ST ANTONY'S COLLEGE

HILDA BESSE BUILDING
Like many of you, St Antony’s College has given me more than I had anticipated. Over the last thirty years, as a student, then as a Fellow and now as Warden, I have found an intellectually nourishing, and academically distinguished home. Our students and Fellows break boundaries in their research, and are what make us a world-class centre of advanced scholarship and teaching on global and regional affairs.

Like me, you carry your St Antony’s experiences with you for the rest of your life. Lessons learnt here go on to help you wherever you end up, and many of you go on to achieve incredible things, be it in politics, finance, academia, journalism, or humanitarian work. We are proud of the rigorous but nurturing intellectual environment that St Antony’s offers through its Fellowship, and which the Hilda Besse embodies. The Building is a meeting place for people and ideas, debate and discussion - principles at the heart of the College.

I hope that you will join us in the rejuvenation of the Hilda Besse Building, so that we can safeguard it for future generations of Antonians. Thank you in advance for your kind support.
The Hilda Besse is the crowning achievement of renowned post-War architect John Partridge, of the legendary practise HKPA. On its completion in 1971 it won awards from both the Royal Institute of British Architects and from the Concrete Society in recognition of its structural ingenuity and architectural elegance.

The significance of the Hilda Besse as a key example of Brutalist architecture was highlighted by Historic England in 2009, when it was awarded Grade II listing, setting it alongside iconic buildings such as the Barbican and the Serpentine Galleries.

The Building contains the most important parts of any Oxford college - its Hall, Buttery, and Common Rooms. It is where students go after a long day at their departments and libraries, to dine and debate. It is where students can relax in the Common Rooms to read newspapers from around the world, and where they can catch a drink in the Late Bar with their friends. By supporting the Hilda Besse Campaign, you will be helping to protect the heart of the College.

“For me, the Hilda Besse represents the beating heart of St Antony’s, where friendships are forged, anxieties are quelled, and myriad amusements are to be found.”

Morad Moazami (DPhil Oriental Studies)
REVIVING A MASTERPIECE

Refurbishing the Hilda Besse Building will secure the future of our position as the leading and most international graduate College in Oxford. The Building has served us for over 38 years, but it has come to the end of its lifespan. It is now essential that we renovate and refurbish our Brutalist masterpiece.

The renovation of the Hilda Besse Building is urgent: services are failing, parts are in a state of disrepair, and its mechanical and electrical machinery is in vital need of an upgrade.

Plumbing, wiring, and heating systems, installed in the late 1960s, have reached the end of their expected lives, thus rendering the Building increasingly unusable.

We must immediately address these issues if we are to safeguard the Building’s role as the social and academic core of the College, and bring the Building back to its former glory. This is also a brilliant opportunity to make the Hilda Besse more environmentally friendly, and ensure that it is accessible to all Antonians.

“
The Hilda Besse Building has many virtues. It is the place where we fell in love over conversations at the Late Bar, and where we got married, with our dear friends as witnesses.”

Bing Song (1989) and Daniel Bell (1986)
RENOVATING FOR THE FUTURE

We have been presented with a unique opportunity to restore and rejuvenate our iconic building. This is a chance to improve upon key aspects of the Building's design, as well as to implement elements of the original plan that were never achieved.

We intend to:

- Install original features such as tiled wooden flooring and octagonal lights, to better reflect Partridge's design ambitions
- Reinstate original features such as the concrete Bar, and repair external tiling
- Install a new and larger lift, making the Building accessible throughout
- Reconfigure the kitchen to make better use of our limited space
- Improve hygiene infrastructure

This refurbishment will be a major undertaking for the College, spanning a period of two years on site, from September 2019 - June 2021. This work is essential to the future of the College, but it presents a financial burden that we are unable to cover from the College's existing income and capital. Therefore, support from the Antonian community is essential.

COST OF CONSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction build cost</td>
<td>£4,255,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
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<td>Sundry items</td>
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<td>Temporary Accommodation</td>
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<td>Contingency</td>
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<td>Loss of conference &amp; rent income</td>
<td>£619,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£9,000,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you for your support!

Through the Hilda Besse Building’s spectacular Hall we open our doors to the students, academics, and leaders of the world. Everyone who dines at St Antony’s is engaged in the modern world, and our restoration will preserve the unique spirit of this place, making it ready for the twenty-first century.

Professor Eugene Rogan
Director of the Middle East Centre and Fellow of St Antony’s