Helping our University sing
How legacies are raising the roof in every area of University life

Read more about the Colin Hand Prize on page 5
**What will be your legacy?** As we take stock of our lives, this is a question we find ourselves asking. One part of the answer, and one that could really make a difference to so many people's lives, could be to leave a gift in your Will to the University of Sheffield.

In this issue of Legacy News, we celebrate the range and impact of recent University legacy gifts. See what has inspired people to make these generous legacies and discover how you can include the University of Sheffield in your own legacy giving plans.

**Specified legacy gifts**
You can set up a legacy gift for a specific cause at the University, or for an endowment fund linked to a prize or scholarship. See our stories on pages 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 12 as great examples of specified legacies, where the wishes of the donor are honoured in the area benefiting from the support being given.

**Unrestricted legacy gifts**
A different approach, and one that is equally welcomed by the University, is to leave a legacy gift with no conditions attached as to which cause within the University will benefit from it. This is where the legacy team at the University can provide a sensitive and sympathetic service, often warmly appreciated by friends and family of the person leaving the gift.

Even if the legacy is unrestricted, we still like to reflect the donor’s interests in how the legacy is spent. This is often as a result of research and consultation with friends and family, if we have not had any dialogue with the generous donor during their lifetime.

The legacy gifts described on pages 6, 11 and 13 are examples of unrestricted gifts which complement the interests of each donor.

**Your legacy, supporting the University**
As our Legacy News stories on pages 4-9 illustrate, the sheer range and diversity of the University’s activities make it easy to facilitate linking each donor’s legacy gift with their career path or their interests. The arts, sport, scientific and medical research, commerce and engineering, student wellbeing… whatever it is that interests or concerns you, there are causes within our University that these can be linked to and can benefit from your planned donation. This can be achieved in two ways:

**Specified legacy gifts**

**Unrestricted legacy gifts**

**Sharing the impact of your legacy**
We ensure, whenever possible, that friends and family are kept informed as to how a legacy has been used. The stories in this Legacy News are one of the ways we do this, and we know that families appreciate the care we have taken to ensure that a legacy is spent in the most appropriate way.

"Thank you so much for your letter regarding my husband’s legacy. The project ‘Seeing with my own eyes’ sounds ideal, not least because of its wider application to visually impaired students everywhere. We always included RNIB in our charity list, and as a special needs teacher I had some relevant experience myself: so you couldn’t have chosen better. Thank you."

Audrey Sainsbury, widow of Professor Eric Sainsbury, who remembered the University with an unrestricted gift in his Will.
A vivid example of a legacy gift reflecting someone’s lifelong passion is the setting up and granting of the inaugural Colin Hand Prize for conducting. Dr Colin Hand (1929-2015) enjoyed an eminent career in music, as a performer, lecturer, examiner and composer. He composed choral, orchestral and chamber music and performed regularly both in the UK and abroad. Dr Hand had no direct connection with the University, but his late wife, Margaret Hand (née Hadley), graduated from Sheffield in 1951 and went on to have a teaching career in the city. Margaret also left a substantial legacy gift to the University when she died in 2008. This connection inspired Dr Hand to make a gift in his Will to the University’s Department of Music. This has been used to create the Prize, worth £1,000 per year and being awarded for the next 15 years. The inaugural winner is the current conductor of the University Chamber Choir, Tristan Fanning. Dr Hand’s legacy has also funded the restoration of the Department’s clavichord.

In celebration of both the prize and the instrument’s restoration, a Chamber Choir concert was held in Firth Court in April 2019. The cover photo of this issue of Legacy News shows Tristan and the Choir rehearsing for the concert.

Vic King

Vic King had no direct links with the University. Vic had a lifelong involvement and interest in fairground rides and during his life was an important donor of material to the Archive. He was a trained engineer and draughtsman and amongst other companies he worked at Allen’s of Oxford, an engineering firm which built fairground rides in the 1920s. Vic salvaged a unique collection of ride engineering drawings from Allen’s and donated these to the Archive, along with his own remarkable cine films and photographs of the landmark Oxford St Giles fair being set up and run. Vic died in 2017 aged 96 and has now left a gift in his Will of £10,000 to the Archive. This is being used to digitise the Archive’s extensive collection of films and photographs, including those donated by Vic. This is ensuring that those precious images are preserved and is also making them accessible to students and to the next generation of fairground enthusiasts. Thank you, Vic for helping to ensure that the NFCA continues to build its reputation as the fairground and circus academic resource in the UK.

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Professor Stan Gregory, who had an illustrious career at the University, has left a generous unrestricted gift in his Will of £15,000. This has been match-funded by the University to facilitate the creation of two scholarships for postgraduate students, as well as a contribution to the Sheffield University Southern Africa Scholarship Support Fund (SUSASSF).

He came to Sheffield in 1968 as Professor of Geography, serving as Head of Department, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Pro-Vice-Chancellor before he retired in 1988. During his career, he took a leading role in the Institute of British Geographers and was President of the Geographical Association. Among many glowing tributes from former colleagues and academics, it has been said of Professor Gregory that “He was a forerunner of today’s specialists in climate change”, and “a major agent for change in how geography was practised here in the UK.”

One of the recipients of a Stan Gregory Scholarship, Josh Samuels, is studying for an MA in International Criminology and spoke of the enormous impact of his scholarship: “Without the support of the Stan Gregory Scholarship my educational journey would probably have stopped at undergraduate level. This scholarship has allowed me to continue on this path, by contributing to my fees and living expenses, allowing me to focus solely on my studies, in pursuit of eventual PhD study. Generosity like Professor Gregory’s is not to be underestimated!”

Professor Gregory kept in touch with significant numbers of his former students right through his long years of retirement and his family are delighted that these University links continue with these important scholarships.

Scholarships from a climate change visionary

Anyone who used the Geography library at the University between the mid ’60s and late ’80s will have fond memories of its librarian during that period, Joan Chibnall. Former students have remarked on her somewhat stentorian calls of “Please can you keep the noise down — this is a library”, delivered with a twinkle in her eye. Joan was the Geography librarian and the department’s map curator for over 30 years, until her retirement in 1989, a job that her sister Cicely confirmed that she absolutely loved. With a degree in Geography, an BSc and a Diploma in Librarianship, Joan’s academic background and her passion for maps made her uniquely qualified for her role.

Joan’s love of libraries has been reflected in her generous £5,000 legacy gift to the University library. This has been used to refurbish the Wolfson Suite in Western Bank Library. The Wolfson Suite had no longer been fit for purpose and was overdue for refurbishment. There had been nowhere in Western Bank library for students to meet or work together, and Joan’s gift, together with a grant made possible through other philanthropic donations, has allowed the space to be brought up to date.

Family, friends and former colleagues of Joan gathered on 24 May 2019 in the newly refurbished Wolfson Suite to celebrate Joan’s generosity and her career at the University. Anne Horn, Director of Library Services & University Librarian commented, “Students now have access to a wide range of equipment, as well as a space for forums and film showings. The day the finishing touches were being made to the suite, students were in the room even before the furniture was set up; they were so keen to use this wonderful new space.”

Joan’s sister Cicely said how much she had loved the opportunity to see the Wolfson Suite and to hear from Joan’s former colleagues how highly valued Joan’s contribution had been as a member of staff and how fondly she was remembered.

For the love of maps

Joan Chibnall

Joan’s plaque on display in the Wolfson Suite.

For the love of maps

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Joan’s plaque on display in the Wolfson Suite.
In memory of her friend, a Scanner windfall

As reported in Legacy News 2018, a major fundraising initiative for the University has been the Sheffield Scanner. This groundbreaking MRI-PET facility is currently being installed in a purpose-built building on the Royal Hallamshire Hospital complex in Sheffield. We have now reached and exceeded our huge £2 million fundraising target for this project. MRI-PET will help transform our understanding of serious conditions like cancer, dementia, heart and lung diseases, Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and Parkinson’s Disease and the way that they are treated in the future. This will be one of only eight MRI-PET scanners in the UK and the first facility of its kind in Yorkshire.

A massive help towards our target has been a £140,000 legacy gift from Ruth Saxby, specified for the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience (SITeN), which is a key partner in the Scanner project. Ruth had no direct links with the University but lived and worked in Sheffield all her life. She saw her close friend Rosemary suffer greatly with MND and commented on what a cruel disease it is. What Ruth witnessed her friend go through clearly had a profound effect on her, and her substantial legacy gift is testimony to that.

We are hugely grateful to Ruth and her legacy will be to make a significant contribution to the research and treatment of MND using the Sheffield Scanner.

Ruth spent her later years at Twelve Trees Residential Home in Sheffield, where the staff commented,

“Ruth was a very kind lady and always spent time with other residents and staff to have a chat, to reminisce and to just have a cup of tea and a biscuit with. The generosity of Ruth was shown every day in the person that she was.”

Ruth’s legacy gift certainly bears witness to that generosity.

shef.ac.uk/sheffieldscanner

Music to people’s ears

Dr Alan Kelly (Hon DMus 2007), who died in 2015, was one of the world’s most respected discographers, frequently cited as the authority to turn to by serious record collectors.

Dr Kelly made an outstanding contribution to the professional documentation of a large segment of recorded music, from the earliest classical music recordings right up to those made in the mid-1930s, in the UK and across Europe. This lifelong achievement was recognised by the University in 2007 when he received an Honorary Doctorate in Music, a first for a British discographer.

We are therefore excited and honoured that Alan Kelly chose to make two substantial gifts to the University in his Will.

The first is £100,000 for an endowment, which has been allocated to the University’s general endowment account named the Benefactors’ Fund. The annual income on this endowment has been matched by the University for the foreseeable future. The income from the Fund will give invaluable support to talented students who are in financial need, departmental projects and fellowships, and student clubs and societies.

The second is £50,000 for hearing research. For someone with such a keen interest in music, this is of course a wonderful and fitting legacy for Dr Kelly to bestow on the University.

The University is at the forefront of groundbreaking research into discovering a stem cell cure for deafness. In addition to this, it has been developing instructional videos for parents of hearing-impaired babies. These highlight the kinds of interactions that will help their babies to learn during a critical period of their development.

University researcher Danielle Matthews commented, “Dr Kelly’s donation has enabled us to bring all of this work to fruition. Without it, promising work would certainly have stalled – findings would not have been published and the videos needed for families could not have been made. We are incredibly grateful.”

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Funding world-class bone research

Gwendolyn Bridges (1925-2016), a well-loved local Sheffield resident, has left a very generous legacy gift of over £86,000 to support the Mellanby Centre for Bone Research, based in the University Medical School.

A eulogy at Gwen’s funeral, given by Revd Monica Sutton, indicates her likely reasons for making such a substantial donation, linked to her medical history. She spoke of Gwen as “a very humble person who was much loved. Despite suffering with arthritis for many years and being the owner of a fair number of artificial joints, she never grumbled. She was feisty to the end, a force to be reckoned with but oh so loved and so grateful for the care she received at the Northern General Hospital.”

In recognition of the generosity of this donation, a room in the Mellanby Centre has been named the Gwen Bridges Room. A commemorative plaque was unveiled in a ceremony in April 2018. Pictured are Dr Jenny Walsh and Revd Sutton at the unveiling, which was also attended by a number of Gwen’s friends.

The Mellanby Centre for Bone Research was established in 2009 and has become a leading bone research centre, one of only a small number of institutes of its kind worldwide.
Peter Gould (BSc in Physics and Statistics 1963) has left the University a gift in his will of £6,000. Peter enjoyed a long and varied career as a physics teacher, in the UK and in Europe. He used to recall to his family that, while at the University, he once met Nobel prize-winning physicist Peter Higgs on the bus and chatted with him, surely as inspiring a physics conversation as you could wish for and maybe one that set him on his career!

Peter was also a successful freelance photographer and combined this with his knowledge of physics to provide leading UK science education book publishers with photos of scientific experiments.

£5,000 of Peter’s donation, match-funded by the University, is being used to fund a postgraduate scholarship, commencing in September 2019. The further £1,000 will be allocated by the Departmental Grants Committee in early 2020. This committee imposes strict criteria on all grants, ensuring that every pound is used to improve and support the student experience at the University. Projects must provide facilities which are demonstrably over and above those supplied out of departmental budgets. Here are a couple of examples of grant-funded equipment in action:

- Archaeology students using a high-precision survey system
- New LED spotlights in the Drama Studio

Grants making a real difference

Join the Heritage Circle

Heritage Circle membership recognises and celebrates the special commitment of all those who choose to support the University with a legacy gift. As a member, you will:

- receive a Silver Arrows lapel pin
- be invited to our interesting and well-attended annual Heritage Circle lunch in Firth Court
- have the opportunity to go on one of our popular campus tours
- obtain priority invitations to donor and alumni events

See contact info on the back page.
Your legacy, now

A different way to think about your legacy to the University is to make a donation now, rather than (or as well as) in your Will. By doing so you are able to see the impact this has on the lives of our students and staff at the University. You will be able to:

• learn about the students benefiting from scholarships and grants
• see the state-of-the-art equipment and facilities provided with your help
• discover the results from the world-class research you have helped to fund
• hear about University clubs and societies benefiting from your gift

One in five of the people who leave a gift in their Will also makes a donation during their lifetime. Your gift can be in your name or it can be anonymous, the choice is yours. Either way, you can benefit from the quiet satisfaction of creating a living legacy.

To find out more about making a donation, please visit sheffield.ac.uk/donate or call our Regular Giving team on +44 (0)114 252 5788.

A rich variety of projects funded by donations - some recent examples:

University lacrosse club received £300 for new kit and goals.

Users of iForge, a maker-space for students to work on practical projects in their own time.

University speleological society received funding towards new equipment.

Les Mosco - BSc Physics 1975

“I give to the University because it gave me a fantastic experience and helped to set me up in my career. I went to Sheffield, one of a very few proportion of kids from a large Manchester council estate who made it to the local grammar school and then University. Despite being a Penguin, I was an absolute scholar. My degree opened up employment opportunities that I feel very fortunate to have had, and I hope that my modest regular giving helps some of today's students to benefit from similar opportunities.”

Solutions for a changing world

The University of Sheffield has a proud tradition of being at the forefront of research across a broad range of medical, scientific, humanities, social science and engineering activities. Many of these, as illustrated in this issue of Legacy News, benefit hugely from legacy gifts and donations. Tapping into that world class font of knowledge and expertise, the University has now created four flagship research institutes:

Energy Institute investigates low-carbon solutions to the world’s biggest energy challenges.

Healthy Lifespan Institute investigates the biological and socio-economic drivers of disease and ageing and looks at how we can intervene to support healthy ageing for all.

Neuroscience Institute investigates neurological and sensory conditions, including chronic pain and motor neuron disease.

Institute for Sustainable Food investigates dynamic solutions to the challenges of food security and sustainability.

Professor Koan Lamberts, President and Vice-Chancellor, said,

“The University of Sheffield delivers exceptional research across many areas of global importance. These multidisciplinary flagship institutes will bring together expertise from across all faculties to focus on delivering real-world solutions to some of the biggest global challenges. They provide a key opportunity to gain more recognition for our world-leading research strengths.”

These flagship research institutes demonstrate that the University’s considerable research resources are focusing on tackling some of the burning issues facing the world. We can all be proud that the University is contributing to finding solutions to these complex and pressing problems. If the research being undertaken by any of these Institutes chimes with your own concerns and interests, then we can help you to specify these in legacy gifts and donations.
Inspired to leave a gift in your Will?

Talk to us about your wishes

Whether it’s a specified or an unrestricted legacy gift, if you are considering remembering the University of Sheffield in your Will, please feel free to talk to us now.

By doing so, we can ensure that your legacy is directed precisely to the purpose or cause that you prefer.

For a discreet, confidential discussion, please contact David Meadows, Development Officer – Legacies. Face-to-face meetings have proven to be the most satisfactory way to work through various options. David would be delighted to meet you at a location of your convenience or to meet up at the University campus. We’d love to give you a tour!

“It feels really special knowing that we are supporting the place which holds so many happy memories, whilst helping in the fight against cancer at the same time. There’s so much amazing research taking place at the University today. That’s why my husband Watson left a gift to Sheffield in his Will and why I’ve chosen to do the same.”

“Legacy giving - thank you! We are extremely grateful to the many individuals who have left the University a gift in their Will or have remembered a loved one through a donation. These provide vital support for alleviating student hardship, supporting world-class research and teaching, and planning for the future with greater security and flexibility.

801 people have pledged a gift in their Will and are members of the Heritage Circle.

2,190 people have expressed an interest in leaving a gift in their Will.

£979,128 received through legacy giving in 2018.

In the past 5 years we have received 55 legacy gifts totalling £6.8 million.

Shirley Shaw, BA Geography & Economics 1976