



# TRINITY

The Dame Hilary Boulding  
Graduate Scholarship



Trinity College, Oxford



## RECOGNISING A TRANSFORMATIONAL PRESIDENCY

To mark Dame Hilary's time as President and in recognition of her remarkable commitment to Trinity and its community, the college has launched a scholarship, which aims to give generations of exceptional students an opportunity to use their talents to make a positive impact on the world.

**T**he focus on the college as a community has been a constant throughout Dame Hilary's presidency, as has her commitment to improving the experience of Trinity for all.

Under her leadership, the college has boosted its public profile; greatly enriched its outreach programme; more than doubled the numbers of graduates living on site; created a wealth of opportunities for academic and personal development, and taken practical measures to reduce its carbon footprint and boost biodiversity across its estate.

There have been physical transformations too. The Levine

Building will inspire learning and nurture the personal growth of students for generations to come, and a striking refurbishment of the Hall, kitchen and SCR has enhanced, modernised and conserved much-loved historic spaces.

The creation of a new scholarship in Dame Hilary's name will enable Trinity and Oxford to attract outstanding applicants, and provide funding to allow the holder to make the most of the opportunities available here. At her request, it will support graduates working in the Humanities, with a preference, where possible, for those studying Music.

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I am thrilled and honoured that the college has decided to launch an appeal to establish a graduate scholarship in my name.

Graduate students make an exceptional contribution to the academic and community life of Trinity. They engage in a wide span of research—as evidenced by their (always stimulating) termly research showcase—and contribute significantly to the undergraduate experience, from mentoring and providing wise counsel, to serving as Junior Deans.

As a predominantly international community, they bring a wide range of perspectives and prior experiences, all of which enrich us socially and academically. Their impact has become even more tangible since we have been able to offer accommodation on site to every first-year graduate who requests it.

*Music helps to bind us as a community and we look to our students studying music to "make things happen".*

designated for students working in the Humanities—and, no surprises here—with a preference for Music.

Music helps to bind us as a community and we look to our students studying music to ‘make things happen’. Thanks to our benefactors, we have wonderful music facilities at Trinity—this scholarship will help us to ensure we're able to attract and support the most talented students to benefit from them.



For many students wishing to pursue graduate study, finding the funding immediately after completing their undergraduate degree is a huge challenge, particularly for those researching within the Humanities, where funding is so limited. For that reason, I have asked for this new graduate scholarship to be

Hilary

Dame Hilary Boulding DBE

The Trinity MCR is a relatively small community, which makes it easy to get to know people, and connect on a meaningful level. It includes students from so many different backgrounds that every time I meet people in the dining hall, I think I learn something new.

As a law student, for example, I would have never expected that I would write a song with a theoretical physicist about how much one would give to help another. But that is the type of serendipity that characterises my time here, and I have met students studying completely different courses, who have changed my life.

Hilary has been a constant source of support. Throughout my time here, she has been proactive in thinking about the needs of students and is always happy to make time to speak—no matter how big or small an issue.

Raza Nazar (2023) DPhil

Jeffrey Abbott Scholar & MCR President (2024-25)



I didn't know the impact meeting Hilary would have on my life when I first came to Oxford. Her commitment to her students and the college is infectious and encourages everyone to get more involved. Through her inspiring a sense of self-belief that each person should achieve their full potential, I gained the confidence to apply for different things, including running for MCR President.

Hilary knows everyone in Trinity and takes the time to develop networking links that she knows instinctively will click and create a dynamic synergy. I am very grateful to have been a student during her presidency.

Trinity does a really good job of assisting graduates with funding, enabling many to take up places that otherwise would not be possible. Supporting talent through a Humanities Scholarship is a fabulously fitting way of honouring Hilary.

Ishbel Henderson (2021) DPhil

MCR President (2022-23)



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## THE COST OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Lack of funding continues to be the principal reason that offer-holders for graduate courses are forced to withdraw. This is a loss to the college, the University, and the wider community.

Fees for graduate studies vary hugely and are especially high for international students. As a guide, the table below shows the fees for a postgraduate in Music starting in 2025-26. They will also have to budget for annual living costs of around £20,000.

Course	Duration	Annual Course Fees (UK)	Annual Course Fees (Overseas)
Master's	1 year	£16,900	£41,250
DPhil	3 years	£13,380	£34,980

Funding for graduate studies in the Humanities has seen a significant decline in recent years. With the generous support of its benefactors, the college has worked to bridge the growing gap in funding. This scholarship presents an opportunity to extend the college's support for graduate students and further its contribution to the world-leading research of the University.



Research in the Humanities transforms the world by helping us to understand our past in new ways, to analyse the present in all its complexity, and to approach the future with curiosity, insight and empathy.

When we fund graduate scholarships in the Humanities, we generate new ways of thinking about history, culture, language, and what it means to be human—and we also invest in the people who carry out that research. We help to develop researchers who will go on not only to be the academics of the future, but who will also carry the influence of this University into their work in myriad different sectors: the arts, government, business, teaching, technology, and more.

We at Trinity could not be prouder of our graduate students, and we are deeply grateful for the support that our Old Members and Friends offer them by funding graduate scholarships.

Dr Rebecca Bullard  
Senior Tutor



Sadly, I am now approaching the end of my time at Trinity. At a time when departments, funding opportunities, and resources in the Humanities are shrinking, it has been a privilege to be able to undertake a DPhil.

My doctoral degree was only possible due to funding from the college. Needless to say, I was delighted that my sole opportunity would take place in a world-leading research environment. I had not expected, however, such an attentive and warm environment in college. The MCR has been supportive and endlessly welcoming. And despite the demands of her role as President, Hilary always found time to ask me about my work and signpost me to opportunities and events that interest me.

Hamish Pottinger (2021) DPhil  
Cecil Lubbock Scholar



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## THE FUNDRAISING GOAL

The level of support that the scholarship can offer will depend on the amount that is raised. The diagram below demonstrates the level of funding that will be needed from benefactors to create a range of grants leading to the creation of a lasting endowment, which would cover the full costs of any DPhil. The college wishes to create an endowment, so that the scholarship can be awarded in perpetuity.

These circles represent the amounts needed to award the scholarship as a one-off grant. At these levels, the scholarship would cover the costs of a single student. It would not be awarded in future years.



These circles represent the amounts needed to create an endowment. At these levels, the money would be invested and the income used to award the scholarship in perpetuity.



Trinity's MCR has given me more than I can put into words. As an international student, finding such a diverse and welcoming community was key. The environment here, full of stimulating conversations over meals, introduced me to fascinating people and led to lasting friendships. I felt so grateful that I naturally wanted to give back, serving as MCR Social Secretary and then Academic Rep, building bridges between the MCR, JCR, SCR, and staff.



Trinity's real strength lies in its commitment to creating a supportive community where diversity is an asset. Hilary set this tone from the start, showing genuine interest in my life, culture, and studies. I still remember her saying, 'make sure that on your way to the lab, you stop by Trinity.' I did just that, and it brought me countless memorable experiences and connections that will stay with me long after my time here.

Manfredi Castelli (2021) DPhil

As a Brit, expressing my feelings does not come all that naturally to me, so, when I say that being part of Trinity's MCR has been one of my most treasured experiences, I sincerely mean it. Receiving the Judge Meron Scholarship has not only enabled me to pursue the research I enjoy, but has also welcomed me into a vibrant, supportive and intellectually fulfilling community. Trinity MCR feels like home, with rich friendships, diverse research interests and a shared respect for one another.



Judge Meron is inspiring both as an academic and judge, and deeply generous and charismatic on a personal level. Our President shares these admirable qualities. Her leadership and warmth have shaped the sense of community that makes Trinity so special. I feel incredibly grateful to Dame Hilary, Judge Meron, and Trinity for creating such a supportive environment that celebrates both academic rigor and lasting friendships.

Jo Helme (2022) DPhil  
Judge Meron Scholar

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## MAKING AN IMPACT OVER TIME

Donations, at all levels, make a significant impact, especially when given regularly and added to those made by other benefactors.

**125** donors giving **£10.00\*** per month, for three years, would raise **£56K** & **fully fund a Master's student.**

**146** donors giving **£15.00\*** per month, for three years, would raise **£98K** & **fully fund a DPhil student.**

**200** donors giving **£25.00\*** per month, for three years, would raise **£225K** & create an **endowment** that would enable the scholarship to **cover half the fees of a DPhil in perpetuity.**

**550** donors giving **£75.00\*** per month, for three years, would raise **£1.8M** & create an **endowment** that would enable the scholarship to **fully fund a DPhil**, at the highest level, **in perpetuity.**

*\*with gift aid*

Being part of Trinity's MCR has been transformative. What makes our community so special is how we've grown, not just in numbers, but in the strength of our friendships and connections. Unlike many colleges, Trinity offers most graduates the chance to live on-site, creating a community that's become known across Oxford for its warmth and cohesion. Trinity has become our living room, hosting everything from weekly drinks, to the MCR Academic Showcase.



Hilary has been instrumental in fostering this environment—she knows us by name, attends our events, and truly listens to our needs.

As someone benefiting from Trinity's graduate financial support, I've seen first-hand how crucial scholarships are. They're not just funding, they're also votes of confidence in our academic potential and ensure that we can fully participate in Trinity's and Oxford's intellectual community.

Catharina Savelkoul (2022) DPhil  
MCR President (2023-24)

One of the great things about being a student at Trinity is the academic diversity that the college encompasses. The ability to chat and collaborate alongside students and academics from a range of disciplines is fascinating, and so much can be learnt from even a brief discussion over lunch in Hall.



The MCR is an incredibly friendly and welcoming community, which supports students both socially and academically.

In the last year, we have been fortunate to be involved in a range of activities including the academic showcase, gaudy celebrations, and even the revived MCR vs SCR annual cricket match!

Hilary's tenure as President has been characterised by a genuine warmth, care, and interest towards all students, and an ambition to improve opportunities for all. Hilary has made Trinity a welcoming community and home for us all.

Jack Warburton (2022) DPhil  
Christie Miller Scholar



## MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION

The college invites its 5,500 Old Members and Friends to recognise Dame Hilary's remarkable commitment to Trinity by giving generations of exceptional graduate students an opportunity to use their talents to make a positive impact on the world.

Every donation will bring the appeal a step closer to its target and put the college in a strong position to forge funding partnerships within the University.

Those wishing to support the scholarship are encouraged to consider the possibility of making a regular gift over a period of time. The table below demonstrates the impact of monthly donations made over a three-year period.

Donations, at all levels, will be gratefully received and help to make a significant difference to the lives of Trinity students. Thank you.

Monthly donation	Value to Trinity with Gift Aid*	Value to Trinity after three years	Net Cost to UK taxpayer (40%)
£10.00	£12.50	£450.00	£270.00
£15.00	£18.75	£675.00	£405.00
£25.00	£31.25	£1,125.00	£675.00
£50.00	£62.50	£2,250.00	£1,350.00
£75.00	£93.75	£3,375.00	£2,025.00
£100.00	£125.00	£4,500.00	£2,700.00

*\*The Gift Aid scheme allows the college to claim back the basic-rate tax on gifts made by UK taxpayers. Higher rate tax payers can also reclaim the difference between basic rate (20%) and higher rates (40% or 45%).*

## DONATION FORM

From within the UK, please return to: FREEPOST TRINITY COLLEGE  
From outside the UK: Alumni & Development Office, Trinity College,  
Oxford, OX1 3BH UK OR go to [www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/make-gift](http://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/make-gift)

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*\*Important information on the use of your data overleaf.*

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To make a gift by bank transfer, please see the information overleaf.

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*giftaid it*

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FUNDRAISING  
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### Setting up a regular donation

UK Donors: please go online to [www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/make-gift](http://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/make-gift) or request a standing order form by contacting the Alumni & Development Office.

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### Making a gift by bank transfer

Please use the bank details on this page to make a transfer into the college's account. To help identify your gift, please use your surname as the payment reference and notify the Alumni & Development Office of the transfer.

Account name: Trinity College Development Fund  
Account Number: 50901725  
Sort Code: 20-65-26  
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MCR Ceilidh - January 2025

For further details about the scholarship or making a donation, please contact the Alumni & Development Office.



**By email on:**

[development@trinity.ox.ac.uk](mailto:development@trinity.ox.ac.uk)



**By phone on:**

+44 (0)1865 279889



**Or in writing at:**

Alumni & Development Office, Trinity College, Broad Street,  
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We are grateful to all those whose photographs are included in the brochure,  
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