

# Annual Report

Volume XXXV

Isaac  
Newton  
Trust

---

01 July 2024 - 30 June 2025



# CONTENTS

<b>Director's Foreword</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>What we do</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Who we are</b>	<b>4</b>
Patron	4
Officers & Staff	4
Trustees 2024-2025	5
<b>Summary of New Grants awarded 2024-25</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>New Programmes</b>	<b>7</b>
The Trinity Cambridge Research Studentships	7
Collection-based Research in the Humanities	9
Project Completion Grants for Mid-Career Researchers in Humanities	11
<b>Widening Participation &amp; Induction Fund</b>	<b>13</b>
Project Spotlight - Sustainable Urban Futures	14
Project Spotlight - Educational Escape Room: The Search for the Scientist's Secret	15
<b>Research Grants Awarded 2024-2025</b>	<b>17</b>
Strategic Grants	17
Natural History Humanities Programme	17
The Cambridge Protein Screening Facility	18
Spotlight: Dr Mariam Rashid, Strategic Grant Research Associate	19
Project and Emergency Grants	20
Schools of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences	20
Schools of Biological Sciences & Clinical Medicine	20
Schools of Physical Sciences & Technology	21
<b>The Isaac Newton Trust's Early Career Fellowship Programmes</b>	<b>22</b>
Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships	23
Spotlight: Dr Luis Fernando Bernardi Junqueira, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow	24
Spotlight: Dr Joseph Millard, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow	24
Isaac Newton Trust's Academic Career Development Fellowships	26
Academic Career Development Fellows starting in 2024-25	26
Isaac Newton Trust College Junior Research Fellowships	27
Junior Research Fellows starting in 2024-25	27
Brian Shiers Lowe Fellowships	28
<b>Other Projects supported by the Isaac Newton Trust</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Governance</b>	<b>29</b>
Trust Income 2024-25	29
Trust Expenditure 2024-25	29
Head-line Figures 2024-25	31
Investment & Banking	31
Governance	31
Auditors	31
<b>LinkedIn</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Afterword</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Thank you for your support</b>	<b>34</b>

## DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

It is a pleasure to introduce the thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Isaac Newton Trust, my first as Director. I step into this role with deep respect for the Trust's legacy and a strong sense of purpose for its future. The past year has been one of both transition and achievement, and I am delighted to share reflections on what has been accomplished.

I begin by expressing sincere gratitude to Dr Laurie Friday, whose leadership over the previous nine years shaped the Trust into a dynamic and responsive institution. Her thoughtful stewardship, together with the wisdom of our Trustees and the dedication of our staff, has ensured the Trust continues to thrive as a champion of research, education, and opportunity across the University of Cambridge.

This year, the Trust committed over £2.5 million to support research and scholarship across the collegiate University. Our funding has enabled pioneering work in the sciences, humanities, and social sciences, empowering researchers at every stage; from early career scholars to established academics balancing research with leadership and care responsibilities.

The launch of the Trinity Cambridge Research Studentships (TCRS), a £12 million programme funding PhD studentships across all disciplines, has been a major development. This initiative reflects our shared commitment to sustaining Cambridge's research excellence and widening access to doctoral study. The first cohort of TCRS students joined the University in Michaelmas Term 2025, and we look forward to seeing them flourish.

We also introduced two additional new programmes to support collection-based research in the humanities, and completion grants for mid-career scholars respectively. These initiatives recognise the diverse ways knowledge is created, preserved, and shared, and the importance of supporting scholars whose work deepens our understanding of the world.

Our Early Career Fellowship programmes remain central to the Trust's mission. Through strategic partnerships and match-funding, we continue to invest in the next generation of academic leaders, fostering a vibrant community of Fellows whose work spans disciplines and continents. The Trust's support for Leverhulme Early Career Fellows, Junior Research Fellows, and Academic Career Development Fellows, reflects our belief in nurturing talent and enabling academic independence.

None of this would be possible without the enduring support of Trinity College, our Trustees, and our exceptional staff; Nichola, Katie, Donald, Lesley, and our newest colleague, Lucy, whose diligence and creativity drive the Trust forward. I am deeply grateful for their collegiality and commitment.

Donald Hearn stood down as Treasurer at the end of December, and we extend sincere thanks for his exemplary service and unwavering commitment. We were delighted to welcome Lesley Thompson as our new Treasurer in January. Her extensive experience in collegiate finance and governance will be invaluable in guiding the Trust's financial stewardship.

As we look ahead, the Isaac Newton Trust remains steadfast in its purpose: to promote learning, research, and education in Cambridge. I invite you to review this report, which celebrates the achievements of the past year and looks confidently to the future.



**Professor Gemma Burgess**  
**Director 2024-25**

## WHAT WE DO

The Isaac Newton Trust, Registered Charity no. 1209261, was established as a Trust in 1988 by Trinity College. The Trust promotes learning, research and education in the University of Cambridge, primarily by providing support to early career researchers and by making research grants to departments and programmes within the University and its constituent Colleges.

## WHO WE ARE

### PATRON

Since its foundation, the Isaac Newton Trust has enjoyed the patronage of His Majesty the King, who chaired the first meeting of the Trustees on 22 November 1988 when he was the Prince of Wales.



## OFFICERS & STAFF



**Prof Gemma Burgess, ED**  
Director



**Mr Donald Hearn, CL**  
Treasurer  
until December 2024



**Mrs Lesley Thompson**  
Treasurer  
from January 2025



**Dr Nichola Tooke**  
Trust Administrator



**Ms Katie Barnes**  
Deputy Trust Administrator



**Ms Lucy Hartley**  
Trust Coordinator

## TRUSTEES 2024-25



**Professor Frank Kelly**  
Mathematics, CHR  
(Trustee, Chair)



**Professor Ash Amin**  
Geography, CHR



**Professor Sir David Baulcombe**  
Plant Sciences, T



**Professor Dame Ann Dowling**  
Engineering, SID



**Professor Loraine Gelsthorpe**  
Criminology, PEM



**Professor Rae Langton**  
Philosophy, N



**Professor John Marenbon**  
Philosophy, T



**Professor John Pyle**  
Chemistry, CTH



**Professor Ben Simons**  
Physics, JN



**Professor Dame Jean Thomas**  
Biochemistry, CTH



**Professor Nicholas Thomas**  
Museum of Archaeology  
and Anthropology, T

Details of the Trustees' interests, including other Trusteeships, may be found on the INT's website:  
<https://www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk/>.

## SUMMARY OF NEW GRANTS AWARDED 2024-2025

The Trust committed £2.5m for research and scholarship in the University including:

	for Research Grants		Widening Participation & Induction activities in Colleges
	for Strategic Grants		For a new programme supporting mid-career researchers in the Humanities
	for Early Career Fellowships		For another new programme supporting collections at the collegiate University

	<b>18</b> Research Grants to individual researchers		<b>15</b> Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships
	<b>10</b> Project Completion Grants for Mid-Career Researchers in Humanities		<b>5</b> INT/College Junior Research Fellowship
	<b>9</b> Collection-based Research Grants in the Humanities		<b>2</b> Academic Career Development Fellowships in Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences in partnerships with Faculties and Colleges
	<b>2</b> Strategic Grant for a major project		<b>25</b> Widening Participation & Induction Grants to Colleges

## NEW PROGRAMMES

### THE TRINITY CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS

INT's Trustees have been delighted to roll-out a new innovative research studentship programme during the year, made possible by an investment of £12m from Trinity College. Trinity Cambridge Research Studentships, or TCRS, is a new five-year programme to promote research through grants for PhD studentships, funded jointly by Trinity College and the University for a period of five years (2025-26 to 2029-30).

The funding is intended primarily as seed core to encourage new matching funding from external partners and to leverage intellectual and financial support for research through PhD and MPhil studentships at the University.

Cambridge University has 4,339 PhDs students (2022-2023 figures) but the availability of fully funded places has declined by an estimated 140 places per year since 2018 and analysis suggests this will get worse. The programme seeks to tackle a significant reduction in support from the UK Research Councils and anticipates the University's next funding campaign which aims to fully fund all PhD students offered places at Cambridge and was referred to in the Vice-Chancellor's address in October this year.

The programme is administered by INT and was launched during the year so that research students could be funded for admission with effect from October 2025. After the initial five years, it is intended that the scheme will continue for at least a further five years, fully funded by the University to a minimum value of £4.8 million annually.

The TCRS programme enables Departments and Faculties to make early offers to stellar applicants wishing to pursue PhD research in all disciplines. Schools, Departments, and Faculties continue to engage actively with Cambridge University's Development and Alumni Relations' Office (CUDAR) to identify new funding partners. As new external partners are sought, new funds from within the Collegiate University are also mobilised in order to maximise the number of fully funded doctoral studentships.

To kick-start this process, each School was provided with up to £400K from the TCRS fund, with a matching guarantee by the University of up to £400k. Schools were asked to identify as many matching partners/funds as possible from the first year (admission for October 2025) to maximise the number of studentships available. In less than a year, Schools were able to source matching funds in excess of £2.4m.

Cambridge welcomed its first cohort of 34 TCRS students during the Michaelmas Term 2025. 27 students are undertaking a PhD degree and 7 are undertaking an MPhil degree.

Potential donors wishing to contribute to the programme are encouraged to speak with the Director.





Trinity Fellow and Nobel Laureate Professor Sir Venki Ramakrishnan said:

*“PhD students are the lifeblood of new research, making breakthroughs in all areas of science, and it is very important that we be able to attract the best brains to Cambridge wherever they may be from. The Trinity Cambridge Research Studentships Programme will greatly facilitate that goal.”*

Cambridge Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education Professor Bhaskar Vira said:

*“If the UK is to continue to be world leading in research, it is important to support the next generation of PhD students. We are grateful for the funding provided to postgraduate research students through the UK government’s investments in science and research, but also aware of worrying pressures on budgets.”*

Trinity Fellow Professor Didier Queloz, who received the Nobel Prize for Physics in 2019 for the discovery of the first exoplanet during his PhD research, said Cambridge was an extraordinary place.

*“When I came ten years ago, I was attracted by the diversity of the culture, the Cambridge way of life – in the sense that you interact with a lot of people, you have this mixing of different ideas – the College system is really unique in the world. We should maximize the number of PhD students and the diversity of PhD students.”*



Trinity Cambridge Research Studentship 2025 cohort in the Wren Library. Image credit: David Rose/Trinity College Cambridge

# COLLECTION-BASED RESEARCH IN THE HUMANITIES

Collections, libraries, archives and galleries are the 'laboratories' of humanities scholars. Collegiate Cambridge has a wealth of such collections, large and small, as well as collections within collections that may not be well known to scholars or whose research potential is yet to be fully appreciated and realised. While most repositories welcome new research and scholarship of their holdings, they are often limited in supporting such research because of staff shortage or limited funds for conservation.

The purpose of the Collection-based Research in the Humanities programme is to promote enhanced engagement with physical items in collections at Collegiate Cambridge and in-person, modest-sized meetings are encouraged in particular.

The Isaac Newton Trust has welcomed the opportunity provided by this new two-year pilot scheme funded by Trinity College, where small grants are available for collection-based research in the Humanities through modest-sized study sessions and/or workshops of up to two days in Collegiate Cambridge.



Anglo-Turkish Relief Committee press clippings from the Rural Anatolia Through Foreign Eyes project. Image credit: Eve Lacey, Newnham College Librarian

The following institutions have been awarded Collection-based Research in the Humanities grants for the projects listed below in the programme's first year:

Institution	Project
Anglo-Saxon, Norse & Celtic	Geoffrey of Monmouth Research Project microfilm collection
Clare Hall	The Bell Collection of 20th-Century Studio Ceramics
Kettle's Yard	'Everyday things': Exploring Art and Identity through the work of Christopher Wood at Kettle's Yard
Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology	Unboxing the 'lost' Malay collections of Walter W. Skeat
Pembroke College	Living Water: the Barrie Cooke archive and collection
Churchill Archives Centre, Churchill	Writing with the Archive: A creative writing workshop based on the papers of Winston Churchill and others
Fitzwilliam Museum	Silver, Steel and Beyond: Rethinking the Impact of the Viking Great Army, through the Lens of the Torksey Collection in the Fitzwilliam Museum
Skilliter Centre for Ottoman Studies and Newnham College Archives	Rural Anatolia Through Foreign Eyes
Cambridge University Library	'Full many a flower': botany and the book at the end of the eighteenth century - Hanmer and Sheppard

This scheme will run for two years in the first instance (2024-25 and 2025-26).



Bell Collection Symposium: Leach and his Legacy (September 2025). Image credit: The Clare Hall 20th-Century Studio Ceramics Research Centre

## PROJECT COMPLETION GRANTS FOR MID-CAREER RESEARCHERS IN HUMANITIES

In most subjects in the humanities, monographs are an important output for career progression and are weighted substantially in the Research Excellence Framework (REF). The Isaac Newton Trust recognises the challenges faced by mid-career scholars who take on major administrative duties in departments and colleges amidst growing care responsibilities and has been able to provide funding made possible by the generosity of Trinity College specifically to enable the research output of such individuals.

The Trust is pleased to announce the Project Completion Grants for Mid-Career Researchers in Humanities programme. This programme offers new awards for Departments and Faculties in the Schools of Arts and Humanities and of Humanities and Social Sciences, and/or (where relevant) Colleges. The awards are designed to enable mid-career researchers in the humanities to complete their second monograph or a substantial project that qualifies for REF submission, by providing the costs of replacement teaching and administrative duties for one term.

The Trust has been delighted by the response to this programme. Twenty-two applications have been received in the programme's first year which attest to the real need to support mid-career scholars at Cambridge.



University of Cambridge student at the Gonville and Caius College library.  
Image credit: University of Cambridge

The following ten Project Completion Grants for Mid-Career Researchers in Humanities awards were made:

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Project</b>
<b>Asian &amp; Middle Eastern Studies</b>	Historical anthropology of sleep in Heian-period (794-1185) Japan
<b>Archaeology</b>	Administrative Reality and Scribal Apparatus in the Kassite Period: Kassite Period Tablets and the West Mounds of Nippur
<b>Classics</b>	Socrates and the Ethics of Conversation
<b>Divinity</b>	The Devil's Work: Ideas of Diabolical Agency in Late Antiquity
<b>English</b>	Speaking Sweet: Cultures of Scent in Early Modern Writing
<b>Fitzwilliam Museum</b>	Monograph - Katharine Pleydell-Bouverie (1895-1985) and Norah Braden (1901-2001)
<b>Modern &amp; Medieval Literature &amp; Languages</b>	The Higher Court: Soviet Journalism and Justice, 1953–1991
<b>Social Anthropology</b>	Mission Hydropower: Rural Electrification and Religious Orders in Tanzania
<b>Sociology</b>	After Du Bois: Theorizing the Global Colorline
<b>Trinity Hall</b>	The Body as Text in Early Modern England

This scheme will run for two years in the first instance (2024-25 and 2025-26).

## WIDENING PARTICIPATION & INDUCTION FUND

The Widening Participation & Induction Fund (WPIF) programme was set up in 2022 to support Widening Participation and Induction at the Collegiate University at a cost of £1.3m. This Fund, established with funding from Trinity College, is intended to enable the ambitions of Colleges to expand and diversify their activities with prospective and incoming undergraduate students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Programme has completed its third full year of operation in 2024-25 and will be running one final round in the following year. All Colleges at Cambridge have been eligible to make an application for support.

The Trustees are proud that the objectives of this programme have been realised and that projects supported have achieved very positive outcomes. Reports relating to WPIF projects are available from the Trust's website.

Twenty-five awards were granted this year and include projects focussed on sustainable urban futures, medical technology, bioinformatics, languages, women and STEMM and social media outreach. Some of these projects will be showcased at an event during the following year.

College	Project(s)
Christ's	Experience Christ's Summer School
Churchill	MedTech Inspire Sustainable Urban Futures
Corpus Christi	The Pelican Programme – Travel Bursaries
Downing	Your Future Story
Girton	Widening Participation in Subject Taster Days and Open Days
Gonville & Caius	Reading Group expansion Supporting Norfolk schools with visits to Caius
Homerton	Bioinformatics Booster Programme
Hughes Hall	Mature Students at Cambridge
Jesus	Y12 Residential and Online Programme
Magdalene	Link Area School Visits to Cambridge – Travel and Accommodation
Murray Edwards	Outreach for AHSS subjects with a language component She Talks Science 2025
Peterhouse	Teachers' Information Day
Queen's	Humanities Exploration Day Bradford Link Area Outreach Travel Funding
Robinson	Festival of Reading & Writing
Sidney Sussex	Blackpool Winter Gardens Outreach Event Expanding the Enigma Residential for Women in STEM
St Catherine's	St Catharine's College School Travel Funding St Catharine's Humanities Easter Residential
St Edmund's	Social Media Outreach and Recruitment for the Mature Colleges
Trinity Hall	Enhancing Widening Participation via Targeted Social Media Outreach
Wolfson	Mature Links with Cambridge

## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT - SUSTAINABLE URBAN FUTURES

The Trust has been proud to support the Sustainable Urban Futures (SUF) project, led by Churchill College, University of Cambridge CORE Fellow Dr Rachel Thorley. SUF hosted a cross-disciplinary summer residential for Year 12s from widening participation backgrounds to explore interdisciplinary courses through the lens of global sustainable development.

Aspirational and confidence-boosting activities have been designed to encourage Year 12s to apply to Cambridge or other leading universities. Through conversations with current students, staff, and fellows, participants were able to build genuine connections and see Cambridge not as an exclusive or intimidating institution, but as a place where they could belong and thrive.



*“SUF has made a huge impact in making me believe I genuinely can get into Cambridge if I try my hardest and it was also really nice to see how the students are just normal people and they’re friendly and make you feel at home”*

*Year 12 Student*



At Churchill College, 40 Sixth formers from underrepresented backgrounds had a taste of life at Cambridge on Sustainable Urban Futures Residential. This cross disciplinary experience had lectures, team projects and building an eco-home! Image credit: Dr Rachel Thorley, Fellow in Engineering, Churchill College

## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT - EDUCATIONAL ESCAPE ROOM: THE SEARCH FOR THE SCIENTIST'S SECRET

With the support of INT's Widening Participation and Induction Fund, Dr Paul Elliott and his Team at Homerton College have created one of the largest and most exciting educational games in the country. Students at widening participation schools can take part in the games at Cambridge or in 'pop-up' games at their schools.

There are separate escape "rooms" focusing on Thinking Skills, Biology, Earth Sciences, Mathematical Games, Evolution and Astrophysics and Chemistry. Each "room" now has its own distinctive physical element (such as an arcade machine, an anatomical display and a countdown case). The rooms can be used in different combinations for different target groups, and in total there are now over 100 distinct puzzles, each of which is embedded in a range of statues, games, and household objects. The project has been very well received and is in much demand.



Educational Escape Room - The Search for the Scientist's Secret, Image Credit: Homerton College WPIF Final Report 2024



**“It was very fun and gave me an understanding of what Cambridge Students have to go through. It was challenging, but overall, I enjoyed it a lot.”**

*Year 7 Student, Excelsior Academy, Hackney*

**“I thought that this activity gave me a vision of what Cambridge has to offer”**

*Year 9 Student, St Bernard's Catholic High School, Rotherham*

**“The feedback from students was incredibly positive and this experience has opened doors to new possibilities, empowering our young people to envision and pursue their educational goals”**

*Leefiya Begum, Deputy Director of Sixth Form, Stoke Newington School, Hackney*

**“The science escape room offered an engaging, hands-on experience that challenged students' critical thinking skills beyond the A level syllabus. By immersing participants in interactive puzzles, it not only made learning fun but also provided a glimpse into academic life at Cambridge. The opportunity was designed to be inclusive, welcoming students from diverse backgrounds and fostering a broader interest in science and higher education. Such a brilliant idea - we would love to have the opportunity again!”**

*Liz King, UCAS Coordinator, Dr Challoner's High School, Buckinghamshire*



The new Lateral Thinking and Chemistry “rooms” at an event at Kings College London in April 2025.  
Image Credit: Homerton College WPIF Final Report 2025

## RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED 2024-2025

### STRATEGIC GRANTS

The demand for an Isaac Newton Trust Strategic Grant of up to £500k has remained strong, with four applications this year for major grants. Applications from Professor Sam Brockington and Professor Laura Itzhaki were selected by the Trustees for awards.

### NATURAL HISTORY HUMANITIES PROGRAMME

#### Principal Investigator: Professor Samuel Brockington, Department of Plant Sciences

The Natural History Humanities programme is an ambitious and visionary initiative that redefines how we engage with the natural world through the lens of the arts and humanities.

Cambridge is home to some of the most extensive and globally significant natural history collections in existence. These collections are not merely repositories of biological and geological specimens - they are cultural touchstones that shape human understanding, influence societies and economies, and inspire generations through their interpretation and use.

This new programme invites scholars across a rich spectrum of disciplines to explore the dynamic relationships between humans and nature. From anthropology and archaeology to literature, philosophy, and the creative arts, the initiative fosters interdisciplinary dialogue that promises to deepen our collective insight into how natural history informs and is informed by human experience.

The programme has welcomed three exceptional postdoctoral Research Associates whose work exemplifies the intellectual breadth and cultural relevance of this endeavour:

#### Grace Exley

Munby Fellow in Bibliography at Cambridge University Library and Fellow of Darwin College, Grace's research illuminates the often-overlooked contributions of women to nineteenth-century natural history publishing. Her work brings visibility to the hidden labour; dictation, note-taking and illustration that has shaped scientific knowledge but long remained in the margins of its history.

#### Richard Fallon

A literary and cultural historian of science, Richard joined the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences in October 2025. His project, *A University in Deep Time*, revisits the Cambridge School of Geology (1850–1914), offering a compelling re-examination of how Earth's deep history was imagined and taught during a transformative era.

#### Kimberly Glassman

As Research Associate for the Botanical Collections at the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Cambridge University Herbarium, Kimberly brings a vital perspective to the programme's engagement with botanical heritage. Her work bridges scientific and cultural narratives, enriching our understanding of plant collections as living archives of human-nature interaction.

Together, these scholars embody the spirit of the Natural History Humanities programme: rigorous, imaginative, and deeply attuned to the ways natural history continues to shape and be shaped by human thought and creativity.



Workshop held at the Herbarium, February 2024.  
Image credit: Collections-Connections-Communities  
strategic research initiative

## THE CAMBRIDGE PROTEIN SCREENING FACILITY

### Principal Investigator: Professor Laura Itzhaki, Department of Pharmacology

The Cambridge Protein Screening Facility (CamPSF), newly established within the Department of Pharmacology, represents a transformative investment in the University's biomedical research infrastructure. Funded by an Isaac Newton Trust Strategic Grant and supported by a consortium of the lead departments, Cambridge Academy Therapeutic Sciences, and Cancer Research UK Cambridge Centre, CamPSF is poised to become a cornerstone of molecular innovation across Cambridge.

Led by Dr Anthony Keeble (Facility Manager) and Dr Pauline Raynaud (Applications Specialist), CamPSF offers cutting-edge capabilities in antibody engineering, with a particular focus on nanobody development. In collaboration with Dr Mateusz Jaskolowski, (Miller Lab, Pharmacology, and Sormanni Lab, Yusuf Hamied Department of Chemistry), the team is pioneering the construction of novel nanobody libraries. These libraries leverage both phage and yeast display technologies to identify high-affinity binders for a wide range of target antigens.

CamPSF's mission is clear and ambitious: to empower Cambridge researchers in the development of nanobody and antibody-based tools for fundamental research, diagnostic innovation, and therapeutic advancement. By providing access to state-of-the-art screening platforms and expert guidance, the facility enhances the University's capacity to translate molecular insights into real-world impact.

Dr Pauline Raynaud and Dr Anthony Keeble of the CamPSF with the Kingfisher robot used to automate phage display selections.

Researchers across Cambridge are encouraged to engage with CamPSF to accelerate their antibody discovery efforts. For inquiries or collaboration opportunities, please contact

**Dr Anthony Keeble**  
[ak2483@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ak2483@cam.ac.uk).



Dr Pauline Raynaud (left) and Dr Anthony Keeble (right) standing by the Kingfisher robot.  
Image credit: Dr Vasiliki Mavridou

## SPOTLIGHT: DR MARIAM RASHID, STRATEGIC GRANT RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

The Isaac Newton Trust has been delighted to support the Kavli Centre for Ethics, Science and the Public through the Strategic Research Grants programme. Dr Mariam Rashid works as a postdoctoral fellow at the Kavli Centre for Ethics, Science, and the Public, here in Cambridge and is directly supported by this grant.

The centre is comprised of a research arm as well as an innovation and translation arm. Mariam works in the latter, taking the centre's cutting-edge research on dialogue and translating it into engagement events.

The centre's flagship project is The Hopes and Fears Lab — a space where scientists and publics (we recognise the diversity of 'the public' in pluralising the word) can spend 15 minutes discussing their hopes and fears for our shared, scientific future.

In May, Mariam presented this project at EUSea — the European Science Engagement Association's annual conference. The 'mini manifesto' recently published by the centre gave conference goers — and anyone who is interested in the Lab model — a one-stop guide to delivering their own.

Mariam told us, "It was such a fantastic opportunity to attend and present at EUSea. They had a record number of applications this year, and I was honoured to be given the space to speak. I'm very grateful to the organisers, and to all of the other delegates who showed great enthusiasm for the project. Really looking forward to the international Lab events we now have in the pipeline!"

The Lab itself has also been published in the Journal of Science Communication.



Dr Mariam Rashid, from the Kavli Centre for Ethics, Science, and the Public, speaking at the European Science Engagement Association's annual conference. Image credit: EUSEA photography team

## PROJECT AND EMERGENCY GRANTS

The Isaac Newton Trust is proud to champion research across all disciplines at the University of Cambridge. Through our dynamic and responsive grant programmes, we provide vital short-term funding that enhances and extends major research initiatives. Whether through emergency bridge support, underwriting, or matched funding for prestigious externally awarded fellowships, our commitment is to be responsive and as flexible as possible supporting researchers at every stage of their academic journey.

This year, we were delighted to announce the awarding of 18 research grants.

### Schools of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

#### Architecture (Dr Fiona Smyth)

Spectres & Camouflage: The Sound of Silence (1938-1970)

100% salary support for a Research Associate for 4 months and 40% salary support for Senior Research Associate for 4 months

#### Education (Prof Rupert Wegerif)

Rethinking Islamic education for British Muslim children

100% salary support for a Senior Research Associate for 4.6 months

#### History (Dr Alexis Litvine)

Comparing Accessibility and Market Evolution in the Long Run

50% salary support for Research Assistant for 6 months and 50% salary support for Research Associate for 3 months

#### Centre for Research in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (Dr Gina Neff)

Demystifying emergent technologies

100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months

### Schools of Biological Sciences and Clinical Medicine

#### Biochemistry (Prof Florian Hollfelder)

Enzyme Discovery in the Black Soldier Fly

50% salary support for a Research Associate for 7 months

#### Medicine (Prof Kenneth Poole)

Pathophysiology of Lysosomal Diseases: Membrane lipid trafficking and lysosomal biogenesis

100% salary support for a Research Associate for 5 months and supporting consumables

#### Medicine (Dr Ana Vujic)

The link between exercise-induced immune system adaptation and heart failure

Support for the development of proof-of-concept data

#### Pharmacology (Dr Janet Kumita)

Nature-inspired aggregation modulators of neurodegenerative diseases

100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months

#### Pharmacology (Dr Florian Merkle)

Bridging Funds for Neuroprotective Drug Development

100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months

**Physiology, Development and Neuroscience (Dr Lisa-Maria Needham)**

Advanced photomanipulation microscopy with rapid single-shot three-dimensional imaging  
50% salary support for a Research Associate for 12 months

**Physiology, Development and Neuroscience (Prof Ewa Kamila Paluch)**

Role of cell shape noise in cellular shape transitions  
100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months

**Physiology, Development and Neuroscience (Prof Ole Paulsen)**

Protein synthesis dynamics in the hippocampus during theta oscillations in behaving mice  
50% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months and supporting consumables

**Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (Prof Chris Rodgers)**

Match Funding Towards Terra.X Upgrade for High-fidelity Whole-brain Clinically-approved 7T MRI  
Equipment match funding

**Zoology (Prof Chris Jiggins)**

Population genomic monitoring of Soybean Pests  
100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months

**Schools of Physical Sciences and Technology****Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics (Prof Harvey Reall)**

Mathematically consistent formulations of gravitational and hydrodynamic effective field theories  
100% salary support for a Research Associate for 24 months

**Chemistry (Dr Svetlana Menkin Bachbut)**

Mapping Hot Spots on Electrochemical Interfaces: A New Approach for Safer Batteries  
50% salary support for a Research Associate for 12 months

**Chemistry (Prof Erwin Reisner)**

Light-driven CO<sub>2</sub> reduction integrated with lignin valorisation to produce platform chemicals  
100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months

**Engineering (Prof Anurag Agarwal)**

Non-invasive detection of silent aspiration: Proof-of-concept clinical device development  
100% salary support for a Research Associate for 6 months



*“This grant was extremely valuable in giving me the time and resources to complete a substantial piece of research and to consolidate my expertise in Arabic linguistics. It also allowed me to develop new skills, establish important scholarly networks, and lay the foundations for the current project. The experience has been instrumental in shaping the next stage of my research trajectory and strengthening my academic career.”*

*Dr Wiktor GebSKI, Faculty of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies*

*“The bridge funding was exceptionally helpful in enabling us to keep the research team together in between the two phases of funding.”*

*Professor Simon Deakin, Centre for Business Research*

## THE ISAAC NEWTON TRUST'S EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES

The Isaac Newton Trust is proud to make its most significant contribution to research within the collegiate University through its flagship Early Career Fellowships (ECFs). These fellowships represent a powerful investment in the future of academic excellence, enabling the recruitment and retention of outstanding postdoctoral researchers. Through strategic co-funding with leading Trusts, Foundations, Faculties, and Colleges, the programme supports Fellows as they embark on independent research journeys and transition into distinguished careers at institutions across the globe.

Each year, the Trust's ECF programme injects an estimated £1 million into the University ecosystem, with external funding partners matching the Trust's contribution. This not only amplifies the financial impact but also strengthens the intellectual capital of Cambridge's academic community.

The Trust has built a distinguished record of match-funding Cambridge Fellows selected in the prestigious Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship competition and proudly provides institutional support for international programmes such as the Humboldt Foundation's Feodor Lynen Fellowships, the Swiss Science Foundation ECFs, and other esteemed initiatives.

In addition, the Trust continues to expand its support through its Academic Career Development Fellowships and Junior Research Fellowships programmes which are integral pillars of the Trust's commitment to early career researchers.

In June 2025, the Trust was delighted to host a celebratory garden party at Trinity College, marking a joyful occasion to welcome our new Director, Professor Gemma Burgess, and to connect with the latest cohort of Fellows and friends of the Trust.



INT Fellows' Garden Party at Trinity College June 2025  
Image credit: Jenny Hayward



## LEVERHULME EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIPS

For over seventeen years, the Isaac Newton Trust has proudly championed the academic development of emerging scholars through its steadfast support of the Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship (LECF) programme. As one of the Trust's most enduring and impactful initiatives, this institutional match-funding scheme has played a pivotal role in cultivating the intellectual capital of the University of Cambridge and remains a cornerstone of the Trust's annual investment in research.

Cambridge's success in the national LECF competition is nothing short of remarkable. Since 2012, the University has consistently secured 10–15% of all awards nationwide, with an outstanding track record across disciplines. Cambridge ranks highest among UK institutions for LECFs in STEM subjects, and is consistently among the top three for Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, a testament to the breadth and depth of scholarly excellence fostered here.

Each year, the Trust orchestrates a rigorous internal selection process to identify the most promising postdoctoral researchers aspiring to conduct their work at Cambridge. Subject-specific academic panels, nominated by the Schools, evaluate candidates and recommend those to receive the Trust's guarantee of salary support ensuring they meet the entry requirements for the national Leverhulme competition. This commitment enables successful applicants to pursue up to three years of independent research, supported jointly by the Leverhulme Trust and the Isaac Newton Trust. In the most recent national round, the Leverhulme Trust received over 600 applications and awarded 152 fellowships across a wide spectrum of disciplines (excluding Clinical Medicine). Of these, 15 awards were secured by applicants backed by the Isaac Newton Trust to undertake research at Cambridge. The new cohort includes:

- **7 Fellows in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences**
- **2 Fellows in Biological Sciences**
- **6 Fellows in Physical Sciences and Technology**

This enduring partnership between the Isaac Newton Trust and the Leverhulme Trust exemplifies a shared commitment to nurturing the next generation of researchers and advancing scholarly excellence across disciplines.

Fellow	Department
Harriet Baker	English
Vincent Beile	University Library
Audrey	Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities
Daniela Cors Agulló	Applied Mathematics & Theoretical Physics
Erin Doody	Sainsbury Laboratory
Matthew Evans	Chemistry
Joey Feld	Chemistry
Marta Matuszewska	Veterinary Medicine
Philippa Mullins	Education
Brennan O'Connell	Earth Sciences
Jiayu Pan	Architecture
Mehdy	Asian & Middle Eastern Studies
Teresa	History of Art
Ganbaatar Tumen-Ulzii	Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology
Matthew Yoko	Engineering

## SPOTLIGHT: DR LUIS FERNANDO BERNARDI JUNQUEIRA, LEVERHULME EARLY CAREER FELLOW

Dr Luis Fernando Bernardi Junqueira received the 2024 Royal Asiatic Society Bayly Prize, the UK's most prestigious award for doctoral research in Asian studies, as well as the 8th Dissertation Prize of the Division of History of Science and Technology from the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, the world's largest academic association for the history and philosophy of science.

Luis told us, "as someone from the Brazilian countryside and the first in my extended family to attend university, these awards mean a great deal to me. I hope they will further motivate me to complete my first monograph in the coming months and begin work on my second book-length project, which explores the history of mental healing movements in modern East Asia. I am deeply grateful to the Leverhulme Trust and the Isaac Newton Trust for their generous financial support, without which none of these projects would be possible."



Dr Luis Fernando Bernardi Junqueira.  
Image credit: Dr Luis Fernando Bernardi Junqueira

## SPOTLIGHT: DR JOSEPH MILLARD, LEVERHULME EARLY CAREER FELLOW

The INT is delighted to support Dr Joe Millard through our matched funding Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship scheme. Joe has recently published a new paper as part of the GLobal Insect Threat-Response Synthesis (GLiTRS) project, titled 'A Multithreat Meta-Analytic Database for Understanding Insect Biodiversity Change'. This represents an incredible achievement and is the result of a huge collaborative effort. To celebrate, we reached out to Joe for some insights into his fellowship experiences so far and to better understand his project.

Joe shared "The aim of my fellowship is to research new forms of AI and economic mechanism that might help solve the biodiversity crisis in the future. Specifically, I have been thinking about how autonomous payment systems might be combined with remote biodiversity monitoring to derive new forms of biodiversity credit.

"I have been very fortunate to have interacted with some brilliant scientists in my PhD and postdoctoral work, both at Cambridge and elsewhere, who I have continued to collaborate with on my fellowship. I have the opportunity to learn from members of the Agroecology group led by Professor Lynn Dicks, and from the broader set of conservation groups at Cambridge, including the Conservation Science group, Insect Ecology group, and the many conservation organisations housed in the David Attenborough Building.

"My fellowship has been hugely enjoyable. The intellectual freedom I've been given to slow down and think has been a real privilege. At an early career stage, researchers often do not yet have the administrative responsibilities that come with seniority, meaning I can focus on learning and my research."



Dr Joseph Millard.  
Image credit: Tracy Pemberton



*“The INT matched funding in parallel with my Leverhulme Fellowship has been transformative of my career allowing me to make the following contributions to my department, the university, and to the discipline.”*

*LECF Social Anthropology*

*“This grant has been essential to enabling me to develop more independence as a researcher. It has given me the support to pursue an innovative line of research, such as giving me the time to develop a new theoretical account of speech sensorimotor control. This would not have been possible in a standard postdoctoral position.”*

*LECF MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit*

*“The intensive period of research allowed me to greatly enhance the publications list on my CV, and to develop a core new research project with wide-ranging impact. The opportunity to be embedded within the college system gave me manifold opportunities for networking and for career development (particularly for academic leadership and teaching)”*

*LECF Classics*

*“I would like to highlight my gratitude for having received the chance to pursue my research through a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship and underline how instrumental it was in securing my next position as an independent group leader. The fellowship not only gave me financial security for a longer period along with the means to perform my work in a world-leading scientific environment, it also gave me a large exposure to the scientific community that translated into many new contacts and further exciting opportunities for collaboration.”*

*LECF Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology*

*“I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Isaac Newton Trust for supporting my Early Career Fellowship. . . The Fellowship has provided me with the time, resources, and intellectual environment to develop the technical and analytical foundation for my independent research programme. It has also enabled me to establish new collaborations and to contribute to the wider scientific community through teaching, mentoring, and departmental service. . . I am deeply grateful for the Isaac Newton Trust’s support and for its role in enabling my transition to an independent academic position. . .*

*Dr Tristan Hynes Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Department of Physiology, Development, and Neuroscience. Dr Hynes has been successful in securing an Assistant Professor of Psychology post at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada. 08 October 2025*

## ISAAC NEWTON TRUST'S ACADEMIC CAREER DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIPS

The ACDF initiative exemplifies the Trust's enduring commitment to academic excellence, institutional collaboration, and the cultivation of future leaders in research and teaching. The Trust is proud to celebrate the success and expansion of its Academic Career Development Fellowships (ACDFs), a visionary initiative launched in 2021–22 to support Early Career Researchers in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Cambridge. Designed to bridge the divide between teaching and research, the programme responds to a critical need across Faculties and Colleges for integrated academic roles that nurture both scholarship and pedagogy.

At the heart of the ACDF model is a dynamic three-way partnership between the Trust, a Faculty or Department, and one (or occasionally two) Colleges. This collaborative structure ensures that Fellows are supported holistically:

- The Isaac Newton Trust contributes 40% of the salary to protect research time
- The Faculty provides 30% for teaching and mentorship
- The College offers 30% for supervision and Directing of Studies, along with a formal College affiliation or Fellowship

Fellows hold co-terminous contracts with both the University and the College, and benefit from dual guidance by the Head of Faculty and the Senior Tutor ensuring a rich and balanced academic experience.

The programme has flourished with the support of the School of Humanities & Social Sciences, which has played a key role in identifying teaching needs across Faculties. Philanthropic contributions have generously covered the non-INT costs, enabling the programme to grow and thrive.

Following a successful pilot year, the ACDF scheme was opened to all Colleges and subjects in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.

The Trust has committed approximately £120,000 to support these new awards and is delighted to announce funding for three additional ACDFs beginning in 2025–26.

Adding to the celebration, the Trustees were thrilled to learn that another one of our ACDF Fellows secured a prestigious academic appointment at the University of Antwerp, testament to the programme's impact in launching promising scholars into international academic careers.

### Academic Career Development Fellows starting in 2024-25

To date, twelve appointments have been made, including two exciting new partnerships in 2024–25:



**Ms Mariana Diaz Chalela**  
ACDF  
History & Christ's



**Dr Rhiannon Ogden-Jones**  
ACDF  
Law & Newnham

## ISAAC NEWTON TRUST COLLEGE JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The Isaac Newton Trust is proud to continue its enduring commitment to nurturing early career scholars through the INT/College Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) programme. This initiative plays a vital role in supporting outstanding postdoctoral researchers in the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and STEM disciplines across the collegiate University.

In the 2024–25 competition round (for recruitment in October 2026), the Trustees were pleased to receive five strong applications: stipendiary proposals from Robinson and Selwyn Colleges, and non-stipendiary proposals from Clare Hall, Lucy Cavendish, and Wolfson Colleges which were all approved representing a significant investment in academic talent, with a total funding commitment of £147,000.

The INT/College JRFs offer £20,000 per year for three years toward stipendiary Fellowships in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. Since 2019, the Trust has also contributed £3,000 per annum to support non-stipendiary JRFs in STEM subjects—ensuring that promising researchers across disciplines receive meaningful institutional backing.

Each participating College may host one stipendiary and one non-stipendiary INT/College JRF at any given time, with a single annual competition held during the Easter Term. Final selection of Fellows is entrusted to the Colleges, which apply rigorous academic standards to identify candidates of exceptional promise.

Eligibility for the programme is limited to Colleges exempt from contributing to the University under Statute G, Chapter II.

### Junior Research Fellows starting in 2024-25

We are delighted to announce the appointment of:



**Marc Czarnuszewicz**  
JRF  
Clare Hall



**Akaash Kumar**  
JRF  
Fitzwilliam



**Denis Topalovic**  
JRF  
Murray Edwards



*“The Isaac Newton Trust grant has been exceedingly useful in advancing my career and allowing me to continue my research during the pandemic. As you’ll see from the publications and talks listed, the grant provided me with time and funding to become an established researcher and is a thoroughly beneficial way to launch the careers of young academics.”*

*Dr Caitlin Harvey, JRF Fitzwilliam College and Faculty of History*

“The INT College Junior Research Fellowship has been extremely valuable for both my research and career development. Thanks to the generous support offered by the grant, I was able to devote myself to my research project on the rhetoric of ancient medical texts, which has so far produced a chapter in a special issue of *Rhetorica* as well as several talks at international conferences. . . I co-organised an international conference. . . and a workshop.

“Being in Cambridge during my INT Fellowship has meant that I could get to know, and work with, the top scholars in my field, several of whom are now collaborating with me on promising projects. My time at Clare Hall further gave me the opportunity to meet Visiting Scholars and Fellows in different subjects from all over the world and form friendly relationships with many of them. . . I could not be more grateful to the Isaac Newton Trust for this incredibly enriching experience, and I am excited for what is to come.”

*Dr Giulia Maltagliati, JRF Clare Hall and Faculty of Classics*

## BRIAN SHIERS LOWE FELLOWSHIPS

Brian Shiers Lowe’s magnificent bequest to the Isaac Newton Trust has enabled the Trustees to create Early Career Fellowships in his name, appointing one new fellow a year for four years.

Dr Harriet Baker has been elected to be the third Shiers Lowe Fellow and took up her Fellowship in the Faculty of English in September 2025. She joins Dr Thomas Powell Davies, Social Anthropology and Dr Nik Patek-Sargeant, Archaeology.



**Harriet Baker**  
LECF  
English



**Nik Patek-Sargeant**  
LECF  
Archaeology



**Thomas Powell Davies**  
LECF  
Social Anthropology

## OTHER PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE ISAAC NEWTON TRUST

CARA (the Council for At-Risk Academics) is a rescue mission for academics around the world who need urgent help to escape from discrimination, persecution, violence or conflict. CARA also supports academics who choose to work on in their home countries despite serious dangers, and higher education institutions whose work is threatened or compromised.

The University is part of the Council and is committed to supporting CARA Fellowships for academics at risk and welcomes applications for this programme. The Trustees have been supporting CARA Fellowships at Cambridge since 2018. The Trust supports/has supported six CARA Fellows and their families from Gaza, Russia, Syria and Yemen.

If you are interested in getting involved with the CARA project at Cambridge, please contact the CARA Office at: [cara@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:cara@admin.cam.ac.uk)

## FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

### TRUST INCOME 2024-25

The Trust's total income was £2.8m. Trinity College's donation of £2m was the Trust's main source of income. Trinity also provided funds for Widening Participation & Induction grants amounting to £417k and one of the new programmes, the Collection-based Research in the Humanities Programme, amounting to £40k. Our total income from Trinity for 2024-25 was therefore over £2.4m.

Of our other income, the majority normally arises from the investment of past donations and so comes indirectly from Trinity. Our income from investments increased to £300k this year. Other private donations to the Trust through Trinity College amounted to £14k including Gift Aid. Our bank deposit account yielded £35k in interest.

### TRUST EXPENDITURE 2024-25

The Trust's total expenditure was £2.7m (including writebacks and refunds) and included new research grant commitments (£2.5m) and administrative and governance costs (£180k). Of the £2.5m spent on 93 new grants, £1.9m was committed to 55 grants to support the University and £579k on 38 grants to support the Colleges (**Figure 1**).

Of the £2.5m funding providing for 55 grants to support the Collegiate University (**Figure 2**):

- **15 grants totalling support for £913k were made to projects in the Biological Sciences & Clinical Medicine**
- **29 grants totalling support of £639k were made to projects in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**
- **11 grants totalling support for £401k were made to projects in the Physical Sciences & Technology**
- **38 grants totalling support for £579k were made to College projects**

Figure 1: Grant Expenditure by funding category 2024-25

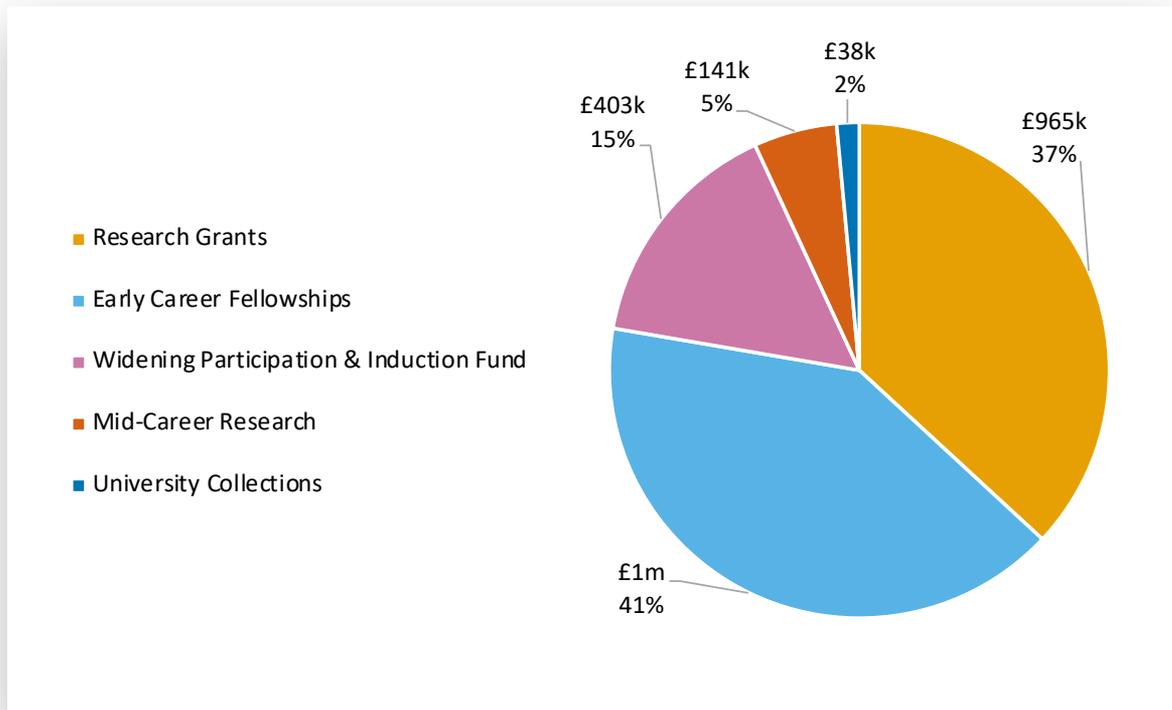
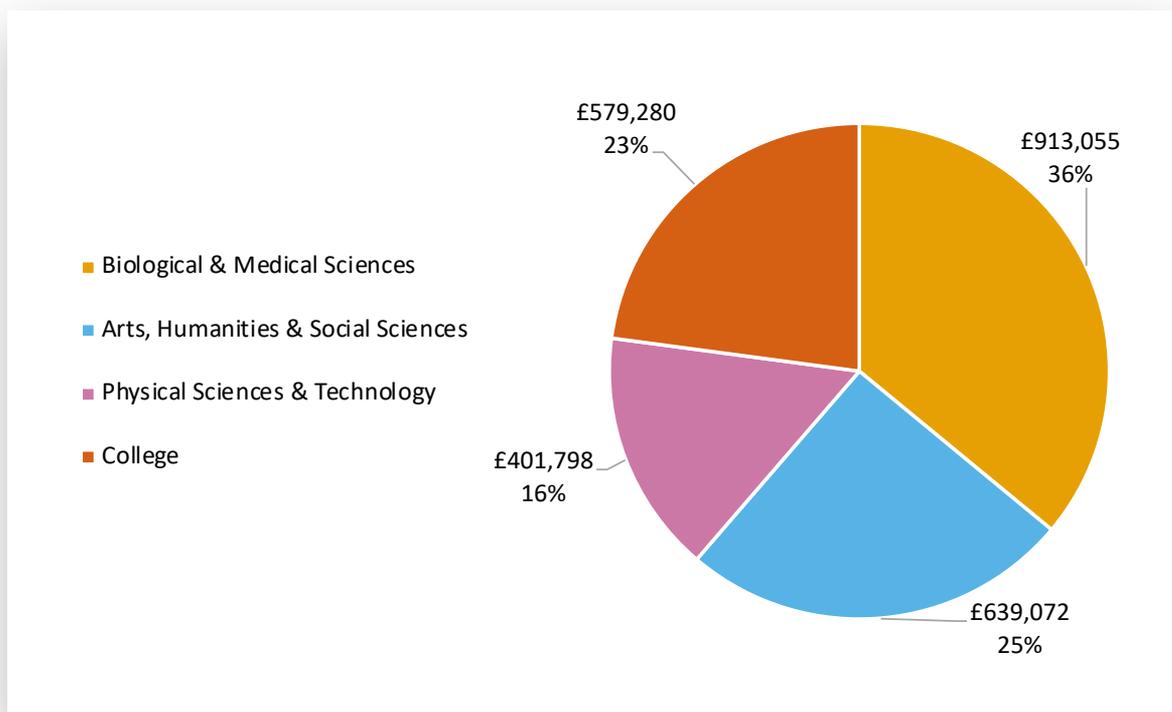


Figure 2: Grant Expenditure by Subject Area



## HEADLINE FIGURES 2024-25

Our expenditure has been reduced this year because the Trustees took the decision not to fund the Joint School programmes until a review had been undertaken (Table 1). Our spend on Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships returned to a more normal level following the unprecedented commitment in 2023-24.

*Table 1: Headline figures in GBP. \*Expenditure = new commitments made during the year taking + unused funds written back and refunded plus administration costs.*

	2024 - 25	2023 - 24	2022 - 23	2021 - 22	2020 - 21
<b>Opening Reserves</b>	4,141,734	5,121,373	4,387,701	4,510,748	3,045,317
<b>Income</b>	2,807,573	2,730,674	3,068,051	2,621,139	1,772,028
<b>Expenditure*</b>	2,713,881	4,059,062	2,348,980	2,478,535	1,612,750
<b>Gain (Loss) on Investments</b>	116,763	348,749	14,601	-265,656	1,306,153
<b>Closing Reserves</b>	4,352,189	4,141,734	5,121,373	4,387,695	4,510,748

## INVESTMENT & BANKING

The Trust's investment portfolio is placed in the Cambridge University Endowment Fund (CUEF), whose performance is reviewed periodically by the Trust's Investment Sub-committee. The Trustees' agreed primary objective is to aim to achieve a total return of at least CPI inflation plus 5% with the additional requirement that the portfolio be invested in a socially responsible manner. We have attended regular meetings with CUEF and are pleased to report that major progress is being made towards a net zero portfolio by 2038.

At the end of year, our total holdings were £7.6m in investments, plus £3.3m cash in the bank. The Trust switched its deposit accounts to the Co-op during the year. The Trustees are pleased to be partnering with a bank whose values and ethics are in alignment with our own.

## GOVERNANCE

The Isaac Newton Trust was founded by Trinity College and receives almost all its income from the College. The Trust became a charity in its own right (charity no: 1209261) during July 2025 and now reports directly to the Charity Commission.

## AUDITORS

Peters, Elsworth & Moore were Auditors to the Trust for the financial year 2024-25.

For full details about our Finance and Governance see our audited accounts:

[www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk/about/Accounts](http://www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk/about/Accounts)

## LINKEDIN

We are pleased that the Isaac Newton Trust joined LinkedIn during the year. As we continue to support research, education, and opportunity across the University of Cambridge, our presence on LinkedIn will allow us to share updates, celebrate achievements, and connect more widely with the academic and research community here. We look forward to engaging with PIs, RAs, Fellows, collaborators, and supporters - past, present, and future highlighting initiatives made possible through the Trust's funding and partnerships. Follow us to stay informed and inspired!



University of Cambridge student at Darwin College. Image credit: University of Cambridge



Lesley Thompson, Treasurer, Katie Barnes, Deputy Trust Administrator, Professor Frank Kelly, Chair of Trustees, Professor Gemma Burgess, Director, Dr Nichola Tooke, Trust Administrator. Image credit: Jenny Hayward

## AFTERWORD

As we close this thirty-fifth Annual Report, we do so with optimism and resolve. The coming year promises to be one of continued momentum, thoughtful evolution, and bold ambition.

We anticipate deepening our support for researchers navigating the complexities of academic life, whether through targeted grants, expanded fellowship opportunities, or new collaborations that bridge disciplines and institutions. The Trust will continue to champion research that not only advances knowledge but also addresses the pressing challenges of our time.

The Trinity Cambridge Research Studentships programme will enter its second year, and we look forward to welcoming a new cohort of doctoral scholars whose work will enrich the University's intellectual landscape.

We also expect to refine and grow our newer programmes, ensuring they remain responsive to the needs of scholars working with collections and those completing significant research projects mid-career. These initiatives reflect our belief in the enduring value of scholarship in all its forms.

Internally, we will continue to strengthen our governance and operations, guided by the wisdom of our Trustees and the dedication of our staff. We will be undertaking a review of our grant programmes and will engage with stakeholders at the collegiate University in order to ensure alignment with evolving academic needs. We are concurrently also reviewing our policy and procedures and focussing particularly on the ways in which we reach out and engage with the research community at Cambridge.

Throughout these endeavours, the Trust remains guided by its foundational mission: to promote learning, research, and education within the University of Cambridge. As we look to the future, we do so with intellectual curiosity and a shared commitment to academic excellence.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Isaac Newton Trust would like to extend its profound gratitude to Trinity College for its generous and impactful donation. Trinity's remarkable contribution has been instrumental in the advancement of innovative and academic excellence and groundbreaking research.

The Trust has also received donations from the following individual donors during the year. We are deeply grateful for their valued commitment to fostering research and discovery at Cambridge.

- **Professor P M Barrett**
- **Mr M J Brett**
- **Dr D S Chatterjee**
- **Dr J M Edwards**
- **Professor A J Elliott-Kelly FInstP**
- **Dr C A H Fisher**
- **Dr P W Forder**
- **Mr J H Fryer-Spedding CBE DL**
- **Mr J B Goodbody**
- **Dr R S W Hawtrey**
- **Mr K E F Mullaley**
- **Mr R Prescott**
- **Mr L C Richdale**
- **Mr N J P Sherratt**
- **Mr I C Smart**
- **Mr B S Wessely**

If you would also be interested in supporting the Isaac Newton Trust, please contact the Director to discuss your ideas.





**Isaac Newton Trust**  
The Postdoc Centre  
105 Eddington Place  
Cambridge CB3 1AS

Charity No: 1209261

[www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk](http://www.newtontrust.cam.ac.uk)  
[www.linkedin.com/company/the-isaac-newton-trust](http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-isaac-newton-trust)