Making a legacy bequest:
Leaving a lasting impact
Why leave a legacy?

Your legacy gift gives you the chance to:

- leave a lasting impression on your University
- train tomorrow’s brightest minds
- remove financial barriers for the most talented students
- provide essential facilities to drive world-leading teaching and research
- inspire a student to discover new interests
- conserve our outstanding historic collections for future generations
- give something back to the community of St Andrews
How to leave a legacy

The University is a recognised charity. Any legacies left to us are exempt from tax and may help to reduce the overall inheritance tax due on your estate.

A gift in your will can reflect your personal interests, or you may wish to leave an unrestricted gift which will be used where need is greatest. We would be happy to work with you to help you plan the purpose of a gift that is appropriate for you.

Leaving a legacy is straightforward, and if you are thinking of leaving a gift to us, we would suggest that you discuss this with your solicitor. If you have an existing will, it can be amended simply by your solicitor through the use of a codicil. At the back of this booklet you will find a pledge form to let us know your intentions. Please be assured that they will be kept confidential.

Once you let us know your wishes, we will be happy to welcome you to the Chancellor’s Circle to recognise and celebrate your generosity.

How to word a legacy

The correct wording for a legacy is:

“I give to the University Court of the University of St Andrews (Scottish Charity Number SC013532), Fife, Scotland the sum of [in words, preferably index linked] OR a [in words] percentage share of the residue of my estate OR my [detail your specific item or items] to be used for the general purposes of the University OR to be used for [detail the specific purposes you wish] and I declare that the receipt of the Quaestor or other officer authorised by the Principal of the said university shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my Executors and Trustees.”
How a legacy can support a promising student

Robert of Montrose and Lord Douglas gave the first donations to the University in 1419. Since then, the gifts and legacies of our alumni and donors have been, and continue to be, crucial to our success: they have enabled the University to establish the scholarships, awards and bursaries required to support promising students who might otherwise struggle with the cost of studying at St Andrews, and enable them to reach their full academic potential.

Cameron Evans is such a student: an undergraduate studying French and Russian, he is the recipient of the Lawrence M Wodehouse Scholarship. Cameron acknowledges the impact that Dr Wodehouse’s bequest has had on his experience at university.

“\[I’m from near Preston in the north-west of England and this scholarship is a great source of reassurance and support for me. I feel as if my path in life and the people I meet and the things I do are heavily influenced by my ultimate passion, which is languages. I have only had the opportunity to study them at university thanks to this scholarship.\]”

Cameron Evans, third-year undergraduate (MA French and Russian)
Dr Lawrence M Wodehouse Scholar
(Cameron is pictured with friends. He is on the right)

Barbara Ure (née Miller) graduated in 1941 and went on to teach for 20 years at Sunnyside Primary School, Alloa. When she died in 2016 her generous legacy to St Andrews enabled the creation of undergraduate scholarships for students from Scottish state schools. Lucy Mathieson is the first recipient of the Barbara Bennett Ure Scholarship and is studying Earth Sciences.

“I was brought up in the small coastal town of Ardrossan in the west of Scotland. For the majority of my childhood, I was looked after by my Gran as my Dad spent most of his time working in Glasgow. I attended quite a large secondary school with roughly 1,400 pupils, where the classes were often too large. Coming to the University of St Andrews – where there are only eight people in any of my tutorial groups – has therefore made quite a difference!

This year, my scholarship was used entirely to offset the accommodation fee of my hall. This has helped a great deal as I am lucky enough to be living in catered halls and therefore don’t need to worry about buying and making meals every day.

I am so appreciative of my scholarship as it has allowed me the luxury of studying at St Andrews. I feel that I have already made friends for life here and I could not be happier.”

Lucy Mathieson, first-year undergraduate (MGeol Earth Sciences)
Barbara Bennett Ure Scholar
How a legacy can enrich intellectual life

Legacies make it possible to promote the intellectual life of the University by supporting visiting lecturers, fellowships and permanent academic posts. This in turn enables us to continue to lead the academic field.

One such legacy was made in 1889 in the name of Alexander Berry, who came to St Andrews to study Classics and Logic. He went on to establish the first European settlement on the south coast of New South Wales (now known as Berry). Because of this bequest we have had a Berry Chair in English ever since and, as a result, have fostered the international reputation of the School of English as a centre for both academic research and literary creativity.

How a legacy can benefit research

Cutting-edge research is the lifeblood of any university, and we depend on donations and bequests to support this vital work.

Miss Mary Margaret Niven, MA 1938, left a legacy to the University in 2012. In response to her wish to support scientific research, it has been used for the BRAINS project (Biomedical Research in Analytical Imaging and Neurophotonic Science).

This truly interdisciplinary project – led by Professor Frank Gunn-Moore from the School of Biology and Professor Kishan Dholakia from the School of Physics & Astronomy – is developing ground-breaking techniques to research Alzheimer’s disease.

Their research unifies two of St Andrews’ established strengths – photonics (the study and use of light) with neuroscience, and enables them to investigate problems associated with the nervous system and thereby investigate and treat neurological diseases.
How a legacy can benefit the University community

St Andrews is a wonderful place to live, work and study, and legacies have always played a significant role here – not only in enriching the life of the University, but also of the wider community. Here are some of the civic projects that your legacy could benefit.

Byre Theatre
The Byre Theatre has been a wonderful local resource from the day it was established in 1933. After it experienced financial difficulties in 2013, a management agreement between the University of St Andrews, Fife Council and Creative Scotland enabled this well-loved institution to reopen its doors.

Since then the University has committed to delivering an ongoing high-quality programme of performing and visual arts; providing educational activities for schools; promoting the use of the space by local community groups and voluntary arts organisations and supporting the development of a strong local creative sector through student placements, internships and modern apprenticeships.

As a result, the Byre is now valued as an artistic and cultural hub at the heart of St Andrews by our students, the local community and many others beyond.

The Museum of the University of St Andrews (MUSA)
MUSA opened to the public in 2008 and since then has consistently been awarded five stars under the VisitScotland Quality Assurance Scheme – the only university museum in Scotland to achieve this. In 2016 the museum received the Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA) award for Best Visitor Attraction.

MUSA displays key pieces from the University’s collections within four galleries. An educational space – the Learning Loft – is the focus of a wide-ranging educational and community events programme. This includes everything from tours, workshops and talks from curators and academics to geology walks to theatrical and musical performances inspired by the collections.

In recognition of its popularity, an extension is planned to accommodate temporary exhibitions and to support ongoing teaching and public engagement.

An exciting science experiment outside MUSA!
At St Andrews we are unusual in that we offer access to the oldest and most valuable materials in our Libraries. These range from manuscripts, print materials and photographs to maps and music. The oldest item in the collection is a Greek papyrus dating from the first century AD.

Special Collections
Manuscripts, archives and early printed books have been acquired by the University since its foundation. Our University Library’s Special Collections has custody of this unique cultural heritage, which is of local, national and international significance.

At St Andrews we are proud to build on the vibrant music tradition that began with the choristers of St Salvator’s Chapel more than 600 years ago. Today, students can opt to study music as part of their degree by taking modules ranging from opera to electronic music, and can apply for a number of instrumental, vocal, choral and organ scholarships to help towards tuition fees.

The University also supports a thriving culture of performing groups across a range of musical genres.

Music Centre
At St Andrews we are proud to build on the vibrant music tradition that began with the choristers of St Salvator’s Chapel more than 600 years ago. Today, students can opt to study music as part of their degree by taking modules ranging from opera to electronic music, and can apply for a number of instrumental, vocal, choral and organ scholarships to help towards tuition fees.

This increased number of music-making activities and opportunities has created the need for a new building that offers the full range of practice, rehearsal, performance, teaching and recording spaces that all the Centre’s members can use. This has been made possible through a number of generous donations.

Special Collections is committed to working with academic staff to ensure that our materials are used to support research, learning and teaching at St Andrews. The collections are also used in a variety of ways by external visitors, who range from academic researchers to arts practitioners and school and community groups.

The Richardson Research Library at Martyrs Kirk – acquired from the Church of Scotland in 2012 – was preserved and recreated as a central Research Library and Special Collections Reading Room for use by academic staff, postgraduate research students and, upon request, by members of the public.

Artist’s impression of the exterior of the new Music Centre, courtesy of Flanagan Lawrence Architects

Maximiliano Martin, Principal Clarinet of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, playing with the St Andrews and Fife Community Orchestra

Book of Hours, courtesy of Special Collections
Sports Centre

Sport has always been an important part of student life at the University of St Andrews and we have one of the highest participation rates of any university in Scotland.

Our vision of sport for all, through the three pillars of excellence, experience and engagement, led to a £14 million refurbishment and extension of our Sports Centre, to benefit not only our students but the community of north east Fife.

The new Sports Centre comprises a state-of-the-art arena, a fitness centre (including a strength and conditioning suite for our elite athletes) and a four-court indoor tennis centre. We have further plans to add more facilities, including a much-needed swimming pool.

These enhanced facilities are already proving hugely beneficial to those studying, living and working in St Andrews and beyond.
How we recognise your legacy: Chancellor’s Circle

The Chancellor’s Circle was founded in 2011 to recognise and thank those generous alumni and friends who have chosen to remember the University of St Andrews in their will during their lifetime.

Since its launch, membership has grown every year. We now hold two annual events (one in Scotland and one in the south of England) to celebrate the remarkable group of people who have pledged a gift to secure the financial future of the University of St Andrews and to help us consolidate our status as a world-class centre for teaching, learning and research.

All members of the Chancellor’s Circle receive regular donor communications and an invitation to these events.

We hope to widen the impact of our message, increase membership of the Circle and introduce members and interested donors and friends to some of the wonderful projects that planned giving can help the University to realise.

For those of you who are contemplating the decision to leave a gift to St Andrews, I hope you will feel inspired to help reinforce our position as one of the leading universities in the world by joining our Chancellor’s Circle.

The Rt Hon Lord Campbell of Pittenweem CH CBE QC
President, the Chancellor’s Circle

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I wish to help St Andrews continue its tradition of excellence

Returning this Legacy Pledge Form to us does not commit you in any way. It helps us to know your intentions and provides us with the opportunity to show our gratitude for your support during your lifetime.

Name: ..................................................
Address: ..................................................
Postcode: .................................. Telephone: ............
Email: .................................. Date: MM/DD/YY

Please tick as applicable:
☐ I have already included a gift to the University in my will
☐ I am considering adding a gift to the University in my will

The following information helps us plan for the future and ensure that your wishes can be fulfilled. If you would rather discuss your intention with us please leave this section blank.

I am planning to leave the University:
☐ the residue of my estate (or a portion thereof)
☐ a specific sum of money
☐ a specific asset (please specify) ...................................

An estimate of the current value of my proposed legacy is:

Please tick if you wish your legacy to remain anonymous: ☐

I wish my legacy to support:
☐ Whatever is of priority to the University at the time of my death
☐ A specific project – please indicate below:

For the legator use only

D D M M Y

Getting in touch
If you would like further information, please contact:
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All the information in this publication is correct at time of going to press.

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