

DONOR NEWS

The magazine for Queen's donors and supporters

2018



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

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Volunteering

Talking to Fergal McFerran, the youngest ever President of the QGA

Queen's Annual Fund

Meeting needs and challenges

Thank You

For your support over the last 12 months

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!
DURING 2017...

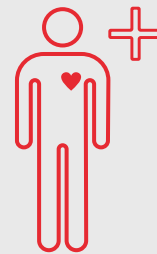
£7m

Raised in philanthropic income

7,376 Gifts Received



1,885
Individual Donors



400
New Donors

JustGiving™

£32k

Raised through JustGiving



5,428

Number of graduates
spoken to during
telephone campaigns

Standout gifts:

Largest ever legacy received

£3.2m

for cardiovascular research

£790k

Blood Cancer Research

£500k

Widening Participation

£450k

Cancer Research

£67.5k

Multiple Sclerosis

52 

Projects supported by
Queen's Annual Fund



£156k

Queen's Annual Fund Total



£190k

Volunteer Value



390

Instances of
volunteering

REFLECTING ON THE PAST, LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As Acting President and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast, it is my pleasure to reflect on another year of fundraising success for The Queen's University of Belfast Foundation.

Whatever your reason for giving, philanthropy at all levels is becoming increasingly important at Queen's. It enables us to support our students, to give them the best experience and finest education possible. It is also crucial if we are to advance our world-class research and find solutions to the most pressing, most vital and often most complex challenges that face society today.

As I deliberate on the past year it would be remiss not to acknowledge that it has also been a very difficult and sad one for the University and its supporters. No-one embodied the ideals of Queen's University Belfast more than our late Vice-Chancellor Professor Patrick Johnston, who sadly passed away suddenly and unexpectedly last June.

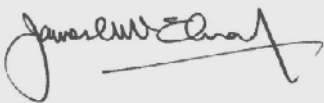
Professor Johnston was a truly inspirational and visionary leader, who never accepted second best and who inspired those around him to "dream no little dreams".

Those of us who worked with Paddy miss him enormously, but his passion and commitment to education and its wider purpose in society was truly inspiring. It's what makes us want to continue his work, to promote a culture of excellence and to deliver a world-class experience to future generations.

So while it has been a very difficult year for the University, with your help and support we will continue to move forward.

The generosity reflected in this issue of *Donor News* is of tangible benefit across all areas of the University. I am hugely grateful to all our donors and volunteers who are supporting us on our journey.

With my very best wishes.



Professor James C McElroy
Acting President and Vice-Chancellor



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While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of printed information, readers should be aware that this magazine is not an official publication. Any views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the University or the editorial team.

FOUNDATION NEWS

How your support has transformed lives in 2017

CME Group Foundation



(L-R): Dr Philip Hanna (Queen's); Alison Hamilton (Head of CME Group, Belfast); Kevin Kometer (Chief Information Officer, CME Group Chicago), Professor Gillian Armstrong (UU)

The CME Group Foundation has awarded the Queen's Foundation \$192,000 to support a GCSE teacher training and pupil outreach project delivered by the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

This collaborative, two-year project will upskill 140 GCSE computing teachers so they can confidently and capably teach coding skills to their pupils. It will also support the delivery of three code schools, to inspire and encourage pupils to study computing, with a focus on female students and those from economically or socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

Banking on Lloyds

Fifteen talented students were selected from over 350 applicants as the first Lloyds Scholars at Queen's. The initiative which runs at just eight other universities across the UK, attracted over 2,000 hopefuls for the programme.

Part of Lloyds Banking Group's social mobility programme, and launched in October specifically for students from a widening participation background, the initiative offers financial support, paid internships, professional mentoring and opportunities to develop employability skills.

Participants will each receive bursaries of £1,000 per year, performance-related awards based on academic achievement, up to two paid internships with Lloyds Banking Group, along with access to mentoring and to the development of a support network with senior employees of the Group.



Lloyds Scholars 2017/18

Pathway to Education

The Pathway to Opportunity Programme is for talented young people from Northern Ireland who have the ability to study at Queen's but who may require additional support to reach their full potential. Between 400-500 students will enrol on the Programme in the next five years, each of whom we hope will receive a £1,000 bursary to assist with living costs.

Regular Giving Manager Meaghan Lyons celebrates the receipt of over £25,000, the results of a dedicated Pathway Opportunity Programme direct mail campaign during 2017



Getting Down to Business



(L-R): Darragh McCarthy, CEO and Founder of FinTrU; Professor Nola Hewitt-Dundas, Head of Queen's Management School; Richard McGuinness, Managing Director, Head of Operations at FinTrU Belfast; Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations

Northern Ireland's first financial Trading Room, based in Queen's Management School, announced a new sponsor in October. The leading financial services company FinTrU, which has had a presence in Belfast since 2014, has committed £75,000 to support the facility over the next three years.

Students in 'The FinTrU Trading Room' have access to all the latest financial data, news and analytics – and to Oxyor, a trading simulation – putting them in the dealing room 'hot seat' and providing a dynamic environment for those hoping for a career in financial services or technology. FinTrU currently employs over 200 people in Belfast – over 50 per cent of whom are Queen's graduates – and already supports a finance lecture series at the University.

The FinTrU Trading Room, which replicates New York and London trading environments, is based at Queen's Management School at Riddel Hall. It will give up to 24 students at any one time access to 12 trading stations and to a real-time electronic ticker tape featuring financial information feeds from Bloomberg.

The first-hand experience of the high-pressure atmosphere of the trading room available to Queen's finance students will give them even more of an edge in the global job market.

Expanding Computer Science

Expanding computer science is an institutional priority for Queen's and for Northern Ireland. The University is working with key industry players and others to ensure graduates are highly trained and ready for employment.

The University opened the new Computer Science Building at the end of March 2017, following a £14m revamp of the former Sir Bernard Crossland Building, thanks to generous support from The Garfield Weston Foundation, First Derivatives (FD) and Allstate.

The First Derivatives Computer Science Room, launched by Chief Operating Officer Adrian Toner in October 2017, is part of a highly successful relationship between the University and the Newry-based global technology provider. Founded by Queen's graduate Brian Conlon (BSc 1987), FD now operates from 14 global offices, employing over 2,000 people worldwide.

First Derivatives is sponsoring the space and supporting students in the School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EEECs) for the next four years.

Meanwhile, the new Allstate Cybersecurity Lab was opened in November by Suren Gupta, Executive Vice President of Technology and Strategic Ventures at Allstate Insurance Company. The latest initiative represents a major milestone in what is already a hugely successful relationship between Queen's and the international corporation.

Allstate will sponsor the Cybersecurity Lab for the next three years, providing students at Queen's with a comprehensive understanding of the cyber challenges facing industry and society, and helping to equip them with the skills necessary to address the latest high-tech security threats.



Terence Kyle Scholarship

The 2017 recipient of the Terence Kyle Scholarship is Law postgraduate Aoife Marken from Belfast (pictured right). This is the second year of the scholarship set up by the former Chief Executive of Linklaters, Terence Kyle. Also pictured is Siobhan Magee - a current Law student and a previous City Scholar - who will take up a graduate position at Linklaters in late 2018.

Speaking about the scholarship Aoife said: "I am extremely grateful to be the recipient of the Terence Kyle Scholarship for 2017. This award will facilitate my study of LLM International Business Law, and I am excited to see what future opportunities such a sponsorship may provide for me."

Martin-Baker Engineering Scholarships

One of the largest gifts received in our last fundraising campaign was from the Martin-Baker Aircraft Company. This resulted in the creation of the Martin-Baker Scholarships in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. The inaugural recipients of the scholarships were Jordan Davidson from Cookstown, who won the Sir James Martin Entrance Scholarship, and Lauren Floyd (Armagh) and Andrew Wilson (Kilkeel), each of whom received a Sir James Martin Scholarship.

Martin-Baker, founded by Northern Ireland man Sir James Martin, is the world's leading manufacturer of ejection seats. The scholarships were set up by Sir James' sons John and James and their sisters Jane Livesey and Anne Hess, to commemorate their father, who died in 1981.



(L-R): Helen Carrick (Head of Major Gifts); Lauren Floyd; Dean McGonagle; James and Catherine Martin; Andrew Wilson; Professor Brian Falzon (Head of the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)

Homework Clubs

The Homework Clubs Programme, now in its sixth year, is an award-winning volunteering initiative managed by the Students' Union whereby students volunteer their time at 17 weekly Clubs across Belfast.

Homework Clubs help increase the educational attainment of participants through volunteer tutoring, research, IT and study skills and improvement in the core skills of literacy and numeracy. In short, they aim to raise educational attainment and aspirations of children and young people living in some of the most educationally underachieving areas of the city.

This year the project has been generously supported by Belfast Harbour and The Ireland Funds. The Homework Clubs initiative has been chosen as one of the inaugural Queen's Social Charter Signature Projects which exemplify the Charter's themes and demonstrate the positive impact of the work on society.



Memorial Benches – Remembering Loved Ones

Adam Houghton (LLB, 1970) explains why he dedicated a bench to his grandfather

In Memory of

**The Hon. Surgeon General
Robert W. S. Lyons MD. IMS**

1859 - 1947

Studied Medicine at QUB 1877 - 1882

The Adopt-A-Bench programme at Queen's offers the opportunity to have a personal and tangible place on campus to commemorate a loved one or celebrate a special event or achievement. Gifts to the programme support scholarships at Queen's, allowing students to turn dreams into reality, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Queen's alumnus Adam Houghton decided to commemorate his grandfather, the Honourable Surgeon General Robert Lyons MD IMS by dedicating a bench outside the McClay Library to him.

Dr Lyons came to Queen's in 1877 and was awarded the degree of MD in the Faculty of Medicine. In November 1882 he accepted his first post in India, as Surgeon attached to the 1st Bombay Lancers. A distinguished career culminating in the title of Surgeon General Bombay (1914) followed, until he returned to England in 1919.

During his time in India Dr Lyons looked after the health of Gandhi during his temporary imprisonment in the Mansion House, Poona, and wrote a paper on the causes and prevention of malaria. He died in 1947.

If you would like more details on funding a memorial bench, contact Naomi King, Development Manager (n.king@qub.ac.uk) or telephone +44 (0)28 9097 3101.

Yvonne Goss (BA LLB) shares her reasons for adopting a bench at Queen's

My years at Queen's were among the happiest of my life. During my time there, I gained primary degrees in both English and Law and embarked upon an MPhil in Criminal Justice. My mother would often join me for lunch and, weather permitting, would wait for me to finish my studies in the picturesque setting of the Quad. Many times we sat in that idyllic location, putting the world to rights before journeying home together.

My mother passed away on 2 September 2016, leaving a void in my life which can never be filled. A few months ago I revisited Queen's. That was the first time I encountered the memorial benches, with their touchingly worded plaques and I knew there and then, that I wanted to dedicate one of these benches to my mum.

My mother was never one to sit and watch the world go by. When not being physically active, she was a voracious reader and a keen puzzler and quizzer and it was these pastimes with which she busied herself in the relaxed environs of the Quad. Many decades later, she would still say that doing crosswords and word puzzles "always reminded her of being at Queen's".

The bench I chose to adopt for my mum is situated just a few feet from her beloved Quad, in the equally picturesque setting of the east/west walkway. The position is all the more poignant flanked as it is by the trees of the beautiful Botanic Gardens and overlooked by the dome of the exotic Palm House, to which my mum was a frequent visitor.

I always felt 'at home' at Queen's. Now, thanks to this wonderful scheme, whatever connection I continue to have with the University, I will always feel my mum is a part of it, just as I did, when I was a student.

In Memory Of My Mother
Mrs Sheelagh Goss.

*"Grace was in all her steps,
Heaven in her eye, in every gesture, dignity and love"*

Presented by her daughter
Yvonne Goss. B.A. (Hons); L.L.B. (Hons).





K Rend
Silicone Coloured Renders

WIDENING PARTICIPATION – LEVELLING THE PLAYING FIELD

Kilwaughter Minerals Ltd (Kilwaughter), one of Northern Ireland's leading manufacturers of products for the construction and agricultural markets, is helping Queen's to widen access to education.

Widening participation (WP) in higher education is a strategic priority for Queen's. Not only does the University wish to ensure that the student body is as diverse as possible, but it is also seeking to guarantee fairer access for all talented prospective students, regardless of their circumstances.

With 32 per cent of first-degree entrants now from lower socio-economic groups, Queen's is already placed first amongst the UK's leading universities for widening access. A number of schemes in support of this ambition currently exist at Queen's, many with the backing of the local business community and, as Gerry Power reports, each aiming to make the journey to – and through – University a smoother education experience for all.

Widening participation is now enshrined as one of the 19 Signature Projects in the University's Social Charter, launched in November 2017. Queen's WP Unit is leading the way in raising the aspirations and, ultimately, the educational attainment of students from areas where attendance at University is not the norm. It is actively working with secondary and primary schools across Northern Ireland, reaching out to thousands of pupils from low participation backgrounds to level the playing field through 'taster' events and a range of awareness raising projects.

One such initiative is the Pathway Opportunity Programme (POP), which has generous assistance from Kilwaughter Minerals

Ltd in County Antrim. It is a corporate connection that can trace its origins back almost 100 years.

Chris McDowell, BEng Manufacturing Engineering (1992), comes from the third generation of the McDowell family to study at Queen's and to run Kilwaughter. His father John is a 1963 BSc Civil Engineering graduate, while his grandfather Charles, who founded the company with his brother-in-law Gerald McGladery in 1939, graduated in 1922 with a BSc in Chemistry.

The McDowell family has enjoyed close links with Queen's for almost 100 years. Knowledge gained and friendships made as undergraduates were valuable to each of them throughout their careers. They also learned a work ethic that has seen Kilwaughter Minerals thrive.

Kilwaughter Minerals currently employs 160 staff, primarily at the company's operational headquarters at Kilwaughter on the outskirts of Larne, with others based at additional sites in Cork and Stoke-on-Trent. The main products are ground calcium carbonates for industrial and agricultural applications and silicone renders for the construction industry.

"Over the years Kilwaughter has collaborated with the Engineering and Chemistry departments at Queen's through KTP (Knowledge Transfer Partnership) and its predecessor the Teaching Company Scheme. A key success from one such collaboration was the breakthrough in harnessing silicone technology within the render product range," said Chris.

"It was my father, John, who took the initiative to explore how the company could support Queen's. When we heard about Pathway we were all excited by its potential to widen access to the University, which is in keeping with the company core values".

"The programme stands out due to its ability to target candidates with great potential and to support them in achieving a high-quality education, which may otherwise have been missed," he added.

"Kilwaughter has made a £100,000 donation to support the September 2018 intake to the Programme, with ongoing funding for a further four years."

The McDowell family benefited from everything else that a first-class education offers. Sports and societies were an important part of University life – Charles was an accomplished rower, John played squash and for Chris it was rugby and squash and a "fantastic" IAESTE student exchange experience to Poland.

Kilwaughter has made a £100,000 donation to support the September 2018 intake to the Programme, with ongoing funding for a further four years.

Queen's Pathway Opportunity Programme (POP) provides a route for talented young people from Northern Ireland who have the ability to study at University but who may require additional support and encouragement to reach their potential.

In years 13 and 14, prospective POP students will benefit from a structured series of events including a residential summer school, and will receive admissions guidance and support designed to aid progression to Queen's.

Participants who successfully complete the programme, which includes an academic piece of work, will potentially benefit



John McDowell, whose idea it was to explore ways of supporting Queen's

from receiving a reduced admissions offer for a course of study (Archaeology and Palaeoecology, Business, Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Food, Microbiology and Environment, and Law), which may be up to two A-level grades (or equivalent) lower than the standard offer.

Kilwaughter has made a £100,000 donation to support the September 2018 intake to the Programme, with ongoing funding for a further four years. As a result, POP students will receive a personal bursary to assist them with the associated costs of studying at Queen's such as food, books and accommodation.

"As a company we are very aware of the rapidly changing needs in the workplace. There is a shortage of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) skills, which are vital for a manufacturing business like ours to flourish.

"This opportunity to draw talented individuals into Queen's, who may otherwise miss out, is critical to the long-term prosperity of the community and economy alike."

Kilwaughter is also exploring the possibility of offering placements to POP students and, ultimately, would hope to recruit graduates who had benefitted from it.

"The Company has benefited greatly over the decades from staff who have been educated at Queen's, and we have been able to use the skills and knowledge gained to great effect.

"For us to be able to support the Pathway Programme and the development of the next generation of students, is a real privilege," added Chris.

Thanks to the support of individual donors and to companies such as Kilwaughter Minerals, Queen's Pathway Opportunity Programme will be able to offer future generations of students the chance to experience life at a Russell Group university – to aspire and achieve – where once such an opportunity may only have been a dream.

To make a gift to the Pathway Opportunity Programme please contact Naomi King, Development Manager (n.king@qub.ac.uk) or by telephone +44 (0)28 9097 3101.

STAY CONNECTED VOLUNTEER!

Fergal McFerran, President of the Queen's Graduates' Association (QGA), talks to Alumni Relations Manager, Natasha Sharma, about what motivates him to volunteer for Queen's.



“Queen’s University really helped me figure out who I am, what I am passionate about, and why? Queen’s certainly gave me a lot – I am really proud to be a graduate – that’s why I am still involved as a volunteer; I want to give something back.”

Fergal has been volunteering his time and expertise since he arrived in Belfast from Dunloy in County Antrim in 2010. Initially enrolling on a theology degree he switched course after 18 months to study for a BA in Politics, Philosophy & Economics, graduating in 2015.

“I see Queen’s as more than just a place that produces great graduates. For me, university was a home from home and I still feel that connection even now that I have graduated. It is about creating and shaping well-rounded people, who know they have a responsibility to the society they find themselves in,” Fergal told Natasha Sharma, who stewards alumni volunteers.

At Queen’s, Fergal volunteered with the St Vincent de Paul Society (becoming its President in 2011), was a student councillor – and counsellor – Co-Chair of RAG (Raise and Give) and worked in Volunteer SU. Outside of university he was a student trustee of NUS/USI, (National Union of Students/Union of Students in Ireland) becoming Deputy President in his final year – another voluntary role.

The Association of which Fergal is currently President organises events to keep its 900 members in frequent contact with the University. The QGA remains relevant to current students by providing scholarships and running informal activities such as the annual International Student Welcome Breakfast.

“We are thrilled to play our part in welcoming new students to Belfast,” said Fergal. “While the QGA exists primarily to maintain the link between alumni and the University, we recognise that we also have a part to play in strengthening relationships across the entire Queen’s family.”

Apart from his QGA leadership role, Fergal’s main Queen’s volunteer input is to the annual Medical Fashion Show organised by SWOT – the Students Working Overseas Trust.

“If you are not getting something out of it, then you are not doing it correctly!” said Fergal. **“I love contributing to the QGA and am very happy to talk about it, but more than that I value being involved in something I can champion.”**

“I’ve been acting as deputy stage manager for the Fashion Show for the last five years – and I really enjoy it! It can be really stressful but it is completely different and totally removed from my day job. The Fashion Show involves some of the busiest students at Queen’s, who are giving up their time to raise funds for medical electives overseas. It really does encapsulate what I mean when I talk about that sense of community.”

While volunteering is principally altruistic, the person giving their time or expertise must also get something back. There is no doubt it can bolster a CV and will provide candidates at job interviews with some tangible experience to talk about, but there’s more to it than that.

Volunteering can also teach how to manage difficult situations and to get the best out of other people. It can help develop communication, management and even diplomacy skills and how to value the contribution of others.

“If you are not getting something out of it, then you are not doing it correctly!” said Fergal. “I love contributing to the QGA and am very happy to talk about it, but more than that I value being involved in something I can champion. Queen’s is a wonderful University and I am really proud to be associated with it, even in just a small way.”

The volunteering opportunities to be filled are as wide-ranging and as varied as the skills required to be a good volunteer. Fresh ideas are always welcome, but there is room too for those who have a broad experience of life. Mostly, however, people just need to be able to interact with others.

There is a level of volunteering to suit almost everyone – some will offer career mentoring on a one-on-one basis, while others will roll up their sleeves and volunteer for ‘one off’ events, or get involved in longer-term projects.

What advice would Fergal give to a graduate – particularly a younger alum – thinking about getting more involved in the life of the University?

“I would say just do it! I would recommend, however, that they look at the available opportunities and consider what they can offer in terms of time and skills. And groups, such as the QGA, offering those opportunities need to be clear about the outcomes they want for each volunteering activity.

“It’s really about matching expectations. We – the QGA – can certainly help graduates of all ages stay connected to Queen’s, but we have to be able to provide members and others with challenging opportunities and demonstrate to our volunteers that we really value their input.”

Acknowledging the contributions made by volunteers is something the QGA President also feels very passionate about.

“For all volunteers, it’s about knowing that giving back can be rewarding and is always appreciated.”

“It’s very simple and straightforward, but hugely important,” said Fergal. “You have to ensure volunteers feel their contribution has been valued; they are giving up precious time. A simple ‘please’ or ‘thank you’ will often suffice – and should of course never be overlooked – but volunteering is a cycle. If you want to recruit volunteers, you have to treat them right. If you don’t, you will struggle to recruit in the future.”

Alumni volunteering has clearly introduced Fergal to a wider and bigger Queen’s family. Through his work in the QGA he has been able to get to know many more fellow graduates, while the SWOT Fashion Show keeps him in touch with current students at the University. For Fergal, and for all volunteers, it’s about knowing that giving back can be rewarding and is always appreciated.

If you would like more information on volunteering go to <https://daro.qub.ac.uk/QUBVolunteer> or call **Natasha Sharma** on +44 (0)28 9097 3135 or email natasha.sharma@qub.ac.uk.



QUEEN'S ANNUAL FUND – MEETING NEEDS AND CHALLENGES



The Queen's Annual Fund (QAF) is a community of thousands of graduates who support the University through single and regular gifts. It allows the University to fund extraordinary opportunities for learning and discovery, to offer support to student clubs, societies and projects and to meet emerging needs and challenges.



Since the Fund was launched in 1999, over £2.6m has been donated by our graduates, made up of over 36,000 gifts from more than 6,000 donors.

Every year, dozens of student callers from across all faculties call over 20,000 alumni around the world to update them on what's happening at Queen's today and enable them to recall their time at University.

Our student callers also give graduates the opportunity to make a gift to the Fund. Those gifts mean that we can offer financial support to a variety of sporting, arts, academic and wellbeing programmes and initiatives that enhance the student experience.

Supported projects included:

The Faculty of Engineering & Queen's Engineering Society

To establish a Queen's University Rocket Competition, with the vision of launching a rocket into space.

Success Dragon & Lion Dance Society

To organise a public Chinese New Year and Cultural Diversity celebration.

QUB Sports

To subsidise the Queen's 3k and 5k Races, held as part of the QUB Active Campus campaign.

Donations to the QAF are acquired through postal, online and telephone fundraising campaigns. Telephone calling is by far our most powerful tool to connect with our alumni and, year after year, the success of these campaigns is dependent on a dedicated team of student callers. For up to 14 weeks during the academic year, they reach out to graduates to seek their engagement and support for the University.

In the past year (2016-17), a total of £156,000 was raised for the Annual Fund; 52 projects (the largest number ever!) received over £73,000 in financial support at the Annual Fund Awards Reception on 4 December.

Mind Your Mood

To offer more services to students through the TAKE 5 Steps to Wellbeing model.

QUB Chess Club

To host an intervarsity competition between members of QUB Chess Club and several other Irish universities.

Art Society

To organise a student art exhibition to facilitate and encourage students to present their work.

If you would like further information on the Queen's Annual Fund, please get in touch with Meaghan Lyons, tel: +44 (0)28 9097 3928.

Find out more about the projects supported at: <https://dar0.qub.ac.uk/annualfund>



SOCIAL CHARTER – SHINING A LIGHT

SHAPING
A BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845



In November 2017, Queen's became one of the first universities in the UK and Ireland to launch a 'Social Charter', a formal initiative reflecting the breadth and depth of the University's local and global impact.

The Social Charter provides a platform to publicly convey the University's relevance, impact and commitment to the local community.

It shines a light on the significant contribution made by Queen's students and staff and the positive impact we have made on society.

For almost two centuries the University has been addressing some of the most pressing global challenges. Today, we are continuing this legacy. Within the University's Corporate Plan, the Social Charter provides the platform for demonstrating the innovation, discovery and creativity of our students and staff, and the regional, national and global impact of their work.

As part of the Social Charter, there will be 19 Signature Projects which span the University and reflect the extent of research and activity at Queen's. These Signature Projects include global alliances for leading-edge cancer research, ground-breaking research in children's healthcare and developing future leaders and students helping in homework clubs across inner-city Belfast.

Speaking at the launch, Professor James McElnay, Acting President and Vice-Chancellor, said: "The Social Charter could be described as a social contract. Through it, we are shining a light on the significant contribution made by students and staff at Queen's.

"Since the University was formed in 1845, its impact has been deep and lasting. That impact has continued to grow and deepen

regionally, nationally and globally. The Social Charter underlines our commitment to having a positive impact on both our people and our place."

Students' Union President Stephen McCrystall said: "The Students' Union and the Student Council warmly welcome the Social Charter. We currently have 11,500 of our students involved in volunteering, clubs and societies, and our student body has a long and proud tradition of civic engagement, promoting equality and diversity, and campaigning for social justice.

"The Social Charter very much represents the strong collaborative spirit of the University and its students, and we look forward to continuing to build on the positive impact Queen's is making."

Commenting on the Social Charter, Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, said: "Staff and students at Queen's are making a huge impact on society both locally and further afield.

"Much of what we do as a university is underpinned by the support of our graduates and friends. The 19 Signature Projects – which include transforming cancer care, Homework Clubs and widening access to higher education – all highlight the impact of philanthropy and demonstrate why your continued support is so important."

To find out more about Queen's Social Charter visit
www.qub.ac.uk/social-charter/

MEDICAL UPDATE

Multiple Sclerosis Research

Raising funds for various areas of medical research within the Institute of Health Sciences continues to be a priority. Generous alumni and friends are supporting crucial disease-focused research in cancer, acute respiratory distress syndrome, cardiovascular disease and the complications of diabetes, to name but a few.

One of the diseases currently generating increasing levels of interest and support is Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Northern Ireland has the second highest incidence of MS in the world, with more than 4,000 people locally living with the disease. In MS, the immune system wrongly attacks the myelin sheath that covers nerve fibres in the brain and spinal cord, which can lead to symptoms such as vision loss, pain, fatigue and paralysis.

Over the last year, almost £70,000 in gifts was received to support the research into this debilitating disease. The John Wilson Memorial Trust, Ulster Carpets generously funded the purchase of a much needed piece of equipment, the Robosep, to enable the laboratory team to work more effectively and efficiently on the analysis of patient blood samples for research purposes.

Last March, exciting new research from Queen's uncovered the therapeutic potential for myelin regeneration, which could revolutionise life for people with MS.



(L-R): Jeremy Wilson of the John Wilson Memorial Trust; Dr Denise Fitzgerald, Queen's MS Research Group; Helen Surgenor, Head of Health Fundraising at Queen's; Caroline Somerville, John Wilson Memorial Trust

Supporting Blood Cancer Research



Dr Ana Gonzales Sanchez – researcher in CCRCB currently funded by LLNI.

In August 2017, Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI (LLNI), the only charity in Northern Ireland dedicated to funding research into the causes and cures of blood cancers, announced funding of £790,000 to support research scientists at Queen's.

The latest grant will be issued over five years to support the recruitment and development of a Lecturer and a Clinical Research Fellow.

LLNI previously created a role for a clinical professional within the haematology team. It also co-funded a clinical trials nurse in Belfast City Hospital and donated £30,000 to part fund the drug costs for the UK clinical trial AML18 in Belfast for older patients with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia and High Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome.

The second phase of the funding package will be dedicated to the recruitment of a Clinical Research Fellow. Finance will also be provided for established clinicians to participate in and support blood cancer research such as clinical trials.

Professor Ken Mills, Chair of Experimental Haematology at Queen's said: "This is a major investment by LLNI and recognises the impact that blood cancer research is having in Belfast and globally.

"There are numerous challenges in developing new therapies for some types of blood cancers and the exciting combination of laboratory and clinical research in this package will herald a new stage of research into leukaemia, myeloma or lymphoma in Belfast."

Three people are diagnosed each day with blood cancer in Northern Ireland. There are over 130 different types of blood cancer, the three most common of which are leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

Madden Family Gift to Lung Disease

With the support of people like the Madden Family, Queen's is helping to speed up the process of taking laboratory discoveries through to the patient's bedside to improve quality of life for people with lung disease.

The family visited Queen's to hand over the proceeds (£1,300) from a number of activities which they organised to raise funds in memory of Felix Madden, Deirdre's husband, who died in September 2016.

Dr Damian Downey, a Clinical Consultant Respiratory Physician in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences - and his team will utilise the gift to fund research in Queen's Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, focusing on how and why the lungs become infected, discovering new ways to treat those with lung disease and improving outcomes for patients in Northern Ireland and beyond.



(L-R): Fiona and Louise Madden, Dr Damian Downey, Declan, Deirdre and Matthew Madden

'Open Garden' Supports Alzheimer's Research

Over £6,000 was raised for Alzheimer's Research at Queen's, when Kaye Campbell opened her gardens to the public last July. Located in Donegore near Templepatrick, the gardens surround the historic Donegore Moat and boast stunning views over Lough Neagh.

Queen's is currently taking part in a major UK-wide trial to investigate whether a drug normally used to treat high blood pressure could also slow down the progression of Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia.



(L-R): Kaye Campbell; Professor Peter Passmore from the Centre for Public Health in Queen's School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences; Ms Aine Wallace, a research nurse who works with Professor Passmore; Alice O'Rawe, Development Manager, Health

Hospital Saturday Fund

The Hospital Saturday Fund has awarded Queen's Foundation £10,000 to fund overseas medical electives in 2018.

The funding will enable students to support some of the core costs which might otherwise prevent them from choosing a placement overseas, including visas, vaccines, accommodation and travel. As a result students are encouraged to consider the wide variety of international placements available.



(L-R): Michaela Clarke, Development Manager, Trusts and Foundations; Professor Pascal McKeown, Acting Dean and Head of School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences; Paul Jackson, Chief Executive, Hospital Saturday Fund; Ian Walsh, Clinical Elective Lead, Centre for Medical Education; Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations; Roy Smith, Head of Sales & Business Development, Hospital Saturday Fund (Ireland)

Mathews Family Scholarship

Dr Colin Mathews (MB BCh BAO 1979), has established a scholarship in recognition of his family's tradition of medical graduation (mostly Queen's) that has spanned five generations and produced almost 50 physicians throughout the world.

This scholarship will be awarded annually to a Queen's medical student to undertake the intercalated degree MSc (Res) Cancer Studies. This will include an extensive project and dissertation in breast cancer research in memory of Dr Mathews' late wife and medical partner, Trish Mathews (Dr Patricia Carson).

Sinead Donnelly, the first Mathews Scholar, said: "Taking a year out to do a Master's degree after completing three years as a medical student is a fantastic opportunity to enhance my medical education.

"I am fortunate to be able to carry out my own research for a year, and am especially privileged to be in receipt of the Mathews Family Scholarship. Without this support I may not have been able to fund my research year. I am very grateful for the generous scholarship provided."

"Developing this scholarship has given me a wonderful opportunity to re-engage with Queen's Medical School", said Dr Mathews at a recent meeting with Sinead. "Once I agreed to fund the scholarship, I found the staff in the Development and Alumni Relations Office were a great help in actually organising all the details. It made donating very easy and extremely worthwhile."

Carson Memorial Prize

The Dr Derek Carson Memorial Prize has been established by the Carson family in memory of their father, Dr Derek Carson OBE (awarded for services to pathology), who was a Queen's graduate and lecturer in forensic pathology for 30 years and Deputy State Pathologist for Northern Ireland.

The first prize of £1,000 was awarded to James Sampson as the student receiving the highest mark in the MSc in Molecular Pathology of Cancer in December 2017.



(L-R): Rachel Ketola, Queen's Development Manager, Health with members of the Carson family – Michael Reilly, Kerry Carson, Christopher B Carson and Melanie Philips

A 'Thank You' Message from the CCRCB Director

Improving outcomes and the quality of life for people with cancer lies at the heart of everything we do in the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB).

Our main objective is to drive forward evidence-based, innovative research and clinical trials in high-incidence cancers including gastro-intestinal, pancreatic, prostate, breast and ovarian and blood cancers. We are developing biomarkers and new therapies that enable our Centre to be at the forefront of personalised cancer medicine, ensuring that each patient gets the treatment that is best suited for them as an individual.

Much of our work is funded through grants from research councils and industry; however, we receive valuable additional funding from philanthropic sources such as local charities and individuals and through patient families who are working with the Queen's Foundation to support research directly within CCRCB. Over the last year we have benefited from £450,000 donated by alumni and friends of Queen's.

We highly value all the gifts – large and small – that we receive through the Foundation. Such funds provide support for a number of PhD studentships, postdoctoral roles, travel scholarships, summer student placements and specific research in all of our main focus disease areas.

Unrestricted donations provide vital seed funding for early research projects where we need to gather test data and demonstrate initial findings before we apply for grant funding.

Donor generosity impacts our research. In ovarian cancer, we have recruited a technician who is focused on the collection of patient tumour samples from the hospital. Cells are extracted from these samples to generate new cell lines that can be used for laboratory research, facilitating the development of new drugs which are being taken into clinical trials. They have also helped us to identify those patients who will not benefit from conventional chemotherapy.

Donations to pancreatic cancer research have enabled us to leverage support from Northern Ireland Health and Social Care, to fund a PhD student who is currently working on the development of therapeutic nanomedicines for the treatment of this devastating disease.

Generous alumni donors also helped fund a PhD studentship in prostate cancer and a postdoctoral research fellow. Our aim is to develop more effective treatments for advanced prostate cancer and to develop tests that will help clinicians predict which prostate cancers will behave in an aggressive manner and which will grow slowly.

My colleagues and I greatly appreciate every individual donation. We hope that you will continue to support us as together we can make a difference.

To find out more about the work in CCRCB, go to www.qub.ac.uk/ccrcb

Queen's alumnus, Professor David Waugh is Director of the Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology at Queen's University Belfast.

If you would like more information on supporting Medical research at Queen's, please contact Alice O'Rawe, Development Manager, Health (alice.orawe@qub.ac.uk) or by telephone: +44 (0)28 9097 5233.

SANTANDER UNIVERSITIES – CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



Throughout 2017, Santander Universities celebrated its 10th anniversary in the UK with a range of events and activities at its academic partner institutions. Queen's first became a Santander University in May 2008, signing a three-year partnership agreement with Abbey National plc, a Banco Santander UK subsidiary at the time. Since then, the relationship has evolved, with Santander Universities now funding a broad range of initiatives across the University.

In just a few months, that highly successful and influential partnership with Queen's will also celebrate its 10th birthday. In the past decade, hundreds if not thousands of Queen's students – and a number of staff – have benefited from over £1m in philanthropic funding from the Bank. As Gerry Power reports, it is a relationship that has resulted in Santander now being one of the University's biggest corporate benefactors.

Funding a range of areas from employability to SME internships, and from leadership and skills development to entrepreneurial mentoring, Santander is now an integral part of University life.

Scholarships enable students to study at partner institutions, covering travel and accommodation, while mobility awards fund exchanges between Queen's and universities within the Santander Universities network. All with the aim of supporting students and staff in their academic and research objectives.

Professor David Jones chairs the University's Santander Working Group. Talking to *Donor News* about the special relationship, Professor Jones said: "The strategic partnership that Queen's has enjoyed with Santander Universities since 2008 has created numerous opportunities for students and staff to participate in a variety of activities, while encouraging exchange and interaction between us and universities in the Santander Universities Network.

"We are delighted to be a member of such a prestigious collective, which brings together over 1,200 universities in 20 countries around the world, including Argentina, Brazil, China, Mexico, Spain, Portugal, USA and the UK.

"As our 10th anniversary approaches it is hugely encouraging to know that it will continue for several years to come."

While the Santander Bank branch at the back of the Students' Union offers a strong visual representation of the relationship, it is the awards, internships and volunteered expertise that make such a real and tangible impact on so many lives.

Entrepreneurship Award

In October 2017, Irene Breen from Saintfield in County Down, won a highly prestigious national Santander Universities Entrepreneurship Award for her business BellaMoon, fighting off stiff competition from over 2,000 UK challengers in the process. It was a life-changing result for the current Executive MBA student, who graduated in 2002 with a BSc Architecture, but who is now focusing on bringing her multi-functional baby breast-feeding and co-sleeping bed, pregnancy pillow and baby dock, to market.

"It was a huge honour and privilege to represent Queen's and Northern Ireland at these prestigious national awards. Winning the Santander Universities Entrepreneurship accolade – which was beyond my wildest dreams – is just fantastic!"

The prize funded by Santander included £20,000 of equity-free seed funding, mentoring from one of the judges at the national final, support from digital marketing agency and event partner Talent Cupboard and a fully funded intern.

Launched in 2011 the Awards have grown to be the UK's largest annual student and graduate business pitching competition offering important support to budding entrepreneurs.

"The Santander Award certainly gives huge credibility to my business and will hopefully enable me to take BellaMoon to the next level," Irene added.

It's not just local students who have benefited from Santander support. Medical undergraduates at China Queen's College in Shenyang were also among those saying thanks during 2017 to Santander Universities UK for travel bursaries which enabled them to visit the Belfast campus over the summer.

And five student engineers were funded to travel in the opposite direction – to the Beijing Institute of Technology – to participate in a summer school providing information and communication technology content not available at Queen's. Academically challenging, it was also an experience that enhanced the students' intercultural fluency.



Another beneficiary in the last 12 months was Enactus, the Queen's student-led society which uses entrepreneurship to empower individuals to make a real difference in their communities. Enactus received a £4,895 Discovery Grant from the Santander Foundation to further the work of their KickStart project, which works with young ex-offenders in the Belfast area who have children.

The Santander Foundation provides grants to small charities and social enterprises in the UK working with disadvantaged people to fund skills, knowledge and innovation projects. Over the last five years, it has provided over £25m to 12,600 charities through Discovery Grants and Staff Matched Donations.

KickStart aims to help ex-offenders acquire qualifications to make them more employable, enabling them to turn away from crime, to build a better future for themselves and to offer a better example for their children.

Santander also provided indirect support for the project by nominating a representative to sit on the Enactus Business Advisory Board, sharing expertise and giving the student group a sharper focus.

Voluntary expertise from Santander was also evident at a number of training sessions delivered to Queen's student tutors in Homework Clubs in the Belfast area. In addition, staff delivered presentations on money management as part of a Global Volunteering workshop run by Volunteer SU, assisted at the Inspiring Leaders Programme and Careers workshop and provided a keynote speaker for an Inspiring Leaders event.

Widening Participation

In 2016 Santander set up its Widening Participation Travel Awards to support those individuals who may encounter barriers in taking up opportunities at Queen's due to their personal circumstances.

Last year, 12 students received a £500 Widening Participation award, each of whom was either from a care background, were carers themselves, or were students with dependants.

Widening access to higher education at Queen's is now embodied in the University's new Social Charter launched in November 2017. At present, 32 per cent of our young first-degree entrants are from lower socio-economic groups, which places us first amongst the UK's leading universities for widening access.

Working with SMEs

SME Internships are another example of Santander's commitment to higher education and local communities. With backing from Santander Universities, Queen's is working with local small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and community and voluntary sector organisations to provide paid internships ranging from two to 10 weeks in duration.

These internships represent a real opportunity for Queen's students to gain invaluable and practical work experience to complement their studies, while also benefiting important community projects.

In 10 years, Santander Universities has grown to become a valued partner of the Queen's academic community, providing important opportunities for innovation and internationalisation. Awards, scholarships and internships have enabled Queen's students – and staff – to travel all over the world as part of their degree or research and to make a real impact on the local community. And mentoring, leadership and employability support are fostering entrepreneurship, which will help current students to become the wealth generators of tomorrow.

It is a long-term, strategic alliance that benefits students, University staff and the community. With the signing of an extended agreement with the Bank in December 2016, the growing relationship between Santander and Queen's will run until 2020 – at least!

For further information please contact Jacqui McCormick, Stewardship Officer, (j.w.mccormick@qub.ac.uk) or by telephone: +44 (0)28 9097 5378.

GOOD DEEDS

Legacy Manager, Susan Wilson, discusses the reasons behind changing a will after someone dies and the impact that such legacy gifts have had on students and research at Queen's.

To ensure peace of mind that your affairs will be managed in accordance with your wishes when you die, you should have a properly drafted will in place.

A Deed of Variation (DoV), however, allows one or more of the beneficiaries of a will to alter their entitlement, usually for tax reasons or to achieve a more suitable distribution. The effect of a DoV is that the terms are treated as having been made by the deceased themselves.

The key reasons for varying a will after death are:






- If there is a claim as to the validity of the will, especially in the case of mental capacity
- A claim under the Inheritance Act 1975
- Reducing the amount of Inheritance Tax (IHT) payable or the savings in Capital Gains Tax (CGT) payable

To be effective for IHT a Deed of Variation must:

- Be made within two years of the death
- Be signed by all beneficiaries affected
- Identify that part of the estate varied and who benefits from the variation
- Include a statement that the beneficiaries intend the DoV to be effective for IHT or CGT

It is worth noting that HMRC introduced a reduced IHT rate of 36 per cent to those individuals who have left 10 per cent of their net estate to charity in their wills. This can apply retrospectively (through a DoV) to deaths on/after 6 April 2012. This offers beneficiaries and charities the benefit of a lower tax rate.

Consider the case where the taxable part of the estate is £100,000 with the donor choosing to donate a percentage to charity. The following table sets out who receives what:

 Taxable estate	£100,000	£100,000	£100,000
 Charity allocation	4%	9%	10%
 Inheritance tax rate	40%	40%	36%
 Beneficiaries receive	£57,600	£54,600	£57,600
 Charity receives	£4,000	£9,000	£10,000

Therefore, for a testator or a beneficiary varying the will, increasing the donated amount from 4% to 10% will result in net loss of zero to the taxable beneficiaries but the net benefit to the charity is £6,000, increasing the total gift to £10,000. Beneficiaries could receive more, simply by the donor giving more to their chosen charity, with the increase being borne entirely by HMRC!

While a DoV can definitely improve things after death, it is always preferable to draft a properly considered and flexible will in the first place, seeking to mitigate tax liabilities where possible, and basing your decisions on the experience and advice of your qualified, professional adviser.

Goodwill + good deeds = life changing impact



Providing for future generations of Queen's students: Mary Grant, Frances Carpenter and Jean Cochrane

Mary Grant, Frances Carpenter and Jean Cochrane

Three generations of women with a passionate dedication to supporting talented students have earned an eminent reputation and a place in the heart of the Queen's family.

The Jean Crawford Cochrane Scholarship was set up to encourage women to further their education through an undergraduate degree course at Queen's. The legacy gift was established by Frances Carpenter through a Deed of Variation of Jean's will. Frances said of the gift: "The Deed was a way of honouring Granny in a way she would have approved".

Frances' mother, Mary was a Queen's graduate and a teacher, and Jean was a member of Queen's Women Graduates, attending regular meetings and events.

The award was granted to first-year student Seanna Turner in 2017. Seanna said: "As a 25-year-old mother of two returning to education, I found the financial struggle to be greater than I imagined.

"Social work is something I have always wanted to do. I am passionate about promoting equality, helping others and empowering socially disadvantaged groups. I am thankful for this amazing support."



Supporting future generations of cancer researchers: the Gullery sisters

Eileen and Dymrna Gullery

When Dymrna Gullery passed away in January 2015, after charitable bequests she left the balance of her estate to her only sister Eileen, who made the decision later that year to vary the terms of her will.

This resulted in a very generous donation of £50,000 to support future generations of students researching the causes, new treatments and cures for cancer. The gift, which was invested by the University and the interest used to support a studentship in perpetuity, will be awarded for the first time in 2018 and is named after Eileen's sister (The Dymrna Marguerite Gullery studentship).

Eileen is a Queen's graduate (BA, 1943) who went on to postgraduate studies at university in Dublin and to forge a successful career as a hospital-based medical social worker.



Funding scholarships and research into dementia and renal disease: the Roberts family

Professor Adrian Roberts

Professor Adrian Roberts was Head of the Department of Engineering Mathematics and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Queen's. When he passed away in 2015, his children decided to vary the terms of his will to support a number of charities close to their hearts, including Queen's.

His legacy gift supports Engineering students as well as funding medical research into dementia and renal disease. Hugely personal to the Roberts family, these gifts are very gratefully received by the Queen's family to support research and education.



Financing cardiovascular research: Carol Crozier

Dr Thomas and Carol Crozier

In 2007, local artist and Queen's alumna, Carol Crozier, decided to vary the terms of her brother's will to include a legacy to Queen's for cardiovascular research.

The gift was in memory of their late father, Dr Thomas Howard Crozier. Dr Crozier was Senior Consulting Physician to the City and Royal Victoria Hospitals in Belfast and had a particular interest in cardiology.

Carol made a further significant donation to the Dr Thomas Crozier Fund in her lifetime and when she sadly passed away in 2016, her final act of generosity was to leave her residuary estate to support the research she had started in her lifetime.

Her gifts total almost £4.2m – the largest ever individual gift to the University. The fact that heart and circulatory disease are major causes of death across the world, means that this research at Queen's, funded by generous donors like Carol and the British Heart Foundation, is life-saving work and will be of benefit to thousands of families worldwide.

If you are considering a legacy gift to support the work of the University in your own will or through a Deed of Variation, please get in touch. Contact Susan Wilson, Legacy Manager, +44 (0)28 9097 3162 or email susan.wilson@qub.ac.uk.



Lamprini Papathanasiou, Daphne Rainey, Susan Wilson, Rosemary Rainey



Anne and Wilfred Keys with Alice O'Rawe



Gerry and Wendy Shearer



Naomi King with Art McGarry and Blossom Hamilton



Jason O'Neill, Meaghan Lyons and Marlene Trimble

THE BENEFACTORS' LUNCH

The 2017 donor and volunteer 'thank you' lunch, was held in the Isdell Courtyard at Riddell Hall in November, when over 130 of the University's top supporters gathered to hear how their support is enabling the University to achieve its goals. A specially commissioned video shown at the event can be viewed here – <http://bit.ly/2BqWORf>

Thank You



James O'Kane with Jim and Rita Swindall



Brian Cheung, Helen Surgenor and Nadia Comanici



Dr Colin Mathews, Rachel Ketola



Jonathan Doonan, Stewart Porter and Colin McKee



Ed McDade, Heather McDade, James O'Kane, Isobel Steele, Stewart Porter



John McDowell, Irvine McKay, Rosemarie McKay, Professor James McElroy, Derek and Cristina Magee

“ The Benefactors' Lunch is our opportunity to say a huge 'thank you' to our key donors who have so generously supported the work of the Foundation throughout the last year.

Whatever your personal motivation for giving, your gifts of time and money are making a huge difference to numerous students and staff here at Queen's, and ultimately to the lives of many individuals in Northern Ireland and further afield.

On behalf of those who will never get the chance to say it to you directly, I thank you most sincerely.

Your gift matters. ”

Norma Sinte, Director of Development and Alumni Relations (4 November 2017)



Conor and Paula McGurk



Helen Surgenor and John McDowell



Catherine and John Martin from Martin-Baker with Helen Carrick



Fiona (left) and Deirdre (right) Madden with Mrs. Breege O'Kane



My legacy

“As the beneficiary of a scholarship myself, I understand first-hand the benefits of helping gifted students who may not have the resources to support a university education. And today’s difficult economic climate will obviously affect the decisions of eligible students about going to Queen’s. I hope that those who can, will give a little to help support such individuals.”

**Professor Emeritus
James Dunwoody**
(1935 – 2012)

BSc Mechanical Engineering 1957
Legacy gift: the Dunwoody Scholarships

Funding the future



Queen's
Foundation

If you would like further information on how you can support Queen's with a gift in your will, please contact:

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www.queensfoundation.com/legacygifts

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