



WADHAM  
COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

# DONOR REPORT 2022

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How your support  
is changing lives

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**Robert Hannigan**  
Warden

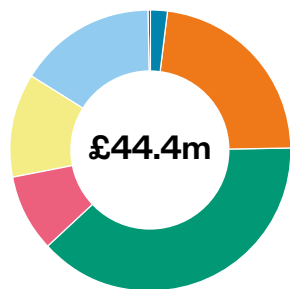


# Your support in numbers 2020–21

- 25% of alumni made a gift
- £743k raised for the Wadham Fund
- £360k donated from 9 legacies
- 407 alumni have pledged a gift in their wills
- £200k raised from our 2nd Giving Day
- 600 alumni donated to our 2nd Giving Day

## Campaign Summary

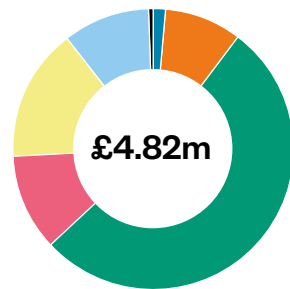
New funds raised from August 2012–21



Student Support	£0.9m
Graduate Scholarships	£10.0m
Buildings and Facilities	£17.3m
Access and Outreach	£4.1m
Wadham Fund	£5.1m
Academic Posts	£7.0m
Other	£23k

## Financial Year 2020–21

Distribution of cash received



Student Support	£74k
Graduate Scholarships	£423k
Buildings and Facilities	£2.56m
Access and Outreach	£537k
Wadham Fund	£743k
Academic Posts	£470k
Other	£20k

# Thanks to you

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**Julie Christiane Hage**  
Fellow and Development Director



**50%**

The fees received by Wadham cover little more than half of its costs in delivering an Oxford degree. This leaves the College with a major financial shortfall.

**2/30  
&  
14/30**

What about the endowment? Out of 30 undergraduate colleges, Wadham is ranked 2nd in total student numbers but 14th in terms of its relatively modest endowment.



# Your support makes a genuine difference

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As you know, Oxford's tutorial system is second to none: it enriches students' academic lives and career prospects considerably. However, the annual cost of educating and housing a Wadham undergraduate student exceeds course fees and charges, leaving the College with a major financial shortfall.

opportunities to today's and tomorrow's high-achieving students that you experienced.

Your support enables the College to open its doors to more exceptional students from a diversity of backgrounds, fulfilling academic potential and further raising our standards of academic excellence.

Wadham was able to provide well over £1 million in financial assistance to our students in 2020-21, thanks to the 25% of alumni who made a gift last year, and to a return from Wadham's endowment, which exists thanks to the donations of previous generations.

Without the generous and loyal support of our global community of alumni and friends, we could not provide the same educational

**£202K**

in bursaries and hardship support

**£130K**

additional funds allocated for welfare-related support

**£42K**

further in accommodation and vacation residence assistance

**£80K**

in Living Out grants

**£9K**

in Freshers' book grants

\*[www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/alumni/wadham-in-numbers](http://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/alumni/wadham-in-numbers)

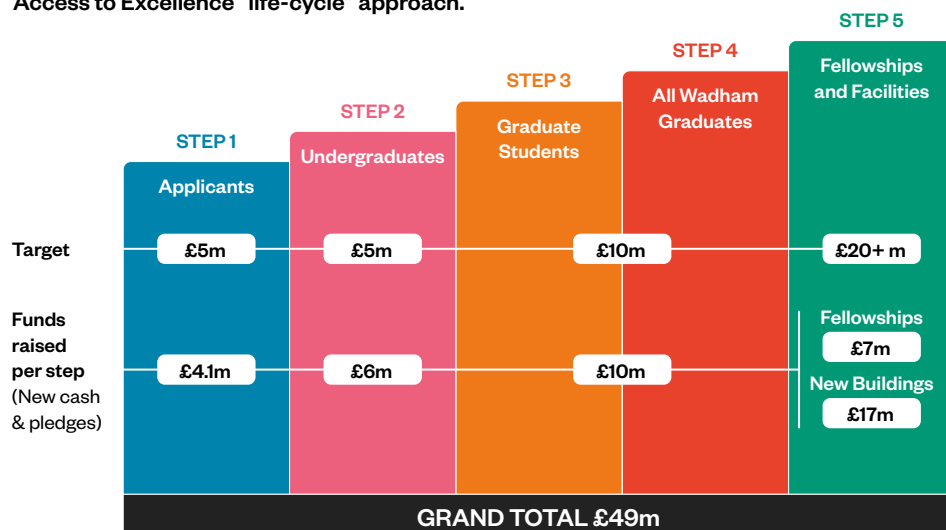


# Access to Excellence Campaign

**One distinctive strategy.  
Five bold steps.**

**Our Access to Excellence programme aims to support young people from the moment they consider university, through their undergraduate and graduate studies, and as they go out into the world to make a positive impact on society.**

**Campaign income for the five steps of the Access to Excellence “life-cycle” approach.**



# Celebrating your success

Thanks to your extraordinary generosity over the last seven years, our Access to Excellence campaign has surpassed all of its original targets and been brought to a triumphant close.

The campaign was inspired by Wadham’s vision of becoming a beacon of fair access and academic excellence, based on a methodical, five-step “lifecycle” approach, unique among Oxford colleges. Back in 2016, we set a bold objective of raising £30 million from our alumni and friends in order to make our vision a reality, but so great was your enthusiasm for giving that we soon increased the target to £45 million in donations by 2021-22. We are now delighted – and somewhat overwhelmed – to announce that the final total was £49 million.

An equally heartening and impressive result is that over half of all Wadham alumni donated over the course of the campaign, with 21% giving back regularly through

annual donations. These figures make us one of the top-performing Oxford colleges in terms of new funds raised (although our endowment still has some way to go).

A lot has happened since 2016, when then Warden, Ken Macdonald, and Chair of the Development Council, Warren East (Engineering, 1980), led the campaign launch. That you have continued to support us so energetically in the subsequent years of turmoil – through Brexit, Covid and now the cost-of-living crisis – is testament to the strength of the global Wadham community.

The impact of your generosity on our fellows’ research, our college’s fabric and the lives of our students – past, present and future – is already being felt and will continue for many years to come. Of course, as economic challenges mount, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. But for now, you can be proud of what we have all achieved – and continue to achieve – together.

**£49m**

**Access to Excellence campaign target surpassed**

**3799 donors**

**51% of all alumni**

**21% of alumni**

**giving back annually**



# Applicants

The distinctive Wadham commitment to raising academic standards through inclusivity is not only a deep source of institutional pride; it has also proved a powerful incentive for our donor community.

Engaging with the best and brightest pupils from under-represented backgrounds through in-College aspiration visits and in-school outreach activities, and showing them that they can thrive academically and socially at Wadham, clearly resonates with so many alumni. Your support has helped us to make Wadham much richer culturally and academically, and lifted the aspirations of thousands of young people from the age of 14 upwards.

The extensive reach and impact of Wadham's access work is evidenced by the vast number of pupils supported via our regional outreach programme, 37,000 over the past seven years, and the College continues to lead the way across Oxbridge. Our Locke Access Centre, currently the only dedicated access facility in Oxford, is the bold embodiment of our vision to make Wadham and Oxford more diverse and equitable.

None of this impact would have been possible without the generous support of alumni who share that inspiring vision. Our qualitative analysis of the data and partnerships with leaders from across education, government, business and academia is shaping our access priorities for the years ahead, and your commitment will ensure that Wadham remains a pioneer in making Oxford accessible to the most gifted students, whatever their background.



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“Spending the week with like-minded people also studying languages has been really enjoyable. It has really given me a sense of what being a student at Oxford would be like.”

Frankie, Summer School 2022 participant

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## Sizzling Summer Schools 2022 13

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A unique taste of Wadham life that leaves students wanting more and donors with tangible impact of their benevolence.

The Locke Access Centre was buzzing with activity again this summer, as we welcomed two new intakes of students to our annual residential Summer Schools. These offer talented sixth-form students from under-represented backgrounds a week of rigorous and stimulating intellectual challenges, application and interview training and a whirlwind experience of life at Wadham – all made possible thanks to the generous support of our alumni.

In August 2022, it was the turn of two degree subjects where the need for more diverse intakes is particularly acute – Classics and Modern Languages – with 16 students from across the country joining each. Participants attended tutor-led seminars on topics including the Greek poet, Sappho, and “ghosts” influences on modern European literature. A tour of the Ashmolean revealed further new insights and critical approaches. Outside of the coursework, the participants had time to hang out in the new William Doo Undergraduate Centre and the Student Lounge.

They also had ample opportunity to speak about life at Wadham with current student ambassadors, some of whom had been through the Summer

School themselves. [quote from Rebeca to follow]

Thanks to your support over the course of the Access to Excellence campaign, the number of Summer School students applying for, and receiving offers, to study at Wadham has increased year on year. Dr Hugh Munro, Acting Tutor for Access, commented: “It’s always a pleasure to run our Summer Schools and meet pupils from all over the UK. It’s also been encouraging to see how successful the week is in equipping participants to make competitive applications to Oxford. Impressively, 13 of the participants from the 2021 Summer Schools will be starting courses at Oxford this term, six at Wadham.”

[graph showing applications to Oxford/Wadham year on year.]



## Target Oxbridge hits the mark once again

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A virtuous circle of potential fulfilled – bringing both talent and diversity to Wadham – in a partnership powered by donors

“I don’t think I’d be at Wadham without Target Oxbridge,” says Tyra Douglas (Experimental Psychology, 2021). It’s through donor support that Wadham is able to partner with this outstanding programme, which helps students with Black African or Caribbean heritage to increase their chances of getting into Oxbridge. And Tyra is living proof that the partnership works!

She says that the support she received was pivotal: “I went to a supportive Sixth Form, but I’ve always been really shy. I came across one of Target Oxbridge’s ambassador talks and the way they described Oxford made me think, ‘Wow, this sounds amazing’. I didn’t think I’d even get into the programme but thought I’ll just apply.”

The programme provides support with personal statements, interview technique and admissions tests,” as well as one-to-one mentoring. “That was the most valuable thing for me,” says Tyra. “My mentor helped me to increase my confidence around the Oxford process. Given that I didn’t know anyone who went to university, let alone Oxford, that was invaluable. I wouldn’t have been able to get that anywhere else.”

As part of the programme, Tyra will herself become an ambassador this year and is keen to help students from similar backgrounds who face the challenges she experienced. She will also visit her old school to inspire other students to aim for Oxford.

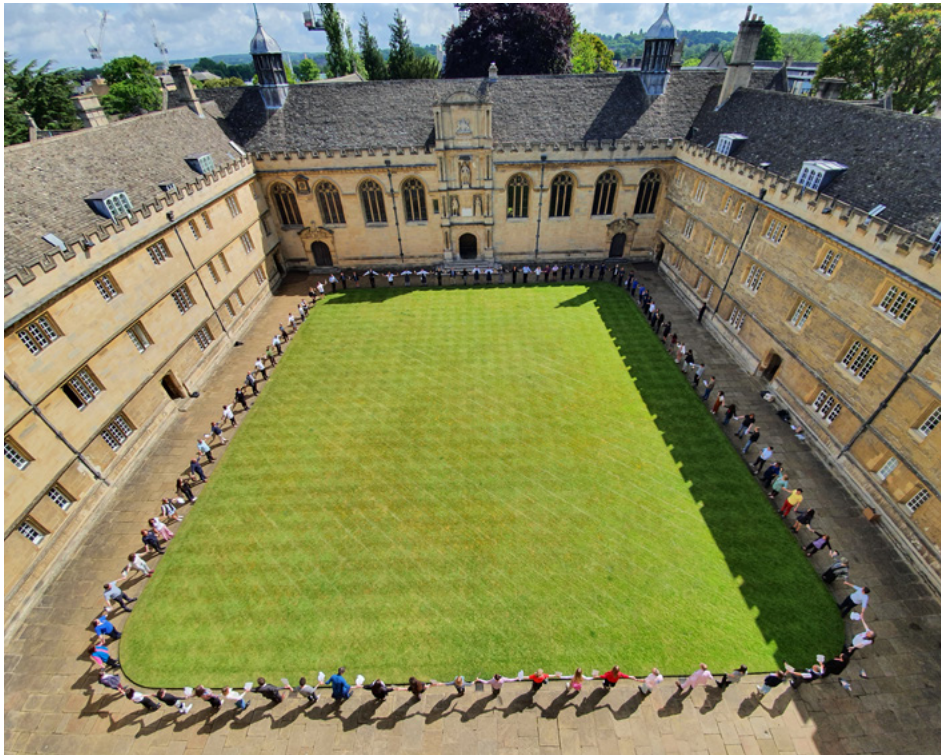
As for her choice of Wadham, that was inspired by people within Target Oxbridge who said the College was open and welcoming. “Everyone here is very friendly,” says Tyra, “Wadham has definitely met my high expectations!”

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I went to a supportive Sixth Form, but I’ve always been really shy. I came across one of Target Oxbridge’s ambassador talks and the way they described Oxford made me think, ‘Wow, this sounds amazing’.

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# Undergraduate support

It's been a volatile and unsettling few years financially for College, students and alumni alike. But the remarkable solidarity and kindness shown by former students has provided both practical and emotional support.

The legacy of COVID and the cost-of-living crisis have had a pronounced impact on our students' wellbeing and finances. Student fees have remained predominantly static for a decade, but maintenance grants are at their lowest level in seven years.

Even the good news has a downside. Inflation means that the fees worth £9,200 when originally introduced are equivalent to just £6,000 today, which means that Wadham has less income to spend on undergraduates. In addition, the College's fuel expenses have increased fourfold over the past two years – and this after the pandemic all but wiped out conference revenues. This combination of circumstances means that Wadham is having to draw down further on its endowment, eroding the lifespan of the fund simply to continue teaching undergraduates. In the face of such challenges, the support of alumni remains critically important.

We know that our alumni have felt similar financial pressures, so the response to our Giving Day and Telephone campaigns in 2021-22 was all the more extraordinary and inspiring. In May, we held our third Giving Day, which grew in breadth and scope this year. Events involving alumni, students, staff and

Fellows took place over several weeks, culminating in a human chain around the Front Quad – a £5,000 challenge from one generous anonymous donor!

As for the Giving Day itself, our alumni and friends made it another incredible success with 312 donations totalling over £172,000. We are very grateful to everyone who participated on social media and who donated, and to several generous benefactors who made £40,000 available in match gift funding. You all made us remarkably "#WadhamProud".

Our donor community came good again in September, as we launched our annual telephone campaign, with 250 alumni pledging nearly £304,000 over the next four years. The fortnight-long campaign was also a unique opportunity for hundreds of alumni to exchange stories about Wadham then and now with our 16 student callers.

We are profoundly grateful for all the support our alumni gave us throughout the year; the unrestricted donations of all sizes to the Wadham Priorities Fund will provide vital support for the College's access work and hardship funding for students.

## Stats

### The collective impact of your unrestricted gifts to the Wadham Priorities Fund

In 2020-21 the total cost of grants and awards, including scholarships, prizes, bursaries and hardship support, was £830k.

This included £125k to fund the Oxford Bursary Scheme for students from lower income backgrounds, and bursaries and grants paid to students facing financial hardship. Nearly £82k was paid in accommodation support and vacation residence grants to help less well-off undergraduates with living costs. There were also a number of specific grants made available, such as up to £50k to support the academic work of graduate students and £10k offered in book grants to freshers.



## Family Wadham

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An unusual, creative and compassionate gift from an exceptional couple

Juergen Heeg (MBA, 2006) and his wife, Hallie, spent just a year in Oxford, but Wadham made a lasting mark on their lives. So much so, in fact, that they were inspired to give £4k annually to support a small group of students with a very big need. “The idea of welfare for students who are estranged from their families really resonated with me,” says Juergen. “Perhaps because of my dad, who had a tough childhood and was not supported by his family.”

“I don’t want to give just generically to organisations – I want to see the impact of my support,” adds Hallie, who is a therapist working with people who have addictions, eating disorders and mental health issues. The idea of giving for student welfare also resonated with her professional experiences.



The couple feels blessed in terms of incomes and careers and wanted to give – through Wadham – to ensure that others have the same opportunities to fulfil their potential. They particularly appreciated the welcoming, familial atmosphere of the College. As Juergen explains, “It was very special for me because I got all my education all day long at the Saïd Business School then went back to College, where I could get away from it all. Wadham was diverse, inclusive and everything but capitalistic – almost the polar opposite of business – and that was really important to me.”

Both Hallie and Juergen love the annual feedback process that was built into their donation. And, although they have a young son, they continue to donate enthusiastically every year. “We don’t want that mentality of holding on to our money,” says Hallie. “Teaching our son, who’s four, the concept of giving back and instilling it from a young age is very important.”



# Graduate students

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Graduate study is an increasingly important gateway to advancing careers in many professions, and the provision of scholarships is essential both to ensuring fair access to these fields and to securing the best international talent in all subject areas.

In 2022, Wadham was delighted to welcome 97 new graduate students. Of this intake, roughly 20% receive financial support from the College, and many others are on scholarships offered by or via the University. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the College has tripled the number of scholarships on offer over the past seven years.

It is a strategic priority for the College to continue to build on this foundation, providing more funding for graduate students, both nationally and internationally. Graduate study is a gateway to some of the most desirable and significant careers – through skills and knowledge acquired during study as well as networks of peers and mentors. Yet, for many, additional study is simply not an option. Master's and doctoral degrees are expensive, and, in the absence of parental support, many talented students, already burdened with large debts, find themselves unable to continue to study at this level.

Sometimes too, scholarships can make all the difference in advancing the strategic cause of excellence. Many of the world's top academic institutions use scholarships as a tactic to persuade the very best students to take up places. The simple truth is that you, as donors, allow Wadham to compete for talent in an increasingly global market.

## Attracting and supporting international talent

As a college, we work hard to develop partnerships with individuals and institutions who can help us to open new possibilities for graduate students from all over the world.

In recent years, Wadham has developed important partnerships targeting South African and other Sub-Saharan students. Most recently, we have secured two new scholarships with FirstRand for master's students from South Africa studying at the Blavatnik School of Government and the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment.

We are also proud to participate in the Black Academic Futures Scholarship programme for UK Black and Mixed Black graduate students.

If you would like to find out more about supporting our work in this area, either through lifetime giving or with a legacy, please don't hesitate to contact the Development Office.

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I couldn't afford to undertake the degree without support. It was about two weeks later that I received news that I'd been awarded this scholarship – I was so excited and over the moon

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## Giving at a stratospheric level

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How a gift to a graduate is helping to tackle the climate crisis

Aleena Moolakkunnel Jaison's research is literally stratospheric. "I'm looking at the energy dynamics of the zonal wind oscillations up there," she explains. "Some parts of these aren't well incorporated into the models or particularly accurate. I am investigating where the possible errors are to improve particular aspects of climate modelling."

Aleena began her DPhil in 2021 thanks to a provident legacy by David Richards (PPE, 1961) and the generosity of his family. The David Richards Scholarship Programme is open to UK, EU and international candidates, and funds course fees and living costs for up to six students at any one time in Economics, Economic History and Climate Science.

When Aleena first received her offer, while studying at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Pune, it wasn't clear that she would be able to take up a place at Oxford: "It was good news but also frustrating, as I couldn't afford to undertake the degree without support. It was about two weeks later that I received news that I'd been awarded this scholarship – I was so excited and over the moon!"

An award like the David Richards Climate Science Scholarship provides the time and space for a bright mind to fully concentrate on one aspect of one of the most pressing problems facing the world today. As an endowed award, it will continue to have this impact year after year for generations into the future. And for each individual it is quite simply life changing.



## All Wadham graduates 25

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As well as enabling equal access to an exceptional education, we aim to ensure that all Wadham students – regardless of their background – are able to thrive in their chosen career.

Our responsibility to our undergraduate and graduate students is not only academic and is not limited to their time in College. We recognise that for the vast majority, their future will be beyond Oxford and outside their chosen degree subject.

There is much that Wadham can do while students are with us to prepare them for the crucial early phase of their career. The College is working with the University, corporate partners and alumni to provide the skills, knowledge and connections that will help our graduates to make informed decisions and embark on the next stage of their lives.

In particular, we are strengthening our careers support and working to develop sector-specific alumni networks – so that belonging to the Wadham community will continue to have a meaningful impact on students' lives well into the future. True to our ethos, much of our work focuses on social mobility and supporting groups of students that are underrepresented in elite professions.

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## Breaking down barriers to banking and legal careers

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Holistic partnerships with Barclays and Linklaters to support students from the sixth form through to the first steps in their careers.

As part of the College's wider Access to Excellence campaign, our pioneering Think Like a Lawyer and Access to Banking programmes seek to improve social mobility. They target pupils from under-represented groups who are aspiring to study at a top university with a view to pursuing a career in the legal or in banking sector. Thanks to the generosity of our corporate partners, the programmes are free of charge and support sixth-form students for two years, as they prepare for university applications and consider career pathways.

For students already on courses at Wadham, the programmes provide

introductory talks in which they are introduced to opportunities available at Linklaters and Barclays, giving insight into the application process for any student, irrespective of subject.. In the next phase, these programmes will incorporate mentorship schemes, whereby Wadham students will be able to connect with recent graduates at Linklaters and Barclays.

Wadham finalist, Karishma Khola (Law, 2019) is state educated and the first in her family to go to university. She benefited from a similar initiative while still at school and was closely involved in designing the Wadham-Linklaters programme, ensuring that issues like imposter syndrome, lack of knowledge and fear of rejection were all covered. "Drawing on my own experiences, I was able – and very proud – to support Think Like a Lawyer," she says.

At Linklaters, the programme is overseen by Margaret Leach, Diversity and Global Recruitment Advisor. "Recruitment is about identifying potential," she

says. "But we also have to play a part in demystifying the process." This is exactly what Wadham seeks to achieve in working with corporate donors. With your support, we hope to expand our programmes in the years to come. Law and banking are just the start!



# Fellowships and Facilities



## From the Far East to Oxford via the Deep South

29

Back in 1860, Tateishi Onojirō, a 17-year-old samurai made national headlines across the United States for his adventures and popularity with American women. Today, he is the subject – with contemporary resonance – of Dr Natalia Doan's recent article, "Samurai and Southern Belles: Interracial Romance, Southern Morality, and the 1860 Japanese Embassy". "As a biracial (Black/white) woman," she says, "it is especially important to me that stories like these be told."

Julia is the Okinaga Junior Research Fellow in Japanese Studies, a fellowship generously sponsored by the Okinaga family and the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies. Since joining Wadham three years ago, she has produced three publications in the field of Japanese history, with two additional publications, including a book, on the way.

The gift to Wadham has enabled not only some out-of-the-ordinary academic research but also the most highly enrolled and evaluated course in Japanese studies at Oxford – on gender, sexuality, and power in Japanese popular culture

and history from the 17th century to the present-day.

While at Wadham, Julia has also co-convoked an international digital conference on Black transnationalism and Japan. She explains, "Examining Japanese and Black history through the lens of Black transnationalism reveals individuals and groups who counteracted state and wartime ambitions through non-violent means, as well as innovative cultural productions challenging hierarchies of gender, race, culture and imperialism."

Sadly, the fellowship is soon coming to an end, but Julia says, "I will always consider myself a part of Wadham and Wadham a part of me. I would also like to express my deepest appreciation to the Okinaga family. Wadham is a place like no other – a place that celebrates diversity, embraces intellectual challenge. This fellowship has been a wonderful and life-changing experience, a dream come true."

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How a donor-funded  
fellowship has brought  
swashbuckling thrills across  
cultures and continents all  
the way to Wadham.

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# 30 A connection that lasts a lifetime – and longer

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Jojo Sanders (PPE, 1997) is a 1610 Society Member and on the Committee. Wadham has played an important role in her life, and she explains why she was inspired to make a bequest to the College...

"I came to Oxford from Manchester, and it was all a bit of a minefield. I didn't know anything about the different colleges when I applied, but someone suggested Wadham as a not-too-posh option with a good academic reputation in a central location." This opportune nudge led to a consequential decision, connecting an individual with the College for a lifetime.

The connection has been very important for Jojo, from the very first day, when she discovered a wide range of people from very different cultures and with very different views with the same passion for their academic subject and for the wider world.

Her years at Wadham turned out to be exceptional experience. It was not only the people and intellectual atmosphere, however, which made an impact. "The College was very supportive. When I ran out of money one time, I contacted the bursar, who made a grant of £1,500 with no strings attached. Enough to get me back on my feet."

And then, after College, the association continued to be an important factor in her life: "I'm black and female, and although I hope and think this is changing, in my early

career I would find that people assumed little of me. That would change very quickly when I said I had studied at Wadham."

So, what inspired Jojo to make a bequest to the College? "I always believed it was my duty to give something back. In Britain we sometimes miss the point that our institutions don't pay for themselves. We don't realise enough that we have to do something to keep them strong. I know that for some of my contemporaries, this will come later. I give what I can annually, but if the College can be sure that it has money pledged, it can be confident to plan for the long term."

# Join the 1610 Society

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Everyone who informs College of the intention to leave a legacy to Wadham is invited to join the 1610 Society, which now has well over 400 members.

Benefits of membership include invitations to annual events such as the Benefactors' Garden Party and the 1610 Society Dinner. The highlight of the year was an event in October 2021 (postponed from January), hosted by the 1610 Society in London and our energetic 1610 Society President, Colin Drummond (Classics, 1969). The occasion gave alumni the chance to hear Wadham's Chapel Choir sing Evensong in St Paul's Cathedral, followed by a reception to hear more about the 1610 Society.

Colin noted: "It was a special privilege that the service was sung by our Choir in the wonderful building designed by Wadham alumnus, Sir Christopher Wren (indeed his own *monumentum*). The event resulted in a number of further generous pledges of support, for which the College is deeply grateful."

▲ Colin Drummond and fellow 1610 Society Committee member, Claudia Pendred (Human Sciences, 1977), speak to 1610 Society members and guests at the St Paul's reception event.

► 1610 Society members and guests enjoyed 'Afternoon Tea with the Warden' at Wadham in September 2021 – the College's first in-person event since the start of the pandemic.

▼ Wadham Warden, Robert Hannigan, and guests at the St Paul's reception event.





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