Jenny Oliver 2000 – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Professor Gillian Rose Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Professor Angela Russell Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Neha Shah Friend – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Professor Rebecca Slater Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Dr Peter Southern Friend – donated the library and papers of his late father, Sir Richard Southern; President 1969-81
Professor Arista Srinivasan Fellow – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Bernard Taylor CBE DL 1975 and Hon fellow – chair of Development Board
Sue Vermes 1979 – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
Eve Worth Friend – speaker at a 40 Years of Women event
St John’s College
Oxford

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Find details of Oxford University alumni events at www.alumni.ox.ac.uk

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