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## **IMPACT REPORT**

### **2019-2020**

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# MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

To all of you who have made a gift to Girton College in 2019–2020, please let me offer my most sincere thanks. Your commitment is helping to provide an accessible, world-class education for the brightest young minds of today.

We are pleased that during our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year Girtonians generosity prevailed, and we are able to celebrate another remarkable year of giving. This was all the more remarkable as our annual telethon at Easter had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions, which made an impact on our end-of-year fundraising.

So, thank you for your generous support, and for your role in this Girton success story. Beyond its

considerable impact on College life, the support we have received this year, clearly demonstrates the strength and enduring affinity of the wider Girton community.

In this uncertain world, we need to ensure that this generation of students have the ability to turn their dreams into a reality. You make that possible.

Thank you

**Deborah Easlick**  
Development Director and Fellow

“

Your commitment today to a gift for tomorrow will secure the future of this unique institution where inclusion, diversity and distinction go hand in hand

Professor Susan J. Smith, Mistress

”



# THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

This year was one of our more successful with more alumni giving than ever before and the Giving Week exceeding results of all Oxbridge Colleges

**1039**

**Regular Givers**

(via Direct Debit/Standing Order)



**£34.94**

Average Monthly Gift  
from Regular Givers

Number of Contactable  
Alumni Worldwide

**9383** An icon consisting of four stylized human figures (two adults and two children) standing side-by-side.

**152**

Number of new  
donors

**£2.2**

million raised from

**1676** donors

You make extraordinary things possible for our students and programmes

**Thank you!**



Donors from

**34**

different countries



**88%**

Gifts under £100

**17.9%**

This year has seen our  
highest year for donor  
participation



**25**

Alumni and Supporter Events held across the  
year with over **1200** participants

# IMPACT OF GIVING

We highlight the significant difference that your gifts this year have made to Girton and to the lives of our students

## 23.5

Undergraduate bursaries have now been endowed in A Great Campaign

## 2

Further Fellowships in French and Biological Sciences have been completed

## Class Gifts

The first Class of 1990 Bursary was awarded during the year, along with the Class of 1958 and 1985 bursaries

Honeysuckle Walk and Campbell Court were re-planted and re-designed

## 1

Undergraduate Scholarship was endowed for a Singaporean student and the Hong Kong Founders' Graduate Scholarship and the Chan and Mok Graduate Scholarship were endowed to offer awards to those applying from Hong Kong for an MPhil or PhD course

## Help during Covid-19

The student hardship and wellbeing fund (Buss Hardship Fund) was boosted by £50k in the Giving Week which is the equivalent of endowing eight extra grants per year. This was much needed during Covid-19 to help students travel home when costs had increased, help with IT access and equipment or, if they needed to, stay in College

“

Thank you very much for helping fund my bursary. It will allow me to focus on my studies and make the most of my time here at Cambridge without having to worry about my financial circumstances. I am very grateful for your generosity

”



Elisha Roberts, Current Undergraduate Student

# TEACHING AND RESEARCH

'Life must be lived forward, but can only be understood backwards', is an expression by Søren Kirkegaard often liked by historians. And it is with a great desire to understand a bit of today's world through its past that – since a very early age – I decided I wanted to become a history scholar. It was then an honour in 2015, to be named the Dame Marilyn Strathern Lecturer and Official Fellow in History.

It is a great pleasure to help students develop their abilities, encouraging them to write their dissertations, supervising them and offering a caring environment. I have already seen many of them going on to great careers, or to further academic studies not just in Cambridge and the UK, but also in Paris and New York, creating for themselves some fascinating new paths.

Life in Girton is never dull, and – albeit my bread and butter job is to teach and study History – there are always many activities, events, pieces of work to pick up and be involved with.

I am very fortunate to work in a caring environment, where colleagues support each other, and hard work is recognised.

As my colleague Dr Griffin often says, 'Girton is a safe space to be intellectually daring'. And to encourage students to be daring,



intellectually and in all aspects of life, is what I really love about being a teacher.'

**Dr Simone Maghenzani**  
The Dame Marilyn Strathern Fellow in History



# HONEYSUCKLE WALK

There are over 50 acres of gardens and grounds to explore at Girton. These were laid out as the College developed creating space for recreation in an environment conducive to learning. This has matured into the current site bordered by lime woodlands which give way to open parkland and the formal gardens of the College courts.

Planting began, first to provide privacy and to keep out the cold east winds. This was soon followed by tennis courts, a vegetable garden and the planting of Honeysuckle Walk in 1884. Today, the gardens are a venue for walks, relaxation and events, and the College's extensive outdoor sports facilities.

In 2019 we gave thanks to Dame Rosalyn Higgins GBE QC who funded the re-planting of Honeysuckle and Nut Walk, as well as re-planting the Quincunx scheme in the heritage orchard, helping us to give these much-loved aspects of the gardens a wonderful revival.



Dame Rosalyn Higgins GBE QC (1955, Law)

“

When I first arrived from the 'big city', the physical surroundings of Girton and Cambridge were totally amazing to me. They were the scene within which the astonishing intellectual output of Cambridge is set. I wanted to make my gift to Girton's gardens to ensure that they remain a life-enhancing pleasure for generations of students to come

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# 1869 Society

Established to recognise those who indicate their intention to leave a gift in their Will to Girton, our 1869 Society is named to recall the year of the College's foundation.

While the College recognises that making a gift in your Will is a very personal matter that you may wish to keep private, we are extremely grateful to those who have informed Girton of their intentions. Not least so the College can understand your wishes and express our gratitude for your generosity.

Over the years, gifts in Wills of all sizes from our generous alumni and friends have been making a tremendous impact at Girton. When including a Gift in your Will, you can decide where your support goes – whether that's towards the College as a whole, or an aspect of College life that means the most to you.



## Why I've left a gift in my Will to Girton

'Education has the power to transform lives. It is the great leveler; whatever one's family background or circumstances.

I benefited hugely from the excellence of a Girton education and believe that those who have benefited from the privilege of such an incredible opportunity should, if their later circumstances allow, try to find some way of giving back to the institution that set them on their path to success. This will help to ensure that future generations have the same opportunities and quality of education as we did.

As responsibility for funding higher education shifts from the public to the private sphere, the American concept of 'pay it forward' – the idea that if one benefits from the goodness of others, one should consider giving further down the line if one is in the fortunate position



of being able to do so – is more important today than it has ever been.

Remembering Girton in my Will is a way I can help ensure that the next generation of Girtonians have access to the best that higher education has to offer.'

**Catherine Bailey** (Crick 1978)

To find out more on how you can leave a gift in your Will to Girton  
[www.girton.cam.ac.uk/legacy](http://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/legacy)



For more information on how to support Girton College please visit [www.girton.cam.ac.uk/alumni-supporters](http://www.girton.cam.ac.uk/alumni-supporters) or contact +44 (0)1223 766672

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