



ST HILDA'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

JENNY WORMALD JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN WOMEN'S HISTORY

FURTHER PARTICULARS

The Appointment

St Hilda's College Oxford intends to elect a Jenny Wormald Junior Research Fellow in Women's History, tenable for a period of three years from 1 October 2026 (or as soon as possible thereafter) to 30 September 2029 (depending on start date). Junior Research Fellowships, or post-doctoral research fellowships, are intended to provide opportunities for outstanding academics at the beginning of their careers, and Junior Research Fellows play an important part in the intellectual life of the College.

The successful candidate will pursue a research project of their own in women's history which places the St Hilda's College Archives at the centre of the proposed enquiry. The project must make sustained and substantive use of the Archive's excellent holdings on women's education and on many other aspects of the lives of educated women since the foundation of the College in 1893. Further information about the St Hilda's College Archives is available at: <https://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/about-us/our-archives>

The College

St Hilda's is one of the constituent Colleges of Oxford University, founded in 1893 originally as a hall for women; it remained an all-women's college until 2008. The College now has equal numbers of men and women students, and maintains a commitment to equality of opportunity with a diverse community at all levels of students and fellows. The College has an academic staff of over 100 Fellows and Lecturers. There are at present approximately 400 undergraduates and 300 graduate students, who study most of the subjects offered by the University. Spectacularly set in four acres of gardens on the banks of the Cherwell at Magdalen Bridge, the College promotes a thriving culture of research and intellectual engagement. Weekday lunches provide a popular time for our academics to talk to colleagues in their own and other disciplines. During term-time, College Guest Nights are pleasant occasions to which Fellows may bring guests, and at which they may meet a wide range of interesting people. They may also enjoy the amenities of the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, and the musical events that take place there, including free term-time concerts organised by the Director of College Music.

The College has a very generous group of alumnae who donate to development projects within the College. Many of them attend various College Societies and other events, and have funded studentships and similar initiatives for students and the College. Research clusters are supported by the College's new Research Support Scheme which provides seed funding for innovative interdisciplinary research and research events held by our academic staff.

The College Library boasts seven reading rooms over three floors, with seating for 158 readers. The galleried main reading room, dating from 1935, looks out over the River Cherwell and the 'dreaming spires' of central Oxford. The Library has extensive holdings in Mathematics and related fields.

The Principal of St Hilda's is Professor Dame Sarah Springman CBE FREng. The College has a full-time Senior Tutor, who is also Tutor for Admissions (Undergraduate and Postgraduate). The Tutor for Graduates is responsible for postgraduates already on course, with the help of the College Advisors assigned to each student.

The College encourages all its members in academic achievement. We support our students through excellent teaching and pastoral care, and we provide useful termly grants for research and travel. We are proud also to support our Fellows and Lecturers in their research and teaching.

The College is an Equal Opportunities employer. More information about the College may be found on its website <http://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/>

Duties of the Post

The primary duty of the post is to carry out research. The successful candidate will be expected to pursue a coherent and ambitious programme of research and publication during the tenure of the Fellowship, which may involve the further development of doctoral work or an entirely new project, and which is demonstrably grounded in sustained research in the St Hilda's College Archives.

In addition to their research, the successful candidate will be required to undertake approximately 3 hours per week of work in collaboration with the College Archivist. This work will be agreed in discussion with the Archivist and may include assisting with the cataloguing and contextualisation of archival collections, contributing to exhibitions, events, or other forms of public engagement, and supporting activities which disseminate knowledge of the Archives' holdings and encourage engagement with the Archives by members of the College, the University of Oxford, and the wider public.

The successful candidate will be a member of the Senior Common Room and will be expected to contribute to the intellectual life of the College.

There is no requirement to undertake teaching as part of this post. However, in the interests of career development, the successful candidate will be permitted to undertake a limited amount of teaching should they wish to do so (normally up to 3 hours per week during term time). Any such teaching will be arranged separately and remunerated in accordance with standard College and University practice.

Selection Criteria

The primary criterion for appointment to the Junior Research Fellowship will be research excellence. Candidates must:

- have an excellent educational record; the successful candidate must have a good Honours degree (either First or high 2:1), or for EU/international applicants a qualification equivalent to a good Honours degree;
- be approaching the end of their doctoral research or have submitted their doctoral thesis within the last five years by the start of the appointment;
- have research expertise in women's history or a closely related field, as demonstrated by a completed doctoral thesis and/or published articles in refereed journals, as relevant; or promise of such achievement;
- have the ability to present research findings effectively to academic and non-academic audiences;
- have a coherent and well-conceived plan of research for the duration of the Fellowship, either building on doctoral research or developing a new project, which places the St Hilda's College

Archives at the centre of the proposed enquiry and demonstrates how sustained and imaginative use of the College's archival holdings will enable the project to make a valuable contribution to the field of women's history;

- not already have held a comparable career development appointment at Oxford or another university.

Remuneration and Facilities

The stipend will start at Grade 7, point 1, which is £39,424 per annum (indexed to academic salary increases) and is pensionable under the Universities Superannuation Scheme.

The successful candidate will be provided with use of a shared office in College. They will be entitled to free meals, membership of the Senior Common Room, and may apply for research expenses (currently up to £2,000 per annum). They will also be eligible to apply for small project and event grants through the College's Research Committee.

Application Procedure

Applications should include the following documents:

- an application form (to be downloaded from the College website)
- a covering letter including details of current and proposed research (maximum 3 pages)
- a *curriculum vitae* (maximum 2 pages, including thesis title and date of submission or expected submission)

Your application should be emailed as a single pdf file containing the documents listed above, to the Academic Registrar at rebekah.unwin@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk by the closing date of **12 noon on Friday 10 April 2026**.

Applicants should also ask two referees (one of whom should be the DPhil/PhD supervisor) to write directly to rebekah.unwin@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk by the closing date of **12 noon on Friday 10 April 2026**, and should supply each referee with a copy of these further particulars. (Candidates who wish a referee or referees to provide a reference only if the candidate is being called for interview must state this explicitly alongside the details of the relevant referee(s) in their application form.) References sent electronically should be in the form of a scanned letter with a signature. The College wishes to take this opportunity to thank in advance those referees who write on behalf of applicants.

Candidates are also asked to complete one copy of the recruitment monitoring form, which should be returned to recruitment@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk. This form is used for monitoring purposes only and will not be seen by any member of the selection committee.

The closing date for applications and the last date for receipt of references is **12 noon on Friday 10 April 2026**. It is anticipated that interviews will be held during the week beginning 18 May 2026.

Samples of written work are not required at this stage. Candidates who are shortlisted will be requested to submit 6,000 words of either a recent publication or a piece planned for publication.

Enquiries should be made to Professor Selina Todd: selina.todd@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk

Appointment will require proof of eligibility to work in the U.K.

Applicants who would need a work visa if appointed to the post are asked to note that under the UK's points-based migration system they will need to demonstrate that they have sufficient points, and in particular that:

- They have sufficient English language skills (evidenced by having passed a test in English, or coming from a majority English-speaking country, or having taken a degree taught in English) and
- that they have sufficient funds to maintain themselves and any dependents until they receive their first salary payment.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa>

The college is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.

February 2026