

Charity, Humanitarianism, and Childhood

Monday 22nd June 2026

**One day colloquium: Centre for the History of Childhood, University of Oxford
Magdalen College Oxford, UK, and online**

Call for Papers

We welcome papers that consider the theme of ‘Charity, Humanitarianism, and Childhood’ from a wide variety of perspectives.

Areas that papers might explore include:

- Children’s experiences as recipients of charity and humanitarianism, including in the context of conflict and displacement
- Children’s experiences as charitable and humanitarian actors and providers
- Representations of childhood within charitable and humanitarian discourses
- Institutions and communities that mobilise around charitable and humanitarian relief for children
- Memories, intergenerational transmission, and legacies of charity and humanitarianism
- Failures, limitations, and tensions resulting from charitable and humanitarian actions
- Archives for, approaches to, and public engagement with the study of charity, humanitarianism, and childhood in the past
- Conceptual connections between care, vulnerability, and age

We welcome papers from any disciplinary or professional background and career stage, including advanced undergraduate and graduate students. We encourage papers that engage with the diversity of children’s and young people’s experiences in any historical period and place.

Please send abstracts of c. 250 words for a fifteen-minute paper and a brief bio to sian.pooley@magd.ox.ac.uk by midday on **Friday 13th March 2026**. We plan to offer in-person and online participation, so please indicate your preference when submitting.

Organising Committee: Charlotte Canizo, Joseph Leidy, Siân Pooley, Susannah Wright