



Impact Report 2024/2025



St Hilda's College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



2024–2025

**Donors
1,450**

**Received
£2,835,607**

We are excited to bring you evidence of the difference that your donations have made over the last year across a myriad of scenarios – big and small, seismic and routine. The Edge for Excellence Campaign was launched at the start of 2025 and is set to run to the end of the decade, enabling the College to accomplish its strategic plan and deliver the best possible student experience in a rapidly changing world. Please do lend your further support if you can.

Remarkably, it is now five years since the Anniversary Building and Pavilion became operational. It is no understatement to say that everyone who contributed to the 125 Campaign helped to create a game-changing asset for the College – a real wow factor when you arrive; the best views anywhere of the city skyline; an ability to be able to house all of our undergraduates across all years of study; a doubling of first choice applicants and a huge boost to our conferencing revenues.

*Andrew Thomas
Development Director and Fellow*

Landmark Fellowship Gift

In May, we were delighted to announce a transformational philanthropic gift of USD 2.6 million from alumna Athena Ko (PPE, 1997) to endow the Tutorial Fellowship in Economics, currently held by Professor Anders Bredahl Kock. The Fellowship has been named the Dr Mary Gregory Tutorial Fellowship in Economics, in honour of Athena's esteemed former tutor.

This landmark donation, the largest single cash gift in the College's history, recognises the profound influence of Dr Gregory's teaching and the enduring power of Oxford's tutorial system. Athena Ko was moved to give after attending a special reunion event in late 2024, which reunited Dr Gregory with her former students.

Athena Ko said: *"My time at St Hilda's was extremely formative, and I look back with fondness at those years. Dr Gregory was (and still is) a tour de force, and it feels right that her impact on the College should be remembered for generations to come."*

Dr Mary Gregory, who helped to inspire almost 400 undergraduates at St Hilda's between 1982 and 2008, commented: *"I'm deeply touched by this incredibly generous gesture. Teaching at St Hilda's was one of the great joys of my life, and it's a privilege to have played a part in the journeys of such remarkable students."*



Dr Mary Gregory (left) with Athena Ko (right)

The generosity shown by Athena, together with significant contributions from other alumnae, ensures the long-term security of the Economics Fellowship, strengthening the College's ability to attract and retain world-class academics, while celebrating the life-changing education made possible through Oxford's tutorial model.

Legacies: Supporting the Future

This year, we have received more than £97,000 in legacy gifts from alumnae and friends of St Hilda's. These gifts have helped to fund much-needed scholarships and bursaries, world-class teaching, cutting-edge research, and the preservation and enhancement of our buildings, gardens, and facilities.

We are deeply grateful for these generous bequests and indeed, to all those who have chosen to remember St Hilda's in their Will. Alumnae and friends who have indicated that they have made such a pledge are members of the St Hilda's Society; a growing community of individuals who wish to support future generations of St Hilda's students. This year we are delighted to have increased the membership of the Society to 383 members.

In May, we welcomed Society members back to College for their annual Society Feast, followed by a vibrant cello recital from St Hilda's student Oliver Simpson (Music, 2023), accompanied on the piano by his father, Nick Simpson. It was wonderful to have so many Society members with us, including some who travelled from outside the UK, helping to make the day such a special event.

A gift in your Will, no matter how large or how small, is an investment in the future of St Hilda's. A legacy gift of as little as 1% of your estate can help to ensure that future

generations benefit from the same opportunities that you once enjoyed.

If you would like information regarding legacy giving and becoming a member of the St Hilda's Society, please contact Emma Campbell on 01865 610 330 or emma.campbell@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk.



Legacies
(2024-2025)

£97,609

was received in legacy gifts from
5 alumnae and friends of the College.

383

Members of the St Hilda's Society.

2025 Telethon

- 403** alumnae conversations
- 193** alumnae donated or pledged
- £50,000** largest single gift (£62,500 with gift aid)
- £226,600** raised over 5 years
- 2nd** most successful Telethon in St Hilda's history



Major Giving

7 Gifts

between £25k - £2million

Consecutive years giving

- 583** alumnae and friends have given for 10 or more consecutive years
- 180** alumnae and friends have given for 20 or more consecutive years
- 8** alumnae and friends have given for 30 or more consecutive years

Bursary Donations

Bursaries are vital in ensuring that no one is denied the opportunity to study at Oxford and St Hilda's because of limited financial means. This year we received over £97,000 in support for bursaries at St Hilda's. The College participates in the Oxford Bursary Scheme, a pan-university programme of funding for UK and Republic of Ireland students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Each year, St Hilda's pays approximately £100,000 into the scheme. The total value of the bursaries received by St Hilda's students is significantly higher than this, providing a valuable multiplier effect at a time when resources are scarce.

Graduate Support

We are very grateful to have received support for St Hilda's graduates over the course of this year.

One particularly generous gift established the Dr Jane Mellanby Graduate Studentship. This studentship is available for graduate students with limited financial means studying Neuroscience and provides full course funding as well as a grant for living expenses for the duration of the recipient's course. The Dr Jane Mellanby Studentship has been awarded to four graduate students.

Graduate study is a substantial investment: The costs are around £35,000–£42,000 (including living expenses) per year for UK students and around £54,000–£68,000 (including living expenses) for international students. Philanthropic support is vital to enable us to increase the number of full and contributory scholarships that we can offer to prospective graduate students. The more scholarships we provide, the more competitive and diverse our applicant pool for graduate study becomes, and the better we can compete with other global institutions and Oxford colleges to attract the very best talent.

For this reason, graduate support represents a priority area for The Edge for Excellence campaign. Over the remaining four years of the campaign, we aim to raise at least £5 million

in philanthropic support for graduates at St Hilda's, creating transformative opportunities for the next generation of thinkers, innovators, and leaders.



Graduate Support

324 Gifts

2023–2024
(including the Kojo Minta Fund)

351 Gifts

2024–2025
(including the Kojo Minta Fund)

30 Years of the JdP Music Building

Since 1995, the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building has become a beloved venue and creative hub, helping St Hilda's to become one of the top two colleges for Music in Oxford and a vibrant home for the arts, especially dance.

As part of our 30th anniversary celebrations we have been inviting donors to support the JdP's next 30 years and beyond. We are very grateful to our supporters, including:

- Harry Gould Jnr, who has enabled an upgrade to the audio-visual experience and the establishment of the Barbara and Harry Gould Jnr Artist Fund so that we can showcase world-class professional and student talent whilst maintaining our affordable pricing policy.
- Jane Broughton-Perry (Classics, 1972), who has generously supported the expansion of our popular Cushion Concerts on Sunday mornings, giving young children from the local community valuable exposure to the power of music and movement.
- Diane Gough (Ball, Modern Languages, 1960), who has kindly funded new audio equipment. This is used in the weekly JCR Open Mic Nights, and has also been used in performances of the musical *Jack*, which was composed and directed by two St Hilda's students. *Jack* premiered at five sell-out performances in the College's new venue on



A JdP Family Cushion Concert

St Giles' before being performed at the 2025 Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

- Ming-Lee Alsop-Lim (Geography, 1992), who has sponsored our programme of student Music Scholarships and Awards. The annual competition attracts a wide range of College talent and allows prize winners to receive valuable extra funding towards new instruments and other practice and performance costs.

Please visit jdp.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk for details of the JdP's 30th Anniversary season of performances and how you can contribute to our campaign.

Great Strides for Sport

Access to sport facilities forms a crucial aspect of our student support, bringing significant physical and mental wellbeing benefits, as well as opportunities to develop teamwork and leadership skills.

We are grateful to those who have helped us make several improvements this year. A combination of donors, including Jennifer Greenbury (Adler, Modern Languages, 1972) and Kathryn Leaf (Modern Languages, 1993), enabled the roof to be replaced on the College gym. Since it opened in 2017, the facility has been very popular amongst our students and staff.

The College boat house, shared with Mansfield College, was refurbished, giving our rowers a much more welcoming and practical space in which to prepare, recover and socialise. During the 2025 Summer Eights, we were delighted to welcome Melissa Collett (Manes, PPE, 1990), whose donation was instrumental to the project. Earlier in the year, Rosie



Mayglothling OBE, Olympian and member of the Executive Board of World Rowing, kindly cut the ribbon during the re-opening ceremony for the boat house.

"Whether it was the inspiration of the boat house renovation or Rosie's expert coaching, rowing at St Hilda's is on the up – our crews produced a series of terrific results this year! From a record number of crews competing, our Women's 2nd and Men's 1st

boats both won blades in the Summer Eights, with the Men's crew now in their highest division ever. On behalf of everyone involved with SHCBC, we are truly grateful to all our generous supporters."

Josiah Shields (History, 2021), SHCBC President 2024-25

With an expanding student population, and a Principal with her own rich sporting heritage, we are determined to build our funding and support for athletes and enthusiasts alike.

Sponsored Lectures at St Hilda's

We are proud to host two annual lecture series, both made possible through the generous support of our donors.

This year we were honoured to welcome Lindsey Hilsum, Channel 4 News' International Editor and distinguished author, to deliver the 2025 Sue Lloyd-Roberts Memorial Lecture. Having recently returned from reporting in Syria and Ukraine, Lindsey spoke on the timely subject of 'Reporting in a time of Revolution - from Damascus to Washington DC.'

The Sue Lloyd-Roberts Memorial Lecture Series was established in honour of alumna Sue Lloyd-Roberts CBE (History and Modern Languages, 1970), the award-winning broadcast journalist whose uncompromising and courageous documentaries highlighted humanitarian issues across the world. The lecture series is supported by the Sue Lloyd-Roberts Fund which also enables placements and internships for St Hilda's students who wish to explore careers in the media. The College is very grateful to Sue's family and friends for their generosity and support of this Fund.

February 2025 saw the first in the College's new lecture series in honour of the late Helen Grindrod QC (Pritchard, 1954,

English), delivered by guest speaker Professor Jane Monckton Smith OBE, Professor of Public Protection at the University of Gloucestershire. The lecture, 'Eight steps to homicide and other stories', focused on the dangers of coercive control, domestic violence, and how even subtle signs of domestic abuse can be indicators in the lead-up to homicide. We are deeply grateful to the donor whose inspiring vision and generous support has made this lecture series possible.



Rory Stewart

In addition to these two lectures, we were thrilled to welcome The Rt Hon Rory Stewart OBE, nephew of Diana Livesey (Rose, PPE, 1958) and son of Sally Stewart (Rose, PPE, 1954), to present this year's Diana Livesey Prize and to talk on 'The Power of Debate'. The Diana Livesey Prize was established in 2011 in perpetuity and honours a first-year undergraduate "whose engagement with ideas is spirited and fearless; whose interests are wide-ranging; whose arguments are incisive; whose love of debate is matched by a love of language; and whose enthusiasms are guided by humour and affection". We are deeply grateful to Diana's family and friends for their generosity in establishing this prize.

THE EDGE FOR EXCELLENCE

Help sharp minds find their edge

At the start of 2025 we launched The Edge for Excellence, our exciting £25 million fundraising campaign that will enable the College to deliver a truly inspirational student experience in a rapidly changing world.

Our strategic focus for the remainder of this decade and beyond is to ensure the resilience of our students, the College, and our environment. With your support, we will expand student welfare and mentoring services, support our academics in their work and careers, and strive toward reaching net zero carbon emission status by 2035. We will also significantly expand our graduate population and build on the first 30 years of artistic creativity that the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building has prompted.

At St Hilda's, we want to enable sharp minds to find their edge.

Please explore the five campaign pillars to take a glimpse into the future, and find out how you can help to build it:

www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/the-edge



Giving Circles

The College has established a family of recognition circles through which we work to acknowledge the contributions that our alumnae and friends have made during their lifetimes. It is remarkable how modest but regular gifts can quickly accumulate over several years, especially with the added impact of Gift Aid (in the UK). Whatever your pattern and scale of giving, the College is deeply grateful, and qualifying donors will be advised directly of the benefits and opportunities that each circle/society presents.



£1,000+



Ammonite Circle
£10,000+



Estoile Circle
£100,000+



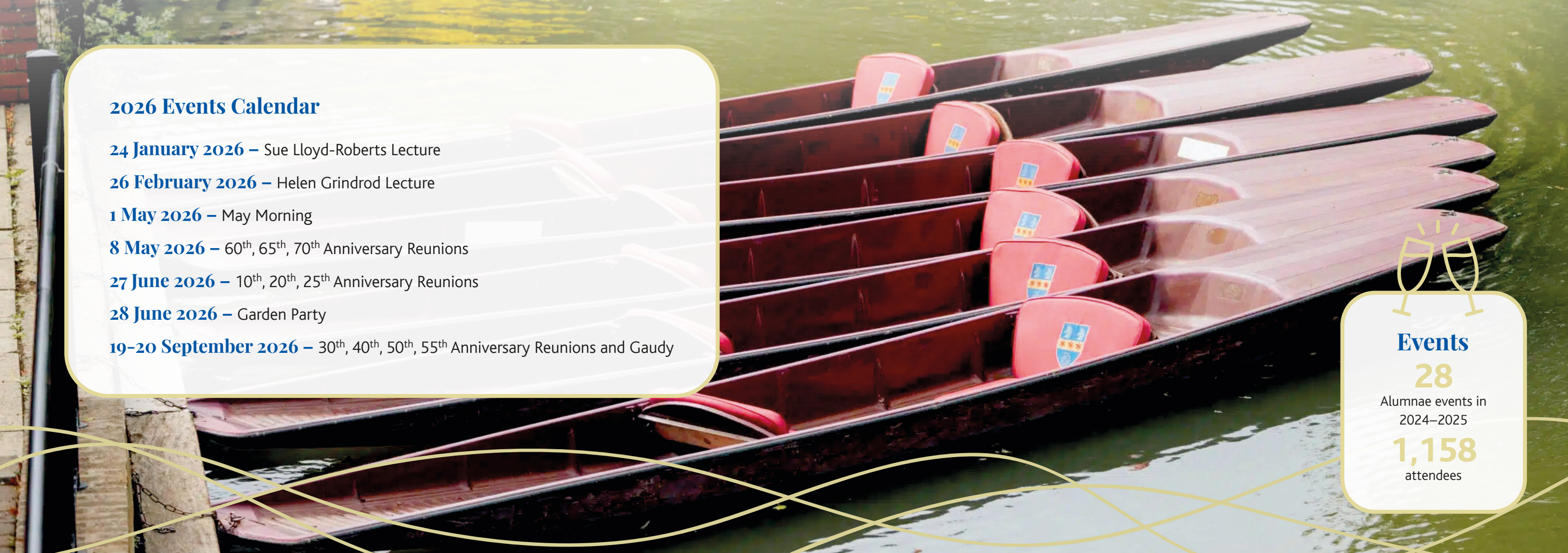
Unicorn Circle
£250,000+



Foundation Fellowship
£1,000,000+



Thank you again for your generous support.



2026 Events Calendar

24 January 2026 – Sue Lloyd-Roberts Lecture

26 February 2026 – Helen Grindrod Lecture

1 May 2026 – May Morning

8 May 2026 – 60th, 65th, 70th Anniversary Reunions

27 June 2026 – 10th, 20th, 25th Anniversary Reunions

28 June 2026 – Garden Party

19-20 September 2026 – 30th, 40th, 50th, 55th Anniversary Reunions and Gaudy



Events

28

Alumnae events in
2024–2025

1,158

attendees



Make a gift



St Hilda's College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

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