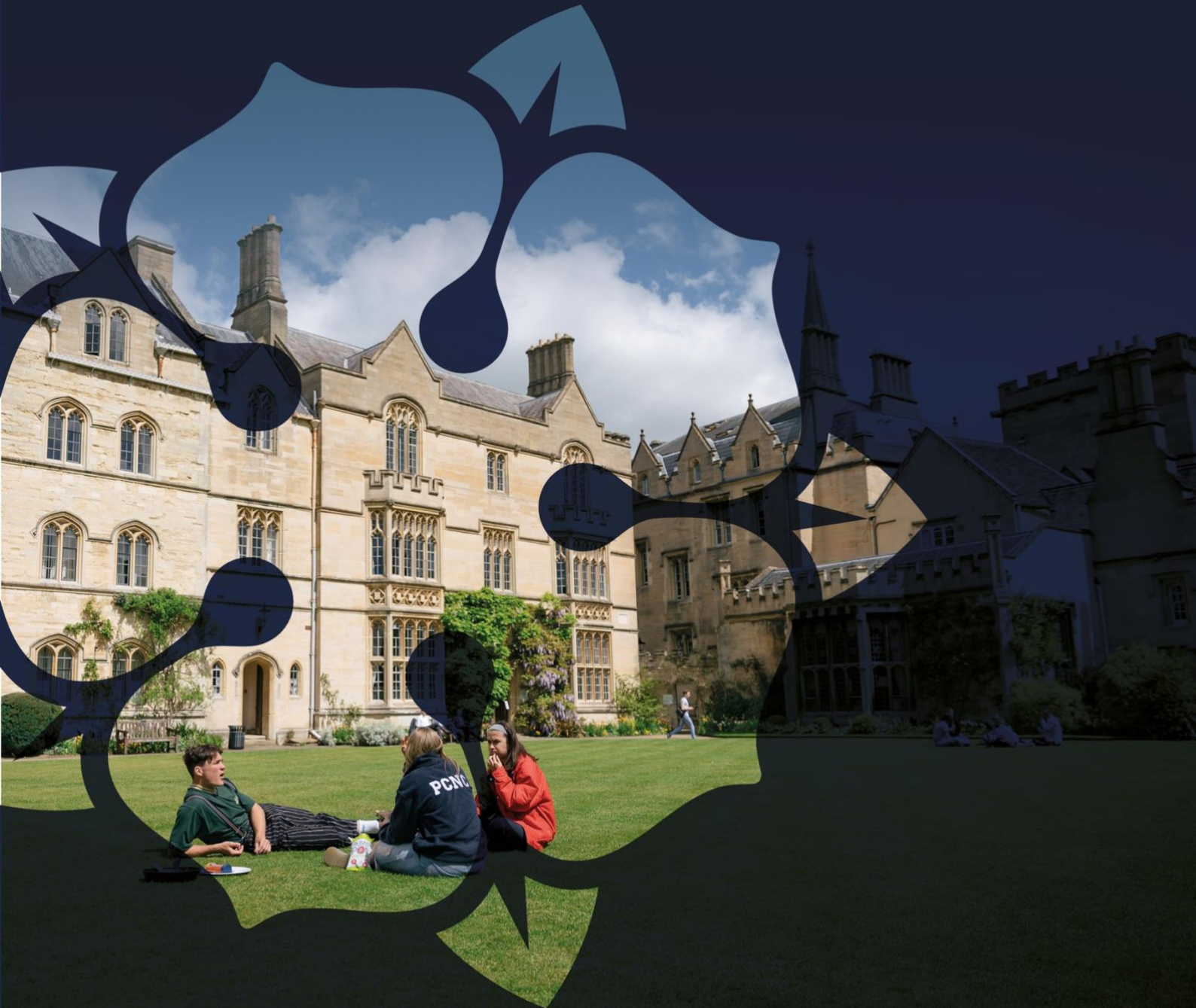




PEMBROKE
COLLEGE OXFORD

2020 Schild History Grants



This donation of £5,000 was used in two ways:

- Book boxes were provided for our incoming students over the summer so that the History Fellows could run a “book club” to get them ready for Oxford after the disruption to their Trinity Term secondary instruction. This was very much appreciated with one commenting just the other day that ironically, with so much time spent on screen, tangible hard copies felt like a luxury. Pembroke was the only College to have done this.
- The second purpose was to award an academic allowance of £200 to all of our final year history students to support their research. Please find below their reports on how such support has helped them during this difficult time of limited library access.

Student Reports

Mimi Bullivant (History and Modern Languages)

Thanks to the Schild History Grant for 2021-22, I have been able to access books for both my Bridge Essay and my Special Subject. This grant was particularly helpful as I faced many difficulties in sourcing books for my Bridge Essay in particular as I had no access to libraries for books. It also allowed me to buy some key books for my Special Subject that had limited copies available across the University.

My Bridge Essay is on the French Occupation and I have looked in particular at Patrick Modiano’s ‘Occupation Trilogy’, three French novels which recount France during the Occupation but also deal heavily with identity, and Jewish identity in particular. My title is ‘Representations for the search for identity in Patrick Modiano’s Occupation Trilogy and screenplay Lacombe Lucien’. I started thinking about my bridge essay during the first lockdown and started researching what books I may need. When I found that lots of the books I wanted to read weren’t available online I was very pleased to hear that I had received the Schild History Grant, as I was then able to buy some of the key texts for my essay. These included:

- Paxton and Marrus, Vichy France and the Jews
- P. Webster, Pétain’s Crime
- André Kaspi, Les Juifs pendant l’Occupation
- P. Burrin, Living with Defeat: France under the German Occupation 1940-44.

These books have made up the foundation of my research for my bridge essay which I have now almost completed.

I also used the grant to supplement the reading I did for my Special Subject paper. My Special Subject was Race, Religion and Resistance in the United States, from Jim Crow to Civil Rights. Fortunately lots of the reading was online, however, there were several set texts and secondary reading that proved hard to access. I therefore bought myself:

- Martin Luther King Jr, A Gift of Love

- Ariel, The Negro: What is His Ethnological Status?
- P. Harvey, Freedom's Coming

I have really enjoyed this paper in my course and being able to access all the texts without worrying about the costs has taken some stress off of me and for that I am very grateful.

I would like to express my thanks to the donor for funding this grant which has been so useful to finalists at Pembroke particularly during this unprecedented year when access to libraries has been difficult due to multiple lockdowns and limited spaces. Your donation has really helped me excel in my final year at Pembroke.

Anna Xue (History and Politics)

With the £200 Schild History Grant, I purchased books for the paper I took in Trinity Term (Politics in the Middle East) and books that were relevant to my history thesis research into a topic in modern Chinese history. I also purchased some equipment, including a webcam and a white noise machine, to support my online learning and working from home. I am grateful for the History Grant, which has been very helpful during a time when I have been away from Oxford, with limited access to library resources and needing to build a good study environment from home.

Lily Westcott (History and English)

I used the £200 to buy books for my dissertation on 1880s women social investigators in London slums.

Sophie Lewis (History and English)

I put the £200 towards two different things. Firstly, for accommodation to return early to Oxford early in September - as I really struggle to work at home this helped me get on top of coursework and my dissertation. Secondly, I also put it towards language lessons which I'm really enjoying! Please pass on my thanks to the donor for their generous donation.

Alex Lunnon (History)

I have used the £200 to buy a series of texts (about 10-15) which I need to look at frequently and in detail for my dissertation, and being able to have these books on hand has been incredibly helpful. If I was trying to get all these texts from Oxford libraries it would be a difficult and slow process, but having this money has meant that I can access key resources quickly and easily. This has sped up progress on my project and meant that the key texts and ideas my dissertation is focused on are always with me and ready to use.

Nicole Doyle (History and Politics)

I have used the £200 to purchase books vital to my thesis, which included a rare first impression copy of Hiroshima-Nagasaki: A Pictorial Record of the Atomic Destruction, a book in limited circulation that was not available in Oxford libraries. In general, the reduced access to libraries throughout the pandemic means that the Schild History Grant has been vital for my studies this year. I had originally intended for the £200 to go towards conducting archival research in Hiroshima itself, but the pandemic unfortunately prevented me from doing so.

Conor Reeves

I was very grateful to receive the £200 grant. As a History finalist, this allowed me to purchase secondary material, some primary material sources, and subscriptions to services such as Ancestry and the British Newspaper Archives. These have been invaluable during the primary research stage of my undergraduate thesis which has been disrupted by Covid-19 restrictions to archival access. Thank you.

Rashma Rahman

I have used your generous grant to predominantly purchase a range of books, including the 'Malcolm X Autobiography', 'The Bengal Diaspora', 'Communities of Resistance', and 'Women's Work', which have been fantastic thesis and coursework inspiration. The grant also subsidised the cost of a Samsung tablet to support my studies. It has been incredibly useful and effective in helping me to plough through documentaries, video interviews of oral histories, the secondary literature, and primary source research across my course papers.

Hannah Dingemans (History)

After becoming interested in the Middle East during my application to Oxford and furthering my knowledge by taking a paper entitled The Middle East in the Age of Empire, 1830-1971 in second year, I decided to write my thesis on the different ways in which the Baghdad Museum, created by Gertrude Bell in 1923, was used by the British administration during mandate rule and subsequently by nationalist politicians in support of their respective political policies and ideologies. I have been truly grateful for the incredible generosity of the Schild History Grant, which I have used throughout my research. Newcastle University holds all of the Gertrude Bell archives and part of the grant was spent on travel to visit these. In addition, I have taken several trips to the National Archives in London in order to access important primary source documents, mostly relating to administrative decisions and opinions formed during the period in which Britain was responsible for the League of Nations Mandate for Iraq in the 1920s. I have also been able to purchase several books and scans from external institutes which have been invaluable in developing my arguments further. Once again, I am extremely grateful to have been provided with such generous financial support which has enabled me to access vital sources for my research, especially during a period of such upheaval which has limited access to libraries and other resources.