

# DONOR REPORT 2025



# Message from the Master

## A Year of Gratitude and Growth: Thank You for Making it All Possible

As the incoming Master of Churchill College, I want to begin by thanking Professor Dame Athene Donald for her commitment as Master over the last decade. My ability to rapidly integrate into the College from day one was supercharged by her generosity in spirit in allowing me to spend time observing committees and getting to know people here. I was inducted on 1 October 2024, when I solemnly declared that *"I will endeavour to the utmost of my power without fear or favour, to promote the interests of the College as a place of education, learning, and research"*. These words will remain close to my heart throughout the next eight years of my tenure and beyond.

I have been made to feel very welcome and have very quickly come to appreciate what makes Churchill unique. You can listen to a short video on our YouTube channel where I describe what I have observed so far that makes this place distinctive: <https://youtu.be/gFEcGb5-drg>.

I am inheriting the Mastership of a College that has an exceptional Alumni and Donor Community. I am filled with gratitude and a deep sense of appreciation for our devoted donors, passionate supporters, and dedicated community members. Thanks to your generosity, we have experienced a remarkable year of growth, achievement and connection. I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for your continued support.



There have been many highlights over the year, one of which was the opening of the Bill Brown Creative Workshops – a space where innovation, creativity and collaboration can thrive. This is already making a difference in the lives of our students, providing them with the tools and environment to explore their passions and push the boundaries of their imagination. None of this would have been possible without your support, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunities you've helped create.

We also witnessed an extraordinary effort during our telethon campaign. Your involvement and willingness to support our mission were inspiring. Your generosity ensures that we continue to provide world-class opportunities for our students, and the impact of your contributions is far-reaching, touching every corner of our institution.

One area where your support has made a particularly profound difference is in Student Bursaries. This year, we saw nine Freshers gain an offer to Churchill



through the August Reconsideration Pool (ARP). This is Cambridge's Widening Participation scheme, and one which has already proven to be transformative. The first cohort of ARP entrants graduated just a few months ago with high-performing Merit and Distinction degrees, and their success is a powerful testament to the value of this initiative. The ARP is a critical part of ensuring that all talented students, regardless of background, have the opportunity to thrive, and it's only possible because of your generosity towards Student Support. You are directly helping to shape the future of these students, and for that, we are profoundly thankful.

Personally, one of the highlights of my year was getting on the river with the Boat Club. After many years of being a 'rowing parent', it was a joy to finally join in and experience the sport alongside a dedicated and enthusiastic group of individuals. The Boat Club is just one example of how our community is active, vibrant and so much fun to be a part of!

I also wanted to give you some insights into some of the areas I am prioritising 'behind the scenes' in addition to Student Support. There is rapidly gathering momentum in College to review how we can improve the environment in which we work and live. We are developing a masterplan for our estates and buildings which will include plans to improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings as well as improving their

fabric and comfort. We are also starting to explore opportunities for new buildings to meet future needs including a student hub, new graduate housing, and an extended or new Churchill Archives Centre to provide space for our expanding historical collections as well as greater space for public engagement. We will be talking more about this as plans develop.

I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many of you at the 'Meet the Master' reception on 3 December. It was a wonderful chance to connect in person, share stories, and celebrate the collective success we've experienced over the past year. Looking ahead, I am eagerly anticipating several international trips in 2025, the first of which will be to USA where we will be strengthening ties with our international alumni community.

In closing, I want to extend my deepest thanks to you for your continued support. I would also like to thank the Development Team led by Fran Malarée for their tireless efforts. I am honoured to be part of this exceptional community, and I look forward to the things we can accomplish together in the coming years that keep us at the forefront of teaching, learning and research for our current community, and for future generations.

With heartfelt gratitude,



*Sharon Peacock*

**Professor Sharon Peacock CBE FMedSci**  
Master

# College Finances

## July 2023 – June 2024

	INCOME (£ thousands)		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Archives Income	560	747	836
Investment Income	4,471	5,058	6,019
<b>Donations and Gifts</b>	<b>4,306</b>	<b>4,075</b>	<b>5,363</b>
Income from Subsidiaries	0	1,142	1,923
Commercial Income	744	2,268	2,907
Educational Fee Income	3,890	3,995	4,218
College Operating Income	5,135	5,629	6,387
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; RECEIPTS</b>	<b>19,105</b>	<b>22,914</b>	<b>27,652</b>

The commercial activities of both the College and the Møller Institute were very successful during the financial year and this contributed to the positive overall results. The war in Ukraine and unrest in the Middle East continues to cause uncertainty and has contributed to high inflation. Fortunately, inflation had fallen to below 3% by the year end, having been between 9.1% and 5.2% during the first half of the year.

When new or additional donations for long-term funds are received, or if there is unspent income in a fund, the fund may purchase new or additional units in the College's Amalgamated Investment Fund (AIF). Decisions on whether or not to invest or sell units are based on the level of the

fund's cash balance, expected additional income and cash requirements in the short term. The College continues to increase its holdings in dedicated Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)-related investment funds.

The College's investments delivered a positive return of 9.59% compared with 9.24% in 2022-23. The College's investment portfolio mainly comprises equity and exchange traded funds. The total value of investments held by the College was £139.7m at the year-end compared with £127.1m last year. £10.5m new funds were added to the investment portfolio and £0.4m withdrawn during the year. The value of the investments increased by £9.4m.

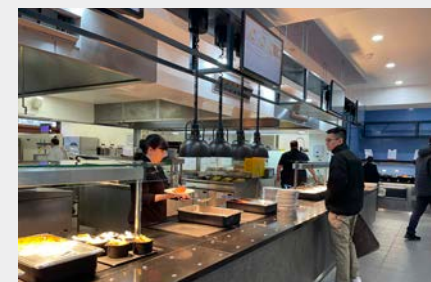
## Expenditure

### Student Support

The total spent on scholarships, Studentships and grants was £1.34m this year compared with £1.26m in 2022-23. Of this, £747k was in support of postgraduate students, £575k for undergraduate students, and £19k for Research and Teaching Fellows. Over 87% was funded by donations or investment income from restricted named funds.

The majority of the support for postgraduate students, £667k, was in the form of Postgraduate Studentships. Expenditure to support postgraduates facing financial adversity returned to a more usual level of £43k.

Support for undergraduate students rose by £60k compared with the previous year. Bursaries make up the majority of the cost, £522k, predominantly through the enhanced Cambridge Bursary Scheme. 65 additional undergraduate students were eligible for a Cambridge Bursary in 2023-24 compared with 2022-23.



### Capital Expenditure

The College spent £1.3m on repairing and maintaining its operational buildings and grounds and a further £2.8m was capitalised. Major projects undertaken in 2023-24 included:

- Refurbishment of 36A&B Storey's Way (completion), 76 Storey's Way, and 25 Rock Road
- Kitchen servery refurbishment
- Bill Brown Creative Workshops (completion)
- Upgrade of Building Management System (BMS) control panels
- Energy efficiency, generation and storage including installation of solar panels on South Court

### Sustainability

The College now generates over 20% of its electricity usage through solar power on site. Retrofitting and insulating works are key to achieving the College's carbon reduction target and long-term plans to remove natural gas from the site. The Green Impact Project for Churchill College was awarded a Platinum (top) award for the eighth year in a row. Biodiversity improvements continue to be implemented across the College site, with wildflower planting and meadow now accounting for around five acres. Thirty new trees were planted, together with a further 7,500 bulbs with the help of hardworking student volunteers.

## The Archives Centre

In 2023–24, the Archives Centre had operating costs of £852,981 which were met from the endowment, funding from philanthropic trusts, and some commercial income. The Archives Centre received £76,705 in total donations. The Director of the Churchill Archives Centre would like to thank its staff, partners, patrons and funders for their work and support in the last year.

The Access Portal (oa.churchillarchives.libnova.com) was launched in August 2023 for the material that the Churchill Archives Centre is able to make available online, and in its first year had 3,200 user visits and 15,347 page views.

56 new accessions were registered, with highlights reflecting the Centre's recent work to attract the papers of female parliamentarians, including recordings of the Groundbreakers project and the personal papers of Kay Andrews, Harriet Harman, Patricia Hewitt and Margaret Hodge. Many of the new accessions are still to be sorted and catalogued but they represent around 800 archive boxes of physical material, as well as a selection of digital files.

Received in 2023–24 were the papers of Peter Higgs (Nobel Laureate in Physics), Valentine Lawford and his partner Horst P Horst (diplomat and fashion photographer, respectively), and Warren Fisher (Head of the Home Civil Service). From our own College community, there were also important additions to the papers of Professor Dame Athene Donald, Correlli Barnett and Professor Antony Hewish, as well as Natasha and Dr Peter Squire.

The Archives Centre also received the personal and political papers of Lord Haworth of Fisherfield (Alan Haworth), who died on 28 August 2023 and was an official in the Labour Party from 1975 to 2004. He served as Secretary of the Parliamentary

Labour Party from 1992 to 2004 under two Labour leaders, John Smith and Tony Blair, and was appointed to the House of Lords as a life peer in 2004.

## The year in numbers

**393** unique researchers were issued files

**395** reprographics requests were submitted

**427** readers registered

**9,171** files were produced from **291** collections

**20,107** new users of the online catalogue ArchiveSearch

**56,179** access images were captured for readers



# How have your donations been spent?

College spending in the 2023–24 financial year



£522k for undergraduate student bursaries



166 undergraduate students received a Cambridge Bursary



53 were awarded the full Cambridge Bursary of £3,500



£19k spent on travel and other grants to undergraduates



£31k spent on undergraduate scholarships and prizes



£63k to fund clubs and societies



9 students received a Summer Opportunities Bursary



£667k spent on Postgraduate Studentships



£43k for hardship grants to postgraduates

# Donations Received 2023–24

We have a wide variety of funds to enable our donors to contribute to the area of College that they care most passionately about. The table below lists the amount of donations received into just some of the many funds our donors choose to direct their support to at Churchill.

Fund	Donations Received
Boat Club	£33,651
Bill Brown Creative Workshops	£204,948
Friends of the Archives Centre	£64,630
Postgraduate Studentship Endowment	£109,268
Student Support	£213,487
Student Mental Health and Wellbeing	£19,497
Think Forward (unrestricted)	£1,183,216
Winston Churchill Top-Up Bursary	£158,107

Donations in the College accounts this year totalled £6.5m, including donated profits from some of the College subsidiary companies. This compares to total donation income of £4.7m in 2022–23. We would like to thank everyone who has supported the College.

## Our donor community

**2,356** donors

**1,906** gifts between £1 and £999

**426** donors made their first gift

**260** alumni donating for 10+ consecutive years

**33** alumni donating for 20+ consecutive years

**3** year groups with over forty alumni donating to College: 1972, 1977 and 1979

**61** countries represented by donors

**58** donors have given in all three of the College's Giving Days

**31%** of alumni donors are female alumnae



## Donor Recognition Circles

We have a number of giving circles at Churchill to recognise significant philanthropic commitment to the College. Members enjoy various benefits based on their circle from special event invitations to College Fellowship rights. To find out more, get in touch with the Development Team ([development@chu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@chu.cam.ac.uk)).

Winston S Churchill 1958 Society (planned legacy gift)	98 legators
The 1960 Club (£1,960 per annum to the Winston Churchill Top-Up Bursary)	20 donors
Oak Circle (£10,000+ in preceding 5 years)	106 donors
Patrons' Circle (£25,000+ in preceding 5 years)	51 donors
Master's Circle (£100,000+ in preceding 10 years)	49 donors
Benefactors' Circle (£500,000+ in lifetime)	21 donors
Benefactor Fellow (£1million+ in lifetime)	6 Fellows



## The Bill Brown Creative Workshops

Embedded within Churchill College, for the benefit of its community, The Bill Brown Creative Workshops are a new student-driven space for creativity and innovation.

We are delighted to announce the eagerly anticipated opening of The Bill Brown Creative Workshops (BBCW) in October 2024. Near the front (Storey's Way) entrance to the College, it is providing all skill levels and disciplines with the opportunity to create, develop, and implement projects according to both their ideas and the latest technology. With equipment such as 3D printing, laser cutters and computer-aided design sitting within workshoping spaces, students can test and explore projects. The exhibition space within the BBCW provides a means to showcase resulting work.

The project was funded thanks to a major gift from the Bill Brown Charitable Trust, as well as donations from many other supporters and alumni.



BBCW Technician Jonathan Woolf (above) joined the College from the community workshop *Makespace Cambridge*. He is on hand to show students how to use the facilities, to help them create and innovate, and to support their work. Students are also supported by College Fellows specialising in subjects including



Architecture, History of Art, Biochemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Plant Sciences.

"The Bill Brown Creative Workshops are a unique facility within Oxbridge colleges, designed to encourage collaboration, creativity, interdisciplinary thinking in keeping with the College's founding principles. We're delighted to be able to offer this to our students, and grateful to everyone who has supported this remarkable project."

*Founding Director of the BBCW and Fellow, Barry Phipps*

Guests attending the launch event on 11 October were able to tour the facility and see demonstrations of equipment in action, and at an exclusive preview during Association Weekend, students brought to life an AI version of Professor Dame Athene Donald.

"Absolutely stunning – so inspiring!"

**Miaomiao Zou (G21)**

**Thank you to the Bill Brown Charitable Trust and all those who have generously donated to bring this vision to reality. We look forward to keeping you in touch with exciting student innovations emerging from The Bill Brown Creative Workshops in the years ahead.**

# Annual Fundraising

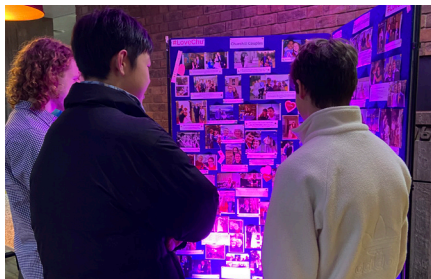
**Giving Days and telethons are central to the College's Annual Fundraising programme. These campaigns tend to be where alumni begin their donor journeys with Churchill College. Rather than the size of individual donations, it is the large number of people contributing to the total sum that makes such a difference. The kindness of many adds up to a truly significant collective amount.**

## Giving Day

Churchill College's third Giving Day took place on 14–15 February 2024, bringing together our global community of alumni, students, Fellows and staff to celebrate love, health and wellbeing at Churchill College.

Current students enjoyed seeing the collection of over one hundred photographs that were sent into the Alumni and Development Office to be part of the LoveChu display in the Buttery celebrating the hundreds of 'Churchill Couples'. The 70s hairstyles and 80s fashions on show certainly made an impression! You can see these by visiting [www.chu.cam.ac.uk/news-and-events/giving-day-raises-over-145000](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/news-and-events/giving-day-raises-over-145000).

A digital 'Medical Montage' drew attention to the incredible impact that Churchill alumni are making on the medical world. As well as fitting our theme, this is



especially pertinent as the College has recognised the struggle for medical students when government support drops in their fifth and sixth years. Thanks to the support of donors, the College is now able to award its medical students with a bursary to support their accommodation costs during their clinical practice years.

During 36 hours of fundraising over 230 donors made gifts totalling £67,000. This unlocked more than £77,700 of match funding taking the fundraising total past £145,000.

More than £8,000 was donated to the Postgraduate Studentship Endowment Fund, and the Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund received over £13,000 of support. Over £54,000 was raised for the Student Support Fund to help undergraduate students, with the



remaining donations being directed to the Think Forward Fund.

84% of donations were from alumni and 30 people made their first gift to the College. Thank you to all those who showed their love for College as part of the 2024 Giving Day.

## Telethon

Over 900 donors make an annual, monthly or quarterly gift to the College, and the annual telethon is central to our Regular Giving programme. Thirteen students came back to College early after the summer break to share conversations with over five hundred members of Churchill College's alumni community. A fantastic 59% of alumni who chatted with a student also chose to make a gift to the College, which is a real testament to the warmth of the Churchill community.

**"How lovely that students are making personal connections with alumni and gaining fundraising experience."**

**"It was really a delight to speak to the student who was in touch. Definitely impressive!"**

Renewed thanks goes to our matching donors, Dr Tony Wild (G68), Dr Eddie Powell (U&G67), Mrs Shirley Kramvis (U72) and Mr Andreas Kramvis (U71), for their generous support which again inspired and encouraged other alumni to donate.

**33 alumni** in their 20s or 30s made a donation

**34 alumni** made their first gift to the College since graduating

**19 alumni** became returning donors, by donating again after last donating seven or more years ago

**Alumni in 22 countries** beyond the United Kingdom made gifts



The 2024 telethon raised over £157,000 for the Class Giving programme, pushing a third named Cambridge Bursary Class Gift over the £100,000 target for full endowment. You can read more about this on pages 12–13.

Over £159,000 was raised for the Winston Churchill Top-Up Bursary Fund and over £93,000 was raised to support postgraduate students, including donations to grow the Postgraduate Studentship Endowment. The College is committed to increasing the number of Postgraduate Studentships it is able to offer to attract the most talented students to Churchill for their postgraduate studies and so our Month of Giving in March 2025 will focus on this exclusively.



## IMPACT OF GIVING

# Class Giving update

**You have again shown sustained support for our Student Bursaries, particularly through the Class Giving programme that coincides with alumni reunion dinners to raise funds to provide full, named Cambridge Bursaries.**

The number of undergraduate students eligible for a Cambridge Bursary increased by 64% in 2023–24 compared with 2022–23, and almost one third of eligible students qualified for the maximum amount.

Your donations have fully endowed the 1972–77, 1977–81 and 1988–92 Bursaries. The College is awarding means-tested, full Cambridge Bursaries named after these year groups in perpetuity. The data presented here shows the power of the collective support of alumni. We hope even more alumni will be encouraged to make a donation to join this combined effort and be part of their Class Gift.

**Amir Fazel (U24)** has come to Churchill to study Computer Engineering and is the new holder of the 1988–92 Bursary.

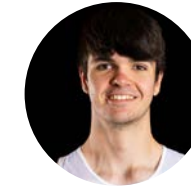


*“Your support makes an incredible difference for people like me who face financial challenges. Your donations have not only helped me achieve my academic goals, but have also inspired me to work harder and give back to others in the future. I hope to one day be in a position where I can support and uplift others, just as you have done for me. Please know that your generosity will forever be a part of any meaningful contributions I achieve to benefit humanity. I am deeply grateful for your kindness.”*

	Fundraising since	Alumni donors	Progress to £100,000 target
1972–77 Bursary	2023	136	Fully endowed
1977–81 Bursary	2019	125	Fully endowed
1988–92 Bursary	2020	78	Fully endowed

	Alumni donors	Donations received to 31-12-2024	Pledged total
1979–84 Bursary	79	£33.5k	£56.8k
2000–04 Bursary	62	£23.3k	£62.3k
1995–99 Bursary	56	£31.4k	£85.7k
2006–11 Bursary	32	£5.7k	£12k

In the 2024 Donor Report we introduced **John Bennett (U23)** who is receiving the 1972–77 Bursary. Now a second-year Maths student, he is part of the committee for Cambridge University Athletics Club. The financial support of the 1972–77 Bursary means that, as well as covering general training-related costs like buying enough food and travelling to competitions, he will this Spring be able to go on the “warm weather training camp” in Portugal as he aims to make the elusive “Blues standard” in hurdles this year.



*“I want to say thank you for the donations made to students, as they are a big help in relieving financial burdens, which in turn is a big contributor in wellbeing.”*



Alumni in College celebrating the 1972–77, 1979–84, and 2006–11 reunions

**Thank you to all alumni who are contributing to the success of the Class Giving programme.**

In 2025, fundraising for the 1985–90 and 2012–17 Bursary Funds begins. Indeed, as we go to print, fifteen donors from 1985–90 have already made a donation to their Class Gift. Please do join your peers in making a donation to your Class Gift if you were at Churchill in these years.



# Student Mental Health and Wellbeing

The wellbeing of students at Churchill is not only a priority for today's Senior Tutor and Tutorial team, but also an area of College that our alumni care passionately about, as shown by the number of donations made last Giving Day (page 10). In 2024, the College was also awarded funds from the University's newly formed College Wellbeing Stimulus Fund. Churchill's Wellbeing Coordinator, Louise Ranger, devised Chu Healthy Minds to appeal to all students, not just those with diagnosed mental health conditions. "The events on offer will enable students to do something that will help them feel better, learn something new, distract them from worries, and also make connections with students that they may not have met organically."

Students are helped to recognise their personal mental health challenges and shown ways to manage these, and more generally how to keep well balanced and regulate the impact of stress and pressure. Outdoor Qigong provides a chance for students to join an ancient moving meditation practice, and there are pottery sessions and visits from the charity Pets As Therapy.

Guest speaker talks offer guidance for the whole College community to encourage wider empathy and understanding, covering issues like neurodiversity, gender and eating disorders. Educational, Child and Adolescent Psychologist and Alumna, Dr Wendy Lee (U94), led a session last term called Survive and Thrive. Funding has also been used to establish a popular Tea at Three programme every Wednesday.



This is a calm space for students to gather and enjoy tea and biscuits, quiet time with others, and engage with mindful crafts such as knitting, rock painting or colouring.

Louise and Nurse Karen arrange pre-emptive 1:1 meetings with all incoming students with self-declared disabilities or Central University Student Support documents, so that these students know what support is available within Churchill and how to access it. Including these triage appointments, over 2023–24, Louise had individual meetings with 302 students: 229 undergraduates and 72 postgraduates.

*"I struggled with my mental health throughout school and my first year at Cambridge, so I went to Louise, our Wellbeing Co-ordinator, and she helped me a lot and directed me towards further College and University services. I feel very supported at Churchill, and now I am really enjoying my second year!"*

*An anonymous student who received support in 2023-24*

# Elias Bedmar Fresneda (G17)

**Elias was a postgraduate student at Churchill eight years ago and soon after graduating he became one of the College's youngest Regular Donors.**

*"My commitment to supporting Churchill College began during my student days. I was part of the telephone campaign, which allowed me to engage directly with alumni and see the incredible impact their generosity had on the College community. After graduating, I felt the duty to continue giving back by making regular donations myself."*

The MPhil in Industrial Systems, Manufacturing and Management was the perfect fit for my aspirations, blending technical expertise with leadership and management skills. Churchill's welcoming atmosphere and reputation for excellence made it the ideal choice for my postgraduate studies, and this year provided a fantastic foundation to kickstart my career. The MPhil programme gave me a deep understanding of how companies operate internally and within their broader environments, as well as exposure to the latest technologies shaping the future of engineering and business. This combination of technical and strategic insights has been invaluable in my career.

Churchill struck the perfect balance of academic rigour and social vibrancy, creating memories I'll cherish forever. The College's diverse and supportive community taught me the importance of building strong networks and embracing



different perspectives, both of which continue to shape how I approach challenges in my personal and professional life. Currently, I work at Amazon within their Cloud Computing business, where I help large multinational companies design and build innovative solutions using cloud technology. The skills I developed at Churchill – critical thinking, adaptability, and a collaborative mindset – have been instrumental in navigating the complexities of this role.

*I firmly believe in education as a powerful platform for social mobility, a belief shaped by my own family's experience. Supporting Churchill College makes me feel proud and fulfilled, knowing that my contributions help create opportunities for students from all backgrounds. It's incredibly rewarding to give back to a community that gave so much to me, and to play a small role in fostering excellence and equity for future generations."*

# The Impact of Legacies

Legacy gifts are vital to the current and future success of the College. Over the 2023–24 financial year, the College received eight legacies totalling over £367,000. These range in size and purpose but all will help future students in a variety of ways.

## The Sir Robert Edwards Studentship

In 2015, the College received a generous bequest from Ruth Edwards, the widow of Sir Robert (Bob) Edwards, past Fellow, Nobel Laureate and pioneer in IVF medicine, to help fund a Studentship in the bio-medical field, in memory of her husband who died in 2013.

Thanks to collaboration with funds allocated from the Centre for Trophoblast Research, **Ana Elisa Ribeiro-Orsi (G23)** came to Churchill for her PhD in the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience, characterising the hypoblast during early development. The hypoblast, an extra-embryonic lineage that gives rise to the yolk sac and, among other functions, provides nutrition to the embryo during the first trimester.



“It’s hard to put into words how thankful I am to the Edwards family. I feel extremely fortunate to be a recipient of the

Studentship. It has been a life-changing experience. Coming into the lab here at Cambridge, I look at Bob Edwards’ commemorative plaque outside our building and think about his work and his legacy. I am really inspired by his trajectory in science and want my work to reflect his ideals. Without financial support, pursuing a PhD outside of Brazil would have been impossible for me, forcing me to leave academia altogether.”

Read more at [www.chu.cam.ac.uk/students/ana-elisa-ribeiro-orsi](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/students/ana-elisa-ribeiro-orsi).

## The Barnaby Levy Memorial Travel Grant

Barnaby Levy (U04) studied Philosophy at Churchill before going on to become a lawyer. In 2020, aged 34, he was tragically killed in an avalanche while skiing on Mount Pinneshiri in northern Japan. Along with a gift from his Will kindly enabled by his family, a group of alumni set up a fund in tribute to their friend. Its purpose is to help Churchill students, who would not otherwise have the financial means or opportunity, to explore new parts of the world in a way that Barnaby would have encouraged and enjoyed.

In his final year at Churchill, Barnaby himself had received support from the College’s Tizard Fund to travel to



Connecticut, USA, to compete in the Atlantic Cup with the Cambridge University Polo Club. It is therefore a fitting tribute that current and future Churchillians can be supported in his name.

The Barnaby Levy Memorial Travel Grant awards up to £500 for travel during the long vacation. Since its creation in 2023, six students have received support to travel to countries including Geneva, Morocco, Portugal and Taiwan. **Conor O’Neill-Szkukalek (U21)** received a Barnaby Levy Memorial Travel Grant to go inter-railing across Europe in 2023.

“This trip offered a dynamic blend of landscapes, historical landmarks, and unexpected twists. Each destination revealed its unique character, from the tranquil Black Forest to the bustling streets of Amsterdam, and it is an experience I will never forget.”



**Thea Redmill (U22)** embarked on her trip to Porto the morning after meeting friends of Barnaby at a memorial dinner in College in September 2024.

“I am very grateful that I was able to learn about Barnaby and his adventurous spirit just before going away. I loved telling my own friends about the stories I had heard and sharing the message I felt communicated at the dinner, one of really seizing the day.

The trip saw us make lifelong memories, enjoying each other’s company just before entering our final year. It made me think of the wonderful Churchill community we are a part of and how special it is to live in such a friendly College, having seen friendships that have lasted for so long at the dinner.

On the last night, we went Port tasting. We toasted to Barnaby and reflected on the wonderful trip we had had and thought of the many more memories we hope to come. I’d like to give a massive thank you to the donors who made this trip possible, I am so very grateful!”

# Churchill College Boat Club

## Round up of 2024



Winners of the Pinchin Prize 2021-23: Molly Cushing (U21), Kieran Heal (U&G16) and Elre Oldewage (G18)

In February, M1 raced Pembroke Regatta, then M1, W1, and W2 all raced Winter League. We had some fantastic results, with M1 winning pots and W2 placing 2nd in their division.

The Getting on Race for Lent Bumps was cancelled so just three crews took part in March. On the third day, M1 revenge bumped Corpus, W1 bumped Pembroke and M2 rowed over having gained 1 whistle on St Catz.

In May, M1, M2, and W2 raced Spring Head to Head. M1 placed 3rd overall, easily winning pots in their category. Meanwhile W2 also put in a very strong performance and came 2nd in their category, and M2 came 3rd in their category, with an impressive double overtake in their first leg.

M1 raced in City Sprints, winning against Clare in the first round, before losing to Downing in the final.

Four members of W1 were selected to represent Cambridge at British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) regatta.

W1, W2, and M1 all travelled to Bedford Regatta and had a great day of racing. W1 won their semi-final against formidable competition Jesus W1, and M1 won pots, defeating boathouse neighbours Selwyn in the final.

Also in May, M2, W3, and M3 raced The Radegund Mile. M2 came second in their category, while Churchill W3 were the fourth fastest College W3 of the day. Due to a lack of novice entries, M3 were forced to compete against senior crews – but they held their own and finished within 5 seconds of Peterhouse M3.

W1 and M2 raced Champs Eights Head coming 4th and 5th in their respective categories. M2 also raced Spring Regatta the following week.

Come June, W3 qualified for May Bumps for the second year in a row so all six Churchill crews were out on the river. Day one, M1 and M3 both bumped, with M1 bumping Girton M1 and M3 bumping Darwin M2. All three women's crews rowed over, even with a broken footplate in W3. W2 tried for the double over bump and W1 managed to shut the door on Pembroke, who at one point gained 3 whistles on them. M2 unfortunately got bumped by Peterhouse M2.

Day two was a huge day for CCBC because every Churchill women's boat

bumped: W1 bumped Newnham, W2 bumped Darwin W2, and W3 bumped Jesus W4. M1 also secured their second bump of the week, catching Corpus M1. M3 had a strong row over and dangerous coxing from Selwyn meant M2 was awarded a technical row over so technically no Churchill crews got bumped.



On day three, M1 got their third bump of the week, catching Christ's M1. W2 had another speedy bump, bumping Christ's W2 easily, but the real stars of the show were W3, who bumped up twice, bumping Peterhouse W2 to get into the W4 div and then bumping Clare W4. M2 and M3 were bumped by Selwyn M2 and St Catz M3, while W1 had a slightly chaotic technical row over after the boats ahead of them failed to clear.

On the final day of May Bumps, M1 bumped Trinity Hall to earn their blades! This achievement is a direct reflection not only of their dedication and commitment to training, but also of their camaraderie and genuine passion for the sport. Meanwhile, M2 sped away from Trinity Hall M2 off the start which ensured a comfortable row over, and M3 were bumped by Emma M4.

On the women's side, W1 was bumped by Trinity Hall but finish the week still retaining their impressive 6th place on the river. The final Saturday was a long race for both W2 and W3 who had gutsy row overs: W2

fought until they were only a canvas-length away from the overbump on Jesus W3, and W3 got to less than 2 lengths away from the double-overbump on the Vet School.

For the first time in a number of years, the College hosted Alumni, Fellows and friends on the riverbank on the final day of May Bumps. The adverse weather conditions posed some opposition to both our marquee and the College van, but a delicious hog roast fuelled supporters as they cheered on the Churchill rowers. Let's hope for sunshine in 2025!

Robert Fulton (U70), one of the major donors to CCBC, passed away in May 2024. Robert was Overall Captain of CCBC when women were admitted to the College in 1972 and was referred to as "the godfather of women's rowing at Churchill" due to being instrumental in encouraging that intake of women to try rowing. Robert studied Modern Languages at Churchill and then went on to work in the Civil Service until his retirement. In 2021 Robert funded a new women's VIII which is named after him and it was wonderful to see the *Robert Fulton* speeding down the river during May Bumps.



**Thanks to all those who generously support rowing at Churchill and enable the College to make this part of the Cambridge experience accessible for all students without charge.**

# Looking Forward

## Message of Thanks from the Development Director

We are now approaching the halfway mark of the Think Forward Campaign, and we are pleased that so far just under £25m has been donated or pledged by alumni for the campaign. The campaign has achieved on average over £6million every year. The campaign aims to increase the College's endowed funds to £200m, by adding £60m to the endowed funds by 2030. At the start of the campaign, the endowment was £100m, thanks to the campaign and to increased investment returns, it now stands at close to £140m. We are delighted to have received over £8m for the College's endowed funds and expendable purposes in the financial year to June 2024 thanks to over 1,500 donations from alumni and friends, at many different levels. With more endowed and stable funding through investment returns, we can make a bigger impact in research and providing the excellent education that was the aim of the Founder and is still the *raison d'être* of the College.

In other highlights, we have had donations of over £1m for the College's endowment from one Benefactor Fellow and a significant gift for the endowed Palestinian Studentship. A donation realised by selling stock donated a few years ago also has contributed over £2m to the College's unrestricted funds. We have also had specific new Bursary endowments created with generous gifts of £100,000 from John Sawtell (U91) for the Sawtell Bursary Fund and one from Simon Henry (U79) for the Simon Henry Bursary Fund.



Association Weekend

We held our usual calendar of events to thank our generous donors, including a dinner for the 1960 Club donors and students who receive a Winston Churchill Top-Up Bursary, and our Student Support dinner at which holders of named Bursaries and Studentships are able to meet with those who fund their awards. We also recognised those who have pledged legacy gifts in our annual Winston S Churchill 1958 Society luncheon. As shown on pages 16–17, leaving a legacy may be the most significant way supporters are able to benefit future



Winston S Churchill 1958 Society



students – if you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

The Donor Garden Party on 7 July 2024 was particularly special as it was the outgoing Master's last donor event. Dr Ramit Debnath, an assistant Professor and Churchill Fellow working on the new Design Tripos, gave a talk entitled, 'Is data justice key to climate justice' leading to many questions from the audience, including how to rationalise with some of the conspiracy theorists posting about climate change, and how to better understand how some false ideas spread. In her speech, in the shelter of the BATTERY due to rain, Professor Dame Athene Donald spoke about how she was proud of two lasting achievements at Churchill: the focus on sustainability and the College now being 50:50 male and female. Gender balance is a change which has been quite rapid, as it was just 28% women in 2015.

Student Support, both at undergraduate and postgraduate level, is important for the values of equality of opportunity and diversity that our outgoing Master espoused, and which our new Master aims to continue. Thank you to Athene for all she did to meet and engage alumni and



2024 Donor Garden Party

support our efforts in the Think Forward Campaign during her time here. We now look forward to achieving the culmination of the Think Forward Campaign with the new Master, Professor Sharon Peacock.

Thank you **all** for being generous supporters of the College.



*Francisca Malarée*

**Francisca Malarée**  
Development Director and Fellow



Development Office  
Churchill College  
Storey's Way  
Cambridge, CB3 0DS

+44 (0)1223 336240  
[development@chu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development@chu.cam.ac.uk)

Registered charity number 1137476