



The Lanyon Society

Newsletter

The Legacy Newsletter from The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation.
Spring/Summer 2012

Welcome



Welcome to the first legacy newsletter from The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation.

As Legacy Officer, I am responsible for the Lanyon Society, a special group of alumni and friends of the University who have left, or are considering leaving, a gift to Queen's in their will.

My role allows me to meet graduates and friends of the University and talk to them about their memories of Queen's. This has proven to be a unique window into people's affections and connections with the University. It has taught me that legacies are all about making plans for the people and the causes we care about and it has shown me that they are personal; they are unique to you; and they change lives.

Since its foundation in 1845, Queen's has benefitted from many generous legacy gifts. Legacies remain vital in ensuring Queen's continues as a top-ranking, research-led institution which is focused on its students.

Every gift makes a difference

All gifts to the University, whether they are during your lifetime or as a gift in your will, are channelled through The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation, our registered charity (number: XR 22432).

Over the last two years the University has received over £2.5million in legacy gifts. The impact has been enormous – supporting students in their studies, investing in pioneering medical research and preserving items of historical and cultural value.

To date more than 175 alumni, staff and friends have notified us of their intention to leave a gift to Queen's.

So, on behalf of the students and staff at Queen's, I would like to extend our gratitude to all those individuals who have remembered, or are considering leaving a gift to Queen's in their will. Thank you.

With warmest wishes,

Susan Wilson
Susan Wilson, Legacy Officer

Inheritance tax reduction comes into force on 6th April 2012

From 6th April 2012, tax will be charged at the lower rate of 36 per cent if more than 10 per cent of the value of an estate is donated to charity through a legacy gift.



Research in the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology

In the March 2011 Budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the proposed introduction of a lower rate of inheritance tax for those leaving a gift in their will to charity.

This new legislation, which comes into effect on 6th April this year, applies to estates over the £325,000 threshold where 10 per cent or more has been left to charity. It is designed to encourage more people to consider leaving a legacy.

Susan Wilson explains: "Making a will is an intensely personal matter and, after proper provision has been made for family and friends, a gift to charity can be transformational in its impact.

"Say, for example, your estate is worth £500,000. If you choose to leave 10 per cent (of the taxable balance of your estate over the £325,000 threshold) to charity, the donation is worth £17,500. This means you also reduce the amount of tax payable on the remainder of your estate from 40% to 36%. Your beneficiaries will receive £425,800, whilst the charity benefits by £17,500."

Susan adds: "£17,500 makes a huge difference to the work carried out at Queen's. For example, it means we can buy a machine that copies a gene within a cell, allowing our scientists to study the genetics of cancer."

Legacies to Queen's can be large or small and each gift can make a difference. Here are some examples of how your gift can make a difference:

A legacy of £2,000 buys research equipment to help fight cancer

A legacy of £10,000 buys specialist books or new sports equipment

A legacy of £5,000 funds undergraduate student bursaries

A legacy of £50,000 refurbishes a teaching space or funds scholarships

Royal honours for Queen's partnership



Dean of the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences and Founder of CCRCB, Professor Patrick Johnston and the Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Peter Gregson

A partnership between Queen's and regional health and social care services, which has improved the survival rates for cancer patients, has been honoured by Her Majesty the Queen.

Northern Ireland's Comprehensive Cancer Services programme was announced as one of the winners of the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education at a special ceremony in St James's Palace. The awards – part of the national honours system – recognise and honour outstanding achievement by universities and colleges in the United Kingdom.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Peter Gregson, said: "I am delighted at this tremendous news, which brings further external recognition of the University's positive impact on the community we serve."

Queen's has won an award in five rounds of the Queen's Anniversary Prizes. The University was previously honoured for world-class excellence in law, environmental research, palaeoecology and green chemistry. The Queen's Anniversary Prizes were presented at a ceremony in Buckingham Palace in February 2012.

The Lanyon Society – a living legacy

The Lanyon Society was established in 2004 to recognise the special commitment of those individuals who choose to support Queen's through a gift in their will.

By becoming a member of The Lanyon Society, you can receive regular updates on developments at Queen's, a commemorative Queen's pin badge, notifications of selected University events, and an invitation to a special annual donor event, should you wish.

A message from Leslie and Hilary Morrison, Patrons of the Lanyon Society

"As graduates ourselves, we feel fortunate to have obtained a Queen's University education. For us, it represents a world of opportunities, lifelong friendships and treasured memories – all of which have stayed with us long beyond our graduation day. There has never been a more vital time to invest in the life of the University through a gift in your will.

Your gift will make a difference. It is an investment in the future. You can choose to fund vital medical research, endow fellowships and scholarships, provide library resources, support capital projects and promote student welfare. Through your gift, you are demonstrating that Queen's has made a difference to you, and that you care about its future."

Leslie Morrison
Hilary Morrison



Queen's University Belfast was always a place I wanted to go to when I was at school. It wasn't until many years later I was able to fulfil my ambition when I was accepted onto a Masters degree course at Queen's. I have since completed numerous qualifications there, including my PhD.

I took time out from my career and studies in 1996 to care for my mother who suffered from epilepsy and heart problems.

It was during her illness that we decided to leave

a bequest to Queen's to facilitate the hugely important work of the University and Belfast City Hospital into world-class research of neurological diseases such as epilepsy.

I am very proud to be associated with Queen's University and I choose to support the continuing good work of Queen's through a legacy gift that will make a positive lasting difference to future generations.



Dr Lavinia Boyce
PhD Management 2010



Leading literary critic in the frame

A new portrait of leading Irish literary critic Professor Edna Longley, by acclaimed Antrim-based artist Jeffrey Morgan, has been unveiled at Queen's.

Throughout a long teaching and research career spent almost entirely at Queen's, Professor Longley has had a huge and enabling influence on the literary culture of Northern Ireland. Her critical works include *Poetry in the Wars*, *Louis MacNeice: A Study*, *The Living Stream: Literature and Revisionism in Ireland*, *Poetry and Posterity* (2000), and she is the editor of *Edward Thomas: The Annotated Collected Poems* (2008).

She was also a moving force behind the

establishment of the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry at Queen's, and her contribution continues to this day. As Chair of the Centre's Board, she continues to contribute to the support and encouragement of poetry and poets.

Speaking at the unveiling, Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Peter Gregson said: "The unveiling of this excellent portrait by Jeffrey Morgan will ensure that Edna's image will have pride of place in Queen's, whose reputation she has done so much to enhance."

Funding for the impressive artwork was raised through the efforts of the School of English and Queen's Gender Initiative.



Why leave a gift to Queen's in your will?

It is an astute future investment

Queen's University is an established institution bringing about transformational change in education, research and business. Every £1m the University puts into the economy generates a further £1.38m in economic activity. Your gift can help preserve our history through securing important collections and supporting future generations of students, irrespective of their financial background.

It can be appreciated by future generations

Scholarships to support students or rooms

and buildings may be named in honour of the donor or a loved one, allowing the gift and the donor's name to live on in perpetuity.

It can reduce the amount of inheritance tax you pay on your estate

The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation is a registered charity (number: XR 22432) and is thereby exempt from Income and Inheritance Tax. This means you could reduce the amount of tax you pay on your estate. Gifts of stocks, shares or property can also reduce the tax burden on your estate.

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"I cannot emphasise enough the impact that philanthropic gifts, such as legacies, have on the work carried out at Queen's every day which benefits both our patients and the local economy. The support we receive is critical. It means we are able to attract world-class researchers and secure the infrastructure and facilities for us to study, prevent and treat the major diseases of the 21st century, such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease and asthma, infectious diseases, vision-related conditions and dementia."

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Professor Patrick Johnston
Dean of the School of Medicine,
Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences at
Queen's and world renowned expert
in cancer research.



Grant could improve Alzheimer's diagnosis

Scientists at Queen's have been awarded a £30,000 grant to undertake a study that could improve the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.

The grant is from Alzheimer's Research UK, the UK's leading dementia research charity, and it is hoped the study could also uncover new clues about the causes of the disease. Dr Stewart Graham from the Institute of Agri-Food and Land Use (IAFLU) will lead the study.

The researchers will use cutting-edge techniques to study tiny molecules that are the end products of reactions between different proteins in the body.

The scientists will compare samples from Alzheimer's patients and healthy people to identify complex changes in metabolites that occur in Alzheimer's disease. Positive results could then be used to study metabolites in blood samples, allowing the researchers to develop a simple blood test to diagnose the disease in its early stages.

Dr Graham said: "I'm thrilled to have secured this funding, which could help us find a way to detect Alzheimer's disease in its earliest stages. By building a picture of what happens in the brain during Alzheimer's, we also hope to uncover clues about the causes of the disease, which is vital for developing new treatments. Dementia can only be beaten through research, and I'm optimistic that this study will yield results that could really benefit people."



Dr Stewart Graham has been awarded a £30,000 grant from Alzheimer's Research UK

Dates for your diary

Below is a selection of upcoming events around campus.

Event: Queen's University Symphony Orchestra (QUSO)
Date: Tuesday, 8 May 2012
Time: 7.30 pm
Venue: Whitla Hall

Join QUSO (conducted by Alexander Stead) for their annual concert. The programme will include Beethoven's King Stephen overture and Dvorák's Symphony No.9 from the New World.

Event: Queen's Benefactors' Lunch
Date: Saturday, 16 June 2012
Time: 12.00 pm
Venue: Riddel Hall, Stranmillis Road

For donors and supporters of The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation this is a 'thank you'

event for financial support and pledges over the last year.

Event: Queen's Graduates' Association Golf Day
Date: Friday, 21 September 2012

Event: Centenary of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Celebrations
Date: Friday, 5 October 2012

Event: Queen's Charter Day Dinner
Date: Friday, 30 November 2012

For further information on these events, or for a full listing of campus events including reunions, please contact Susan Wilson, Legacy Officer or Adele Ward, Events & Reunions Officer on +44 (0) 28 9097 5289.

Funding the future



We've just refreshed our Legacy brochure. It has all the information you need when considering a gift to Queen's in your will, including suggested wording and a codicil form. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Susan Wilson on +44 (0)28 9097 3162.

Professor receives excellence award

Queen's Emeritus Professor Adrian Long has received an excellence award from the Institution of Civil Engineering (ICE).

Professor Long was awarded the ICE Gold Medal which is the Institution's premier award to an individual for Civil Engineering excellence.

The ICE is the oldest professional body for engineers in the world (founded in 1818) and has over 80,000 members (over 20% outside the UK).



Emeritus Professor Adrian Long receiving the ICE Gold Medal

Where there's a will, there's a way

If you already have a will, it is easy to include a legacy gift to Queen's University by completing a codicil form. It will require having your signature witnessed by two people who are not related to you or to any person mentioned in your will. Your witnesses should not be members of staff of the University. Once you have completed the form, you should send it to the individual who holds your will, where they should store it with (but not stapled, clipped or pinned to) your existing will.

A template codicil document can be found on our website or you can request one from Susan Wilson.

If you have any feedback about this newsletter you would like to share, or suggestions on what topics you would like to see covered in future editions, please contact Susan Wilson.

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