



## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE QUEEN'S FOUNDATION

The meaning behind the motto shared by both Queen's and the City of Belfast is at the very heart of the Queen's University of Belfast Foundation.

Established in 1999, the role of the Foundation is to raise money to support the vital work of education and research at Queen's, and to forge lasting relationships with those who share our vision for the future. The Foundation enables those who want to give back to the University; those who

## What shall we give in return for so much? "PRO TANTO QUID RETRIBUAMUS"

believe and trust in the work of Queen's and want to help shape the future of Northern Ireland. People just like you.

You are receiving this newsletter because at some stage you have considered leaving a gift in your Will to Queen's. Whatever stage of the process you are at, and whenever the time is right for you, rest assured a charitable legacy gift will make a huge difference.

With your support, more talented students can pursue their dream of a Queen's education, students who otherwise would not be able to afford one. Your gift can fund life-changing medical research into a disease that may have affected your loved ones, to achieve better treatment options and improve patient outcomes. A legacy gift is a unique opportunity to make a personal impact on the future, to make a true and lasting difference to others.

As the Queen's Foundation is a registered charity, your gift will be free of tax and can reduce the inheritance tax burden on your estate. Additionally, 100% of your gift will go towards your chosen cause.

This edition highlights a number of our supporters and shows how legacy gifts can impact students and staff. If you have any thoughts or queries you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to get in contact.



Warm wishes,

*Louise Carey*

**Louise Carey**  
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### LEGACY GIVING IN 2023



217 ALUMNI OR SUPPORTERS  
CONSIDERING LEAVING  
A GIFT TO QUEEN'S



£690K - LEGACY GIFT INCOME TO  
SUPPORT MEDICAL RESEARCH, STUDENT  
RESOURCES & SCHOLARSHIPS

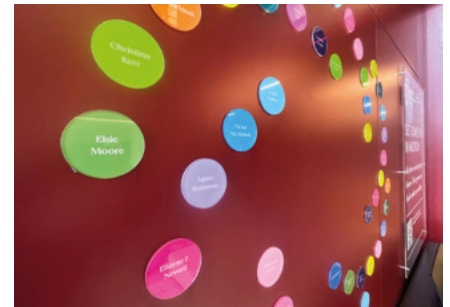


LARGEST GIFT - £341K  
SMALLEST GIFT - £4K

# LEGACY DONOR THANK YOU EVENT

In October 2023, we held an intimate afternoon tea event in the One Elmwood Student Centre to thank our valued legacy pledgers. We also had the opportunity to officially recognise those who generously included Queen's in their Will by unveiling our new Legacy Donor Wall in the building's foyer, proudly displaying their names.

The legacy event formed part of the Centre's wider first anniversary celebrations, which featured an address by US special envoy Joe Kennedy III. Guests had the chance to explore the new building through guided tours before enjoying a private afternoon tea. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended - it was such a pleasure to meet each and every one of you.



## DR. HUGHES GIFTS A LIFETIME OF RESOURCES

Queen's alumnus, Dr Albert Hughes (BA Politics, 2007), remembered his academic discipline by leaving a generous legacy gift of £26,000 to purchase resources for the benefit of Politics students. An important resource gap for students was identified and perpetual access was purchased to the Dublin Castle records and the NI Parliament records from 1922-1972.

These two resources will provide an invaluable and

permanent source of high-quality material for undergraduate and post-graduate students of Irish and British politics.

Thanks to this thoughtful legacy, future generations of Queen's students will be able to follow in Dr Hughes' footsteps and fulfil their academic potential.

### ARE YOU A QUEEN'S GRADUATE?

If you'd like us to keep you up to date with news and events at Queen's, sign up at

[alumni.qub.ac.uk/signup](https://alumni.qub.ac.uk/signup)

# LEGACY OBITUARY

## RUTHIE KOHNER

### DIED 4 MAY 2023, AGED 86

**LEGACY NEWS**  
SPRING / SUMMER 2024

In 1939 Ruthie arrived in Northern Ireland as a 2-year-old with her family, having fled Czechoslovakia in the face of the Nazi occupation of the Sudetenland. The Kohner family settled in Millisle, Co. Down on a farm set up for refugees and Kindertransport evacuees, before moving to Belfast in 1943.

A pupil of Princess Gardens and subsequently Richmond Lodge schools, Ruthie excelled in sports and arts, following on to study Art and Design at the Belfast Art College. This led to her career as Design Director and fabrics buyer for the family firm Belart Ltd, which she

managed with her brother Billy. For over 40 years Ruthie played an important role in its growth and success. She continued her sporting activities playing lacrosse (for Ireland) and golf, and was also a keen skier and sailor. She was an ardent Ulster Rugby supporter and often travelled with the team.

Ruthie was a great friend and supporter of Queen's. Along with her brother Billy, she contributed to The Dr Dinah Kohner Memorial Fund, (originally set up by the Belfast Rotary Club) in memory of their sister, a significant Queen's graduate who sadly

died in an air crash on medical-missionary work in South America aged just 27. The focus of their donation was to support a PhD Studentship in Paediatrics. Ruthie left a generous gift of £50,000 in her Will to continue to support the Fund.



## THE GULLERY SISTERS' GIFTS TO CANCER RESEARCH

When Dympna Gullery passed away in January 2015, after charitable bequests she left the balance of her estate to her only sister Eileen. Eileen later made the decision to vary the terms of Dympna's Will and made a very generous donation of £50,000 to support future generations of students researching the causes of and treatments for cancer.

The gift, which was invested by the University and the interest used to support a studentship in perpetuity, has funded four

students to date and is named after Eileen's sister.

Eileen, a Queen's graduate (BA, 1943) who went on to forge a successful career as a hospital-based medical social worker, sadly passed in 2021. In her Will, Eileen left Queen's a generous £50,000 unrestricted gift to be used for an area of greatest need.

Knowing her past support for cancer research and following a discussion with the Patrick Johnson Centre for Cancer Research (PGJCCR) at Queen's, bladder cancer was identified as an area of unmet

clinical need. As a result, the Eileen Gullery Studentship was established. The Studentship will support five MSc students on the Cancer Medicine programme to undertake a research project in the area of bladder cancer. The first Studentship will be awarded in 2024.



# LEGACY PLEDGER

## PROF. FRANCIS KEENAN

# LEGACY NEWS

## SPRING / SUMMER 2024

Education advocate Professor Francis Keenan, now retired Director of Astrophysics Research Centre at Queen's, has always believed in the power of education and dedicated his life to learning and teaching at the University:

"I came to Queen's in 1975 as an 18-year-old undergraduate student and never left. I have had an association with Queen's for all my adult life.

"As I approached retirement, I thought about how I could recognise the positive contribution that Queen's has

made to my life. I wanted to do something specifically for undergraduate students, as I realise how much tougher it is for them financially than it ever was for me: there were no fees when I studied for my degree and I graduated with no student debt.

"I have since established a prize for undergraduate students, specifically for the MSci Physics with Astrophysics degree, and have also left a gift in my Will to add to the prize fund so its value can be increased in years to come.

"Although the prize is called the Francis P Keenan Prize, it really should be called the 'Ted of School of Mathematics and Physics Prize', as Ted (pictured) has been the driving force behind my work in recent years..."



### WHAT DO LEGACY GIFTS SUPPORT?



38% OF GIFTS  
HELP TO SUPPORT  
STUDENTS/SCHOLARSHIPS



36%  
SUPPORT  
MEDICAL CAUSES



15% OF GIFTS  
ARE UNRESTRICTED  
(USED FOR THE AREA OF GREATEST NEED)

### UPDATE OR CREATE YOUR WILL FOR FREE

Queen's has teamed up with trusted online Wills provider, Bequeathed, to allow you to update or create your Will for free, with expert advice, from the comfort of your own home.

Taking the time now to write your Will means the people

and causes you care about will be well looked after. Once you've taken care of family and friends, leaving even 1% of your estate can make a huge and lasting difference to education and research in Northern Ireland.

A basic Will is adequate for most people. However, if

Bequeathed advise that a basic Will isn't suitable for your more complex needs, you can choose to pay for the additional advice and detail added.

Find out more at [go.qub.ac.uk/free-wills](https://go.qub.ac.uk/free-wills) or contact [L.Carey@qub.ac.uk](mailto:L.Carey@qub.ac.uk) to discuss further.