We are very grateful to the Old Members and friends of Balliol who make donations and support us so generously. Thank you.

Visit www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/impact

Email us on impact@balliol.ox.ac.uk

Or call us on +44 (0) 1865 277675

Photographs by Stuart Bebb and Rob Judges unless otherwise indicated

Balliol College, Broad Street, Oxford OX1 3BJ
Balliol College is a registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1144032)
Thank you
You are making a difference

Thank you

Who would have thought that with effect from 4th Week of Hilary Term each year the College relies for its continued activity on the generous support of alumni and friends, past and present? The graphic below is a wonderful illustration of what your gifts do for us.

The many stories in this Impact Report bring the statistics to life, I find them very moving, whether they are about students we help in financial difficulties or young academics to whom we give an essential springboard to a successful career in teaching and research through our Early Career Fellowship programme. Thanks to you too, we are proud to be innovators in our outreach programme, offering children as young as 11–14 an inspiring experience of Balliol and Oxford.

In the year in which we are celebrating 40 years of women students at Balliol, it’s particularly heartening that the generous support we have received includes the Jane and James Ramage Fund for Dervorguilla Scholarships, enabling more women to pursue research degrees.

None of this would have been possible without you – thank you so much.

Dame Helen Ghosh DCB
Master

How a typical year at Balliol is funded

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**Michaelmas Term**

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<th>Week</th>
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**Hilary Term**

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This report is for the academic year 2018/2019 and includes our financial performance for the period August 2018–July 2019. The names of donors who made gifts of all sizes during the year 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019 are listed in the Balliol College Annual Record 2019.

You can read more online at www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/impact.

- Tuition fees and academic grants
- Student rents
- Conferences, banqueting and entrance charges
- Gifts past (endowment income)
- Gifts (donations and legacies from Old Members and friends)

This chart illustrates the average values taken from the College’s consolidated statement of financial activities for the years ending 31 July 2017, 2018 and 2019.

1 Charitable Activities (less College residential income)
2 Charitable Activities (College residential income only)
3 Trading income
4 Investment income
5 Donations and legacies
You are securing the future of the tutorial system

Balliol’s Early Career Fellowships (ECF) programme has brought outstanding young academics to the College on teaching and research appointments, and Balliol students in turn benefit from high-quality teaching by experts – the cornerstone of the tutorial system.

The Fellow

The tutorial system is so valuable. The process of sharing, explaining and comparing their solution strategies enables my students to develop their understanding and their critical thinking skills.

The College offers a very dynamic and diverse environment and the Balliol ECF programme supports the full development of an academic. It requires developing skills in a variety of areas: not just teaching and research, but also in project administration, pastoral care, examining, mentoring and more.

I have truly enjoyed my three years at Balliol, especially the opportunity to teach the brightest engineering students and at the same time pursue high-impact research. Thank you.

Alice Cicirello
Early Career Fellow in Engineering Science

The student

She is the most inspiring tutor I have met, and I really appreciate how she always encourages us to think deeper in order to truly understand the problems we are dealing with.

Her expertise covers a wide range of areas, and it is amazing how she turns difficult abstract problems into tangible interesting ones for her students. As my supervisor, she has inculcated and strengthened within me the habits of inquisitiveness and rigour; and I feel so much more prepared to pursue a career in research now. As my personal tutor, she gave me invaluable help and advice that will benefit me in the years to come.

Shaohong Zhong
2017, MEng Engineering Science
As an international student arriving at Balliol from Western Asia, College tutorials were a foreign concept to me. Having the frequent and undivided attention of scholars and giants in their fields was a privilege. I gained incredibly valuable insights from remarkable teachers that stay with me today. Balliol’s tutorial system taught me to approach complexity with fundamental questions, and to follow findings creatively to new depths of understanding.

In some ways I have become the tutor today as I counsel my clients, members of industry, applying the same methods my tutors used with me. With digital data playing an increasingly prevalent role in our society, it is more important than ever to value the skills of original questioning and human judgement that Balliol excels in developing.

It is my wish that we do all we can to ensure Balliol tutors are the best teachers and scholars the College can attract. This is a sure way to continue to attract the top students as well. I find it genuinely gratifying to help Balliol’s tutorial system thrive by supporting the ECF programme, and I encourage more to join me.

Shukri Souri
1988, Engineering Science
You are providing financial support for students in need

Your gifts mean that hardship grants and loans are there for all Balliol students when for all sorts of reasons – perhaps lack of family support, unexpected expenses or bereavement – students find themselves in financial need. You ensure that they are relieved from financial pressures and instead can focus on getting the most out of their time here.

The student

Ever since I’ve been here I’ve found everything so interesting, so exciting. I’ve loved the teaching and there is a lot of support here.

The maintenance loan doesn’t cover your rent, and the Student Maintenance Grant has really helped by taking the strain out of trying to budget. It means not having to buy a ready meal for £1 and being able to have a meal in Hall. It helps with extra expenses, like subject dinners. There have been quite a few dinners that I haven’t gone to, and when all your friends are going it can be isolating if you’re not.

It’s really generous of people to give and I’d like to say thank you. It allows you to achieve your potential: if you need to buy a book or have vacation residence, you can. It allows you to be on an equal footing with your friends. I look forward to when I can give back in turn.

Hannah Williams
2016, Law (with Law Studies in Europe)

Read more online

The donor

I started contributing regularly to the Balliol refugee scholarship in my first year, as I was aware of the opportunity it would offer a potential recipient.

Most of us could not fathom the impact of having to flee your home and find a place in a new society. Given the basic privileges most of us are afforded, living in safety and relative certainty, I felt it an obligation to give towards such a great initiative.

Since graduating I have maintained my regular support to Balliol. I believe that it is important my fellow Old Members do the same, to ensure that those who follow us have access to the same opportunities.

Youssef Zitoun
2016, PPE

Read more online
The Financial Aid Officer

As well as enabling us to support many others like Hannah, for whom the strain of worrying about money would prevent them from thriving at Balliol as they should, your gifts allow us to help some of the most vulnerable students: those who are estranged from their families or come from troubled homes.

According to a recent study, 1 in 7 students are not able to rely on support from parents or family during their time at the University of Oxford. Your gifts ensure we can offer emergency funds and counselling services, as well as guaranteeing that no Balliol student estranged from their family becomes homeless during the vacations.

Your gifts are vital in ensuring all our students, and particularly the most vulnerable, are safe, secure, and flourishing at Balliol. Thank you for giving generously.

Bruce Kinsey
Chaplain/Wellbeing and Welfare Officer, and Financial Aid Officer
You are enabling talented graduates to come to Balliol

A postgraduate scholarship is a unique investment in a student’s future, and their research can have a worldwide impact. Your support removes financial barriers to postgraduate study. This year, as we celebrate 40 years since the first women matriculated at Balliol, we are delighted to have welcomed the first Dervorguilla scholars funded by Old Members.

The Scholar

I dreamed of studying the earliest stages of cerebral cortex development for a long time. Reading for my DPhil at Oxford represents a golden opportunity to challenge myself in an excellent academic environment, which enriches my knowledge and nourishes my passion. And I feel extraordinarily lucky to have joined the diverse and friendly community that exists here.

It would have never been possible for me to study in Oxford without financial support. I am infinitely grateful to have received one of the Ramage Dervorguilla Scholarships and I feel honoured to be an inaugural recipient.

Sara Bandiera
2019, DPhil Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics
Ramage Dervorguilla Scholar

The Scholar

The Ramage Dervorguilla Scholarship has substantially enriched my time at Oxford, not only through its generous financial contribution but also by allowing me to become a member of Balliol. The vibrant community here has opened up a multitude of social and educational opportunities for me outside my field of study.

This Scholarship has illustrated to me how the continued involvement of past Balliol members ensures a genuine community feeling. I’d like to thank the donors sincerely for providing the Scholarship which, more than changing my time here as a student, will inspire me to continue to be an active and involved member of Balliol for many years to come.

Hannah Ogden
2019, DPhil Interdisciplinary Bioscience
Ramage Dervorguilla Scholar

Read more online ▶
The donors

With Jim having experienced first-hand the benefits of a postgraduate education at Balliol, made possible by a scholarship, we wished to extend this opportunity to others. We believe that society has a requirement for many more scientists, engineers and medics in order to address ever-growing problems – for example, energy, ageing and the environment.

It has long been recognised that women are seriously under-represented among the most highly qualified scientific professionals. Increasing the number of women in scientific professions will have the potential, in some disciplines, of almost doubling the total supply. By supporting the Dervorguilla Scholarships we are making a small contribution to ease the pathway for a number of promising women scientists by giving them the opportunity to engage in postgraduate study at Balliol. We believe this will enable them to contribute significantly to addressing scientific challenges faced by society at large in the long term.

James Ramage & Jane Ramage
1973, DPhil Physics

‘By supporting the Dervorguilla Scholarships we are making a small contribution to ease the pathway for a number of promising women scientists.’
You are inspiring applications from bright young minds

With your loyal support, Balliol aims to be the first college to have an established programme available to school children aged 11–18 and their teachers. For some children traditional outreach activities come too late, which is why a vital part of our programme is connecting with younger students through Learning Days for 11–14-year-olds.

Raising aspirations early

Many students arrive at secondary school with their minds already made up about whether or not they are going to go to university, and this attitude often has a negative impact on their attainment. In order to reach bright students before this pivotal point in their schooling, we offer Learning Days for 11–14-year-olds.

Reaching students earlier, in the pre-GCSE years, allows us to help them to understand the importance of choosing GCSE options carefully and working hard to achieve the best possible grades. These Learning Days also provide a valuable opportunity to direct young students and their teachers to events and resources that will inspire and support them throughout their educational journey.

On each Learning Day for 11–14-year-olds, four state schools, from anywhere in the UK, can bring up to 15 students each. Students are provided with information about higher education generally and Oxford specifically, as well as having a college tour and lunch.

The young students take part in a workshop designed to promote thinking and discussion skills, based on ‘Big Questions’ from Oxford University’s Oxplore website; then they have a subject workshop based on English, maths or modern foreign languages. There is also an additional option of a curator-led teaching session at one of the University museums.

‘Our aim is to become the first Oxford college to have an established programme available to school children aged 11–18 and their teachers. We would not be able to do so without the support of our Old Members and friends. Thank you.’

Pravahi Osman
The David Freeman Outreach Officer

‘Our visit to Balliol was a very inspiring and enriching experience. I would like to say how genuinely impressed I was with the structure, design and impact of the experience: the students ended the day impressed but not overwhelmed or daunted. Quite a delicate line to establish at a university – and in a college – of such renown.’

Teacher
who attended a Learning Day for 11–14-year-olds
How your support for Learning Days works

- 

538 children attended 9 events during 2018/2019

96% said it improved their understanding of what university is like

92% said they are more likely to consider applying to university
You are investing in the Balliol community

Thanks to your donations, together we are enriching the student experience and improving facilities for students. When, for instance, it became clear that the JCR was greatly in need of refurbishment, the generosity of alumni made it possible to update it for the next generation of Balliol undergraduates.

The JCR President

The JCR could not have been renovated without the Balliol alumni who remembered the JCR in better days and pledged a significant sum to the College for the purpose. We are particularly grateful to them, and we’d like to thank them for their generous support.

The entire JCR was repainted, the TV room redesigned, the Pantry hatch sanded down, the windows glazed, the stage levelled and the wiring rejigged. We put in temporary storage units and bought new furniture. Most importantly, a ramp was inserted to allow access from the JCR to the TV room for those with limited mobility. The renovation has been a great success: we’re very happy with it.

Michael O’Connor
2016, PPE
JCR President 2019

The JCR Vice-President

As JCR Vice-President I was responsible for proposing and getting support for the refurbishment. It has made a vast difference to the Balliol JCR. Every day I see groups of students working together over problem sheets, dancing in the TV room, and tucking into breakfast after rowing. It’s wonderful to see that the JCR facilities now match the community atmosphere we are so proud to have at Balliol College.

‘It’s wonderful to see that the JCR facilities now match the community atmosphere we are so proud to have at Balliol College.’

I would like to express my gratitude and thanks for the generosity of the donors that enabled this refurbishment. I hope you have had a chance to pop by and seen the difference you have made to the JCR!

Charlotte Lee
2016, Medicine
JCR Vice-President, 2017
You are ensuring we can plan for the future

Balliol was founded, back in 1263, by philanthropy. Today, the support of our Old Members and friends is more vital than ever to ensuring that we can continue to provide an excellent education and a supportive environment to all who come here. We are proud to recognise this support through the 1263 Society.

The 1263 Society has been created to give special thanks to those who support Balliol with a regular gift. Ongoing support like this ensures that we can plan ahead, which makes all the difference to everything that we can do. Last year, over 1,400 Old Members and friends supported Balliol with regular gifts at every level. Thank you.

The 1263 Society donors

“We’ve been supporting the College with a regular gift for over 20 years; the more time passes since graduation, the more we realise how much we gained there. We met at Balliol, married at Balliol and made some of our dearest friends there. During our time in College we were taught by the greatest and most original minds and we studied, rowed, acted, debated, played and partied with a fantastically diverse group of interesting people. More than that, Balliol was home. It was the best possible start to adult life, and we want the College to continue to offer that experience to other young people.”

Julian Mylchreest  
1987, Literae Humaniores

Fiona Mylchreest  
1988, Classics and English
With your continuing support this financial year has been a stable one. Our main focus has been the Master’s Field development, which will create over 200 student rooms and allow us to accommodate all our undergraduates for all their time at Balliol. We invested £18m in the project this year and began using the first building in May 2019.

Income and expenditure

In 2018/19, our income totalled £21m, with our core income from tuition fees, research income and student accommodation increasing by 6.2%. We remain reliant on our other income streams to cover costs: past and current fundraising generated £13.1m, including a significant bequest, and the income from the use of the College sites for conferences generated a further £1.7m.

Our costs were in line with our budget, and included over £1.2m spent on grants, funding and awards to our students and a further £252k for bursaries and other student support grants, including our contribution to the Oxford Bursary scheme. These grants represent around 20% of our non-staff expenditure, demonstrating our commitment to supporting our students financially while they are at Balliol.

Investment portfolio

Net gains on our investment portfolio totalled £6.6m and we achieved a total return, including distributions, of 7% in the year.

We have continued to draw from the invested proceeds from our bond to fund the development of the Master’s Field, with the investment portfolio valued at £139m at the year end. Holdings of fixed-term interest stocks, deposits and cash include short-term holdings of £21m in connection with planned expenditure on the Master’s Field.

More information on the College’s financial position is in Balliol’s statutory financial statements, which are available to read online.

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<th>Income (£000)</th>
<th>Expenditure (£000)</th>
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<td>Tuition fees, academic grants and rents (Charitable Activities)</td>
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<td>Gifts past and present (Fundraising and Investment)</td>
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<td>Conferencing, banqueting and entrance charges (Trading)</td>
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<td>Total (£000)</td>
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Our investments

Growth and total return

Composition at year end

IMPACT REPORT 2020