I am very pleased to be able to introduce this edition of King's College Philanthropy Report. King’s plays a leading role in the intellectual life of the University, which is itself one of the world’s elite institutions. All of us want to keep it that way: we are proud of our highly personalised teaching, with informal relations between academics and students; our unique Chapel and choir that goes hand in hand with musical excellence at all levels; our engagement in interdisciplinary research and encouragement of talented young academics; and the unique buildings in which we work.

There are many challenges besetting higher education in the UK, and our aim is to retain the resources and resilience to master these.

Greater support for students, music and research, together with making our great buildings future proof and more fit for the purposes of the next decades, demand major expenditure, of a sort that cannot be readily met from current income.

Philanthropy is an essential part of our strategy for the future. We are very grateful to the great number of you who, through your affection for the College, have generously supported our development aims. The stories in this report show how important this support can be. Thank you so much from all of us for this vote of confidence in our future; and we look forward to thanking those who will decide to give in the years to come.

Michael Proctor
Philanthropy gives King’s opportunities. This is true of the smaller, regular donations to support student hardship funds as well as the dramatic ones that enable us to put up new buildings and plan for the future.

My role is to ensure that the College finances are run well and expenditure is controlled. This means that we concentrate on our core purposes: supporting the College as a place of education, religion, learning and research. I think we do this well, and use our resources creatively to support our students and Fellows.

Nonetheless we are restricted in what we can do, and falling academic funding adds to the pressures we face.

It is the generosity of our donors that allows us to do more than the essentials, and to be imaginative and innovative. I hope that King’s will remain a leader in finding the most effective ways to support students and encourage research, and this is only possible with your help. I am very grateful that your generosity persists and grows.

Keith Carne
Emily Turner was awarded a Pigott Scholarship in 2016, enabling her to return to King’s following the successful completion of her undergraduate degree in Modern and Medieval Languages. She is now studying for an MPhil in Latin American Studies, whilst continuing to make the most of all that King’s has to offer.

“Without the scholarship I would never have been able to afford to come back to King’s,” says Emily. “I loved my first experience of studying here. There’s such a lot on offer both academically and socially, and I really wanted to return because the community here is wonderful.”

The funding King’s can offer through the generosity of donors makes it an accessible option to all who are bright enough, bringing together the lively community that is central to the College experience. “The graduate student body is very diverse with a lot of international students,” says Emily, “and it’s wonderful to meet and interact with so many different people with so many different perspectives – it’s a great place to study. I’m so grateful to all the donors who make that diversity possible.”

Pigott Scholarships are awarded to King’s graduates purely on the basis of academic excellence, and they were the vital opportunity that Emily needed to continue her studies at Cambridge. “The MPhil is an intense interdisciplinary course, with modules in a range of subjects from history to literature,” she says. “The Scholarship is a wonderful opportunity because arts funding is so difficult to find.”

The funding has also given Emily an extra year to explore career opportunities and make sure she is well equipped for her future.

“King’s opens the windows of opportunity for those students who have the determination and intellect to explore the world.”

Mark Pigott, Executive Chairman, PACCAR Inc (www.paccar.com) and his family are dedicated to supporting educational excellence across the globe. In 2009 they made a generous donation to King’s College to establish the Pigott Scholars Programme. PACCAR owns British Leyland commercial vehicles and manufactures the trucks at a world class facility in Preston, Lancashire.

Recognising the University of Cambridge as a leader in education, Mark established a permanent graduate scholarship programme for the very brightest students to study in any academic discipline at King’s. His endowment funds two UK King’s graduates each year to continue their studies in the arts, humanities and social sciences to Masters level at the College.

“King’s has a wonderful heritage that continues to evolve through the centuries, reflecting traditional and new educational paths. It is a joy to partner with such an inspiring organization,” shared Mark Pigott. “The Pigott Scholars are the next generation of leaders, and my family is proud to support their development.”

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“I’m really interested in pursuing academia further, maybe through a PhD in the same field, and ultimately I’d like to work in the NGO sector,” she says. “I’d encourage others not to feel held back by lack of personal funds. If there’s a course you want to pursue you should definitely go for it!”

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Fraser Alcock and Sabrina Crow, Access Crew

“Nine thousand pounds a year to go to university? I can’t afford that!”

In many of the schools visited by the King’s Access Bus, going to University is something that parents actively discourage their children from considering, seeing only the prospect of overwhelming debt. King’s undergraduates Fraser Alcock and Sabrina Crow are part of this year’s ten-strong Access Bus crew, which visits state schools in the North East of England each summer to dispel this and other fears, and inspire 14 and 15-year-olds about higher education.

“It’s about getting away from the misconceptions... and encouraging students to consider applying.”

Recognising the influential role that King’s has played in her life, she is keen to support the College in a way that is meaningful to her. “For me it’s about asking, ‘how can I give back?’ My experiences at King’s were so important in shaping my future career,” says Sarah.

Her donation to the College’s Access and Outreach Fund allows Sarah to directly support the same programme that set her on the path to success over three decades ago. “The Access Fund is very important because it underpins the College’s work with less advantaged students in the North East,” she says. “Given my roots, I believe that’s a very good cause: I give because I want to ensure that the fantastic education Cambridge offers can be available to students in this area, especially to people who, like me, may not have even considered it.”

Donor:
Sarah Legg (Natural Sciences, 1986)

Sarah Legg vividly remembers the time an outreach group from King’s College visited her sixth form college in the North East of England in the 1980s. “I was the first person in my family to finish secondary education,” she says, “so I would never have thought about going to Cambridge University if it wasn’t for their visit. The group were promoting King’s and Cambridge as an accessible choice. I received an invitation to visit the College and four of us travelled down to see what it was all about.”

The initiative was clearly effective, as Sarah later applied to read Natural Sciences at King’s and her potential was quickly recognised. Fast forward thirty years to her current position as Group General Manager and Group Financial Controller of HSBC Holdings plc. based in Hong Kong, and it is clear that the College’s work to boost social mobility has not only been a success, but has taken on a life of its own. Alongside the demands of an intense career, Sarah has become a champion of diversity and inclusion in the workplace and of giving everyone the chance to fulfil their potential.

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Impact:
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“It’s about getting away from the misconceptions,” says Fraser, “and encouraging students to do well in their GCSEs and consider aiming for University, especially in communities where higher education isn’t the norm.”

Fraser and Sabrina are wonderful advocates of the life-changing consequences of small sums of money. Both received a Cambridge Bursary – a no-strings-attached, means-tested sum awarded by the University – that has allowed them to accept their offers to study at Cambridge without financial worries for them or their families.

“The funding means that everyone can afford the full Cambridge experience – not just the academic side, but getting involved in sports and going to formal dinners, the things that make you part of the College community,” says Sabrina. “Coming to King’s really broadens your horizons,” she adds, “and once you’re here your background doesn’t matter. We’re all here because of our academic achievements.”
Donors:
Matthew and Uyen Stevenson (Economics, 2002)

“We donate because we believe that we should support our College. We’re very proud to be part of the history of King’s, and to contribute to its legacy.”

For Matthew and Uyen Stevenson, supporting King’s is their way of giving back to a place that has been central to their lives. They met in 2002 whilst reading Economics at the College, and have since married and forged successful careers in financial services.

The couple retain a close connection with King’s, returning regularly to attend events, listen to music in the Chapel, and immerse themselves in the unique College atmosphere. By donating to King’s General Purposes Fund they allow the College to direct their gifts to where they are most needed. “Whether it’s to the upkeep of the buildings, or supporting College events or students, we trust King’s leadership to make sensible decisions about where our money goes,” says Uyen.

In the past, the couple have also taken advantage of donating through a Give As You Earn scheme, which enabled King’s to benefit from regular donations. “It’s very easy to donate through Give As You Earn because once you’ve set it up it just runs itself and, as it comes from pre-tax income, part of it comes from what would otherwise have gone to the tax man,” says Matt.

Coming from what she describes as a modest background, Uyen herself benefitted from the generosity of donors whilst at King’s, receiving a Ferris Travel Grant to visit Europe. She firmly believes in the power of education to transform individual lives and communities, saying, “I believe that education is for all. By giving back I can help to provide others with the same opportunities that I had.”

Impact:
Sahaj Kaur, Third-Year Undergraduate, Medicine

“I’ve struggled with the workload, and in my first and second year there were times when it just became overwhelming.”

King’s undergraduate Sahaj Kaur is in her final year of an intense medical degree and, like many others in her position, is contemplating whether to go on to clinical school or take a different career path.

An award from the Ferris Fund allowed her to travel to the University of California, Berkeley for a summer research internship in tissue regeneration mechanisms. “It was an opportunity to explore my options, and see if I would actually enjoy research,” says Sahaj, adding, “my parents didn’t have the money to send me so I wouldn’t have been able to go if it wasn’t for this grant.”

In 2015/16 alone, 131 grants were awarded from the Ferris Fund to King’s graduate and undergraduate students wishing to travel overseas during their vacations. “It was a really good way of getting an insight into what research is like,” says Sahaj, adding, “I’d had no idea of the hours and hours of lab work that go into perfecting experimental techniques before you can be confident in your results. It was a lot of hard work but I really enjoyed it. It has definitely made me consider research as a career.”

The true value of this experience, though, extends far beyond the academic, as James Ferris (1931, Modern Languages and Law) undoubtedly knew when he made his generous legacy pledge to King’s to establish the Fund. James, with Mark Pigott, Sarah Legg, Matthew and Uyen Stevenson, and hundreds of other donors, has been instrumental in helping the College provide educational, sporting, social and cultural opportunities for our students.

“It was so great to go to a place where I didn’t know anyone and I had to do everything for myself. That was a stark contrast to home life and to Cambridge, but I realised I can survive.”
Philanthropy raised in year

- **Total:** £2,988,000
  - Of which expendable in year: £712,000

Origin of donation (number of gifts)
- **Members:** 1,157
- **Friends:** 2,883
- **Trusts, Foundations and Corporations:** 21

Origin of donation (value of gifts)
- **Members:** £2,530,836
- **Friends:** £418,320
- **Trusts and Foundations:** £38,844

317
- Hours of student supervisions directly supported by Members.

440
- Times the Supplementary Exhibition Fund, for student hardship, was called upon during the year.

£199,000
- Claimed in Gift Aid. Thank you for your declarations!

£1,000,000
- Boat House rebuild completed, enabled by philanthropy.

£1,200,000
- Restoration of the Great Organ in Chapel completed, supported by 30 individuals and trusts.

131
- Students received travel grants from the Ferris Fund.

10 years
- Worth of race fees and coaching have been paid for by a former KCBC member.

4,040
- Members and Friends made a gift through the year.

THANK YOU!

All data taken from the Financial Year 2015–2016
We are sincerely grateful to those who choose to invest in the future of our College. The impact of philanthropy can be seen on each page of this Report. We are particularly proud of the completion of the Boathouse and refurbishment of the Great Organ; two ambitious projects made possible through the extraordinary generosity of our donors.

Philanthropy plays an important role in the life of the College. From the collection plate at Evensong, to an extraordinary donation of £1,000,000 for our buildings, each gift we receive is deeply appreciated, and makes a difference.

Student support remains the most popular and vital area for donations, often made through our telephone campaigns. This year we raised an amazing £250,000 through the campaign, which will have a real impact on the lives of our students; many thanks to all who picked up the phone! The success of these campaigns demonstrates that when many Non-Resident Members and Friends join together to support the College with modest and regular donations, they make a very significant difference. The commitment of our King’s community is wonderful, and is essential to King’s future.

I am grateful for the contributions of all our donors, the Development Board, our many volunteers, and my predecessor as Director of Development, Julie Bressor. I was appointed to the permanent role in September and hope to have the opportunity to meet you at one of our College events in the coming months.

King’s shares the ambitions of the wider University community: we are an important partner in a world-class teaching and research University, serving an increasingly global society. Our shared vision and purpose is the source of our collective strength, and our fundraising agenda must be equally robust. We strive to improve what we offer to students, academics and the world at large in an increasingly competitive environment for higher education and research. Over the coming year I will share our further plans with you, and I hope that you will wish to be part of them.

Lorraine Headen

If you wish to discuss ways in which you may be able to help, or make a gift, or include King’s in your will, or any other aspect of this report, please do get in touch with the Development Office.

Development Office
King’s College
Cambridge CB2 1ST
United Kingdom
T: +44 (0)1223 331313
E: members@kings.cam.ac.uk
kingsmembers.org

Front page: Richard Gowers (KC 2014), Organ Scholar