

Report to Donors 2015



Murray Edwards
College
University of Cambridge



Thank you for your continuing support

In 1954, with the support of generous donors and other Cambridge Colleges, Dame Rosemary Murray set out to build an inspiring and unique college for women. So many of you continue to build on those foundations by supporting us both financially and with your time - we are truly thankful.

Every gift the College receives makes a direct difference to all who come here to learn, teach or work. Most importantly, by continuing to support us you are helping to educate and encourage our young women to achieve their potential and make a difference to others.

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the buildings on Huntingdon Road and our Grade II listed buildings are starting to show their age. In the coming year we will be fundraising to complete vital refurbishment and renovation of the East and West wings of Orchard Court. This is where most of our students live during their time here, so it is essential we improve the current living conditions we offer.

You may have seen the announcement last October of the launch of Cambridge University's £2bn fundraising campaign. As part of this, Murray Edwards College will launch our campaign in spring 2016. Everything the College raises will directly benefit our community, while also counting towards the University's campaign target.



Student Sheralyn Loh (2013) used Gateway Challenges Funding to complete a placement in the Department of Psychology

Cover image: Student Qi Ou (2012) at last year's Donor Garden Party.

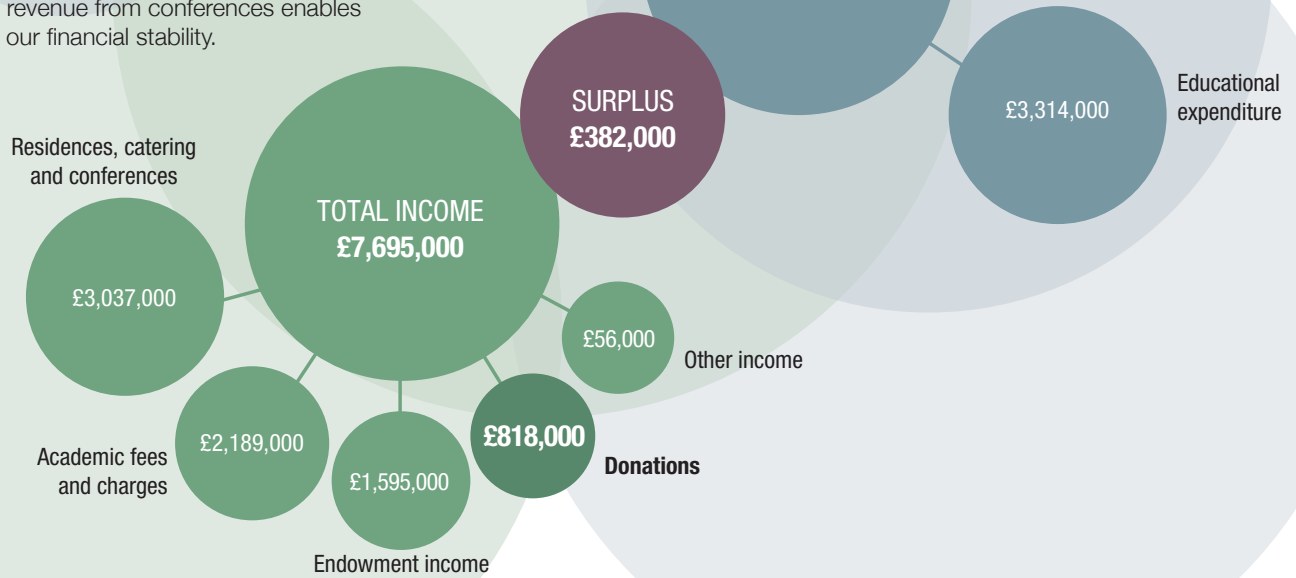
Qi received funding from the Rosemary Murray Travel Award to travel to China and undertake a geological mapping project.

Income and expenditure

This year, our alumnae, friends and supporters gave a total of **£818,000**.

Your support enables us to provide a world-class education to women from all backgrounds.

This in addition to income from our endowment and increased revenue from conferences enables us to maintain our financial stability.



Your support in numbers

£1,178,410
has been given
this year or pledged
for future years

92%
of our Final year
students graduated
with a First or a 2:1

£75,338
of your support
was awarded to
148 students

28
Graduate students
received Research
Grants

90%
of our students
connect to over 1000
devices using WiFi, which
was installed using
donations to the College
Priorities Fund

36
students received
Blues funding

812
alumnae made
a gift in the last
financial year

121
alumnae have
pledged to leave a
legacy gift to
the College

9
students received
Language course
scholarships

53
students qualified for
a Rosemary Murray
Award (given to those
achieving Firsts)

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As a veterinary student I have six years of study to fund, including equipment and work experience placement costs, as well as the usual living expenses. I extend my greatest thanks to the donors of the Rosemary Murray Fund, which has provided me with a bursary this year. The financial security means that I am free to focus on my studies and fully enjoy College life.

Tamsin Hichens
(2013, Veterinary Sciences)

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Thank you for giving me the chance to complete a placement in the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge. During my time there, I learned how to grow crystals of a high temperature superconductor, namely of Yttrium barium copper oxide. Working on this research project was a great and enjoyable experience, and has encouraged me to apply for a PhD position. Without the award, I would have been unable to work on the project.

Maria Kiourlappou
(2012, Psychological & Behavioural Sciences)

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Thank you

Your continued support has enabled us to increase the level of student funding for cases of hardship, support for travel grants and academic purposes. It has also enabled us to appoint a new Law Fellow, Odette Murray, who joined the College in October 2015.

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I was delighted to join Murray Edwards as a new College Lecturer in Law. I supervise Tort Law for our first years, and International Law for second years and am also Director of Studies for first and second years. My appointment brings the total number of Law Fellows to four, which will allow us to offer in-house supervision in three of the four first year subjects, as well as a number of popular second year electives and EU Law in the third year.

Odette Murray
College Lecturer in Law

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The Gateway Challenges Fund has helped me plan and undertake an independent trip to Germany. It was my first time planning a trip completely on my own and gave me a chance to practise German in more formal situations. Until now I've been too scared to travel somewhere where I'm not fluent in the local language. Thank you for giving me the chance to do something like this and grow as a person, little steps lead to big steps.

Jana Hueppe
(2013, Natural Sciences)

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Restoring our buildings

This year, your gifts have enabled us to make several improvements to the environment of the College, which directly affects our current students. With your help, we have been able to install WiFi throughout our buildings and refurbish key public rooms.

Improvements in Orchard Court include new curtains, heaters and floor coverings. These changes may seem small, but they make the student rooms a brighter and more welcoming space to study and call home. The Fellows Drawing Room and Senior Common Room have had a full makeover, with new artwork, refreshed upholstery and soft furnishings, along with a full technical upgrade of heating, lighting, electricity, plumbing and a new fire alert system.



Renovated Senior Common Room (SCR)



Refurbished Fellows Drawing Room

Similar crucial refurbishments have been completed in the Fellows Offices located in Fountain Court South, ensuring a comfortable working space for teaching and supervisions.

The Graduate Dining Room has been renovated and is now completely transformed into a warm teaching space used by Fellows for supervisions with our students. It has also been renamed The Stevenson Room in honour of the late Christopher Stevenson, who was Bursar of the College from 1990 until 1997.

Telephone campaign

Our annual telephone campaign took place in September 2015. This year 13 students were on the calling team and between them they were able to speak to 507 of our alumnae, who very generously gave a total of £210,313.

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I was delighted to receive a call from Angela and have the opportunity to reminisce about my time at College, swap amusing stories and to discuss the issues currently facing our young women. The importance of these calls cannot be underestimated, for me this is one way I can remain connected to the College community, while directly impacting the leaders of tomorrow.

Anne von Guionneau (1978)

I joined the telephone campaign so I could talk to different women with lots of different experiences. I have an idea what I want for my career, but I have a lot of worries about being a woman in my twenties and what it means for my career. Asking alumnae to be involved in the mentoring scheme for women aged 25-30 and hearing about how they navigate careers and family made me feel like I was making an impact.

Sreelekshmi Rajeswari (2014)

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Each day of calling would come with both hilarious stories and fond memories of times in College, and through these it was easy to see that despite numerous changes since the Silver Street years, the fundamental ethos and community atmosphere of the College I have grown to love so much has remained the same.

Eileen Chen (2014)

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Student callers taking part in the 2015 telephone campaign

Legacy giving – a gift for the future



Have you considered leaving a gift to the College in your will? This type of support is invaluable to our mission and sustains our commitment to provide outstanding education for future generations of women. The College's charitable status means you can also reduce the rate paid on your inheritance tax.

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Valerie Galpin (NH 1978) explains her reasons for remembering Murray Edwards College in her will:

John and I decided long ago that, as we have no children, we would make our wills entirely to charitable organisations. We believed that education is the primary source by which society can be improved. The minority of women, who today are becoming leaders in their chosen sectors, are clearly demonstrating a different kind of leadership from that which we have become used to over the centuries. Our world needs educated women as a matter of urgency. Murray Edwards is a leading force on this front.

I was so lucky that Dame Rosemary took a gamble on me and my time at New Hall provided me with a fundamental change in my life view which has stood me in good stead subsequently. There are other women not so fortunate and it is for these women that we wish to make a bequest, to enable them to benefit from the philosophy, structure and support of Murray Edwards College and so contribute to a better world vision.

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If you would like further information on leaving a legacy gift, please contact us.

Roma Gill (middle row, left) left the College the royalties from her Oxford School Shakespeare publications, the income from these funds the Roma Gill Fellow in English.



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