

# You are making a difference

# Thank you

Looking back on the extraordinary year we have just had, there could not be a better time to say a heartfelt thank you for the support you give to Balliol, however big or small your gift.



Every year the College is only

able to balance its books with the help of the income from our endowment, built up from gifts over many centuries, and thanks to the in-year donations we receive from today's alumni. This past year, as our income from student rents and conference bookings plummeted, your help was needed more than ever. Thankfully, we were able to avoid having to use our long-term reserves to cover today's needs at the expense of tomorrow's students.

As you will see from this report, your generosity meant we were able to ensure that all our students could thrive, at a time when the finances of many students and their families were hit hard by the effects of the pandemic. Building for our future, we were also able not only to maintain but to expand our outreach programme. And we could continue to invest in world-class teaching and research — the very reasons we exist.

The challenges of Covid-19 are far from over yet, but it is wonderful to know that we have so many friends we can rely on.

#### Dame Helen Ghosh DCB

Master

Gifts (donations and legacies from Old Members and friends)<sup>1</sup>

Gifts past (endowment income)<sup>2</sup>

Conferences, banqueting and entrance charges<sup>3</sup>



Student rents<sup>4</sup>

Tuition fees, academic income and grants<sup>5</sup>

This chart illustrates the average values taken from the College's consolidated statement of financial activities for the years ending 31 July 2018, 2019 and 2020

This report is for the academic year 2019/2020 and includes our financial performance for the period August 2019–July 2020. The names of donors who made gifts of all sizes during the year 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020 are listed in the **Balliol College** 

Annual Record 2020

You can read more online at <a href="https://www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/impact">www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/impact</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Donations and legacies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Investment income

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Trading income

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Charitable Activities (College residential income only)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Charitable Activities (less College residential income)



How a typical Balliol student's year is funded



A community of giving

1,907

**60** Students

2,612

Donors in the year

**/ 104** 

Fellows, Lecturers, staff and friends

'Graduation was a joy: a wonderful celebration of the culmination of my DPhil and many years of hard work as a member of Balliol College and Oxford. I am grateful for everything that made my time at Balliol so special, including the support of Old Members, mentors, and friends at Balliol and around the world.

As a DPhil student, I was proud to donate to Balliol, and now as I have moved to further studies as a medical student, I am continuing my support. I know that my contribution is part of a global community that continues to ensure that future generations of Balliol students can pursue their dreams too.'

Akansha Tarun

2013, DPhil Medical Sciences

# You are providing financial support for students in need

In this challenging year your gifts allowed support to be available quickly for all Balliol students when they needed it most. The pandemic has made it a difficult time for many, including those who have never needed your help before. You ensure that such students are relieved from financial pressures and can focus on getting the most out of their time here.

#### The student

I received the student maintenance grant in my final year at Balliol and without it, the year would not have been possible in the same way. I'm an international student from Austria, so naturally I was very worried about going

home during the pandemic. My flights kept getting cancelled and since my father is at risk and shielding I had to get a PCR test immediately upon each return. This put a big financial strain on my family, which was already financially hit by the pandemic. The maintenance grant made it possible for me to afford the Christmas flights home.

Further, the maintenance grant has been a big help with paying for my rent. As an EU student, I receive a student loan for my fees but I have to pay all my expenses myself. The maintenance

grant has made the difficult experience of attending university during a pandemic significantly less stressful. I am so grateful to the Old Members who make our lives better and I hope you know how big an impact you have.

Anna Brainin 2018, Jurisprudence



'The maintenance grant has made the difficult experience of attending university during a pandemic significantly less stressful'

## The donor

I give to Balliol because when I was at College, gifts from Old Members were an incredibly valuable source of support for me, without which my experience could have been quite different – and not in a good way.

Of course supporting academic aspects is vital, but for me, giving is about helping those who may need financial assistance have the best experience they can, by easing worries about financial hardship.

That is why I participated in all the fundraising phone campaigns which ran whilst I was a student, and why I am always happy both to hear from the campaigns when they run and to continue giving to support future generations of Balliol students.

Ryan Halloran 2006, PPE 'For me, giving is about helping those who may need financial assistance have the best experience they can'





'It is your generosity that allows us to be generous with our students'

## The Financial Aid Officer

This has been a tough time for Balliol students, including many who have never needed our help before. Some are struggling financially after they have been unable to take up their usual vacation jobs or because they have parents whose income has been affected. Demand for counselling support has risen sharply, with a 17% increase from last year. It can be heartbreaking to hear the reasons why our students need our help, but equally it is wonderful to be in the position to give them the assistance they need.

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of the Balliol community we have been able to respond quickly in this time of need. From help with emergency flights and living costs, to supporting (socially distanced) socials with chai and doughnuts, you ensure that despite all the obstacles, all our students can have fun and flourish here.

It is your generosity that allows us to be generous with our students. Thank you.

## Bruce Kinsey

Chaplain/Wellbeing and Welfare Officer, and Financial Aid Officer



How your financial support is given to students



Student applies for award via website

Subject tutor puts student forward Student
Finance Officer
invites student
to apply

#### Decision

Award is decided, on basis of means or merit, by financial aid team (welfare and hardship), Senior Tutor and subject tutors (academic), or other College staff (non-academic)



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All processes are monitored by Student Finance Committee or Tutorial Board

#### **Award**

Student Finance Officer gives student award



# You are providing financial support for students in need

#### The student

Being offered the Balliol Jowett Scholarship in conjunction with a scholarship from the Faculty of Classics has enabled me to pursue my passion for studying 'I thank the Old Members and donors of Balliol College for enabling students like me to pursue higher education'

Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature as an MSt, which I would not have been able to do without the College's generous financial support. Coming from a state school and having been told by various people that I scarcely had a chance of being accepted by a college like Balliol because of my socio-economic background, it was an honour and a privilege to be offered this scholarship to cover tuition and living costs. I also really appreciated the warm welcome from the College staff, tutors, and graduate community.

I feel tremendously lucky in the support I have received. It has given me a lot of security during the pandemic, through which I would have struggled financially otherwise. I want to thank

the Old Members and donors of Balliol College for enabling students like me to pursue higher education, particularly in the humanities, where funding is generally harder to come by. Thank you for your generosity!

### Leo Kershaw 2020, MSt Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature



### The donor

The unlikely combination of Sir Isaiah Berlin and Hull City Council had a profound impact on my life – the former as a wonderful mentor steering me to Balliol and the latter as a vital

'I am delighted to play a role (however small) in bolstering Balliol's ability to provide support to students and ensure that family resources do not determine access to our community'

source of finance enabling me to attend. The redoubtable Peter Gibbins also had a great influence, having studied alongside Mr Nice (Howard Marks,1964) at Balliol exactly 10 years before and then moved on to teach philosophy at Hull University.

My parents could not have afforded to support me fully at university and in common with many contemporaries the availability of local authority funding was a really important factor in 'levelling the playing field'.

In contrast, today those sources of funding have been removed and as a member of the 1263 Society Master's Circle and

the Greville Smith Circle I am delighted to play a role (however small) in bolstering Balliol's ability to provide support to students and ensure that family resources do not determine access to our community.

lan Williams 1977, PPE



'As one of the JCR Housing Officers, I have seen how donor support allows Balliol to alleviate the biggest financial concern for many students'

#### The student

Rent makes up the majority of a student's expenses in Oxford, and

as one of the JCR Housing Officers, I have seen how donor support allows Balliol to alleviate the biggest financial concern for many students. As well as waiving room rents for those unable to return to Oxford because of the lockdown, Balliol has provided substantial financial aid to all in need, including subsidising the rent for some of those permitted to return to Oxford and living in private accommodation.

It is also my role to represent student domestic needs to Balliol. I and my fellow officer are most grateful that the Domestic Bursar and Accommodation Manager have been receptive and open to our proposals for adjustments to College services and facilities for this unique academic year. The installation of additional self-catering amenities won an overwhelmingly positive response from the undergraduate body. Students have also received provisions for hygiene, such as antibacterial wipes, and have access to the cleaning equipment

they need for their own rooms, for example through a booking system for vacuum cleaners. Most importantly, we are incredibly grateful for the Scouts who arrive daily to clean communal areas and help keep the Balliol community safe.

Naa Odoley Ntodi 2018, JCR Housing Officer



# You are giving opportunities to 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. Balliol's Teacher Scholarships are a vital part of this programme, designed to increase the long-term attainment and aspirations of substantial numbers of disadvantaged students.

#### The teacher

Over 80% of our students come from families with no history of higher education, so the prospect of applying 'Thanks to outreach work like this, we can show Mark that where he comes from doesn't define where he can go.'

to university is daunting for them; no matter how well they do in their GCSEs, their lack of confidence can present a seemingly insurmountable barrier. Mark\* is one such student.

Mark has shown himself to be an outstanding academic, incredibly passionate about maths. He was rewarded with 8s and 9s in his GCSEs and he is now studying four A-Levels. Shockingly, it was only after attending Balliol's Oxbridge talk that Mark decided to apply to university. Before that point, and despite being so clearly capable, he just felt that university wasn't for people like him.

Thanks to outreach work like this, we can show Mark that where he comes from doesn't define where he can go.

#### Annie Corbishley Gregson Teacher Scholarship holder at Fearnhill School, Hertfordshire



\*name changed

#### The Outreach Officer

Our new Teacher Scholarships, the first of which was established by a gift from the late Sir Peter Gregson (1955, Literae Humaniores), provide financial support, access to Balliol tutors and additional academic support for students as well as priority access to the College's outreach events. The funding releases teacher time, allowing the Scholarship holder to develop a programme of support for able students, inside and outside the classroom, and so help them realise their potential. Three years of funding enables the programme to be introduced, refined and embedded.

The Scholarships provide professional development opportunities by pairing teachers with Balliol tutors in their subject. Together teachers and tutors explore material and teaching approaches that will support GCSE or A-Level teaching. In practice, this has resulted in mutual learning, as

tutors have been able to understand some of the constraints that teachers in state schools face and how disadvantage impacts on students' educational experience.

## Pravahi Osman David Freeman Outreach Officer





#### The donors

My education at Balliol was made possible by the donations of past generations, and so I give to Balliol to keep that opportunity available for new generations. I want that opportunity to be equally available to students of all backgrounds, which is why I am now giving to the outreach programme.



## Matthew Edwards 1982. PPE

Outreach shows children that where they come from doesn't define where they can go. The statement from one of the Gregson Teacher Scholarship holders perfectly sums up why outreach matters. It's about fairness and opportunity. It's about ensuring that achievement isn't dependent on social or economic background.

Put simply, it's about giving bright, disadvantaged children the chance to fulfil their potential and benefit from the education that we have all enjoyed.

# Susan Cooksley 1982, Modern History and Economics



Open Days and other Oxford-wide initiatives



Floreat Access Programme and Subject Taster Days for 16–17-year-olds

As Balliol's outreach activities have developed, they have diversified. Our innovative approach prepared us for the challenges of outreach during a pandemic. Not only were we able to adapt and deliver all planned activities, but our Virtual Subject Taster Days reached more students than ever before; we helped to deliver remote interview workshops to 3,000 state school pupils; and the Balliol website had 12,000 hits at the two Virtual Open Days in July.

Data: Distribution of annual staff and non-staff expenditure across major activities as at April 2020, provided by the Outreach Officer (excludes costs of admissions process and production of core materials, e.g. prospectus), reflecting recent developments in Balliol's outreach programmes.

# You are securing the future of the tutorial system

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

#### The Dan Norman Fund

The Dan Norman Fund was endowed in April 2020 by David Norman (1975) and Lindzay Chan in memory of their son, who died, aged 20, in April 2019 following a battle with drug addiction.

The Fund will support a series of Dan Norman Early Career Fellowships and Doctoral Scholarships at Balliol, for outstanding postdoctoral and postgraduate scientists undertaking research into addiction at Oxford in a range of disciplines, from neuroscience to pharmacy.

As part of Balliol's Early Career Fellowships (ECF) programme, the Dan Norman ECFs will also provide tutorial teaching for

students in the biomedical sciences.

The inaugural Dan Norman ECF is Dr Lauren Burgeno, who came to Balliol in January 2021. Lauren is a neurobiologist with expertise in the role of dopamine and other brain systems in governing drugseeking behaviour.



In memory of Dan Norman 1998–2019

#### The benefactors

When Dan's addiction first developed, like many others supporting loved ones we had a steep learning curve. We discovered that addictions cannot be overcome with will-power but are illnesses with causes and effects in the brain, which require further research and new treatments.

'It means a great deal to us all that a young scientist as impressive as Lauren can now develop her research and teach a new generation of medics as a Balliol Fellow in Dan's name.'

No parent can come to terms with the grief of losing a child, but as we began learning to live with Dan's loss our thoughts turned to how we might help advance the treatment of addictions. Along with Dan's siblings, Charlotte and Luke, we met Dr Lauren Burgeno shortly after her election as the first Dan Norman Early Career Fellow.

It means a great deal to us all that a young scientist as impressive as Lauren can now develop her research and teach a new generation of medics as a Balliol Fellow in Dan's name.

David Norman and Lindzay Chan 1975, PPP

#### The Fellow

I am honoured to be the inaugural holder of the Dan Norman Early Career Fellowship, which will enable me to develop my research into the neurobiological underpinnings of addiction while also teaching neuroscience to future generations of Balliol medics and scientists.

These experiences, in addition to the intellectual and professional mentorship that being a member of the Balliol SCR offers, will serve as a springboard for my career. I hope one day to lead my own laboratory studying how the brain's decision-making circuitry goes awry in addiction.

It was immensely moving to meet Dan's family shortly after my election. I am hugely grateful for their support and commitment to the development and implementation of more effective therapeutic treatments for substance use disorders, through their investment in my research and teaching.

# Lauren Burgeno

Dan Norman Early Career Fellow in Biomedical Sciences



# You are showing your support when we need it the most

Balliol was founded, back in 1263, by philanthropy. Today, the support of our Old Members and friends is vital to ensuring that we can continue to provide an excellent education and a nurturing environment to all who come here. We are so grateful for all the ways in which so many of our Old Members and friends show their support for Balliol.

## The 1263 Society

The 1263 Society has been created to give 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 what we can do. Last year, over 1,400 Old Members and friends supported Balliol with regular gifts at every level. Thank you.



'I support Balliol because I benefited first hand from support when I was a student. When I studied at Balliol, there were times when financial concerns threatened to make my time there quite difficult.

The College was able to support me during these periods, thanks to donations from Old Members, and I hope that by making a regular gift myself I can contribute a small part to Balliol's proud legacy of



George Badger 2014, History

inclusivity.'

# The 1263 Society Master's Circle

The 1263 Society Master's Circle, which sits within the 1263 Society, recognises our most generous regular donors. Membership is offered to those who support the College with gifts of £1,263 or \$2,000 a year or more on an ongoing basis. Last year, over 130 Old Members and friends were members. Thank you.



'I was the first member of my family to go to university. I felt fortunate then and, as time goes on, I am more aware of how lucky I was to be at Balliol. I was educated, challenged, I made enduring friendships and had fantastic fun, and it set me on a new path in life.

Without financial assistance, many bright, capable and deserving students might not be able to benefit in the

same way. It is important to me to help those who need that assistance so that they can make the most of their time at Balliol and, I hope, of the opportunities that follow.'



John Sandhu 1991, Jurisprudence

#### The Greville Smith Circle

Leaving a gift in your will to Balliol will help to secure Balliol's future. Over 200 Old Members and friends of the College, aged between 28 and 98, have already chosen to leave a legacy to Balliol. So that we can show our appreciation for these special gifts during their lifetime, we have created the Greville Smith Circle, named in honour of one of our most generous legators, Harold Greville Smith, who read Chemistry at Balliol in the 1920s. Gifts of all sizes have a lasting impact on everything we do here. Thank you.

'I am a member of the Greville Smith Circle, as well as an annual donor, because I want to help others access and enjoy the same wonderful education that I benefited from at Balliol, whilst also maintaining my connection with the College.

The Greville Smith Circle is great because the annual lunches provide an opportunity to meet

fascinating Old Members and friends of Balliol I wouldn't otherwise come into contact with, and I've made wonderful friends through it.'

Ella Kaye 2001, Mathematics and Philosophy



# College finances Year to 31 July 2020

This financial year began steadily, before everything changed with the UK Covid-19 national lockdown and the effective closure of College sites for Trinity Term 2020 and the vacation.

## Income and expenditure

Lockdown meant that income from accommodation, catering and summer conferences fell by 35% (£1.6m) compared to 2018/19; teaching continued online with fee income remaining as expected. While many College costs are fixed, expenditure was reduced by 8% through lower operational expenses, deferral of minor works, and participation in the furlough scheme by those staff unable to work.

Our focus was on maintaining academic activities and student support, spending £1.4m on scholarships, awards, bursaries and other grants. As in other areas of College life, much of this would not be possible without the support of donors.

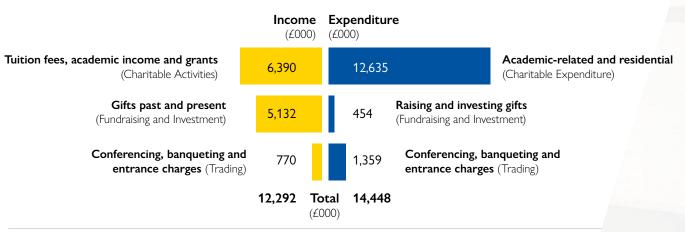
Development of new accommodation at the Master's Field continued and is due to be completed by spring 2021. A further £15m was invested during the year to July 2020, mainly funded through draw-down on the 2015 bond.

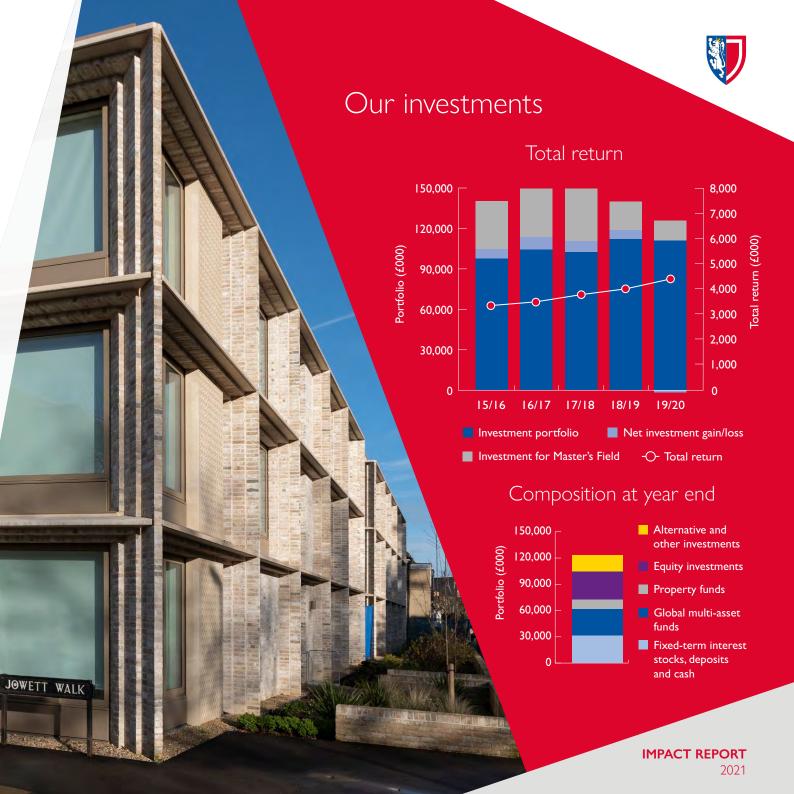
#### Investments and cash

Balliol's investments are designed to support the long-term financial health of the College and performed solidly, given market turbulence, with just a 2% decrease over the year.

The impact of the pandemic continued into the 2020/21 year, with increased costs in making College facilities 'Covid-secure' and conference income not expected for some months. Cash reserves have been depleted, but we continue to manage them carefully in order to handle the effects of these unusual times.

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





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 on cover and pages 5, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13 by Stuart Bebb

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