

# Thanks to you

Donor report  
2017/18



WADHAM  
COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

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Cover: Access Assistant, Dr Catherine Seed, with primary school students from Tower Hamlets, London

## With thanks from the Warden



This year, my gratitude to everyone who has given to Wadham is as profound as ever. But it is also twofold

First, on behalf of our Fellows, staff and students, I would like to thank every donor for an outstanding year in terms of funds raised and total number of contributors. Both of these figures rose considerably in 2017/18 and enabled us to sustain outstanding scholarship – at undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral and fellowship levels alike. As a result of our extensive and ever-expanding work with schools, it is also safe to assume that your philanthropy has touched the lives of many future alumni. Furthermore, by supporting our ambitious Back Quad project you have contributed to a truly long-term investment in both the infrastructure of access and the facilitation of excellence.

Today, however, there is a second – and perhaps even more important – reason for giving thanks. Your generosity has enabled Wadham to fulfil its potential as a beacon of fair access that lights the way for other institutions to follow. We are particularly proud,

of course, that the Dr Lee Shau Kee Building will be the first dedicated access centre at any Oxford college. This fact has in turn raised public awareness of other Wadham innovations, such as our pioneering work with pre-GCSE students in Luton and our subject-specific summer schools for state-educated sixth-formers. We are proud to make a greater impact on the world of education as a role model of fair access. By extension, this means that your giving has a greater impact than ever before.

In short, it gives me double the pleasure this year to say thank you. And, as the new access centre and fully accessible William Doo Undergraduate Centre rise out of the building site that is currently in Wadham's Back Quad, I look forward to watching the impact of your 2017/18 gifts resonating through the decades to come.

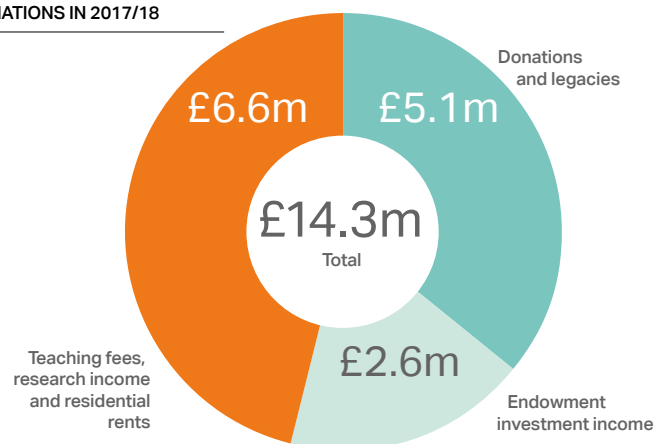
**Lord Macdonald of River Glaven Kt QC**  
Warden

# Income and donations in 2017/18

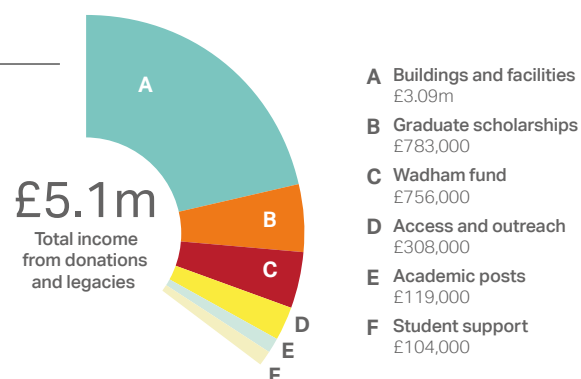
# Facts, figures and finances



WADHAM INCOME AND DONATIONS IN 2017/18



PURPOSE OF DONATIONS IN 2017/18



The impact of your generosity is visible around Wadham – in our students, in the school groups visiting here through our Access programme, and in the building work going on – and it is truly heartening

Some outstanding benefactions have helped transform the College's access work in recent years, and this year's fundraising success is awe-inspiring. Yet, at Wadham, it is not only the major donations that make a difference, it is also the steady growth in donors at all levels of giving, and of younger ages, that are truly heartening. This suggests a strength of community that is unique to our College, as well as a bright and financially secure future.

In 2017/18, we received £5.1 million, thanks to an exceptional 22% of alumni deciding to support the College. Each and every one of these gifts contributes to our ability to raise standards by admitting students on the basis of true merit and potential.

In tangible terms, your generosity enabled us to inspire more than 6,400 students from 250 UK state schools during 2017/18: a doubling of our reach since the Access to Excellence programme was launched in 2014. The College works systematically to evaluate our programmes and document impact, and the increase in students from diverse backgrounds admitted to Oxford speaks for itself. The impact is also visible in the faces of the school

parties that wind their way through our ancient archways each term.

Soon, we will have a purpose-built home for all of our on-site access activities. Designed around the needs of school visitors, the Dr Lee Shau Kee Building will be the first of its kind in Oxford. It will be a bold and elegant symbol of our commitment to widening participation, not only at Oxford but at other top universities around the country. Thanks to you, we have already raised £13.6 million of the £18 million project cost. As construction begins in earnest, we are entering the final phase of the appeal, with the aim of raising a further £4 million by June 2020. I look forward to seeing many of your names on the donor wall that we are in the process of designing.

For now, I am delighted to express my gratitude to all donors, on behalf of the entire College. But it is the brightened eyes, the changed attitudes and the raised aspirations of thousands of young people who provide the real thanks for your support.

**Julie Christiane Hage**

Fellow and Development Director

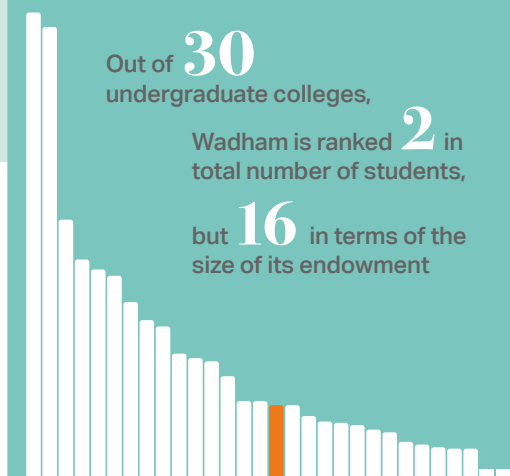
Thank you for transforming hundreds of lives every year with your support. Your continued generosity is vital to the College.



Fees received by the College cover little more than half of its costs in delivering an Oxford degree... leaving Wadham to raise the other half

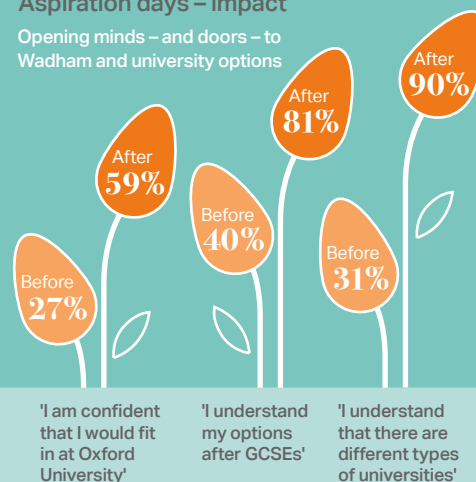
Number of alumni making monthly or annual gifts to the Wadham Fund

2013-14	502
2014-15	748
2015-16	996
2016-17	1232
2017-18	1375

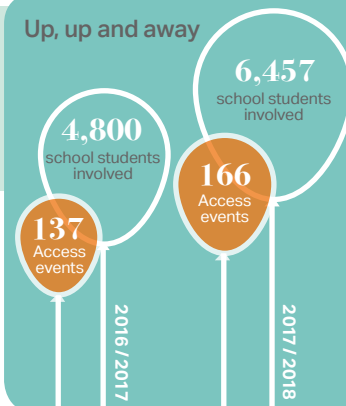


#### Aspiration days – impact

Opening minds – and doors – to Wadham and university options



#### Up, up and away



**92%**

of the Year 11 pupils on the Luton Project said they were more excited by the idea of going to university, having participated in the project

**67%**

of pupils who participated in our Wad-HAM project came from families with no parental history of higher education

**100%**

of these students were from BAME backgrounds



# Access to Excellence

As the academic year 2017/2018 drew to a close, it was apparent that the Wadham community had benefitted to an extraordinary degree from the commitment, generosity and friendship of our alumni.

Working to advance the vision of the Access to Excellence programme, the College has, to date, secured £35.3 million of the £40 million target and thereby enhanced our ability to widen access to Oxford by supporting talented students on their educational journey.

With continued reduction in government funding for higher education and increased scrutiny of Oxford's widening participation efforts, it has been rewarding to see our Access programme mentioned in the national press as an example to follow, and this in turn has amplified alumni engagement with our Access to Excellence agenda. The 2018 Impact Report highlighted the significance

of our sustained access programmes, and the second Social Mobility Summit, hosted by PwC, shed light on the efforts required to support students as they move into the professions. A Guardian article and MP David Lammy's mention of Wadham "putting its money and its precious central Oxford real estate where its mouth is, spending an estimated £18 million on a dedicated access centre" have given further momentum to our Back Quad appeal and made clear how these new buildings will place the College on the national map with the first-ever dedicated access centre at any Oxbridge college. Engagement with alumni communities in the US and Hong Kong continues to deepen and the College's resourceful and generous Development Council members have played a vital role in opening doors to new networks and funding opportunities.

One distinctive strategy. Five bold steps.

Minimum target: £40m by 2020

Raised to date: £35.3m



## Our access and outreach universe is expanding

Thanks to donors, we are able to inspire not just more school students but also to reach younger groups

In 2017/18, you helped us to raise the aspirations of more students than ever before. Wadham is still working in the same geographical areas (the "link regions" assigned to us by the University): North East London, Luton, Bedford, Central Bedfordshire and Cambridge. However, our various activities are being extended.

For several years we have been running a thriving initiative with Year 12 (lower-sixth) students in the London borough of Newham and Tower Hamlets. Inspired by the success of "Wad-HAM", we then launched the Luton Project, now in its fourth year, to support 14-16 year-olds through this critical phase in their educational development. As one recent participant said, "It helped me develop abilities that I lacked before, such as standing at the front of the classroom and presenting confidently."

In 2017/18, funds from the Access to Excellence programme enabled us to double

the annual intake of the Luton Project to 50 Year 10 students. But we know all too well – from research and our own experience – that it is critical to work with students' aspiration and attainment before the age of 14. So we are now extending the scheme to academically able Year 9 students, who will attend a series of taster sessions with Oxford academics in Luton before coming to Wadham for the day. It's a bold move, as most Oxbridge colleges continue to focus on sixth-formers, but we are confident that the sustained intervention is making an impact.

Bolder still is our move into primary schools. We recently hosted 23 9-11 year-olds from Tower Hamlets, giving them academic taster sessions in psychology and chemistry. One of the accompanying teachers summed up the purpose of the event perfectly: "We feel this visit will push our students to aspire. Just because many of them are Muslim girls from Tower Hamlets, it doesn't mean they can't achieve big things."



## Seeing is believing

Wadham's Access programme is one of the best, and is only possible thanks to the generosity of our alumni and supporters. SU Access Officer Dan Gunn describes how, in his case, an access trip to Oxford fortunately went wrong

I went to a state comprehensive with no history of Oxbridge applications, but I decided fairly early on that PPE was the course for me and thought that if I was going to do it, why not apply for the place where it was first taught? I had a decent amount of support for my application – my teachers weren't among the 40% that still actively discourage their students from applying to Oxbridge. Regardless, during the process I wasn't sure that Oxford was for people like me: I imagined that I wouldn't belong even if I did what seemed impossible and made it.

Another access project that had been working with my school, just before I did my UCAS application, culminated in a trip to an Oxbridge college, but whoever was supposed to be hosting us pulled out at the last minute. Wadham stepped in and hosted us instead. I am so glad they did because it dispelled my worst fears: I was taken around by someone who was from a similar background to me and who explained that Wadham was a place where anyone was welcome regardless of their background.

The words didn't ring hollow – I could see and understood that Wadham genuinely did want the best, wherever they were from. I applied, and I'm certain this renewed desire made the difference and ensured I presented my best self throughout the process; this one seemingly routine tour completely changed my outlook.

My experience partially inspired me to run for the position of Access Officer on the Wadham SU at the end of my first year, after giving a number of tours and going to access events throughout the year. One of the things I am most struck by – both through our telephone campaign and by attending Wadham events in my role – is the genuine interest, and subsequent generosity, of alumni in our access work. I try to meet as many as possible because the more support access gets, the more events we can run, and the more students like me will be truly convinced that they can not only attend, but also thrive, here.

**Dan Gunn** (PPE, 2017)

## Meet the access doctors!

Highly qualified and highly motivated, Wadham's new Access and Outreach team has already worked its magic – turning your gifts into real-life impact.

Wadham is one of the only Oxford colleges to benefit from two fully donor-funded access posts



For Dr Hugh Munro, joining Wadham as Access and Outreach Officer was the next logical step in a career that began with academic research. "My PhD examined people who make a difference in their communities," he explains. "I concluded that it was people at the grassroots who had the most impact." He put his findings into practice and worked as a primary school teacher, before joining The Brilliant Club, the award-winning access charity that mobilises the PhD community to inspire kids from less advantaged backgrounds to attend top universities.

That was how Hugh first encountered Wadham. Thoroughly impressed by what he saw, he finally joined us in September 2017 with two main motivations: "I think all teenagers have the right to make an informed decision about their education. And, at the moment, universities

like Oxford are missing a huge number of talented pupils."

Hugh, in turn, helped to recruit Dr Catherine Seed as Access and Outreach Assistant. With a PhD in evolutionary biology and experience as a science presenter in Australia, Catherine is ideally placed to run exciting, hands-on learning activities with visiting school students of all ages.

Dr Peter Thonemann, Fellow for Access, is highly impressed with the way this small team of true professionals has expanded Wadham's flagship programmes to new age groups and subject areas, as well as reaching more school students than ever before. As he says, "Their arrival at the College has been truly transformative."



Dr Peter Thonemann

## Influencing policy and practice

Your gifts are helping Wadham to become both an opinion leader and a role model in widening participation



Former US Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Lissa Muscatine (PPE, 1977) meeting with Wadham's Warden and Development Director

Hailed last year by Oxford Vice-Chancellor, Professor Louise Richardson, Wadham's innovative approach to access is now making a name for itself in the wider world, as our growing library of press cuttings shows.

In fact, Wadham's fame has spread so far that Hillary Rodham Clinton took time to meet with the Warden in October 2018 to hear about our efforts – funded by you – to attract and support students from a diverse range of backgrounds.

But the real proof of both policy and practice is evident in the admissions data, also widely

covered in the national press each year.

Although we know we have much more to do, we are proud of what we have achieved in widening access. The statistics published by the University in 2018 revealed that 68% of our UK students in the three previous intakes were state-educated – the third highest among all Oxford colleges. Similarly 14% of our UK students in the same cohorts came from areas with low progression to higher education – again the third highest percentage among Oxford colleges.

“

Universities Minister, Sam Gyimah, praised Wadham College, Oxford, for the work it had done with younger teenagers and said more should follow suit.

The Times  
24 April 2018





## Peter Mason, a donor's tale

One Wadham engineering graduate is completing the philanthropic circle by passing on the opportunities that were once given to him



“

The summer school takes kids with engineering potential, who may or may not be thinking about Oxford, and it raises their expectations of themselves.

“I’m a case study in social mobility,” says Peter Mason (Engineering, Economics and Management, 1994). While both his brothers left school at 16, he went on to win a sports scholarship to a high-achieving school. But the real turning point in his life, he believes, was getting into Wadham. “An engineering degree from Oxford is a passport to anything you want to do,” he explains. Today, he is Co-Head of Financial Institutions for Barclays Capital – and a donor to the UNIQ Engineering Summer School hosted by the College each year.

Along with his wife – a graduate of St Hugh’s and another “case study in social mobility” – Pete has taken a growing interest in the issue of fair access, as his career has progressed. “I wasn’t in a financial position to give initially,” he says. “But then I heard about Wadham’s Access to Excellence programme and was enthused.

I started to think how I might help.” Finally, in 2017, a tangible, specific project came along in the form of the engineering summer school and he jumped at the chance to help make a difference.

Pete and his wife particularly value the chance to meet the students each year and see for themselves how their gift is opening eyes and opening doors. “The summer school takes kids with engineering potential, who may or may not be thinking about Oxford,” he says. “And it raises their expectations of themselves.”

But Pete’s proudest moment came at a careers fair this year, where he was representing the bank. “A couple of Oxford engineering students approached me on the stand,” he recalls. “And I realised the last time I’d met them was as wide-eyed kids at the summer school.”



## Summer schools: what happens next?

New subjects, new students...  
and new evidence of impact

First came our own summer school in Classics. Then came the University's UNIQ Engineering Summer School and the Europe-wide Program in Mathematics for Young Scientists (PROMYS) – both run in College with the support of Wadham alumni.

But why stop there? In 2017 we ran a one-off taster course in Politics – an experience designed to raise aspirations and guide subject choice among state-educated sixth-formers, mainly from East London and Wadham's wider links regions.

Thanks to the continued support of alumni, the long hot summer of 2018 brought a new cohort to Wadham, this time to study Biology. Their busy schedule included microscopy sessions in the labs and a field trip to Wytham Woods to investigate how animals adapt to their environment. Next year, the plan is to tackle Modern Languages, a subject in which Oxford severely lacks state-school applicants.

Meanwhile, the classics, engineering and maths summer schools remain annual fixtures. Ibrahim from South East London joined the

“ I was not considering Oxford before this week. But the mentors have been so helpful, they make me feel like I can succeed.

Connie, Essex

classics class of 2018. He admitted to having stereotyped preconceptions about Oxford students before arriving, “but the student ambassadors are really nice and, well, normal!” Connie from Essex came for the engineering: “I was not considering Oxford before this week. But the mentors have been so helpful, they make me feel like I can succeed.”

As the years go by, we are gathering data that proves the summer school concept really does work. Of the 96 participants who attended the UNIQ engineering programme in 2016 and 2017, 50 applied to Oxford and 12 obtained places. Most of the rest went on to study at top-ranked universities, with Durham and Bristol the most popular destinations. We continue to gather evidence and monitor impact in our annual Impact Report.



455 schools benefitted from  
our outreach programme in  
2017/18 vs 225 schools  
in 2016/17



1 in 5 Wadham  
undergraduates received  
a means-tested bursary in  
2017/18



## From Zambia to Wadham – and back again

How a gift to Wadham can change lives  
on the other side of the world

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Wadham alumni and the Beit Trust, a charity focused on Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi, the College will be awarding 10 graduate scholarships with truly far-reaching impact. Scholars are chosen not just for their academic ability but on the basis of their plans to return home and contribute to societal progress. The two inaugural recipients, Kelly Kapianga and Chanda Chungu, both from Zambia, joined Wadham in September 2018.

Kelly Kapianga, a lawyer, is reading for an MSc in Criminology. Since graduating in 2012, he has been working with children in need of legal aid – which the Zambian government does not provide. After completing his masters at Oxford, Kelly plans to continue providing legal and social support to children in conflict with the law, as well as helping child migrants and advocating for a restorative juvenile

system in Zambia. In addition to his legal practice and studies, Kelly's interests include playing chess and volleyball, which he also teaches to children in detention facilities.

"A graduate scholarship can be life-changing for a student like me – and the minors I will be working to support back home," says Kelly.

Chanda, also a lawyer, is working towards a Masters of Public Policy. Having gained his first degree in South Africa, he hopes to return there to complete a PhD. His research interests include labour law and administrative law, and their roles in social protection.

In the long term, Chanda would like to contribute to building legal frameworks that will help Zambia's most vulnerable people and strengthen the institutions tasked with holding the country's public officials accountable.



## Match-funding – double vision

Through match-funding donations, we have been able to double your impact and vision for graduate scholarships

We would like to send a particularly big thank you to donors who helped us to maximise our share of the Oxford Graduate Scholarship Matched Fund. Your gifts have helped to accelerate the number of scholarships Wadham is able to make across a large range of subjects, including the Jeffrey Hackney BCL Scholarship, currently held by Sam Walpole (BCL, 2018), pictured above with Emeritus Fellow Jeffrey Hackney.

The original University kitty is now used up, but many departments have continued to double the size of donations for graduate scholarships. And our development team has become expert in facilitating matching funds to bring the best academic talent to Wadham and help donors make their gifts stretch even further. We have several scholarships, including in Law, English and History, where alumni have offered £10,000 per year, which is matched by the faculty to make a larger award.



## Double your money

Did you know that many graduate scholarship gifts can double in value through fund-matching initiatives?

The beauty of giving to graduate scholarships is that many of Oxford's faculties offer some kind of matched funding. This means that a modest gift can turn into a major source of financial aid. The development team at Wadham would be delighted to discuss how to leverage matched funding to support a graduate scholar. Meanwhile our thanks go out not only to our own donors but to the University benefactors who have enabled our gifts – and our students – to go so much further.

“

**A graduate scholarship can be life-changing for a student like me – and the minors I will be working to support back home.**

Kelly Kapianga  
Criminology, 2018



Kelly Kapianga



Chanda Chungu

“

**Without this scholarship I would not have had the opportunity to read for what I consider to be the most rigorous PG qualification in the common law world. My time at Oxford will be invaluable toward my eventual aspiration of helping to uphold the rule of law as a practising barrister.**

Sam Walpole BCL, 2018



## Life beyond Wadham

We have the next steps of fair access firmly in our sight and the College continues to support alumni as they go out into the world



Maurice Ostro (Law, 1985) tells a peculiarly Wadham tale of entrepreneurship. When he arrived at College in the dark ages before mobile telephony, he had already launched his own gemstone business. To keep it going, he needed to install a landline in his room in Holywell Court. The Domestic Bursar was most indignant about the existence of an extra-curricular career (not to mention a private phone line in College), but eventually gave in.

"It was a challenge getting a phone installed but eventually we did and I was able to carry on the business – with a bit of time left over for my studies," laughs Maurice.

Maurice not only gained his degree but the company thrived. He went on to found further businesses in fields as diverse as frozen yoghurt, media distribution, airline catering and property – as well as becoming a renowned philanthropist. And in 2017/18 he held a lunch in College for would-be Wadhamite entrepreneurs.

It was just one of many careers-focused events supported by donors over the past few years. In 2017/18, Jojo Saunders (PPE, 1998) hosted a dinner for students interested in finance. Wadham also works closely with the University's careers service to assist students with internships. Another initiative is the Teach First bursaries that we offer to alumni who are



retraining to become teachers – including, in 2017/18, one accountant who graduated as far back as 1989.

In 2018, our annual Social Mobility Summit, hosted by PwC in London, took as its topic "Access to the Professions". The panellists, ably chaired by Melvyn Bragg (History, 1958) were mainly alumni and included Warren East (Engineering, 1980), CEO of Rolls-Royce and Chair of the Wadham College Development Council, and Amanda Parker (English, 1994).

Why do we invest in careers? At Wadham, we are acutely aware that all our efforts to promote fairer access to Oxford and other top universities are to no avail unless all of our graduates – including those from the most disadvantaged backgrounds – have great opportunities when they leave us.





## It's coming down

The Goddard Building is making way for our new Back Quad buildings

We have moved into Wadham's Back Quad and the 1950s Goddard Building has given way to a new development: from September 2020, we will be welcoming all of you to visit Oxford's first-ever dedicated Access Centre, the Dr Lee Shau Kee Building, and the fully accessible William

Doo Undergraduate Centre. Until then, the entire College community is mobilised to make this project a reality, and every possible care is taken to minimise noise and impact on students living nearby the building site.

Thanks to the outstanding generosity of our lead donors, the appeal got well underway and over the past year we have been overwhelmed by the support committed by alumni and friends from all part of the world toward this project. We are delighted that so many of you have decided to add your name to the Donor Wall in the main entrance, naming a table in

the Student Lounge, a student room, a floor or even a staircase.

A fantastic £13.6 million of the total £18 million cost has been secured, and the contributions from so many alumni have given the College confidence to proceed. We are working hard to secure the remainder before the opening in 2020 and we hope that many of you will decide to make your mark on these new buildings too. Every donation will make a difference and, by contributing to this architectural project, you will see the tangible benefit of your support every time you return to Wadham.



“

These beautiful new buildings will enable us to turn our distinctive Wadham beliefs into renewed action. Together we can show the world that wider access really does lead to higher standards and a better education for all. Please join me in supporting the College's future.

Warren East, CBE (Engineering, 1980)  
CEO of Rolls-Royce and  
Chair of Wadham Development Council







Seminar  
Room in  
the Access  
Centre



Dr Siripattra Kusuwan with her husband and son visiting the site with Marco Zhang, Deputy Development Director

Improving accessibility to Wadham and an Oxford education is key to our plans to develop a new Access Centre and Undergraduate Centre. The two new buildings will enable the College to expand and develop its work with students from disadvantaged 'widening participation' backgrounds and have 24-hour accessibility for students with disabilities.

As a leader in access provision, reaching thousands of secondary school students through our outreach work every year, Wadham has been looking to create a dedicated facility for welcoming young people aspiring to study at Oxford for many years. Similarly, the College has long been aware of the need to provide accessible facilities to our undergraduate students.

We have made tremendous progress in fundraising for Wadham's new Back Quad buildings through naming opportunities. And we are extremely grateful to the many alumni and friends who have already supported this development.

One such alumna is Dr Siripattra Kusuwan (Biochemistry, 1998), who is naming a teaching

room in the new Access Centre. On a recent visit with her family to see the work in progress, she said: "Building a solid foundation in education is very important. We are pleased to be supporting Wadham's pioneering new Access Centre because it will have a significant impact for students from all backgrounds and open opportunities to an Oxford education."



### It's coming down – watch it happen

The Back Quad – can you recognise it? You can follow the demolition and construction work 'live' online, or over one or thirty day intervals, via our timelapse camera and see your support 'in action'.

Follow the work in progress as we count down to the newly opened buildings in 2020 and see the physical transformation taking shape at: <https://wadhamcam.com/index2.html>



The Undergraduate  
Centre Lounge

## 1610 Society: Leaving a legacy

For many alumni, remembering Wadham in their wills is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact

Legacies play a key role in securing the College's long-term future. In an average year, legacies amount to a seven-figure sterling sum and represent a fifth of our annual philanthropic income. The 1610 Society exists for Wadham to thank and acknowledge those who include the College in their wills and to encourage others to do so.

In return, the College hosts the annual 1610 Society Dinner for members and their guests as a "thank you" and a way to acknowledge the vital importance of legacies to the future financial health of the College. It is a very congenial way of supporting Wadham, whilst keeping in contact with old friends and new developments.

In total, the Society has over 400 members and around 100 attend the 1610 Society Dinner each year, which is always a highly enjoyable occasion.

Some of you may well have included Wadham in your will without knowing of the 1610 Society, whilst others may be preparing to leave a legacy to Wadham. In either case, please do contact Julie Hage in the Development Office for a confidential conversation.

Charitable donations, in particular legacies, are a very personal decision, often involving family members.

In the following article, Diana Blease (Biological Sciences, 1987) describes why she has chosen to support the College through a legacy.

### 1610 Society Committee

Colin Drummond OBE 1969, President  
Diana Blease 1987  
Julie Curtis 1974  
Rebecca Davis 1978  
Jeremy Evans 1991  
Tony Halmos 1969  
Victoria Harper 1976  
Ross Hutchison 1979  
Sachin Patel 2001  
Claudia Pendred 1977  
Leon Pickering 2003  
Joe Romig 1963  
Andrew Smith 1967  
Nigel Tricker 1964

Today, bequests make up 20% of philanthropic income to the College each year





## Running in the family

The generosity of others gave Diana Blease the chance to study at Wadham. Now she would like to give others that opportunity by leaving a legacy



“My father was at Wadham and he was actually the first of us to put Wadham in his will.

For many alumni, choosing to leave a gift to Wadham in their will is, in part, because they received support to attend Wadham and wish to extend a similar opportunity to other students. For Diana Blease (Biological Sciences, 1987), a Committee Member of the 1610 Society, that is certainly the case, but it also goes deeper.

“My father was at Wadham and he was actually the first of us to put Wadham in his will,” says Diana. “It’s a place that means a lot to our family, so I was delighted that he had done that, and I have done the same.”

As a child, Diana had an assisted place to attend an independent school. “The state

schools in the area where I grew up did not have a track record of getting kids into Oxbridge,” she says. She believes that she wouldn’t have got into Wadham without that opportunity – and, indeed, she received a direct grant that enabled her to attend the College.

With two daughters who attended state primary schools, Diana has seen the huge contrast in funding and opportunities available to them and says: “If we can help level the playing field so that kids from state schools have a chance of getting to Oxford, it will be to everyone’s benefit.”

Her time at Wadham left a deep impression on her own values, and she is very grateful for this.

It is not surprising that Wadham’s ground-breaking access and outreach work is something she is proud of and committed to developing.

“I love the progressive ethos of Wadham, welcoming and empowering those who were chosen on their academic merit, not just the ‘right sort’ with the ‘right connections,’” says Diana. “Today, the College continues to carry the torch, ensuring the brightest students are encouraged to apply, and are supported throughout.”

Diana says she is “in awe of the energy and commitment” of the staff involved in Wadham’s Access programme. Meeting many of the inspiring students who are at Wadham thanks to its outreach work is invaluable, she says. “It means everything to see the ideas and vision come to life.”



## Wadham calling! Much more than fundraising

Attracting an all-time high number of donors – and building lifelong bonds and skills. Your support for the Wadham Fund brings vital support to areas of greatest need

If you were one of the 586 supporters of our two telephone campaigns in 2017/18, thank you... and congratulations. You helped us to break the record for our total annual number of donors – 1,774 to be exact. You also contributed to keeping us in the top tier of Oxbridge colleges for participation rates. Over 22% of contactable alumni gave over the course of the year (the average for Oxford colleges is just 12%). And the two campaigns raised an impressive combined total of £450,000 towards the flexible-use Wadham Fund.

Those who have not yet been phoned may not realise that all of our callers are current students. Participating not only helps them to



develop valuable skills for their future careers but also enlightens them about the power of the Wadham experience. "A repeated theme among the alumni I spoke to was a respect for the way they were taught to think during their time at Oxford," said one student. "It has helped them hugely during their careers in a wide range of sectors."

As another put it, "Being a finalist, it was reassuring to see that Wadham isn't just a home for the duration of your degree: it supports and provides for you for the rest of your life." Small wonder that our student callers turn into tremendous volunteers and advocates for the work of the College. And many are already donors to the annual Leavers' Campaign by the time the graduate.



## If you would like to give in 2019

To make a donation please visit our secure site at

[www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/wadham/donations/give-now](http://www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/wadham/donations/give-now)

If you would like to discuss making a donation or leaving a legacy to the College, or simply to let us know that you have made provision in your will, please contact us using the details below. We would be delighted to hear from you.

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# A few donors tell us why they give to Wadham...

“

I was very lucky to have been educated at Wadham myself, and I feel passionately that others should be able to enjoy those same benefits. I'm a life-long socialist, and am anxious to support the efforts that the College is making to break down the barriers of privilege and make access for all a reality.

**Judith Alfrey** (Modern History, 1977)

“

My support for Wadham springs from gratitude – the gratitude of an uncertain Canadian who stood with two suitcases outside the College in the pouring rain in 1974, and passed under that noble façade to find the warmest welcome, the most beautiful college and gardens, the most precious permanent friendships, and the oddest adventures anyone could ever expect – not the least of which was being one of the very few women admitted for the first time to Wadham in that year. And Wadham made me a lawyer, which has been a wonderful career – and a rower, which has been a wonderful sport.

**Daphne Dumont** (Jurisprudence, 1974)

“

It's fantastic to support Wadham in widening access, giving everyone the chance to receive a world class education.

**Frederic Kalinke** (International Relations, 2007)

“

At Wadham I found my vocation and met the love of my life  
– I donate to help the College change other people's lives, too.

**Leon Pickering** (English, 2003)

“

Attending graduate school in the US after Wadham opened my eyes to the role that alumni can and should have in “paying it forward” to the next generation of students, which has become more urgent as the financial burden of attending university in the UK has increased. It is no overstatement to say that I am where I am today because of Wadham. To be able to contribute in some small way to this enormously positive impact on somebody else's future is a true privilege.

**Samantha Rowe** (Jurisprudence, 2002)