Virtual reality aims to increase patient safety

See pages 2–3 for impact of major legacy
Welcome to *Legacy News*. Here we explore the stories behind a range of legacies and in memoriam gifts given to The University of Sheffield, and how our supporters make a real difference to our students and staff.

**New technology trains dentists of the future**

Dental alumnus Dr Johnny Hangas (BDS Dentistry 1968) and his wife, Mrs Susan Hangas, made provision in their Wills to divide their estate between the universities where they spent their undergraduate years. For Mrs Hangas, this was Oxford; and for Dr Hangas, Sheffield, "to be used for dental equipment". Dr Hangas, who practised for most of his career in Banner Cross, Sheffield, died in May 2014, and his wife died just five weeks later. Subsequently, we received a legacy of almost £650,000 from Mrs Hangas’s estate, in memory of her husband.

In line with Dr Hangas’s wishes, this exceptional donation has been used to create a new learning environment in the School of Clinical Dentistry. The new suite is equipped with state-of-the-art virtual reality training equipment, the dental equivalent of ‘flight simulators’, which allows students to learn and develop operative skills in a safe simulation environment.

The haptic technology used in the virtual reality devices creates an illusion of substance (teeth, gum, bone and instruments) and the force required for particular procedures. Within this ‘serious game’ environment, students experience and ‘feel’ a wide range of techniques. They can select and use high-speed and low-speed instruments for the effective and safe removal of dental decay and, if problems occur, they can reflect on what went wrong and start again.

The School’s industrial partner in this collaborative venture is the French company HRV-Simulation. Professor Chris Deery, Dean of the School of Clinical Dentistry, is very enthusiastic about the opportunities the Simulation Suite now...
Supporting public dental health

A permanent endowment has been created using monies left to the University by another dental alumnus, Professor David Locker FCAHS (BDS Dentistry 1971, Hon DSc 2007).

The annual income from the £220,000 fund, together with royalties from his book sales, will support The Professor David Locker Postgraduate Scholarship in Dentistry, to be awarded to students with a preference for studying public health.

This is the field in which Professor Locker made an immense international contribution, sharing his skills and creativity for the benefit of all. He was Associate Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Toronto at the time of his death in 2010.

The Chancellor’s List

Professor Locker is now recorded on our Chancellor’s List. This is where we publicly acknowledge our grateful thanks to the individuals and organisations who, since 2002, have made donations of over £50,000. As of January 2016, admission to the Chancellor’s List will be for gifts of over £100,000.

The Roll of Benefactors

Dr and Mrs Hangas are now recorded on our Roll of Benefactors in Firth Court. This is where we publicly acknowledge our grateful thanks to individuals and organisations who have made donations of £500,000 or more to support the University since 2002.

“ Sheffield is at the vanguard of the implementation of this technology.”

Visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/dentalschool/our_school/haptics
Seeing with my own eyes

One of our computer scientists, Professor Fabio Ciravegna, is developing a tool to support the full participation of visually impaired students in lectures. And the tool also has the potential to be of use to any student who is unable to attend a particular lecture in person, through a permanent or temporary disability.

We have funded the research into the ‘Seeing with my own eyes’ project with a £10,000 legacy from Emeritus Professor Eric Sainsbury OBE (PGDip Sociological Studies 1955, CertHE Adult Continuing Education 2003), who died in 2014. We believe that this project fulfils Professor Sainsbury’s wish that his legacy should “enhance the direct wellbeing of students”.

His commitment to social justice was evident throughout his distinguished academic career: he was a member of staff in the University’s Department of Sociological Studies from 1961–87, serving as Head of Department from 1982–85. And as a teacher, he devoted himself to students’ pastoral needs as well as their academic ones.

“A large amount of information in student courses is delivered visually,” said Professor Ciravegna, “and visually impaired students are missing out on a substantial learning opportunity. The tool I have developed enables mirroring the screen of the lecturer into a student’s laptop or tablet, where they can then use a support tool such as a magnifier. In order to start mirroring, student and lecturer must open a web page and click on a link.

“With a minor modification, the tool could also cater for hearing impaired students by providing the voice of the lecturer directly in their own headphones or hearing system. I plan to make this tool free and open-source for others to extend and adopt.”

For further details about Emeritus Professor Eric Sainsbury OBE, visit: www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/our_alumni/obituaries

“This legacy will enhance the direct wellbeing of students.”
In memory of Richard

The family and friends of Richard Pover, a Mechanical Engineering student who sadly died in 2013 from a rare and aggressive form of testicular cancer, are creating a lasting memorial to him. This is a permanent endowment to be named the Richard Pover Outstanding Contribution Award. The University awarded Richard a posthumous first-class degree in a private ceremony.

His mother, Anne, explained, “Since Richard’s death we have concentrated our efforts on raising money for a variety of cancer charities, including the Teenage Cancer Trust, as Richard received such wonderful care in their Sheffield unit. But this latest challenge is a personal quest for us – to raise money for a lasting award in Richard’s name, which would mean he would never be forgotten. In addition it would help other engineering students from Sheffield University, where Richard was so happy.”

A Just Giving page has been set up in Richard’s name, and donations from alumni, staff and friends have meant that the appeal has already raised £16,000, with the aim of reaching £30,000. Anne added, “I hope that Richard would be pleased with what we are doing for him, although he never wanted sympathy or to be in the limelight … Having the support of people from far and wide has given us so much comfort, but in our hearts we wish that none of it was necessary.”

For more information about the appeal and how to donate:
www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/donate/specialfunds
www.justgiving.com/rememberingrichardpover

Richard’s family were named Champion of Champions at the 2015 Trinity Mirror-ScottishPower Your Champions awards for their work in setting up the memorial fund. The family received the award from TV presenter and Olympic medallist Sharron Davies (centre).
From one physicist to another

The donor: The legacy of a radar pioneer is supporting PhD student Tom Lyons, who is investigating the potential of two-dimensional materials. Mr Donald Tomlin (BSc Physics 1940) was an alumnus who cared very deeply about the University; he was an active member of Convocation and the Sheffield University Association, and received a Professor Robert Boucher Distinguished Alumni Award in 2012. He died in 2013, aged 95.

During his lifetime Mr Tomlin was a generous supporter, donating over £30,000. His Will contained a further gift of £20,000 as well as his scientific papers and books, now held in the Western Bank Library’s Special Collections. He specified that the financial gift was to be added to the endowment that supports the Clarke Prize for Experimental Physics, named in honour of Joe Clarke, one of his lecturers, whom he described as “A superb lecturer, a simple man thoroughly in touch with the student ethos of the 1930s.”

The recipient: “It is because of my love of research that I will be staying on at the University as I embark on my PhD. I’m very excited to get stuck into a new and fast-moving field involving two-dimensional materials. Winning this prize has given me an extra boost of motivation. I can assure Mr Tomlin’s family that his generosity has been well received and appreciated here in the Physics Department.”

Tom Lyons (MSc Physics 2015)

“Mr Tomlin understands the power that philanthropy can play in giving students their chance.”

Taken from the citation of the Professor Robert Boucher Distinguished Alumni Award
Prize in memory of popular professor

“Widely respected and a man of the highest integrity.” This is how a former colleague remembers Emeritus Professor John Nicholson, who died on 23 January 2015. He was the first Professor of Econometrics at the University, and a Pro-Vice-Chancellor from 1983–87. This period was one of severe cuts in higher education funding, and Professor Nicholson volunteered to implement a reduction in staff numbers at Sheffield, which he did with great sensitivity. When he retired in 1988, the Registrar and Secretary wrote to him, saying, “… without you … this University would quite literally not have survived.”

Just a few days after Professor Nicholson’s death, his wife Beryl visited the University to receive the Ushakov Medal in his memory from the Russian Military Attaché. This award is made by Russia to veterans of the Arctic Convoy of the Second World War. Professor Nicholson joined the Royal Navy in 1942 as an Ordinary Seaman and was a crew member of the convoy PQ 18, which lost 13 merchant ships. He rarely spoke of his wartime service, but was delighted to receive the belated Arctic Star from the British Government.

Family, friends and colleagues have raised £2,500 to establish a Professor John Nicholson Scholarship; the recipient in 2015 was economics student Lewis Eyley.

A recipient: “Receiving the award will help contribute to the financial package I currently benefit from. It also allows me to give more time to my volunteering with South Yorkshire Police. My parents, and their concern about the debt I am getting into, sometimes made me doubt whether university was for me. None of my family have been to university, and they do not understand how the institution or debt repayment works. I want to make my parents, and the people who have invested time in me, proud of me. I want to be the best I can be.”

Lewis Eyley, first-year student, BA Economics

For further details about Emeritus Professor John Nicholson, visit: www.sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/our_alumni/obituaries
Across the airwaves

The University’s first graduation ceremony took place in 1908 and one of the students to receive their degree on this prestigious occasion was Stanhope Baynes-Smith. We were very surprised to receive an unexpected compensation payment of almost £5,200 in February 2015 relating to his estate.

Research undertaken by Margaret Astill, of Mundella Grammar School in Nottingham, where Mr Baynes-Smith was a science teacher, has now revealed his history. Born in 1871, he was a silversmith by the age of 20, on Sharrow Street, Sheffield. In 1901 he was an instructor in science in elementary schools in Nottingham and joined the grammar school two years later, where he worked until his retirement. He had enrolled at the University as a mature student. He died in 1955.

Mrs Astill also discovered that Mr Baynes-Smith made some of the first radio broadcasts about science to Nottinghamshire schools in the mid-1920s. We have used his legacy, in conjunction with a grant from the Alumni Foundation, to upgrade the Music Room in the Students’ Union. This bookable space has three functions: a practice room; a rehearsal space with recording facilities; and a digital mastering suite.
Dr Raper’s legacy

In last year’s issue of our newsletter we reported on the £3,000 legacy left by Dr Graham Raper CBE, FREng (BSc Fuel Technology 1954, PhD Fuel Technology 1958) to the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. Three PhD students were selected to receive Dr Graham Raper Prizes in his memory.

“I studied advanced heat storage technologies, with the aim of developing a technology that can help manage waste heat captured from industry or power stations. I am very grateful to Dr Raper for funding the poster prize I received for presenting my work at the University of Sheffield Engineering Symposium.”

Rob Raine (PhD student)

“I am taking this opportunity to thank Dr Raper for donating the prize money – I won first prize for a poster presentation at our Postgraduate Conference. My research is on the replication of the method that bacteria use to communicate with each other.”

Jacob Lane (BSc Chemistry 2013), PhD student

“I am currently in the final year of my PhD, in which I’m researching how to eco-engineer bacteria to better convert solid waste into biogas energy. Very glamorous, I know! I hope that after I complete my PhD I can pursue my interest in communication and journalism in the water or renewable energy sectors or in science policy.”

Vi Nguyen (MBiolSci Biology 2008), PhD student

Continued support

One way that our supporters can help with our fundraising activities is to donate or leave a legacy specifically to bolster an existing scholarship or prize fund. The Julian Payne Memorial Fund was established in 1995 in memory of Julian Payne, an outstanding music student who died in an accident at the end of his first year. This fund awards prizes in his memory and now provides Julian Payne Postgraduate Tuition Scholarships for the Department of Music. This year, we received a generous legacy of £15,000 from Julian’s great-aunt, Mrs Joan Robinson, for the fund. Mrs Robinson and her husband Kenneth had already donated £25,000 to the fund in 2004. Their vision and generosity has provided vital financial support for students from Julian’s old department.

The Vice-Chancellor’s List

Mr and Mrs Robinson are recorded on our Vice-Chancellor’s List. This is where we publicly acknowledge our grateful thanks to the individuals and organisations who, since 2002, have made donations of over £10,000. As of January 2016, admission to the Vice-Chancellor’s List will be for gifts of over £25,000.
Beyond our walls

Dr Malcolm Carpenter (BSc Mathematics 1962) was concerned for the relief of famine and suffering in Africa and other parts of the world. It was therefore appropriate for us to devote his legacy of £500 to a one-off bursary – The Malcolm Carpenter Bursary – which was awarded to medical student David Humphries (MPH International Development 2014).

David completed his master’s degree during a one-year leave of absence from his MBChB programme; he is in the unusual position of having completed a postgraduate programme before his undergraduate one!

David travelled to Uganda for a placement with the Straight Talk Foundation, which works with young people to promote sexual and reproductive health. He conducted a series of interviews and his results are being investigated by the foundation to inform their future work. He said, “I am honoured to receive the Malcolm Carpenter Bursary and feel very privileged to have had my efforts recognised in this way.”

Legacy giving

We are grateful to the many individuals who have left the University a gift in their Will or have remembered a loved one through a donation since 2000. This act of kindness helps us to support world-class research and teaching, and to plan for the future with greater security and flexibility.

- 700 people have pledged a gift in their Will and are members of the Heritage Circle
- 2,000 people have expressed an interest in leaving a gift in their Will
- £855,000 received through legacy giving in 2015
- 102 legacy gifts received totalling £7.1 million
The Big Walk

Over two weeks in September 2015, a team of 22 alumni, staff and friends of the University walked the entire 268 miles of the Pennine Way, from north to south. This fantastic feat of endurance was in aid of raising funds for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) research at the University. At the time of going to print, the total amount raised is £86,000 – this includes a donation of £10,000 we received from the family of Jane Riberzani, a former tutor in the English Language Teaching Centre, in her memory.

Sheffield is a major international centre for the diagnosis, treatment and research of PAH, a life-threatening condition affecting the lungs and the right side of the heart. The fund will be invested in supporting the new Donald Heath Fellowship Programme in Pulmonary Hypertension, named in memory of pathologist and alumnus Professor Donald Heath (MBChB Medicine 1952, MD 1956, DSc 1980). This programme incorporates both clinical and basic scientists and has translational research at its core, with the aim of developing and testing new treatments and making them available to patients as quickly as possible.

For the final day of the trek, the Big Walkers were joined by over 100 staff, students, family and friends for an extra 18-mile leg from Edale to Sheffield. One of the Team Leaders, Professor Tony Weetman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor – Medicine, Dentistry & Health, commented, “This was an intense experience, as much in the build-up as in the doing – all the planning of route, accommodation and food, the gear chosen, bought and worn in, the practice walks, the banter from friends and family, and the huge responsibility of fundraising. This was a very public walk, and everyone taking part was utterly committed to it for months before the start.

“The Big Walk has raised the profile of PAH locally – heightened awareness and raised funds for research into new treatments, and potentially a cure. We may have finished walking but the fundraising is still on-going!”

www.justgiving.com/thebigwalk2015
www.sheffield.ac.uk/big-walk
Fulfilling your wishes

We do our utmost to ensure that a legacy or donation to The University of Sheffield is devoted to precisely the use you intend. You may find that a discussion with David Meadows, Development Officer – Legacies, provides you with the information and assurances you need to help you clarify your decision.

David also enjoys taking alumni, former staff and friends on tours of the campus, to relive memories and revisit an old department and the Students’ Union. The University is constantly evolving, and this may be the perfect way to explain how your gift can make an impact on the future of the institution.

Please contact David Meadows, Development Officer – Legacies
Call 0114 222 1073 or Email d.meadows@sheffield.ac.uk
www.sheffield.ac.uk/legacies

Welcoming our new Chancellor

The new Chancellor of The University of Sheffield – The Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty DBE (LLB Law 1971, Hon LLD 2005) – was installed at a special ceremony held in Firth Hall on 26 November 2015. She took on the role from Sir Peter Middleton GCB (BA Economics 1955, Hon LittD 1984), following his retirement in summer 2015.

Dame Anne was clearly moved by the occasion and said her appointment was an opportunity to repay the University of Sheffield for what it had done for her: “This University shaped my career by shaping me – I was well taught here. I believe with every fibre in me that education is the transformer.”

www.sheffield.ac.uk/govern/chancellor

The Rt Hon Lady Justice Rafferty DBE, the new Chancellor of The University of Sheffield

www.sheffield.ac.uk/legacies