On behalf of the entire Fellowship, may I thank you sincerely for making a gift to Lucy Cavendish College in 2019-20. Your signal of support for our renewed mission – especially during an academic year so disrupted by the pandemic – was indeed most welcome.

Since our foundation as a college for mature women, philanthropy has played a vital part in providing opportunities for marginalised or under-represented students to study at Cambridge. The support of our alumnae and friends is just as crucial now as we enter the second chapter of our history.

Although they already have radical ideas, motivation and the academic potential to thrive here, outstanding students from under-represented backgrounds still, far too often, do not consider applying to Cambridge, believing it could never be for the ‘likes of them’.

Thanks to your generosity, Lucy is now extending its engagement with these potential applicants, providing many more places for them at Cambridge and supporting them to succeed. Every outreach initiative, bursary, and opportunity for personal, academic or professional development funded through philanthropy, will help to level the playing field for these students, such that they can all make the most of what Cambridge has to offer, obtain excellent academic results, and realise their career ambitions.

In October 2020, your support enabled us to welcome, for the first time, women undergraduates aged 18, as we moved swiftly to assist those whose results had been affected by the UK Government’s changes of decision on grading during the summer. These students are predominantly from widening participation backgrounds. The College has accordingly exceeded the University’s average for admission from state schools and from under-represented groups as a result. In turn, this means that we are already well on the way to achieving our access targets. And fair access, inclusion and academic excellence remain at the heart of our mission as we admit students of all genders aged 18 and above from October 2021.

Thanks to your ongoing support, Lucy Cavendish will become the only Cambridge college broadly representative of UK society by the middle of the decade, and our students will graduate to become future leaders in society, equipped to tackle the most pressing issues facing our planet and humankind.

A very busy but bright future lies ahead of us – thank you for the invaluable part you are playing to make it possible.

Madeleine S. Atkins
PROFESSOR DAME MADELEINE ATKINS
9TH PRESIDENT OF LUCY CAVENDISH COLLEGE

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The Year in Numbers

£634,000 raised from 240 donors

£4.21 raised for every £1 spent on fundraising

86 Regular Givers (Direct Debit or standing order donors)

£35.46 Average regular gift from Direct Debit donors

Supporters in 19 different countries donated

23 alumnae and supporter events held across the year with over 1100 participants

63 alumnae and friends volunteered their time

120 (or 4.9%) of contactable alumnae made a gift

107 non-alumnae supporters made a gift

13 Trusts, Foundations, Corporations and Organisations made a gift

102 people have pledged to remember Lucy in their wills (as of 1 November 2020)

82 supporters gave to Lucy for the first time
Your Impact in Numbers

- We ran our first fully inclusive Bridging Week for 54 first year undergraduates.
- 74 undergraduate students received financial support from Lucy Cavendish.
- 88 postgraduate students received financial support from Lucy Cavendish.
- 1 new Dr Leigh Stoeber Studentship for a student on the MSt Social Innovation course.
- 2 jointly funded Rowan Williams Studentships for two MPhil students who come from conflict zones.
- 41 (or 8.4%) of Lucy students received Hardship funding.
- 65 students received Prizes rewarding their academic or sporting success, or contribution to College life.
- 18 students received awards from the Dr Lindsey Traub Sports Fund.
- 33 students received support to help cover costs of conferences and travel relevant to their courses of study.
- 37 Outreach and Recruitment events held (virtual or in person).
- 30 eighteen-year-old women, many of whom were from widening participation backgrounds, welcomed to the Lucy student community in response to the Covid-19 A-levels results crisis.
- 368 entries to Essay Competitions from Year 12 pupils nationwide.
- 34 Academic Skills Workshops run.
- 378 books purchased for the Library collection.
- 97% of ‘classed’ students achieved a 1st or 2.1.
- 493 direct undergraduate applicants to Lucy Cavendish for October 2021 entry.
- Lucy won Gold at the Green Impact Awards for promoting sustainability and environmentally friendly practices at the College.
- £9854 unlocked by the Lucy Community during the first year of the Harding Challenge.

The Harding Challenge

Gifts from first-time Lucy donors towards student support in 2019–20 unlocked a matching contribution to a special University fund established through the generosity of David and Claudia Harding. This fund will in the future support bursaries for students from low-income backgrounds including those at Lucy Cavendish. Going forwards, gifts in support of students from those who have not made a gift since July 2018, or those who made an eligible gift in 2019–20, will also be eligible to unlock Harding Challenge contributions.
Claire (MPhil Nuclear Engineering, 2019) received an award from Emeritus Fellow Dr Lindsey Traub’s Sports Fund to help with the costs of swimming at the University level, enriching her Cambridge experience. The award enabled Claire to attend a week-long training camp in Lanzarote before the start of Lent Term. Claire attained a Full Blue for Swimming, having beaten her counterparts from Oxford. She now holds eight of the women’s University records, having achieved numerous lifetime bests, and made the finals at the British University and Colleges National Swimming Competition against some of the GB team from other Universities.

“Participating in sport to such a high level throughout my academic life means I have developed excellent time management skills, the ability to work both within a team but also push myself as an individual, and sport has made me very disciplined, self-driven and competitive. Most of all I love the attitude and friendships formed within the team; my teammates at Cambridge are amazing people and very welcoming, they have definitely made my year at Cambridge a lovely experience. I am so grateful for the support I received during my time at Lucy Cavendish!”

Humaira (MPhil Public Policy, 2019) received the Rowan Williams and Lucy Cavendish College Scholarship funded jointly by the Cambridge Trust and the generosity of donors to Lucy Cavendish. The Scholarship was established to support students facing severe barriers in coming to study in Cambridge, particularly those from precarious and dangerous conflict zones. Humaira lives in Afghanistan where she is Policy Adviser for a USAID programme which includes developing government agencies’ policies in favour of women. Her studies at Cambridge will assist Humaira to reach her long-cherished career goals to rise as a leader in Afghanistan and actively contribute to its policy-making process. One of her immediate ambitions upon completion of her studies is to establish a policy research organisation to provide briefs and proposals to the Afghan government.

Humaira finds the Rowan Williams and Lucy Cavendish College Scholarship immensely enabling as she said:

“I fall short of words to thank the Cambridge Trust and Lucy Cavendish College for their generous support. For me the Rowan Williams and Lucy Cavendish College Scholarship is not just a scholarship; it is a saviour and the main contributor in turning my dream of studying at Cambridge into reality. There are very few faces who have made it from Afghanistan to Cambridge, and I owe the Rowan Williams and Lucy Cavendish College Scholarship for adding my name into that list. It will be very inspiring to see how this scholarship will enable more people from Afghanistan and other conflict zones to join Cambridge and rise from the ashes!”
Why I’ve left a gift to Lucy in my will

“I attended Lucy Cavendish College from 1973 to ’78. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Lucy, training as a veterinary surgeon; it was probably one of the very best things that ever happened to me!

Over the course of my life at Lucy, and regularly since, Lucy has demonstrated to me over and again how it cares for all its students, past and present. As much as I can, I’ve felt that I should really support Lucy Cavendish financially - whenever and however one could. It’s very, very important that we try and help those who’ve helped us and I feel that there really is no other institution at all that could possibly have helped me and influenced a very happy professional and personal life in the way that Lucy did.

As Lucy embarks on its renewed mission, I take heart that by leaving a gift to Lucy in my will, I will continue to assist my college in supporting thousands of deserving students long into the future.”

DR JANE HASTIE (NEE NIXON) VETERINARY MEDICINE, 1973

Anna Bidder Society
Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge

Founded to celebrate the commitment of those who so generously pledge legacy gifts to Lucy Cavendish, the Anna Bidder Society meets regularly with Society President (and Former College President and Honorary Fellow) Baroness Pauline Perry of Southwark. All those who pledge gifts in their will are invited to join the society and to attend regular gatherings and events in college.

Society President Baroness Pauline Perry comments:

“My sincere thanks to all of you for your support and generosity to our much-loved Lucy Cavendish. You will all know that there are changes taking place, but the mission of the Founding Fellows remains in our hearts. Since its foundation as a college for mature women in 1965, Lucy has been an important place of learning, research and empowerment, providing a vital step in the life journeys and career paths of so many. Lucy was as forward-looking then as it is now, providing people from non-traditional or under-represented backgrounds with access to a world-class Cambridge education and the support they need to make the very best of it. I have every faith that as the College grows, it will continue to enable its students to go on to make a positive impact in society.”
54 incoming first year undergraduates took part in Lucy’s first Bridging Course, in the week prior to the start of Michaelmas term 2019.

Designed to help students to make a smooth transition to Higher Education and to settle into life at Cambridge, the Bridging Course aimed to ensure students are personally, organisationally, academically and socially ready for the start of term. Students took part in mock supervisions and Study Skills workshops, carried out an introductory assignment, visited their departments, met their Tutors and Directors of Studies, received a Library induction, and were introduced to Cambridge traditions such as Formal Hall. The course was free to attend, with all costs covered by the College – and the support of our alumnae and friends - so that no student was prevented from benefitting from this unique programme.

The course is one of several initiatives aiming to level the playing field, making sure that all students – irrespective of background – feel confident as they begin their first year. This is vital if we are to close the academic attainment and career progression gaps which otherwise persist between students from under-represented backgrounds and their more affluent and socially privileged peers.

“I am so grateful for having had the opportunity to participate in the Bridging Course. I was able to better adjust and get familiar with the environment. I had a taster of supervision and had time to meet my Director of Studies in advance. In addition to that, I participated in various activities that helped me meet other freshers and easily make friends. Without the Bridging Course, I would definitely have felt more uncertain about my life in Cambridge.”

ROSIE CHEN (HUMAN, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES, 2019)

Message from the Development Director

I am delighted to echo Madeleine’s thanks to everyone who so generously made a gift to Lucy in 2019–2020. Your commitment demonstrates the invaluable affinity of the worldwide Lucy community with our college and its vital mission.

Looking ahead, it is clear that fundraising will play a crucial part in the next chapter of Lucy’s story. It is with philanthropic support that we will spearhead the widening participation agenda within the University, and become the ‘go-to’ inter-disciplinary Cambridge college for people with the motivation to tackle global issues in national and international contexts. It is with your financial support that we will create a real and lasting impact within Cambridge and beyond.

As we grow at pace, increasing student numbers to beyond 900, fundraising will ensure Lucy’s long-term financial stability, help us attract the brightest minds from a diversity of backgrounds and to create a state-of-the-art College campus which has inclusion, learning and research at its core.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who took part in the LucyGives Giving Week in October 2020, demonstrating the strength of support for our College and its aims. This community-driven success will ensure our students get off to the best possible start when they join us in Michaelmas 2021, whatever their background. They will have free and equitable access to the library books their courses require, as well as access to a variety of extra- and co-curricular initiatives all of which will enrich their Cambridge experience. We are also able to provide a number of scholarships for Masters students taking one of the interdisciplinary, globally-focused courses.

Thank you once again for all your ongoing and generous support; and for joining us in creating a better future for so many.

JO RYAN
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR AND FELLOW
Recognising Your Support

We are so grateful to all our wonderful supporters for their impactful generosity to date. All supporters of Lucy Cavendish College receive an invitation (Covid-permitting) to the annual Bumps Picnic Party on the banks of the River Cam and are encouraged to take part in the range of College events taking place throughout the year. They receive the monthly e-newsletter and are welcomed into the College community, with opportunities to meet with our students, staff, Fellows and alumnae. All supporters are listed in the Annual Review each year, while those who sponsor the purchase of library books are recognised by having their name included on a book plate.

Supporters who have given a total of £10,000 or more are known as Benefactors of Lucy Cavendish and will receive a special invitation to our annual Benefactors’ Celebration. The inaugural event will take place virtually on Saturday 6th March 2021.

Lucy Lyttelton Fellow Benefactorships are conferred upon all those who donate over £250,000, at a special ceremony in their honour. They also become members of the University’s Vice-Chancellor’s Circle. Those who donate in excess of £1 million will be nominated for membership of the University’s Guild of Benefactors.