



# TRINITY

BENEFACTORS REPORT 2019-20



With thanks to everyone who has supported Trinity.



## THANK YOU FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am delighted to introduce the Benefactors Report for 2019-20 and to thank everyone who has supported Trinity during the past year. From bursaries and scholarships to hardship grants and prizes, the generosity of our friends and alumni has made a real difference to individual lives.

This year, your gifts enabled us to support students through a particularly challenging period. During the Easter vacation, as it became clear that students would not be able to return to Oxford as a result of Coronavirus, we were able very quickly to make available modest grants to help them to set themselves up to work and take examinations from home. We supported the purchase of noise-cancelling headphones, desktop cameras, microphone headsets, replacement laptop screens and other small but vital pieces of equipment for which our students are enormously grateful.

The Levine Building was the focus of a major fundraising ‘push’ and it has been heartening to discover how many of you share our aspiration to bring about this transformation of the estate. We greatly appreciate your continuing support for this ambitious project as we enter the final phase of fundraising.

One of the great pleasures of the role of President is the chance to meet Old Members and Friends of Trinity, either



in college or during visits across the world. Whilst that is currently severely constrained, we shall continue to create opportunities for online contact and in other ways until we can meet again in person. Until then, thank you for all that you do to support Trinity.

With warmest wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hilary". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dame Hilary Boulding, DBE

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# THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT WRITES ABOUT DONATIONS IN 2019-20

Key Facts and Figures for this year	
Cash receipts	£2,442,523
Number of individuals who made one or more gifts	917
Number of organisations that made one or more gifts	15
Number of gifts	4,431

I would like to thank everyone who has made a gift during the past year. Every time I write my report, I say that we are grateful to all those who make a donation, no matter the amount, which will always be true, but this year, your support is more important than ever.

Last year, I was looking forward to watching the development of the Levine Building and I expected the appeal to gain further momentum once construction was underway. Not for one moment did I imagine the changed conditions we would be facing in 2020. In March, knowing the impact the Covid 19 pandemic was having on so many lives, we resolved that while we would continue to write in a general way about the projects for which we were seeking support, we would not ask for donations at such a sensitive time.

This was a difficult decision to take, not least because we still need more than £5 million to reach our target for the building, but it felt wrong to ask people to give in a period of such widespread uncertainty. While we acknowledge the

pressure that every one of us has faced with the pandemic, we still need to focus on the funding for the building and other projects, so as tentative steps are being taken in the easing of lockdown around the world, and we plan to welcome students back to Oxford in the autumn, it feels right to start thinking about fundraising again.

Usually, we ask for donations throughout the financial year from August to July, but the college's largest mailing tends to be sent out in Trinity term. This means that for the first time since 2006, many Old Members and Friends have not received a mailing asking them to make a donation.

It has been a tremendous relief to find that many of you have continued to give very generously and some people have even made their first gift during this period. I offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported Trinity at any point this year; we cannot thank you enough.

## Which areas have you supported this year?

2019-20	Cash receipts	No. of gifts
Buildings, facilities and services	£1,439,075	924
Supporting students	£ 769,196	1,057
Teaching and research	£ 135,248	444
Unrestricted gifts	£ 99,004	2,221



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## Investing in buildings, facilities and services

2019-20	Cash Receipts	No. of gifts
Levine Building	£1,422,640	778
Chapel	£ 8,315	14
Library and associated projects	£ 6,645	95
Other infrastructure projects	£ 1,099	25
IT	£ 375	12



Construction of the Levine Building, June 2020

Like last year, the focus has remained firmly on raising money for the college's major project, the Levine Building. Costing £30 million in total, half of this figure will be taken as a loan from the endowment and we hope to finance the balance from donations.



Since the appeal began some years ago, you have pledged a remarkable £9.8 million for the project, which will transform the life of the college for generations to come. To date, 932 Old Members, Friends and organisations have made a donation and we hope that in the coming months, others will follow their example and support Trinity at this momentous time in its history.

## TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Last year, I reported that we were planning to approach trusts and foundations to support the building appeal and we were delighted when the first application, to the Wolfson Foundation, was successful. We are also deeply grateful for donations from the other trusts and foundations with which Old Members and Friends are associated, several through their employers. Thank you to everyone who has helped us in this or in any other way.

However, the pressure placed on trusts and foundations by the pandemic has been considerable and many have seen an increasing number of requests for support at a time when their income has been reduced. Under these circumstances, we were disappointed, but not surprised, to find that our second application to a foundation was turned down. In the coming months, we hope to apply to others and to be able to report further success next year.

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# Supporting students

2019-20	Total given	No. of gifts
Academic prizes, travel and other awards	£512,700	14
Bursaries and scholarships	£233,131	598
Oxford-Sir Ivor Roberts Grad. Scholarship	£ 10,717	59
Access and outreach	£ 8,906	208
Sport, music, drama and other societies	£ 3,742	108

Providing scholarships, bursaries and hardship grants remains one of the college's highest priorities. Students will face problems caused by the pandemic and may need assistance in the coming months. As well as giving to student support, many people have volunteered careers advice; your assistance, both financial and practical, is most welcome.

## TRAVEL AWARDS

We have been talking for several years to the trustees of the Sir Peter Kirk Memorial Fund who, in November, transferred £500,000 to Trinity to fund travel scholarships under the terms of the trust deed. We were delighted to receive this donation, but sad that restrictions on travel meant that the first grants could not be made this academic year.

## MATCHED FUNDING

In the past, the college has benefited from donations that have attracted matched funding from the University. We hope

that a new matched funding scheme, GEMS (Graduate Endowment Matched Scholarships) will be equally well received and will, with your support, enable Trinity to continue to strengthen its graduate community.

In the Benefactors Report in 2017, the then president, Sir Ivor Roberts, talked about how he had seen too many exceptional graduate students abandon their studies because they could not afford to continue. He paid tribute to the generosity of the many Trinity donors supporting the new Sir Ivor Roberts Graduate Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences. You continued to give so generously that in 2018, your gifts were matched by the University and the scholarship became the Oxford-Sir Ivor Roberts Graduate Scholarship. We are now nearing the point where the endowment will support a student from anywhere in the world.



## THE SCHOLARSHIP IN ACTION...



The inaugural Sir Ivor Roberts Graduate Scholar, Maddy Chalmers, has now been at Trinity for three years and as her DPhil nears completion, she reflects on her experience:

*In October 2017, I looked through Trinity's blue gates from the inside for the first time, feet squarely planted on the lawn and ready to embark on the first year of my DPhil. Dozens of conference papers, four articles, two thousand bibliography items later, I am contemplating life on the other side of the gates again – even if it is just across the road, as stipendiary lecturer in French at Wadham.*

*My DPhil project explores how avant-garde French literature of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries negotiate the increasingly tight imbrication of technology into human life, and the challenge it poses to how we think about ourselves, our relationship to others and to our world. It seeks to place these texts of the past in dialogue with current philosophical reflections on technology, to explore how this encounter can help us to think about our technological present, and future.*

*In other words, I use old texts to talk about old problems as they strike us with new force in the twenty-first century.*

*In my historic corpus, national crises of faith and political upheaval, interweave around imagined, actual, and supercharged speaking and hearing machines. We find arguments for a post-work economy, geothermal engineering, and climate change. Linguistic algorithms produce abstract art machines, capable of generating poetry that would be the envy of Google and IBM. And in surrealism's objects, we find in crystallised form a cluster of ideas about how technology, aesthetics, and feeling contribute to the emergence and transformation of communities.*

*Teaching (and being taught by) undergraduates in film, literature, and language; and hearing from Fellows that their next intake of freshers includes alumni of access and outreach*

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*programmes with which I have been involved, have reminded me of the very real positive effect that work in the humanities can have, enriching our lives as individuals.*

*As I take this research forward into book form, I hope that it will articulate the contribution that work in the humanities can make to the debates that define our world.*

*I would like to express my warmest thanks to the generous benefactors of the Sir Ivor Roberts Graduate Scholarship, without whom the pure gift of these three years of research, discovery, teaching, and knowledge-sharing would not have been possible. I am grateful for your confidence in me.*

*If there is one thing I have learnt from my years at Oxford, it is that ideas are sympathetic influences which take root in minds, morph, and move on. They are never stable, never really ours: they exist when we share them. They, and we, are only ever passing through. What a privilege it has been to inhabit and be inhabited by that ceaseless movement, even if just for a while – and though October 2020 may look very different from October 2017, I know that that precious flow of ideas will just keep coming. No locked gates can hold it back.*



While I would like to thank everyone who has supported the college this year, it is also a time to acknowledge the student body's awareness of and support of others. One such case is that of DPhil student Ngoni Mugwisi (left). He celebrated his birthday in June by running his first ever marathon to raise funds for the organization in Zimbabwe that assists low income, high achieving students to apply to university and which helped him in 2012. So far, he has raised over £2,500.

## Supporting teaching and research

2019-20	Total given	No. of gifts
French	£100,000	3
Classics	£ 20,012	259
History	£ 12,953	140
Research	£ 1,283	16
Law	£ 850	14
Philosophy	£ 150	12

### FELLOWSHIPS

This year, we have received the final donation for the Caroline de Jager Fellowship in French and we could not be more grateful to the two donors whose generous support has made the endowment of this post possible; they have safe-guarded the teaching of French at Trinity for generations to come.

With the retirement of Bryan Ward-Perkins last summer, fundraising for the History Fellowship continued and alongside this, a campaign to fund a graduate scholarship in Bryan's name. And of course, we continue to raise money to complete the endowment of the Classics Fellowship. This fund now stands at £2,168,124, so the target of £2.5 million is in sight.

### RESEARCH

The contribution that the academic community makes to society can sometimes be overlooked, but in the last few months, Oxford and Trinity academics have been at the forefront in the battle against the pandemic. Through their research and their teaching, they make a significant impact in so many areas that will determine the future not just of the college, but of the country and the planet. We welcome donations to support the vital work they undertake.

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## Looking ahead

Construction of the Levine Building, Trinity's most ambitious and far-reaching project to date, is well underway and after a temporary interruption to fundraising this year, it will certainly be the focus of our efforts in 2020-21. At the same time, the college and the University are committed to increasing graduate scholarships and to supporting all students who face difficulties as a result of the pandemic. None of this will be possible without your continuing support.

Trinity depends on the good will of its Old Members and Friends and we cannot thank you enough for all that you do for the college.

**Sue Broers**  
**Director of Development**  
**July 2020**





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## REGULAR DONATIONS

To set-up a regular donation from a UK bank account, please go to [www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/giving-to-trinity](http://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/giving-to-trinity) or contact the Alumni & Development Office on [development@trinity.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development@trinity.ox.ac.uk) or 01865 279941 to arrange for a standing order form to be sent to you.

## RETURNING YOUR DONATION FORM

If you live within the UK you can return this to College using our freepost address, which is FREEPOST TRINITY COLLEGE, otherwise please send it to the Alumni and Development Office, Trinity College, Oxford, OX1 3BH, UK

## USE OF YOUR DATA

Trinity College wants to ensure that the details held about you are up to date and to communicate with you in accordance with your wishes. Your data will continue to be used for communications, invitations and fundraising activities by post, email and telephone unless you indicate otherwise. If at any time your details change or you wish to change the type of communications sent to you, then please contact us.

Information is held securely on the Alumni & Development Office database. Your contact details and other information may be shared with Emeritus Fellows (in order to contact former students), the University of Oxford and external agencies that process data on behalf of the college (e.g. mailing houses, direct debit bureaux and banks). Your data will not be sold, or disclosed to other parties, except if we are required to do so by law.

Full details about how your information is held and used are set out in our Privacy Policy at <https://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/oldmembers/privacy-statement/> and hard copies can be requested by contacting the Alumni and Development Office. If at any time you have any queries about the use of your personal data, please write to Alumni and Development Office, Trinity College, Oxford OX1 3BH or email [alumni@trinity.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@trinity.ox.ac.uk)



## Further information

### How to contact us

If you would like further details about any of the projects mentioned in this brochure, please contact the Director of Development, Sue Broers.



By email on:

[development@trinity.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development@trinity.ox.ac.uk)



By phone on:

01865 279889



Or in writing at:

Alumni & Development Office, Trinity College, Oxford OX1 3BH

We are grateful to all those whose photographs are included in the brochure, including Christopher Parks of Gilbert Ash, John Cairns and Tom Knollys.

**THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF TRINITY**



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