



THE NUMBERS
THE PEOPLE
YOUR IMPACT



ROBINSON COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

Donor Report 2024-2025

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

FY24 | 25



THE NUMBERS

CASH RECEIVED:

£1,187,046



THE IMPACT

Greatest Need (Discretionary)	£423,189
Students	£480,582
Buildings	£44,812
Teaching	£220,230
Other + Research	£18,233



THE PEOPLE

TOTAL NUMBER OF ROBINSON ALUMNI

6,206

VALUE OF ALUMNI GIVING

£593,037

ALUMNI GIVING: **12%**



BREAKDOWN OF DONORS

TOTAL DONORS

858

Alumni	704
Friends, including parents of Robinsonians	88
Fellows & Staff, including former Fellow and Bye-Fellows	56
Corporate and Trust supporters	10





@david_valinsky_photography

LETTER FROM KATHARINE CANTELL

Director of Development, Robinson College

On behalf of everyone at Robinson, thank you for your generosity and commitment to the College. It is a privilege to share the positive impact of your support.

Robinson is a community defined by intellectual ambition, creativity and inclusivity. We are also a place that continues to evolve, responding to the changing needs of our students, fellows, alumni and wider community. Our work would not be possible without the loyalty and belief of donors such as you. Whether you are supporting the College for the first time or have done so for many years, your contribution strengthens Robinson's ability to thrive.

Your gifts have contributed to four vital areas: enhancing education, enriching experience, renewing Robinson and contributing to our unrestricted funds. All of this has helped support our ongoing priorities, whilst also allowing College to respond swiftly and effectively to emerging needs.

At a time when academic pressures and financial barriers are increasing, your philanthropy helps ensure that Robinson remains accessible, rigorous and forward-looking. Our Quantum Maths Fund is providing a programme of events, outreach, scholarships and prizes to widen participation in the study of Mathematics at Robinson through raising the College's profile in the subject. We have also been able to open up

opportunities for our medic students to broaden their experience and strengthen their future career trajectory. In 2024-2025, we were also delighted to launch Robinson Wings, a new three-year pilot programme providing holistic support for wellbeing, careers and study skills. Over the academic year, this achieved 860 student interactions through workshops, one-to-one support and community-building events. In addition, donor generosity provided bursaries and hardship support, ensuring that students in need received timely interventions and the resources they need to thrive.

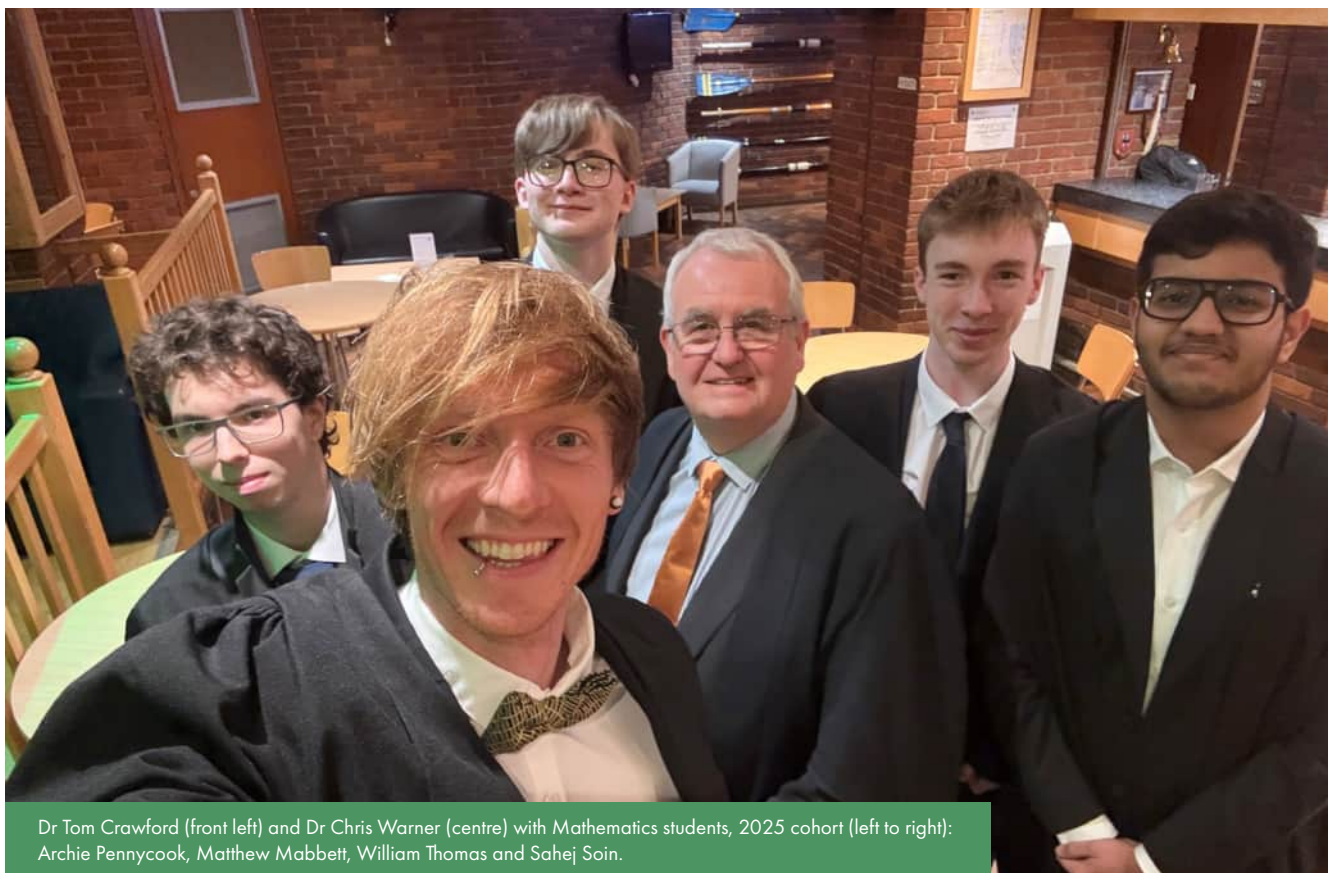
With your donations, we have also been able to continue our Renewing Robinson programme, carrying out essential work to safeguard the College for future generations, while carefully upholding the architectural vision that defines our founding identity.

This report offers just a snapshot of what your generosity makes possible. Thank you for believing in Robinson College and helping us to secure its future. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

With warmest thanks,

KATHARINE CANTELL
Director of Development





Dr Tom Crawford (front left) and Dr Chris Warner (centre) with Mathematics students, 2025 cohort (left to right): Archie Pennycook, Matthew Mabbett, William Thomas and Sahej Soin.

SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN MATHS AT ROBINSON

The Quantum Maths Fund at Robinson supports a programme of events, prizes, scholarships and outreach. The fund was established in 2021 through a generous gift from Mr Parm Sandhu (Mathematics, 1986) and has since received substantial support from a number of other donors.

The objectives of the Quantum Maths Fund are to raise Robinson's maths profile by making the College a widely recognised destination for mathematicians coming to Cambridge, to widen participation in the study of Mathematics and encourage and recognise academic achievement in the subject.

We recognise that the key to the programme's success is attracting the most able mathematicians to Robinson. It has been designed to do this by supporting Robinson's annual one-day Sixth Term Examination Paper (STEP) Preparation Workshop for students in Year 12 who are interested in studying Mathematics at university. It also

recognises that many schools are poorly equipped to help offer holders prepare for the STEP examination. As such, Robinson has put together a Take the Next STEP programme for offer holders which consists of online resources and a STEP Preparation Workshop led by Dr Chris Warner and Bob Rawlinson-Mills, a local school teacher.

The programme also recognises academic excellence through the Quantum Prizes for Excellence in STEP whilst the Quantum MAST Scholarship supports students undertaking the Master of Advanced Study (MASt) in Applied Mathematics (Part III Maths).

Thanks to generous funding for Maths teaching from Dr Leigh Baxandall (Natural Sciences, 1979) Robinson was able to appoint Dr Tom Crawford as a College Teaching Officer in Mathematics for one day a week in October 2024. With support from the Quantum Fund, we were able to expand Tom's role to two days a week and a Fellowship from October 2025, which has enabled Tom to do some impressive outreach work for Maths.

Tom's key areas of focus include expanding the scope of the STEP preparations, developing Robinson's online presence in Maths and providing ongoing support to offer-holders. Tom's strong social media profile and outreach expertise (www.tomrocksmaths.com) are already attracting increased interest from prospective students for Robinson. Several of this year's applications mention either Tom or the Year 12 STEP Preparation Workshop in their personal statement or reference sections. His expanded new role at College is allowing Tom to develop further outreach activities including study days, residential workshops, and an online mentoring programme to attract high calibre Mathematics applicants to Robinson.

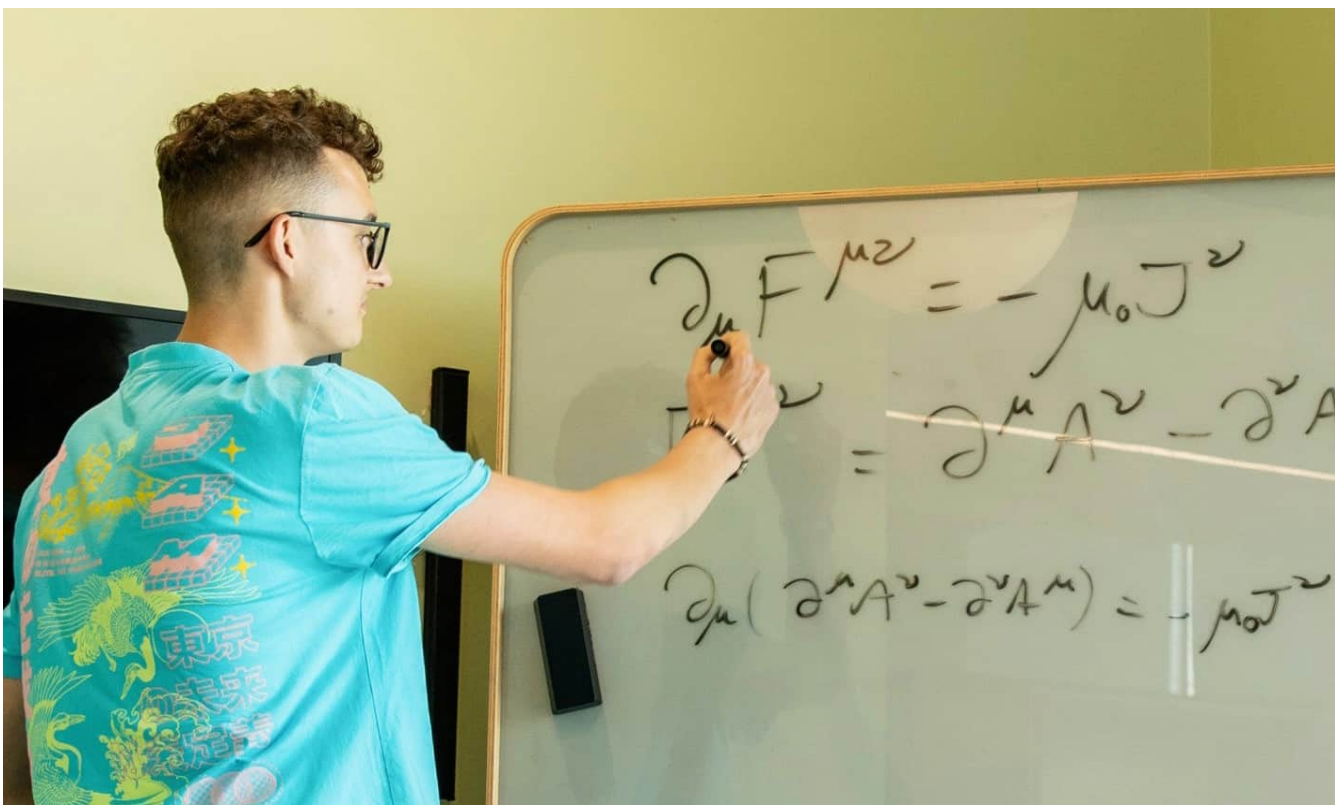
The admissions round for 2025-2026, which has just completed, was a good one for the College with 66% of our offers coming from direct applicants – at the top

end of the range for us; prior to that, in August 2025, we had strong STEP results from our Offer Holders. As well as those who made their offer conditions there were an unprecedented number of "near miss" applicants, some of whom were taken from the Summer Pool by other Colleges. So, the outlook is promising.

We are already starting to see the positive benefits of our teaching and outreach work in Maths and want to be able to continue this in the future. Over the longer term, we hope to grow the reputation of Robinson into a centre of Mathematical excellence at Cambridge University through increased awareness, excellent teaching and targeted recruitment of students.

The Quantum Fund is providing invaluable ongoing, sustainable support for this enhanced outreach and teaching role, as we work to attract high calibre candidates from under-represented groups such as women and state school students.

Thank you very much to all those donors who support this important programme. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised around £200,000 for the fund, towards our eventual goal of a £1 million endowed fund to support Maths teaching in perpetuity.



GIVING BACK: A STEP CHANGE IN MATHEMATICS

The Quantum Maths Fund was established at Robinson in 2021 following a generous gift from Mr Parm Sandhu (Mathematics, 1986), and has since attracted further philanthropic support. Parm explains what first brought him to study at Robinson – and why he chose to give back:

“I was the first person in my wider immigrant family to attend university, and the first in the thirty-one-year history of my inner-city comprehensive school to gain admission to Oxbridge. I did not perform particularly well in my common entrance exams, as they were then known, but the admissions team at Robinson saw something in me. Their decision proved to have a deep and lasting impact - not just on my life, but on the lives of many others around me. Indeed, my middle daughter later followed in her father’s footsteps and also read Mathematics at Robinson (2020).

I feel a profound sense of gratitude to the College - and that is before acknowledging my local authority which funded my entire time at university, covering both tuition fees and a full maintenance grant. I am now fortunate enough to have the means to give back and feel a strong duty to do so. Perhaps the Sikh concept of seva – selfless service to the community – from my heritage also plays a part.

Reading Mathematics was, in equal measure, humbling and deeply confidence-building. Robinson at the time had three academic Mathematics Fellows, admitted nine undergraduates each year and supported a vibrant postgraduate cohort. It was a thriving intellectual community, which only heightened the awe and wonder of sitting in chalk-and-blackboard lecture rooms, on wooden benches, often unable to follow the material – but determined to rise to it.



Mr Parm Sandhu

Being able to compare my experience with that of my daughter some thirty-four years later provided the motivation to launch The Quantum Programme and try to step change Mathematics at Robinson.

I would encourage all those who recognise any aspect of my experience - and who have the means - to consider supporting the Quantum Maths Fund, so that its work can be expanded and sustained in perpetuity, and I hope, serve as a model for other subjects at the College.”

THE BAXANDALL VISITING FELLOWSHIP – SUPPORTING NEW RESEARCH



Professor Mercy Badu

The Baxandall Visiting Fellowship was established at Robinson College in 2023 following a generous gift from Dr Leigh Baxandall (Natural Sciences, 1979). This visiting Fellowship enables outstanding scholars to undertake new research at Cambridge for one or two academic terms whilst offering them an affiliation with Robinson and College accommodation.

In addition to pursuing their new research, Baxandall Visiting Fellows become part of Robinson's rich academic community. They become immersed in College life, attending dinners with Fellows and students, contributing to the exchange of ideas, and engaging in interdisciplinary learning. Each awardee also delivers a public lecture outlining the key findings and wider significance of their research.

The first of our two Baxandall Visiting Fellows for 2024-25 was Professor Mercy Badu who specialises in organic and natural products chemistry at the Department of Chemistry at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Ghana. During her tenure at Robinson, Mercy researched how to help unlock the nutritional and medicinal potential of underutilized indigenous oilseeds in Ghana in order to address food security challenges facing the country. Mercy's research sought to characterise the bioactive compounds found in the candidate oilseeds and investigate the presence of nutrients associated with improved wellbeing and a reduction in the risk of developing chronic diseases.



Left to right: Dr Leigh Baxandall, Professor Krista Kesselring and Sir Richard Heaton

Mercy also explored the ethical and environmental benefits of the oilseeds. As her tenure drew to a close, Mercy delivered an open lecture at Robinson College to explain the impact of her research. The evening event was well attended by Robinson Fellows, students, alumni and members of the public.

Following Professor Badu's residency in Michaelmas Term 2024, we were joined by our second Baxandall Fellow of the academic year – Professor Krista Kesselring who is usually based at Dalhousie University in Canada where she teaches Early Modern English History. During her time at Robinson, Krista's research focused on the role of juries in English witch trials, drawing on previously under-examined Star Chamber records. This work also formed the basis of her Baxandall Visiting Fellowship Lecture, delivered in March 2025, which proved very popular with a wide range of people from the Robinson community and beyond.

Professor Kesselring said: "I want to thank Dr Leigh Baxandall for the generous gift that made this fellowship possible, and to also thank the entire College and Fellowship for welcoming me into such a remarkable community at Robinson. In addition to giving my open lecture, I had the opportunity to lead a workshop for History PhD students, meet with Robinson's History Society and attend many seminars and lectures. The experience was hugely rewarding on both an academic and personal level and is one that I will treasure forever."



MEDICINE AT ROBINSON

At Robinson College, we are proud of our dedicated and promising future doctors. We are enormously grateful to Dr Alex Hui (Medicine, 1988) who has generously set up an endowed fund to establish the Dr Alex Yui Hui Studentships in Medicine. This initiative is designed to provide vital support to our medical students, enabling them to pursue research placements or clinical internships during the Long Vacations in their pre-clinical years, offering an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience beyond the formal curriculum.

Following his graduation from Cambridge, Dr Hui completed his basic physician training in General Medicine in Leicester before returning to Hong Kong to complete his speciality training. He is now a specialist in Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

While Dr Hui has been a consistent donor to Robinson in general through regular gifts and a substantial contribution to the Archive Building, this new fund has allowed him to focus his philanthropy on medical education. Summer placements were not common during his time at Robinson, so he hopes that these studentships will give current students more opportunities for hands-on experience and mentorship. He believes this will enhance their studies, future training, and career development. Dr Hui also hopes that his contribution will make the College even more appealing to prospective medical students.

Reflecting on his decision to establish this scheme, Dr Hui spoke about his enduring connection to Robinson: "Despite the considerable distance between us, the bond between alumni based in Hong Kong and Robinson College remains strong thanks to the efforts of the Development Office and regular visits from the Warden."

Dr Hui also emphasised the importance of alumni giving, adding that, for a young College like Robinson which does not have a mature endowment, he believes: "such support is not only important but also deeply valued."

Dr Andrej Corovic, Director of Studies in Pre-Clinical Medicine at Robinson, said: "We are enormously grateful to Dr Hui for his vision and generosity. This scheme will allow us to financially support our medical students in broadening their experience of medical research and clinical medicine during their pre-clinical years, significantly enriching their medical training while at University."

This new fund joins the invaluable support from the Chaffield Shaw Medical Support Fund and the Fox-Nasim Bursaries, which support elective placements. Thanks to another generous donation from the Chaffield Shaw Trust, we will be able to support our medical students with the costs of their electives for at least the next five years, which is enormously helpful.

Our medical students also benefit from a number of prizes and grants that they can apply for to assist them with their studies. Additionally, Dr Bristi Basu, who is a Fellow of Robinson and Director of Studies for Part II Medicine, has very generously donated her stipend to a new general medical fund to help to provide medical resources and equipment for students.

Subject-specific funding plays a key part in student recruitment, so by delivering sustainable financial support for medical students, we will be able to continue to attract the best students and enhance the reputation of medicine at Robinson. Thank you to our donors for making this possible.

DR TERESA TIFFERT RESEARCH INNOVATION AWARDS



Dr Teresa Tiffert

The Dr Teresa Tiffert Research Innovation Awards were founded and endowed to Robinson College in 2024 by our Senior Member, Weslie Janeway, to recognise Dr Teresa Tiffert's incredible contributions to the fields of Medicine and Biosciences. Awarded annually, they provide funding for our students to expand their medical/bioscience research to produce real-world impacts.

Dr Tiffert said: "I was pleasantly surprised and deeply moved to learn of Weslie Janeway's generous contribution to Robinson College through the Research Innovation Awards. These awards create meaningful opportunities for students to advance their academic development and research pursuits. They also reflect the shared commitment of Weslie Janeway and of Robinson College to support students throughout their academic and professional journeys."

Emily Bagley (Psychological and Behavioural Sciences, 2019), one of the first beneficiaries of the Dr Tiffert Research Innovation Awards in 2024, was a guest speaker at the launch event for the awards at The Royal Society in London. Emily's research focused on the science of 'disgust' – how and why we might feel disgust around eating certain foods and/or in certain situations, tracking our patterns of behaviour around disgust, and how we might use this knowledge to help treat disorders of diet and appetite.

Emily said: "The Dr Teresa Tiffert Research Innovation Award allowed me to travel to Zurich to gain new skills and meet inspiring researchers in my field. I have since

applied these skills to discover a new property of disgust learning that will soon be published in an academic journal. I am immensely grateful for these opportunities, which will benefit not only my PhD but my career beyond it."

Our 2025 awardee was Aniket Dembi (Medicine, 2019), who used the award funding to undertake a month-long research placement in June-July 2025 at Stanford University's Hiesinger Lab, which specialises in AI-driven diagnostic tools for cardiac imaging. During this research placement Aniket worked on the development of an echocardiography model, designed to take videos of echocardiograms to generate measurements and classify heart disease.

Aniket said: "It was a privilege to spend last summer at the Hiesinger Lab, to be surrounded by people with deep computer science training, and contribute to meaningful research in this area. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity and support provided by the Dr Teresa Tiffert Research Innovation Awards. This experience was inspiring, educational, and impactful, and I look forward to seeing how it develops, as I continue contributing remotely to the lab alongside my work as a doctor."

We look forward to sharing news of the research undertaken by 2026 awardees in due course.



SUPPORTING STUDENTS ROBINSON WINGS, WELLBEING, AND BURSARIES

Over 2024-25, the College ran the first of three years in our new pilot initiative, Robinson Wings. This innovative programme emerged from our Pegasus Scholars, who noted that work that took place during the Bridging Course on building confidence and tackling 'impostor syndrome' would be useful for the entire community, throughout their studies. It also answered identified need from our increased Wellbeing provisions that more one-to-one support was essential going forward, especially around day-to-day concerns over work and the future after graduation.

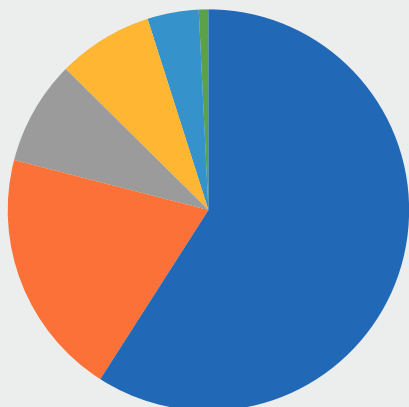
Robinson Wings has three main strands: supporting life and wellbeing, helping with career advice, and providing students with study skill development throughout their time in Cambridge. Each of these pillars is delivered through a mixture of workshops, signposting of opportunities, and one-to-one appointments, providing an overarching framework of support.

Indeed, this academic year saw a total of 860 student interactions across multiple Robinson Wings events. Highlights from the programme included a 'Boost Your Brain Day', a 'Life on One Page' workshop run by Peter Boyd of Yale, and our weekly Postgraduate Writing Retreats. The range of events and participation is a sign of the hard work of Fiona Davey, our Student Wellbeing Advisor, who has brought a real energy to her role as head of Robinson Wings – as well as our alumni, who have kindly given their time to help.

"The Life on One Page Workshop gave me time to reflect on what I have done throughout my life and mingle with people in different years and courses, and forget about exams for 2 hours which I truly appreciate." Student Feedback

Alongside these new initiatives, our Welfare Team continues to ensure students receive positive interventions at key moments; something that can make the difference between a student completing their studies, or being forced to intermit. This includes identifying ways the College as a community can be more mindful in supporting its members with disabilities. The Wellbeing Team is also delivering a programme of training sessions for College Tutors, with 2024's focus on best practice to

STUDENT SUPPORT FUND AWARDS 2024-2025.



Cambridge Undergraduate Bursary Contribution	£143,000
Hardship Bursaries (Undergraduate and Postgraduate)	£48,315
Accommodation Subsidies (including Summer Internships)	£20,332
Extracurricular and Supracurricular Activities Grants	£18,615
PhD Extension Funding	£10,000
Miscellaneous Grants	£1,873
Total	£242,135

support tutees with ADHD. This training is entirely donor funded, and simply wouldn't be possible without the generosity of our alumni and friends.

students is how invaluable your gifts are to our continued ability to provide for all those in the Robinson community who need help - we look forward to being able to continue updating you on the direct impact of your philanthropy."

"Having the wellbeing service has made a huge difference to my mental and physical health. The support that we get is very good and I would encourage more people to take advantage of it. I would say that in terms of wellbeing support, our college is definitely one of the best, and we should continue to invest in this."
Student Feedback

All of this work was greatly aided through an anonymous Legator's extremely generous bequest of £75,000 to Robinson, which was divided between a number of our Student Support priorities. This included: Hardship Bursaries, for those most in need; RCSA society budget, so that every student can have the resource to take part in activities beyond their studies; and PhD Extension Funding, to allow vital research to be completed. It was also put towards the Robinson Wings programme, matching our contribution to the Student Wellbeing Advisor role alongside the College Wellbeing Stimulus Fund. In this way, we were able to ensure our Legator's passion for helping students was continued through the work their gift enabled.

Alongside this more preventative work, we also provided grants for those in financial need through a wide variety of bursaries and awards. Over £240,000 was invested in our students, ranging from providing accommodation for those who need a safe space to live and work outside of term, to grants for books and equipment across our courses.

One of the priorities of our new Finance Tutor, Siôn Hudson (Law, 2003), is to make it easier for students to apply directly for the support they need, throughout the year. Siôn says: "The one constant to our support for

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST PEGASUS SCHOLAR GRADUATES

The Pegasus Scholars Programme was established at Robinson in 2022 to provide support for 10-12 students each year to help them make a strong start both academically and personally at Cambridge. In June 2025, we celebrated the graduation of our first cohort of Pegasus Scholars who achieved great success across a wide range of subjects including Law, Human Social and Political Sciences, English, History and Education.

Toby Wilson (Medicine, 2022), was among our first cohort of Pegasus Scholars. He attended a local state comprehensive and sixth form in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, and very much valued the extra support that the Pegasus Programme gave him to help transition to life at Cambridge. Toby says: "The Pegasus Scholars Programme allowed me to learn about College life, what it's really like to be at Cambridge, and get familiar with the environment. It was a really good way to make new friends before officially starting College and get acclimatised to the environment of Cambridge, which can be quite a culture shock."

Wahida Seisay (Education, 2022), added: "Coming to a place like Cambridge can be daunting both academically and socially but Pegasus was such a holistic programme that it helped me to feel more confident when the year officially began. Being able to deliver such an effective programme in just three weeks speaks volumes as to how well it was curated and delivered."

Dr Lizzi Rawlinson-Mills, Fellow in English and Director of Studies in Education, leads the Pegasus Scholars Programme and highlighted the impact of the scheme: "Pegasus was conceived as a bridging programme which supports students in the first weeks of their new courses. Experience of working with Pegasus Scholar Mentors over the past four years has shown me that



Pictured left to right: Toby Wilson (Medicine, 2022), Lucy Robinson-Vann (English, 2022) and Wahida Seisay (English and Education, 2022) at the Graduands' Drinks Reception in June 2025

it is in fact a much longer-term programme than that. Although not every scholar comes back as a mentor (the mentor team is half the size of the scholar cohort), those who do participate continue to benefit from the Pegasus experience as mentors and help to oversee the programme and devise a range of extracurricular/social activities alongside the introduction to academic studies."

As a former mentor for the Pegasus Scheme and a passionate advocate for inclusivity, Toby adds: "One of the really important things about Cambridge is that everyone's got their own story and their own ideas. Bringing all those different voices together allows the University to not only reflect society more generally but to benefit from a greater richness of experience and knowledge."

This impactful programme is only made possible through the generosity of our donors. Among its key supporters is our alumnus the Right Honourable Sir Nick Clegg (Archaeology and Anthropology, 1986). Sir Nick said: "I'm proud to support a scheme that gives students, whatever their background, the confidence to make the most of all the opportunities on offer to reach their full potential at Cambridge." A huge thanks to Sir Nick and all supporters of this invaluable programme which works to ensure that every student, whatever their background, has the opportunity to thrive at Robinson and at Cambridge.



@david_valinsky_photography

RENEWING ROBINSON

Work on Robinson's Grade II* Listed Estate has continued apace over 2024-2025, addressing areas that have yet to be waterproofed, and beginning a number of vital estate surveys to ensure our future work is as efficient as possible.

Over the financial year we invested more than £1 million into the Robinson buildings. Around a quarter of this went towards reactive repair work – a total we hope to decrease as more and more of the College gets brought up to standard, and work switches from intervention to maintenance.

To ensure this, a further £100,000 was put towards four major surveys: planning preventative measures, assessing drainage, evaluating the condition of the buildings, and drawing up detailed architectural records for future use. Whilst not the most glamorous job, these surveys will be crucial to plan out rolling upkeep programmes to safeguard our building's longevity for many years to come.

This year has also been our most successful in terms of waterproofing, which is where the rest of our expenditure was apportioned, with a focus on Herschel Court as well as the external parapet walls. Throughout the 2024-2025 renovations we explored a new approach to the work, and despite a stormy winter there have been no signs of leaks in these newly refurbished areas. Our new methodology sets us up well for our future, as we look to complete the last main stage of water ingress intervention in Summer 2026 with the re-laying of Front Court.

Of course, all of this wouldn't be possible without the generosity of alumni; your support helps match these expenses, freeing up reserves so that we can make sure that Robinson can not only survive, but thrive. We've received some extremely generous gifts across the estate – including during the 2024 Giving Day, where we raised almost £20,000 towards this headline. We are grateful for your support in helping us preserve our landmark red brick building, home to our outstanding academic community. Your generosity will help us to ensure that future generations of students will continue to learn, grow, and thrive here at Robinson.

Whilst the costs of our Building renovations may seem daunting, it is important to remember the difference even a small donation can make for our evolving work in this field, especially with a little innovative thinking.

An example of this in 2025 were the improvements made to lighting in the Hall, which required the replacement of a number of light fittings. Due to our Grade II* Listing, any replacement had to fit the style of the originals, which are no longer being mass produced, and our 60 light sockets would have cost £15,000 to replace. Instead, the Maintenance Team used the College's 3D Printer to produce the necessary fittings, up to both safety and heritage standards, at a fraction of the price at just £60 in total.

Donations large and small enable us to make these one-off purchases which make a huge difference to the day-to-day workings of Robinson.



@david_valinsky_photography



@david_valinsky_photography

Whilst the bricks and mortar of Robinson are extremely important, our mature and beautiful gardens – older than the College itself – were a vital part of our fundraising in 2024-2025 as well. Many of you were also generous enough to give to the Gardens in our Giving Day, and shared the stories behind your support:

So many happy memories of our time at Robinson – contributing to the Garden Fund as it holds a special place in our hearts – a calm oasis in the heart of college life.

The gardens were always special: beautifully planted and maintained, always welcoming, the perfect place for solitary reflection or picnics with friends. Still as stunning now as they were 35 years ago.

As we look towards a more sustainable future for Robinson, the tireless effort of our gardening team will be essential to ensure this ethos comes from the very heart of the College. From reuse and recycling, to encouraging biodiversity, and even encouraging students to reflect on the importance of nature in their lives, the Robinson Gardens are a crucial space for our environment.

FROM THE FINANCE BURSAR, ROSS REASON

Financial Year 2024-2025



During the year, the College recognised total income of £11.2m, a decrease of £0.8m compared with the prior year. Income from our core activities — tuition fees and the provision of accommodation and catering to students — remained broadly stable year on year. The overall reduction in income primarily reflects a £0.5m one-off donation for a capital project received in 2023-2024 that did not recur in 2024-2025.

Total expenditure increased to £13.5m in 2024-2025, up from £13.0m in 2023-2024. Cost-of-living pay increases and higher levels of maintenance costs across the estate were the main drivers of this rise. Approximately half of the College's operational expenditure relates to staff costs; as a result, even

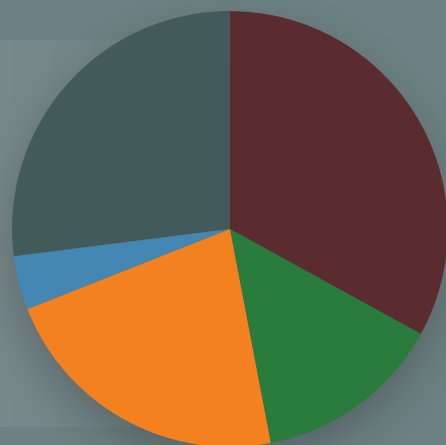
modest individual pay increases can have a material cumulative impact. This pressure is heightened by the highly competitive local employment market in which the College operates.

The audited accounts reported a total deficit before investment gains (the majority of which are unrealised) and before pension liability adjustments.

Internally, the measure we focus on to monitor our operational financial performance is the adjusted operating deficit, which excludes investment gains and includes a number of accounting adjustments as defined in our audited accounts to ensure it reflects underlying performance. For the year ended 30 June 2025 the College reported an adjusted operating deficit of £0.8m, an improvement of £0.6 million on the previous year. The aim is to return this to as close to zero as possible.

% BREAKDOWN OF UNRESTRICTED INCOME

● Accommodation & catering	33%
● Conferencing	14%
● Endowment return & investment	22%
● Unrestricted donations	4%
● Academic fees	27%





CAPITAL PROJECTS

In the 2024-2025 financial year, £1.5m of the £2.3m capital spend in the year related to the water ingress project. Post year end, the water ingress work on Herschel Court has been completed and the focus is now on Front Court and the Dining Hall roof.

The other £0.8m of capital spend in the year related to various projects to refurbish and improve key areas of the estate.



INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

Investments at our year-end of 30 June 2025 were valued at £87m, an increase of £4m on the prior year and a £24m increase over the past 5 years. This increase is net of withdrawals from the portfolio to fund operational costs during the Covid pandemic and funding of the water ingress project. The portfolio includes equity, funds, real assets, cash and other investments and is overseen by our Investment Committee which includes three alumni with a range of investment expertise whose contribution we very much appreciate. As noted later in this report, the continued growth of the portfolio is critical to the long-term financial stability of the College.



DONATIONS

During the year, the College benefitted from £1.2m* in donor support, including £0.4m of unrestricted donations that enable us to respond flexibly to areas of greatest need and to sustain core College activities.

Targeted gifts delivered significant impact across the College community. Donor funding made it possible to create and sustain teaching and research posts, providing vital early-career opportunities for emerging academics. Donor support also strengthened student wellbeing, underpinning welfare initiatives and bursary provision for students facing financial hardship, helping to ensure that financial circumstances do not become a barrier to academic success.

We are profoundly grateful to our donors. Your generosity continues to shape opportunities, support individuals at pivotal moments, and make a lasting difference to the life of the College.

** Please note that in the statutory accounts we are required to classify certain donations and pledges as income according to accounting and audit requirements. This can differ to how we report donation income for internal reporting purposes. The figures provided in this report align with our audited accounts.*

The underlying financial outlook remains broadly unchanged from prior years. The College's principle long-term financial pressure continues to stem from the limited scope for income growth, set against a cost base that is largely driven by inflationary factors.

Against this backdrop, the College's financial approach continues to centre on the following goals:

- Further development of philanthropic income, recognising that, as a comparatively young College, our alumni base is still growing.
- An increase in value of the investment portfolio, with the objective of generating long-term investment returns. Over the last 17 years the College has generated 12% a year producing six times return on money invested over that period. The College seeks out early-stage companies which the investment officer believes can generate 25% a year compounding return for 15% of its portfolio. The remaining 85% of the portfolio is invested conventionally, though with a higher weighting to cash than other endowments as the College aims to keep 3 years of cash expenditure on hand to ensure investment assets would not need to be sold in a stock market correction. It is a core belief that money given to the College should be stewarded to produce exceptional returns.
- Careful oversight of expenditure to ensure that cost growth is tightly managed and aligned with available resources.

OUR DONORS 24/25

Our donors between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025 are listed below, with thanks from the Warden, Fellows, staff and students.

- College Circle £25K to £99K
- Pegasus Circle £100K to £249K
- Warden's Circle £250K to £999K
- Council of Benefactors £1m+

1978

J D Halliday

1979

J H Annandale
L G Baxandall ●
E S Bennett
P V Broadhurst
A L McNamara
A Seale

1980

Anonymous
J H S Bacon
M C Baker
T A M Bell-Richards
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S Hotchin ●
S J Leask
J T O'Brien
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C J Prank & S L Cornick
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R A Bradbury ●
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V W T Chua & A Maximova
P G Church
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A C Edgecliffe-Johnson
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B M Bye
M R Chilton
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D S Gartland
D & E C Gee
J Hartley
V A Kapsalis

E D Kline
S MacDonald
C H Ng ●
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C W Catchpole
B Crewe
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M L Guyatt
H E C Harden
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H B Lee
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D Hirschovits
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E McGregor
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M Simpson

2010

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Udale-Smith
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L Sideris
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J C Macalister
R Mack
S Pedersen

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D V Theil
A E Whiteley

2018

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K H Kotta
Z X Wang

2019

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O I Gbede
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2020

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2021

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