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Donor Report 2018/19

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Thank you from Merton

As your new Warden, I have had the privilege and pleasure to connect with Mertonians from far and wide in the few months since I joined the College in October 2019. Your affection for Merton is clear and your generosity is equally impressive. As the stories here attest, your continued support has enabled our students and academics to excel and make the most of their time at Merton. It is an honour for me to thank you sincerely on behalf of the whole Merton community.

One of the highlights of the past year has been the completion of the College's appeal to endow a graduate scholarship in memory of Dr Roger Highfield, former History Tutor and Librarian. Our thanks go to all the historians and friends who made this possible and in particular to the Acting Warden, Professor Steven Gunn (1979), and to David Ure (1965; Bodley Fellow) for leading this appeal.

Further support for graduate scholarships at Merton will be key to meeting the College's aim to ensure that all talented young scholars who secure a place at Merton at graduate level are able to pursue their research unconstrained by financial difficulties. The College has a responsibility to make sure that the next generation is given the opportunity to make a difference in the world



through their pursuit of knowledge and ground-breaking discoveries.

Alongside support for individual students, Merton continues to enhance its teaching provision through safeguarding tutorial posts for the future. Physics at Merton has always been highly regarded and this is testament to the strength of the current teaching team, led by our three Tutorial Fellows, and their predecessors Michael Baker, Michael Bowler and James Binney. It is fitting that our current appeal to support a Physics Tutorial Fellowship in memory of Michael Baker should be one of the College's priorities.

I am also spending my first year as Warden thinking about future priorities. From discussions with colleagues, students, alumni and friends, clear themes are emerging. Support for students at all levels, opportunities for underpinning research activity, and creating spaces for study and wellbeing in Merton will all be key to the success of the College. I would very much like to hear from any Mertonians who are willing to help us shape our ideas as they develop.

With thanks for your continued and generous support.

Professor Irene Tracey Warden

Creating life-changing

Merton is committed to ensuring that talented individuals from all backgrounds can access an Oxford education at undergraduate level. The Merton-Oxford Bursaries, created with the support of alumni and friends, provide financial support to undergraduates whose overall household income is below £42,875. They are crucial for students who might be deterred from applying to Oxford for financial reasons.

Merton supports its students financially in many other ways too, including travel awards, choral scholarships and summer residency grants.

We talked to three undergraduates to discover how funding from Merton has created opportunities for them.

The Merton-Oxford Bursary

Hannah Smith is an undergraduate in her third year, greatly enjoying her History course, which has taken her from the Norman Conquest through Medieval times to 1914. She has also been studying Russian, which is useful for her final-year thesis on 16thcentury Russia.

Hannah comes from what she calls a 'normal state school' in Dorset. She's very grateful for a Sir Howard Stringer Merton-Oxford Bursary, which enables her to make the most of everything that Oxford and Merton have to offer without having to worry about finances.

'Having the opportunity to study a subject that I enjoy is a real privilege.'

In her first year, she was a Student Ambassador for the College. These ambassadors volunteer their time to give school students and teachers a glimpse into what undergraduate life is like at Merton. 'I wanted to do this because I think it is important to spread the idea that Merton – and Oxford in general – is not like the image it's often given. It's not full of posh people from posh schools, but is a place for ordinary people who like their subject.'

She is delighted to be at Merton. 'The History students here come from a range of backgrounds, but we all share a love of our subject and get along really well. Having the opportunity to study a subject that I enjoy is a real privilege.'

She is very complimentary about her tutors at Merton. 'The History tutors put an amazing amount of time and effort into their tutorials. They want us to do well because they think their subject is great and they want us to enjoy it too.'

The Choral Scholarship

Alice Hilder Jarvis is in her second year, studying Maths & Philosophy. She's also a Choral Scholar, so music is very much part of her college life. She was a chorister at St Albans Cathedral from the ages of 8 to 13; when it came to university applications, she chose Merton not only because of the choral scholarships, but also because 'the Maths Fellows seemed so exciting'.

All her expectations have been exceeded. 'Chorally, it's way better than I dreamt it could be. Socially, I've met a fantastic variety of interesting and fun people. Academically, it's blown me away!'

The Choral Scholarship involves singing Evensong three times a week, as well as other special services throughout the year. 'One of my favourite parts of singing with Merton Choir is recording. Last summer, we recorded a beautiful new piece by Nico Muhly.' In fact, Ben Nicholas, Director of Music, regularly commissions pieces for the choir. 'It's very exciting to be able to engage with all this new music.'

Having a Choral Scholarship is challenging, time-wise. However, Alice says that it makes her more efficient at her other commitments; besides her studies, she also does rock climbing and plays the cello in the Oxford University Orchestra.

'It's very exciting to engage with all this new music.'

'Being a Choral Scholar has enabled me to return to the choral discipline that I was introduced to at the cathedral. I've been on tour to Hong Kong and Singapore, I've recorded CDs. The Choral Scholarship has opened up all these opportunities. It's made the whole Merton experience that much richer.'

From left: Alice Hilder Jarvis, Dylan Adlard and Hannah Smith

Part 1

The Travel Award

Dylan Adlard is a third-year Biochemistry student, whose childhood in South Africa made him particularly aware of the effect of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis. He applied to Merton because of its academic reputation, because he heard it was very supportive of its students, and because of the expertise on offer.

'I like to think I've made some impact on certain laboratory protocols.'

Three years in, Dylan has benefited from the generosity of Merton donors. A summer residency project at the end of his first year paid for his living expenses at Merton for two months while he worked at the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, learning lab techniques and working on specific DNA binding proteins of the innate immune response.

More significantly, in summer 2019 he received a Sir Gerry Grimstone Travel Award, which enabled him to go to South Africa to pursue his dream to work on the fight against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB). The award paid for a two-month stay at the Wellcome Centre for Infectious Diseases Research (CIDRI), part of the University of Cape Town.

'From a personal perspective, the travel award enabled me to learn more biochemical techniques and to become more independent in the lab. But I also like to think I've made some impact in general on any protocols that require MTB lysis and DNA extraction, such as those used in experimental and diagnostic application.

'These awards didn't just allow me to gain experience in the field I'm interested in, but they have also given me opportunities that have impacted my decisions for my future career.'

Safeguarding the Tutorial System

The Tutorial System, with its regular tutorials - that close teaching contact between expert in the field and student – lies at the heart of Merton's academic excellence. In addition to their formal teaching responsibilities, our Tutorial Fellows provide pastoral support for students and encourage a thriving intellectual culture around their subject. For Merton, it is a priority to secure endowment, through philanthropy, for at least one Tutorial Fellowship in each subject and, longer term, for all our tutorial posts. Thanks to our 750th Anniversary appeal and the generosity of donors, the College has already been able to endow a range of fellowships in subjects such as Law, Chemistry, Economics, History and Music.

An appeal is currently underway to establish a Tutorial Fellowship in Physics in memory of Professor Michael Baker, Merton's first Physics Fellow. We spoke to Professor Alex Schekochihin, one of Merton's three Tutorial Fellows in Physics, to hear his views on the importance of the Tutorial System to the College in general and to Physics in particular. Professor Schekochihin has no doubt that the Tutorial System plays a decisive part in Merton's international reputation as an academic institution.

'Merton is very serious about the Tutorial System, because it is serious about its students. The ethos among the students and the tutors is to work hard and focus on academic achievement; this culture propagates itself from one generation of students to the next. It's not all about exam results: the College genuinely cares about the intellectual development of its students – when we succeed in our task, they learn to think in a creative, informed and structured way.'

'Places like Merton are where intellectual civilisation is forged.'

'It's unusual for a college to have three Physics Fellows, but Merton does, so we almost never outsource the teaching of our students. That's very important, because it means we have an integrated community around teaching in the College.

'It's a joint enterprise. The tutors give tutorials; and we have a large group of graduate students and Junior Research Fellows who act as mentors to undergraduates

'Fusion energy is a realistic medium-term prospect. It would be revolutionary.'

and provide valuable support to tutors with teaching. This gives undergraduates a variety of perspectives and opportunities for learning.'

All these aspects of the Tutorial System engender a sense of community. Another gathering point is the Ockham Lecture – a termly event, held since 2009, at which all the Merton physicists come together. 'The idea was to have a flashpoint event every term – an intellectual event, with a high-profile speaker – where the whole physics community would gather. About 50 people turn up each time, which is very large for a single-subject community in a college.'

Professor Schekochihin is a theoretical physicist, and works on plasma physics and astrophysics. Universal concepts learned in thinking about astrophysical phenomena often find application in the laboratory: for example, investigating how to confine very hot plasma in a magnetic cage – a key challenge in the quest for a sustainable energy source, fusion energy. 'Fusion energy is a realistic medium-term prospect. It would provide



a near-infinite and clean energy source. Getting that would be revolutionary.'

He stresses the importance of financial support to the security of the Tutorial System, believing that, in each subject, there should be at least one Tutorial Fellow who is supported by a dedicated endowment fund. This is Merton's aim too. Although none of Merton's Tutorial Fellowships in Physics is yet endowed at the College level, the launch of the Michael Baker Tutorial Fellowship appeal will change that.

Professor Michael Baker, Emeritus Fellow, died in 2017, leaving a small fund for the Ockham Lectures and substantial seed funding towards tutorial teaching at Merton. An endowed Tutorial Fellowship in Physics would be a fitting commemoration of Professor Baker, and would safeguard the position for future generations.

'Civilisation is a fragile thing. Places like Merton are where intellectual civilisation is forged. They appear to be very old and venerable and unassailable. But we are extraordinarily dependent on the whims and moods of the society and its governments. In many respects, the way we do things – the Tutorial System, the individual attention to each student – is very counter-trend. If you started a new institution today, you would be unlikely to be allowed to do it like this: it would be seen as "inefficient" in the context of mass production of everything, including education.

'But independent, creative and well-trained minds cannot be produced *en masse* – they require this nurturing that the Tutorial System makes possible. I have a sense of the fragility of all this; it's so easy to break and would be impossible to recover. This system will only survive long-term if it's independently funded.'

'The Tutorial System is precious, but expensive. Education doesn't get better than this.'

He compares the approach with that of the College's Founder, who set up an institution rather than having a specific 'deliverable' in mind. 'You can invest money in specific projects, or you can invest money in institutions, as Walter de Merton did. He realised that if you put certain elements in place, then good things happen. If you have the best people, make them comfortable, get them to talk to each other, and learn with each other, then you get great results, though you don't know in advance what those would be.

'The Tutorial System is a good example of this. It's precious, but expensive, and not very widely practised elsewhere. Everything is "hand-made". When it succeeds – and it does succeed, again and again – education doesn't get better than this.'

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Supporting exceptional graduates

Graduates are a very important part of the Merton community – indeed, the College is unusual in Oxford in having almost equal numbers of graduates and undergraduates. Increasing the number of graduate scholarships, which help us attract the best students from all backgrounds, is a key priority. Merton has recently endowed a Graduate Scholarship in History (see overleaf), and will continue to seek support to ensure that every graduate student who secures a place at Merton is able to study here and make the most of the opportunities that Oxford can offer.

We spoke to one of our graduate scholars about what the scholarship means to him and to his research. Lewis Fry is in his third year of a DPhil in Clinical Neurosciences. Originally from New Zealand and with undergraduate degrees in medicine and medical science from Australia, Lewis wanted to pursue further research in the UK.

His research interest is in the genetics of the eye, so he applied to work with Merton's Professor Robert MacLaren. 'I knew about Professor MacLaren and wanted him as a supervisor. He was the obvious choice – he's one of the world's leading experts in developing gene therapy to treat genetic eye diseases.'

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'We hope to be able to treat blinding eye diseases and other conditions that currently have no treatment.'

Lewis was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for New Zealand in 2017 and chose to come to Merton where

the scholarship is endowed through the generosity of Dr John Moussouris (1971) as the Moussouris-Rhodes Scholarship. 'Without the scholarship, there's no way I would have been able to come to Oxford. It was instrumental – it had a huge impact on my career.'

Merton also provided Lewis with a travel grant to attend a genome editing meeting at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York in September 2019. 'There were about 500 people from the pinnacle of my field. Being in that environment has accelerated my DPhil immensely, just by being there and discussing ideas. As a result, I've begun three collaborations with scientists I met at the conference.'

Professor MacLaren's research into ocular gene replacement has already reached the stage of clinical trials. Lewis's research is in gene editing rather than gene replacement; instead of replacing missing genes, it involves pinpointing faulty genes and editing them to correct the fault. This work has huge implications for research into inherited diseases of the eye such as retinal pigmentosa, and potentially for genetic disease elsewhere in the body. 'We hope to be able to treat blinding eye diseases and other conditions that currently have no treatment.'



Lewis enjoys being part of Merton, which he finds a friendly, welcoming place, where all the Fellows are interested and willing to chat. 'I love being part of the MCR, going to dinners, and getting involved in the sport. I've played cricket – including bowling for the Blues Cricket Squad at University Parks – and rowed casually with the Merton College Boat Club.'

'Without the scholarship, there's no way I would have been able to come to Oxford.

He is in no doubt about the value of graduate funding. 'Graduate funding is critical because it enables the College to develop an international network of alumni. It's especially relevant to my field, where there are many potential ethical issues that require international perspectives from a community of experts. If you don't have people coming to leading institutions like this and then returning home, you won't have that.'

The Roger Highfield Graduate Scholarship in History



We are delighted to announce that the appeal for the Roger Highfield Graduate Scholarship in History has been completed. Donations from more than 120 Mertonians and friends have helped us to fund the Scholarship with an endowment of £1 million: we have received £600,000 in gifts and pledges, which unlocked £400,000 in matched funding from the University.

The Scholarship will provide full funding to one exceptional doctoral student in History every year. This and all our scholarships are crucial in ensuring that talented graduate applicants are not deterred from coming to Merton because of a lack of financial support.

Roger Highfield was a fixture in the post-war life of Merton and a familiar sight around College. He was a Fellow for 68 years, History Tutor for 38 of those years (1951-89), and Archivist and Fellow Librarian. As History Tutor, he made an enormous impact on the lives of the hundreds of history students who benefited from his intelligent, scholarly tutorials.

Roger was a late medievalist and a Hispanist. He was also seriously interested in University and College history. Of all his publications, he was most proud of editing The Early Rolls of Merton College, Oxford (1964). After his official retirement, his devotion to History found unending scope in the Library, where he continued to make discoveries.

Roger was passionate about ensuring that Merton should continue to attract the best and brightest students, from all backgrounds and from across the world. He himself was a benefactor to the College, and left a generous bequest that served as seed funding for the Scholarship in his name. We are certain that he would have been greatly appreciative of this initiative.

'He made an enormous impact on hundreds of history students.

We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to the Highfield Scholarship appeal, either through donations or through hosting, speaking at and attending events. We would particularly like to thank David Ure (1965; Bodley Fellow) and Richard Burns (1964) for their exceptionally generous support.

We held three events in aid of the appeal. In April 2018, the College's first History Reunion Day brought together more than 70 alumni and friends, including some of Roger's first students. Professors Lyndal Roper, Robert Gildea (1971), Senia Paseta and Dr Robin Whelan (2006) gave fascinating talks in the TS Eliot Theatre. History graduate students presented their research through posters; those attending were also able to meet undergraduates and find out about their studies

In September 2018 and June 2019, David Ure kindly hosted dinners in London in support of the appeal. We are grateful to Professor Steven Gunn (1979; Fellow), Professor Sir Ian Kershaw (1966; Honorary Fellow), Philip Waller (Emeritus Fellow) and Eamonn O'Keeffe (2014) for giving speeches at these occasions.



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all donors to the Roger Highfield Graduate Scholarship appeal.

Dr J R L Highfield Mr R H Alford CMG OBE Dr D B Altegoer (1985) Mr G S Bacal (1975) Mr D H L Batchelor (1958) Mr C A Battell (1953) The Very Revd Peter Beck (1966) Ms A M Blake (1980) Mr A J Bott OBE FSA (BF) (1953) Professor J M Bowers (1973) Mr M W Brighouse (2002) Mr R R J Burns (1964) Dr H J Bush CB (1971) Mr N G Campbell (1959) Dr K P Claiden-Yardley (2003) Mr W P Cooke CBE (HF) (1952) Mr R J Cumbley (1991) and Mrs J L Cumbley (Morley) (1990) The Revd Dr A P Cuneo (1995) Professor K J Davey OBE (1951) Ms A J W Davies (1997) Mr H J Davies (HF) (1969) Mr F M Dillingham (1983) Mr J R Doty (1962) Professor G A Drake (1957) Mr T P J Edlin (1998) Ms N R Evans (1996) Dr R W Evenett (1982) Mr E D D Field (1986) Dr K D Forsyth (1959) Professor R H Frank (1980) Mr R C French (1966) Professor R N Gildea (1971) Mr J E Gooding (1958) Mr J T Greenlee (1978) Dr M Grimley (F) (1989) Professor S Gunn (F) (1979) Mr D I W Hamer (1974) Mr J D Harrison (1975)

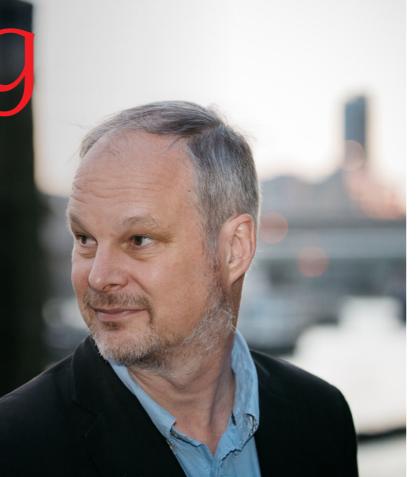
Mr P M Hay (1963) Mr P C Hayward (1959) Mr A H Haywood (1985) Mr E W L Hedley (1969) Mr M E Hewitt (1957) Professor M A Hicks (1971) Mr J A Hitchon (1981) Dr L N Hodo (1996) Mr W G Hoskins (1974) Mr N M Hunter (1961) Mr P R Jones (1962) The Revd Canon Dr S M Jones (F) Professor C M Kauffmann (1950) Dr M R Kauffmann (1980) Mr A F Kelsall (1961) The Revd E Kemball (1977) Professor Sir Ian Kershaw (HF) (1966) Mr M J Kilroy (1985) Mr A W J Kmiecik (1982) Dr R J V Lenman (1963) Professor R C Levin (HF) (1968) Mr K B Lewis (1958) Mr H I Llovd (1958) Professor T O Lloyd (1953) Mr S L Lord (1974) Professor G A Loud (1971) Professor H W MacMillan (1963) Sir David Madden KCMG (1965) Sir Callum McCarthy (HF) (1962) Dr P McDonald Mr R D O'Brien (1974) Mr S S O'Connor (1958) Professor J R Pagan (ExV) (1973) Dr D J H Page (1963) Mr S D Pallett (1973) Mr J H M Parry (1958) Mr O Pauley (1994) Mr A R Polley (1998) Professor C W Potter (1966)

Mr R G Prichard (1961) Dr F M R Ramsey (Davies) (1983) Mr M C A Renton (1956) Mr M W G Ridpath (1979) Mrs J C M Roberts (Armitage) Mr P F Robinson (1985) Dr D W Rogers (1964) Mr R A Sackett (1950) Mr M J Sands (1967) Professor Sir Peter Scott (1964) Professor P A Slack FBA (1965) Mr J P Smith (1980) Mr P H Smith (1977) Mr M D S Stoneham (2000) Mr A S Taylor (1955) Miss S J Terrett (2012) Sir Jeremy Thomas KCMG (1951) Dr M J Thornton (1955) Professor Sir R H Trainor KBE (1971) Mr P J Truesdale, OBE (1976) Mr J A Turvey (1952) Mr D G Ure (BF) (1965) Mr M S Wainwright MBE (1968) Mr J Walsh (1967) Dr J C Walworth (F) Mr W Webber (1953) Judge E Weinbach (1967) Mr T Weisselberg (1990) Mr P J Westwood (1954) Mr P J H Wickstead (1975) Mr A S Williams (1986) Mr P M A Wilson CMG (1987) Mr R D Wilson (1965) Justice Herman Wilton-Siegel (1971) Mr A J G Wright (1978) Mr C W V Wright (1979) Mr J M Zamet (1965) and eleven anonymous donors

Giving to Merton

Merton's students and academics have benefited greatly from the generosity of alumni and friends who have made gifts to the College during their lifetimes or as legacies in their wills. We are enormously grateful to everyone who makes a donation, because it enables us to provide a huge variety of assistance to our academic community at all levels.

We spoke to two very different donors – an alumnus and a current undergraduate – about why they give to Merton.



The alumnus

Michael Ridpath (1979, Modern History) is the author of a detective series set in Iceland, financial thrillers and spy thrillers, one of which (*Traitor's Gate*) was inspired by his time at Merton. He retains great affection for Merton, which is why he has chosen to become a regular donor through the 1264 Society and also plans to leave a legacy to the College in his will.

As an undergraduate, Michael was a contemporary of current History Fellow Steven Gunn, 'who I realised was very good at History even then'. He credits his tutor Philip Waller with honing his writing style and teaching him to write clearly and concisely.

Outside his studies, Michael played rugby for the College and was in the University athletics team as a pole vaulter. 'I loved having freedom without much responsibility. But without realising it at the time, I also enjoyed the academic side of things. Looking back, I see how lucky I was to be taught in that way.'

After Merton, Michael went into banking before leaving to write full time. 'With History, you learn how to analyse information and work out what the causes are. In banking, you can apply a similar way of thinking to determine what makes a company thrive, or a market behave in a certain way. All that training has proved to be very useful, and continues to be useful. I'm quite analytical in my thriller writing.'

Asked why he gives to the College, Michael had this to say.

'First, because I was fortunate enough to be educated at Merton and I want to give something back to the College. And secondly, because it is a small organisation of real excellence. I give through the 1264 Society because I want to give some money now, and I also plan to give a legacy in my will, because it's easier to give a larger amount after my death.

'One concern I had is that Merton is an elite institution and our country is unequal. I hear others say that giving to a college like Merton perpetuates inequality, and they offer that as a reason not to make a donation or leave a legacy.

'So it's important to me that Merton genuinely does try to open its doors to people from any background, from anywhere. It seems to me that the colleges with the most money and the most resources are able to do this the best. And I really do think that Merton does it well.

'As long as Merton is genuinely willing to widen its intake and seek people out so that it's a real meritocracy, I am more than willing to help financially.'

The student

Lucy Buxton is a second-year undergraduate studying Classics & German. She's also the JCR President.

Through the JCR, every undergraduate in Merton has the chance to contribute to the Reach Oxford Scholarship. This scholarship enables highly talented students from low-income countries to benefit from an Oxford education, and it is made possible through joint funding and philanthropy from the University, the College and the JCR.

In a project led by undergraduates, the JCR works together with the College to raise the money from students, alumni and friends and bring a Reach Oxford Scholar specifically to Merton. The JCR and the College then together contribute towards the costs of a threeor four-year scholarship.

The next Merton Reach Scholar is expected to arrive in autumn 2020, thanks to Merton's JCR.

Lucy explains how this works. 'We had discussions about this in a JCR meeting last October, as our first Reach Oxford Scholar had just graduated. The decision to support it was unanimous. There's a charge to every student of £3 a term on their battels – not a lot, but over time it mounts up. It was good to have that meeting and tell the freshers about it. They all thought that it's a great idea to support a student from another country who otherwise would have no hope of coming and studying here.'

As for Lucy, she is enthusiastic about her course, which enables her to combine her two loves of Classics and German. 'It's quite unusual to do Classics & Modern Languages, but I chose it because I really like both subjects. There are only two of us in the University doing Classics & German, so the course is essentially tailored to me.'

Being JCR President adds to her time management skills because, as she understates, 'It is busy.' The demanding role starts in the summer with organising Freshers' Week, and continues to be full on throughout the year.

'But I get so much out of it, including a lot of experience and the opportunity to meet wonderful people. I've had to lead and chair quite a few big meetings. So I'm gaining leadership and communication skills, as well as time management.

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'It's great to support a student from another country who otherwise would have no hope of coming here.'

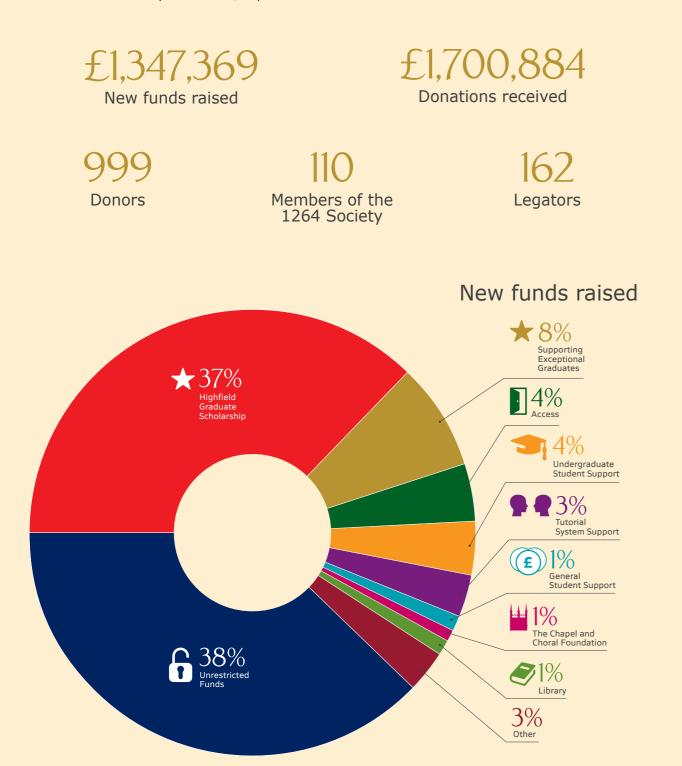




As for Lucy's thoughts on Merton? 'I love it! That's why I wanted to run for JCR President. There's a real sense of community and the level of care within the College is great. In College, I get to have interesting and intelligent conversations with all sorts of people – but that's not all. The staff are wonderful, and the relationships between staff and students are great. And it's really beautiful.'

Your gifts at work

The generosity of the Mertonian community in 2018-19 has had a transformational impact on every aspect of life at Merton.



How you can make a difference

We are enormously grateful for gifts of any size; the collective power of regular donations from alumni is crucial to Merton in providing world-class research, teaching, facilities and support.

For example:

2 Mertonians

giving **£25 a month** with Gift Aid could support a typical **travel grant** every year

of £5 could pay for a **book grant**, ensuring that every student has access

to the resources they need



giving **£75 a month** could bridge the gap between the cost of teaching a Merton student and their **tuition** fees



of the 1264 Society giving **£1,264 a year** could fund a full Merton-Oxford **Bursary** for an undergraduate from a lower-income household every year



making gifts of **£5,000** could provide a **scholarship** for an exceptional graduate student for a full four years

To make a gift to Merton, visit www.merton.ox.ac.uk/makeagift. Alternatively, contact the Development Office at development@merton.ox.ac.uk or +44(0)1865 276316.

Thank you

We would like to thank all the supporters of Merton College over the past year. Your donations have a huge impact on every area of College life – from safeguarding tutorial teaching, providing essential student support and creating new opportunities for graduate students, to preserving the College and its collections.

We hope that the articles and profiles in the preceding pages have given you an insight into the impact of your support for Merton.

The Warden, Fellows and students of Merton are delighted to recognise each of the College's supporters in the following pages. We thank you all, sincerely, for the support you have shown Merton this year.

Benefactions Committee report

The Committee, which was formed in July 2012, presents its report to the College's benefactors for the fiscal year to 31 July 2019. The Committee comprises Tim Morrison (1972) (Chair), William Watson (1980) and Caroline Doan (1997). Meetings are attended by the Finance Bursar and the Development Director.

In the past year, we have received information from the Acting Warden about the College's strategic review and the consequential current spending priorities. We have obtained certain information relating to the College's control of and accounting for the receipt, investment and disbursement of benefactions (both restricted and unrestricted), and have discussed these matters with the Development Director, the Finance Bursar, the College Accountant and the external auditors. Because Merton College Charitable Corporation (MC3), which is incorporated

in the USA, is a charity independent of the College, we have performed no work in respect of benefactions received by MC3 until they have been transferred by MC3 to the College. We have also reviewed, on a sample basis, a small number of benefactions received by the College (both restricted and unrestricted) to satisfy ourselves that, in each case selected, the relevant funds have been properly recorded to enable disbursements to be made in accordance with the donor's wishes.

On the basis of the work we have performed, we confirm that nothing has come to our attention which casts doubt on the way in which the receipt, investment and disbursement of benefactions have been controlled and accounted for by the College during the year ended 31 July 2019.

Tim Morrison (1972) Chairman, Benefactions Committee

Donors recognised by the University

The Chancellor's Court of Benefactors and the Vice-Chancellor's Circle recognise individuals, foundations and corporate benefactors who have provided significant and generous support to the collegiate University.

We are immensely proud of the following Mertonians who have been recognised in this way for their generosity.

New members since I August 2018 are highlighted in blue.

Chancellor's Court of Benefactors

A. G. Leventis Foundation (represented by Mr H K Leventis) Mr J Blackwell (HF) Mr J D S Booth (WF) (1976) Dr P J Braam (WF) (1987) Mr D F K Finlay CMG OBE (HF) (1962) The Garfield Weston Foundation (represented by Mr G H Weston (HF) [1978]) Dr D R Harvey (BF) (1957) Mr C G R Manby (WF) (1976) Dr J P Moussouris (WF) (1971) Professor A T Reyes Sir Howard Stringer (HF) (1961)

Vice-Chancellor's Circle

Mr R B Allan (BF) (1959) and Mrs D R Allan Dr J W Buckee (1968) and Mrs S M Buckee Mr R R J Burns (1964) Mr W R Hall (1954) Dr E D Hay (1950)* (represented by Mrs S Hay) Professor Sir Antony Hoare (HF) (1952) and Lady Hoare Mr R G McKelvey (BF) (1959) The Reed Foundation (represented by Mr R Rubin (BF) [1957]) Mr H Y Scott-Barrett (1977) Mr I R Taylor (1975) Mr D G Ure (BF) (1965) and two anonymous members

(W)	Warden	(SF)	Supernumerary
(F)	Fellow		Fellow
(HF)	Honorary Fellow	(JRF)	Junior Research Fellow
(BF)	Bodley Fellow	(VRF)	Visiting Research
(WF)	Wyliot Fellow	(111)	Fellow
(EF)	Emeritus Fellow	(L)	Lecturer



(ExF) Former Fellow (ExJ) Former Junior Research Fellow (ExV) Former Visiting Research Fellow (ExL) Former Lecturer [name] previous name

* Deceased

- Current student
- Ø 1264 Societv
- Loyal donor (has given
- continuously for 5 years)
- Friend of the Choir

Major Benefactors

We would like to thank and recognise the lifelong generosity of the following major benefactors of Merton College. We are especially grateful to the Honorary, Bodley and Wyliot Fellows whose names appear below for their exceptional and strategic philanthropic commitments to Merton.

All new benefactors, or those who have moved levels since the last Donor Report, are highlighted in blue.

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We are incredibly grateful to all alumni and friends who pledge to leave a legacy in support of Merton in their will. The Founder's Society recognises those individuals who have chosen to make this most special and personal of donations.

The College remembers the generosity of the following Mertonians and friends from whose estates we received legacy gifts in the past five years.

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More than 160 individuals have kindly informed the College of their intention to leave gifts to Merton in their wills. The following individuals have chosen to be acknowledged as members of The Founder's Society.

New members of the Society during the year 1 August 2018 – 31 July 2019 are highlighted in blue.

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943) 1947)	· ,
) (1958) 7) 9)	Mr J H Woolmore (1953) Dr R D Worthington (196 Mr J C Wroe (1967)
58)	and twenty-one anonymo

M Rawson (HF)

946)

or FRS

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