

Front cover: Untitled by Lee Cutter, Longford Scholar and Fine Art graduate

Lee graduated in Fine Art from Sunderland University in 2013 with a Longford Scholarship. He now works at the Koestler Trust. This work was specially commissioned for our 2014 annual report.

"Prison for me," writes Lee, "was a catalyst and is still very much integrated within my internal dialogue. We often think of space as a separate entity to our human form; a place that we occupy for a limited duration before moving to the next. For example, in the morning I wake up in my bedroom before leaving to go to the office. I believe there is a strong relationship between in and out of body space. There is no separateness between the two, but instead a continual conversation on an unconscious level, which creates the connection. A prison cell is a Heterotopic space designed to remove you from the 'outside world', and after I departed, that space still exists within my 'internal world' through memory. The drawing shows a place I am still able to, and often do, access from time to time."

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The 2014 Longford Trust Annual Report

Annual Report 2014



There is a school of thought that holds that all charities should always be taking on board new challenges if they are truly to thrive and achieve their ambitions. I'm not sure if I completely subscribe to the thesis, but nevertheless 2014 has been 12 months of unprecedented growth for the Longford Trust.

We began the year with a simple enough plan – to expand our highly successful Longford Scholarship scheme. We had three specific goals: to increase the number of young serving and ex-prisoners receiving our awards of financial and mentoring support to undertake degrees at UK universities; to offer a new level of support for serving prisoners still some way off release, but keen to embark on a degree with the Open University; and to expand and improve our mentor-training programme.

I am happy to report all three goals have been achieved. The trustees made 18 awards of Longford Scholarships in June, on the recommendation of our expert panel of advisors, a figure that was up on 12 the previous year. In partnership with the Prisoners' Education Trust and the Open University, we made seven additional awards, to a total of £10,000, to serving prisoners who could otherwise not have started their OU degree studies while behind bars. And in June we held a very successful training away day for 20 new volunteer mentors.

All of this increased activity, of course, needs paying for, and 2014 has been a year when we made a concerted effort to up our game in terms of raising money from trusts, companies and individual donors. As this report shows, we have more than doubled our income to over £200,000, though we have also substantially increased our outgoings, too, as we have grown.

In our annual lecture, this was also a year of taking on new challenges. Since its inception in 2003, the Longford Lecture has been given by a well-known name with a particular and sustained interest in prison and social reform. In 2014, the trustees decided that, because the lecture now has such a high reputation and strong following among those who want to be challenged to think afresh, we could take a risk and invite a lecturer whose name is perhaps not as familiar as previous speakers, but who had a fascinating story to tell.

Nils Oberg is head of the Swedish prisons and probation service, where they have achieved something we can only dream of here – a reduction in numbers behind bars and the closure of prisons without crime figures rising. Nils described in his lecture – introduced as ever by the broadcaster, Jon Snow - how they have done this in Sweden. Past lectures have set out a vision of how prison should work. In Nils' lecture, we heard how it is working, within a government budget, but with humanity and an unflinching eye on the goal of rehabilitation. Encouragingly, the lecture hall was full to hear what he had to report.

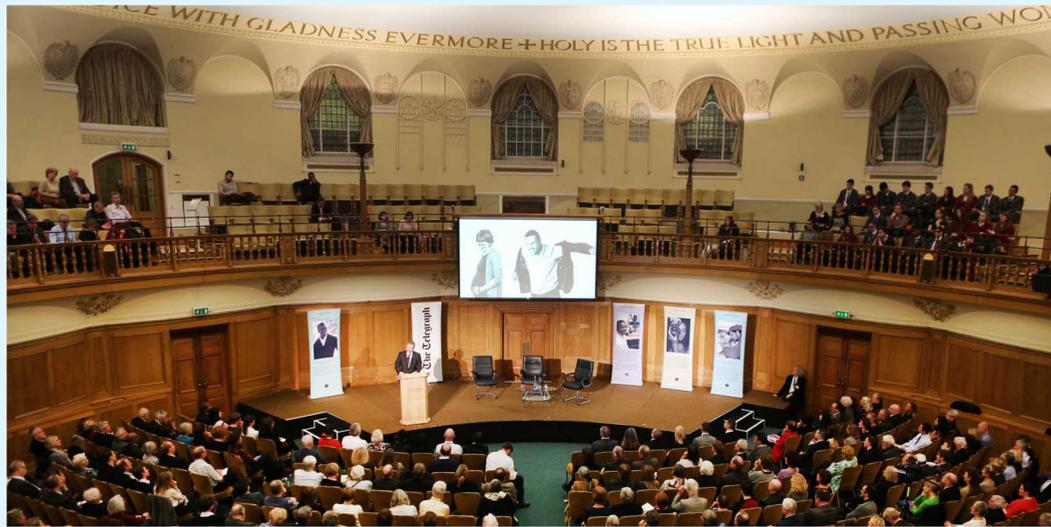
Our thanks, at this year's end, must go to our partners in organising the lecture – the Prison Reform Trust, and our sponsors the Daily Telegraph and Charlie Porter. And more broadly to the trusts and individuals who have generously made possible the range of work we undertake – especially Bridgewater Associates, the Milo and Violet Cripps Charitable Trust, the Monument Trust, the Ofenheim Trust, the Hawthorne Trust and the Rank Foundation for their many years of unstinting support. A full list of our major donors is included in this annual report, as well as a financial breakdown.

Peter Stanford
Director, Longford Trust

The 2014 Annual Lecture



Centre - the 2014 Longford Lecture in the circular Assembly Hall of Church House; *clockwise from the top right* - volunteer ushers from the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School in west London listen to the lecture; lecturer Nils Oberg and broadcaster Jon Snow present Mona Morrison of the St Giles Trust with a “Highly Commended” award as part of the Longford Prize; former Longford Scholar, Lee Cutter, in the audience; Nils Oberg and Jon Snow present a “Lifetime Achievement” award as part of the Longford Prize to Sheelagh O’Connor of New Horizon Youth Centre; the Longford Trust director, Peter Stanford, is joined on stage by Longford Scholars and their mentors; Michael Wickham and Matt Morgan receive a “Highly Commended” award as part of the Longford Prize on behalf of Product of Prison; and overall Longford Prize winner, Marina Cantacuzino, founder of The Forgiveness Project



All photographs Mykel Nicolaou

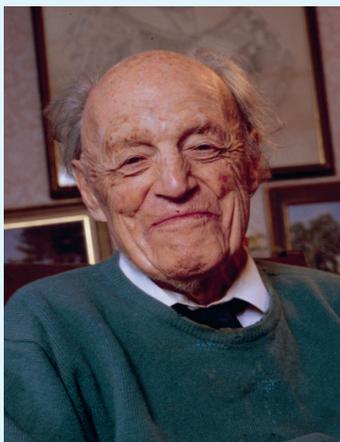


About the Trust

The Longford Trust was set up in 2002 to continue the work of the late Frank Longford in the area of prison and social reform.

Lord Longford (1905-2001) was a campaigner for the rights of prisoners and outcasts in society. He strongly believed in the wider social benefits of forgiveness and the paramount importance of education in rehabilitating prisoners. The Longford Trust, established after his death by his friends, family and admirers, aims to increase awareness and engagement in prison issues, as well as giving practical support to prisoners, and to those who work with them.

The Longford Scholarships are offered by the trust to enable young serving and ex-prisoners to continue their rehabilitation by studying for degrees at UK universities. The trust also awards an annual Longford Prize for outstanding work in the field of prison reform, and organises an annual Longford Lecture to inform and influence public opinion on penal policy. Speakers have included the Nobel Laureate, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, President Mary McAleese of Ireland and this year, Nils Oberg, director of Sweden's prison and probation service.



"We say prisons are for rehabilitation, so let's do the most obvious bit of rehabilitation: let's start prioritising education."

Lord Longford



Victoria Baptist photo Mykel Nicolaou

Victoria Baptist has started her own landscape gardening business in Gloucestershire after graduating with a BSc in landscape management from the University of Greenwich. She studied at the Hadlow campus over a period of three years, on day release from prison where she was serving a sentence for drugs.

With the financial support of a Longford Scholarship and the strong bond she forged with her Longford Trust mentor, Ann MacDonald, Victoria is now using her degree to build a new life for herself and her daughter.

As well as advising Victoria on her studies, Ann – who is a professional garden designer – has been able to open up new horizons for her on visits to Wisley, the home of the Royal Horticultural Society, and the Garden Museum at Lambeth Palace.

"I have really enjoyed the experience of mentoring and sharing my garden knowledge with Victoria," says Ann. "She has shown drive and a great depth of knowledge and application. I am sure she will be successful."

"I have been very fortunate with the mentoring scheme," reflects Victoria. "The Trust matched me with a perfect mentor who has helped me both mentally and with professional advice."

The Longford Scholarships

- **Afford** a unique source of educational funding for young serving and ex-prisoners to encourage them into, and support them through, higher education
- **Build** viable futures for ex-prisoners by enabling them to achieve degree-level qualifications and by offering them one-to-one mentoring
- **Create** role models of successful rehabilitation for young serving and ex-prisoners, and for the general public, by demonstrating how education offers a way out of the cycle of reoffending

Why the Scholarships are needed

The link between low educational achievement while at school and subsequent criminal behaviour is well established. Prisoners are much more likely than the rest of the population to come from homes where education is not valued.

Ministry of Justice figures show: (1) 41 per cent of male inmates, 30 per cent of females and 52 per cent of jailed young offenders were permanently excluded from school; and (2) approximately 47 per cent of prisoners said that they have had no educational qualifications.

Often prison allows inmates the opportunity to discover for the first time the power of education to transform their lives. It is at this point that the Longford Scholarships provide practical and financial support in order to turn this promise of transformation into a reality.



Jack Casey and fiancée Becky on graduation day

Jack Casey graduated from Bath Spa University in 2014.

It is with no exaggeration when I declare that, without the financial support provided by my Longford scholarship, my life at university would have been far more stressful. The funding initially eased the transition of moving and living in an unknown city and then consequently aided my degree study.

As a mature student returning to academia after serving a prison sentence, I found my three years wholly rewarding, fulfilling and exhilarating. My joint honours English Literature and Film and Screen Studies course provided innumerable opportunities and, in the classically clichéd way, has opened doors to my future plans and ambitions. Over the duration of my three years, I built a good relationship with my Longford Trust mentor Carolyn, whose honesty and friendliness was of great help and support.

Having met my fiancée, Becky, in Freshers' Week, we are now tying the knot in August and moving to Bristol to start our new life together there. Both of us are highly motivated to continue with our studies and keen to finance and secure postgraduate study in the not too distant future.

I am eternally appreciative that the Longford Trust recognised my potential and funded me, despite my criminal convictions and misspent youth.

How they work

Longford Scholarships are available to young serving and ex-prisoners (within five years of their release from prison). Successful applicants must demonstrate that:

- They are intending to study full-time or part-time at degree level at a UK university
- They have received a provisional offer of a place on a named course
- They can provide evidence of a genuine need for financial support and mentoring
- They have thoroughly investigated all other potential sources of funding
- Their chosen course will help them to rebuild their life and give back to society

Over the 11 years of our Longford Scholarships programme, we have worked with students at most UK universities from Oxford to Brighton, Edinburgh to Exeter. And the range of subjects studied stretches from pure maths to textiles. We fund vocational as well as academic subjects. The trust awards one designated scholarship each year to those wanting to study law - the Patrick Pakenham Award. It was named after Lord Longford's barrister son and was funded by his friends and admirers after his death in 2005.

What we offer

- Funding of up to a maximum of £5,000 per year to go towards tuition fees and/or living costs
- An individual mentor, from our pool of trained volunteers, some of them drawn from Longford Scholars who have already graduated, to accompany recipients through their higher education journey and beyond, into the workplace.

A typical Longford Scholar

- Our average award per scholar is around £1250 per year, or £3750 over the duration of a standard three-year degree course
- 95 per cent of our scholars have never had the opportunity to experience higher education before
- The average age of our scholars on receiving their award is 29, and the age range stretches from 19 to 43
- We rarely make awards for post-graduate courses, and only do so when there are compelling reasons as to why such study will improve that applicant's future employment prospects over and above having a first degree.

What impact have the Longford Scholarships made?

“Thanks for your continued and relentless support. My warm regards to the Longford Trust team.”

(Harry, on graduating in July 2014, with a 2:1 in his BA Hons in business studies at the Open University)

“Just to let you know I got myself a fantastic degree, very pleased with myself. Yipheeee! All the hard work paid off! Thank you ever so much for all the support”.

(Lullahbelle Purdy, on graduating in July 2014, with a 2:1 in her BA Hons in fashion and textiles at Essex University)

“Compared to how things were when I left prison, my life now is unrecognisable. I have a job in marine insurance. It’s a bit of a tangent from my degree but I’m ecstatic to be working again. Of course I’ll always be looking for opportunities in audio and recording technology, but for now I am overjoyed to be on my feet with a real sense of purpose! I truly couldn’t have achieved this without your help.”

(Adam Daly, on graduating in June 2013, with a 2:1 in his BSc in audio and recording technology from De Montfort University)

“Despite all the challenges I have faced, there is significant progress in my studies and I would like to thank you for your continued support which has made a difference towards my rehabilitation efforts.”

(Gift Kugara, in the summer of 2014, on completing year two his BSc Hons in actuarial science at Kent University)

“Thank you for organising the meeting up with other Longford Scholars at the university’s international evening. It makes a big difference to talk to others facing similar challenges. It was a great event. Thank you for everything.”

(Malyar, in the summer of 2014, on completing year two of his BA in history and politics at Westminster University)

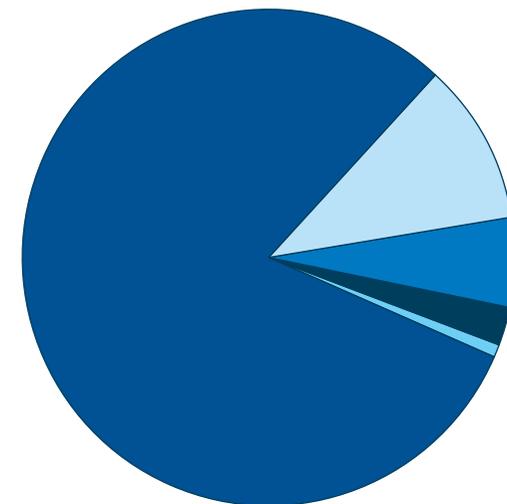
Education versus Recidivism

Under three per cent of Longford Scholars have returned to prison after release against a national figure of 47.5 per cent for all prisoners, and 56 per cent in the 18-21 age group.

Over 80 per cent of those receiving Longford Scholarships have gone on to gain a degree, or are currently at university and on target to do so.

More than five per cent of Longford Scholars have left university mid-degree to take up paid employment, but in an area related to their degree subject.

Snapshot of Longford Scholars



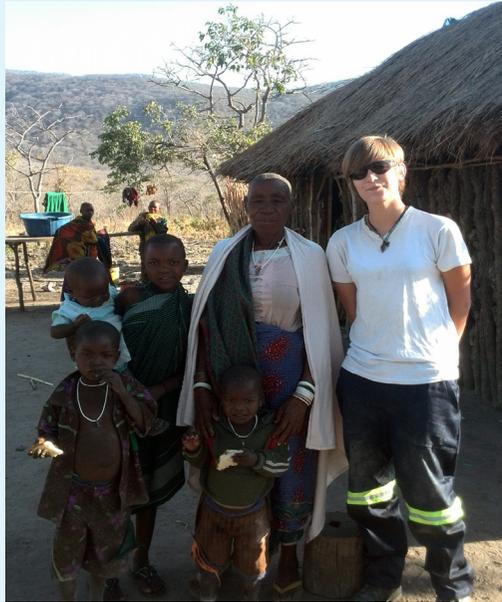
80.3% Graduating or studying and on course to graduate

2.5% Returned to prison

10.7% Dropped out but not returned to prison

0.8% Deported

5.7% Left mid-degree to take on degree-related jobs



Imogen Andrews (right) meets miners' families in Tanzania

Imogen Andrews (24) managed to secure a paid internship in the summer vacation of 2014 in Tanzania, with thanks to her Longford Trust mentor. Imogen, who is studying geology at Southampton University, with the help of a Longford Scholarship, is determined to make a career in mining. The first step on that road, she had been told, was to land an internship. Her four weeks with Shanta Mining in Luika gave her an opportunity to see all aspects of a gold mining operation at work, plus the chance to make friends with some of the local workers at the mine and their families. "I've wanted to work in a gold mine for as long as I can remember," explains Imogen, "so this internship was a dream come true for me. It has given me a massive boost in my studies, but more importantly having an internship behind me will help so much towards my ultimate goal – working in the mining industry. I couldn't have done it without Luke, my mentor, and without the help and support throughout my degree of the Longford Trust. You guys have been fantastic"

The Frank Awards

As a result of the changed funding arrangements introduced in 2012, a number of serving prisoners can no longer access funding to enable them to undertake Open University degrees while behind bars. In the past, serving prisoners who have completed several modules before they are released have then taken up a Longford Scholarship to enable them to complete the degree and continue on the road to rehabilitation.

To ensure that such an educational route remains open to all in prison who have the ability to begin a full degree, the Longford Trust has in 2014 established the Frank Awards, working in partnership with the Prisoners Education Trust and the distance learning co-ordinators at the Open University. The latter recommend suitable candidates to the Longford Trust, and awards are administered and monitored by our colleagues at PET.

In our first two rounds of Frank Awards, a total of £10,000 was made available to seven prisoners to enable them either to get started with OU modules, or complete more. All had been unable to access any alternative funding, including from the student loans system.

Among their number was Tom, who had successfully completed four of the six modules he needed to get his OU degree, with the help of official grants, but had been refused any further funding because of the changing financial criteria for serving prisoners.



Prisoners'
Education
Trust



Social Media

2014 has seen the Longford Trust working with web expert Daisy Evans to launch a Facebook page and enter the brave new world of Twitter. Our tweets now load immediately onto Facebook and can also be read on the home page of our website.

One of the challenges we set ourselves as a charity is to ensure that everyone who could potentially benefit from our three areas of work knows about them. Our presence on social media will, we believe, further that aim.

So, with our scholarships, we want every prison or probation officer, every charity working to resettle ex-prisoners, and every individual who might qualify for an award, or their families and friends, to hear about them. And with our annual lecture, we are determined that it is open to anyone with an interest in prison and social reform. The audience should be as broad and diverse as possible, but first they have to hear about the lecture.

More widely, we want to encourage people who feel as passionately as we do about prison education and penal reform, by directing them to news about fresh initiatives, fresh concerns, to good and bad stories in the sector. Through our Facebook and Twitter presence, we will endeavour to flag up all such material.



The Longford Prize

The winner of the 2014 Longford Prize was the Forgiveness Project. Its founder, Marina Cantacuzino, collected the award on stage at the annual Longford Lecture from Jon Snow, Telegraph columnist Mary Riddell and our 2014 lecturer, Nils Oberg.



The prize was presented on stage at the annual Longford Lecture to Marina Cantacuzino, founder of the Forgiveness Project, by Nils Oberg and Jon Snow

The prize judges – who include Juliet Lyon of the Prison Reform Trust, Lord Ramsbotham, the former Chief Inspector of Prisons, and Chloe Billington, on behalf of the Longford family, highlighted in their citation the Forgiveness Project’s “innovative and challenging Restore offender intervention programme” as “having a real and proven impact on changing how those prisoners who take part in jails around the country think about themselves and their crime”. The charity, they added, “is making a significant contribution to reducing reoffending as well as having a wider impact in creating a more positive commitment in our criminal justice system to restorative justice.”

The judges highly commended Mona Morrison – for her work with the St Giles Trust building relationships of trust with vulnerable and traumatised youngsters involved in gangs – and Product of Prison, a small Dutch NGO promoting rehabilitation in Ugandan jails. There was also a Lifetime Achievement Award for the New Horizon Youth Centre in north London

The Longford Lecture

Nils Oberg, the director of Sweden's prison and probation service, appealed above all in his 2014 Longford Lecture for a penal system that "treats prisoners as human beings, not criminals". Speaking to a capacity audience of 660 at Church House, Westminster, on November 27, he attributed the success of Sweden in cutting prisoner numbers and closing prisons to the dedication and care of his staff.



*Nils Oberg giving the 2014 Longford Lecture at Church House, Westminster
photo Mykel Nicolaou*

"We run an organisation where respect for inmates and clients is fundamental to all that we do, and not subject to compromises. It is imprinted throughout the entire organisation and it is non-negotiable. Positive and reinforcing interaction with the inmates is vital. We don't ask for the impossible of our staff. No one can like everyone all the time. That is not the point. But staff must be equipped with a mind-set which is both firm and open - enforcing but at the same time understanding."

Oberg spelt out how he refuses to employ anyone as a prison officer who is "afraid of inmates because of the crimes they have committed, indifferent to them as individuals and human beings, or in any way disrespectful or looking down on them because of the situation they are in".

Since 2011, he reported, Sweden has seen an annual decline of six per cent in its prison population. He put this down to a number of factors, including a strong commitment to non-custodial sentences, and a determination "to make every day count" in terms of rehabilitation when prisoners are in his care.

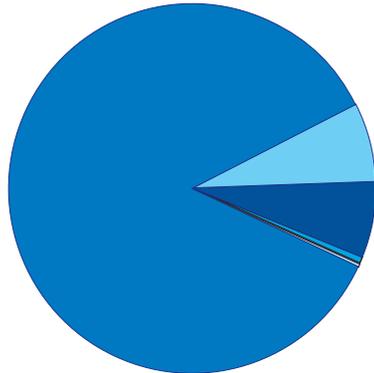
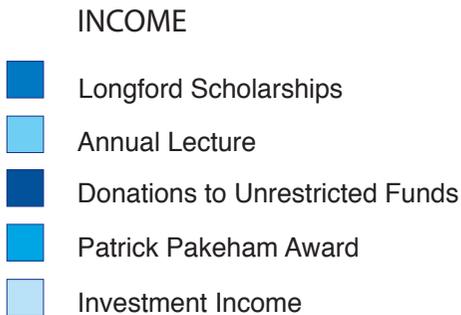
He also pointed out the lack of political interference in his country in the prison system. "In Sweden, as opposed to many other jurisdictions, individual members of government are constitutionally prohibited from interfering with the way we carry out our tasks. The government defines general goals for the administration to reach, and the parliament provides the legal framework and the funds to do the job. How we go about reaching our goals and financial targets is the responsibility of each head of service to decide upon. That gives us a great deal of freedom both in terms of how we organize ourselves, and the strategies we adopt to do our work.

"Most importantly it provides a clear division of labour between the political level and the public administration. In policy areas where there are sometimes very strong public opinions, this has often proven to be beneficial in terms of sustainability, and our ability over time to stick to the strategies we believe in."

Though there were MPs and officials from the Ministry of Justice and NOMS in the audience, Oberg was careful not to prescribe solutions for the British prison system. "I will not claim that the way we do things in Sweden is the one and only solution to the vast challenges we all face in the area of prison and probation. What I can say is that we believe that our model works for us, and that it has served us well for a long time."

INCOME

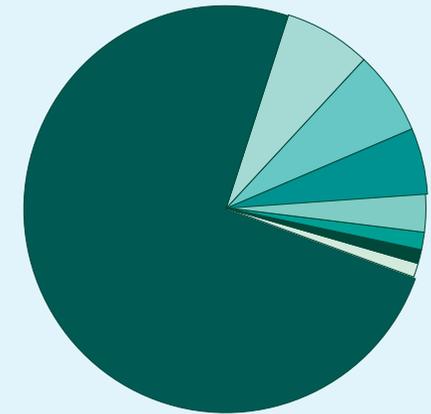
Donations to Restricted Funds	
Longford Scholarships	£180,565
Annual Lecture	£14,295
Patrick Pakenham Awards	£1,500
<i>Sub Total</i>	£196,360
Donations to Unrestricted Funds	£13,951
Investment Income	£156
<i>Sub Total</i>	£14,107
Total	£210,467



The trustees continue to maintain strong reserves capable of sustaining the Longford Trust's work in the medium and long term. We wish to ensure that the annual lecture is not dependent solely on sponsorship, and could survive if that sponsorship ever proved hard to find. And since many of our Longford Scholars are embarking on three or even four years degree courses, we keep sufficient funds in reserve, once we have accepted them on the programme, to cover our commitment to them throughout their time at university.

EXPENDITURE

Longford Scholarships	£129,773
Fund-Raising	£12,285
Annual Lecture	£11,317
Governance	£9,300
Other (inc marketing)	£5,434
Annual Prize	£2,270
Mentor Training	£2,118
Patrick Pakenham Awards	£1,621
Total	£174,118



Net Assets at end of 2014	£247,237
Current Liabilities in 2015 <i>(scholarships already awarded)</i>	£39,400
Liabilities from 2016 <i>(scholarships already awarded)</i>	£25,300
Total Assets	£180,737

Major Donors in 2014

The Aberdeen Asset Management Charitable Foundation, Michael Alen-Buckley, Charles Alexander, Lord Archer, David Astor, Peter Baldwin and Lisbet Rausing, Lionel Barber, Stephen Blayney, The Blavatnik Family Foundation, Bridgewater Associates, RJ Clark, The Violet and Milo Cripps Trust, The De Winton Trust, Lady Antonia Fraser, The Robert Gavron Charitable Trust, The Hawthorne Trust, Kate Hill, The KW Charitable Trust, Rachel Kelly and Sebastian Grigg, Lou Lockhart-Mummery, The New Maclay Murray & Spens Charitable Trust, The Man Charitable Trust, the friends of Joe Mankowitz, The Monument Trust, The Miles Morland Foundation, The Ofenheim Trust, Richard Oldfield, Richard Pollitzer, Charlie Porter, The Rank Foundation, The Sigrid Rausing Trust, The Rothschild Foundation, The Jessie Spencer Trust, Sir James Spooner, The Stone Family Foundation, Telegraph Media Group, and The Wates Family Enterprise Trust

To the Patrick Pakenham Educational Awards:

Dolly Costopoulos, Lord Charles Cecil, the Hon Harriet Cullen, Henrietta Phipps.

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