



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Your Gift

Donations making a difference 2020

**POTENTIAL
FULFILLED**
An education
against all odds

The gift of time
Inspiring the
next generation

Why I give
It's a privilege
to help

Your impact
The year
in numbers

Sheffield's spirit of philanthropy

I have recently reached my first anniversary as President & Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sheffield. It has been a stimulating year and I have learnt an enormous amount from colleagues, alumni and students.

For me, the spirit of philanthropy epitomises why Sheffield is so special. The University was founded on penny donations from the local people over a century ago, and the tradition of giving at Sheffield and the strong sense of community amongst donors is just as impassioned today.

“Whenever I meet someone with a connection to Sheffield there is an immediate sense of pride attached to their association with the University.”

Thanks to your support we have the chance to deliver life-changing research to enhance the world around us, develop world-class facilities to maximise the value of our degrees and we are able to offer students from all backgrounds the opportunity of a Sheffield education.

Your Gift highlights just some of the projects and initiatives that would not have been possible without you – either through your generous donations or by giving your time to volunteer. I hope you will take great pleasure in reading about the areas that have benefitted from your support.



Volunteers and donors alike have a vital role to play in the University's continuing success, says Professor Koen Lamberts.

Every gift, and every person who volunteers, helps to make a difference. It is my sincere hope that you will continue to support the University in any way you can and help us to encourage others to join you.

A fond farewell

After 17 years leading the University's alumni relations and fundraising activity, Miles Stevenson has taken up a new role as Director for Honorary Graduates and Events. A passionate advocate for philanthropy and its far-reaching impact, Miles has made a significant contribution to the University during his time as Director of Advancement. We wish him all the best in his new role. The Campaigns and Alumni Relations department is currently being led by Ceris Morris.



Miles Stevenson.

Unless specified otherwise, the figures included throughout Your Gift relate to the financial year 2018/19.

Research flagships breaking through



Bringing together world-leading experts from across the academic spectrum at Sheffield, the University's four new flagship research institutes are addressing the challenges of energy, neuroscience, sustainable food and healthy lifespans.

Your gifts are already playing a vital role in enabling this important work to happen.

- » At the Neuroscience Institute, donations have funded a newly developed measuring system that is helping researchers use gene therapy to improve age-related hearing loss.
- » At the Institute for Sustainable Food, philanthropy has enabled researchers to set up 'microfarms' in disused spaces across Sheffield. This method of growing crops in small spaces without soil is just one of the ways we're helping to find a sustainable solution to the global food crisis.

With lots more to come from the flagships, it's an exciting time to be supporting research at Sheffield.

Seabird study secured



When one of the world's longest running wildlife studies came under threat, you came together to secure its future.

Now, thanks to donations totalling more than £100,000, another successful season of monitoring guillemots – one of Britain's most unique seabirds – has taken place on the Welsh island of Skomer. The 46-year study will continue for the next ten years, providing an excellent long-term insight into the impact of climate change on the natural environment.

Supporting the next generation of doctors



Graduate entry medical scholars.

15 new students are fulfilling their ambition to study medicine at the University of Sheffield with the support of donors like you.

The students are part of a progressive new programme being run by the Medical School. The course fast-tracks science graduates from financially disadvantaged and under-represented backgrounds straight into their second year of study.

Each student has received a £3,500 scholarship towards their fees funded by your generous donations. This financial support is vital in opening doors for those who might otherwise find it difficult to access or continue in higher education.

“The scheme levels the playing field and gives a broader field of students access to medicine, which is fantastic,” said student Sam Horton.

The programme also aims to bolster the number of doctors in the Yorkshire region at a time of significant shortage.

Budding journalists get to work

From astronauts to business leaders, politicians to Olympians, there are 190,000 Sheffield alumni doing amazing things across the world.



A generous donation is helping to upskill journalism students.

Now, students in the Department of Journalism are being given the unique opportunity to interview some of our most successful graduates.

It's all part of a new project launched by alumnus, Professor Neil Rackham (BSc Psychology 1966, Hon DSc 2017). His £10,000 gift is enabling budding journalists to build their portfolio and gain valuable real-world interview and feature-writing experience that will set them apart when they graduate.



Sheffield Scanner artists' impression.

Yorkshire's first MRI-PET facility

You donated in your thousands in support of our £2 million Sheffield Scanner appeal. And very soon, Yorkshire's only MRI-PET facility will open on campus.

The scanner will help tackle serious conditions like cancer, stroke, epilepsy and cardiovascular disease. With a focus on improving diagnosis and monitoring new treatments, clinical trials with patients from the Yorkshire region are expected to begin later in the year.

New opportunities for graduates

How can students gain real-world work experience to improve their job prospects? And is there a way to retain talent locally? Santander think they have one answer to these two different questions.

The bank has recently donated £40,000 to fund 32 internships at start-up businesses and SMEs throughout the Sheffield City Region over two years. Many students have gone on to secure jobs at the end of the 2-10 week placement. And by recruiting skilled graduates to help grow their businesses, local companies are benefiting too.

Román Rocha Lawrence (MEng Bioengineering 2019), undertook a 10-week internship at local digital healthcare company, Elaros. "The placement was really focussed on helping me transition out of the learning environment and into employment," said Román. "I was thrilled to be offered a job as a Graduate Trainee Research and Development Manager at the end of it."

Santander is a long-standing supporter of the University, generously donating more than £800,000 to support education, employability and entrepreneurship at Sheffield since 2010.



Recent graduate Román Rocha Lawrence.



Building a sustainable future

Scientists at the *Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures at the University of Sheffield* have recently been given a significant funding boost.

Through their *Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment*, world-renowned philanthropist and alumnus, Jeremy Grantham CBE (BA Economics 1961, Hon DSc 2012) and his wife Hanne have generously donated a further £1.7 million to the centre.

The gift will enable scientists to continue their disruptive research into areas such as water technology, climate change mitigation, agri-food systems and international development. It will also help train the next generation of Grantham Scholar sustainability researchers.



Grantham Scholar Jenny Veenstra.

Celebrating ten years of SITraN



The SITraN building.

If you or a loved one has been affected by dementia, motor neurone disease, Parkinson's or multiple sclerosis, you'll know how urgently new treatments are needed for these devastating conditions.

That's exactly what the Sheffield Institute for Translational Neuroscience (SITraN) is doing. It was opened by Her Majesty the Queen in 2010. Now, SITraN has been awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize for innovation in neuroscience and is one of the world's leading centres for research into neurodegenerative disorders.

"SITraN has grown into a leading global facility at the forefront of research and expertise. We are pioneering new treatments for neurodegenerative diseases and bringing new hope to patients and families across the country."

Professor Dame Pam Shaw, Director of SITraN

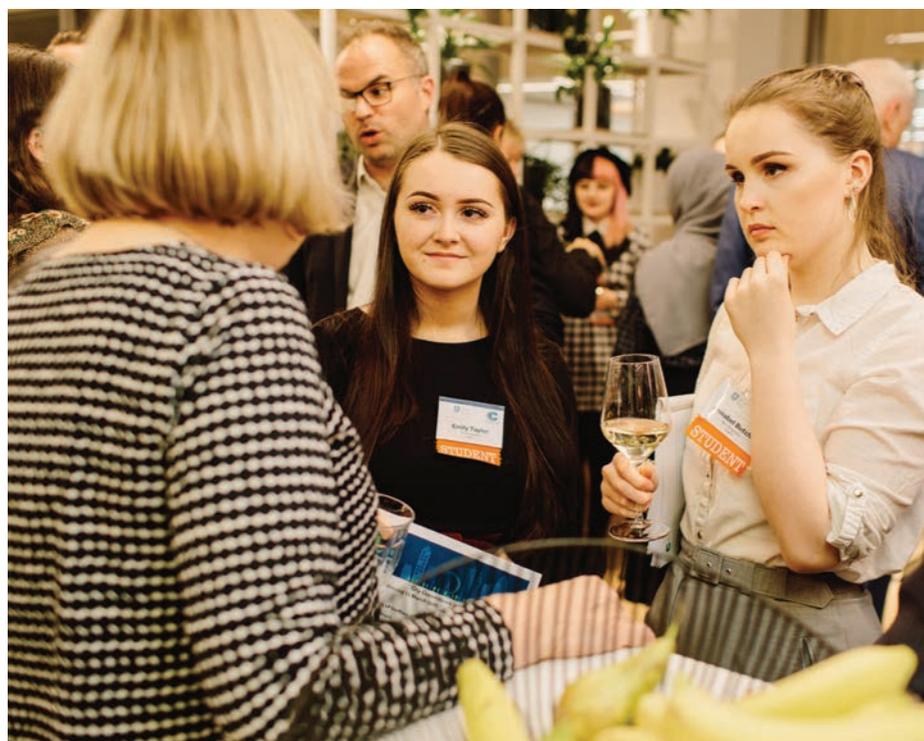
Generous philanthropic gifts from you, our community of donors, have played a key role in its growing success over the past decade. In addition to the £12 million raised to help build the facility at the outset, £8 million has been donated since 2010. Large or small, every gift has made a difference.

1,000
alumniFrom
53
countriesVolunteered
11,000
hoursTo support
5,300
students

The gift of time

Giving the gift of time is a valuable way of helping the next generation of Sheffield alumni. From hosting events and giving career talks to providing a profile and mentoring a student, there are so many ways you can give back.

London City Connections is our unique employability programme for students from widening participation backgrounds. It gives them the opportunity to meet with successful alumni – and the organisations they work for – to develop professional skills and knowledge of how businesses operate. They come away with a network of contacts they wouldn't otherwise have access to.



Our volunteering opportunities support students from disadvantaged and under-represented backgrounds, ensuring your time and support goes to those who need it most.

At this year's event, Chief Economist at the Bank of England, Andy Haldane (*Accounting, Financial Management and Economics 1988, Hon LittD 2018*) hosted a group of students from the Faculty of Social Sciences. The Q&A with him was a highlight of a full day visiting alumni host businesses across the city. As the first in his family to go to university, Andy is passionate about supporting students to achieve their potential.

"City Connections has an obvious appeal to me, as someone who would have been eligible myself for it (if only it had existed back then)," he said. "I met a truly inspiring set of students, who asked great questions and who I felt, with the right networks, could make a huge difference in society," said the leading economist.



The Bank of England's Chief Economist Andy Haldane gave his time to help Sheffield students.

"The biggest impact City Connections has had has been to motivate me. I left the event in London feeling totally inspired and passionate about creating a great future career."

Faye Berry, Law and Criminology student

Can you help?

If you'd like to inspire, guide and advise the next generation of Sheffield alumni, visit sheffield.ac.uk/alumni/volunteering

Fundraisers transforming lives



Fundraising events are a fantastic way to support University causes.

256
fundraisers

Last year, over 250 fundraisers played a huge part in raising money for scholarships. The reality is that for some bright students, going to university seems out of reach. But receiving a scholarship can change the course of their life forever.

They may come from lower-income or disadvantaged families, be the first in their family to go to university or have no family support at all. These students have the most to gain from university life. They also have the most to worry about financially if they get here.

"Individually, the money I can raise is a drop in the ocean. But fundraising as part of a big event like the Sheffield Half Marathon means that we can really make a difference to students' lives through scholarships."

Matt Robson, Teaching Associate in the Department of Journalism

Fundraisers took part in a host of different events, activities and challenges to raise the money – from coffee mornings and bake sales to The Big Walk and marathon challenges. The activities varied, but the outcome was a unified appreciation amongst students to the donors who made it possible for them to study here.

Raised
£45,000Enough
to fund
12
new UG
scholarships

Thanks to a donor-funded scholarship, Tinotenda has achieved a distinction in his masters in Public Health and International Development. He's now helping to influence change in his country.



An education against all odds

Imagine growing up in poverty, losing both your parents and having to support your family at a young age. All the while putting your dreams on hold. Against all odds, and with financial support from the *Southern Africa Scholarship Support Fund*, Tinotenda Taruvinga is finally realising his potential.

"I cried when I first found out I'd received the scholarship. It felt like the culmination of all my years of hard work to get to this point.

You see, things weren't easy in Zimbabwe when I was growing up. We lived in a rural community and my parents had little money or education. They did all they could for me and my four siblings, but it was a struggle. But for the support of my uncle, I wouldn't have even made it through high school.

Putting my dreams on hold

Despite these challenges, I was all set to go to university when I was 19. Then my father passed away during the HIV/AIDS pandemic and everything changed. As the eldest child, I was expected to become the breadwinner. I had to put my dreams on hold and provide for my family. Things became even tougher when my mother passed away.

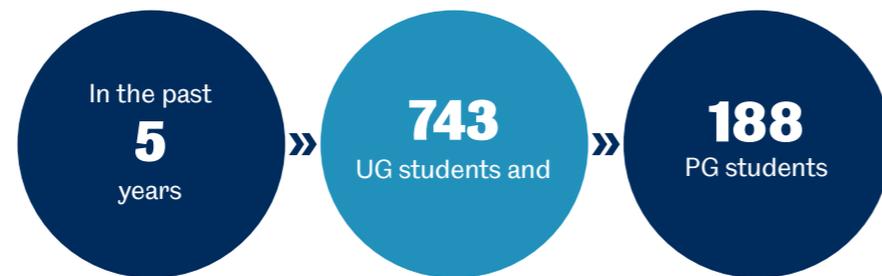
Over the next few years, I worked in various roles trying to earn enough to give my siblings a basic education. But I knew I had more to offer. I made the tough decision to study part-time alongside my work. You could say it took me 15 years to get my undergraduate degree!

A life-changing opportunity

The scholarship has changed my life. I'm so grateful for this opportunity – it's a dream come true. I've loved my time in Sheffield, but I feel compelled to go back to Zimbabwe to play a part in bringing about change there. Especially now I have so much more knowledge of international public health, thanks to the masters. I'm incredibly proud to be the first person in my family to achieve this level of education.

In the short term, I plan on working in emergency humanitarian health. In the longer term, my ambition is to become one of the leading experts on public health in Africa. I also hope to set up a foundation for children from impoverished backgrounds like mine. There is so much talent and potential in Zimbabwe, but few opportunities. My late father is my greatest inspiration and I will name the foundation in his honour."

"With hard work and the support of the generous donors who funded my scholarship, I've found a way out of poverty. I want to help others do the same."



Gratitude at graduation

When Jamie Jones (*LLB Law 2019*) received a scholarship to study at the University of Sheffield, little did she know that she'd gain a mentor, as well as a benefactor. And what better way of saying thank you than by asking alumnus Paul Infield (*LLB Law 1979*) to join her on her graduation day.

Paul funded Jamie's £3,600 *Experience Sheffield Scholarship*, our undergraduate programme for students from financially disadvantaged and under-represented backgrounds. He also offered her sought-after work experience at his chambers, 36 Group, in London.

When Paul realised that London accommodation costs were set to prevent Jamie from taking up this opportunity, he went one step further by inviting her to stay with him and his family for the duration of the placement.

"Supporting Jamie to fulfil her potential has been so rewarding," Paul said. "She's got a bright future ahead of her and I'm so proud to have played a part in helping her get there," he added.

Jamie, 22, from Manchester, was overwhelmed by Paul's generosity, as she explains. "I'm so grateful for everything Paul's done to help me achieve my dream of becoming a barrister. Inviting him to share in my special day at graduation felt like the least I could do in return."

Aspiring barrister Jamie is currently completing the Barrister Professional Training Course, taking her one step closer to qualifying. She credits the scholarship – and Paul's support – with giving her the motivation to push on to fulfilling her goals.



As a thank you for all his support, scholar Jamie Jones invited donor and mentor Paul Infield to share in her graduation day.

Celebrating your support

One of the ways we thank and recognise your generosity is on our digital donor Honour Roll. It features everyone who has donated to the University of Sheffield in the past year. If you chose to give anonymously, please know that your support is equally as valued.

To view your name on the Honour Roll, visit: honour-roll.group.shef.ac.uk



My gift to Sheffield



Alumni donor Hayley Rose wants to give back to the place which gave her so much.

Hayley Rose (*BA Sociology and Social Policy 1999*) recently donated £1,200 to the University, funding an undergraduate *Experience Sheffield Scholarship* for a whole year. She explains why it's so important to her to give back in this way.

A journey of discovery

University was everything it should be for me. It was a first step on the road to independent adulthood, an academic journey of discovery, a festival of social riches and most importantly a place where I could express and exercise my political views.

Overcoming barriers

It wasn't an inevitable choice to go to university. I came from a working class background, I failed my 11+ and I went to a college that struggled with teacher retention and lack of investment. I worked three jobs in the evenings and weekends to be able to save enough to go to university and to return every September with a clear overdraft. I think the fact that I worked so hard on many levels to get there made the experience all the sweeter.

My standout memory

My defining experience (apart from meeting my husband!) was my involvement in student politics. During freshers week, I saw the 'Grants not Fees' stall and immediately signed up to be part of the campaign. This eventually led to me being elected President of the Students' Union in 1999 – the first female for 20 years to take on that role.

A different time

There are so many barriers in place preventing students from lower-income backgrounds from going to university today. I was one of the lucky ones. I got a full grant, it was before fees were introduced and I was able to borrow enough in loans to top up my grant. That meant that I left university with only around £10,000 of debt.

Why I give

I think it's a national shame that young people now have to get into so much debt to go to university. Many don't have anyone who can support them economically. And they have to do significant amounts of paid work to make up a shortfall in their loan income. I hope our gift will make their time at university a little more secure and ease their financial worries.

Education for all

Education has the power to transform lives. I know that without my university education, I wouldn't have had such a fulfilling and rich life. I subscribe to the 'Learn, Earn, Return' philosophy and it's really important for me to give back to the place which gave me so much.

"If, as a family, we can give a scholarship to a student who doesn't have family wealth to back them up, then it is a privilege to be able to do so."

A campus of opportunity

Meeting people, having the chance to try something new and developing skills are just some of the benefits that come from students getting involved in extra-curricular activities. But for some, financial stress means they're not able to take part. Your donations are changing that. They are helping students from all backgrounds access clubs, societies and student groups to experience new opportunities at Sheffield.

Promoting disability in sport

"The grant allowed us to run a successful wheelchair rugby taster session for our members. It also included learning about disability sport from inspirational local figure and wheelchair sports expert, Andy Atkinson. Members really enjoyed the event and gained an invaluable insight into the challenges disabled athletes face, both in sport and in life. We were also able to promote our taster session to the wider Sheffield community as part of Disability in Sport Week."

Rugby League Club



Thanks to a £200 grant, members of the Sheffield University Rugby League Club were able to experience wheelchair rugby.



The £500 grant they received helped the Surgical Society run their successful National Surgical Conference at the University's Medical School.

Supporting student surgeons

"This year, we had more junior doctors attending than ever before, as well as students in all stages of their careers. This shows the increasing influence Sheffield has on the medical and surgical community. Doctors and students attended from all over the country, and the event included delegates from abroad, making us an event on the international surgical calendar."

Surgical Society

Tackling period poverty

"We are so proud to be involved with Menstruation Matters – a project that can make a real difference to women in our society. The grant enabled us to not only get the community to tackle the stigma surrounding periods and consider sustainable period products, but it also meant we could support those in the local community who are unable to afford them."

Menstruation Matters



Student-run charity Menstruation Matters was awarded £1,545, boosting their work to address period poverty amongst women fleeing forced marriage or domestic and sexual abuse.



Solomon Smith (pictured right) was awarded a £1,000 grant enabling him to attend the Winter Universiade student games.

Talented student represents Great Britain



"I was chosen to represent Great Britain at the Winter Universiade in Russia, but was unable to go as I couldn't afford the flight or the kit. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and it wouldn't have happened without this generous donation. With all my heart, you have no idea how much it meant to me. It showed me the University believed in my abilities, both as a player and as a person, to compete at an international level and I thank you for that."

Solomon Smith, Economics and Philosophy student

A sound legacy



Families affected by deafness now have a vital resource at their fingertips, thanks to a generous legacy gift.

When Dr Alan Kelly remembered the University of Sheffield in his Will, it gave a boost to the important research taking place here into hearing loss. Now, thanks to his legacy, parents of deaf children are receiving vital advice and support that is helping them navigate their way through a challenging time in their child's development.

Five babies are born deaf every day. Over 90 per cent are born to hearing parents and they often have little or no experience of deafness. Researchers from the University of Sheffield's Department of Psychology are addressing this unique problem. In collaboration with City University London and the National Deaf Children's Society, they've developed the first free and accessible advice videos for parents of deaf babies and toddlers.

Available on the National Deaf Children's Society website, the films offer parents advice and strategies on supporting their child's communication skills. It's backed up by the best available research evidence.

The videos were filmed with families in their own homes, with real life examples of parents interacting and communicating with their children. They were created in consultation with teachers of the deaf, specialist speech and language therapists, and other researchers and professionals who work with families who have a deaf child.

The research has been supported by a legacy gift left by Dr Alan Kelly, one of the world's most respected discographers, who left the University £50,000 to be used for deafness research.

Dr Danielle Matthews, Project Lead for the research, said: *"Dr Kelly's donation has made it possible 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."*

"So much learning is happening in a baby's first few months. Showing parents real interactions and demonstrating communication strategies can really help to make information and advice tangible."

Dr Giara Kelly, Postdoctoral Researcher

Growing hope



"This is about so much more than just growing food. It's helping these people thrive," says Sheffield scientist Dr Moad Al Meselmani, himself a Syrian refugee.



When we launched our Desert Garden appeal, we were overwhelmed by your generosity. Thanks to you, this important project will continue improving the lives of refugees long into the future.

In the heart of Jordan's arid landscape, you'll find a garden alive with plants. But this is no ordinary garden. Here, there are crops being grown out of foam, not soil. Recycled mattress foam to be precise.

Developed by Sheffield scientists, this innovative method uses 80% less water than traditional soil-based plant production. It's transforming lives – enabling families displaced by war to grow fresh produce, gain new skills and find a renewed sense of purpose in the harshest of circumstances.

Thanks to you, even more refugees will have the opportunity to learn how to grow crops in this way. You've already helped keep the project going. With your continued support, the future of Desert Garden can be secured for the long term.

Find out more at sheffield.ac.uk/desert-garden

The impact of your generosity

- » **Thousands more refugees** will be able to grow their own fresh food and **hundreds more mattresses** will be saved from landfill.
- » With the materials, training and support funded by your donations, **they'll turn their desert gardens into sustainable businesses.**
- » Using their new-found knowledge and skills, **they'll go on to train the next generation of desert gardeners.**
- » And within three years, **the project will become self-sustaining.**

Student Experience

£45k

supported

67

student clubs and societies

Research

£1.7m

funded research projects
across the university

Scholarships

£1.06m

funded

210 new UG & **57** new PG
scholarships

You generously gave

£8,469,635

in donations - *thank you!*

1,701

regular donors

4,127

donors

from
62

countries
Up 34 from
last year

Donate now

To continue supporting the transformative power of education and research at Sheffield, why not make a gift today?

sheffield.ac.uk/donate

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21

youngest
donor

500

first-time
donors

98

oldest
donor

9

legacy donors
left £900k in
their Wills

100%

of every donation goes
directly to University causes

*These figures
relate to 2018/19*

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