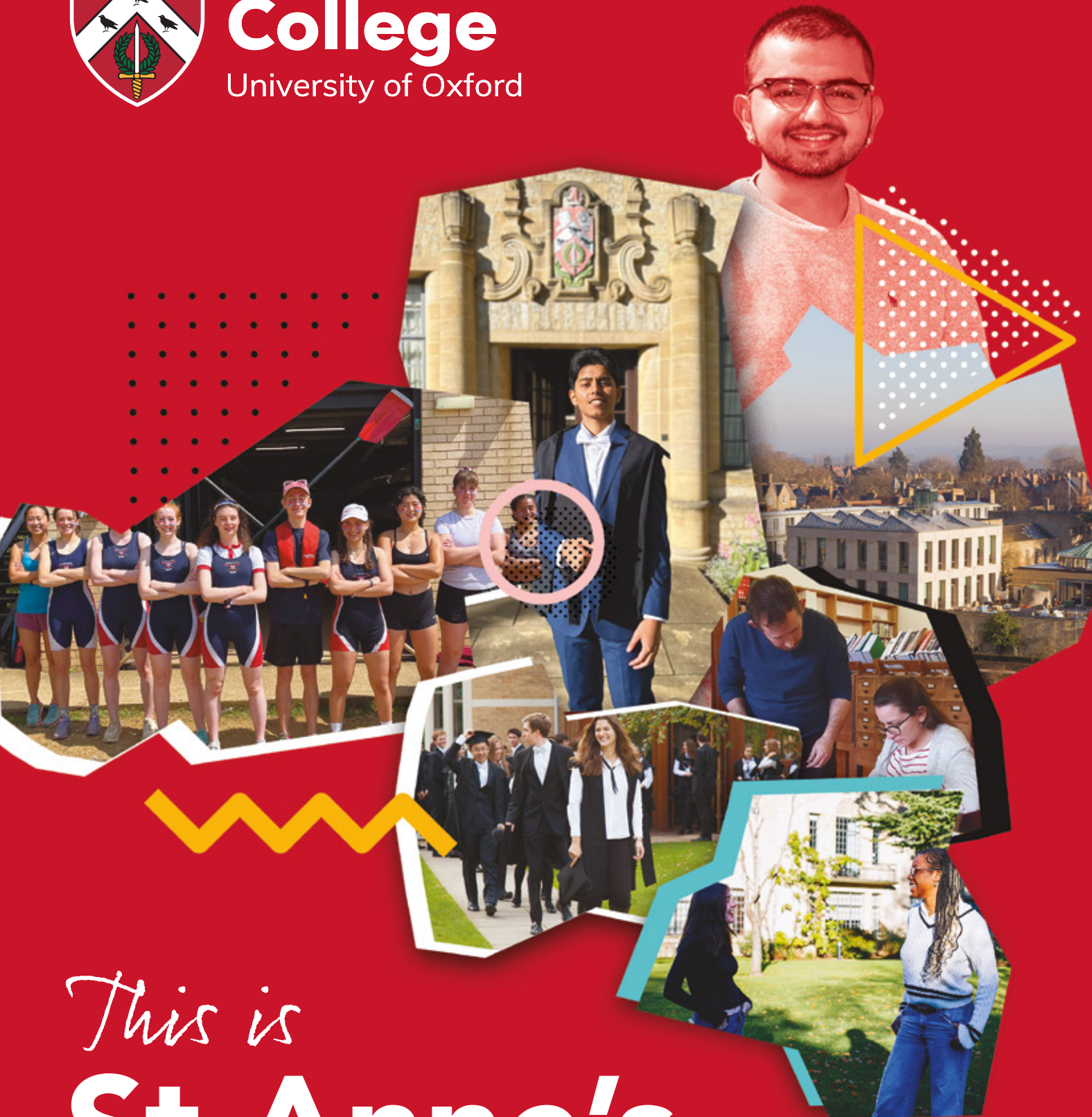




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College**
University of Oxford

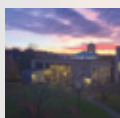


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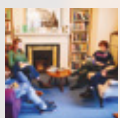
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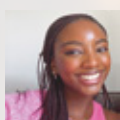
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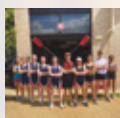
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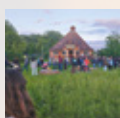
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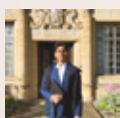
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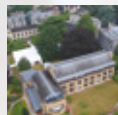
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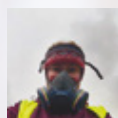
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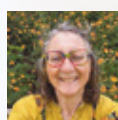
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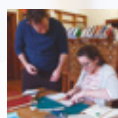
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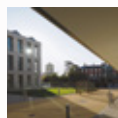
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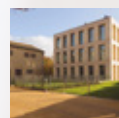
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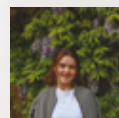
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Welcome

We hope you find the information in this annual review of 2024 interesting, as it represents our best efforts to share the numbers, facts, stories and people that capture the many facets of St Anne's, as a higher education establishment, centre for researchers, charity, conference and events business, employer, home, and community. If you already have an association with St Anne's, we hope reading this report makes you feel proud of your College. If you are a donor, we hope you are delighted to see the difference your generosity is making to our students, College life, and more broadly. If you are new to the College, then we hope it gives you a sense of our vibrant community of immensely talented people who are changing and, in the future, will change the world for the better.

In this edition you can read about the work of Yaacov Yadgar, Professor of Israeli Studies, who joined the College in 2017, and Dr Phoebe Tupper who teaches our medical students, having studied herself at St Anne's, qualifying as a medical doctor at the height of

the pandemic in 2020. Also featured are: Jasmine, a final year student studying Japanese with Chinese; Riyadh, a Materials Scientist; Jackie, the College's Financial Controller; Margaryta, a recent graduate; Caspar, an alumnus; and reports from the JCR, MCR, Library and Development Office. Caspar says that St Anne's is "a unique melting pot of ideas and individuals" and the reality of that is what we have striven to capture in this report.

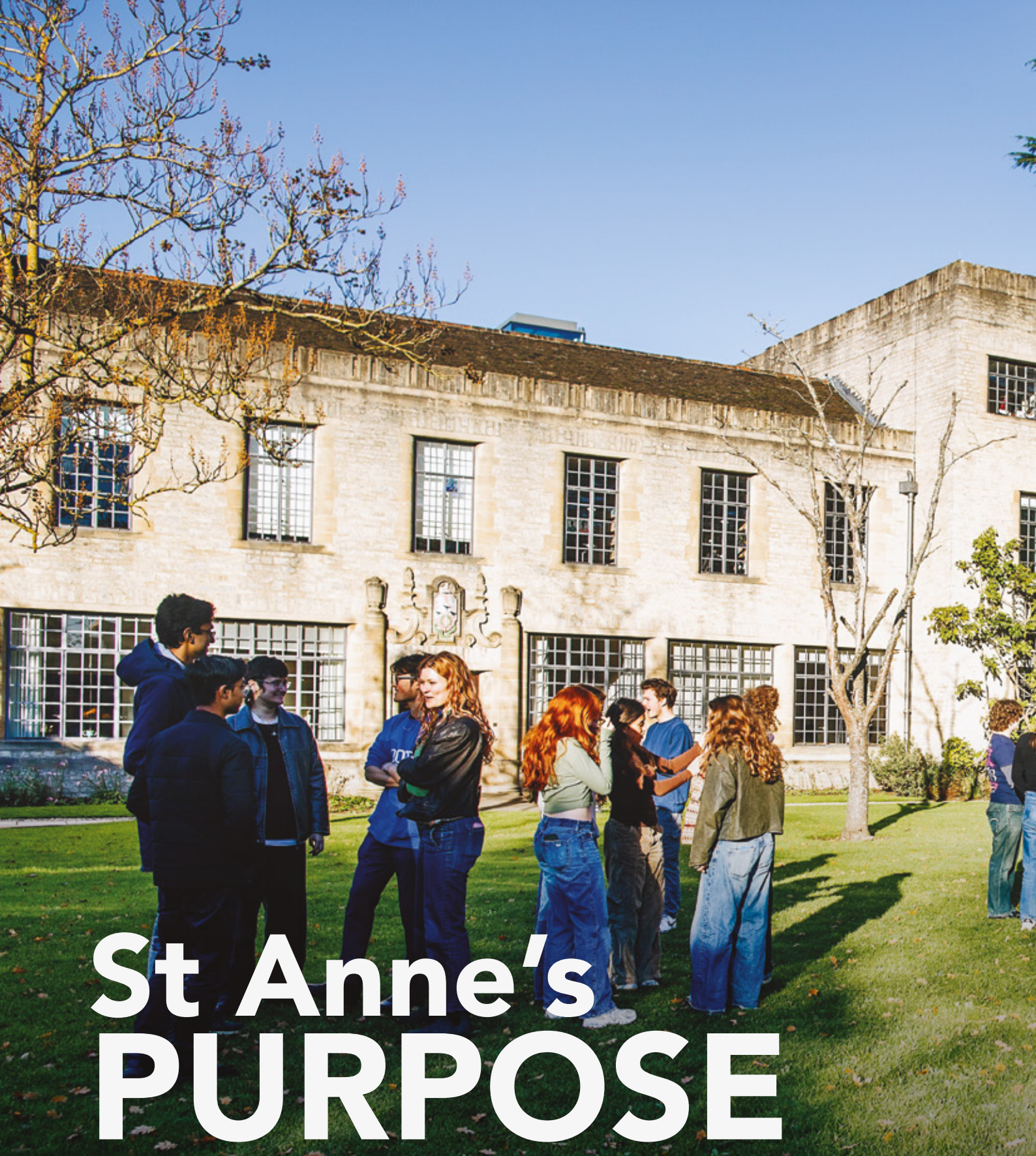
Of course, a document of this length cannot contain everything that is going on at St Anne's, so if there is anything in particular that you would like to hear more about then please do let us know at development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk. There is also lots of information and news on the College's website, and do make sure that you are on our mailing list so that you don't miss out on events that you might like to attend. These include lectures, decade and subject reunions, concerts and much more. We'll also be sharing more information about our annual Community and Giving Week on 10-14th March, and the annual reunion or Gaudy weekend for all alumnae and their guests in September.

Whenever you are in Oxford for any reason, do come and see us: we're always pleased to welcome visitors to St Anne's. This includes the opportunity to have your own event at St Anne's if you would like to. In the last year our events team (events@st-annes.ox.ac.uk) has helped organise accommodation and catering for mini-reunions, birthday celebrations, wedding receptions and memorial events, so do get in touch with them if this is of interest, as the College is a wonderful venue for occasions of almost any size. Our staff will do their very best for you, and even in the vacations the bar can be opened for your event if you are wanting to relive your student days!

So, until we see you next, this comes with all good wishes from us all at St Anne's,

Helen

Helen King, QPM
St Anne's Principal



St Anne's PURPOSE

Since its founding, St Anne's College has always been about widening access to an Oxford Education. In 2018, the Governing Body of St Anne's reaffirmed the College's purpose to be a diverse and inclusive community contributing to the University's commitment to lead the world in education and research, whilst securing the College's legacy and future. This purpose was revisited and renewed in 2023. St Anne's wants to be the home of choice for the brightest and most ambitious students including those from underrepresented groups, and believes that difference should be respected, promoted and celebrated as the diversity of people is a rich source of learning for us all. This report shows how we are working to fulfil the statements agreed by Governing Body.



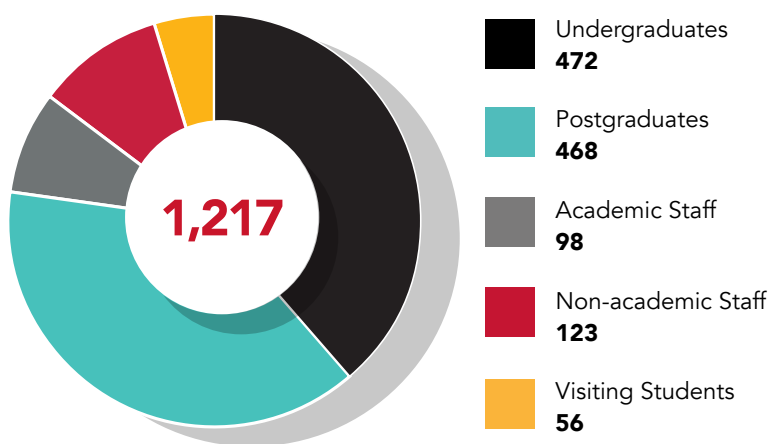
As a community, to:

- Be the home of choice for the brightest and most ambitious students, including those from under-represented groups.
- Support, enable, and promote the excellence of our academics' research.
- Inspire and challenge our students to fulfil their academic potential and prepare for future careers.
- Respect, celebrate, listen, and learn from the diversity of people, their ideas, experiences, and achievements.
- Support and guide all in our community to be well and do well, and develop skills and readiness for the future.
- Seek, in our decisions and actions, to have a positive impact on people, place, and planet.
- Build on the College's rich history and values in the distinct and enduring contribution we make to the University's future.
- Secure the funding, facilities, and resources of a world-class college that attracts the brightest minds and supports their aspirations.

As trustees and Governing Body members, to:

1. Leave the College stronger than we found it, fit for the long term.
2. Discharge our duty of care to staff, students, and academics.
3. Inspire all students with the joys of intellectual pursuit as we advance world class research.

St Anne's Today



Undergraduates



Number of applications October 2024
659



Number of offers January 2024:
143 offers made



Number of Freshers October 2024:
135 (includes 5 Foundation Year students)

Student intake by school type in 2023 (UK students)

73.9% state school

26.1% independent

Student Numbers

472



468

undergraduates (and 56 visiting students) in the 2023/24 year

postgraduates in the 2023/24 year

Bursaries Awarded



£419,513 (22/23 = £407,682)



108 (22/23 = 108)

Gender balance of current students (2023/24 year)

Females

55% (56% inc Visiting Students)

Undergraduate

54%

Graduate



Males

45% (44% inc Visiting Students)

Undergraduate

46%

Graduate

Travel Grants

Undergraduate



59 travel grants (23/24 57)



£23,703
(22/23 £23,870)

Postgraduate



129 travel grants (23/24 110)



£36,595
(22/23 £28,765)



Degree Outcomes in 2024



Firsts / Distinctions



2.1s



2.2s



Merits

Nationalities of Current Students

Our students in the 23/24 year came from 72 different countries

Undergraduates



UK 350



EU 40



Rest of World 83

Postgraduates



UK 159



EU 124



Rest of World 185

Undergraduate Scholarships and Exhibitions (2023/24 year)



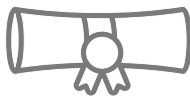
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Scholarships



9

Renewed Exhibitions



56

Renewed Scholarships



13

University of Oxford Prizes

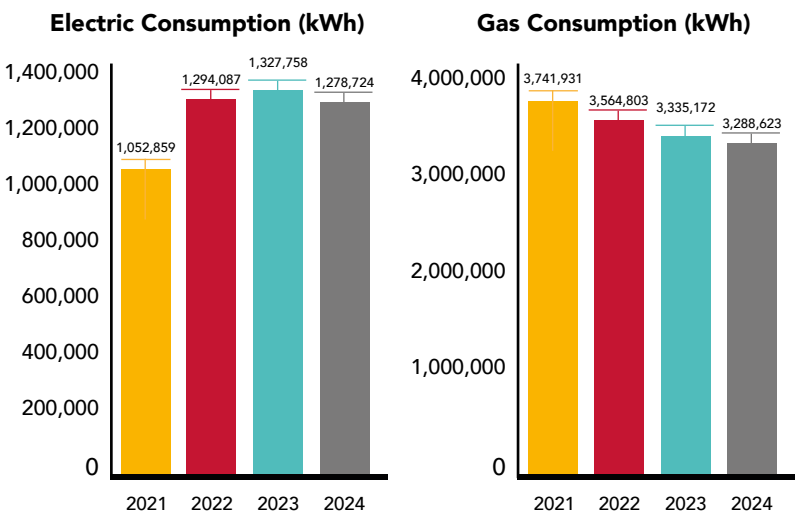
7 Scholarships downgraded to exhibition

CV Clinics

Hilary 2023	Michaelmas 2023
11 alumnae	10 alumnae
34 students	35 students

Hilary 2024	Michaelmas 2024
13 alumnae	9 alumnae
38 students	30 students

St Anne's Yearly Energy Use



Library



15,644

Loans plus renewals – plus 1,735 books used in reading rooms and not borrowed



47 metres

Increase in collection size – (we didn't withdraw much last year) – we added 2001 books to the collection



764 books requested by 570 students

Click and collect service

Outreach and Access

By Hannah Snell,
Senior Outreach Officer

We've had a few staffing changes in the Outreach Team this year, with Hannah on maternity leave for most of the year, but have been delighted to see the continued progress of access and outreach activities delivered by St Anne's College – not only in the numbers reached, but also the continued relationships with colleagues across both Oxford and Cambridge Universities as well as schools across our link regions of Hillingdon and Southwark in London and across the North East of England.

In 2023-2024 the St Anne's Outreach team worked with a total of **219 schools**, and engaged with approximately **8,200 students** through inbound and outbound events. We ran **98 events for schools in the North East**, and **99**

events for schools in Hillingdon and Southwark. Events with our link regions made up 87% of the total number (225) of outreach events this year.

This year students in POLAR Quintiles 1 and 2 (areas of least progression to higher education) and ACORN 4 and 5 (areas of most socio-economic deprivation) have comprised 17.7% and 44.2% of our visitors to the College respectively. This is an increase from 11% and 37% last year and we hope to build on these figures in the coming year, ensuring that both Oxford and St Anne's College are seen as the home of choice for brightest students, regardless of their backgrounds.



Aim for Oxford

2023-24 saw the recruitment and selection of students for our fifth cohort of the Aim for Oxford programme, aimed at disadvantaged students from the North East of England. We received 294 applications and selected 69 students, expecting that some would withdraw from the programme during the year. Students were selected based on a range of criteria, including eligibility for Free School Meals (68% of selected students), first generation to university (74%) and a range of other personal characteristics and extenuating circumstances. 74% of students were from POLAR 1 and 2 areas, and 72% were from ACORN 4, 5 and 6 areas. The students came from 27 different schools across the region, with just over half expressing an interest in science subjects, and the rest in arts, humanities and social science subjects.

We ran 4 in-person sessions in January, February, March and April with the cohort, alternating between Newcastle and Durham as host locations. The first was a launch event for students and parents, the second had a focus

on super-curricular activities, the third focused on personal statements, and the fourth discussed finance, welfare and mental health at university. Students were also offered a choice each month between an arts/humanities/social science academic taster session, and a sciences taster session. These sessions were delivered by postgraduate students and tutors at either St Anne's or Christ Church.

50 students then signed up to attend the residential week in Oxford from 19th-23rd August. The students were split between St Anne's College (for students interested in sciences) and Christ Church (students interested in arts, humanities and social sciences) so as to make best use of the resources available. Students were split into tutorial groups of between 3 and 7 to work on a shared research project during the week, with the support of a PhD student or student ambassador from the colleges. Alongside application workshops, museum visits, social activities and free time in Oxford, students then presented back on their research project at the end of the week.

86% of students on the Aim for Oxford

residential agreed or strongly agreed that they felt able to share their ideas with others, and 82% agreed or strongly agreed that they were able to critically engage with new information. Overall, student feedback indicated that the week had further demystified Oxford's teaching style and helped develop students' ability to receive constructive feedback, work independently, and ask questions when needed.

65% of students who participated in the 2023-24 summer residential agreed or strongly agreed that they now knew what Oxford tutors would be looking for in an applicant. After the completion of the programme 56% of respondents said they would definitely apply to Oxford, with a further 13% indicating that they were 'very likely' to apply to Oxford. Those less likely to apply cited informed reasons such as course availability and suitability, grade and subject requirements, or intentions to apply to Cambridge instead.

We have continued to provide support to Cohort 4 in preparing for admissions tests and interviews as part of the Oxford application process, and have also offered these sessions as part of wider

online application provision to students across the North East of England.

Not every student on the programme will choose to apply to Oxford, but it is positive that 56% (25 of 45) students completing the full 2022-23 Aim to Oxford programme chose to make an application in the 2023 UCAS round for 2024 entry. 11 applicants were invited to interview, and 5 received offers, a 20% success rate.

We are currently providing support to our fifth cohort during their application process, will also be tracking their application journey to Oxford. We are now in the final stages of shortlisting Aim for Oxford Cohort 6 (!) from students across the North East of England, ready for 2025.

Outreach at College

We estimate that we have seen 1,500 young people through activities run at College this year. This has included Year 12 Taster Days, and KS4 Discovery Days, residentials, Open Days, and Brilliant Club Graduations.

These activities are most often offered to our London schools, as they have a shorter distance to travel to visit the college. However, where accommodation can be provided, we have also arranged ad hoc residential visits for some of our North East schools, but these are more commonly arranged through our multi-school events of the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme Residential and the North East Residential.

We were pleased to see a good turnout at our September and June Open Days in line with previous years, with prospective applicants meeting current students, taking tours of the college, attending a Meet the Tutors session and demonstration interviews (in Classics and Biochemistry in June), as well as offering a Parent and Carers Talk.

We once again organised an Offer Holder Day for offer holders and their families/supporters to visit the college. With the continuation of online interviews, some of our offer holders will have not had the opportunity to visit St Anne's before, and this also provides an excellent opportunity to address any concerns that families may have with their young person attending Oxford. As in previous years, there was a follow-up online Offer Holder Event for anyone unable to attend in person.

Outreach in our Link Regions

Outbound work has involved visiting schools for assembly-style presentations,



engaging with class-sized groups and smaller group workshops. Sessions have included our standard information, advice and guidance sessions, short academic taster sessions and a new addition of debating and oracy workshops. **We have seen c.4,700 students through our outbound work.**

We run on demand visits, where our calendar allows, for our London schools, aiming to cover two or more during each visit day. For our North East schools, we run five visit weeks across the year, fitting in as many schools as possible during each week.

We offer a range of workshops, from sessions relating to the application process through to Explore-inspired Critical Thinking and Debating Workshops. The latter have been particularly popular with schools this year, and we will be redeveloping these further in 2024-25 for our schools.

Outreach Online

In 2023-24 we have continued to offer online workshops and activities for schools in our link regions. These are an excellent way of offering flexible sessions for schools who are otherwise unable to host or visit us, and allow us to have a greater number of repeat engagements with many schools. These sessions are then the same as we would offer in person, but adapted for an online audience.

A recent addition has been a Women and Non-Binary People in STEM programme run jointly between St Anne's College and Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. 400 young people in Years 9-12 signed up to attend a series of online subject sessions, with between 15 and 90 attendees for each event. In March, students in Year 11 and 12 were invited to a subject experience day at either Oxford or Cambridge, depending on their own preference or the subjects offered. Each visit day had the same kind of structure as our typical Taster Days, but with more emphasis on specific subjects and courses at Oxford. Although Fitzwilliam College have withdrawn from the programme in 2024-25, we hope to collaborate with other Oxford colleges who have similar programmes to ensure that this offering continues.

Collaborative Outreach

We have continued to work closely with our Oxford for North East colleagues at Christ Church and Trinity Colleges to deliver a comprehensive programme of activities for schools across the North East. This includes online Admission Test Workshops, a joined-up North East Residential (to coincide with the summer Open Days) and further collaboration with the Brilliant Club to run their Scholars Programme for 9 selected schools from the North East of England, including a residential launch event in Oxford.

We have worked with Cambridge colleges that also work in the North East of England in order to deliver a series of online Interview Skills Workshops and are hoping to find further opportunities for collaboration with Cambridge in the North East in 2024-25 with the return of an Oxbridge Regional Conference.

As well as collaboration across Oxford and Cambridge, we have also had the opportunity to work with a range of external partners in 2023-24. These have included Multi-Academy Trusts, such as United Learning, Ark schools and the Harris Federation. Our offering to each of these organisations has varied depending on their requirements, including hosting student leadership graduation events for United Learning Schools, online Oxford webinars for Ark schools and English-specific academic taster sessions and Teacher CPD for the Harris Federation.

We also work with COSARAF and the Naz Legacy Foundation to provide one of their university Diversity Days, which offers under-represented students an opportunity to experience a new environment, much like our typical Discovery or Taster Days.

It is always a very busy year for Outreach, but we are delighted to continue our work with schools in our link regions, and to see some of those individuals from activities 2 or 3 years ago now starting their studies in Oxford, and at St Anne's!

SPOTLIGHT ON

The Alumnae and Communications Rep

Jasmine Boothe-Henry

Jasmine, what are you studying at St Anne's?

Japanese with Chinese

Could you tell us a little bit about your background – how did you end up applying to Oxford and St Anne's?

Target Oxbridge was one of my main support systems when applying to Oxford. It's a free programme that supports Black African and Caribbean students with their Oxbridge applications. My mentor, Warren, was a PhD candidate at the Japanese department at the time and continues to be a massive source of inspiration and a dear friend to me. Around the same time, I took part in the UNIQ summer school and met a third year studying Japanese at St. Anne's. With next to no knowledge about the Oxford system, the connections I went out and made on my own helped me get to know more about the university and encouraged my decision to apply.

Your role is relatively new on the Committee – can you explain its function?

The JCR Alumnae Relations and Communications Officer acts as an interface between the JCR and SAS (St. Anne's Society). I also offer both a student and alumnae perspective on issues discussed on the College

Development Committee and manage the JCR social media accounts. In short, I help to keep the wider St. Anne's community connected to one another.

What made you want to stand as the Alumnae and Comms Rep? What were the key things you wanted to do in your manifesto?

Going into my final year, I reflected on all the things I loved about St. Anne's and how the lessons I'd learned during my studies would stay with me as I transition to life after Oxford. When I put myself forward for the role, it was important for me to bring together the alumnae and student communities in a way that encouraged.

What would you say to other students who might be reluctant to run for leadership positions?

What I told myself was just to be brave. There are no limitations on wanting to make a difference. That desire to lead a change in your community is at the core of any leadership role. Taking on a JCR role in your final year is slightly unusual. Moreover, I was actively involved in access and outreach in college. But owing to my year abroad the previous

year and, being the only person to take my course and always being in my faculty, my face was, perhaps, not as familiar to most people in college. So, I was surprised by how much support I received for my manifesto. Put yourself out there!

What one thing would you say to anyone interested in applying to Oxford?

Remember why you wanted to apply in the first place. The application process can be intimidating and overwhelming at times. But it helps to tune back into the feelings of excitement and curiosity that sparked your interest to ground yourself.



Describe St Anne's in one word:

Home

From the JCR

St Anne's JCR is made up of students from all over the world who have come to us from many different backgrounds. The largest subject schools are Medical Sciences, Modern Languages, English Language and Literature, History, Law, PPE, Materials, Engineering and Mathematics. The JCR president Roxana Rusu (PPE, 2023) works with the committee and with College to improve and support the student experience.

The JCR have been working closely with the MCR, with collaboration between MCR and JCR international reps who organized a memorable Diwali celebration –which saw the Danson Room filled with the mouthwatering smell of chai and cultural specialties and had the students, both MCR and JCR, decorating the front of the Dining Hall with vibrant rangolis. This collaboration flourished throughout the year, as evidenced by joint efforts during Community Week and Giving Day, featuring the Dress to Impress Quiz Night. The joint Oxmas Megabop wrapped up a year of successful collaboration with sellout attendance, acting as testimony to the impressive interconnectivity of the college and unrivalled atmosphere.

Demand for Welfare provision has been especially high over recent terms, so Welfare has remained a key focus for the JCR in Michaelmas 2024. The continuation of the Sexual Health

Scheme and the provision of sanitary products has been met with lots of support from students, and Movember events such as games night and hair dyeing were all huge successes. Additionally, Welfare Week saw some fantastic activities including dog petting, bead crafting, Text-A-Chocs and many welfare teas.

St Anne's JCR also ran a very successful Freshers' week in 2024, welcoming all new students with both events in College and around town such as a games night, the Brat Bop, night tours, a performance from a student acapella band and various club nights and rounding off with the 'Famous Families' Bop. A unique addition was made starting in 2024 Freshers' week, with more and more events transcending the division between drinking and non-drinking events or Entz and Welfare, like portraiture and pumpkin carving. Art has also been flourishing in all areas of College, with the new Anne's magazine and life drawing in the bar.

Once again, the St Anne's musicians returned to performance, with a spectacular Christmas concert being held at the end of Michaelmas Term featuring many of our very own performers. St Anne's Camerata performed in the Sheldonian theatre and BoomSoc are also continuing to see good turnouts. In terms of sport, at the end of Trinity



The Christmas Megabop

2024, the St Anne's tennis team was successful in becoming the champions of Cuppers! The Mint Green Army (St Anne's football team) 1st team have had a strong start to the season and ended on a 15-1 high, while the hockey and netball teams will be remaining in Division 1, avoiding relegation.



St Anne's rowers during Summer Eights



Drawings in the quad as part of the Diwali event

From the MCR

St Anne's MCR & What It Means to Be a Postgraduate Collegiate Community

St Anne's MCR has had a lively and eventful 2024 - with many activities and programs that enrich the lives of its postgraduate students. The committee, in particular, looked inward this year to ask: what makes a healthy, inclusive community, and how can we maintain it?

Unlike the JCR - graduate students have a much more flexible experience of Oxford, which is not necessarily rooted in their respective colleges. Hence, in many ways, the camaraderie in the MCR is based on a genuine desire for friendships and connections. The MCR committee's role, therefore, is to provide the "infrastructure" - be it funding, physical spaces, and events - to foster the friendly spirit inherent among St Anne's postgraduates.



MCR Fresher's Week Dinner Celebration (MT 2024)

To that end, St Anne's MCR has continued holding many excellent events and initiatives for its students. In



MCR Blenheim & Light Trail Trip (MT 2024)

particular - we've teamed up with other MCRs so that students can socialize with other colleges. Our formal exchanges with Balliol, Linacre, Wolfson, Worcester (and more) have been a big hit, thanks in no small part to our revamped second desserts offering. This year, our Hogacre Picnic party at the end of Trinity was held with St John's College - which was a fantastic night of live jazz, Mediterranean food, and a lovely meadow sunset. This past term, a highlight has been our multicultural activities - namely, a joint Diwali celebration with the JCR, which was a night filled with fantastic food and art (rangoli).

Along with social events, we have strengthened our Welfare programming by offering self-care nights, massages, and mindful rock painting (always with plenty of tea and snacks) so all students can unwind and relax from the stressful term time at Oxford.

Academically, we've continued our "Shut Up and Write" co-working series, featuring pastries and fresh omelettes. We are also looking forward to the upcoming return of STAAR, our student-led, peer-reviewed academic journal, after its pause after Covid.

We were delighted to welcome new Freshers this year during Freshers Week - which was packed with fun and informative activities. Most notably, St Anne's MCR is participating in the University's pilot to offer an in-person, peer-led "Healthy Relationship and Consent" training, which was well-attended and received by freshers. We ended the week with a celebratory dinner at the Rooftop Garden on campus, featuring an incredible sunset and views of St Anne's. p.s. and now, our coffee has been made free!



MCR Hogacre Garden Party (TT 2024)



MCR Diwali Night (Rangoli art) with JCR (MT 2024)

Admissions

Our 2024 cohort represents a group of highly accomplished students from various social, cultural, and economic backgrounds, including those who are care experienced, differently abled, and neurodiverse, hailing from diverse regions of the UK and around the globe. As we announced previously, this year also marked our second intake of students on the Astrophoria Foundation Year – and the first year in which students transitioned from the Foundation Year onto standard undergraduate courses.

This year's students come from a wide range of educational backgrounds, including institutions with varying levels of familiarity with Oxford admissions, as well as independent schools, grammar schools, comprehensive schools, sixth form colleges, and academies. A growing number of these students are from less advantaged backgrounds, reflecting the College and University's continued commitment to providing academically talented individuals with fair access to an Oxford education. The diversity of this year's intake embodies

St Anne's founding mission of fostering educational accessibility and striving to be the ideal home for the most talented and ambitious students from all walks of life.

Riyad Ahmed was part of our first Astrophoria cohort and has this year transitioned onto the first year of a Materials Science degree. Below, he describes his route to Oxford and his experiences at St Anne's so far.

Riyad Ahmed

(Materials Science)



You were part of the first group of Astrophoria Foundation Year students who arrived in Oxford last year. Can you tell me how you heard about the foundation year, and what made you want to apply?

I initially wasn't really interested in applying to Oxford, since I thought that I wouldn't really fit into the culture, and that I also wouldn't be able to keep up with the workload. However, my mentor at Zero Gravity mentioned the Foundation Year at Oxford, which would provide me with extra support (especially since I hadn't done Chemistry A-Level!). Once I found this out, since I had an extra spot available on my UCAS form, I thought that it'd be worth applying, and now I'm here at St Anne's!

Did you have a particular idea of what Oxford might be like before you got here?

I'd heard a lot of rumours about Oxford, including the grandiose ceremonies and the amount of Prime Ministers that had been educated here. When I arrived in Oxford, I was pleasantly surprised to see how accommodating Oxford actually is - I initially thought these ceremonies were only open to a select few, but once I matriculated at Oxford, I felt that I was officially an Oxfordian.

Tell us a little bit about your background?

I grew up near Kilburn in northwest London, and having gone to a state school in a low income area, going to Oxford wasn't something I ever imagined

for myself. But along the way, I was lucky to have a few key people in my life who saw potential in me—teachers who pushed me, mentors who believed in me, and family who kept me grounded. They encouraged me to aim higher, even when I doubted myself. Without their support, I wouldn't be here. My background isn't the typical Oxford story, but I think it shows what's possible when people believe in you and help you believe in yourself.

What have been your experiences of St Anne's so far? What are your favourite things about Oxford and Anne's?

My experience at Anne's so far has been amazing. People at Oxford always joke about how far St Anne's is from the city centre, and whilst yes, it is a bit of a walk, it's one of the things that makes Anne's so special. There's a really good sense of community here in college, and there's always a lot going on. I've also joined the JCR as the Ethnic Minorities Rep which has been great - playing a role in making St Anne's welcoming for any incoming freshers. My favourite thing about Anne's has to be St Anne's Coffee Shop. It's a lifesaver when I've missed lunch at hall due to lectures or labs, and the cheese and tomato toastie has been my go to choice recently. Oxford itself is genuinely a beautiful city. The architecture is stunning, and sometimes I take it for granted. It's a stark contrast to where I grew up in London, and I think that's why I appreciate Oxford so much. It's an amazing place to be.

This year you have transitioned onto the first year of an undergraduate course. Could you tell us a bit about this process, and how you have found the transition?

Transitioning to first year has been a bit of a weird experience- I'm in the same cohort as the new freshers, but I have already been at Anne's for a year, so it's this strange mix of feeling like I know my way around whilst also having a fresh start. However, the Foundation Year definitely helped me to prepare for the demands of an Oxford degree. The first term of the Foundation Year felt difficult, however after that I figured out how to adjust to the pace of things. Even with that head start though, an Oxford STEM degree will always have its challenges. Balancing lectures, problem sheets and labs can be difficult at times, but it's all worth it in the end.

What would you say to anyone interested in applying to the foundation year in future?

Go for it! I applied for Oxford on a whim, since I had an extra spot on my UCAS application, and I never thought I would get in. You don't need to have everything perfectly planned out - The Astrophoria Foundation Year is such an amazing opportunity to get a taste of Oxford, with no strings attached (no costs for tuition, and if you decide that Oxford isn't for you, you can go to a different institution to finish your studies). Going to Oxford can change your life - make the most of the chance and apply!

From the SCR

St Anne's College is an educational charity. The Governing Body is composed of the Fellows of the College who are also the charity trustees; it meets five times a year to review strategic issues and is made up of the Principal, 39 Official Fellows, 12 Professorial Fellows, 11 Supernumerary Fellows, and five College Officers. Governing Body approves all strategic decisions and changes to College ByLaws and Regulations, and delegates the executive management of the College to Council, a body of 12, the majority of whom are academic Fellows. St Anne's has JCR and MCR Representatives on all its committees except Investment Committee and Remuneration Committee. Governing Body is supported by 45 College Lecturers and 18 Research and Junior Research Fellows.

Our academics' awards and achievements

The Journal of Management in Engineering's Award Committee recently selected the paper 'Social Equity of Bridge Management' for their 2024 Best Paper Award. The paper, written by **Professor Daniel Armanios, St Anne's Professorial Fellow**, along with Cari Anne Gandy and Constantine Samaras of Carnegie Mellon University, implements novel techniques that advance and integrate bridge condition degradation modelling with social equity assessments to identify associations between community demography and bridge condition.

Professor Jo-Anne Baird has been appointed as a member of the independent Curriculum and Assessment Review Group www.gov.uk/government/groups/curriculum-and-assessment-review

The Minister for Education, **Bridget Phillipson**, established the group and it is chaired by Professor Becky Francis. It will report in autumn 2025.

Professor Andrew Briggs, Senior Research Fellow, won an ISSR Book Prize for his book with Michael J. Reiss, *Human Flourishing: Scientific insight and spiritual wisdom in uncertain times* -- "One of the most striking developments in work on science and religion in recent years has been the increasing focus, not just on how science and religion relate to each other, but on how they each contribute to human flourishing. Briggs and Reiss have provided an excellent and much-needed conceptual framework for understanding "human flourishing", and how scientific developments and spiritual wisdom contribute to it. They take us through the different dimensions of human flourishing (material, relational and transcendent); the pillars of

human flourishing (truth, meaning, and purpose), and discuss how all this is working itself out in different aspects of the contemporary world. Their writing is accessible and gripping, full of striking anecdotes and pithy summaries of scientific research."

On 1 February, Professor Briggs became Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral. The award is for distinguished service to the church.

Professor Christian Coester, Tutorial Fellow in Computer Science, has been awarded one of 494 major European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grants. The funding – totalling nearly €780 million this year – is part of the Horizon Europe programme and will support researchers at the beginning of their careers to launch their own projects, form their teams, and pursue their most promising ideas.

Professor Roger Crisp, Uehiro Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, gave the Cottingham Lecture at the University of Reading in October 2024. Also in October, he became Founding Director of the Uehiro Oxford Institute, which will work from an interdisciplinary perspective on some of the major ethical challenges facing humanity.

Professor Peter Ghosh, Emeritus Fellow, has published 'Mill before Liberalism', *History of European Ideas*, Vol 50 (2024), 785-836

Professor Imogen Goold, Tutorial Fellow in Law, has been called to the Bar at Middle Temple and is now a tenant at Serjeant's Inn chambers.

Professor Saiful Islam, Professor of Materials Science and Professorial Fellow was awarded the 2024 Faraday

Institution award for Public Engagement and STEM Outreach. He appeared as a guest on the BBC Radio 4 science programme 'Curious Cases' with Hannah Fry and Dara Ó Briain to squeeze out a zesty discussion on lemons and spaceships.

Saiful presented the plenary 'President Address in Chemistry' on energy materials using 3D glasses at the British Science Festival in London (Sept 2024), and gave two keynote lectures at the International Conference on 'Materials for Sustainable Development' in Lausanne (Nov 2024). His recent publications include studies on novel two-dimensional solar cell materials in *Nature Communications*, and on lithium battery electrodes in *Nature Materials*.

Jane Austen, Early and Late (Princeton University Press, hardback, 2021; paperback, 2023) by **Professor Freya Johnston, Tutorial Fellow in English**, was shortlisted for the Marilyn Gall Book Prize in 2024.

Professor Syma Khalid, Tutorial Fellow in Biochemistry, has published a number of papers this year:

- Cooper BF, Clark R, Kudhail A, Dunn D, Tian Q, Bhabha G, Ekiert DC, Khalid S, Isom GL. (2024), Phospholipid transport across the bacterial periplasm through the envelope-spanning bridge YhdP, *J Mol Biol*. DOI: 10.1016/j.jmb.2024.168891
- Benn G, Borrelli C, Prakaash D, Johnson ANT, Fideli VA, Starr T, Fitzmaurice D, Combs AN, Wühr M, Rojas ER, Khalid S, Hoogenboom BW, Silhavy TJ. (2024), OmpA controls order in the outer membrane and shares the mechanical load. *PNAS*, DOI: 10.1073/pnas.2416426121



- Somboon K, Melling O, Lejeune M, Pinheiro GMS, Paquelin A, Bardiaux B, Nilges M, Delepelaire P, Khalid S, Izadi-Pruneyre N, (2024), Dynamic interplay between a TonB-dependent heme transporter and a TonB protein in a membrane environment, MBio. DOI: 10.1128/mbio.01781-24
- Weerakoon D, Marzinek JK, Pedebos C, Bond PJ, Khalid S, (2024), Polymyxin B1 in the E. coli inner membrane: a complex story of protein and lipopolysaccharide mediated insertion. J Biol. Chem. DOI: 10.1016/j.jbc.2024.107754
- Brandner AF, Prakaash D, Blanco González A, Waterhouse F, Khalid S, (2024), Faster but Not Sweeter: A Model of the Escherichia coli Re-level Lipopolysaccharide for Martini 3 and a Martini 2 version with Accelerated Kinetics, JCTC, DOI: 10.1021/acs.jctc.4c00374
- Smith IPS, Pedebos C, Khalid S. (2024), "Molecular Crowding Alters the Interactions of Polymyxin Lipopeptides within the Periplasm of E. coli: Insights from Molecular Dynamics", J Phys Chem B, DOI:10.1021/acs.jpcc.3c07985
- Clark R, Newman KE, Khalid S (2024), "Titratable residues that drive RND efflux: Insights from molecular simulations", QRB Discovery, DOI: www.doi.org/10.1017/qrd.2024.6

Dr Samina Khan, Supernumerary Fellow, was awarded an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours.

Professor Terry Lyons, Supernumerary Fellow, submitted an RNA patent initially in Nov 2023, but it has been revised and re-filed as an international application on 22 Nov 2024.

PCT Application Number PCT/EP2024/083289 entitled "RNA Processing" with priority date 24 Nov 2023.

He has also published eight articles.

Professor Patrick McGuinness, Tutorial Fellow in French, has been shortlisted, alongside colleague Stephen Romer, for the Scott Moncrieff Prize for Translation

from French for their translation of *The Day's Ration: Selected Poems by Gilles Ortlieb*.

Professor McGuinness has also been shortlisted for the inaugural PEN Heaney Prize for Poetry for his book, *Blood Feather* (Cape Poetry, 2023).

Dr Nick Middleton, Stipendiary Lecturer in Geography and Supernumerary Fellow, has published *The Global Casino: An Introduction to Environmental Issues – 7th Edition* (Routledge, January 2025)

Isabel Parkinson, Stipendiary Lecturer in German, has won the Women+ in German Studies 2024 Essay Prize with my essay 'Speaking Your Mind: The Translation of Orality in Marlen Haushofer's Prose'. On the award, Isabel said: "I am very grateful to the W+IGS Committee for selecting my essay, and am hopeful that it helps to draw attention to Haushofer's understated yet powerful prose, and the characteristic use of orality in her texts. This essay is an attempt to enrich and populate the space between cognitive approaches, gender studies, translation studies; a call for translators to embrace creative divergences in their work; and above all, a reminder to listen closely to chatty women."

Professor Steven Puttick was awarded a BA/Leverhulme grant for the project 'The Gujarati Navigator: exploring journeys of information, knowledge and expertise'.

Professor Samuel Sheppard, Tutorial Fellow in Biology, was the lead author of a paper which determined that wild birds such as ducks and crows living close to humans, for example in cities, are likely to carry bacteria with antimicrobial resistance (AMR). This creates an urgent need for policy makers and health services to consider the different ways antibiotic resistant bacteria can spread outside hospital settings.

The study 'Proximity to humans is associated with antimicrobial resistant enteric pathogens in wild bird microbiomes' has been published in *Current Biology*.

Dr Eiko Soga, Junior Research Fellow, participated in an event at Market Gallery in Glasgow, screening two films 'Autumn Salmon' and 'Ainu Hunter, Mon-chan' and introducing them via video call.

www.marketgallery.org/how-do-you-remember-on-memory-and-felt-knowledge-with-emmy-yoneda/

Lucy Trafford, Stipendiary Lecturer in Law, has recently published a book chapter: L. Trafford, 'Shifts in Variants: How did the First English Lockdown Impact Reports, Responses and Perceptions of Intimate Partner Violence?' in S.K Ivkovich, Policing during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Global Perspective.

An article also appeared in The Times about Lucy's research into domestic abuse risk assessments with a German social start-up called Frontline, and she has become an Affiliate Researcher at the Violence and Society Centre, City University, as well as working with City University and various Police forces to discuss how we can respond to Adolescent Domestic Abuse.

Dr Susie Weller, Research Fellow, The Centre for Personalised Medicine, was awarded, with Dr Emma Davison, Professor Ros Edwards and Professor Lyn Jamieson, the National Centre for Research Methods' 20th Anniversary Impact Prize for developing a method for analysing large volumes of qualitative data.

Dr Nicky Whiffin was recently awarded the Balfour lecture from the Genetics society: www.genetics.org.uk/medals-and-prizes/genetics-society-medals-and-lectures/balfour-lecture/balfour-lecture-2025-dr-nicky-whiffin/

She was also one of the authors of a paper published in Nature that was also covered by the Guardian: www.theguardian.com/science/article/2024/jul/11/scientists-uncover-genetic-disorder-that-may-affect-thousands-around-world



INTERNSHIPS

Report on Taylor Maritime Investments Internship, Summer 2024

Thomas Lavis

The summer scheme at Taylor Maritime Investments provided fantastic theoretical and practical insights into the shipping industry. Over four weeks, my internship involved work across several departments, each with a unique focus that offered me a well-rounded understanding of the company's operations and the maritime industry as a whole.

The internship was demarcated into 4 weeks, each of which involved integration with a separate element of the business. The first week dealt with the fundamentals of the shipping industry, and allowed familiarisation with key terminology and TMI's business processes, which provided the foundation needed for later tasks. In the second week, I collaborated with the Investor Relations team, helping prepare content, which ended up published in the quarterly reports, which honed my ability to communicate complex financial information clearly

and enhanced my Excel skills. The third week was dedicated to the ESG team, where I worked on materials related to upcoming FuelEU Maritime legislation, and presented it in an internal advisory meeting. In my final week, I observed the chartering team, gaining insights into client relationships and vessel operations, which gave me a well-rounded view of TMI's core business.

Coming from a very qualitative environment (a history degree), the scheme provided a rapid and practical introduction to a more quantitative, business-oriented world. In addition I gained valuable industry contacts and clarity on my career trajectory, along with recommendations for further courses and contacts. The mentorship I received from senior industry figures also provided an extremely valuable insight into paths into the shipping industry and potential career trajectories once in.

The TMI company culture was incredibly

supportive and friendly. The work was stimulating and plentiful, and varied enough to be consistently engaging and there was clear delineation between working and non-working hours. The scheme also provided a number of unexpected opportunities, such as a company-sponsored trip to Liverpool, where I joined a team for an inspection and tour of one of the company's vessels. This experience brought the industry to life, connecting the theoretical aspects of my work with the operational side of maritime investments.

The summer scheme at Taylor Maritime is the ideal internship for Anne's students looking for an introduction to the world of shipping. The program was efficiently structured, and provided ample opportunities to learn, contribute, and grow professionally.

LABORATORY STUDENTSHIP FUND REPORT

The Geochemical Characterisation of the Reykjanes Volcanism, Iceland

Rebekah Rhodes

Between the 17th of June and the 26th of July I worked in the Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland on the geochemical characterisation of the current volcanism on the Reykjanes Peninsula. Fissure eruptions have been occurring on the Reykjanes Peninsula periodically since January 2021. It is likely that eruptions on this peninsula will continue at least for the next couple of centuries, so it's important to learn as much as we can about the nature of the eruptions and magma storage in order to better predict eruptions and how the activity will evolve over time. From the geochemistry of the volcanic products we can discern the magma storage depths, the temperature of the lower crust and how quickly magma makes it from depth to the surface or to an intruding dike. These parameters all help improve prediction mechanisms. We can also understand how the magma geochemistry is changing throughout the eruption by periodically taking samples to be analysed as the eruption is ongoing.



Collecting samples from the field with a gas mask because of the toxic gases from the eruption

My role during my internship was to prepare all of the samples in various ways so that they could later be analysed. I was able to witness and be part of the whole process from collecting samples from the eruption site to the eventual chemical analysis on the multicollector. I had the privilege of visiting the eruption site of the May, Sundhnúkur eruption to collect samples. This was a really special experience because the eruption sites are closed off to the public, with access only granted to researchers. I then took these samples along with many others that had

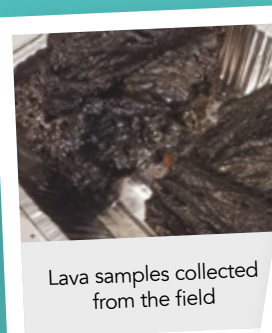


Cooled lava from the May eruption

been collected throughout the eruption and prepared them for analysis. Some of the samples were ground into a fine powder, measured out into a crucible and mixed with potassium borate, before being fired in a furnace at 1000°C. The glassy beads formed were then dissolved in nitric acid, and then analysed to find the bulk rock composition. Other samples were crushed into micron sized grains, from which I either picked pristine crystals or glass grains. Crystals were picked that were surrounded by glass so that the zoning of olivine and plagioclase crystals could be analysed. Zoning occurs when the composition of a magma body changes over time as the crystals are growing; we are trying to understand how this composition is changing over time. It is important to pick crystals that are surrounded by glass so we know we have the real edge of a full crystal rather than a broken off edge. These crystals were then mounted in epoxy resin to create grain mounts and polished by hand so they could be looked at under the electron microprobe where the composition could be measured at small individual points so the zoning could be understood. I also did a lot of work in the clean lab preparing the glass grains I had picked, by dissolving and then evaporating them in various acids so they could eventually be run through the multicollector. I also did a lot of beaker and pipette cleaning so that there was equipment ready to use for other members of the lab group.

During my internship I documented my work on a geology Instagram account (@rocks_with_rebekah) and have since visited 2 local secondary schools to talk about my time in Iceland and the current eruptions.

The money given through the laboratory studentship fund made all of this

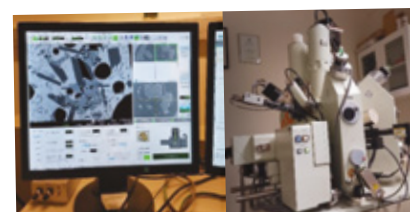


Lava samples collected from the field



Grain picking under the microscope

possible, the high cost of living in Iceland meant that this internship was impossible without it. The internship was incredibly valuable and allowed me to develop lots of geochemistry, and sample preparation skills, giving me a more complete skillset, along with my upcoming masters project, to hopefully move into the field of volcanology in the future.



Looking at grain mounts under the electron microprobe and the electron microprobe



Grain mounts made of some of the crystals picked to be looked at under the electron microprobe

Meet our Fellows

Professor Yaacov Yadgar

Professorial Fellow in Israel Studies



You have been at St Anne's since 2017. Have there been any changes you've witnessed in College over that period?

St. Anne's has seen many challenges during this past seven years — from teaching remotely and coping with lockdowns and distancing during the pandemic, to committing to a major building project on Bevington Rd.

Yet for me, the ongoing tension between the College's mission as a teaching institution and the academic, intellectual and research-oriented interests of the fellows has been the most interesting to follow. I am not noticing a discernible change as much as an ongoing, dynamic engagement with questions of the College's identity.

As the Stanley Lewis Professor of Israel Studies and our Professorial Fellow in Israel studies, you are also OSGA's Director of Research. Could you tell us a little more about your teaching? Which courses do you typically teach? What do your students go on to do?

Much of my engagement with students is done in the form of supervision of theses and other research writings, on all levels of study. Students from diverse academic backgrounds, mostly from the social sciences and the humanities have written their own research under my supervision. I also teach a postgraduate paper on Main Themes in Israeli Society and Politics. The paper is built as a gateway to asking further, hopefully better informed questions on Israel, Israeli Society, politics, history, culture, and more. Students who take it often come from such courses as the Masters' (either the two-year MPhil or one-year MSt/MSc) in Politics, International Relations, Modern Middle East Studies, Area Studies, and Jewish Studies. Many of them go on to work in the public sector and civil service; others choose to continue their academic path towards a doctoral degree. Others yet end up in consultancy jobs, employing their expertise to help others find their footing in the region. Journalism and Politics are two other career paths that our students often seek.

Your research deals with religion and politics in Israel. For the layperson,

could you explain what the key themes in your research are? What are you researching at the moment?

I have been exploring the meaning of Jewish politics, Jewish nation-statehood, Jewish sovereignty, etc. in the Israeli nation-state and in its ideological bedrock, the Zionist ideology. My research revolves around such questions as, What does it mean for Israel to identify as a Jewish state? What is the meaning of Jewish sovereignty? How are we to understand the relation between Zionism and Judaism? What happens to Judaism when it is "nationalised", that is remade and reinterpreted so as to fit the interests of the modern nation state? And so on. I believe this "Jewish question" of Israeli political culture lies at the core of much of what we deal with when we discuss Israeli politics, yet it often does not receive the careful attention it deserves.

These issues are both unique to Israel — as they deal with questions specifically pertaining to its Jewish identity — and, at the same time, global and even universal — as they are playing out, an iteration, of a global "script" of modern nation-statism. I believe that the Israeli case, like any other case studies, can tell us volumes on the general issues of the interplay between politics, theology, and history.

There is no "regular day" in an Oxford academic's life, but could you suggest what you might do during a day in term as a Professorial Fellow who doesn't teach undergraduates?

A usual day would include (when not preoccupied with the many administrative and committee roles we are all expected to take both in College and in our respective departments) meeting with students to discuss their ongoing research projects, reading and commenting on students and colleagues' works, preparing teaching material, and hopefully (but usually the first victim of any distraction) working towards formulating my own research and writing. But with all honesty, the dynamism of Term time, the sheer rush of "other" commitments (mostly relating to the University's and the College's daily

function) that keep on piling and threaten to wash us with it, is such that the actual academic work of research, writing — and, dare I say it? Thinking — is reserved for very specific times of the year, where College and the university more generally seem to be taking a quick nap.

You have written several books — is there another one on the horizon?

My latest book is being published right as we are having this conversation. Titled, To be a Jewish State: Zionism as the New Judaism, the book is a culmination of my engagement with the questions that have preoccupied me in the last couple of decades. I am hoping to move on to other issues, and for this I have been building new courses, such as one on Political Myth. But one has to remember to think before embarking on a new writing project...

Obviously the topic of Israel Studies has become even more important over the past year or so. You are our Diversity Point of Contact for Jewish Students — can you explain what this means, and what the role entails?

The past year has proven very challenging to many members of our community. The political debates, protests, and commenting of various kinds — a rather persistent feature of the politics surrounding the State of Israel — have reached such levels that left many people confused, bewildered, and often hurt. When mitigating these issues, it became clear to College leadership that some members of our community would feel more comfortable sharing their concerns with other members who are more likely to share their background and understand their sensitivities. One such group are Jewish students, and I was happy to accept the role of being their contact if they need to raise an issue with College.

Describe St Anne's in one word:

(Academic) Home

two words, really, but the sense of having such a home inside academia is a privilege indeed.

Meet our Staff

Jackie Kuspisz

Financial Controller

Hi Jackie – can you tell us how long you’ve been at St Anne’s? What is your background and what brought you here?

I joined St Anne’s College in October 2013, and have been in post for just over 11 years. I’m a Chartered Management Accountant by profession and qualified whilst working for Rocol in Swillington, Leeds in 1992. We came ‘down South’ in 1996 where I worked for 3Com, from heavy industry up north, to international cutting edge IT hardware in the affluent Thames Valley. I had a period as a stay at home mum whilst my girls were small, then went back part time working for Deafax, a small charity in Reading, as Financial Controller. We were completely grant funded, so using the figures to tell the right story to maximise fundraising success was a key part of my role, using those funds to support young deaf people with numeracy, literacy and education in sexual health. After 8 years there, I wanted to be part of something bigger and even more impactful. I still remember the College interview panel, how daunting College felt and how overwhelmed I was to get the phone call offering me the job, on my actual birthday!

Could you talk us through the role you play in the Treasury?

Sitting between the Treasurer and the Treasury, I lead a team of dedicated servants of the College; all roads taken by every College member lead to something needing to be done in the Treasury. That’s what makes it so interesting and fun, applying control to what could resemble chaos. We try to make every transaction fit into a standard process, but College life means there is always something that comes along to challenge you. My team manage the bank accounts, classify all the income and expenditure, collect all the cash and control those processes to make sure everything is appropriately planned, approved and correctly recorded. I control endowment funds and their use. I love to delve into the history of the endowment donations, and am a vigilant guardian of their paperwork. Some of those fund restrictions can be challenging to fulfil; for example we have funds providing a scholarship for a ‘deserving American girl’; another to support graduates and undergraduates interested in the field of archaeology,

which we no longer teach. For the most part it is a joy to allocate the correct type of expenditure to the correct fund. I also act as the link between Treasury and the JCR, MCR, Amalgamated Sport club and the Boat Club. It is my privilege to guide the annually elected Treasurers of each of these, whose annual budgets top tens of thousands of pounds, in clear and concise accounting processes and reporting.

What might a typical day look like for you?

Coming into College nice and early – I love working in Oxford, and find we all work best together when we are present. Greeting the team and checking in on any issues they may have. This often leads to a full team conversation to work out the best way to resolve some quirky thing that has happened or is planned. Going down the to-do list, doing a few calculations and sharing their results, checking the output of the Treasury team, especially at month ends when we follow a tight schedule to produce and publish the management accounts. Actual performance against budget is a key control point, variances are summarised for College Officers and presentation to committees, and are produced at a more detail level for line managers. Each manager has been part of a collaborative annual budgeting process and very much owns their own results. Review of how our income streams are progressing – how our student and visiting students numbers, what level of income has the conference business managed to generate, how well are the annual fund donations coming in and how the accommodation and catering income streams are performing – the whole College is committed to achieving the College’s break even budget, and when one income stream is down, the others need to fill in the slack. I also review how our staff costs, the single biggest piece of College expenditure, are performing; I love that the College is for people, and is powered by people. Cash position review is also key, and we are fortunate that the college is cash generative; in the last couple of years I have been placing the college’s surplus cash on deposit, generating a further income stream to offset the inflationary cost pressures we have suffered, and allow a reduced total return drawdown from our endowment investments, thereby



securing a greater proportion of capital growth to remain on investment for future needs and indeed perpetuity. As well as cash, tight balance sheet control plays a key complimentary role to income and expenditure budget control. The Bevington Road regeneration project has been a big part of our lives for the last two years, and before. Our key role is to make sure we have the right combination of bond funds and donations available to pay the contract sums at the right time, and that the whole project comes in on budget.

I also serve as Chair of the Association of College Accountants, a network of 39 College Accountants who meet to share experience and learn from each other. The AOCA is a constituted subset of the Conference of Colleges. I feel very privileged to hold this position, which allows me access to influence more strategic developments for the Collegiate University.

We’ve recently been talking a lot about the endowment and about sustainable investment. Can you tell us a little bit about what this means and why it’s important for St Anne’s?

Our endowment has grown from £34.9M to £54.4M in the last 11 years. It is still one of the smallest among Oxford Colleges. The return from the endowment allows us to fund the core services of the College. 49% of income funds the fellowship and the tutorial system, 24% funds scholarships, bursaries and other student support, and the balance contributes to buildings maintenance and running costs. Because the endowment grows at a rate higher than inflation, it ensures future costs can be met with certainty. In the last 11 years a consistent proportion of the



College's operating costs has been met by endowment returns. The College has remained reliant on its other high churn income streams to fill the gap left by fee and domestic income. To reduce the pressure on the commercial income streams, a larger endowment will give College greater certainty over its ability to meet a higher proportion of its future costs. For example an additional £100,000,000 of endowment capital would treble the amount we could spend per student. College's Responsible Investment Policy, arrived at after extensive college member consultation, ensures we generate the returns we require, at the same time minimising damage to the environment, negative social impact and promoting corporate good governance. It requires its fund managers to actively engage with the companies in which it invests, to highlight any concerns and to apply pressure to improve, with divestment being the action of last resort. The Responsible Investment policy is a key aspect of the St Anne's College Environment & Sustainability Policy.

You are also involved in lots of St Anne's initiatives, such as the Staff

Appreciation Day and the Town and Gown team. Can you explain what these initiatives are, and why you wanted to get involved?

One of the most fun parts about working in the College is the chance to get involved with student activities. Most staff see the students around and about, and we all work to make their time at St Anne's as enjoyable and positive as possible. Playing sport together is a great way to seal those bonds. In the last year, together with the JCR Sport Captain and Chair of the Amalgamated Sports Club, we arranged an event per term where staff and students played against each other. They are a lot younger and fitter than us, and mostly know the rules better too. The result of the netball game in MT23 told a sadder staff story than the sheer joy of running about after a ball and actually scoring goals. Then came rounders in the park in HT24. Here the staff's wily ways and experience paid off against a student team who were not quite in season. One All. Then the final event was a run off, via the Oxford Town and Gown 10k street race, an event where staff and students have long

been competing under the St Anne's T-shirt flag. The challenge this time was to win either via average timings or on handicapped chip times. Students squeaked the former, but aged staff to speed ratios allowed us a win on handicapping. Let's call the season a draw.

Staff Appreciation Day came about from shared experiences of working elsewhere and enjoying some outside summer time activities and a chance to meet other staff members "out of uniform" so to speak. The event is now a firm fixture, and combines team activity with some food and fun. From treasure hunts and quizzes to an old fashioned sports day and fete, to this year's best ever scavenger hunt and pizza/fish and chips and ice cream van catering. And don't forget the big hook-a-duck prize!

Describe St Anne's in one word:

Community

From the Library

by Clare White, Librarian

This time last year I wrote about the many changes of staff in the Library and Archives in 2023, and this year we have been reaping the rewards of having a full team throughout 2024.

Our priority is always our students, making sure that they have access to the resources they need, with collections and study spaces that are fit for purpose. Ordering and cataloguing new books, supervising the library staff desks, answering enquiries, shelving book returns, providing a click and collect service, induction sessions for new students, 1-2-1 help with literature searches – these are the library essentials which we provide even at times of reduced staffing. With a full complement of staff we are able to go far beyond the minimum requirements and add value in a variety of creative ways.

Over the past year, this “added value” has taken on many forms. Firstly, we have spent time promoting the collections in the Library and the College Archives with displays of books to coincide with national awareness events such as Black History Month and Mental Health Awareness Week; we have curated mini exhibitions in the Library display cases on themes such as

literature in translation, and bindings in children’s literature; we have displayed titles from the rare book collection as part of the College’s Community and Giving Week, and rounded off the year with our very own advent calendar using the drawers of the old card catalogue to reveal 24 seasonal book recommendations.

In a bid to surreptitiously familiarise the students with using the Library catalogue, we have run a scavenger hunt, an Easter Egg hunt, and a Hallowe’en hunt – find the book referred to in the clue and be rewarded...usually with chocolate.

We have also made it our mission to share our love of books and our love of the College’s history with both students and staff through a Secret Santa delivering festively-wrapped Library books to everyone who signed up to receive a Christmas surprise, through Library teas along with a talk about the beaver as first the crest and then the mascot of the College, and with a practical session on bookbinding where students could turn their own paperback book or notebook into a beautifully bound hardback volume.



To encourage the next generation of information professionals we have offered shadowing opportunities to our students considering a career in libraries or archives, as well as work experience to school students during the Long Vac. To enlighten the older generation of “Stanners” we have provided talks and exhibitions on the archives and the rare book collection at alumnae reunion events.

We have also welcomed visitors as part of Oxford Open Doors with an exhibition on Giles Gilbert Scott, the architect of Hartland House, and the opportunity to view former Fellow, Hazel Rossotti’s stained glass panels which decorate the windows of the “Old Library.” Another special visit last summer came in the form of the Merze Tate Explorers, a group of US school girls named after St Anne’s alumna and the first African-American woman to study at Oxford – and you can read more about their Oxford adventure starting on page 25 of the autumn edition of their group magazine:

<https://www.merzetate.org/girls-can-issues/>

All of these activities throughout the year add to the experience of our students, staff and guests, and help to keep the Library right where we want it to be – at the heart of the St Anne’s Community.



The joy of volunteering

Launched in August 2023, the St Anne's staff volunteering scheme has facilitated many members of our non-academic staff in giving back to the local community.

Volunteering can be a very rewarding and fulfilling activity for an individual – as well as helping others, employees can also learn new skills and enjoy new experiences. St Anne's support employees are now entitled to up to two free days per year for taking part in local volunteering projects or activities that engage with the community to improve social cohesion, maximize a positive impact and increase knowledge of environmental initiatives. All staff are encouraged to take time out and give back!

Katie Wilson and Ashley Cadman volunteered at the Lye Valley (friends of) nature reserve, helping to restore the whole of the Lye Valley as a natural continuous green area of land with a mosaic of different wet and dry habitats for all to enjoy.



Jules Parkin-Morse has been volunteering at the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary Charity shops (this one is Carterton). The Sanctuary rehomes up to 700 dogs, cats and rabbits per year with no government funding. They have four Charity shops throughout Oxfordshire to help raise much needed funds.

John Banbrook volunteered for 2-days of water sport activity for teenagers participating in the RAW Potential programme. The young participants were able to enjoy the opportunity to try activities that they have never previously experienced, including sailing, powerboating and also Stand-Up Paddle Boarding at Bowmoor Sailing Club.



Meet our academics

Dr Phoebe Tupper

Lecturer in Medicine

You were a student at St Anne's, graduating in 2020 during the pandemic. Can you tell us a little bit about this experience?

I studied medicine at St Anne's between 2014 and 2020. My year group sat our final exams in January 2020, just as the first cases of COVID were reported in the UK. We were meant to spend the rest of the year preparing to start work in the NHS, and lots of us had planned placements abroad to gain experience of medicine outside the UK. Understandably that was all cancelled. Initially we were deployed to help departments manage the challenges posed by the pandemic – I worked in the Maternal Medicine team, calling patients to let them know about changes to appointments and helping to establish remote clinics by teaching patients how to monitor their blood pressure at home. Lots of my friends worked assisting clinical teams with taking PPE on and off. Eventually we were given the option to graduate early and so I started work as a doctor in April rather than August 2020. It meant that medical school ended rather abruptly, without an opportunity to properly say goodbye to lots of the people I had spent six years studying with. We did have a delayed graduation ceremony a couple of years later and it was very surreal to all be together again – everybody looked significantly older and wiser after two years of NHS work!

What brought you to St Anne's in the first place? Have you observed any changes since you came up as an undergraduate?

I spent most of the Oxford University Open Day feeling very intimidated and out of place but had a brief moment of relief when I saw somebody from St Anne's running round dressed up as a giant beaver (the college mascot)! I mainly chose St Anne's because it felt more relaxed and less intimidating /

fancy than some of the other colleges I visited. I also remember being told that it had some of the tastiest food out of all the colleges. I made the right decision. I think St Anne's has the best location; I have very happy memories of going for picnics in Uni Parks and swimming in Port Meadow, and Jericho definitely has the best selection of cafes, pubs and bars. The main changes have been in the buildings – St Anne's now has a beautiful new library – but the welcoming, non-intimidating vibe of St Anne's remains the same.

Since graduating, what have you been working on/researching?

I have now been working as a doctor in the NHS for five years and am currently an Internal Medical Trainee (which is the core training programme you complete before embarking on specialty training). Over the past five years, I have worked with the Critical Care Research Group, looking at how effective vital signs, taken during hospital admission (such as heart rate, blood pressure etc.), are at predicting deterioration in older patients, specifically focusing on infection. I'm a lecturer at St Anne's and teach Physiology & Pharmacology to undergraduate and graduate-entry medical students; this part of their course focuses on how organ systems work within the body, how this can go awry in disease, and how we can use drugs to manipulate these processes.

How does it feel to return to St Anne's in a different guise?

There has always been a very strong emphasis on medical students offering advice and encouraging each other – particularly older years helping the younger years; so, continuing to teach and support new students through their degree just feels like a continuation of my time as a medical student. Sometimes, work in the NHS can be draining but I find that teaching groups



of students who are really enthusiastic about medicine and patients, helps to remind me what a fascinating and varied job being a doctor is.

What are your plans for the future?

I'm planning to specialise in Intensive Care and Acute Medicine. To have a sustainable career in medicine, variety is important, so I would love to continue to teach and be involved in medical education. Of equal importance to career plans is my time outside of work, so I hope my future is also full of knitting, gardening, walking and spending time with my family!

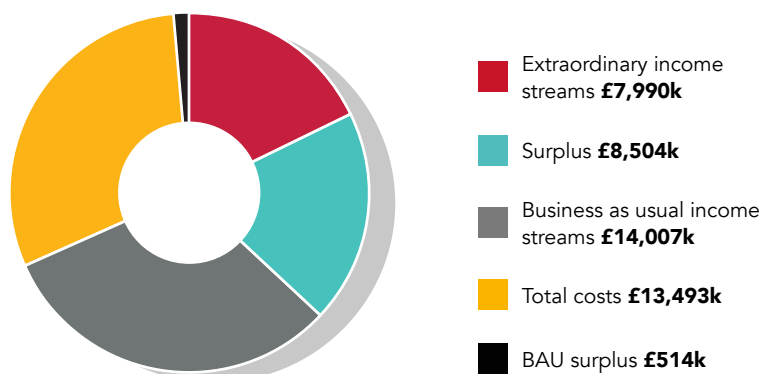
Describe St Anne's in one word:

Supportive

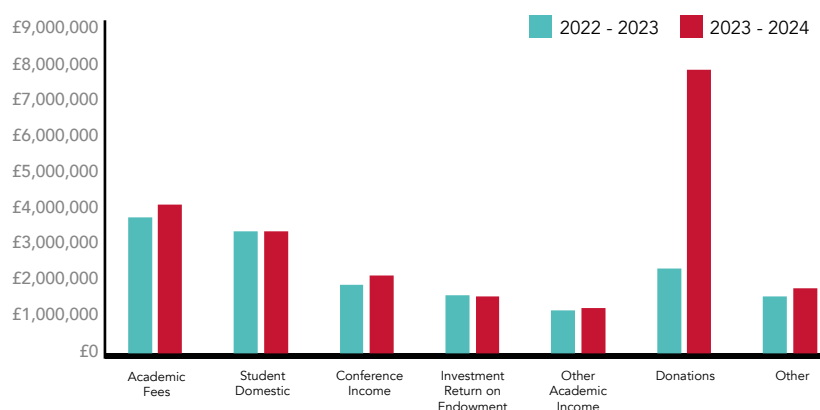
Finances

An extraordinary year with a £8.5M surplus, before depreciation. Donations exceeded all previous years, and standard operations also held up well. Interest rate rises contributed to £1,112k of the extraordinary surplus generated. Donations for specific projects and the endowment contributed £6,703k, along with a £175k grant from the College Contributions Fund. Taken together these events were responsible for all but £0.5M of the surplus. Standard operations: tuition, domestic, conference business, visiting student fee income and donations to the student support fund, allowed College to generate £514k of standard surplus.

Surplus analysis



Income vs last year



Income comparison

	2022-23	2023-24
	£000	£000
Academic Fees	3,751	4,104
Student Domestic	3,359	3,352
Conference Income	1,869	2,133
Investment Return on Endowment	1,584	1,549
Other Academic Income	1,175	1,247
Donations	2,320	7,813
Other Income	1,575	1,799

Academic Fees - 9% up as the student mix saw an increase in international students, where College gained from its share of the increases applied to unregulated course fee income.

Student Domestic - Student residence income was affected by the loss of the 70 Bevington Road bedrooms, taken out of commission whilst the regeneration project moved into the build phase. Increases to overnight rates and graduate licence term helped to offset lost room income and the result was flat revenue year on year. Similarly catering income held its own despite a small decrease in the number of meals served, with charges increased by 7% after zero increase the year before.

Other Academic Income - is mostly made up of visiting student fees, along with buy out and external tuition income. At just over £1M visiting student income remains an important income stream.

Conference Income - a 14% increase brings revenue over £2M for the first time in five years. Price increases have been consistently applied to cover the inflation suffered in delivery costs, and the order book is strong.



Investment Return on Endowment -

Total return on investments was again deliberately reduced in this year, to maintain endowment drawdown at a sustainable rate. The interest income earned (see below) meant this was an affordable decision. This income makes a considerable contribution towards fellowship costs, and to student awards and welfare, and will continue to grow as the campaign to increase donations to the endowment bears fruit.

Other Income - £1,112k of the total income earned in this category in the year

was interest income, generated by cash balances placed on deposits continuing to benefit from higher interest rates. Cash balances are held for payments due on the Bevington Road Project, course fees collected and ultimately due to the University, and operating reserves. Other income in this category includes Nursery fees and the College Contribution Scheme grant.

Donations - made up of Annual Fund, Buildings, Endowment and Academic donations, increased by more than 300% on last year. Donations to the endowment

of £5,354 included £5m from an International Foundation which will fund a fellowship and provide full scholarships in the humanities in perpetuity. The Bevington Road Regeneration Project received donations totalling £731k in the year, with total pledges up to £3.5M of the fundraising £5M target. Of the £1,110k annual fund donations £521k came from legacies. Donations to the CPM and OCCT Research Centres made up £213k of the Other Academic Income donations, all of which are for restricted purposes.

Summarised Expenditure

	2023-24 £000	2022-23 £000
Tutorial Expenses	2,803	2,571
Domestic Support	2,791	2,633
Supplies & Services	2,204	2,199
Academic Administration	1,452	1,388
Buildings & Grounds	1,303	1,107
Professional Services	903	852
Interest Cost	711	709
Student Awards	658	684
Library	269	228
Donor Funded Projects	267	184
JCR/MCR	98	85
Other	34	32
	13,493	12,672

Tutorial Expenses - include teaching salaries and research allowances, admissions costs, student welfare and professional liability insurance. Up 9% overall; vacant Fellowship and JRF posts were filled and pay increases awarded to counteract inflationary pressures.

Domestic Support - Includes the cost of domestic bursary staff, including the Bursar, catering, scouts, lodge, and conference. Up 6% College continued to lift salaries of the lowest paid workers to the level of the 'Oxford Living Wage', being 95% of the London Real Living Wage, with further differential upshifts benefitting all admin staff. Headcount stabilised in the year.

Services & Supplies - include the operational costs of the domestic bursary - catering, accommodation, utilities, IT

infrastructure. Flat on the prior year, which had suffered a 48% increase on the year before. Heat and light costs, and the purchases of food and drink supplies increased more due to the increase in conference meals served rather than price increases.

Academic Administration - Full cost of the academic office, treasury, human resources, nursery and IT staff. Up 5% affected by the differential pay referred to above, offset by some gaps in post.

Professional Services - include the cost of development officers and activity. Also public and employer insurances, legal costs, office costs, finance system and copier/printers. 6% increase in year. Salary cost increases offset by savings in operations cost.

Buildings & Grounds - Include the cost of maintenance staff and estate repairs, renewals and insurance, gardens, rent & rates. This represents a 18% increase in maintaining the fabric of the estate; costs increased with staff capacity when the team was strengthened with an additional post.

Interest - On the 40 year bond, repayable in 2059. Interest is fixed at 2.89%.

Student Awards - Bursaries, scholarships, prizes & grants made from endowed, restricted and unrestricted funds. 4%

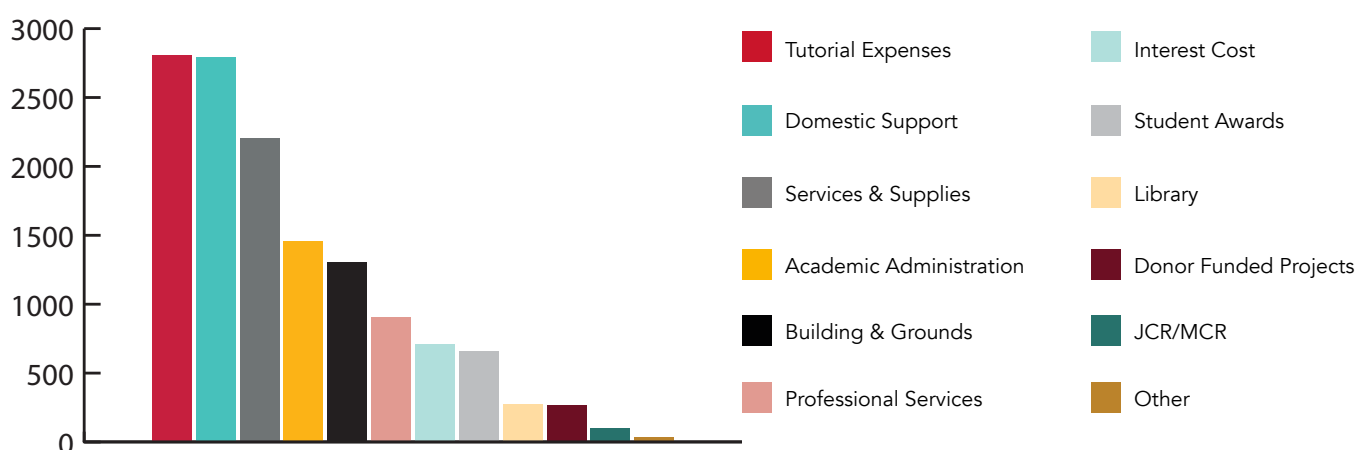
decrease in the year; although more travel grants were awarded, and 14% more was spent on scholarships, there was a pause in some donor funded support.

Library - Cost of stocking and staffing the College library, expenditure increased by 18%, a small proportion of that increase was on books, with most of the additional cost coming from the appointment of an archivist, a much anticipated additional resource for the College.

Donor Funded Projects - Values donated for restricted purposes vary from year to year, as does the matching expenditure,

up 45% on the prior year. Standard spend on the research centres, the Centre for Personalised Medicine and the Oxford Centre for Comparative Criticism & Translation, was supplemented by the holding of a Summer School in Hong Kong in July.

JCR & MCR - Support for student bodies & college sport saw a 15% increase as grants were increased to match budgeted need.



Reconciliation to published accounts (FRS102 Charity SORP*)

*FRS 102 Charity Statement of Recommended Practice is the required format to which the published accounts must conform. The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the College are available on the Charity commission website www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission. There you will find further commentary on pages 16-20, with the full accounts and notes on pages 31-56.



	2023-24 £000	2022-23 £000
Income shown	21,997	15,633
Endowment redeemed capital	(493)	(473)
SORP Income	21,504	15,160
Expenditure shown	13,493	12,672
Add depreciation	1,112	1,134
SORP adjustments*	(7,476)	(475)
SORP expenditure & gains/losses	7,129	13,331
SORP (loss) / surplus	14,375	1,829

*2024 Statement Of Recommended Practice adjustments made up of: pension deficit full release of provisions held gave a decrease £2,493k; investment management costs £188k; £5,149k gain on investments; reduction in holiday pay provision £20k.

*2023 Statement Of Recommended Practice adjustments made up of: pension deficit decrease £695k; investment management costs £201k; 30k gain on investments; increase in holiday pay provision £52k.

Development and alumnae relations

Our ambition, set out in 'Our Purpose', is to create a diverse and inclusive community that will contribute to the University's vision to lead the world in education and research. As a College, we are dependent upon the commitment and generosity, in so many ways, of our community of alumnae and friends, including vital philanthropic support. The following document has been produced to demonstrate the importance of your support and the impact it has on our students and many areas of the College.

Finances

The external and unpredicted shock of the pandemic revealed the importance of building up the College's financial stability for future years. Emerging from the pandemic and facing considerable inflationary pressures, our ongoing focus is on safeguarding the College's long-term financial stability and preserving its commitment to outstanding teaching and research, by seeking to grow the endowment. St Anne's is the fourth poorest Oxford College, in terms of wealth per student. By augmenting the College's resources and growing the endowment, we will be in a better position to navigate any future economic uncertainties, bolster our academic programmes, attract and retain exceptional talent, and maintain a vibrant learning environment that nurtures intellectual curiosity and fosters academic excellence.

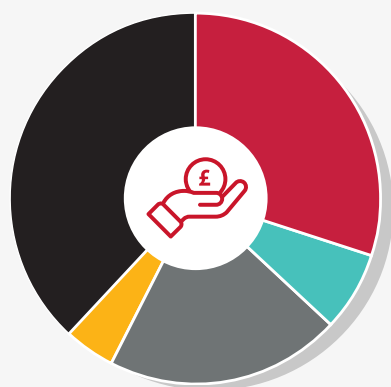
In the year 2023/24, we raised around £7.76m from 1,025 donors. This sum includes a significant gift which has enabled us to launch The St Anne's Uehiro

Endowment for Future Generations, a new fund which has been made possible by the generous support of The Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education. The fund will offer opportunities to graduate students in Humanities subjects which focus on developing critical thinking, communication, and problem solving skills, aiming to provide students with a well-rounded education. It will support doctoral students from the UK and overseas, providing much-needed financial assistance and helping people to grow in vital, but underfunded areas of scholarship.

As the cost of living crisis continues, students remain very much in need of hardship funding and welfare support. The generosity of our alumnae, donors and friends in so many forms, not only through donations, helps us to do all we can to effectively navigate economic uncertainties, bolster our academic programmes, attract and retain exceptional talent, and maintain a vibrant learning environment that nurtures intellectual curiosity and fosters academic excellence. This report collects

testimonials from students for whom your generosity and the generosity of others has made a significant difference and helped them prepare for life after graduation.

We hope you will enjoy discovering how great an impact your support has made across multiple areas of College life.



Some of the areas your donations supported in 2023/24:

- Student support, including bursaries, hardship scholarship, travel grants and other areas of College life
£582,882
- Scholarships and prizes
£133,951

- Teaching and research
£395,759
- Outreach
£80,483
- Capital (Including Bevington Road)
£732,780

Key Projects

Student Support

135 bursaries

Student support covers funding for the tutorial education that is so central to the Oxford experience, as well as bursaries, hardship funds, graduate scholarships, essential student welfare services, new books, and subsidies for our sports clubs and societies.

Mackenzie Austen): I just wanted to say how much I appreciate the support the bursary has given me this year. With my academic studies, it allowed me to buy physical copies of set texts including Hobbes' Leviathan and Locke's Two Treatises on Government which was particularly helpful as I studied a paper in early modern political theory this year. Beyond my studies, the money allowed me to engage in the arts side of Oxford

and see productions of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and Euripides' Medea. The bursary is extremely appreciated because it covers the cost of living in Oxford. My student maintenance loan covers battles with some money for food left over but little else. Being able to purchase my own copies of set texts has made studying and revision far easier as I can annotate the book with my own notes.

Aryan Dabas – 2nd year medic: I am forever thankful for your financial support which helped me progress in medicine. It also better equipped me to take care of my disabled mother - who I am a young carer for. It allowed me to travel back and forth balancing taking care of her and my degree. The financial security I knew I

was given meant additional worries about living costs like food and technology weren't there. It meant I had one less thing to worry about and could get on with my responsibilities and I am very grateful. The scholarship vastly helped me in first year. It helped me to afford the expensive living costs at Oxford alongside academic help as I bought a tablet for my studies. The money also empowered me to take care of my ill mum - who I am responsible for. It funded travel to her allowing me to care for her and knowing I had some extra financial help allowed me to make better decisions for myself balancing between my young carer responsibilities and degree and I am very thankful for the help I received.

Outreach

Over the course of the last year, St Anne's College outreach team has worked with **a total of 219 schools**. The majority of these have been in the college's link regions of Hillingdon and Southwark in London, and across the North East of England. Through a range of inbound and outbound events, we estimate that we have reached **8,200 young people, teachers and families**. We ran **98 events for schools in the North East, and 99 events for schools in Hillingdon and Southwark**. Events with our link regions made up 87%

of the total number (225) of outreach events this year.

Our work in the North East of England has traditionally taken place in the north of the region (Northumberland, North Tyneside, Newcastle, South Tyneside, Gateshead and Sunderland), however, our collaboration with Christ Church and Trinity Colleges as part of Oxford for North East, means that we are also able to expand our reach to schools in the south of the region through joint events.

Brilliant Club, the Access Project, and with Multi-Academy Trusts, such as the Ark Schools, United Learning and the Harris Schools Foundation.

Feedback on our work has been consistently positive, with **students consistently providing a 90%+ positive feedback** on our outreach events.

This year's JCR Access Rep, James Stephens, is a History and Politics student from Bolton whose own experiences led him to become interested in Outreach. James says: "I had quite a difficult childhood, having to move in with my grandparents due to a traumatic homelife. These experiences have had profound impacts on my life, and acted as great obstacles at school and university, and so I think it's important to support and encourage those who may have hidden challenges but are equally as capable of as succeeding at Oxford."

James has worked with his old school to help inspire students to apply to Oxford -- "this has shown me the difference Outreach can make. I want to showcase what Oxford is really like. St Anne's has a special, welcoming atmosphere, something which I have come to love. No one's future should be determined by their background, and I want to show that St Anne's can be a home for others like it is for me."



These activities have included online Interview Skills Workshops (jointly with Cambridge), a North East Residential tying in with Oxford's Open Days, and the Aim for Oxford programme. Our wider work, for schools in our link regions and beyond, has included our jointly run Women and Non-Binary People in STEM events with Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, working with the

Graduate Support

In 2022 we launched a new Graduate Support Fund to help support the vibrant MCR community at St Anne's. The Graduate Support Fund supports Graduate Development Scholarships (GDSs), scholarships in general, hardship, travel grants, research grants and the St Anne's Academic Review (STAAR). Funding for graduate students can be difficult to source, which is why bursaries for graduates can make such a significant difference to students such as Aisha Valenzuela.

“

I want to express my sincere gratitude for your generous support through the bursary I received this year. Your contribution has been instrumental in helping me make the most of my academic and personal development.

This year, I have been studying Nature, Society and Environmental Governance with a particular focus on the role of legal mobilization in Indigenous communities in Mexico. Throughout my course, I faced significant financial pressures, particularly due to the cost of tuition and the expenses associated with my research. The bursary provided essential support in covering my tuition fees, which alleviated a substantial financial burden and allowed me to focus wholeheartedly on my studies. It also helped cover various research-related costs. Studying at St Anne's has been an incredibly rewarding experience, enriched by the vibrant community and supportive environment. I particularly enjoyed being involved with the College's Environmental Committee and working with different people in College. Organizing environmental talks and events for the Middle Common Room (MCR) was a highlight, as it allowed me to bring together like-minded peers to discuss pressing environmental issues.”

Aisha Valenzuela

Welfare

The Student Welfare team continues to work incredibly hard to support the mental and physical wellbeing of our students. Students have the option of speaking to Assistant Deans, student reps, peer supporters, Diversity Points of Contact and others, as well as the Dean of Welfare, Rachel Busby. Rachel says: “I have recorded a total of 298 contacts with 89 students for this academic year. These are face to face, Teams video call or telephone consultations, not including email communications or other third-party contacts relating to

students. The top recorded presenting needs were exam-related stress/anxiety, harassment, general anxiety, study-related stress and anxiety and discussing assessment or strategies for managing with neurodevelopmental needs (predominantly Autism and ADHD).”

Student feedback was requested from those who had used the Welfare service via an anonymous questionnaire, to ensure we are able to continue to improve. One student commented:

“Truly one of the best resources Anne's has to offer to students who are struggling. I would have dropped out without it. Those little pockets of chatter every other week make such a genuine difference to how I view myself, Oxford, and my degree. Without it, I would feel very lost and overwhelmed. I am so utterly grateful for the welfare team!!!”

**298 contacts; 89 students
63 undergraduates; 26 graduates**

Travel & Research Grants

Every year, we try to ensure that we can accommodate as many travel and research grant requests as possible. In 2023/2024 we were pleased to make 29 undergraduate travel grants and 67 postgraduate research grants.

With the help of a college travel grant, Jan Chan (Modern Languages and Linguistics, 2022) travelled to Brazil this summer to complete an internship at an environmental NGO called SOS Mata Atlântica as part of his year abroad.

“The experience was eye-opening as it connected me with the Brazilian nature and culture, giving me many new perspectives. SOS Mata Atlântica advocates for and acts on the protection

of the Atlantic Forest, the second largest biome in the country and home to the majority of the population. As a Business Management Intern, I completed several key projects focused on developing the organization's fundraising strategies. I began by researching how to leverage various AI tools to attract international donors from North America, before developing a generative AI-powered Chatbot to enhance the efficiency of handling client enquiries (I also designed an icon inspired by muriqui-do-Norte, a monkey native to the Atlantic Forest). My final project involved evaluating a Brazilian online fundraising platform and providing strategic recommendations before creating a new campaign.



Planting a tree seedling!

However, my work was far beyond those projects. The Business team, responsible for corporate partnerships, regularly receives site visits from partners. I also thoroughly enjoyed welcoming families at our Porteira Aberta (Open Day) event and using my linguistic advantage to translate some publications aimed at an international audience.”

Bevington Road

It is now just a year until we are due to complete our biggest ever capital project at St Anne's: the regeneration of our Bevington Road houses. As you will have read in the most recent edition of The Ship, the strip-out phase of the renovation is now complete, and has revealed long-hidden secrets like concealed original fireplaces and decorative brickwork, that have posed some extra challenges to the project. As we begin to rebuild we are starting to see the architects' original vision come to life in the form of a sustainable, efficient living environment fit for future generations. You can find more

information, stories and updates on our website here
www.transformingbevingtonroad.co.uk/stories-updates/

We are due to complete our biggest ever capital project at St Anne's in 2025: the regeneration

Thanks to the generosity of many alumnae and friends, we have now raised over £3.6 million towards the regeneration of our Bevington Road accommodation.

The project would not be possible

without the generous backing of the St Anne's Community.

We are hugely grateful to all those who have supported the campaign so far. If you haven't yet had the chance and would like to be part of helping us secure the future of our Bevington Road houses and our students for generations to come, there is still time to do so. You can find more information about the project, how to donate and the associated recognition opportunities on our website here

www.transformingbevingtonroad.co.uk/recognition-opportunities/

Legacy Giving

None of the activity detailed here would have been possible without donations to College. As a Registered Charity, St Anne's is also fortunate to benefit from gifts left to us in Wills, or legacies.

In 2023/24 we received over £520,267 in legacy gifts

Rosemary Taylor's legacy gift supports students with disabilities to live independently, feel included and have a better quality of life

Modern History alumna Rosemary Taylor (1951) was deeply passionate about student welfare and the pursuit of equality of opportunity. A steadfast supporter of St Anne's until her death at the age of 91, she made regular generous annual donations to support our students over many decades. Her generosity provided essential resources that enriched the student experience, although she never wanted thanks for her gifts. One of her friends aptly noted, "she combined ability and commitment with kindness and modesty." Her regular financial donations empowered students to pursue their academic dreams

unhindered by financial constraints.

After her death last year, Rosemary's loyal commitment to St Anne's and the welfare of our students lived on through a gift in her will. The £100,000 legacy bequest that Rosemary gifted to the college has been directed towards the regeneration of Bevington Road, specifically to fund the construction of an accessible bedroom on the ground floor for students with additional accessibility needs. Accessible bedrooms are so important because they allow people with disabilities to live independently and comfortably. They are designed to be easy to enter, leave, and use, and can help people feel included and have a better quality of life. This plays a critical role in fostering an inclusive educational environment where all students can thrive. Many future students who use this bedroom will benefit from Rosemary's generosity. Her impact extends far beyond her financial contributions. Rosemary's enduring support for future generations reflects her quiet pride in having attended Oxford and her lasting dedication to transforming lives at St Anne's.

Careers

Our wonderful community of alumnae and friends make up a fantastic network of people offering their time and expertise - inspiring our students with talks on careers they may not have considered and running CV clinics, as well as offering invaluable paid internships.

Our SAS branches also host Freshers welcome events each year, to help our incoming students start to feel at home

before they make the journey to Oxford. We are very grateful to everyone who gives their time and who has helped our students progress their careers in the last year. We are always looking for more alumnae to get involved, and so if you think you can help, do get in touch.



St Anne's Community and Giving Week

We held our first Community Week and Giving Day in 2019. The Community and Giving Week celebrates how everyone connected with the College can come together to help and support each other and have fun. Since then, and thanks to your participation in many ways, we have gone from strength to strength. Our seventh Community Week will run from 10th – 14th March, and will focus on our Bevington Road regeneration, the Annual Fund (students support, teaching and outreach) and the Boat Club. During the Week we hope to celebrate and bring together the many people that make the College what it is today, while raising much needed

funds to support our current and future students. We hope you can help us achieve this by sharing our social media posts; joining us for one or more of the online events and/or supporting some of the campaigns. If you have been thinking about donating to St Anne's, the Giving Day is an excellent time to do this, as we often have a few key donors who provide matched funding, which can make your donation go further. Please look out for more information in your emails and our social media accounts over the coming weeks, and keep an eye on our landing page: www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/st-annes-community-and-giving-week-2025/

Events

We have been delighted to see so many of you in College over the past year, particularly at the very well-attended Gaudy in September 2024. We were thrilled to be able to bring together old friends and new at the pre-1969 reunion. In 2025 we are particularly looking forward to our 1970s and Boat Club

reunions in March and April respectively, with more information about all our events on our website. If you see an event that you like the look of, please do encourage your friends to book too, but be assured that you will find a warm welcome here, if you decide to "brave" it alone.

Thank you

Thank you again for supporting St Anne's. We're very grateful to all donors, and would like to include you in our published donor list in The Ship

We do need your permission to do this, so if you have not yet let us know that you're happy to be listed, please email development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk.

Thank you again.



ST ANNE'S ALUMNAE:

Margaryta Tytarenko

(MStLaw, 2022)

Can you tell us a little bit about your background and how you ended up studying at St Anne's?

Having been highly interested in English culture, laws and regulations, applying to Oxford was never a question for me, as a freshly graduated International Law student. During my application I was living in Czech Republic and looking for a Master's degree to pursue my legal education. Fortunately, I discovered that the University of Oxford was launching the Graduate scholarship for Ukrainian students, and I applied for it immediately. My admission depended on college's capacity, as the scholarship is heavily funded by the college specifically. This was the moment St Anne's sent me one of the most important emails I had ever received, informing me of their offer. Since then I have been a happy member of St Anne's.

What made you want to get involved with the Young Stanners/stay connected with college?

Funnily, the decision to join the society was made by my friends and I to stay in touch and have an official excuse to meet after we graduate. However, I have greatly appreciated the membership in the society since. The college has gone to great lengths to ensure the sense of community and friendly environment for its alumnae. It is a great way to keep updated on the events in college as well. Looking back, I believe the initial reason I decided to stay in touch with the college is how good St Anne's has been at providing the community and support for me during my studying at Oxford, so it made me want to be a part of college afterwards.

What is your advice to anyone who would like to become part of the Young Stanners – is it helpful to you as an alumna to be part of this network?

Young Stanners society has been a great opportunity for me to reconnect with my peers and acquaintances, as well as getting to know new alumni, and I often attend their events with a college friend of mine. The society is great to help you feel supported and



make sure you are not alone having graduated the University, and I would strongly recommend joining it.

What has been your path since leaving St Anne's?

Since leaving St Anne's, I have lived and worked in Oxford for a while and then

started my job in London. I now work in a City law firm and am only planning on moving forward. St Anne's have been very kind in staying in touch and offering support throughout my journey.

The St Anne's Society or SAS (formerly known as the Association of Senior Members, or ASM) is an alumnae-led inclusive organisation, of which all students and alumnae of the College become life members automatically, free of charge. The Society's purpose is to engage St Anne's alumnae all over the world with the College in its aspiration to understand the world and change it for the better.

Our Young Stanners Society brings together St Anne's students who have graduated within the last 10 years. The Society helps these most recent alumnae stay in touch with their friends and peers, as well as providing specific events, networking opportunities and communications. The Young Stanners Society complements the work and events held by the College and our wider St Anne's Society (SAS) To find out more, visit our website: www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/alumnae/the-young-stanners-society/

Alumnae and Careers

Caspar Herzberg

(CIO, AVEVA)

Caspar, can you tell us a little bit about your background and how you ended up studying at St Anne's?

I grew up in Cairo, Egypt, spending my first 19 years there and completed my schooling. This was an incredible experience; it also meant that I had the benefit of becoming fluent in Arabic at a young age. Following a short service commission in the Germany military, I applied to Oxford. I chose St Anne's college because it was a welcoming and friendly place, and after having lived across the world and enjoyed diverse experiences, I liked that St Anne's was a diverse student community. St Anne's was then and remains a unique melting pot of ideas and individuals.

What has been your path since leaving St Anne's? What have been your career highlights?

Upon leaving St Anne's, I applied for a Masters in Oriental Studies at SOAS in London for a year. This was hugely enjoyable. From there, I joined Anderson Consulting, where I spent 7 years working on improving the performance of companies across Europe and the Middle East. I moved to Cisco where I worked for a decade, in roles in APAC and the Middle East. Finally, I joined Schneider Electric, initially as President of their Middle East and Africa business, a huge portion of their activities, and now as Chief Executive of AVEVA, a global software company owned by Schneider. I have learned a lot from both business and personal successes and failures in equal measure. I particularly enjoy the opportunity to gain a global perspective on commerce, geopolitics and technology across the world.

Was there anything in particular that you learned during your time at St Anne's/Oxford that you think has benefited you in your career?

The Oxford system relies on discourse, which makes it hugely stimulating. Of course, it can be a baptism of fire in those first tutorials, but you quickly learn to structure your thoughts and arguments, both on paper and in verbal discussions. The system is admired across the world because it builds rigor and enables students and tutors to share ideas as equals. In my experience, the ability to perform in front of your tutor each week, often under time pressure, is not dissimilar to the need to report to a corporate board on a quarterly basis, albeit that there are



rather more eyes on you at the board level than in the tutorial room. At times the stresses can be similar!

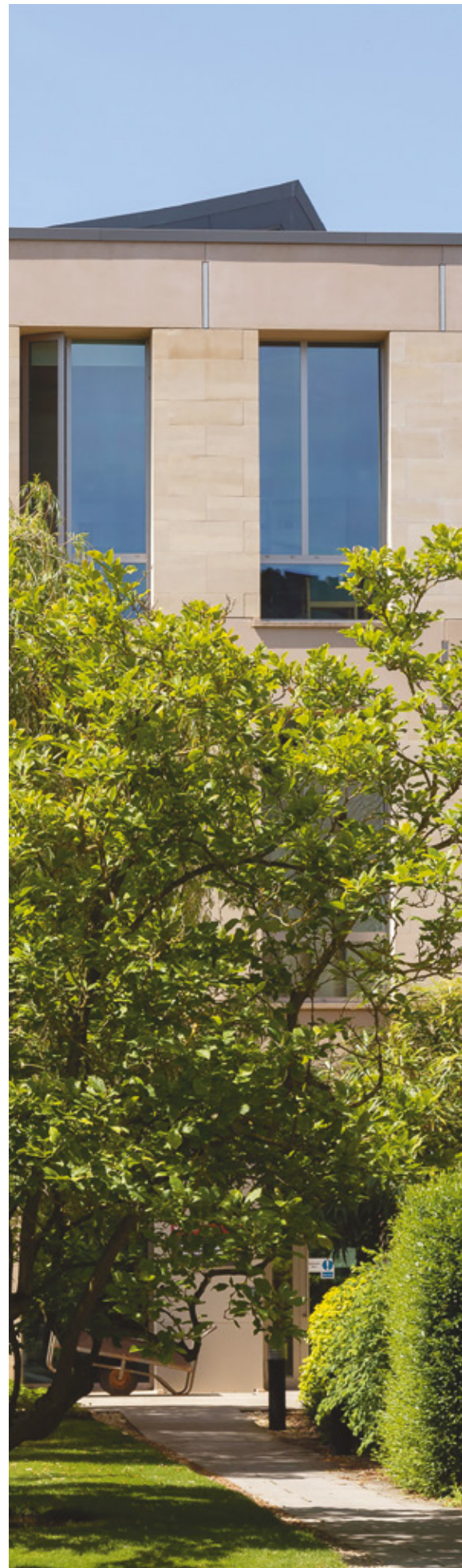
You have kindly volunteered your time to support current students with careers advice. What made you want to do this?

It's important to have access to as many sources of information as possible when thinking about what to do after university. Had I enjoyed the opportunity to learn more from people in senior positions in business earlier on, I would have listened to them, and I like to think that would have helped me to avoid mistakes early in my career. Perhaps it's not always possible to avoid making mistakes, but it's certainly helps to hear different perspectives and to have the opportunity to speak with and learn from others.

What is the main piece of advice you would give to current students considering a career to embark upon?

For me, it sounds simple: try to figure out what you like to do; then, find a way to do as much of it as you can. That could be structuring arguments, presenting a vision and executing it, or digging deep into research and testing hypotheses. For me, I realised that what I find enjoyable, and inspiring is leading teams and engaging with an international group of thinkers and doers. Oriental Studies was an excellent preparation for this, as it gave me a deeper understanding of other regions of the world and a more cosmopolitan outlook.

Here at Oxford, you can meet people from all over the world and hear from those with different backgrounds. This is an enormous privilege; it affords you a broader outlook on your studies and on life. I encourage everyone to make the most of this opportunity, especially the experiences and contacts you can make while you are here.



Community and Giving Week 2024

St Anne's seventh Community Week is due to take place from 10 – 14 March 2025.

We hope to bring together as many people as possible from the St Anne's Community in this week, including students, Fellows, staff, alumnae and friends. We will be hosting a range of events and hope that you and your family will be able to join us for at least one or more. We will be raising funds for St Anne's by encouraging a wide network of people to support the College. Funds raised this year will go towards the redevelopment of Bevington Road, the Annual Fund and the Boat Club. We will send more information about this closer to the time, but if you would like to donate to college now, please visit www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/alumnae/giving-back/ or keep an eye on our Community Week landing page: www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/st-annes-community-and-giving-week-2025/



Community Week Events

As part of Community Week we will be holding a number of events, including a series of tours of Bevington Road, with lunch provided in College.

See more details on our events page: www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/this-is-st-annes/events/

Future Communications

To find out more about how we collect, store and process your data, including your rights and choices, please view our Privacy Notice: www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/st-annes/privacy-notice.

Update your details at any time or unsubscribe via our alumnae area at www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk or get in touch with us at development@st-annes.ox.ac.uk.

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