THE KING’S CAMPAIGN

King’s College
CAMBRIDGE
WE CAN ONLY SEE A SHORT DISTANCE AHEAD, BUT WE CAN SEE PLENTY THERE THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Alan Turing (KC 1931)
For more than 500 years, King’s College has given creative and curious minds the opportunity to excel. Throughout our history, we have challenged and inspired and had an impact on the world out of all proportion to our size. Now we must look to the future.

The King’s Campaign, launched in December 2018, is a significant endeavour which will shape the next stage in the College’s future. It will ensure that we can continue to encourage talented applicants from diverse and under-represented backgrounds, deliver world-class academic teaching and research, and maintain and preserve our historic buildings.

King’s is a very special place. We have always looked to attract and educate the best students, who have the potential to excel, from all backgrounds. This is becoming ever more challenging; but if we are to advance, we must rise to that challenge. We need new thinking, about how we can do more, and more imaginatively; how we can bring more of the brightest and best here, and help them thrive; how we support our extraordinary people in a unique environment; how we foster innovation; and how we achieve the greatest benefit for students, for the Fellowship and for the College.

Our plans are ambitious; we are looking to raise £100 million.

Philanthropy has played a critical role in our past, and must now help shape what is to come. We are deeply proud to have launched the Campaign with the announcement of a £33.6 million gift from an alumnus to transform student access and support. But this is just the beginning.

You have already given generously, whether of your time, your expertise or your financial support. You have put us in a great position as we launch this Campaign. At this transitional moment for King’s, I hope you will want to be part of our future.

With your support, we can ensure that no student should have to forsake their studies, and that no prospective and qualified student should be discouraged from applying for financial reasons; that the activities that enrich and define College life, including music, performance, art and sport, are encouraged and developed; and that the physical fabric of our buildings and spaces, including our world-famous Chapel, is protected and enhanced.

There are many ways of being involved, and many ways to make a gift. In whatever way, and at whatever level, your contribution will make a real difference.

We are profoundly grateful.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL PROCTOR FRS
King’s College has always been a place for independent thinking and seeing the world differently; a place in which an education charged with creative and intellectual energy is driven by a unique physical environment. Where teaching experienced by exceptional undergraduate and graduate students is delivered by a remarkable Fellowship at the heart of a great University, and where a small but extraordinary community of some 750 Fellows and students shares an unbridled passion for learning and discovery.

The King’s Campaign, launched on Founder’s Day, December 2018, will see us raise £100 million to lead the way in encouraging and enabling more of the brightest students, regardless of their financial or social background; and to make sure that the work that began here in 1441 can continue and benefit future generations.

**OUR CAMPAIGN AIMS**

- **£50 million**: Encouraging the brightest and the best
- **£15 million**: Empowering minds
- **£15 million**: Protecting and enhancing our heritage
- **£20 million**: Fostering innovation

We encourage you to give to the areas you care about most. We invite you to learn more about this historic Campaign, and how you can help.
The King’s Campaign is raising funds in four areas that are most important to us. These are some of the opportunities you can support.

**ENCOURAGING THE BRIGHTEST AND BEST**

Attracting and enabling the best students regardless of financial background:

- **Access initiatives** including piloting new schemes with partners such as Project Access and Target Oxbridge.
- **New undergraduate student places** reserved solely for socially and economically disadvantaged (SED) applicants.
- **Programmes for post-offer support** for A-level students from low attainment schools.
- **Bridging programme** for SED applicants to improve attainment.
- **Cornerstone support** to a new University transition year for SED applicants.

- **Annual bursary** to enable SED students to have the option to accept summer internships, which are often unpaid, to help them further their career goals.
- **Enlarged Supplementary Exhibition Fund (SEF)** to help undergraduate students experiencing financial hardship.
- **New graduate bursary fund** to improve access and support for graduate students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**EMPOWERING MINDS**

Enabling our academics to continue to engage in world-leading and world-changing teaching and research, individually and collaboratively, including:

- **Additional graduate studentships** across a range of subjects.
- **Endowed funding for 18 College Research Associate (CRA) positions** supporting early career postdocs elected by the College.
- **Fund to support Junior Research Fellowships** to ensure the most brilliant young academics and teachers come to King’s, and are nurtured and developed.
- **New subject-led College Teaching Officer posts** in the College to ensure supervision teaching remains one of the top undergraduate experiences in the world.
- **Expansion of the student welfare and mental health fund** to improve provision and ready access to mental health services.
- **Endowment funding for the Library** as an essential resource available to students, Fellows and visiting researchers.

**PROTECTING AND ENHANCING OUR HERITAGE**

Strengthening and sustaining King’s unique physical and cultural environment through investment in new buildings and restoring and renovating our historic heart, through the following initiatives:

- **Refurbishment and restoration** of the interior of the Gibbs Building, a world-class heritage asset and the hub of teaching and learning at King’s.
- **Conservation of the fabric of the Chapel**, including the roof coverings, repairs to stone and woodwork, and cleaning and repair of the medieval stained glass.
- **Preservation of our renowned musical heritage** by establishing an endowed Fellowship for the Director of Music to support the position in perpetuity, and creating five new endowed Choristerships in the King’s College Choir.
- **Preservation of the unique King’s archival collections** for wider access to researchers now and in the future.

**FOSTERING INNOVATION**

Meeting changing needs for today’s students and Fellows by transforming the centre of the College:

- **Redevelopment of Chetwynd Court** including redesigning the internal spaces in the Wilkins and Scott Buildings, the bar and courtyard, as well as creating a state of the art subterranean lecture theatre equipped for electroacoustic music as well as academic workshops. Creating new spaces in which ideas, conversation and connections can flourish and flow.
- **Showcasing the College’s academic strengths**, through new opportunities for public lectures and exhibitions.
- **Bringing people together** in inventively conceived new spaces to improve and enrich our College community.
We feel a moral obligation to reach, support and fund as many of the best students as possible from all backgrounds. Contributions to our Student Access and Support Initiative (SASI) and other means for helping have the potential to truly transform young lives.

Our mission has always been to attract the very best students regardless of background and support them to achieve to the very highest of their ability. However, for too many of the most able students who could thrive at Cambridge, there are still real or perceived barriers to coming here.

We aim to improve equality of access and equality of opportunity to help combat entrenched social and economic disadvantage. At King’s, we are already leading the way in UK state school access and have been for many years, but we need to do more.

The King’s Student Access and Support Initiative will be the catalyst for seven areas of permanent change that will transform our ability to improve access and ensure that students with talent and tenacity will be welcomed, valued and thrive here.

The Supplementary Exhibition Fund and the new King’s Top-up Bursary Scheme play vital roles in supporting our undergraduates throughout their time here.

Student hardship at graduate level is an acute problem. There are now fewer grants available and less student loan availability, both of which penalise students from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. We need to be able to fund more MPhil studentships, and ensure that the lifeblood of Cambridge’s academic success, our world-class research students, are supported by endowed PhD studentships.
Encouraging the brightest and best

New initiatives to transform the student landscape

On 1 December 2018 the King’s Campaign was launched with the announcement of a £33.6 million gift from an alumnus, to kick-start the College’s transformational initiative to improve access for disadvantaged students.

Inspired by the College’s commitment to overturning barriers for students from disadvantaged social or economic backgrounds, the gift will finance the building of two new halls of residence with the rental income providing cornerstone funding for new student access and support.

With this remarkable investment as seed funding, the Student Access and Support Initiative (SASI) aims to be a catalyst for seven areas of permanent change:

1. increase the undergraduate intake from 125 to 135 per year, reserving 10 places solely for talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds
2. support a quota of students through the new University transition programme which is expected to begin in autumn 2021
3. launch a ‘post-offer, pre-A-level’ tuition scheme to correct the academic support deficit for SED offer holders. This is needed to reduce the much higher incidence of state school offer holders failing to attain their required A-level grades when compared with those in private education
4. offer an intensive summer bridging programme to improve attainment for offer holders who just make or just miss their offer grades, to introduce them to the teaching methods and environment of a Cambridge College
5. intensify our access initiatives to widen participation without academic compromise, and work with other leaders in the field to increase high quality applications from pupils with socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds
6. provide annual bursaries to undergraduates from economically disadvantaged backgrounds to enable these students to accept summer internships that help them further their career goals; these are often unpaid yet necessary for entry into specific careers
7. establish a new King’s graduate bursary fund to address disadvantages in graduate opportunities.

This is just the beginning. King’s has among the highest percentage of state school educated undergraduates of any Cambridge or Oxford college, but there is still so much more to be done to ensure greater access to Cambridge for talented students from less-privileged backgrounds.

To build on the work that has been started, we need your help.
ENCOURAGING THE BRIGHTEST AND BEST - HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We must ensure King’s is open to all the best students. Find out more about the funding opportunities for our transformational new Student Access and Support Initiative and other priority areas you can give to:

STUDENT ACCESS AND SUPPORT INITIATIVE (SASI)

£66,000 per annum; £2 million endowment
Support for a quota of students through the new University-wide ‘transition year’ scheme, starting in 2021/22, as an effective way to widen access to Cambridge and King’s.

£33,000 per annum; £1 million endowment
Providing enhanced ‘post offer, pre-A levels’ support for socially and economically disadvantaged applicants from schools with low attainment.

£57,000 per annum; £1.7 million endowment
Funding a post A-level intensive ‘bridging programme’ for potentially gifted students from low attainment schools, who have just missed their offers, to bring them up to speed prior to the Michaelmas term and introduce them to Cambridge teaching methods. Ongoing support will be given as needed to help reduce the risk of drop out or struggling academically.

£77,000 per annum; £2.3 million endowment
Piloting a broad range of new access initiatives, and growing those that are most successful – including mentoring and tutoring at A-level stage, and working with experts in the field such as Project Access and Target Oxbridge, to bring more students from less privileged backgrounds to Cambridge.

£150,000 per annum; £4.5 million endowment
Offering ex-gratia ‘study’ grants of up to £3,000 per annum (in addition to the Cambridge bursary), open to all undergraduates who qualify for the full Cambridge bursary.

£120,000 per annum; £3.5 million endowment
Helping the best graduate students, through a new Graduate Student Bursary Fund. SED students have the biggest disadvantage in funding post-graduate study; the new fund will offer up front bursaries of £3,000 per annum, along with additional academic development funding of £2,000 over a three year graduate course and up to one year of additional maintenance funding depending on need.

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TOP-UP BURSARY SCHEME

£135,000 per annum
Not all students facing financial difficulties come from recognised disadvantaged backgrounds. The Top-Up Bursary enables the College to take a wider approach to individual circumstances than household income alone, and assist students who may not qualify for University support.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXHIBITION FUND (SEF)

£600,000 endowment
One of the most vital student hardship safety nets, the SEF has supported generations of students since it was first established in 1886. Regular donations go to immediate needs; but further endowment of £600,000 would generate an income of £20,000 per annum and help meet the growing demands placed on the Fund.

Gifts of all sizes are welcomed towards these priority areas. Contact us to find out more – lorraine.headen@kings.cam.ac.uk

Although I’m the first from my school to get to Cambridge, King’s has provided an environment where I can challenge myself academically.

Zareen Roy-Macauley (KC 2017)
Encouraging the brightest and best

JOSEPH VAMBE’S STORY

Joseph Vambe has just completed his first year of studying Human, Social and Political Sciences. But he wouldn’t be at King’s were it not for the generosity and support of others.

Every year there are at least 3,000 students with top A-level marks who don’t go to any Russell Group university. On average, students from disadvantaged areas are five times less likely to go to a leading university than students from more affluent areas - even when they have the same exam results. Joseph was helped by Project Access, an organisation that works to address inequality in higher education and helps underprivileged students gain admission to and succeed at top universities.

“While I was studying for my A-levels I was contacted regularly by Project Access,” he says. “They introduced me to someone at Cambridge who took care to see how I was getting on with my studies, give advice and answer questions. They took an interest in me, growing up in an environment where the opportunities to study were quite challenging, to say the least – and that was really important.”

Joseph has also received other practical support that makes it possible for him to be at King’s. A bursary covers the full cost of his tuition fees and provides a maintenance grant. This enables him to focus on his academic studies, meaning that he can take a full part in College life – from the football club and politics’ societies to the Cambridge Union.

In the long term, his ambition is politics. “I am passionate about people, about this country, and its role as a platform for positive change in the world. I intend to take a leading role in that positive change.”

Donating to King’s, he is clear, makes the possibility of getting into Cambridge a reality for people who don’t even see it as a pipe dream.
Our academics engage in world-leading and world-changing research, individually and collaboratively, and teach the raw talent and radical thinkers who will change all our futures. We must invest in them, and in the health and wellbeing of all our community.

Undergraduate teaching at Cambridge offers a depth of detail and analysis often more akin to that found at PhD level. The College system ensures that all students are nurtured and the brilliant can bloom. Students are encouraged to challenge the questions as well as the answers; they leave equipped with the passion and knowledge to make their mark on the world.

At King’s, we nurture the brilliant young academics and teachers of the future, providing time, space and the environment for our brightest young thinkers to flourish. Funding in this area helps maintain the supervision system, the great strength that means Cambridge can teach how to think, not what to think.

A priority for our fundraising campaign is to welcome world-leading academics to our community of prolific and exceptional minds. Today’s academic staff are expected to produce world-class research alongside their teaching commitments. Junior Research Fellowships support gifted young researchers, but without additional resources we risk losing the most talented academics to other institutions. We need to invest in our people at the highest level. The King’s Campaign will help recruit and retain the top minds in their fields, and new College teaching posts will ensure that King’s can continue to provide teaching of the highest standard, and help the best young minds to find their life’s work.

"TO ME KING’S WAS ONE LONG, INVIGORATING CONVERSATION"

Zadie Smith (KC 1994)
Empowering minds - how can you help?

Find out more about our funding needs for graduate students, teaching support and student wellbeing:

**Graduate Studentships**

£30,000 per year for three years; £900,000 to endow one studentship

At any one time, King’s has 250 graduate students in the College. Increasingly, changes in fees and government funding sources mean that students must look to universities for financial support, and that the universities themselves must be able to offer this in order to attract the very best graduate students from both the UK and abroad. If we cannot, our potential candidates have no choice but to go to the places that can and will.

To offer the necessary funding extraordinary graduate student candidates deserve, and enable us to attract and retain more of the best students, King’s ambition is to create at least seven new graduate studentships across a range of subjects. Our ultimate aim is to build a fund of £6 million to endow these for students indefinitely.

*This is a priority area for Cambridge, and expendable donations to support graduates currently attract matching funding from the University.*

**College Research Associates**

£3,000 per annum; £90,000 to endow one CRA

College Research Associates (CRAs) greatly enhance the research strengths of the College. They are postdoc researchers already employed by the University, and who take an active role within the College, including the communication of research and interacting with the Fellowship and graduate students. The College appoints up to six College Research Associates each year for two years and would like to sustain and grow this programme.

**Junior Research Fellowships**

£170,000 per 4 year term; £1.26 million to endow one Junior Research Fellowship

Investment is needed in Junior Research Fellowships (JRFs) to help ensure we attract the most brilliant young researchers to King’s, where they are able to establish their career in research and teaching and are nurtured and developed.

King’s has a particularly strong tradition of postdoc research. Our ambition is to fund four of these positions philanthropically - one new JRF each year. We would like to create one of these Junior Research Fellowships as part of the Turing Initiative, for researchers working in the fields of Computer Science, Biotechnology, Mathematics and Mathematical Biology, or in the history and politics of gender and sexuality.

**College Teaching Officers**

£55,000 per annum; £1.65 million to endow one CTO

The strength of the collegiate system at Cambridge is that it allows targeted academic and pastoral support appropriate to individual student needs. College Teaching Officers (CTOs) are an essential part of the teaching provided by the College, supervising and directing studies in the most popular subjects, and are increasingly relied upon to support and maintain our teaching excellence.

King’s currently has only one CTO, in English, but would like to appoint a total of three. At present, our priority areas are Economics, Computer Sciences and Arts and Humanities, with one post to be created as part of the Turing Initiative. To allow for future changes in College needs, a flexible fund has been established for gifts of all sizes, to fund additional CTOs. This will enable King’s to continue to provide teaching, and hence admit students, to subjects where there may not be sufficient existing teaching resource.

**Welfare and Mental Health**

£100,000 per annum; £3 million endowment

Life as a student in Cambridge can be a stressful and demanding time. University mental health services have experienced a huge surge in demand over recent years, with a rising number of students accessing counselling, putting increasing strain on central resources.

**Endowing the Position of Fellow Librarian**

£2 million

The position of Fellow Librarian has existed since 1947. Whereas at other Colleges the Fellow Librarian tends to be an honorific position with little day-to-day responsibility, at King’s the Fellow Librarian is much more than a mere figurehead, with the library an essential part of scholarship for students, Fellows and visiting researchers.

£2 million will enable us to create a new endowment for the position of Fellow Librarian - a vital role in the care and preservation of King’s exceptional library and archives.

Gifts of all sizes are welcomed towards these priority areas. Contact us to find out more – lorraine.headen@kings.cam.ac.uk

The Student Welfare and Mental Health Fund established in King’s in 2017 has allowed the College to begin to create a programme of care and activities directed at the welfare and mental health of resident students. With an expanded fund we aim to endow the position of a full-time professional therapist; and to employ a part-time Mental Health Advisor to work with students experiencing difficulties.
‘Cambridge is giving me an extraordinary opportunity to take my experience in media and look at how it can be applied to big social challenges.’

Lindsay Branham is an American Emmy-nominated filmmaker who over the last ten years has documented what happens to communities in conflict or disaster areas. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, Central Africa and India she has seen at first hand the positive role that media can play in alleviating some of the most challenging and complex situations – and used her experience to help end violence. Interventions she designed using virtual reality in the Central African Republic transformed perceptions and reduced prejudice and discrimination between opposing groups even in a highly divided conflict area.

Now, following an MPhil in Social Psychology at King’s in 2017, Lindsay is pursuing a PhD with King’s Fellow Dr David Good in the Department of Psychology. Her research is looking at the social phenomenon and institutionalisation of white supremacy in the US, and how religious ideologies and policy are being used to uphold such constructs.

‘How do we reverse the drivers for destructive behaviour in social groups? How do we use the power of visual media to change damaging social patterns – to create new norms? As the world becomes more and more polarised, understanding how social divisions can be overcome is absolutely critical.’

Lindsay Branham’s PhD is supported by philanthropic donations from King’s alumni, with matched funding from the Cambridge Trust. ‘I feel humbled to be alongside amazing students from across the world and incredibly fortunate to have the time and space and support at this stage in my life and career to be able to look at pure research. Cambridge is enabling me to think and develop in a way that wouldn’t be possible anywhere else.’

‘Ultimately, I want to create knowledge others can build upon: together, we can solve the urgent issues facing our world, that determine both the quality and longevity of human and natural life for generations to come.’
Dr Dejan Gajic is the current Phillips Junior Research Fellow at King’s. Affiliated with the Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics, his work focusses on the Einstein equations.

‘I started my Junior Research Fellowship in 2017 and was lucky enough to be supported by the Phillips Fund. Research Fellowships form a great opportunity for early-career academics like me to develop their research skills before moving on to permanent academic positions.

It’s easy for researchers to get lost in their own academic specialisation and lose track of what’s going on in other fields of academia. Often when there’s a lot of pressure to publish, young researchers don’t have the space or time to explore beyond their own specialisation. But as a Research Fellow at King’s, I don’t find this. Colleges offer fantastic opportunities for the development and exchange of ideas, particularly around regular lunching and frequent dining together – interdisciplinary contact isn’t the exception but the norm.’

King’s has a strong tradition of postdoc research funding; the College has around 120 Fellows, including around 15 research Fellows at any one time. Junior Research Fellowships are usually for four years, and give the holders an opportunity to establish their career before moving on to become academics, teachers and independent researchers.

‘My area of research is in general relativity and partial differential equations. In particular, I study precise mathematical aspects of the dynamical stability of black holes and the nature of singularities inside black hole solutions of the Einstein equations. I feel extraordinarily fortunate to have the opportunity not only to study at Cambridge, and in the unique environment of the Maths Department, but to have benefited from the funding which supports the Phillips JRF here at King’s.’

Dejan Gajic was appointed thanks to the generous support of Ian (KC 1966) and Anke Phillips.

Dr Dejan Gajic, Phillips Junior Research Fellow
THE KING’S CAMPAIGN SO FAR

- **£100,000** donated establishes the King’s Entrepreneurship Fund and Competition
- **£450,000** donated to acquire an important collection of Rupert Brooke’s papers for the Archives
- **£1 million** donated to build the College Boat House
- **£1 million** donated to fully restore the King’s College Chapel organ
- **£2.5 million** donated in shares for the Chapel and Choir
- **£420,000** donated to establish a Student Welfare and Mental Health Fund
- **£250,000** gift for undergraduate teaching
- **£4.6 million** donated to maintain the fabric of the Chapel
- King’s Campaign public phase announced
- **£33.6 million** gift to build new graduate accommodation and launch of Student Access and Support Initiative (SASI)
- **£250,000** donated towards the renovation of the Gibbs Building
- **£250,000** donated to fund two Junior Research Fellowships
- **£250,000** gift to fund an MPhil studentship
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2011-2019: £2 million raised through the annual Telephone Fundraising Campaign


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Encouraging the brightest and the best
Empowering minds
Protecting and enhancing our heritage
Fostering innovation
Protecting and Enhancing Our Heritage

King’s, like so many other Cambridge Colleges, must not only preserve its historic rooms and buildings, in which so many of our great thinkers have studied, taught, and been inspired; but also ensure that its remarkable collections and cultural heritage are protected and developed for the generations to come.

King’s is immeasurably privileged to be on a historic site at the heart of Cambridge, with buildings of unsurpassed beauty and architectural importance. But with this privilege comes a responsibility to protect and enhance what has been bequeathed to us, and to make it fit for the next generation.

The Gibbs Building, first occupied in 1732, has seen famous residents from Rupert Brooke to Provost MR James and Dean Eric Milner-White. It continues to house many Fellows’ rooms for supervisions, and often represents the first encounter with King’s for prospective students. It is central to the life of the College. Following an external renovation in recent years, Gibbs’ interior is in urgent need of refurbishment.

The building most associated with King’s is the Chapel; one of the world’s most recognisable buildings, and home to one of the world’s most renowned and best-loved choirs, whose distinctive sound is shaped by the Chapel’s unique acoustics and organ. We aim to establish an endowed Fellowship for the Director of Music, to support this vital role in perpetuity, along with new endowed choristerships and a dedicated endowment fund to support the Choir.

The Chapel dates back to 1446, and features the largest fan vaulted stone ceiling in the world, unique intricate carvings, an impressive screen and some of the most exquisite medieval painted and stained glass windows surviving in the country. There is an ongoing programme of conservation and maintenance, and larger scale needs that have been identified in the latest conservation management report. Conservation of the King’s library collection and records, some dating back to the early 15th century, is also needed; the archives form both the College’s memory and its future resource.
Protecting and enhancing our heritage - how can you help?

Find out more about our funding needs to preserve King’s extraordinary heritage:

**Gibbs Building Refurbishment**

£10 million

A vital part of King’s as a centre of research, home for some of the College’s most remarkable people over the years and an iconic part of the College environment, Gibbs is also a world class heritage asset. £10 million is needed to repair and refurbish the interior, with the staircases and basement areas in particular in great need of renovation.

Gifts of over £10,000 will be commemorated within the Gibbs Building.

**King’s College Chapel and Choir**

£5 million

Conservation and management of the Chapel fabric and furnishings are an ongoing need. The Chapel and its Choir need an investment of at least £5 million, with £2.5 million required to create a new endowment to support in perpetuity the position of the Director of Music. A single chorister can be funded for a five year period for £120,000, or in perpetuity for £716,000.

An annual sponsorship of £25,000 of the College’s mixed voice choir, King’s Voices, will support its development and £15,000 will enable the Organ Scholar to record a solo recital album before they graduate, in a new initiative with King’s own record label - a remarkable opportunity for brilliant young musicians.

Gifts of all sizes are welcomed towards these priority areas. Contact us to find out more – lorraine.headen@kings.cam.ac.uk

**Conservation and Preservation of Library and Archives Collections**

£10,000 per annum

King’s records and the Library date back to the College foundation in 1441. Many rare books and manuscript treasures are preserved, and the Archives offer outstanding sources for researchers across a wide range of study. Conservation needs include the upgrading and improvement of the stores in which our special collections are kept, and new interventive work on the individual collection items that require it the most. To fund this important work, in the region of £10,000 a year is needed.
At the heart of the College environment the iconic Gibbs Building dating back to 1724 is a Grade I listed, world-class heritage asset.

After undergoing a thorough clean of its white Portland stone façade and significant restoration work to its stonework over recent years, the exterior of the Gibbs Building is in a good state of repair. However, the interior is in serious need of extensive renovation works.

Philanthropic support of £10 million is needed to repair and refurbish the rooms and staircases, and to create new spaces in the basement areas to allow best use of this valuable asset. Plans include the creation of additional supervision rooms in the basement, and major improvements to the building’s thermal performance, ventilation and lighting, without disturbing any of its historic fabric.

Among the Gibbs Building’s most famous residents are the poet Rupert Brooke, who was living in E1 in 1907, the King’s Provost and ghost story writer MR James, who had rooms on H staircase, and Eric Milner-White, Dean, who occupied F1 and who in 1918 devised the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

Today the Gibbs Building continues to house a large number of Fellows’ rooms for supervisions, as well as the Tutorial Office and Choir Office, and the Turing Room in the basement of E staircase. It remains the location for many applicant interviews, and often represents – as it has for centuries - the very first encounter with the College for prospective students. Pastoral appointments and supervisions still take place in Gibbs, and it remains central to the life of the College.

A gift of £10 million will offer a naming opportunity. Gifts of over £10,000 will be commemorated within the Gibbs Building.
The Chapel is one of the country’s, and indeed the world’s, most important medieval buildings; as well as a uniquely inspiring setting for daily worship. The College is solely responsible for its upkeep and maintenance and undertakes to keep it open as a place for the public to visit and where all can attend services. The cost of maintenance and restoration is an ever-growing demand on the College’s resources.

The architectural majesty of the Chapel, the extraordinary musical quality of the Choir and the inspirational dignity of the services are admired and loved by millions of people across the globe. The excellence of King’s music depends on the continued provision of education for the sixteen choristers at King’s College School, fourteen Choral Scholars and two Organ Scholars at the College, and the employment of a full-time Director of Music.

Since 1876 there have been only five permanent Directors of Music, each of whom has left their mark on the style, repertoire and public perception of the Choir.

In 2019, Sir Stephen Cleobury handed over the role to Daniel Hyde (KC 2000) after 37 years of outstanding service to the College and the Choir. To mark Sir Stephen’s retirement, King’s is looking to create a new endowment to support the position of Director of Music in perpetuity.

The Director of Music is steward and guardian of the unique and world-class musical heritage that King’s College Choir has achieved over the centuries. The College currently supports the school fees of the sixteen choristers, as well as all the expenses associated with the Choir. We have a target of £2.5 million to establish the endowment for the Director of Music, and need five fully-endowed choristerships.

While the main structure of the Chapel is sound, there is an ongoing programme of conservation and maintenance. Current necessary works include repairs to the roof coverings, cleaning and repairs to the interior and exterior stone and woodwork, and cleaning and repair of the medieval stained glass. The current endowment funds for the Chapel are simply not sufficient to meet the needs of this important building.
Fostering innovation

We need to transform the educational and social spaces of the College to meet the changing needs of today’s students, Fellows and alumni, and to bring the King’s community even closer together.

The special nature of King’s has been fostered over the centuries through the intimate bond between the extraordinary physical environment, and a driving intellectual energy.

Many of the College’s buildings still serve the purpose for which they were first built – to study, to eat together, to dispute and learn – but the life of the College is ever-changing and we need to create new spaces that meet new needs, and bring our students and Fellowship closer together in different ways, strengthening and enriching our society.

At the forefront of our building projects is our aspiration to completely transform and revitalise the Chetwynd Court area. A new subterranean lecture and performance auditorium - which will have the only electroacoustic recording studio in the University - along with new multi-purpose seminar and event rooms, new music practice rooms, a much needed renovation of the bar, Chetwynd Room, Keynes Hall and courtyard, will create an outstanding new space in which the flow of people, ideas, conversation and connections will be fostered.

KING’S HAS ALWAYS BEEN OPEN, IMAGINATIVE, WILLING TO INNOVATE AND BREAK NEW GROUND. THESE NEW SPACES ARE THE ARCHITECTURAL EXPRESSION OF THAT OPENNESS.

Professor Peter de Bolla (KC 1976)
FOSTERING INNOVATION - HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Find out more about our funding needs to transform and revitalise the spaces at the heart of the College:

CHETWYND COURT REDEVELOPMENT

£20 million

Chetwynd Court and many of its surrounding spaces, including the Keynes Lecture Theatre, currently present a mix of poorly designed function rooms, the result of incremental changes and additions over the last 100 years. There is an extraordinary opportunity now to reimagine the College’s most important central spaces, transforming them into the areas fundamental to how King’s will work and thrive in the next 100 years.

Elements of this project potentially include redesigning the internal spaces in the Wilkins and Scott Buildings and the courtyard; creating a superb and fully accessible auditorium that will open the College to new opportunities for academic and creative exchange; and ensuring that the bar is renovated to once again be the open space where all of King’s sits, talks, passes through or just enjoys. Making a gift to this Campaign priority is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have a transformative impact on the area that truly represents the beating heart of King’s.

£20 million is required for the Chetwynd Court redevelopment. Significant gifts will offer a naming opportunity. Gifts of over £10,000 will be commemorated within the development. Contact us to find out more – lorraine.headen@kings.cam.ac.uk
I came to King’s in 1986. I arrived from a school in Middlesbrough that was challenged in many ways. Like so many others before and after me, I have benefited more than I could ever imagine from my education and time at King’s.

How we make more such opportunities available to the widest possible number of students who could grow and succeed here is more than a nice aspiration; it is our duty. It is not enough simply for King’s to tread water. We must ensure that we rise to the challenge of enabling King’s to continue to develop minds that help us see the world differently; and that we meet our responsibility to society. I believe that the King’s Campaign is essential in helping us deliver on this mission.

In the past, celebrated names from Alan Turing and EM Forster to Xu Zhimo and John Maynard Keynes have shared a similar King’s experience to our own; and in modern times alumni such as Zadie Smith, Judith Weir and George the Poet continue to blaze new trails. Now, as the supporters and benefactors of today, we must ensure that we continue to build on the foundations laid by previous generations. With our help, the future minds that will transform the way we all live will find a home at King’s.

This is our role, and our time. This is our opportunity to make a difference. King’s has been the making of so many of us; together we can be the making of King’s, as it enters the next chapter in its history.

SARAH LEGG (KC 1986)
HOW YOU CAN HELP

As you have read, King’s aims to be at the forefront of providing equality of access to all who could thrive here; and equality of opportunity to our students once they are here. We see King’s as a catalyst for change – as we have been so often throughout our history.

We have a duty to protect and preserve the historic buildings whose future has been left in our trust. Through a successful Campaign, we will ensure that our College is sufficiently equipped to continue to be a world-leading environment for learning, where great minds collaborate for the benefit of all.

At the same time, we recognise that King’s would not exist without the generous philanthropy of people over the centuries who wanted to make a difference, from our Founder in 1441 to our many benefactors today.

We are incredibly grateful to all our alumni, supporters and friends who have already given so much, whether of your financial commitment, your time, or your engagement, and at every level.

Thank you - without your long-standing support we would not have launched this Campaign from such a strong position.

We hope that you have been inspired by what you have read, and that you would like to be involved even further. We need your help to make the King’s Campaign successful. Small or large, every gift matters; every gift makes a difference. Together your gifts will help King’s achieve its ambitious and transformational aims and shape the next stage in the College’s future.

We invite you to be in touch and to be involved in this important moment, in the making of the next chapter of King’s history.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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