



6th May 2021

Help the Hawks' Club

Dear Hawk,

I hope that you are well and that you have been enjoying our more regular communications this year (see [here](#) for our last newsletter). While this year has not been the easiest for the Club and its members, both resident and alumni, tremendous behind the scenes feats have been made in getting the Club in as good shape as it can be: the trading and accounting operations of the Clubhouse have been modernised, the website has been redeveloped, the kitchen has been renovated, the member database has been consolidated, and importantly we negotiated a new nightclub contract with Revolution for Wednesday sports night!

The Clubhouse has been open for takeaway drinks since Friday 16th April, and we will be resuming table service from Tuesday 18th May, with the hope of returning to a free-flowing Clubhouse by June 21st! The annual Hawks' Event is also scheduled for the 26th of June and may be one of the only events in May Week with all College Balls cancelled.

With all this positive news, we feel that it is now a good time to ask you, alumni, if you might please consider, for donations to support the running of the Club: for many years, alumni have supplemented residents' subscriptions to help run the Club and the Clubhouse in Cambridge; historically this has contributed about £25k p.a. In May 2020, we started a quiet campaign to increase this, as the Clubhouse needed investment, and the pandemic cut core income streams (e.g. Rumboogie and Steele-Bodgers). Currently, we are up to £67k p.a., which is a great improvement. We continue to ask those who have never or who have not recently donated to consider doing so, and we are now also asking our generous regular donors to please, please consider an upgrade. These are crucial times for our Club. As a guide, we are asking for £10 a month, or more, if you can. We are targeting a recurring donation fund of £100k p.a. by the start of September 2021. We have a top finance director who is ensuring that the Club's funds are well managed, and we have a fantastic team of Directors and Trustees who have the best understanding of the resources it takes to own, maintain, and employ staff. Even with this reliance on the many volunteers, we need this money to keep the Club running. Our target of £100k p.a. will allow us to operate a thriving Clubhouse, provide additional services and give our members a place to celebrate Varsity sport, without reliance on event income generated by the residents (which is great when we have it, but uncertain). Vincent's, a small club in O*ford you may have heard of, in comparison, are raising £130k+ p.a., on top of the £2m they raised to mark their 150th anniversary over the past five years. Can we even perhaps dream of beating them?

On behalf of the Committee, we would kindly ask if you would consider making a donation to the Club, if you don't already - this can be done through the website: <https://www.hawksclub.co.uk/donate-to-the-club/>.

A regular donation to the Club would help enable us to achieve so much more in Cambridge, such as:

- Open Portugal Place more often for lunch - boosting income further
- Improve our website and communications to alumni around Varsity sports and student successes
- Offer more events in Cambridge and London for alumni members
- Reduce resident subscriptions; an £80 annual subscription is a barrier for some students
- Undertake a much-needed renovation of the Clubhouse dining room and lounge
- Hire a part-time Club Secretary to take on responsibility for running Portugal Place and administering our Club

May I also remind you that as a member of the Club, you are entitled to all the benefits listed [here](#), including access to our [reciprocal clubs](#). Most importantly, though, please come and see us with all your friends, Hawks and non-Hawks. We promise a warm welcome at your Clubhouse.



The Hawks' Club
18 Portugal Place, Cambridge
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<https://www.hawksclub.co.uk/>

We would like to suggest a donation of £10 a month (or £5 a month if you are a recent leaver). We hope that this is a reasonable sum for most and quite a number might even consider a little more.

For further motivation on why to donate, please refer to the [Why Donate?](#) page on the website, which includes a [Call for Donations Letter](#) from Ian Hodgson, Chairman of the London Dinner Committee, as well a [video from Mike Phillips](#), Hawks' President 2018-20.

If you already donate to the Club, I would like to thank you on behalf of all Hawks, past and present, for your gift. This generosity is really hugely appreciated; we wouldn't be able to run the Club and its Clubhouse without your support. I would, however, kindly ask you to encourage your Hawk contemporaries to also donate to the Club, if they don't already. There are rumours of swish Hawk lapel pins being sent to those who donate more than £100 a year to the Club..!

Please join the hundreds of other generous Hawks in giving something back to the Club, so that future generations can experience the same camaraderie and continue celebrating their sporting achievements in Portugal Place.

<https://www.hawksclub.co.uk/donate-to-the-club/>

Once a Hawk, always a Hawk.

Matyas David Molnar
Hawks' Club President 2020-21
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