Welcome to the first edition of Remember Birmingham: the annual report for those who have chosen to remember the University in their will.

We have a proud tradition of philanthropy at Birmingham, and legacies have played an important part within that history. Did you know, for example, that the Barber Institute of Fine Arts was bequeathed to the University in a will?

‘Building on that heritage of legacy giving, your support has a crucial role to play in our future. Whether your bequest will help transform our beautiful campus, develop new methods of teaching and learning, support students, or foster the innovative research that has always been at our heart; your investment is invaluable.

‘ Universities are constantly evolving and I hope you will enjoy reading about the impact that legacies like yours continue to have at Birmingham. I also look forward to thanking you in person at our annual Rowbotham Reception, for which you should already have received your invitation.

‘Once again, on behalf of the University, and from me personally: thank you.’

Professor David Eastwood
Vice-Chancellor and donor to the University

Did you know?

287 people have chosen to remember the University in their will since the Rowbotham Fellowship began in 2008

5% of those leaving a legacy to Birmingham are from outside the UK

What giving means to me

‘Having previously worked for a major charity, I am only too aware of the dramatic impact that legacies can have on good works. I am grateful for all the opportunities I have had, and this is my way of giving something back.’

Professor Sir Charles George
(Interc BSc Anatomy, 1962; MBChB Medicine, 1965; MD Medicine, 1974; Hon DSc, 2003), donor

‘Studying at Birmingham enabled me to have a fruitful life. I loved the place, made lifelong friendships, and without it I would not be the person I am today. It felt right as I wrote my will to leave something behind. Think about the impact the University had on you. Your gift could enable others to have that life experience too.’

Paul Steptoe
(BSc Mathematics, 1994), donor

You ask for your legacies to support:

Unrestricted 41%
Departments 23%
Medical research 5%
Student support 25%
Gift in kind 2%
Other research 3%
Facilities 1%

25%
The donor
While working for the University at CERN in Geneva, Dr Ian Bloodworth (BSc Physics, 1963) saw first-hand the value of developing the physicists of the future. He left a gift in his will to fund the Ian Bloodworth Prize, awarding £500 each year to a student who has achieved outstanding results in their field.

The impact
‘There are a lack of structured opportunities in India to study physics at undergraduate level, so I chose to come to Birmingham. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here, and I have greatly appreciated the support of the scholarship. Having my effort rewarded feels great, and provides added incentive to keep pushing myself. I am very grateful for Dr Bloodworth’s gift.’

Anjalika Nande, fourth year MSci Theoretical Physics and Applied Mathematics student

The donor
A passionate believer in education, Audrey Brown (BA Geography, 1946) wanted to support the next generation of students at Birmingham. Her legacy will help to build an outstanding new library facility that will benefit generations of students from disciplines across the University.

The impact
‘Use of the library has increased by almost 480% since 1959 – that’s five times as many students using the building. The new library (due to open in 2016) will support research and education at the University for years to come, providing better access to the extensive print collections housed on campus, the Academic Skills Centre and to more flexible study spaces; still in the heart of our Edgbaston campus.’

Diane Job, Director of Library Services

The donor
University Councillor Denis Dodd (Hon MSc, 1981) spent nine years volunteering for the University, first as Deputy Treasurer and then as Deputy Pro-Chancellor before being made a life member of Court. Denis also became a loyal donor to the University. Given Denis’s lifelong commitment to the University of Birmingham, the trustees of his estate felt it would be fitting to make a further gift from his will. This legacy funded research into growth regulation of multiple myeloma, a common type of blood cancer.

The impact
‘This generous gift enabled us to collaborate with other groups to expand our multiple myeloma research into new areas. We were also able to present at an international myeloma conference in Japan, where our work was recognised with an early career investigators’ award.’

Dr Sarah Essex, Research Fellow in Cancer Sciences

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Join us
Rowbotham Reception & Baggs lecture 2014
11 June 2014
Reception 5.00pm to 6.10pm, Lecture 6.30pm
We hope you can join us to hear from the Vice-Chancellor and enjoy an afternoon tea in the Barber, followed by the annual Baggs lecture on Happiness delivered by comedian Chris Addison (BA English, 1994). If you haven’t received your invitation, please contact the Donor Relations Team (details to the right).