Our College, Our Future
St Chad’s Development

New accommodation
New shared spaces
New opportunities
Strategic plans for buildings and spaces

The College’s strategic review identified the need for a selective, planned renewal of buildings. This will support College operations, ensuring Members enjoy a high standard of living and access to exceptional facilities, while also increasing opportunities for revenue generation.

St Chad’s development: why is it important?

College is home from home. Here, friendships are formed that last a lifetime. Students live together, learn together and support each other. Thousands of Members recognise the value of this special sense of community.

It can be said that the people make the place. But the physical environment plays an undeniable role in the College character. Buildings and amenities directly affect students’ quality of life. They can invigorate and inspire.

We do not have enough quality rooms and communal spaces to best serve our students. We must invest in new and improved accommodation if we are to continue to attract the best students and properly equip and support them. Our plans for St Chad’s will do just this and, in doing so, strengthen our community. You can help. We hope you will.

Much of the St Chad’s site was built in the late 1970s. A major refurbishment was funded by the generosity of donors to our last campaign. St Chad’s is home to our second year undergraduates. New rooms will be for fourth year undergraduate and first year graduate students. New communal areas will benefit all. Image courtesy of Tim Rawle.
What will the project deliver?

**Quality:** The standard of 24 new bedrooms, housed in two new buildings, will equal that of our best existing student accommodation.

**Affordability:** Living costs should be affordable for all students, whatever their individual circumstances. This project helps us meet this need. Offering high-quality accommodation to conference customers out of term time enables us to keep student rents low during term time.

**Certainty:** At present, the College must rely on the private rental market for some of our student accommodation. We cannot control investment in these properties and we are subject to rising prices in the open market. Building on our land gives us complete control, for the long-term benefit of our students.

**Community:** A new multi-use communal space, benefiting all residents of St Chad’s, will serve as a hub for student interaction and collaboration. This will replace the existing Octagon, the age and design of which means it is impractical and little used today.

**Flexibility:** The addition of new rooms means that we can be more responsive to our future accommodation needs. Together with the new central space, these rooms will allow us to generate more hospitality revenue out of term time, for reinvestment in a broad range of student services.

**Sustainability:** Wherever we can, we will make use of existing materials. For example, the new houses will make use of timber beams from the Octagon.

Above: the two new buildings housing 24 student rooms between them. Old House can be seen beyond, and the existing second year accommodation to the right.
How can you help?

We want to undertake this vital project by 2023. Only with your support can this be done. **Whatever donation you can make, it really will enable us to provide better accommodation for our students.**

**Recognising your generosity:** We recognise every donor in our annual list of benefactors. Donors who commit to a gift of £1,000 or more a year are invited to join the Mary Ramsden Circle. Donors of £50,000 and above are welcomed to the 1473 Foundation.

In addition, there are opportunities to name either your old room at St Chad’s (£10,000) or one of the new rooms (£25,000). You can do this individually or with your friends. You may also choose to name a room in memory of a relative or friend. Please contact the Alumni and Development Office to discuss such a gift.

**Making your gift:** There are several ways to donate to the College.

- By credit card or direct debit, either online at www.caths.cam.ac.uk/donate or using a gift form;
- By cheque or CAF voucher, payable to ‘St Catharine’s College’; or
- By bank transfer – please contact the Alumni and Development Office for details.

**Tax-effective giving:** St Catharine’s is a registered charity. Donations from eligible UK taxpayers can be made under the Gift Aid scheme, increasing their value by 25% and attracting favourable tax treatment for higher and additional-rate taxpayers. Donors in many other countries, including the United States, Canada, Hong Kong and much of Europe, can also make tax-effective donations in support of this project.

**Further information:** To discuss this project or your donation, please contact the Alumni and Development Office: +44 (0)1223 338337 or giving@caths.cam.ac.uk.