



ROBINSON COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

2018/19 DONOR REPORT:

the numbers, the people, your impact



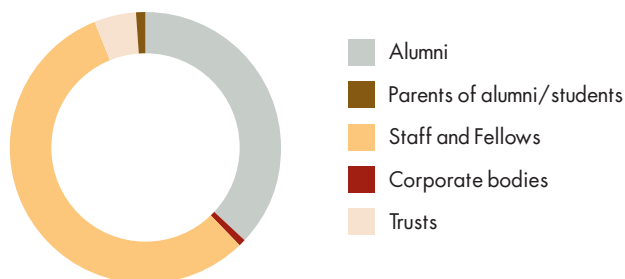




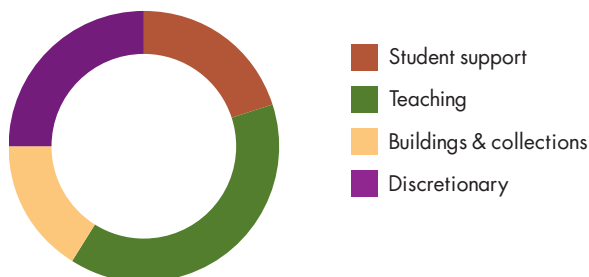
THANK YOU!

Without the support of our donors Robinson simply would not be able to continue to provide opportunities for bright young people to flourish as scholars and as individuals at Cambridge. Robinson received £2,545,629 in tuition fee income in 2018, but it cost the College £4,260,653 to provide the educational experience of which Cambridge is justifiably proud. The gap of £1,715,024 was filled from sources that include income from our endowment, conferences and donations. Thank you for the part you played in enabling our work in 2018.

WHO ARE OUR DONORS?



WHAT DID YOU SUPPORT?





£991,378
RAISED

742
DONORS

14% OF OUR ALUMNI
MADE A GIFT

685
ALUMNI
DONORS

57 INDIVIDUALS
HAVE TOLD US THEY
HAVE REMEMBERED
THE COLLEGE
IN THEIR WILL

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS: £201,543

Financial worries can deter young people from higher education, and lack of funds can prevent some of our students from participating in non-academic activities such as sport, music and drama once they are here. Many of our donors enjoyed free tuition and generous grants and they understand very well the impact of today's high tuition fees and inadequate loans on their successors.

With their help, we were able to provide:

- 117 means-tested financial awards to students, including Cambridge, College, and Hugh Paton Bursaries
- 3 Fred Boyne Awards for sporting achievement to students who excel at Basketball, Boxing and Athletics
- 11 grants from the Chaffield Shaw MML Support Fund for language students undertaking immersion courses. These courses have a significant impact on a student's ability to achieve his or her potential in Final examinations
- 8 hardship awards to students experiencing financial difficulties
- Two Bye-Fellows' Fund awards to provide extra time for two graduate students writing up their PhDs
- 4 Isi Metzstein Awards for architecture students undertaking ambitious dissertations

These are just a few of the ways Robinson has supported its students, with your help.



WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The cost of study is not the only deterrent potential applicants to Robinson may face, and in 2018 our donors helped us continue and extend our work debunking the myths about Cambridge and inspiring candidates with potential to apply, regardless of their circumstances. A vital part of this work is bringing young people to Robinson so that they see for themselves what Cambridge is like and visualise living and studying here. Our annual Women in Science Festival attracted 98 young women from years 11 – 13 at schools all over the country. Delegates had the opportunity to stay in student accommodation and meet current students and leading female Cambridge academics. 79% of those who completed feedback forms after the event said it made them more likely to study STEMM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicines) at university, 64% said they were more likely to apply to Cambridge, and 92% said the Festival had introduced them to new areas and ideas in STEMM subjects.



"After the festival I decided to pick up A level physics! As previously I had thought it would be very difficult, but then I realised that that is ridiculous and should not stop me from studying it"

The 2018 festival was wholly funded by two Robinson alumni. Their generosity has made a lasting impact on the lives of the young women who attended the festival – we could not be more grateful.



THE BRILLIANT CLUB

As part of our commitment to raising aspirations, Robinson works with The Brilliant Club, a charity that seeks to increase the number of pupils from under-represented groups progressing to highly selective universities. The Brilliant Club's scholars range in age from year 6 (10-11 year olds) through to Year 12 (16-17 year olds) and are all from low income backgrounds. The programme is academically focused and feedback from schools who have

attended as part of The Brilliant Club has been overwhelmingly positive. Robinson meets the costs of this work and the generosity of an alumnus in 2018 enabled us to increase the number of Brilliant Club visits, bringing more young people into contact with Robinson and with Cambridge. We hope to see them back as undergraduates one day.



MEETING OUR GREATEST NEEDS: £248,577

Robinson plans its expenditure carefully but inevitably a need will arise that we could never have anticipated; gifts that can be spent at the College's discretion are particularly welcome. In 2018 Robinson used discretionary funding to install new fire alarms and cycle parking for staff and to replace a network switch, amongst other small but significant projects.

A phone call from a Robinson student is often what prompts a donor to give for the first time, and 98% of donations made in the 2018 Telephone Campaign in June/July 2018 were directed towards our Discretionary Fund. The 2018 campaign received an extra boost from an alumnus who agreed to match the gifts of those making their first contribution to Robinson. This increased the impact of every gift and inspired a terrific response: 18% of those who gave in the phone campaign did so for the first time.



James Timmins
(Mathematics, 2015)



For a long time I'd known I wanted to study for a mathematics degree at university. With Cambridge's global reputation for the subject, I've always felt privileged to be studying here at Robinson. Cambridge can be a busy and occasionally stressful place to study, but the bursary I've received has meant money has never been something worrying me along with all those deadlines!

Robinson also provided me with a bursary and accommodation when I undertook research projects over the summer vacations in 2017 and 2018. I found it really rewarding to work on new mathematics under supervision from a Cambridge academic, and it was a big part of convincing me that a career in research was something I wanted to pursue.

Now I'm applying for PhD positions across the UK, I know I wouldn't be where I am now without the support I have received from Robinson, and for that I'm hugely grateful.



Dr Nakul Krishna
Fellow and Director of
Studies in Philosophy

From the 1960s, philosophers in Britain and the USA were caught up in large public events: the tensions of the Cold War, Vietnam, student protests. But unlike the apolitical philosophers of the previous generation, these philosophers felt the need to contribute to these debates, and to contribute as philosophers. I am working on the history of this period in Europe and America as seen through the eyes of a set of American and British philosophers who were intimately involved in them.

Much of the discussion between these figures happened in their private correspondence, or was only made public in small classes. To get a clear idea of his history, scholars need to look to both the published record and the private papers of the philosophers, now helpfully available in various American archives. Given the size of the archives and their locations, I am enormously grateful to the donors to the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fund for making it possible for me to carry out the necessary archival work. My research aims to work through the letters and unpublished notes of this generation of thinkers to tell a fuller history of their lives, their thought and their times.



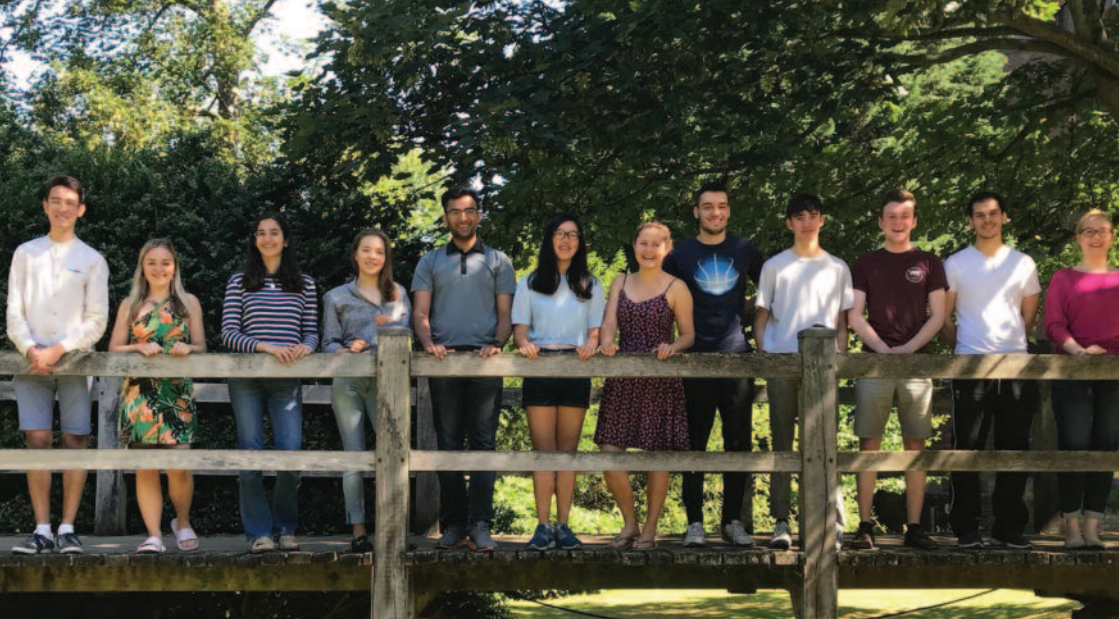
TEACHING AND RESEARCH: £389,039

Financial support helps our students come to Robinson, even in the face of challenging financial circumstances, but we also want to ensure we offer the very best educational experience to all our students once they are here. In 2018 our donors stepped forward to help us provide new opportunities for research, and to continue to offer a unique learning experience to our students:

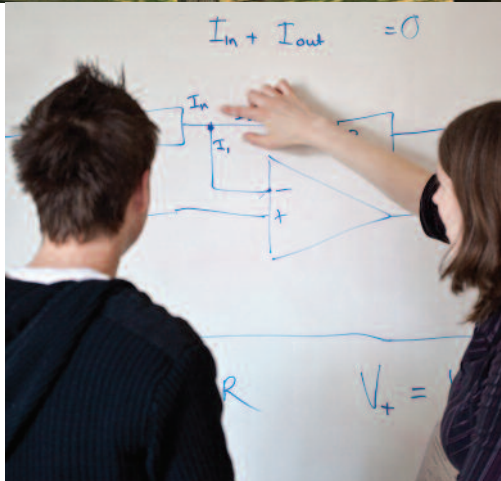
Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of an alumnus we were able to appoint a **new teaching and research fellow** in the History of Political Thought. Dr Lucia Rubinelli joined us in October 2018 and you can read more about her, and the donation that made

her appointment possible, in the Michaelmas 2018 edition of Bin Brook.

The **Forsyth Revision Week** is unique to Robinson. Every year since 1993 our Law students have taken part in an off-site week of revision supervisions during the Easter vacation, usually at our sister college, St Catherine's in Oxford. Law graduates often attribute this week to making all the difference to their success in final examinations and it is largely funded through the generosity of two Robinson law alumni and by corporate supporters. In 2018 the latter included Baker McKenzie, Clyde & Co, Herbert Smith Freehills, Norton Rose Fulbright and Slaughter & May.



Robinson's Fellows and graduate students have played their part in Cambridge's world-leading research, which has underpinned innovations that create prosperity, improve quality of life, protect the environment and enrich our culture. Despite the contribution that research makes to our global wellbeing, even in Cambridge **funding for research**, particularly in the Arts and Humanities, is increasingly hard to find. In 2018 a donor established the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Fund as a resource that will help Robinson fill that gap. College Fellows can apply to the Fund to meet the costs of a research project, including travel, research assistance and research materials. The research this AHSSRF enables not only contributes to our shared store of knowledge, it also enriches our Fellows' teaching and helps Robinson attract research active candidates to our Fellowship.





CARING FOR OUR BUILDINGS: £152,220

Robinson's distinctive red brick architecture marks it out as a contemporary College within an ancient university, but keeping this College fabric in good condition and comfortable for the students and guests who call Robinson home demands significant continued investment. 2018 was the 8th in our 15-year refurbishment programme, and key projects undertaken during the year included the refurbishment of E staircase and 5 and 6 Adams Road, and the underpinning of Thorneycreek Cottage.

The maintenance of our existing buildings is vitally important, but it is not Robinson's habit to stand still. In 2018 we started plans for the first new building on the College site for some years – an Archive to house the history of the College. This new building will

give Robinson the opportunity to preserve the records of those who have lived, worked and studied at Robinson over some 40 years.

Working with local architects, we have drawn up plans that have been approved by local planners. Without the support of our donors we would not be able to invest in the future in this way and we look forward to telling you more about this project as its progress unfolds.



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SAYING THANK YOU

Robinson College is enormously grateful to all our donors, whatever they wish to support. Every gift, of whatever size, helps us honour our founding ambition - to enable young people to fulfil their academic potential at Cambridge, regardless of their circumstances.

To demonstrate our gratitude all of our donors will be invited to a celebratory lunch in College in June 2019, in addition to the Commemoration of Benefactors Service in November. Donors giving over £25,000 are invited to join the College Circle, whose members' names are inscribed on the donor boards in the College's Hall. Those letting us know they have remembered the College in their wills are enrolled as members of the Crausaz Wordsworth Society and invited to attend its biennial celebration in College. We look forward to welcoming you to one of these events in Cambridge soon.

THANK YOU!

WHAT'S NEXT?

As part of our ongoing development programme we will be running a telephone fundraising campaign in September 2019. The campaign will not only raise money for all areas of College life, but will also give our student callers the opportunity to say thank you to our current donors. We look forward to speaking to you.



Dear World...
Yours, Cambridge

A gift to Robinson is a gift to the
Collegiate Cambridge 'Dear World,
Yours Cambridge' campaign.

<https://www.philanthropy.cam.ac.uk/>



ROBINSON COLLEGE
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