

# DEVELOPMENT MATTERS/12

Christ Church today  
Giving tiers  
Leaving a legacy  
Boat Club

Cathedral Music Fund  
Graduate Scholarships  
Giving Day 2023  
Access and Outreach

Student support  
Christ Church Meadow  
Stained glass  
Donors to the House



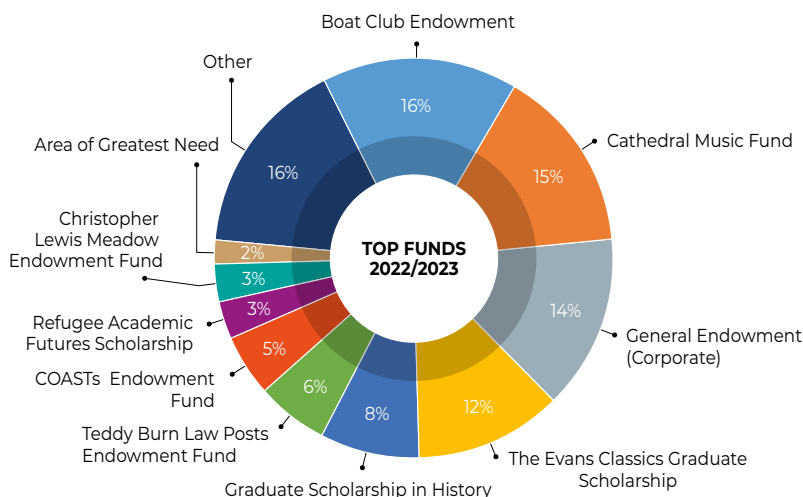


2022/23 has been another year of enormous generosity of alumni and friends of Christ Church. I hope this edition of *Development Matters* conveys the depth and breadth of your support, and our gratitude for donations, whatever their scale and whatever project they support. Christ Church and everything it does is built on the philanthropy and foresight of generations of benefactors. Thank you for following in their footsteps.

*Philippa Roberts*

**Philippa Roberts**

Development Director



**Gross Income Received: £2,557,600 | Endowment: £1,967,646 77% | Expendable: £589,955 23%**

Top 10 Funds	Amount	No. of gifts
Boat Club Endowment	£ 411,828	25
Cathedral Music Fund	£ 370,122	187
General Endowment (Corporate)	£ 354,957	6
The Evans Classics Graduate Scholarship	£ 315,235	1
Graduate Scholarship in History	£ 212,577	31
Teddy Burn Law Posts Endowment Fund	£ 142,571	189
COASTs Endowment Fund	£ 131,930	3,319
Refugee Academic Futures Scholarship	£ 80,353	432
Area of Greatest Need	£ 75,284	556
Christopher Lewis Meadow Endowment Fund	£ 54,198	3
Other	£ 408,546	2,432

Other includes: e.g. Bursary & Student Support, specific scholarship and other tutorial posts, plus various Library and project funds. Development currently run over 60 active funds in total.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE TEAM



**Laura Jostins-Dean** – Deputy Development Director (Philanthropy)



**Veronika Kovacs** – Deputy Development Director (Alumni and Stewardship)



**Teresa Midwinter** – Database Manager



**Sandra Harrison** – Office Manager and PA to Director of Development

### CHRIST CHURCH DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBERS 2022–23

**Lord Charles Cecil** (1967)  
Chair

**Dr Gregor Baer** (1980)

**Miss Lucy Cary-Elwes** (1993)

**Mr Luke Chappell** (1986)

**Mrs Anna-Maria Clarke** (1992)

**Mr Christophe Egerton-Warburton** (1989)

**Mr Alan Gibbs** (1971)

**Mr Nigel Hamway**

**Mr Martin Lueck** (1980)

**Miss Sarah Mackey** (1992)

**Mr Charles Mindenhall** (1990)

**Mr Nick Nops** (1968)

**Mr Nick Prest** (1971)

**Mr Jeremy Seigal** (1978)

**Mr Philip Wright** (1972)



**Olivia Tan** – Development Officer



**Dr Anna Port** (2002) – Development Projects Officer

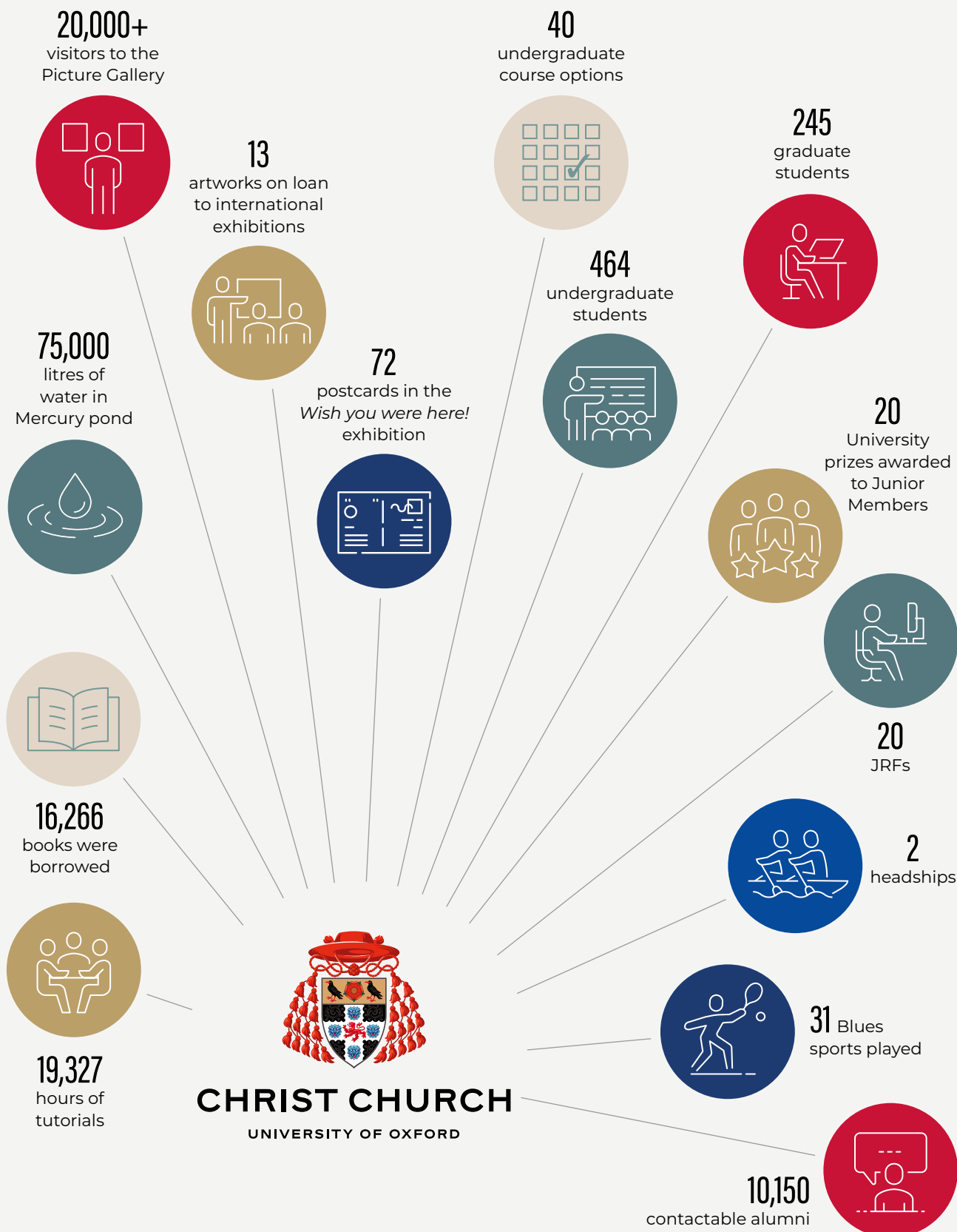


**Imogen Walsh** – Graduate Scheme Development Associate



**Peter Varga** (2021) – Music Fund Development Officer

# CHRIST CHURCH TODAY



# GIVING TIERS

In recent months, Christ Church has created new donor tiers, designed to recognise the extraordinary generosity shown by alumni and friends of the House throughout their lifetimes.

## **Liddell Patron (£10,000-£49,999)**

Named for Henry George Liddell (1811–1898), Dean of Christ Church from 1856 to 1891 and Vice Chancellor between 1870 to 1874, Liddell Patrons will be invited back to the House for an annual Patrons Day.

## **Board of Benefactors (£50,000-£99,999)**

The Board of Benefactors was established in 2008. The membership threshold has been increased from £25,000 to £50,000 in lifetime giving. Existing members of the Board whose lifetime giving is below the new threshold will continue to hold membership. Members of the Board are invited to two special events in alternate years: a London reception and a Board of Benefactors Gaudy at Christ Church, as well as the Patrons Day.

## **Fell Patron (£100,000-£499,999)**

Fell Patrons are named after Dean John Fell (1625–1686) who set about restoring Christ Church, physically and academically, after the difficulties of

the Commonwealth period. His legacy includes Fell's Buildings – a pre-cursor to Meadow Buildings and commissioning Christopher Wren to design Tom Tower. Fell Patrons will be invited to join a biennial weekend visit, usually outside Oxford, led by a Christ Church academic, as well as the Patrons Day and Board of Benefactors events.

## **Dean's Circle (£500,000-£1.499m)**

As well as invitations to Patrons and Benefactors events, members of the Dean's Circle will be invited to an annual briefing and dinner with the Dean.

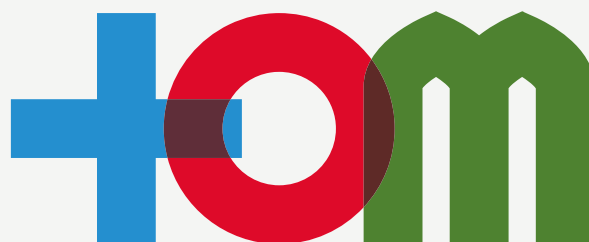
## **Foundation Fellow (£1.5m+)**

Our most generous donors, who have given over £1.5m in their lifetime, are invited to become Foundation Fellows. Foundation Fellows will be listed in the Christ Church Annual Report and invited to attend the 101 Gaudy in April, as well as other events for Patrons, the Board of Benefactors and Dean's Circle.

*If you would like further information or wish to discuss a gift or pledge, please contact Laura Jostins-Dean at [laura.jostins-dean@chch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:laura.jostins-dean@chch.ox.ac.uk)*



Members of TOM, our regular giving society, are at the heart of Christ Church, just like Tom Quad. Regular monthly and annual donations provide the margin of excellence for today and tomorrow's students, and allow us to commit support and budget for long term sustainable projects which make a huge difference to the House.







# LEAVING A LEGACY TO CHRIST CHURCH

## SECURING THE HOUSE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

A legacy indicates a wish to protect, for ever, what one values most. By its nature, the benefaction comes at a time when the donor will no longer be there to witness its contribution. The compensation therefore must be in the knowledge that it will secure a most worthwhile cause that has been of great personal importance.

We trust that you consider Christ Church to be such a cause. The pressures that bear on the House make it imperative that it is sufficiently well funded to be, at the very least, financially independent. Ultimately this can only be permanently achieved through endowment, and in that aim legacies play a critical part.

### The Harvey Poe Fund for Tutorial Teaching

Dr Luke Harvey Poe (1950, Law) was a former professor of law at St John's College in Annapolis and a lawyer with his own practice, specialising in corporate law. As an undergraduate in the US he read Mathematics followed by law at the University of Virginia. During World War II, Poe served in the United States Navy as a Lieutenant Commander with service in both the North Atlantic (USS *Symbol*) and Pacific (USS *Mississippi*). In addition to receiving two personal citations, one

unit citation, and eight battle stars, he wrote the Combat History of the USS *Mississippi* for the Navy Department.

In 1950, he received a Rhodes Scholarship and matriculated at the House to undertake a DPhil in Politics at Christ Church. Dr Poe's career spanned academia, private practice, as well as politics – he chaired the Citizens Committee on Kennedy and Johnson's President's Inaugural Committee. Throughout his life he continued lecturing, and promoting the importance of studying Liberal Arts. He died in 2012 at the age of 96.

Dr Poe left half of the residue of the Luke Harvey Poe, Jr Marital Trust to Christ Church with the express wish that the gift be used "for the maintenance and enhancement of the tutorial method of teaching the humanities, mathematics and the laboratory method". We believe that the tutorial is the best way to challenge, stimulate and educate our students, and the forward-thinking of individuals like Dr Poe will help us to safeguard this unique form of teaching in perpetuity.

## BOAT CLUB

2022/23 year has been a spectacular year for the Boat Club both on and off the water. Following two Headships for the House, the Men during Torpids and Women during Eights Week, we launched our Summer Appeal, which raised over £16,000.

Already, this has allowed the Club to install much-anticipated Wi-Fi coverage. The Boathouse had no broadband access and temperamental phone signal, but is now home to the first 'eduroam box' at the University. Good quality Wi-Fi will enable crews to hold meetings in the Boathouse during their training sessions, reflecting and improving on a day's session as it happens, and will allow crews to engage in hybrid training during the vacations. Further improvements to the Club's facilities and equipment are also being planned, thanks to the generosity of Old Members.

We are delighted to thank Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss (2010, MBA) for their major gift to endow the Christ Church Boathouse. In light of this transformational donation, the Boathouse has now become 'The Winklevoss Boathouse.' Cameron and Tyler have also contributed to an endowment fund the Boat Club's outreach. In 2023/24, support went to the Hinksey Sculling School to introduce state-school students from non-traditional backgrounds to the sport of rowing. Governing Body, the Boat Club Society, and the Boat Club are all extremely grateful to Cameron and Tyler for their generous support.

### Meet the new Head Coach, Andy Nelder

"I was delighted to be asked to lead the Boat Club last September. We are incredibly lucky to be so well supported by college and alumni. The Club has the best standard of equipment I have seen in college rowing.

The key area for improvement is in provision of strength and conditioning resources. With the guidance of the University Blues Support staff we've asked contractors to tender to equip the Boathouse with enough equipment that – 12 people can train together in a time efficient manner, whilst retaining enough permanent floor space that it remains a suitable ergo training venue.

The Boathouse's new fast broadband has also been transformative for staff and students alike."

Thank you to all Members and Friends who have made a donation to the Boat Club in 2022/23. The ongoing support of alumni is vital to continuing the Club's 200 year history of success on the river.

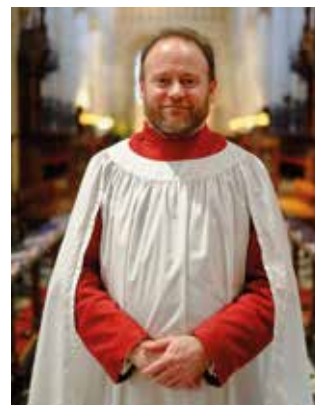
*Alumni are always welcome to visit the Boathouse, please contact [development.office@chch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development.office@chch.ox.ac.uk) for enquiries.*





# CATHEDRAL MUSIC FUND

At the end of 2023, we bid a fond farewell to Professor Steven Grahl, Organist of Christ Church since 2018, who has left to join our Cantabrigian sister foundation, Trinity College, as Director of Music.



Professor Grahl is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music. Under his steady leadership the Cathedral Choir thrived, with a special focus on excellence, education, and access. His tenure saw the appointment of the first female alto lay clerk in the Choir's nearly 500-year history. He also led the Choir through the Covid-19 pandemic, moving swiftly to resume the normal pattern of choral worship, concerts, recordings, and tours.

The past year has been exemplary of the Choir's range and scope. In the summer, Professor Grahl led the combined foundation choirs of Christ Church Cathedral, New College, and Magdalen College in two unforgettable performances of Thomas Tallis's 40-part motet, *Spem in alium*, as the grand finale of a programme of music commemorating the 400th anniversary of the deaths of celebrated Tudor composers, William Byrd and Thomas Weelkes. This concert was followed on at the start of Michaelmas Term by a symposium dedicated to Byrd scholarship, which concluded with Evensong featuring music drawn from the composer's extensive corpus, including the Responses, Second Service, *Ne irascaris – Civitas sancti tui*, *A fancie for my Lady Nevelle*, and the *Fantasia in A*. Professor Grahl's last concert appearance with the Choir was at the St John's Smith Square Christmas Festival, where he conducted favourite carols and choral works from the 16th century to the present day, including his own Advent Matins Responsory, which began many of the Cathedral's traditional lessons and carols services this year.

In the interim, Emeritus Professor Stephen Darlington MBE will return to the Organist post he held for 33 years through the end of the academic year. We wish both Professor Grahl and Professor Darlington well in these new pursuits.

As we approach the 500th anniversary of Cardinal's College and the Choir's founding, we thank all Members and Friends who have generously supported the Cathedral Music Fund.



🔗 The Choir's *Spem in alium* performance



# GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2022/23, Christ Church supported 54 graduate scholars. Access to graduate study has become increasingly difficult as the cost of living has risen and alternative sources of funding have decreased, therefore we are committed to enabling the most talented and promising students to pursue research without financial barriers. The support of alumni and friends is vital for this endeavour and helps young researchers to thrive.

## Parnaz Sharifi

"My time as a Neuroscience DPhil student at the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics has been an intellectually exhilarating experience, enriched further by the unwavering support from my scholarship donors, the Pitts-Tucker Family, who have allowed me to carry out my passion in such a distinguished university department.



Currently, my research is centred around understanding why certain brain cells are more vulnerable to degeneration in Parkinson's disease (PD). It's a complex research area, but I believe investigating the sources of vulnerability in these cells and pinpointing the pathways leading to their fragile state are essential steps towards understanding how these cells live and change through time, which in turn can help us develop better therapies for people with PD. My project specifically focuses on the role of calcium ions, since calcium controls practically all vital processes within the brain cell and has been shown to contribute to PD pathology when imbalanced.

In the heart of Christ Church's vibrant academic community, I find myself immersed in a multidisciplinary environment that encourages collaboration and innovative thinking. With the support of my supervisors the scholarship, I have been able to collaborate with esteemed researchers within and beyond Christ Church, exchanging ideas and elevating the depth of my work. With the support of my scholarship donors, I am not only conducting experiments; I am forging a path toward understanding the intricacies of the brain in health and disease, and hopefully contributing to the evolving landscape of PD research."

## Nick Maxwell

"It's my great honor to be a member of the House this year as a recipient of the American Friends Scholarship. Oxford, and Christ Church specifically, is unlike any place I've been in my life. In the one term I've been here, I've made friends from all around the world, had countless stimulating conversations (on topics both familiar and entirely new), and engaged in traditions older than the United States. It's truly been a once-in-a-lifetime kind of experience.



Beyond life at the House, the American Friends Scholarship has enabled me to continue my research at the intersection of criminal justice and drug policy. With the opioid crisis continuing to impact millions of Americans daily, there are few topics with as much practical significance. Coming to Oxford and studying the issues from this side of the Pond has broadened my perspective and provided fresh ideas that I hope can inform American policy.

I would not be here and doing this work without the donors of the American Friends Scholarship. For their generosity and willingness to invest in American students, I'm incredibly thankful."

## Amanda Curtis

"I'm Amanda, a third year DPhil in Information, Communications, and the Social Sciences at the Oxford Internet Institute. My time in Christ Church has been both intellectually and socially inspiring, and it has been a privilege to be surrounded by







so many fellow passionate students. During my first year, I was social secretary for the GCR and helped organize the first exchange with our sister college at Cambridge, restarting a long-standing tradition. Outside of my DPhil, I run the Oxford Games & Technologies reading group, which has members from across the House, Oxford, and other UK universities.

My research investigates how playing video games influences the ways we think, know, and make meaning. As games become more widespread and integrated into people's daily lives, it's important to understand how they shape our relationships

with knowledge. I take an ethnographic case study approach to do this, involving in-game interviews, diary studies, and semi-structured ethnographic interviews.

The support of the American Friends of Christ Church Scholarship has been instrumental to allowing me to explore a variety of extra-curriculars and truly engage with the Oxford community. Although I am lucky to have my fees covered by a departmental scholarship, the American Friends Scholarship has provided me with support for my living expenses. I would like to express my deep gratitude to the House alumni who support current students through such initiatives."



*"In the heart of Christ Church's vibrant academic community, I find myself immersed in a multidisciplinary environment that encourages collaboration and innovative thinking."*

# CHRIST CHURCH'S GIVING DAY

In support of **IntoUniversity**

On 28th and 29th November, we held our second Giving Day, in support of our partnership with IntoUniversity. During the Giving Day, we heard from members of the college, the IntoUniversity team, and the young people supported by IntoUniversity themselves. In total, over 280 individuals joined us in raising a total of £101,646, every penny of which will go to the **IntoUniversity** South East centre.

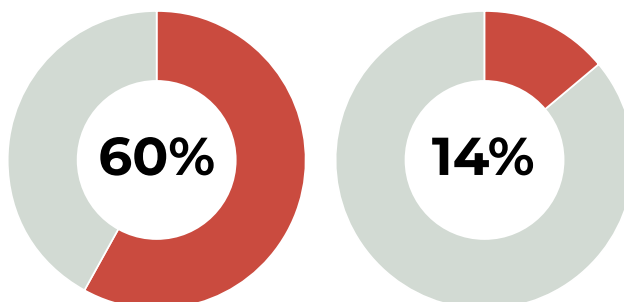
Since 2014, Christ Church and the University of Oxford have supported the **IntoUniversity** Oxford South East centre in Blackbird Leys, tackling educational inequality in our local community. **IntoUniversity** begins working with children from age 7, helping to tackle inequalities early and improve outcomes for young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. A series of innovative programmes are available for students, delivered by trained staff and volunteers – which includes students from Christ Church.

The money raised will enable **IntoUniversity** Oxford South East to continue providing evidence-based programmes – from academic taster classes and myth-busting to pastoral and emotional support – ensuring that young people in our local community have the best possible support.

Supporting  
**IntoUniversity** 



**60%** of students who work with the **IntoUniversity** Oxford South East centre progress to Higher Education, vs a **14%** local average



Source: **IntoUniversity** Oxford South East 2021/22 Annual Report





# ACCESS AND OUTREACH AT THE HOUSE

Christ Church's access and outreach work has grown year on year, working regularly with schools, colleges, and individuals to raise aspirations, demystify life at Oxford, and encourage applications from pupils with academic ability and potential from all backgrounds.

6,500+

interactions in  
Christ Church's  
A&O programmes

6

years of Christ  
Church Horizons in  
Barnet

4

years of Aim for  
Oxford in the North  
East of England

9

years of Women  
in PPE taster  
sessions

10,000+

attendees  
at Open Days

568

donors to Outreach,  
Access, and Student  
Support

To find out more about Christ Church's Outreach and Access projects, please visit  
<https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/college/outreach/our-commitment-access>





# STUDENT SUPPORT

Donations to the COASTs Fund – College Outreach, Access, and Student Support – ensure that we are able to support the brightest and most ambitious students, regardless of financial background.

## Leavers Gift

“Throughout my four years at Christ Church, access and outreach formed a common theme. College tours were one of the first ways I got involved in college life when I arrived, and they were – quite literally – the last thing I did before going down after my Finals. Even during the pandemic, we found ways to continue this important work. It was an amazing feeling to be able to share advice with prospective students and parents,



all while showing them around the college I was proud to be a member of. It was in this spirit that I donated to the Leavers' Gift: as a thanks for making the four years I spent at Christ Church unforgettable, but also as a way of helping, in some small way, to enable the college to continue to do so for other students, present and future. Knowing that my contribution forms part of the Leavers' Gift and knowing that this has gone towards the COASTs fund to support students and to help with access and outreach, is the perfect way to round off my Christ Church years.”

**Tom Conradi** (2019, Modern Languages)



In the 2022/23 academic year,  
Christ Church provided:

16

summer bursaries

167

academic book grants

111

students receive  
25% or 50% subsidies  
on the cost of college  
accommodation and  
season meal tickets

128

travel grants

### Holly Haines

"Coming up to the House for the first time in 2019, I was equal parts anticipation and apprehension. As the first of my family to attend university, all I came knowing was that I loved to learn and that one day I wanted to conduct research of my own. Now, approaching five years later, I look back not only with pride that I am here fulfilling my dreams of research whilst I pursue my DPhil, but also with a deep appreciation for the support and guidance I've received from the Christ Church community during my time here.



Throughout my studies, I have benefitted from a wonderful array of individuals providing academic, administrative, and welfare support – encouraging my scholarly interests and providing a helping hand with

challenges faced as a first-generation student. I also consider myself fortunate to have been a recipient of the Lucky Stone bursary. Indeed, the bursary was an invaluable resource enabling me to fully experience life at the House, such as being an active member of the Boat Club, attending the Commemoration Ball, and simply allowing me to study without financial concern being at the forefront of my mind. What's more, the knowledge that there are members of the House, past and present, who are generously supporting students like myself has undoubtedly provided me with confidence to continue pursuing academic endeavours as well as instilling in me a true sense of belonging.

As a final reflection, I have been the recipient of various academic prizes across the course of my studies so far. Truthfully, I believe these awards to be a reflection of the efforts of many members of the Christ Church community beyond just those of my own. I guess they do say 'it takes a village', or in this case, a college!"



*"As the first of my family to attend university, all I came knowing was that I loved to learn and that one day I wanted to conduct research of my own."*



## THE MEADOW

**Thanks to a generous donation from Peter S. Paine Jr (1957, Law), we are delighted to announce that the House has been able to set up a new fund in the name of former Dean Christopher Lewis. The purpose of the fund is the management and enhancement of Christ Church Meadow, supporting the site in perpetuity.**

**An event to launch the Christopher Lewis Fund will be held in Spring 2024, please look out for more details in the coming months.**

Christ Church has the great fortune to be a custodian of Christ Church Meadow, a place beloved by so many alumni and friends of the House.

The 46-acre open space is a Grade 1 listed landscape, designating the area as being of “exceptional interest”. Of the 1,600 sites included in the English Heritage

Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England, only 9% are classified as Grade 1.

The majority of the Meadow was gifted to Frideswide Priory by Lady Elizabeth Montecute in 1346, with the Priory later closed on the orders of Cardinal Wolsey for it to become the chapel of Cardinal College (later Christ Church Cathedral). The Meadow has remained more or less unchanged since medieval times.

Christ Church Meadow provides an attraction and a sanctuary for up to 1 million people a year who enjoy *rus in urbis* during daylight hours 364 days a year which is free of charge.

The Meadow is home to many protected animal species, including bats, badgers, water vole, otter, reptiles and amphibians including the smooth newt, in addition to notable invertebrate and bird species. The lush grass is grazed by the college’s herd of Longhorn cattle, which over-winters in Binsey on a Christ Church farm.







Christ Church has the responsibility to conserve and manage Christ Church Meadow. The management strategy for the Meadow is that the site is enhanced and managed for nature conservation, accommodating recreational access in a sensitive manner.

The maintenance programme for much of the Meadow has been changed in recent years from highly groomed weekly mowing and strimming, to a once or twice a year mow. This has given a much softer and wilder appearance and has led to the reappearance of many species that we thought had disappeared including wild orchids such as Common Spotted, Pyramidal and Bee Orchids.

Restoration work has been helped by the use of 'green hay' harvested from a species-rich ancient floodplain meadow just outside Oxford. This provides a source of seeds of important species which have been lost, including yellow rattle, great burnet, bedstraws and ragged robin. The hay is spread in a thin layer across previously cultivated areas on Christ Church meadow.

Some areas have also been sown with various wildflower seed mixes appropriate to the location, such as cowslips, red campion and meadow cranesbill. We are also planting around 15,000 native wild bulbs in these areas too every year including snowdrops, wild daffodils, bluebells, wild tulips and snakes head fritillaries.

The work is undertaken by a team of gardeners, led by Head Gardener John James, with external agencies brought in from time to time to undertake survey work or support strategy development. We also employ two Meadow men whose role is to keep the Meadow clear of litter and to ensure security.

The costs of maintaining and enhancing the Meadow are just over £200,000 per year, 60% of which is spent on staff costs. Despite the importance of the Meadow as a historic asset and as a site for visitors and wildlife, there has never been a dedicated endowment fund to cover or contribute to the costs.

***The 46-acre open space is a Grade 1 listed landscape, designated by English Heritage as being of "exceptional interest".***





Details of the Reyntiens window, including Teddy Burn's dog Piccola and his full initials, Edward Hector Burn.



## STAINED GLASS

For the first time in more than a century, a new stained glass window has been constructed and installed in Christ Church Cathedral. The vibrant statement window was designed by celebrated artist John Reyntiens MBE and produced in London by the world-renowned Reyntiens Glass Studio.

John Reyntiens is the foremost stained glass artist of his generation. His many lauded past projects include the restoration of the glass in Big Ben's clock dials and the creation of windows celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond and Platinum Jubilees.

This project was made possible by a generous donation from the barrister Marilyn Kennedy-McGregor. Marilyn has dedicated the window to her late husband, Dr Edward Burn (1922–2019) – a D-Day veteran, barrister, and Official Student and Tutor in Law at Christ Church from 1955 until his retirement in 1990.

Admired and loved by many generations of Christ Church undergraduates, Teddy Burn was a towering figure in the history of Christ Church in the 20th century and the doyen of academic property lawyers. He held the Censorship from 1959 to 1964 and was Tutor for Admissions from 1972 to 1978. Among his many other achievements was the establishment of the Law Library (now named the Burn Law Library) in which a bronze bust of his head is displayed.

At the heart of Christ Church's new window is a depiction of St Francis – patron saint of the environment and animals – who is displayed amid a rich and uplifting natural scene that both evokes Christ Church's gardens and reminds us of our obligations to our planet.

Reflecting on the role that the window will have in the history and future of Christ Church, our Dean, The Very Revd Professor Sarah Foot, said: 'I think what is most exciting about this is having an opportunity for this generation to stamp its mark on the building in a way that will last through time. This window reminds us of our responsibilities to care for creation – creation that God made and gave to us to enjoy, but also charged us to look after.'



