

Leaving a Legacy

GIRTON COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE





Girton College has always been ahead of the times. It was founded with a mission – to open the doors of Higher Education to women – that a century later took a form appropriate to a fresh moment – to establish an integrated women’s and men’s college. In the success with which it has since quickly sustained parity between the sexes, it is as unique among Cambridge Colleges today as it was at the outset. That second process was begun 30 years ago. Now it must confront new disparities.

These disparities have their most devastating effect at the very point at which young people contemplate university education. Finance enters into the calculations of many potential students, however talented they are, to an extent that was simply not true for my own generation.

Our response to this has been to increase the level of financial assistance we are able to offer to new entrants: a new bursary scheme, the Emily Davies Bursary Scheme was introduced in 1999, funded by a major donation and many individual contributions from alumni. We need to sustain this scheme and our other funds for those facing financial hardship, now it is clear that students will be charged £3,000 per year for tuition.

Many of you will be aware of the success of the last Development Campaign, not only in the area of bursaries, but also in raising funds for the Duke Building, and improvements to student accommodation. We need to build on that success to deal with pressures on our Fellowship. National requirements in the university system demand that academics are as productive in

research as well as teaching, and the demands made of College Fellows all round have increased.

The College has had to find ways of meeting the increased pressures, and sustaining the high quality small group teaching for which Cambridge is world-renowned, with less funding from government than ever before. In our 21st Century Campaign we aim to gain the resources to enable us to attract and retain first-rate scholars across the disciplines. We currently have one endowed Teaching Fellowship thanks to a gift, and another Fellowship funded annually, both filled with great distinction in areas whose futures we could not otherwise have guaranteed. It will also be important to secure our Research Fellowships. We are pleased that we are now working together with the University on this, and are an integral part of its new Campaign for collegiate Cambridge: ‘800 Years of Transforming Tomorrow.’

I have referred mainly to people rather than buildings, and to disciplines rather than facilities. Of course the one implies the other – and this booklet will tell you more. It is about the needs of a particular moment, but then

Girton’s oldest and most vitalising virtue is to look to the future through being aware of the demands of the present.



*Professor Dame Marilyn Strathern FBA
Mistress, Girton College*

Leaving a Legacy to Girton



THROUGHOUT our history, legacies have been of substantial benefit to Girton College. Our early benefactors gave generously during and after their lifetimes and the names of our founders are remembered today in the prizes and scholarships that are still awarded in their names. Generations of alumni and their families have continued to create funds to remember friends and former tutors. Students are benefiting today from legacies which enable them to come to Girton to study and make the most of the opportunities we offer. Many of our rooms have been named after alumni and friends who have contributed to the maintenance and enhancement of Girton's unique buildings and grounds, including many student rooms which have been 'adopted' under the 'Adopt a Room' scheme.

The experience of a Cambridge education is the experience of being taught by the best minds in your field, and having access to the knowledge of renowned academics as supervisors. Those who have really had an influence on our formation, aside from our parents, are most often our teachers.





Why we need your help

The College has a wide-ranging portfolio of fundraising projects within its 21st Century Campaign. With the reduction in government funding, Girton is more dependent than before on the support of its former students and friends to continue in its mission. These are the identified priorities for the next five years.

Funding of Teaching Fellowships

Target: Endowment of £1 million or annual funding of £40,000

The need to supply funding for teaching Fellowships is becoming increasingly urgent, for the present unique system is in danger of becoming unsustainable. The 20% decline in fee funding for Colleges over ten years from 1998 means that there is less financial flexibility to support College teaching posts. The University's departments are also under pressure financially and are cutting back on teaching provision, making the College Fellowships even more vital.

The College's income from fees from the UK government and fees is approximately £1.6 million per year, yet the cost of providing our students' education is around £2.2 million per year. The College depends on fundraising and its endowment funds to make up the shortfall.

In order to sustain teaching for the long-term it is essential that Girton endows teaching posts. The cost of funding a mid-level College Teaching Officer (Fellowship), including 22% on-costs of pension, room and commons as well as salary, is approximately £40,000 per year. In order to generate this in support perpetuity, an endowment of £1 million is needed for each post.

Supporting teaching at Girton will benefit generations of future students, and ensure that they have the best opportunities that the University can offer.

We are currently on our way to endowing two Fellowships, one in an arts subject and one in mathematics, and our aim is to fund at least two more from fundraising in the next five years. Another post is being funded through donation on an annual basis, thanks to the generosity of a former student of Girton.



The Refurbishment of the Tower Wing

Target: £2 million

The Tower Wing, a part of the College which is immediately recognisable, is in great need of modernisation. This project focuses on bringing the students' rooms up to 21st-century standards, which includes adding IT networking and improving bathrooms and kitchens. The project will include improving the front entrance and Porters' Lodge, to make this aspect of the College more welcoming, and restoring the chequered brickwork of the tower itself.

Because of the Grade II listed status of the building, and the extent of the work required, the target to refurbish the entire wing is £2 million. This can be broken down into £10,000 to refurbish each student room.

Childcare Bursaries

Target: £2 million

Providing childcare bursaries underlines our commitment to equal opportunities and access. The College now has a new nursery at Wolfson Court, but the cost of childcare still deters many from continuing their studies after becoming parents. As well as encouraging more mature students and graduates with children to study in Cambridge, bursaries are an essential benefit for academic staff.

The Sports Pavilion and Pitches Redevelopment

Target: £1 million

Fundraising is well underway to build a pavilion worthy of the sporting triumphs of Girton's



*Courtyard:
Wolfson Court*

recent years. These include the promotion of the men's rugby team to Division I and the men's football team winning the league. The new pavilion will be a two-storey building with four changing rooms, and will incorporate a new gym. Currently the College's gym is located in two separate areas and this will provide it with a unified and permanent home.

The project also includes the realignment of the rugby and football pitches so that both sports can be played concurrently.

21st Century Fund

This is our fund for the general purposes of the College, which is perhaps the most important, as it enables us to respond to the demands of the moment.

Helping Girton through your Will



We hope that when you have provided for your family, you will want to remember Girton College in your Will. It is very easy to include a gift to College when making or revising your Will.

The following wording is sufficient to make your intentions known:

“I give to the Mistress, Fellows and Scholars of Girton College Cambridge (Inland Revenue charity tax number x1017) the residue/ a proportion of the residue/the sum of £_____ free of tax for the general purposes of the College and I declare that the receipt of the Bursar or other authorised Officer for the time being of the College shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my executors.”

If you wish to leave money to benefit a specific area of College life, you may wish to discuss the wording with a member of the College’s Development Office, or with the Bursar.



Centrepiece, part of the Power silver collection, Girton College



Types of Bequest

There are several ways of leaving a gift to College in your Will, outlined below:

Pecuniary Bequest

This is a simple legacy of a specific sum of money left to a named beneficiary. It is possible to leave a pecuniary gift to Girton College by adding a Codicil to your Will using the wording on page 6 and keeping this with your Will. To avoid reducing the value of a pecuniary gift, you may wish to index-link the amount to inflation. A solicitor will be able to assist you with arranging this.

Residuary Bequest

This leaves all or part of the residue of your estate to the College, after other legacies and charges have been met. A residuary bequest has the advantage that its value is not eroded by inflation.

Reversionary Bequest

This is an excellent way of providing for your spouse or other dependent as well as benefiting Girton College. Your assets are left to the beneficiary to enjoy in their lifetime, but on their death, the whole, or a specified proportion, will revert to College.

Specific or Non-Money Bequest

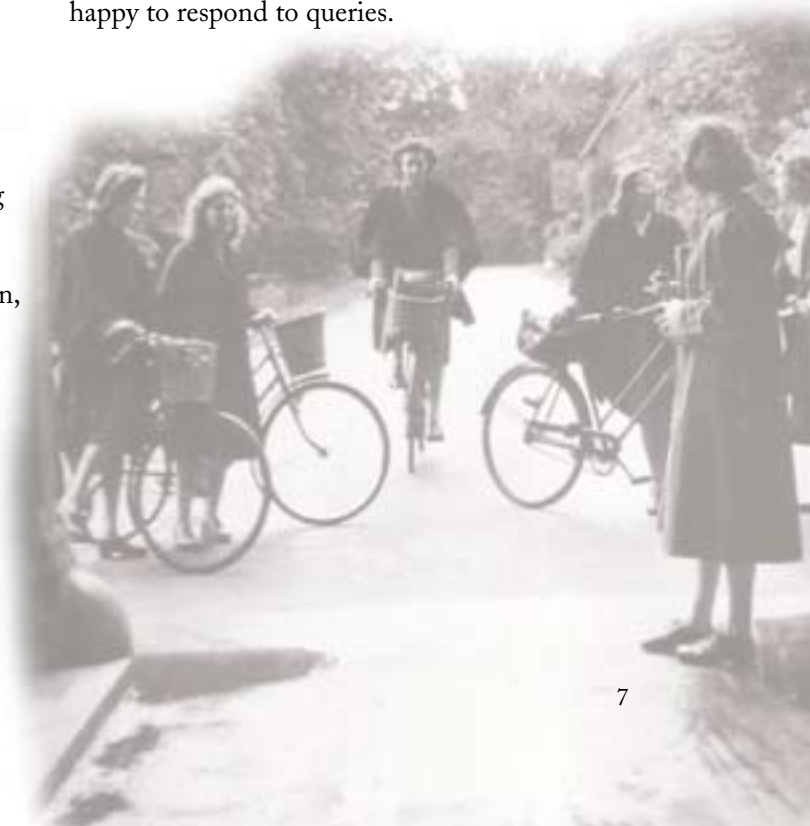
A bequest may also be left in the form of shares, property, valuables and works of art which may be either kept or sold to provide funds to be used by the College where they are needed most.

Tax Benefits

Girton College is recognised in the United Kingdom as a charity for tax purposes and there are potential tax benefits available to donors who choose to leave a bequest to College. Gifts to spouses and to charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax. We recommend that you seek professional advice on the implications for any Inheritance Tax on your estate.

Overseas Donors

Arrangements for making charitable gifts vary from country to country. Donors from outside the United Kingdom wishing to leave a legacy to Girton College may find specialist advice helpful, but the Development Office is always happy to respond to queries.



Informing College of your Intentions

It is very helpful to have an indication of planned bequests, not least so that we can find ways of expressing our thanks to you for your generosity. A pledge form and envelope are enclosed in the back pocket of this brochure and can be used to inform us of your intentions or to request more information. A pledge form is not binding and has no legal implications.

The 1869 Society

If you do wish to remember College in your Will, you will automatically be included in the 1869 Society for legacy benefactors to the College. We will be inviting those who are members to an annual event to thank them for planning such a bequest, as well as our annual Donors' Dinner.

Further Information

The Development Director and the Bursar are happy to discuss with you at any time any questions you may have about leaving a bequest to Girton College, and to explore any personal wishes for supporting a particular aspect of College life and how this might best be arranged. Of course, all correspondence and discussion will be treated in the strictest confidence.

If you would like further information about any of the projects described in this brochure please do not hesitate to contact the Development Office at the College.

Please contact:

The Development Director
Girton College
Cambridge CB3 0JG
FREEPOST ANG 6880
CAMBRIDGE CB3 0YE

Telephone: (01223) 339893
Fax: (01223) 339892
Email: development@girton.cam.ac.uk
Website: www.girton.cam.ac.uk/alumni



A Pledge to Girton College

Please complete and return this form if you have decided to help Girton College in your Will. A pledge is not binding and does not have legal implications, but does assist us with long-term planning and allows us to acknowledge your contribution to the future of Girton College.

While it would be helpful to have an indication of the value of your bequest, please do not feel obliged to give this information if you would prefer not to do so.

Please tick as appropriate.

I intend to make a bequest to Girton College

I am not yet ready to state an intention but please contact me in ____ months'/years' time.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Date _____

Please return this form to: The Development Director, Girton College, Cambridge CB3 0JG.

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