Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we get an extra 25 pence from the UK Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further. This means that £100 can be turned into £125, so long as donations are made through Gift Aid, and it does not cost you anything. To qualify, you need to have paid income tax or capital gains tax in the UK at least equal to the sum we are reclaiming in the appropriate tax year. If you pay tax at the higher rate, then you can claim further tax relief on your self-assessment tax return. All you need do is tick overleaf. You can cancel this declaration at any time, by contacting Peterhouse.

Gifts of Shares
Share donations are a most tax-efficient way of giving since relief from both Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax applies to gifts of quoted shares.

Peterhouse Development Fund
By making a gift of any size to the Campaign you can help to enrich the experience of Peterhouse students today and secure the future of the College.

The requirements of College teaching and research are constantly changing. Maintaining our supervision and tutorial systems, keeping our library and IT provisions for students up to date, and looking after our beautiful buildings and grounds are all costly. The priorities are difficult to predict. A donation for general purposes is therefore particularly valuable to the College. However, you can also choose to allocate your gift to a specified priority using the form overleaf.

Please contact the Development Office if you would like further information on tax-efficient giving for UK and for Non-UK tax payers.

Please return this form to:
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Holly Ashcroft, Ellissa Chilley, Rangga Dachlan, Peterhouse Society

Munich windows
A 17th century wall painting

The Chapel lit up for the May Ball

The Development Director is happy to discuss other possibilities.

Peterhouse issue 18
The year in review 2016–2017

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Peterhouse issue 18

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The Master Writes

It is hard to believe that over a year has flown by since I and my partner Amanda first arrived in Peterhouse. In some ways it feels like yesterday. In other ways it seems like the distant past…

It did not take long for us both to settle in. Adrian and Anne Dixon went out of their way to prepare and support us. Fellows and staff, students and alumni, all made us thoroughly welcome. It is a privilege to have joined such an ancient, distinguished and beautiful College, and a constant delight to be part of this thriving and friendly community.

What struck us early on is that Peterhouse truly is a family; a close-knit supportive group where you soon get to know everyone’s name, where friendships are made quickly and stick firmly, and where bonds remain strong across geography and time. It is true both for those who live and work here, and for the College’s wider family too. In this first year I have sought every opportunity to introduce myself to as many Petreans as possible, including on two trips abroad to South East Asia (Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia) and North America (Toronto, New York, Washington and Houston). I soon realised how lucky we are at Peterhouse to have such a devoted corps of enthusiastic alumni, so loyal to the College and so willing to remain supportive and engaged.

We have also been impressed by the extraordinary vibrancy of this place, with so many activities and achievements on so many levels. Peterhouse remains one of the smallest Colleges but constantly enhances itself in other ways. Two long standing Fellows have been appointed Professors, Sophie Jackson and Mari Jones. Bye Fellow Laura Diaz Anadon has become Professor of Land Economy, taking the College’s cohort of female professors from zero to three in one year. Thanks to help from generous Petreans, we appointed five new Research Fellows last year instead of the usual two, enriching our community with ten of these gifted young scholars in residence this year. Careful marshalling of our finances and the generosity of many alumni made it possible to increase funding for graduates and grants for students experiencing hardship, underpinning our commitment to promote and support our excellent students, both graduate and undergraduate, in every way that we can.

In Tripos examinations the results continued to be gratifyingly good – with particularly strong performances in English for the second year in a row, and outstanding individual achievements in Theology and Modern Languages and top Firsts in the university in Chemistry and Astrophysics. Also noteworthy was how many members of the May Ball Committee not only managed to deliver a magical night to remember, but secured First Class degrees at the same time.

On the river it has also been a good year, culminating in a triumph in the May Bumps when the Ladies’ First Boat easily swept to victory with four straight bumps, securing blades, and the Men moved up to become sixth on the river, higher than Peterhouse.

We have been impressed by the extraordinary vibrancy of this place, with so many activities and achievements on so many levels.
has ever been in the May Bumps. As ever we are immensely grateful to our coach, Steve ‘Bomber’ Harris, and to our Boat Club alumni who help with training and all sorts of other support, including a new scull, bought with funds gratefully received from the 1828 Club. One other rowing achievement to mention: after the successful construction of a robot which could pick Peterhouse lettuces, Research Associate and robotics engineer Andre Rosendo collaborated with the Boat Club to create a robot which could row. No one is expecting the Peterhouse ‘rowbot’ to compete in the Bumps anytime soon, but it did make a bit of splash in the media, local and national.

There have been other sporting conquests too – in the Rugby Cuppers’ Plate, and also in archery, where Peterhouse archers led the Varsity team to triumph: look out for the Cuppers’ Shield in Tutorial and an elegant silver bowl, gracing Mr Meade’s shelf of victory in the Porters’ Lodge.

The College’s music is also flourishing, with several exceptional College concerts, and a Chapel choir which is now benefitting from the attentions of our new Music Director, Simon Jackson. We await with interest to see how their choral singing develops. Another musical treat came this October: a concert by the Boston based Blue Heron choir of 16th and 17th century music from the Peterhouse Partbooks, part of a wonderful conference devoted to the Chapel, described in more detail by Professor Richard Holton later in this newsletter. The Heywood society entertained us in the Deer Park with a wintery King Lear and a summery Much Ado About Nothing. The College Societies continued to invite a wide range of speakers, including a fascinating glimpse into the world of Donald Trump from a former campaign adviser.

A particular pleasure for me in this first year has been to get to know so many of our former members, both those I met on my travels, those returning to College and at events organised by the Peterhouse Society, under the excellent Chairmanship of Lord Thomas of Gresford. We remain grateful too to the Friends of Peterhouse, with many thanks to David Edwards QC who has now handed over to Ian Peters, for overseeing this important source of support for our students. It was a joy to meet so many old members at the Gathering in the summer, where one highlight was the chance for three Petreans who had all been correspondents in Moscow to swap notes – myself in the 1990s, Kevin Ruane in the 1970s and Robert Elphick in the 1950s.

It feels as though the College is in good health and spirits. But that does not mean we are not looking forward to seeing how we can prepare for the future, to enhance our buildings and community further. The Whittle building now embellishes Gisborne Court (much photographed by tourists who do not realise it is a modern building, I notice) and provides much needed facilities: excellent accommodation for students and visitors, a home for the JCR and the bar, as well as a conference room and a gym. This next summer we launch a rolling programme of repairs and improvement to the Chapel, beginning with a new roof, but with further refurbishment to the interior, the windows and the organ. We have also set up a ‘Masterplan’ group, to consider what the priorities should be for the College in the years ahead. Possible new projects include how to encourage more interaction between the College’s different communities through research hubs and a flexible ‘social space’, and how to enhance those parts of the College (like Cosin Court) which could do with more attention. This is a work in progress and our plans have already profited from input from our alumni – for which, many thanks to all of you – and I look forward to keeping you all informed as our vision takes shape.

In the meantime, thank you to everyone for giving Amanda and me such a wonderful welcome.
This past academic year saw one of the best sets of results in the summer Tripos exams for many years at Peterhouse, which is testimony to the hard work, focus and dedication of Petrean scientists at all levels of study within their degrees. Two exceptional results that are worthy of special mention are those of George Hawker (Astrophysics), and Bang Cong Huynh (Chemistry), both of whom achieved the top Firsts in the University in their respective subjects at Part III. Both George and Bang have stayed on at Peterhouse to study for PhDs, much to the delight of those involved in supervising and directing their undergraduate studies.

The collective performance of the first year undergraduates reading Chemistry was also a source for satisfaction within the College. Indeed, Peterhouse was the only College whose cohort of first year students averaged a First in the Chemistry Tripos paper, surpassing the next College in performance by a considerable margin. Overall Peterhouse was the highest ranked College for first year Natural Sciences.

The start of the last academic year saw Dr Justin Gerlach and Dr Graham Christie appointed as College Lecturer and Fellow respectively, with the intention of supporting the teaching of biology within the College. They share responsibility for directing studies for those students who are considered to be NatSci ‘Biologists’ as opposed to NatSci ‘Physicists’, although the distinction is not always clear cut! Drs Gerlach and Christie were delighted with the collective performance of the biology students at Tripos, who delivered an excellent set of results that contributed significantly to the overall Natural Sciences performance.

In terms of the collective Natural Science provision, with the new ‘bio’ additions supporting Dr Chris Lester (Maths & Physics) and Dr Tim Dickens (Chemistry), Peterhouse now has four senior members who undertake a full stint of teaching. Between them, Drs Lester and Dickens share Director of Studies duties for the NatSci ‘Physics’ students (not forgetting the NatSci Chemical Engineers, who are directed by Dr Christie). We are fortunate that Professor Andy Parker – as Head of the Cavendish Laboratory – still undertakes some first year teaching, while Professor Sophie Jackson provides specialist teaching in Biological Chemistry. Similarly, Dr Andrew Tanentzap provides expert supervision in Ecology.

At Peterhouse the teaching team prides itself on the way we track and monitor the progress of undergraduates. This level of attention is supported by a small but dedicated set of supervisors, who in many cases have supervised Peterhouse undergraduates for many years, and who help maintain continuity in teaching. We have also introduced a regime of setting college tests at a frequency that is probably greater than that at most other institutions in Cambridge. While the students tend not to greet the news of such tests with pleasure(!), they have proved invaluable in consolidating knowledge, building confidence and getting the students ‘Tripos ready’. The fact that the Chemistry undergraduates requested that the College set a test for them in their second year is an indication that they appreciate the value of these tests.

The Kelvin Club, a thrice-termly science club sponsored by Petrean Dr Joe Pesce, continues to thrive, attracting distinguished speakers on a wide range of subjects. For example, Sir John Meurig Thomas recently delivered an account of the history of structural molecular biology, the foundations of which were laid by Petreans. Additionally, we hold a subject dinner in Lent term, where the students take responsibility for organising nearly every aspect of the meal. This is followed by the ‘Science Dessert’, which is held at the start of Easter term and where typically a Fellow from the College will deliver a speech detailing how their subject touches science. Last year we were joined by the Master, Bridget Kendall, who spoke on ‘Science in the Soviet era’ to a receptive audience. And finally, after all the hard work associated with exams, we host the Natural Sciences barbeque in the Fellows’ Garden, which provides a fitting end to the academic year.
Our New Professors

Mari Jones (Fellow): Language Endangerment and Revitalisation
It is estimated that about half the 7,000 languages currently spoken in the world will disappear by the end of this century. Indeed, within the British Islands alone, there are ten languages that are today described as either endangered or extinct. My research focuses on language endangerment and, specifically, on analysing what happens to these endangered languages when they are in contact with other languages. What changes take place in their structure, in their sound systems and in their vocabularies? Do the same types of linguistic change occur in all endangered languages or does the linguistic relationship between the dominant and the endangered language have a bearing on the outcome? Is it ever possible to revitalise an endangered language and, if so, how is this achieved?

My research has examined questions such as these in relation to the Brythonic Celtic languages, namely Welsh (my native language), Breton and Cornish and, at present, I am studying the Norman languages of the Channel Islands, namely Jèrriais (Jersey), Guernésiais (Guernsey) and Sercquiais (Sark) (sadly, the Norman of Alderney, Auregnais, is already extinct). Norman has been spoken in this archipelago for over a thousand years and, as a result, although all the different varieties of Insular Norman are clearly related to one another, the language of each Channel Island is linguistically distinct from the others and also from the Norman spoken in France. Today, Norman is spoken by, at best, about 1% of the population in Jersey, Guernsey and Sark. My work has four main strands: analysing the linguistic structures of the different varieties of Insular Norman; recording the speakers in order to document these languages for posterity; working with the island communities to help boost language support and revitalisation initiatives; and advising the Governments of Jersey and Guernsey as they begin to formulate legislation in order to try to keep these languages alive.

Sophie Jackson (Fellow): Biological Self-Assembly
Self-Assembly makes me think of large boxes of flat-pack furniture, long hours deciphering poorly written instructions, and an endpoint where there is always an extra nut, bolt or screw and a lingering doubt that perhaps one did not assemble the piece quite correctly. In contrast, Nature has come up with many highly efficient self-assembly processes, which do not even require an instruction list nor the intervention of a sentient assembler. Essentially, once all the components are in the same location, Self-Assembly frequently occurs spontaneously without any requirement even for energy. Biological self-assembly processes are self-directed—in that all the information necessary for the process is contained within the components that form part of the final structure. There are many examples of such processes in Nature—from proteins whose polypeptide chains fold and form sometimes highly complex structures from their initial state as floppy unstructured unfolded chains, to the assembly of many molecules of the same type into a giant array with a highly regular structure—such as the fibrillar structures formed by many proteins. My group studies a number of these processes which play key roles either in the formation of active states required by a cell for its normal function, or which are part of an aberrant process, deleterious to the cell and which are frequently associated with disease states. In particular, my group pioneered the study of the folding pathways of a family of proteins that have a highly unusual structures—the polypeptide chain that forms the protein backbone threads through itself to form a knot. Until recently, such structures were thought to be impossible to form. Not only are there a significant number of different knotted proteins but also our neurons are full of them!

Laura Diaz Anadon (Bye Fellow): Energy, Innovation and Climate Policy
My research focuses on the role that domestic and international institutions have played and can play in shaping the pace and direction of technological innovation in the energy and climate realms.

To understand the impact of policy on the evolution of science and technology I rely on a wide range of methods. I have used econometric analysis to understand the drivers of wind prices in China and the impact of public-private partnerships on the outcomes of US cleantech start-ups; semi-structured and elite interviews to explain the emergence of solar PV manufacturing in China and the enablers of innovation in lithium-ion batteries; comparative case studies to understand the trade-offs involved in different types of government interventions to advance wind power in China and India; and technoeconomic models to help understand the impact of public R&D investments on societal outcomes considering uncertainty. Understanding the drivers of technological innovation has important implications for the design of environmental and industrial policy.

I have also worked on the other side of the coin: how science and technology can be harnessed to shape policy. This includes studies quantifying the extent to which different factors drive experts estimates and uncertainty around the future of energy technologies.

A final area of work involves investigating the physical and institutional coupling between water, energy and food systems and its implications for policy-making.
Year of Discoveries

Discoveries in College

This window opening was uncovered in the student set in D staircase, and with modern hand blown glass, now affords a view of Little St Mary’s churchyard.

This wall painting, believed to date from the first quarter of the 17th century, was uncovered during the renovation in the old MCR on D staircase.

Work on the buildings of Tunwell’s Court revealed (from top left) a window probably bricked up when the building next door was built in the 17th century, a baker’s oven, in use from the late 18th century, a domestic range, and a copper for washing clothes, complete with the wooden lid and stick for stirring.
The Chapel Conference
Richard Holton
The Chapel needs a new roof: the aluminium that was put on in the 1960s is leaking and cannot be repaired. The organ is struggling to cope with the demands put upon it. The heating system needs replacement. If we are to do this much work, with its attendant disruption, now is the time to think whether there are other restorations that we should look to. But restoration needs a context and an understanding of history; so we decided on a Chapel Conference. Scott Mandelbrote had organized one in 2010 with a focus on the Peterhouse Partbooks; our aim was to build on that, examining the evidence that has come to light in the meantime, and widening our gaze to the future as much as the past.

John Adamson opened with an account of the history of the Chapel. He started with the vision of Matthew Wren and his brother Christopher; John gave good reason for thinking that the latter was the architect (anticipating his rather more famous son). The work was carried on by John Cosin, but, as the Civil War closed in, much of the sumptuous interior was removed – mostly, as John pointed out, at the hands of the anxious Fellows themselves, than at the hands of Dowsing, the Parliamentary commissioner. John concluded with a tour of the Chapel’s later vicissitudes. The 18th century saw the reinstallation of the East Window, the erection of the current reredos and the demolition of the porch, and the installation of the Snetzler organ; the 19th saw the progressive darkening of the woodwork to its current chocolate brown stain, the installation of the Munich windows in the 1850s, and the construction of further stalls that greatly narrowed the aisle. Two themes stood out: that the simple opposition between Puritans and Laudians is far too crude to do justice to the many factions and influences involved in the development of the Chapel; and that the sombre and somewhat crowded Chapel we know today (very little changed from the 1880s) is a world away from what Wren and Cosin built.

Scott Mandelbrote took us across from the Chapel to the Perne Library. He discussed the role of books and libraries in the massive change that overtook the College and the University, as they moved, during the English Reformation, from being part of a European-focused community held together by common doctrine and the use of Latin, to something much more provincial and nationalistic, and how this was reflected in Peterhouse. Again a central theme was that understanding requires going beyond simple oppositions to the myriad alliances and fractures of the times: witness the role of Lazarus Seaman, who, replacing Cosin as Master, is often portrayed as a tool of the Puritans, but who played a central role in defending the College, and its library.

John Adamson returned to talk about the East Window. It is signed ‘JDB’; John took this to be the Antwerp glassworker Johannes de Bahr. It is well known that the main subject of the window is based on Ruben’s Coup de Lance, but the other figures turn out to be an astonishing collage of images, that John has succeeded in tracking down. Among them, the two Marys are from a Rubens altarpiece in Somerset house, destroyed by the Puritans and now known only via a van Dyke copy in the Louvre; and the helmeted figure on the right is, remarkably but unmistakably, Emperor Charles V. Turning the gaze two hundred years later, Paul Shakeshaft spoke on the Munich side windows that were installed in the 1850s. The thematic unity of the various pictures can be hard to discern; Paul argued that all eight of them are best understood as a concerted tribute to William Smyth, the Regius Professor of Modern History, picking up ideas from his Evidences of Christianity: the themes from the Old Testament and gospel scenes in the North windows – miracle, law, sacrifice – echoed with corresponding scenes from the Acts in the South.

Nicholas Thistlthwaite and Martin Renshaw spoke on the organ. It has grown massively from its beginnings, although a great deal of the Snetzler remains. We could return it to its original form, but that would make it unsuitable for much of the standard repertoire. We are currently looking into ways of preserving the integrity of the 18th century instrument within a larger one.
The East Window

The Partbooks again had a central position. Scott Metcalfe, director of the Boston-based Blue Heron choir, gave a talk on their history, memorably accompanied by some of his singers. Later we got to hear the full choir. The end of the first day saw them perform a number of pieces in the intimate environment of the Chapel, followed by a display of the Partbooks themselves in the Perne Library; the second day culminated in their second concert, this time with a more forthright programme amidst the sonorous Baroque of Trinity Chapel.

How, then, should we proceed with renovations? Joost Caen gave good reason for thinking that the East window needs urgent care: the glass is deteriorating, the lead needs replacing, and it needs protection from the street. But, beyond that, should we move back to something closer to the original vision? Jane Kennedy, the architect overseeing the renovations, laid out some of the possibilities. Increasing the light is a major factor. Adrian Green talked about Cosin’s use of light and space to define sacred space in his other buildings; the entry to the Peterhouse Chapel would have involved a passage through the porch into an antechapel lit by the West window, then through the passage under the gallery into the brilliant Chapel itself. Removing some of the brown 19th century stain from the woodwork would certainly lighten things, and would reveal the grain of the oak. Reducing the size of the organ case would let in more light from the West window. More radically, replacing the Munich glass with the original clear glass (together, perhaps, with reinstating the lovely St Peter window discovered in the cellars by Hugh Trevor-Roper) would more than double the available light. Alternatively—or in addition—we could look to artificial lighting. Maureen Dillon explained that the two chandeliers that originally lit the Chapel would not each have given more light than a forty watt bulb (though with a rather more interesting character). Now we could easily flood the Chapel with hidden LEDs; but as Mark Kirby cautioned, extravagant up-lighting runs the risk of bringing the look of a cavernous wine bar. And what of space? Removing the 19th century stalls would return the proportions to something more like the original form. Luke Hughes outlined some proposals for how this might be done, whilst at the same time providing for a better grouping for the choir, and giving removable seating for the times when it is needed.

The more we learn about the Chapel the more remarkable and significant we discover it to be. Some things have to be done urgently, but nothing can be rushed. The Conference was the start of what will be a long process of deliberation. Recordings of the talks are available on the Chapel website, as are virtual images of how the Chapel once was that the architects have produced. We hope that everyone with an interest will take part in the discussion.
We obviously hope that it will be many years before we receive your legacy, but bequests are a very helpful source of income for the College and can enable donors to do something they would have had difficulty doing in their lifetimes. In June of 2016 we conducted a Legacy Campaign to encourage members to leave a legacy to the College. This was an important initiative for the College, and we were surprised by the number of Petreans who informed us at that time that they had already included the College in their Will. We are hoping to conduct a further campaign in 2018/19, but if this is something that you wish to consider, please do not hesitate to contact ann.munro@pet.cam.ac.uk.

Fundraising appeals

Law Lecture: this appeal was set up in April 2016 to establish a series of Law lectures in Dr Munday’s honour. The total amount raised was £53,289. The inaugural lecture was given in October of this year by Professor Michael Dougan (m. 1993), full details of which will be covered in the next issue of the Peterhouse Newsletter.

Boat Club: Sculls Appeal: an appeal to raise funds for a new Janousek single scull with aluminium 3 stay riggers and a new set of blades was launched in March 2017. The Boat Club were overwhelmed by the generosity of Petrean boaties and almost £12,000 was raised. The new scull, ‘The Spirit of 1828’, was named at the May Bumps Dinner, and has had plenty of use since then. The purchase of a second scull will be discussed at the December meeting of the Peterhouse Boat Club Fund Committee.

Snails Appeal: this summer Dr Justin Gerlach, one of our College Lecturers undertook a research trip to the South Pacific to investigate the current status of the Partula snail in remote mountainous areas of Polynesian islands. Almost £1,250 was raised for Justin and a final report of his findings can be viewed at: http://bit.ly/Partula2017.

Other Fundraising News

Student Hardship: we have a number of funds dedicated to providing support to undergraduates in cases of financial hardship and a further £52,758 was raised during the 2017 Telephone Campaign. Contributions to these funds, or the endowment of new ones, are very important and allow us to act quickly, enabling the students to focus on their studies rather than their financial difficulties. The expansion of these funds will continue to play a major part in the Development Campaign. Further information on how the funds are used can be found at: www.pet.cam.ac.uk/financial-support. Thanks to the generosity of Petreans we also have funds to enable junior members to make the most of opportunities for travel and extra-curricular activities within the UK and around the world. We support a wide range of activities including attendance at conferences, language learning courses, taking part in charitable activities at home and overseas and recreational travel. One of the conditions of the grants is that the recipients should write us a report and these are a fascinating record of the interests and concerns of students today. We are so grateful for the generosity that enables us to ensure that none of our students are prevented from making the most of their time here at Cambridge.

Graduate Studentships: this has been one of our top fund-raising priorities over the past few years. The research produced by our graduate students has been outstanding, and we want to be able to continue this support. Two new funds for Graduate Studentships were established in January 2015, one for the arts and one for science, and the contributions to these funds has increased steadily year on year. The Graduate Studentships Committee met in March of this year and were able to award 14 studentships, five of which are directly supported by donations to these two funds. Subjects covered by these awards include Theology, Germany, History, Linguistics, Classics, Medicine, Physics, English and Chemistry.

Admissions: one of our more recent concerns has been the number of highly talented overseas students unable to meet the financial requirements of entry, and this year we have allocated £25,000 from the Telephone Campaign to help our Admissions Tutors with a fund to use at their discretion to assist in such circumstances. This year the Admissions Tutors awarded grants in mathematics and law.

Graduate Sports’ Scholarships: last year we had three Graduate Sports Scholars who all trialled for the Blues Boats. One of them rowed in Goldie and two in Blondie. This year £15,000 has again been allocated for three Graduate Sports’ Scholarships, and we are delighted that so far one scholarship has been awarded to a rower who started their research in Michaelmas Term 2017.

Chapel: we plan to re-roof the Chapel next summer. The roof needs urgent attention as the aluminium which replaced the original lead has reached the end of its life and when it rains there are a few places that leak! The repair and stabilisation of the East Window has become an urgent priority and the lighting and acoustics in the Chapel also need consideration. The recent Chapel Conference threw up some very interesting ideas and these will be discussed further over the coming months.

Organ Restoration: it is hoped that work on the organ will begin in the summer of 2019, after the preliminary work to the Chapel is completed. Three proposals are being considered by the College working party, and a decision will be made over the next few months. The history of the organ was discussed at the recent Chapel Conference. To date donations and pledges of over £272,000 have already been received, and we will launch an active appeal when a builder has been appointed.

College Music: the College are delighted to announce the appointment of a new Director of Music, Dr Simon Jackson, for an initial period of three years from Michaelmas Term 2017. It was agreed to allocate £2,000 from the 2017 Telephone Campaign to Dr Jackson to be used for the enhancement of the musical life of the College. Dr Jackson has noted that we are one of the few Colleges not to feature a recording of the choir on our website so he plans to do a professional recording of the choir for use on the website and also on our e-Christmas card!

Friends of Peterhouse

As always we are most grateful to the Council of the Friends of Peterhouse for their support during the past year. They contributed to the College’s hardship funds and academic prizes as well as supporting the College’s initiative of having a Student Counsellor in College one day a week during Term. This initiative met an increasing need and was much appreciated by the students.

Please be aware that the Sort Code (and IBAN) for the Peterhouse Development Fund will be changing in the New Year. You do not need to do anything at this stage as donations via Standing Orders and Direct Debits will automatically be re-directed to the new sort code for a three-year period, but all future donations to the College should be made to the new Sort Code. Our fundraising partners and stationery will be up-dated over the coming weeks.
The Reform Club, Thursday 16 February, 2017
Following the success of the House of Lords’ dinners in 2015 and 2016, The Peterhouse Society decided on another London-based dinner for 2017. The current Chairman, Lord Thomas of Gresford (m.1955), generously offered to host the dinner in the beautiful surroundings of the Reform Club. Around 70 guests enjoyed a three course meal, followed by a fascinating talk by The Rt Hon. Michael Portillo (m. 1972), British journalist, broadcaster, and former Member of Parliament. Mr Portillo’s talk focused on his time as a junior minister within Margaret Thatcher’s government, but he also took the time to answer questions on a number of subjects from Brexit, to where he buys his jackets. Another London dinner is planned in 2018.

May Bumps Garden Party, Saturday 17 June, 2017
Boaters past and present joined the Master on the banks of the River Cam to watch the final day of the May Bumps. The spectators gathered to cheer on the Peterhouse teams while enjoying Champagne and nibbles in the beautiful gardens of a friend of the College. The same venue has very kindly been offered to the College next year on Saturday 16 June. Invitations for this event will be sent out in Lent term.

May Ball, Friday 23 June, 2017
May Week was brought to a close with the, now biennial, May Ball. As in previous years, the student-run May Ball Committee went to great lengths to ensure the event was strikingly different to other Colleges and a truly decadent occasion, especially as 2017 marked 125 years of May Balls at Peterhouse.

Working closely with the May Ball Committee, the Development Office put together a VIP package especially for Petreans. These special tickets included the opportunity to meet the Master and enjoy Champagne in the Lodge before heading across the road for early access to the Ball itself. It was wonderful to see so many Petreans return to College for such a spectacular event and we hope for a repeat in 2019.
Peterhouse Family Day, Sunday 17 September 2017
The stormy September weather could not dampen the spirits of Petreans returning to College with their families for the biennial Peterhouse Family Day. There was plenty of entertainment to keep the young crowd happy with a birds of prey show in the Deer Park, followed by a fantastic science show in Hall. Thankfully the butlers lit the fires, creating a cozy atmosphere in the Hall and Combination Room for guests to escape the downpours and dry off. The next Peterhouse Family Day will take place in 2019, dates to be confirmed.

Peterhouse Day at the Races, Saturday 30 September, 2017
A new event for the Peterhouse Society; the Peterhouse Day at the Races, saw Petreans and their guests meet up at Newmarket Race Course for the final day of the Cambridgeshire Meeting, followed by dinner in College that evening. The positive feedback received means plans are already in place for a 2018 Race Day. Dates for 2018 will be confirmed in Lent term.

The Master’s Travels 2017
In 2017 The Master, Bridget Kendall, embarked on two trips, the first to Asia Pacific in April, and the second to the East Coast of the United States in July. Bridget met with a great many of you while travelling and was delighted to hear about your memories of Peterhouse and listen to your thoughts on how the College might continue to provide a warm welcome to and support for students from a wide range of backgrounds. The Master plans to travel to the West Coast of the United States in 2018, dates to be confirmed in Lent term.
Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we get an extra 25 pence from the UK Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further. This means that £100 can be turned into £125, so long as donations are made through Gift Aid, and it does not cost you anything. To qualify, you need to have paid income tax or capital gains tax in the UK at least equal to the sum we are reclaiming in the appropriate tax year. If you pay tax at the higher rate, then you can claim further tax relief on your self-assessment tax return. All you need do is tick overleaf. You can cancel this declaration at any time, by contacting Peterhouse.

Gifts of Shares

Share donations are a most tax-efficient way of giving since relief from both Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax applies to gifts of quoted shares.

Peterhouse Development Fund

By making a gift of any size to the Campaign you can help to enrich the experience of Peterhouse students today and secure the future of the College.

The requirements of College teaching and research are constantly changing. Maintaining our supervision and tutorial systems, keeping our library and IT provisions for students up to date, and looking after our beautiful buildings and grounds are all costly. The priorities are difficult to predict. A donation for general purposes is therefore particularly valuable to the College. However, you can also choose to allocate your gift to a specified priority using the form overleaf.

Please contact the Development Office if you would like further information on tax-efficient giving for UK and for Non-UK tax payers.

Please return this form to:
The Development Office
Freepost ANG 10735
Peterhouse Cambridge CB2 1RD
(from the UK)
The Development Office
Peterhouse Cambridge CB2 1RD, UK
(from overseas)