“The generosity of individuals and the will to do good are qualities that we can all celebrate. This little book highlights both of those qualities repeatedly as I’ve turned over its pages. Without you, our supporters, we would not be able to have the impact which so many of the stories reveal.

You’ve helped to light a spark and ensure the brightest minds can fulfil their potential through supportive scholarship programmes.

You’ve helped exceptional academics to find new and better ways of analysing cancers.

You’ve helped children’s education in Africa and inspired their teachers.

You’ve helped parents experience the joy of parenthood – and so much more. All of these have progressed because of your donations.

Whether you’ve supported Warwick for many years now, or have made your first gift in the last few months, I want to say a big ‘THANK YOU’ myself too.

I hope that our projects are enabling you to fulfil what you aim to achieve with your charitable donations, and that we can continue to work together to make this world a better place.”

In December 2016 we received our biggest single gift ever of £2 million to our new Mathematical Sciences Building.

Over £10m donated

in total (£10,753,558) including:

£3.3m  for medicine and health

£2.9m  for scholarships and campus life

£2.5m  for science and the environment

3,130 donors

£5791 donations

53 new scholars joined Warwick

4 legacy donations

21 projects

funded through general donations

£2m
Students from families where there is little or no experience of higher education often feel at a disadvantage when they arrive here. Sometimes, they even think that university is not for them.

That’s why at Warwick we are committed to working with young people and helping them to overcome the barriers and obstacles that can stop them from fulfilling their potential. With your help, we’re offering more scholarships than ever before.

Last year, you helped 53 young people to come to Warwick and benefit from everything we have to offer, from a world-class education to new friends from around the globe. That’s over 150 scholars here right now thanks to you. You’ve also helped us run specialist scholarship training programmes and events to help them face unfamiliar situations with ease.

THANK YOU
for supporting scholars:
warwick.ac.uk/thanks/scholars

“I have been waiting all year for the chance to speak to you; and what an amazing year it’s been. I’ve had great opportunities, and whilst they’ve scared me, I’m not one to pass them up.

Not knowing who you are has been interesting. I find myself thinking more deeply about how I treat others; since I could potentially encounter you at any time, and in my part-time job, I strive with strengthened vigour to treat every customer as I would treat you. How incredible it is that your selfless gift has affected me so profoundly.

The scholarship has been like having a gentle hand behind me to spur me on when I felt overwhelmed; a quiet reminder that someone believed in me, more than I believed in myself.”

Daniela Sordillo
First year
BSc Biochemistry

YOU’VE HELPED SCHOLARS
Mental health problems may be invisible, but can be as savage and destructive as any physical condition. Everyone’s susceptible, and even if you’ve never suffered yourself, you almost certainly know someone who has. It’s not an easy thing to talk about.

Thanks to your donations though, Warwick students are being encouraged to start the conversation.

We’ve seen a sharp rise in demand for help lately, with at least one in four students thought to be struggling. They’re subjected to more pressure, expectations and choices than ever before. Navigating this is difficult at the best of times. When you add issues such as depression and anxiety into the mix, the challenge can become overwhelming.

It can be especially tough on people from cultures where these things aren’t talked about at all.

With the help of a bursary funded by your donations, the Students’ Union has started a campaign called ‘Are You OK?’ to help remove the stigma surrounding mental health problems, and signpost students towards help.

“Sometimes people have deep-rooted, long-term problems; sometimes university life causes temporary crises. Sometimes it’s both at once.

People can’t always articulate what’s wrong, and those around them don’t know how to help. We urgently need to change this and empower students to address issues early on, helping them to do well at university and in the rest of their lives.”

Chloe Wynn
Campaigns Officer

Your donations have helped us hand out flyers; run events, stalls, social media campaigns; and point people towards help. There are no quick fixes, but at least it’s the start of a dialogue. It’s been amazing to see people engage with us so much. Thank you so much for helping us to get started.”

THANK YOU for supporting students:
warwick.ac.uk/thanks/areyouok

YOU’VE OFFERED A LISTENING EAR
Every summer, our Warwick in Africa Volunteer Teachers teach English and maths to children in Ghana, South Africa and Tanzania, and train their teachers in new techniques.

Your support helps us to train our volunteers, channelling their energy and enthusiasm into effective teaching methods, making sure they make a real difference in the communities they visit.

The results speak for themselves. Last year you helped us teach over 18,700 learners, train 503 teachers, and boost test results by an average of 76%. Our wonderful Volunteer Teachers deserve credit for that. And so do you for making it happen.

THANK YOU
for supporting Warwick in Africa:
www.warwick.ac.uk/wia

“...a dream of mine to teach in Africa, but nothing could have prepared me for the moments that showed me the difference that I was making to the lives of my students. The children I taught were so enthusiastic to participate in my lessons despite dealing with indescribable horrors at home including violence and crime.

I remember one moment with my grade 12s, separating them into groups to present on township life, and discussing issues that related so closely to their everyday lives. Seeing every group willingly stand up and give such passionate presentations to the rest of the class I realised that I was helping the learners to achieve their potential, not just academically, but within their community as well. I am so thankful for Warwick in Africa.”

YOU’VE OFFERED ENDLESS ENTHUSIASM

Penny, Stellenbosch South Africa

YOU’VE OFFERED ENDLESS ENTHUSIASM

Penny with a group of students
“My passion for biomedical science stemmed from when a close family friend passed away from metastasised breast cancer. I felt anguished, sympathetic, and upset. Most of all, I was angry. It just didn’t seem fair to me that she had to die.

Now, I’ve channelled that anger into a passion to make a difference. I recognise that it is down to my generation to beat diseases such as cancer and I want to be right at the forefront of that battle.

Neuroscience is one field that especially grips me. Alzheimer’s disease is a chronic neurodegenerative disease which accounts for approximately 60-70% of all dementias.

Last summer you gave 235 students a chance to make a difference with research placements. From researching community theatre, to investigating viruses, and installing rural hydroelectric systems in Western Uganda - you’ve given a boost to so many areas.

Symptoms initially include loss of short term memory, and then progresses to mood swings, loss of motivation and withdrawal from society. Life expectancy following diagnosis is between 3-9 years due to gradual loss of bodily functions. This is a hideous disease and with the UK’s ageing population, it could prove a serious medical problem for my generation.

I researched a protein involved in Alzheimer’s disease called ‘tau’, and how it can spread in vivo in the Drosophila melanogaster brain. It was incredible to make a difference in such a vast field, and gave me a taste of research life which left me feeling inspired to continue in future too.”

Sophie Keeling
Third year
Life Sciences
We want to make a difference for cancer patients across the world, and your generosity helps channel expert inspiration into first-class research with real-world applications.

All your donations to cancer research go straight to our labs: they help fund new drugs, new equipment, new and faster ways to diagnose cancer, and new ways to care for patients.

“\nI was diagnosed with lymphoma on 28th August, one year to the day that my mother had died from ovarian cancer. It is burnt into my brain. I sat at my 18 month old’s bedside at night, crying into her pillow and wondering if she was ever going to remember me. Panic set in, followed by a determination to survive. I had six months of chemotherapy during which I took part in a fertility trial with Warwick.

The chemo was hard; it isn’t natural and I used to cry and scream because I didn’t want to go in. I lost my hair, but I didn’t want pity.

I wanted to be treated normally and even had a photoshoot because I was proud of the strength I had to fight it. I still look at the shots and feel proud now.

I was a different person after cancer - I no longer felt ‘safe’ in the way I did before, and I know that life is short and precious. I have two beautiful and wonderful girls and I am living my life as much as I can. I support cancer research at Warwick because patients deserve better treatments, and any efforts which reduce the side-effects and make it that little bit easier to fight are worthwhile.”

YOU’VE OFFERED HOPE AND CARE TO CANCER PATIENTS

THANK YOU

for supporting the Warwick Cancer Research Centre:
warwick.ac.uk/thanks/strength
A splash can make a world of difference: raindrops bouncing off the grass; liquid plastic hitting a mould; blood spattering across a crime scene. But a simple splash is a complex thing. Maths researchers at Warwick have discovered a tiny space between a drop of water and a surface, about 1 micron in size - that’s fifty times smaller than the width of a human hair.

When a water drop falls, the microscopic space can’t be pushed aside, so parts of the liquid fly off in a super-fast moment. The scale is incredible: imagine a 1cm layer of air stopping a tsunami spreading across a beach. And the scale of this research is no less incredible. Dr James Sprittles, Mathematics, explains the ripple effect it’ll cause:

“...By predicting and controlling splashes, we’ll help improve 3D printing; for example, stopping liquid drops ruining hearing aids. Or in climate science, understanding how water drops collide during the formation of clouds or to estimate the quantity of gas being dragged into our oceans by rainfall. The possibilities are endless, which is all part of the complex beauty of mathematics.”

James’s project is just one of hundreds at Warwick where experts are solving old problems from new angles.

Thanks to a £2m donation from the Wolfson Foundation and gifts from you, our supporters, construction has just started on our new Mathematical Sciences building. This will enable the departments of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science to expand by 40% over the next decade, and bring people together to accelerate the progress of their research. You might say, it’ll help them make a splash.
Postnatal depression (PND) affects at least one in ten new mothers, and most experts agree that it’s significantly under-diagnosed.

Left untreated, it can have profound consequences on the quality of family life, social life and long-term emotional and cognitive development of the baby. Women with postnatal depression struggle to bond with their babies, which can result in behavioural and learning difficulties, and emotional issues in later life. Sadly there’s still a huge social stigma attached to the condition, and many mums go undiagnosed because of it.

We urgently need to change this. One way we can do that is by predicting postnatal depression and diagnosing it early on, before symptoms have even developed, so that we can help families to recover as fast as possible.

Thanks to your donations and a grant from the James Tudor Foundation, we’re testing whether maternal diet and nutrition is a key modifiable factor in the development of depression.

With this help, we’ll change the story for more mums and families in future.

ATHLEASTONETENFAMILYSSUFFERTHEYDON’TALLSPEAKUP.
We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank and commemorate Val Smith, Warwick alumna and Benefactor who sadly passed away in 2015.

Val got in touch a few years ago to discuss leaving a legacy to medical research, as she had studied here many years ago and worked as a Community Clinical Tutor with the Medical Student programme.

Val was particularly interested in medical research as one of her relatives had Polymyositis and Schoenberg Syndrome, and she wanted specifically to support research into autoimmune diseases.

She met with Professor Naila Rabbani, who has devoted her career to investigating disease mechanisms such as arthritis, an autoimmune disease when immune systems attack healthy cells causing symptoms like fatigue, muscle aches and fever.

Would you consider leaving a gift in your Will? Find out more: warwick.ac.uk/legacies

“Thanks to Val’s support, we’re developing better tests for arthritis and new ways to tackle it. We recently discovered specific blood markers which showed up very early when arthritis was developing; we could even tell whether it was osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis. That was an amazing discovery.

In time, we will help patients tackle arthritis early on before they even develop symptoms, when simple lifestyle choices can make a huge difference. Crucially we will also be able to test new drugs as for the first time we’ll be able to measure their impact on those biomarkers. We’re offering hope to even more people by applying these principles to our work in cancer research too.

We’ll be thanking Val posthumously in all our publications, and we’re glad to have the chance to thank her here too. She was such a personal inspiration and through her kindness and foresight, she’ll make a real difference to our work and what we can accomplish.”

REMEMBER VAL SMITH WITH US

THANK YOU to everyone who’s thought of Warwick in their Will
Shakespeare’s passionate lovers, storming across the stage. Shostakovich’s dagger-like cellos, a subversive revolutionary shriek from the past. Spielberg’s far-away lands, magically conjured up in beams of projected light. Bill Bailey singing ‘Hats Off to the Zebras’ and making strange noises with a theremin.

Peerless productions need peerless platforms. Warwick Arts Centre has offered the stage to incredible acts for over 40 years, and this year it’ll enjoy an extensive renovation thanks in part to a £1m anonymous donation.

By 2020, the Arts Centre will have a beautiful entranceway leading to a spacious, welcoming foyer, a new café bar, and most importantly, upgraded art and performance spaces.

Warwick Arts Centre has always attracted the best, the most challenging, and the most entertaining artists from around the world. To carry on doing this it needs to grow and develop, just as art and artists do. Thanks to your donations, this world-famous hub of creativity will become more exciting and successful than ever before.

YOU’VE HELPED US BE BOLDLY CREATIVE

THANK YOU

for supporting Warwick Arts Centre: warwick.ac.uk/thanks/family

“There’s a special energy in Warwick Arts Centre, a rhythm you can feel pulsing through you from the moment you walk through the doors. Excited school groups preparing for creative workshops. Students chatting over pre-lecture coffees. The evening crowds: a hundred animated conversations mingled with delicious smells from the café.

But the best moment of all is when those crowds come milling out after the performances, and can’t wait to share their thoughts and feelings with each other. Those conversations will carry on long after they’ve left us, and it’s wonderful to know that we’ve touched people’s lives in a way they’ll never forget.

We’ll stay open for business throughout the renovations. A lot may change over the next few years, but that energy will continue and grow stronger.”

Alan Rivett
Director
Warwick Arts Centre
Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit

Please fill in the form and send to:

Service user number Freepost RTKC-TEAJ-YXTE, External Affairs, University of Warwick, University House, Kirby Corner Road, Coventry, CV4 8UW

To: The Manager

Bank/building society:

Address:

Postcode:

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank sort code

Bank/building society account number

Reference

Instruction to your bank or building society

Please pay University of Warwick Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with University of Warwick and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society

Signature(s)

Date

Banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account. DD16

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DONATE ONLINE AT: www.warwick.ac.uk/donate

1. ABOUT YOU

Name:

Address:

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Phone number:

Email address:

I am interested in leaving a gift in my Will, please tell me more

My donations are anonymous

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I would prefer not to receive fundraising information in the post again

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DONATE NOW

DONATE ONLINE AT: www.warwick.ac.uk/donate

2. MAKE YOUR GIFT WORTH 25% MORE WITH GIFT AID

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to the University of Warwick. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that it is my responsibility to pay any difference if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the basic rate of tax by which my donations will have been or are to be claimed.

The University of Warwick will reclaim the tax relief on every donation you donate. You need to tell us if you want to cancel or want to cancel this declaration at any time by contacting the Development Office at devservices@warwick.ac.uk. You can view our privacy policy in the Quick Links section of our website at warwick.ac.uk/giving.

3. SINGLE GIFT

I want to make a single donation to The University of Warwick of: £

I wish to make my gift by:

Mastercard

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Card No.:

Start date:

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I want to start a regular donation to the University of Warwick

I want to upgrade my regular donation to the University of Warwick (no need to fill in Direct Debit Instruction again)

I want to pay: £ per month

quarter

year via Direct Debit

Starting on the

5th

20th of month

year until further notice.

Cardholder's name and initials as they appear on the card:

Cardholder's date of birth

Cardholder's national insurance number

In order to claim Gift Aid on your donation, please sign this gift aid declaration and return it to University of Warwick Development Office.

Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who’s fundraised for us this year!

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