



Development & Alumni Relations Report

Milos Martinov

IT HAS BEEN AN HONOUR to lead the Development Office during St Cross' 60th anniversary year. The Development team and I have been heartened by the enthusiasm of our alumni and friends, who have attended events around the world, mentored students, celebrated achievements in our publications, and sustained all aspects of College life through donations.

We are delighted to report that St Crossers have collectively raised over £1,160,000 in new funds during the 2025–26 financial year – more than double the amount raised in the previous year. 234 people made donations, an increase of over 20% compared to 2024–25. It has been wonderful to see our community come together to support a range of causes, including our general fund (for areas of greatest need), scholarships, bursaries, buildings, interdisciplinary research, and the History and Philosophy of Physics (HAPP) centre. The College is enormously grateful.

We would like to express particular thanks to our late Founding Fellow Dennis Britton, who left a significant legacy towards future generations at the College. We also extend special thanks to Career Essentials Inc (2005) and Domus Fellow David Scrymgeour, whose second matching gift campaign in under a year inspired many donations. It was marvellous to see this campaign completed well before the September 2026 deadline.



A lively St Cross gathering at The University Club of San Francisco, 6th November 2025.

On the scholarship funding side, we are especially grateful to Lanna Cheng, Tonia Cope Bowley, Paul Hodgetts, Plumer Management Ltd, KT Soo, and Anne Vandenabele. Doug Wigdor's generosity towards the Professionals in Residence programme is a continued source of inspiration, and it was wonderful to see the CrossLinks initiative launched thanks to support from Jiannan Zhang and other alumni. CrossLinks was conceived by former Research Fellow Ricardo Marquez Gomez and his colleague Oktay Cetinkaya to encourage interdisciplinary research at St Cross.

It was a joy to celebrate the 60th anniversary at more than 20 events throughout the year, to which we welcomed hundreds of people. The year started with the Anniversary Opening Celebration in College, featuring a special exhibition and panel discussion on the history of St Cross, alongside a commemorative dinner in Hall. Staples of the annual

calendar, such as Fred's Lunch, were complemented by events in London, Boston, San Francisco, Hong Kong, Singapore, Cambridge, Manchester and Munich. Thank you to Rana Mitter at Harvard, the Oxford North California Society, the Oxford China Office and our sister college Clare Hall for their support with our events.

It has been wonderful to see our community come together to support a range of causes.

We were privileged to host Nick English, co-founder of Bremont Watches, and alumnus Chris Ferguson, Ad Gefrin's Founding Museum Director, as Professionals in Residence. And we are grateful to alumni career mentors Alexandra Kasseri, Marten Krijgsman and Soraya Weill for sharing their expertise with students as part of the Career Crossroads panel.



The St Cross dinner at Soho House in Hong Kong, 21st March 2026.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to the College's 60th Anniversary Closing Celebration (18th–20th September), which promises to be a truly memorable occasion.



The Development team (L to R): Ben Gladstone, Savi Joglekar, Milos Martinov, Julia Aslet, James Brazier

It was a continued delight to keep our community connected through the termly e-newsletter and an anniversary edition of *Crossword* magazine, which contained special features on the College's early days on St Cross Road, our colours and symbols, and the history of our joint rowing enterprise with Wolfson.

All of the work we do is deeply collaborative, and I would like to conclude by paying tribute to the Development team, and all College staff and volunteers, for helping to deliver a truly magnificent Development and Alumni Relations programme in our 60th anniversary year. Onwards, St Cross!

Milos Martinov
Development Director