



ROBINSON COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

REMEMBERING ROBINSON *The gift of a Legacy*





“Remembering Robinson in your Will is one of the most powerful ways in which you can be part of the College’s future”



## REMEMBERING ROBINSON

Robinson College owes its existence to an incredibly generous gift from a local Cambridge businessman, one who had no prior connection to the University. But David Robinson was a man who believed in education for all, and his legacy — this modern co-educational college — has become a wonderful, creative and excellent seat of academic opportunity in Cambridge.

We are determined that our founder’s legacy and that of our other generous benefactors should continue to thrive, and we are ambitious for the College and its future growth. Remembering Robinson in your Will is one of the most powerful ways in which you can be part of the College’s future. Whatever the size of the gift, you will be supporting scholarships and bursaries, funding first-class teaching, and helping to provide an inspiring environment for all our students to live and study in.

I very much hope that you will join the community of alumni and friends whose support ensures that the College they have known and loved continues to give its talented students the best possible Cambridge experience.

*Richard*

Sir Richard Heaton KCB  
Warden | Robinson College



# SHAPING ROBINSON



*I moved to Cambridge in 1976 to take up a chair in the Faculty of Divinity, and was persuaded by Jack Lewis to join the small group of ‘pre-foundation Fellows’ of the future Robinson College. As my chair was the oldest in the University, dating back to 1502, I felt that belonging to the newest College offered a neat balance! I have never regretted my decision to join Robinson College, and it has been fascinating to watch it grow from nothing to the thriving community it is today. It was a privilege to help to shape the College in its formative years, and leaving money to Robinson in my Will is a way of expressing my confidence in its future.*

*Young scholars — especially in the Humanities — find it extremely difficult to get a foot on the academic ladder. I certainly did! For me, the way forward proved to be by means of a Research Fellowship, which gave me the opportunity to build on the work I had done in writing my first dissertation, but it was a lonely life, since I had no Department and no College — just a library full of books! That is why I am eager to help future young scholars to embark on post-doctoral work, and experience the excitement of academic discovery. And where better to do this than in Robinson College, where they will not only enjoy the benefits of belonging to a friendly and supportive community, but will be able to contribute to the well-being and reputation of the College to which it such a privilege to belong?*

Professor Morna D Hooker



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*When I first went up to Robinson in 1983, only a few short years after its establishment, I had little insight or understanding of the immense efforts it had taken to create the College we now all know so well. In truth, like many others, I took all Robinson offered for granted. Even when confronted by the medieval plumbing arrangements at the older colleges, it didn’t occur to me how lucky we were in our red brick haven. What I cherished was the atmosphere created by Jack Lewis, Fred Boyne and the walking caricature head barman, Malcolm...*

*Some years after I left, I met the previous Warden, David Yates in the early days of his tenure in 2001. He outlined the costs incurred and the many sacrifices made to establish the College as it is today, together with the manifold challenges it faced in underpinning its finances, especially in the certainty of reduced public sector funding. I was surprised and in some ways shocked at the scale of these challenges and knowledge of the low base from which we were starting. We did not have four hundred years of history and wealthy alumni on which to lean. However, in this Warden and the team he was developing, I knew we had a chance.*

*By this time, I was perhaps a little less self-centred (Lord knows, I could hardly have been more so!) and I perhaps had a degree of perspective and insight as to precisely what Robinson had given me objectively and subjectively. I told David then that I regarded*

*my lifelong debt to the College as a “very happy debt” —completely lacking in burden, with just a clear duty to support in any way I could.*

*Whilst I have supported Robinson over the years in various ways (although not all the rowing crews I have coached would necessarily concur...), the obvious way to make a truly meaningful contribution to the future was by way of legacy to the College. There are many reasons why a legacy makes huge sense (and I am sure the Development Office will be happy to explain!), but one critical aspect is giving the College clarity over its future income. David, the Bursar and Fellows, worked incredibly hard, and successfully, to place the college on a more secure financial platform, but the future remains worryingly opaque. By granting a legacy to the College from my estate, I know I have gone some way to discharging my “happy debt” and, hopefully, to contribute a few more red bricks to the extraordinary College created by David Robinson.*

*I strongly urge you to do the same.*

John Pritchard (Law, 1983)



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Robinson College is unique. Of Cambridge's 31 colleges, Robinson is the only one conceived from the outset as co-educational, undergraduate and postgraduate. Today, some 500 students and a fellowship of around 80 make Robinson a confident, dynamic, diverse, and enterprising academic community. We are proud of our reputation for achievement and strive to provide ever-wider access to academic excellence in a friendly atmosphere. Our members' successes enrich the communities within which they live and work.

A bequest to Robinson will help secure for future generations the excellent facilities and opportunities for teaching, learning, research, living and recreation that were enjoyed by those who studied here in earlier years.



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## WHAT YOUR GIFT COULD SUPPORT

You can designate your gift to a specific fund or area of work at Robinson if you wish to do so. If possible, we very much welcome unrestricted gifts which allow us to direct money wherever the need is greatest.

If there is a specific area you would like your gift to support, please contact the Development Office to discuss your wishes.

"A legacy gift to Robinson will benefit all areas of College life"



# LEAVING A LEGACY TO ROBINSON

## PRACTICALITIES

### SUGGESTED WORDING

We suggest you use the following wording when donating to Robinson via your Will:

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### A PERCENTAGE GIFT (also known as a residuary gift)

This is a gift of all or part of what is left of your estate after taxes and debts are paid and all your other legacies have been distributed — known as the residue.

“I give to the Warden and Fellows of Robinson College, University of Cambridge [the residue] / [% of the residue] of my estate [or] [the sum of £x] free of tax for the general purposes of the College. I direct that the receipt of the Finance Bursar or other proper officer for the time being of the College shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my Executors”.

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### A CASH GIFT (also known as a pecuniary gift)

This could be a specified sum of money or perhaps a specific item such as the gift of artwork, stocks or property.

“I give free of inheritance tax £x to The Warden and Fellows of Robinson College, of Grange Road, Cambridge, CB3 9AN,

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Registered Charity Number 1137494 for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Finance Bursar or other proper officer for the time being shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors”.

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### LEGACY GIVING IN THE USA

For US residents a planned gift can offer significant tax benefits, potentially reducing capital gains and estate taxes, and providing immediate income to you or a beneficiary. US taxpayers wishing to support Robinson through an estate plan may do so through Cambridge in America (CAm).

I bequeath to Cambridge in America, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the District of Columbia with the business address of 1120 Avenue of the Americas, 17th Floor, New York, New York 10036, the sum of [dollars or percentage of estate], to be used exclusively for its charitable purposes. It is my wish that these funds will be utilized for the support of Robinson College, Cambridge.

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### WHAT TYPE OF GIFT IS BEST FOR ROBINSON?

You can designate your gift to a specific fund or area of work at Robinson if you wish to do so. If possible though, we very much welcome unrestricted gifts which allow us to direct money wherever the need is greatest.

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### TAX BENEFITS

Our charitable status means that there are financial benefits to leaving a legacy to us. A gift to Robinson is free from UK Inheritance tax, so by remembering us in your will, you can reduce the taxable value of your assets, and so cut the amount of inheritance tax (IHT) on your estate. Any estate that leaves at least 10 per cent to a charitable cause should be able to take advantage of a reduced rate in IHT, from its current level of 40 per cent down to 36 per cent. Gifts may be in the form of money, property, or other valuables. Your solicitor will be able to advise how to structure your bequest.

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### HOW DO YOU SPEND MY MONEY?

We do everything we can to make sure that any gift is spent on ensuring that Robinson College continues to provide a transformative education and supportive environment to all of our students, regardless of their background. We keep our fundraising costs to a minimum and you can be sure that your money will be spent wisely and according to your wishes.

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### NEXT STEPS

It is very helpful to have an indication of planned bequests, not least so that we can express our thanks for your generosity and kindness. If you decide to remember Robinson College in your Will, we hope that you will complete the form provided with this brochure so that we can thank you personally and welcome you to the Crausaz Wordsworth Society. Any information you give us will be treated in confidence and does not involve you in any binding commitment.

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It is possible to recognise bequests in a number of additional ways, including the naming of posts or facilities supported by your gift.

If you would like to discuss these possibilities please contact the Development Office who will be pleased to help.



## SAYING THANK YOU

### THE CRAUSAZ WORDSWORTH SOCIETY

We offer membership of the Crausaz Wordsworth Society to those who have promised a gift to Robinson in their Will. The Society hosts events for its members, enabling us to meet and personally thank those who plan to support the College in this way.

Please let us know of your gift to Robinson by returning the form enclosed with this brochure. This will enable us to fully understand your wishes and to thank you for your support by welcoming you as a member of the Society.

The Society's President is Dr Mary E Stewart, one of Robinson's Founding Fellows.

*Robinson College holds a unique place in my heart. As a Life Fellow, I've been part of it from the very start, having served as Tutor, Director of Studies and Deputy Warden, and I've watched it grow from a self-consciously new institution into one that is confident, open-minded and ambitious. I'm particularly proud that, over almost five decades, Robinson has maintained its commitment to inclusivity — of both people and disciplines — enabling those from all backgrounds to benefit from its combination of friendliness and excellence, in whichever subject fires their imagination.*

*Now I want to help ensure that this richness of experience continues well beyond my time as an active participant in College life, so I'm including a legacy in my Will, to make that possible. High aims, unfortunately, incur high costs. Personally, I'm particularly keen to support the study of European languages, an undervalued discipline that faces considerable challenges in both school and universities and is likely to come under increasing pressure in the years ahead. You will, of course, have your own personal priorities, whether academic or social, but I hope you may feel strongly enough to want to see them sustained and developed. I'm proud to be the first President of the Crausaz Wordsworth Society, which brings those in the privileged position of both wanting and being able to support this wonderful College in the future through legacies.*

Dr Mary E Stewart



## OUR PROMISE TO YOU

We understand that your family and loved ones come first.

We will respect your privacy. All enquiries will be kept completely confidential.

We recognise that leaving a gift in your Will is a private decision and that you need to make it in your own time.

If you have left us a gift, we'd love it if you could tell us, but you don't have to.

We will spend your gift carefully and cost-effectively.

We will handle all gifts efficiently and with sensitivity and respect.

We will give you the opportunity to be kept updated about developments at Robinson, made possible by gifts like yours.

We recognise that you can change your mind at any time in the future.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact the Development Office at the address below if you require any further information or wish to discuss making a bequest.

Telephone Number: 01223 339036 | Email: [development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk](mailto:development-office@robinson.cam.ac.uk)

Development Office  
Robinson College, Grange Road,  
Cambridge, CB3 9AN

Charity Registration Number 1137494



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