



Philanthropy  
Report 2023/24

KING'S COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE







THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

King’s is founded on philanthropy. Quite literally: in 1441 our founder, Henry VI, used his riches to start the College, and ever since we have relied on the generosity of our supporters to operate. And since I stepped into the role of Provost last autumn I have seen at first-hand the power of this philanthropy.

Numbers tell part of the tale: thanks to your help, the £100 million King’s Campaign has now nearly reached its goal. We are very proud of this; not least because when we first established this goal, many told us it would be almost impossible to hit.

What is more important, though, are the people this has touched. King’s is committed to encouraging, admitting and supporting students from a wide range of backgrounds, many of whom have overcome considerable obstacles to study at Cambridge. We are proud to say that almost half of the donations we receive go directly to students, to help in multiple ways. Some need help because they find themselves facing unexpected financial emergencies. For them, resources like the Supplementary Exhibition Fund are an invaluable lifeline. Others need mental health support, which is why your gifts to the Student Welfare and Mental Health Fund make such a difference.

But the student experience is about much more than academic achievement. So we are also using your donations to widen students’ horizons, with trips to the theatre, support for sports and travel to ensure students can enjoy their Cambridge experience without having to worry about what they can afford. We are also helping students

prepare for life after Cambridge, with the creation of a new post of Futures Tutor that will offer support for future career pathways, and help organise mentoring, internships and other opportunities.

Last but not least, your generosity also supports our brilliant academics. Thanks to philanthropy we are creating three new endowed Research Fellowships, that aim to build on our intellectual legacy to support the creation of new ideas for the future.

Consider this, if you like, as the human equivalent of the symbolism encapsulated in the solar panels that we recently installed on the Chapel roof: yes, we have a proud intellectual history that has made us such a famous ‘face’ for Cambridge; but we know that even as we conserve this past we must remake our intellectual riches for the 21st century. Thanks to your help, we are using our legacy as a springboard for more innovation, via students and academics alike.

So, once again, I am deeply grateful for the incredible generosity shown by our alumni and friends. It has been a pleasure to get to know many of you during my first year as Provost and I look forward to meeting many more of you over this year and beyond! On behalf of everyone at King’s: **thank you.**

Dr Gillian Tett  
Provost



**79%** of our offers to UK schooled applicants went to those from the **maintained sector** (2024 admission)

**18** successful applicants took part in the 2024 **Bridging Programme**

**22%** of our 2024 intake of UK schooled undergraduates come **from areas of lowest progression to higher education**, and **32% from widening participation backgrounds**

**15 schools** took part in the Year 12 **Access and Applications Support programme**

**12 schools** in the North East were visited by our **Access Bus**

## AN INSPIRING ACADEMIC JOURNEY

When you read this, the fourth and largest cohort ever of undergraduate researchers will have shared their projects at the annual Summer Research Programme showcase event, and we are delighted to see that some of those who took part in the Programme in previous years have been inspired to continue their academic journey as postgraduate students. Like **John Palmer** (KC 2021, PhD candidate) who spent the summer of 2023 working with the Harris Lab in the Department of Plant Sciences.

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Supported by the King’s Summer Research Programme at the end of my second undergraduate year, I was able to complete a fascinating eight-week project in the Department of Plant Sciences. My project focused on developing cutting-edge tools for manipulating gene expression in plants. Hopefully, these tools will be used in the future to improve crop yields and global food security.

As well as the academic and technical skills I acquired, the conversations I had with my supervisor and other researchers inspired me. As of October, I am a PhD candidate in Plant Sciences at King’s and I am greatly looking forward to being part of the College community once again.

As someone from a small town in the North East of England, I never imagined it would be possible to study at Cambridge, let alone pursue a career in academia. I am extremely thankful to King’s initiatives, such as the Summer Research Programme, for giving me the confidence I needed to take this next step in my education.

Pictured left: John Palmer.

Our College has been a pioneer of forward-thinking around access and widening participation and was aware that the most effective interventions start at an early age. In collaboration with IntoUniversity, King’s is now helping to establish a learning centre for students aged 7 to 18 in Middlesbrough, in the North East of England, our College Area Link where we focus most of our access work. The centre, due to open in spring 2025, will offer after-school support sessions and tutoring as well as workshops, study weeks, career engagement activities and mentoring.

Gifts from **Julia Hands** (KC 1979) and her husband Guy, **Sandy Peng** (KC 2005), and **Chris Hodson** (KC 1985) meant that this centre could become a reality. **Ralph Pickles** (KC 1965) and other alumni in the area or from the area have also supported the

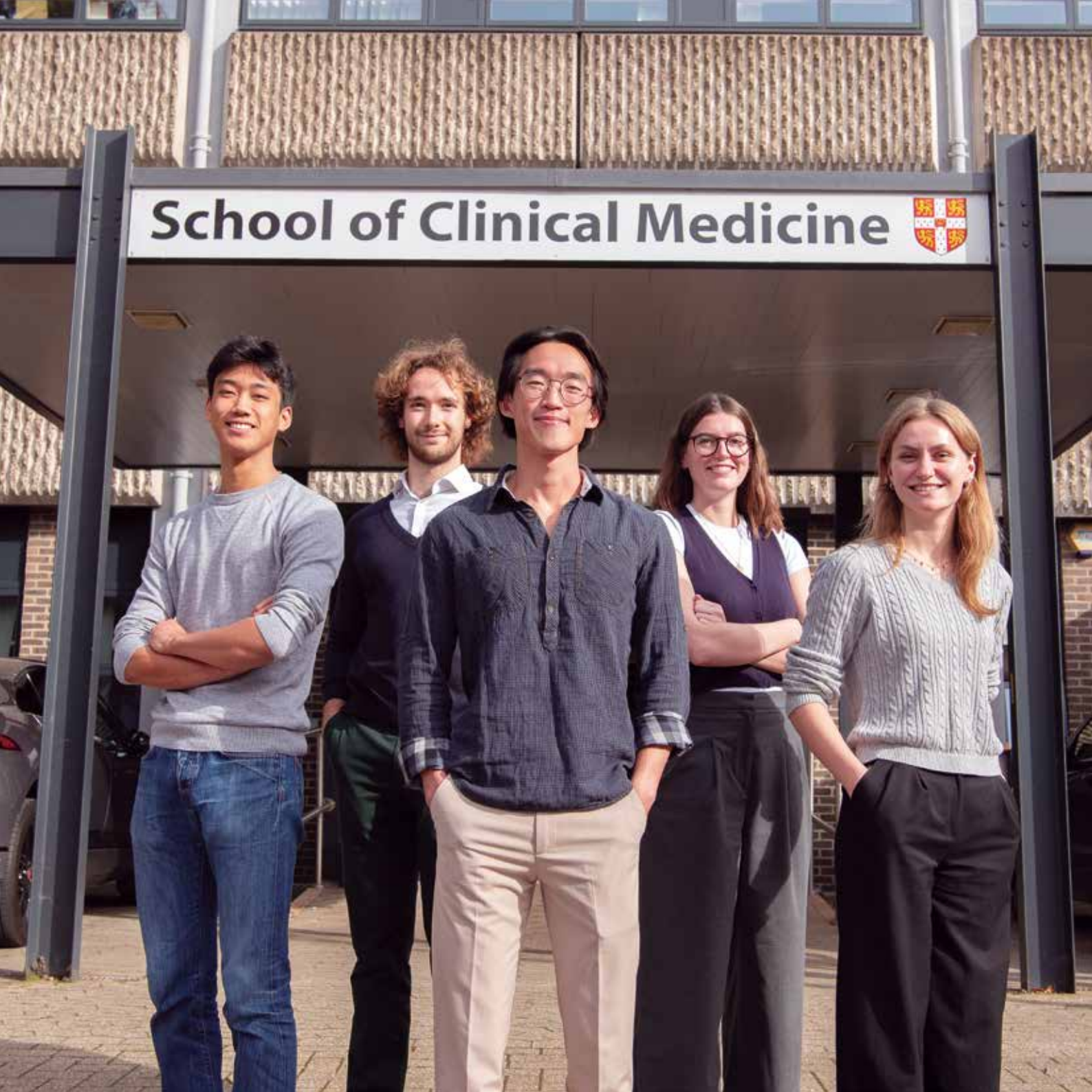


initiative with their advice and connections. And a significant legacy gift from the late **Allen Samuels** (KC 1970, pictured left) will help bolster the project further.

In the academic year 2023/24 the **Erika Swales Fund** allowed third year undergraduate student Julia Szaniszlo to head to Munich for part of her Year Abroad. The Fund supports the teaching and learning of German and provides opportunities for students who in the past would have benefitted from the Erasmus Programme.

As this goes to print Georgia Denham and Glen Downie, the two current recipients of a **King’s College/Hartley Rogers CBSO Scholarship in Orchestral Composition**, are taking part in the first of two workshops with a full orchestra of eighty players — an invaluable opportunity for talented young composers studying at Cambridge.





## FACING OLD AND NEW CHALLENGES

In the last year the College has continued to receive generous support from alumni towards the Supplementary Exhibition Fund (SEF) but various new funds have also been established to provide a safety net for students who are at a particular disadvantage.

This is the case with medical students who in recent years have seen the value of their NHS bursaries reduced substantially and are now at a greater risk of hardship and not being able to complete their studies.

Motivated by this, **Tom McAuliffe** (KC 1973) has established a specific **Clinical Medical Student Hardship Fund** to ensure that King's medical students can focus on their studies, prepare for their next steps and make the most of their time at Cambridge without constant financial stress.

And from the academic year 2024/25 King's fifth year medics can benefit from the new **Cuss Family Clinical Studentships**, established by **Francis Cuss** (KC 1972) and his wife **Rosalind**.

“

These studentships will make a significant difference in levelling the playing field for students from lower income backgrounds and have already made a difference to me and my family. A kind donation such as this improves access to Medicine, and stops the final years of clinical school (on a background of some very hard work) becoming an insurmountable financial challenge. I cannot express in words the relief I feel from having this grant as I budget and plan for the year ahead. It also opens up more opportunities, which may otherwise have been financially prohibitive, and as such widens the breadth of experiences during my education — allowing me to fully take advantage of all the opportunities there are at Cambridge. **Kyle Michie** (KC 2017, fifth year Medical Sciences)

Pictured (L-R): James Wang, Adriaan Olivier, Colin Lee, Jess Webb, and Grace Hattersley.

Studying at Cambridge can be particularly challenging for students without the help of a family network, as they have additional worries around accommodation and financial support. The **Turing Brewer Bursaries**, recently established by **Peter Brewer** (KC 1992) and his wife **Vanessa Smith**, will assist students who are distanced from their families specifically over the holiday periods, ensuring that they are housed during their studies so that they can meet their full potential.

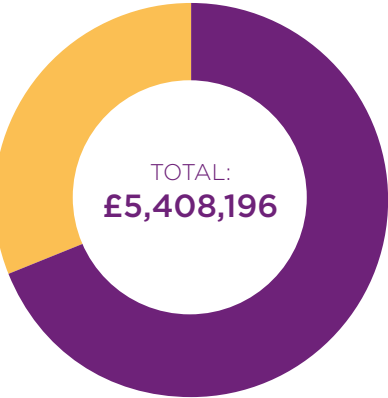
Each year King's holds a dinner for second year undergraduates to mark the mid-point of their studies, and thanks to a generous contribution from **Marcus Clapham** (KC 1961) tickets for the 2024 'Halfway Hall' were heavily subsidised meaning more students could take part in this very special event.

The College also launched the **Susan Tomes Music Prize**, founded by renowned concert pianist and writer Susan Tomes (KC 1972), aiming to recognise the positive impact that all forms of music have on the King's community.

Nominations were invited from Fellows, staff and students who had been moved by a moment of music-making by a King's student, and the winners (announced in June) were graduate student Spencer Lee Boya and undergraduates Kenzie Robertson, Adam Howell, and Mahalia Nesbeth Bain.

Supported by the **Chaffield Shaw Trust**, the **King's Digital Humanities Programme** is now available to undergraduate and graduate students in the Humanities to build their literacy skills in coding, data and digital technologies. These skills will support students with their tripos studies and can be carried forward into future research and employment.

Your donations in 2023/24



■ ENDOWED FUNDS RAISED  
■ EXPENDABLE FUNDS RAISED

"King's provided not only a thriving educational environment, which supported me in my academic interests, but a home where I learned how to contribute to a community. These lessons in community-building have been both formative and essential in shaping my perspective going forward in life.

Since graduating, it has been important for me to give back what I can in the hope that students like me might also find a home at King's, to reinforce the College's mission for future generations and to support students of all backgrounds to realize their potential."

RORY BOYD  
(KC 2009)



10.7%  
of MEMBERS made a  
PHILANTHROPIC GIFT



14 NEW LEGATORS  
totalling **£11,365,843**  
in NEW LEGACY PLEDGES

TOGETHER WE MAKE KING'S

*giftaid it*

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declarations!

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12 STUDENTS calling as  
part of the annual **Telephone  
Fundraising Campaign**



More than **450**  
ALUMNI reached  
around the world

TFC



**£186,778** raised in support of  
STUDENT HARDSHIP and MENTAL  
HEALTH resources



1,240  
TOTAL  
DONORS

800 REGULAR  
DONORS

160 NEW  
DONORS

£100M



All your gifts have  
contributed to the  
success of the  
King's Campaign.



Encouraging  
the brightest



Empowering  
minds



Protecting  
our heritage



Fostering  
innovation

THANK YOU!

All data taken from financial year  
2023/24. The list of donors for 2023/24  
will be included in the forthcoming  
2024 Annual Report.





## STIMULATING ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

There is often very limited funding available for MPhil students, which makes some of the current programmes at King's especially relevant.

The **Reiter King's-Yale fellowship** at King's has just welcomed its fifth consecutive scholar and, thanks to the generosity of its benefactors, it will continue to support MPhil students from Yale in the coming years. **Tyler Jaeger**, who studied for an MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History in the 2023–2024 academic year, says “I've loved being part of the King's graduate community. It's a welcome change from American university life — where graduate students tend to be separated by department and siloed from the undergraduate and professional school students — to be in such proximity with such a diverse group.”

**Raquel Sequeira** (Reiter King's-Yale scholar 2022–2023) recently came back to King's for her graduation ceremony and summarised her experience of life at King's:

“My biggest engagement was coxing for the Boat Club. The same week of the KCBC dinner, I sang in my last three concerts with the University Symphony Chorus. Through the year I also got involved as a reader in Chapel, including for the live radio broadcast of *[A Festival of] Nine Lessons and Carols* at Christmas.

In the 2024–2025 academic year, the recently established **EFG Fund** will be supporting six scholars, all postgraduate students from under-represented groups in STEM subjects, and with an entrepreneurial mindset, and all on courses of up to one year. EFG, the leading Swiss private banking and asset management firm, has also sponsored the two most recent Residential Programmes of the King's Entrepreneurship Lab.

Pictured left: Galia Newberger, Reiter King's-Yale scholar 2024–2025.



One of the priorities of the King's Campaign was to boost investment in Research Fellowships to help ensure King's can attract the most brilliant young researchers, and that they can establish their career and be nurtured and developed. These post-doctoral positions are generally for a four-year term, and bring a breadth of world-class experience to the College and to Cambridge.

A recent gift from **Roger Evans** (KC 1964) and **Aey Phanachet** will be supporting two Research Fellowships (in any subject area) in perpetuity, stimulating academic exchange in the College's supportive atmosphere for many future early-career academics.

And a generous donation from **Mervyn King** (KC 1966) will endow also in perpetuity a Research Fellowship in subject areas which might include but not be limited to Economics and Economic History.

“Donors understandably often like to direct gifts for research to areas they are particularly interested in, but of course research needs to be at the cutting edge, and the cutting edge moves, both within fields and between fields. So it is particularly wonderful to have donors who have seen this and have made their generous support for research open as to the field. That will guarantee that we can remain always at the forefront.

**Professor Robin Osborne, Vice-Provost**





## THE GIBBS 300TH ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE

On 25 March 1724 the foundation stone for the Gibbs Building was laid. The building began to be occupied in the summer of 1732 and this magnificent architectural masterpiece has held an iconic place at the heart of King's ever since.

We celebrated Gibbs turning 300 this year by launching the Gibbs 300th Anniversary Challenge, aiming to raise £25 million towards the costs of much needed renewal and restoration. Funds raised will enable the building's interior repair and restoration, refurbishment of the four staircases E, F, G and H, and Fellows' sets and other rooms, and fully transform the basement areas.

Gibbs also urgently needs to 'go green'. That means using the need for renovations as an opportunity to replace the gas boilers with heat pumps, and to add double glazing and insulation. King's is committed to making its buildings, old and new, as sustainable as possible. The internal improvements to Gibbs to make it fit for the 21st century and beyond could ultimately make an even greater impact on reducing the College's carbon footprint than the installation of the solar panels on the Chapel roof.

To kickstart the Gibbs appeal King's alumnus **Malcolm McKenzie** (KC 1977) has pledged £1 million to establish a matching gift fund to double gifts given over the course of 2024. We're hugely grateful to all those who have donated so far — it is not too late to join the challenge!

“

The Gibbs Building is one of the great treasures of King's, and of Cambridge. But for those who studied here, it's more than just a historic building. For generations of King's students, it's where the first nerve-racking admissions interview took place, where supervisions — terrifying or inspiring — happen, and where lifelong connections have been made. I'm delighted to be supporting the important restoration of Gibbs, and hope others will join me.

**Malcolm McKenzie**

“

I came up for interview on a cold and misty day in November 1962. Having spent the night in a room in the 'Drain' (subsequently demolished when the Keynes building was erected), I was interviewed the next day in the Gibbs Building by the Senior Tutor, John Raven. I remember nothing of the interview, except for the fact that I had been overwhelmed by the beauty of the buildings, and the almost tangible sense of 500 years of learning that emanated from the College. I desperately wanted to be accepted.

**Tony Lonton** (KC 1963)



For more on the history of Gibbs and some of the men and women who have lived and worked in the building, and how to join the Gibbs 300th Anniversary Challenge, head to [bit.ly/Gibbs300](https://bit.ly/Gibbs300) or scan this QR code.

## CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF ALAN TURING

At 3.7 meters tall and sitting at the heart of the College, between the Gibbs Building and Webb's Court, a new sculpture by Sir Antony Gormley is a striking tribute to Alan Turing (KC 1931), “a man who was pivotal in changing the course of all our lives.”

*True, for Alan Turing* was commissioned as part of the College's programme to celebrate the life and legacy of Turing. It was generously supported by **Roger Evans** (KC 1964) and **Aey Phanachet**. The sculpture is an important addition to the College's permanent collection. Antony Gormley wanted the work to be something “that the life of the College lives with”, and this is proving to be the case — as Professor Nicolette Zeeman, Keeper of the College Collections said, “It looks as if it has always been here — people certainly seem to enjoy having it in our midst and stopping for conversation near it. We're hugely grateful to everyone who helped make this happen.”







## YOUR WILL CAN CHANGE THE FUTURE

Legacies are vital to the future of our College and an opportunity for you to ensure that what you care about lives on. If you are creating or updating your Will, please consider including King's College Cambridge as a charitable beneficiary.

The College is exceptionally grateful for all legacy gifts. A gift could be a fixed sum of money (a pecuniary gift), something specific, or a percentage share of what is left after all debts, including possible care costs, and other gifts to loved ones have been made (a residual gift).

Satirist and actor **John Bird** (KC 1955) decided to remember the College in his Will, leaving a pecuniary gift to the Future Fund. His family very generously decided to continue John's legacy by donating royalties belonging to the estate to the College to support the Supplementary Exhibition Fund (SEF), helping alleviate student hardship in the years to come.

Norwich-based **Olga Millson** lived to the age of 101, surviving her husband Alan and daughter Caroline. She remembered loved ones in her Will but part of her remaining residual estate was generously directed to King's and its Future Fund by her executors. Gifts from Friends of King's like Olga are vital in supporting the future of the College.

Always seek independent, qualified advice before making a legacy — your advisor will confirm whether leaving a gift in your Will to King's, which has charitable status, could have tax advantages for your estate too.

For more information, to start a conversation or for a copy of our 'Your Legacy' brochure, please visit [kings.cam.ac.uk/legacy](https://kings.cam.ac.uk/legacy), email [legacies@kings.cam.ac.uk](mailto:legacies@kings.cam.ac.uk) or call **+44(0)1223 331481**

## THANK YOU

As I write this message, we are on the cusp of reaching our ambitious King's Campaign target of raising £100 million. That we would achieve this was never in doubt in my mind, as I know how hugely generous our alumni and friends are; but others were not so confident! We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has helped us get to this major milestone — the impact of your support is apparent across the College, and we are enormously excited about the future opportunities it will enable.

This financial year we received £5.4 million in new gifts and pledges. Every gift counts, at every level, and we're particularly grateful to the very many of you who contributed to this year's Telephone Fundraising Campaign which raised nearly £187,000 for student

hardship and mental health resources in College; and to all who give regularly, often over very many years. We are very aware of the commitment this shows, and what a reflection it is of your trust in us.

Legacies to King's can also have a profound and lasting effect — often helping future generations far into the future — and we are hugely grateful to have had 14 new legators this year, and to have received over £11 million in new legacy pledges.

Your kindness has helped students in myriad big ways — from handling unexpected financial emergencies and getting direct support for mental health challenges — to smaller ones. And when they come to contemplate the end of their time at Cambridge, the College's new philanthropically funded Futures Tutor will have a huge impact on how they navigate the task of deciding and preparing for what's next.

When the Campaign total is reached our fundraising effort will, of course, continue. We want to remove more financial barriers to ensure that King's can welcome all students with the potential to excel here and help our undergraduate and graduate students thrive in every way we can.

The role you play in this, and in all that we achieve, is vital. On behalf of all at King's who benefit so greatly from your generosity — thank you.

**Lorraine Headen**  
**Director of Development and Fellow**

Lorraine Headen © Jooney Woodward 2023. Photographed for '50 Portraits - An Exhibition'.





For outstanding philanthropy, often over the course of a lifetime, donors may be invited to join the **1441 Foundation**, or be nominated to be elected as Fellow Commoner or Fellow Benefactor. Find out more at **[bit.ly/KCDonorRecognition](https://bit.ly/KCDonorRecognition)**



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CAMBRIDGE  
**THE KING'S CAMPAIGN**