



THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM



**Remember
Buckingham
in your Will**



Buckingham has been climbing the league tables for the past decade and for six years has come top of the student satisfaction rankings because of the high value it puts on teaching

Building on a philanthropic tradition

Founded in 1976 by a group of Oxford dons who despaired of state interference in the running of our universities, Buckingham is one of the few universities in Britain that is free of state control. It receives no money from the state, which means that it is dependent on the goodwill of friends and well-wishers. From its early beginnings it has received financial help for its buildings and their renovation, for new courses, for bursaries and scholarships and for its research work.

It could never have got going without a generous gift of £1m from Lord Tanlaw who agreed with the founders' vision and has been supporting the University ever since.

A small university, Buckingham has been expanding in recent years and now has 1,500 students. At the same time its standing has been growing and it is keen to build up its reputation in research and to attract more and better students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Our goal is to continue the legacy of excellence and make an even greater impact on the future. We could not have achieved our success without the support of alumni, friends and supporters, some of whom have helped secure our work and values for future generations by leaving a legacy in their Will. We ask you to emulate these friends and supporters by making a gift to the University of Buckingham Foundation in your Will.



Supporting the future

There are a number of ways that a gift in your Will could support the University in the future:

● Bursaries and scholarships

We would like to increase the number of bursaries we offer to ensure that we attract the best possible students to our programmes and thereby improve our competitive position. We want to make sure that no one is deterred from applying to Buckingham for financial reasons. In addition, as a result of a technical change in our charitable status, we need to show the Charity Commissioners that we are doing more to increase the number of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The University already has a number of bursary and scholarship programmes named after individual donors (see the website) but we need to do more to ensure that the very best scholars from all walks of life come to Buckingham. Your gift could continue the tradition of supporting bursaries and scholarships.

● Academic faculty and research

The University is committed to attracting a world-class academic staff of people who are keen to push out the frontiers of knowledge in their subject as well as to teach. We want to provide these scholars with the resources to conduct innovative and practical research.

We are already taking steps to burnish our research reputation by seeking to establish new research centres and we have attracted considerable attention as a result of the molecular and genetic research into diabetes carried out in the Clore Laboratory.

Your gift could help enhance the research resources and facilities for future staff, as well as for undergraduate and postgraduate students.

● The campus

Students expect a high-class teaching and learning environment as well as facilities for sport, recreation and socialising. The University has commissioned a Campus Development Framework Plan which shows how we can develop our estate and where each new building should be located. We are hoping to build new halls of residence as well as a new Law School and a new library on our six-acre site on the Right Bank of the Great River Ouse.

If you would prefer Buckingham to make the final decision about how to use your gift most effectively, you could assign it for general purposes.



Those who left money to the University

● An astute and independent-minded Yorkshireman, Bobby Gregory left £1m to the University of Buckingham on his death, thereby establishing the largest bursary and scholarship fund at the University. He never went to university himself but, after retiring to the Algarve, he read Vice-Chancellor Terence Kealey's articles in *The Daily Telegraph*. These articles struck a chord and one day he said to his wife Dorothy: "I'm going to leave our money to this place, I think."

His idea is that if you teach a student to learn – a skill, a craft, a philosophy, or, even, just how to survive – such a person goes on to teach or to reach out to 100 others and, so it goes on, down the chain. Bobby and Dorothy Gregory's bequest is the embodiment of that idea and their generous gift is now helping students to receive an education at Buckingham.



"I first developed my interest in accountancy from when I studied Business at Buckingham. Now, several years later, I am director of the Accounting and Financial Management Programme and studying for my PhD. None of this would have been possible without the scholarship, and I am very grateful to Mr John Desborough."
Katie Balaam

● Born in 1904, Miss Phyllis Scotney was a teacher, a practising Christian and someone who was known for her sharp wit and strong, traditional views. Unbeknown to the University, she bequeathed it her Accrington home and its contents when she died at the age of 98. These were worth £66,851.54. As far as we know, she had no direct contact with the University. But we do know that she was educated at Royal Holloway, University of London, and ended up as a head teacher. One of her great claims to fame was that in her eighties she single-handedly saved a primary school from closure in Lancashire.

The head of that primary school said: "If Buckingham produces just one Phyllis Scotney, with her verve and passion unmoved by the populism of the time and steadfast in their educational commitment, her bequest will have been well made."

● John Desborough decided that Buckingham and its students were worthy of his support, even though he had no special connections with the area. John first visited the University in 1988 and in 1995 he said he intended to leave Buckingham a bequest in his Will. However, before that, after receiving a windfall, he also offered an annual bursary for a British student studying Business. Since 1999, many students have been supported by Desborough Scholarships. He was impressed by the University's two year degree courses and realised that, unlike larger universities, Buckingham was able to offer few bursaries. As John was interested in business, he wanted to specify that his bursaries would be for Business students. One of the students who benefited from his generosity was Katie Balaam who graduated in 2004 with a First class degree and now teaches at the University.



"I've lived in Buckingham all my life and I wanted to study in the town because of the University's excellent reputation for business courses. I never expected to attend the University because of high tuition fees. I'm thrilled that I have been given the opportunity to come to Buckingham, thanks to the Desborough Scholarship, and I intend to achieve the best possible result in my studies."
Jonathan Ayris

As well as supporting students in this way, from 2006 John was also closely associated with Buckingham's Business Enterprise degree. He donated many thousands of pounds to the seed-corn capital fund, which has funded the start-up and operation of businesses of more than 20 Business Enterprise students.

● Until his last days Edward Legg, a local historian, insisted on attending lectures at the University supported by one of his friends. He was very ill and suffering from Motor Neurone Disease but still turned up at the lectures that continue to this day to be held in the Chandos Road Building.

Edward had long been a supporter of the University, as a member of the Friends of the University of Buckingham, and he was a donor, having donated a prize – The Edward Legg Criminal Law Prize. But the University had no idea that he had left money to it in his Will. The money from Edward Legg's Estate – £153,751 – was put towards the refurbishment of the exterior of Prebend House and the University is now reaping the reward. Prebend House has been restored to its former glory and is to become a research centre in the Humanities for use by academics and students.

Edward Legg also bequeathed his collection of local history books to the University on his death, covering topics from steam trains to Bletchley Park. This is housed in the Franciscan and Hunter Street Libraries and may be accessed by the general public.

Supporting the future of the Buckingham legacy

If you are considering including a legacy to the University of Buckingham in your will, please accept our sincere thanks. We would be grateful if you could inform us of your intentions so that we have the opportunity to discuss the details of any legacy gift that you are considering. This would ensure that

- We fully understand your views
- Any specific bequest you propose is feasible
- You are able to gain a clear picture of the University's needs and future plans
- We can discuss your wishes when it comes to deciding the precise form of commemoration you prefer
- We are aware of your intentions and can thank you for your support in your lifetime



Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Date of birth _____

Email _____

I have decided to remember Buckingham in my Will with a:

- Residuary bequest of% of my estate
The approximate value of my pledged bequest is, in current terms, £.....
- Pecuniary bequest of £.....
- Specific (non-money) bequest

My gift will be for:

- The general purposes of Buckingham
- The following purposes or department

We strongly recommend that you contact us to ensure that we are able to accomplish your wishes

I wish to endow my gift: Yes/No

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return to:
The Development Office
Hunter Street
Buckingham
MK18 1EG
Email: development.office@buckingham.ac.uk
Telephone: 01280 820 263

