



Dear St Crossers,

Where you would ordinarily hear from the Master of the College, or its Development Director, this year's Appeal comes from a fellow St Crosser. It is a great honour to have been asked to speak to you. As the College is celebrating its 60th Anniversary, I am vividly reminded of my experience at St Cross, where I found a home away from home, a place where I would learn and also form true and lasting friendships.



Last spring, I was able to visit Oxford again for the first time in many years. To my surprise and joy, I found that so much has changed — yet the College feels the same. It has retained familiar enthusiasm and excitement, its sense of community. The St Cross spirit is international, welcoming, and comforting. It allows you to connect with people from all over the world. I treasure the kindness, curiosity, and collaboration that have been defining traits of our College from its earliest days.

60 years is a long time for a person, but St Cross is a very young College when compared to others within the University of Oxford. The meaning of that is two-fold: on the one hand, St Cross does not have funds acquired over the course of centuries. On the other hand, we as St Crossers have an incredible opportunity to influence the present and future of our alma mater.

This anniversary year is a special time to give. As you will have read in previous e-mails, the College is being supported by a generous donor who will match every new donation received by St Cross during the current academic year. All single gifts will be doubled in value, while for new regular (monthly, quarterly, annual) gifts, the full value of the first year of the donation will be tripled. That means if you donate \$100, the College will receive \$200 in total. If you donate \$100 per year, the College will receive \$300.

While we can give to any cause at St Cross (with the key Campaign Causes listed below), the matching donor's support will build up a new Community Bursary. Those Bursaries reward students' community involvement, leadership and entrepreneurship, and the awardees have done some fantastic work.

My own journey as a St Cross donor is part of my experience of being a St Crosser. Back when I was a student at the College, I received a grant that allowed me to travel to London and back as many times as my research demanded. While the grant did not cover a great distance, it was of great import to me.

It is impossible to overstate the value of every gift, the ways a donation can change a student's life, and what kinds of future possibilities it can open. This year, with every dollar being matched and so going further, even a modest donation will make a difference.

If you have any questions about the 60th Anniversary Campaign or donating to St Cross, please write to the Development team at development@stx.ox.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1865 278 467. All gifts will be gratefully received.

With wishes for a good holiday season,

Jessica Sack

Jessica Sack
(1996, MPhil Ethnology and Museum Ethnography)

Make a gift

Graduate Scholarships



This year, St Cross is home to 689 students from 73 countries, reading 208 different degrees. This diversity is integral to the College ethos and reflects our founding mission: to expand academic opportunity.

Students today face substantial financial pressures, with living costs and fees continuing to rise. The annual cost of most graduate degrees for an international student amounts to ca. £55,000. Indeed, successful applicants cite 'finances' as the most common reason for refusing a place at Oxford.

Scholarships are key to confronting this challenge, helping us ensure that talented students aren't deterred from coming to St Cross because of the costs. And we are particularly eager to preserve and expand [scholarship support for students from Africa](#) (click and scroll down for details).

If 150 alumni each give \$100 per year, this will create an annual scholarship.

CrossLinks

The College is a place where brilliant minds come together. Our academic lectures, common spaces and dining facilities provide a forum for people to connect and engage across disciplines. We are a cauldron of ideas – and crucially – all our Common Rooms are shared, creating an environment where students and academics can converse as equals.



The [CrossLinks project](#) aims to convert the ideas exchanged in this very special environment into impactful projects. It will provide dedicated funding for St Cross students and early career researchers to undertake exciting interdisciplinary research, which will push the boundaries of academic endeavour and serve the common good.

If 60 alumni each give \$50, this will create a CrossLinks grant worth \$3,000.

Buildings & the College Environment



Although St Cross started as a small College with only 5 students, we now have more than 600 at any one time. Given the size of our St Giles site (which can house only 11% of our students), we need to invest in new premises. We also follow a regular programme of improvements to the College estate, including projects to bolster environmental efficiency.

St Cross aims to provide all its members with the best facilities possible, and the [significance of philanthropy](#) for this goal cannot be underestimated. We moreover have exciting plans to expand into Wellington Square!

All gifts towards our Buildings & College Environment will make an impact. To find out more about our exciting plans for renovating and expanding the St Cross site, please [contact us](#).

Area of Greatest Need

Unrestricted gifts are always welcome and will protect St Cross' core activities. By donating in this way, you will give us the opportunity to allocate your support flexibly to the areas where it will have the greatest impact. Our current priorities include bolstering the financial support we can provide for students, enhancing our buildings and facilities, and increasing the College endowment.



While our endowment has grown recently to c. £26.7m, it remains one of the smallest of all the Oxford colleges. A larger endowment will help us to cover more of our expenditure independently, and thereby, offer more funding, better facilities and greater opportunities for all St Crossers.

Make a gift



Your data and privacy

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