

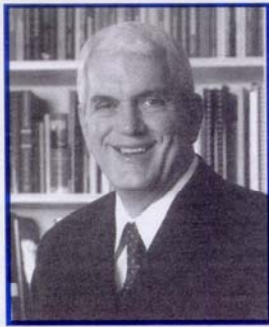
THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Benefactors

Issue 4, Spring 2004

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK
ANNUAL FUND





DEAR GRADUATES AND FRIENDS

I hope you enjoy reading our 4th edition of *Benefactors*. It provides an update with news from different parts of the University and highlights the funding priorities across the campus. In addition, as in previous issues, some of our WGA Scholars express their personal appreciation for their bursaries and also our benefactors share their reasons for wanting to get involved.

With each year the list of names in our *Roll of Benefactors* grows and we appreciate your investment in Warwick. It is an investment in the continued success of this institution, ensuring that the brightest and best students continue to study here—regardless of their financial backgrounds—and helps to attract and retain the best faculty and research projects.

The current academic year has already seen some exciting developments for us including the recent announcement of the selection of Warwick as the principal national academic partner for NHSU; our merger with two of the country's leading horticultural research centres – HRI Wellesbourne and HRI Kirton – to form the new HRI Warwick to be completed in April; and the completion of a new Maths building on our central campus.

If you are reading *Benefactors* for the first time, you may not realise that Warwick is a charity. Our Annual Fund is designed to accept charitable gifts supporting areas of greatest need throughout the University and these gifts are maximised by Gift Aid for UK taxpayers and, in some cases, corporate matching gift programmes.

My warmest thanks go to our donors for the annual support that helps us to realise Warwick's vision to attract the best faculty and provide the best teaching for bright students in the highest quality facilities.

Join us in this important work by making a donation to the Annual Fund.

Thank you for your time

Professor David VandeLinde

P.S. We have included a donation form and a freepost envelope if you are able to make a contribution for the first time or if you are able to consider adding to the amount you are already giving. Please remember – all donations really do make a difference!

RODNEY BARKER - EDITORIAL

It really cannot be denied: Warwick is right up there with the very best in the country today, if not the world. Inside this magazine there are remarkable reports of our University's continuing achievements detailing how it goes from strength to strength.

We, all the alumni, have contributed to this success in one way or another. Most of us have also gained considerably from our time at Warwick, and we certainly continue to benefit from its increasing reputation. It is, in every sense, a place with which we can be proud to be associated. You can read some recent media quotes on the *Roll of Benefactors* pages - and they truly sum up how Warwick is considered today.

One of the best ways in which to continue our association is by ensuring that the very best people can come to Warwick. However, in the future more students will need scholarships from the Annual Fund to allow them to do so. **Please do consider making a donation to the Fund this year.**

Rodney Barker
BA Economics 1965-68
Chair of the Annual Fund



P.S. To allow us to work in accordance with Inland Revenue and Gift Aid guidelines, please inform us of any changes in your name and address details.

TELEPHONE CAMPAIGN - UPDATE

The first campaign of the 2003-04 academic year raised a pledged total of over £115,000 – improving on last year's autumn campaign total by over 35%!

We are lucky to have an even larger calling team this year, which includes 60 student callers and two Telephone Campaign Supervisors. I am also very pleased to report that the team includes 12 WGA Scholars!

The callers continue to be incredibly enthusiastic and have thoroughly enjoyed talking to Warwick graduates about their experiences both at University and throughout their careers.

We are currently coming to the end of our Spring Campaign and have already passed the **£180,000** mark!

I would like to say a big thank you to all of the graduates that have taken the time to speak to one of our callers and we look forward to contacting many more of you in the future!

Faye Jennings
Telephone Campaign Manager



Charlotte Teece
Student Caller

Top Caller!

Congratulations to Chris Davies, a WGA Scholar and our top student caller, who raised over £7,000 during the Autumn 2003 campaign. You may remember reading about Chris in the last edition of Benefactors. Chris would like to thank all of the graduates that he has spoken to for the interesting conversations that he had with you and for showing such enthusiasm towards the Annual Fund.

Well done Chris!

I wasn't aware of how rewarding this job would be before I applied. Not only is it interesting to speak to graduates about their experiences since leaving Warwick, but also many of them emerge as genuine supporters of the Annual Fund. There is a real sense of commitment to the cause among all the staff and students involved. It is pleasing to know that the University can be improved as a result of our phone calls. It makes me realise how fortunate I am to be here myself.

Lewis Rolfe, Student Caller
1st Year Film & Television Studies

THE CALLER INCENTIVE SCHEME

We would like to express our appreciation to all of our Corporate Benefactors who have assisted in our fundraising activities during this academic year by donating vouchers or discounts via the Caller Incentive Scheme.

It is very encouraging that local businesses are interested in the work we are doing and we are pleased that this provides another way for people to get involved. The scheme ensures that we continue to reward the callers for their achievements throughout each campaign by awarding them prizes for their performance and effort.

If your business is able to help us in any way, please do not hesitate to contact **Faye Jennings** on **024 7657 4375** or by email at **faye.jennings@warwick.ac.uk**.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR CORPORATE BENEFACTORS!

"We wish you every success with your campaign and hope our voucher goes some way towards helping to raise funds."

An Annual Fund Corporate Benefactor



Dave Taylor
Student Caller

Why we give to Warwick

In the heady days of 1969, in the secure knowledge that grants were available for everyone who needed them, all we had to worry about to get to our chosen university – Warwick – was obtaining the 'A' level results required. Once there, we had three extremely happy years. Apart from benefiting from first-class teaching, we enjoyed living amongst people from varying social backgrounds and count this as one of the most valuable experiences of university education. We are firm believers that the only criterion for entry to Warwick should be academic and not financial.

With time, as the prestige of Warwick has grown, so has our pride in being part of it. We are now in a position to give something back, knowing that it will help give someone else the opportunity we had to pursue excellence and share in the success of this first-rate institution.

Paul and Lindy Manser
BA History & BA French Studies

I would like to congratulate you on your effort with the Warwick Annual Fund. The conversation I had with your student caller was very constructive. Warwick represents more than a University to me - it is an institution of innovation, progress and high ethical standards. I know my donation (even though small for the time being) supports Warwick in achieving its high value targets.

Miltiadis E. Drandakis
MSc Economics & Finance



SIMI SHASANYA STUDENT CALLER 2nd YEAR POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

I joined the calling team in September 2003 and haven't looked back since! Initially I was a bit apprehensive about actually speaking to graduates on the telephone, but this soon passed.

I think the key to a good telephone conversation is simply to believe in what you are saying. I truly believe that the Annual Fund is an extremely worthy cause and I think this comes across to the graduates I call. I also find that my enthusiasm regarding the University is a little infectious and reminds graduates of their own days here at Warwick! Once the conversations get going, you can almost imagine them sitting there thinking back to their days here.

In this way, we both get something out of the conversation: they get to transport themselves back to the happy times they had here and I get the satisfaction of knowing that I'm doing something to help someone else experience similar times at Warwick. It is also extremely helpful to find out where graduates have ended up since leaving Warwick. Many of them have given me valuable advice, as they know exactly what it feels like to be in my position.

Speaking to graduates and receiving generous donations from them has made me look forward to the day when I am contacted by a student caller. This opportunity to learn about the Annual Fund and educate others about it has meant that I already know now that I will be supporting it myself in the future.

GET TOGETHER AND SUPPORT YOUR UNIVERSITY!

Each year we hold three Anniversary Dinners. These events offer an extra opportunity to get involved with the Annual Fund and show support for your University as an intake group.

Fundraising for scholarships has taken place at all of our Anniversary Dinners since 2000 – with a total of over £106,000 being given to fund additional scholarships during the past four years. The scholarships funded by each year group are called the 'Class of...' Scholarships.

This year sees the reunions for the following classes:

Class of 1968 35th Anniversary Dinner – Saturday 3rd April 2004

Class of 1973 30th Anniversary Dinner – Saturday 3rd April 2004

Class of 1978 25th Anniversary Dinner – Saturday 8th May 2004

You can also view an up-to-date list of all forthcoming events by logging onto the Warwick Graduates' Association website at www.warwick.ac.uk/alumni.

If you haven't booked your place yet, please get in touch!

For more information on any events, please contact **Tess Robinson** on **024 7657 4417** or email **tess.robinson@warwick.ac.uk**

I wondered whether you could pass on my thanks to the organisers of the reunions, which went extremely well. The accommodation, dinner and entertainment were excellent! I thoroughly enjoyed the event and it was a pleasure to catch up with some old friends. I was also very impressed with the two undergraduates who sat at my table for dinner. They were clearly very pleased to be part of the reunion and studying at Warwick.

An attendee of the Class of 1977 25th Anniversary Dinner, May 2003

It was great to hear all the stories about Warwick and how different the place was in the 1970's, but what made the night really special was the fondness with which the graduates spoke of their time here, and how fortunate many people felt to have come to Warwick. I would encourage all our graduates out there to support their Class Scholarship Fund; with your donations we can help give a future student the experience of Warwick that we have all benefited from, and hopefully in another 25 years, they will have fond memories too. I know I will!

**Tim Farr, WGA Scholar & Student Caller
2nd Year Comparative American Studies**



MATTHEW CORRIE
STUDENT CALLER
2nd YEAR MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

"Hi there, how can we help you?" or "I am very sorry about that Sir, we will sort it out immediately." These are the thoughts that are normally conjured up when you say that you work as a telephone caller.

This is my second year working as a student caller for the University of Warwick Annual Fund, and it is far from what you might expect. I applied for the position because I needed extra income and it seemed like an interesting job. I didn't anticipate how enjoyable it would be!

My task is to speak to Warwick graduates about their time here and what they have gone on to do with their Warwick degree. I also explain a little about the Annual Fund and give graduates an opportunity to participate. The reality is that the conversations give me a chance to hear some fantastic stories (some unforgettable!) about what people got up to when they were here, as well as a bit about what career path they have taken. I find this really useful because we are mainly asked to phone graduates who did our own course. As such, it gives me a useful insight into what types of careers it is possible to go into with my degree. I also recently had a very interesting conversation with a graduate who later emailed me to offer me the possibility of doing a project for his business that I could also use for my dissertation. I think the aspect of the job that I enjoy most is that there is so much scope to talk about many different things.

Thanks to those graduates who have taken the time to talk to me and many many thanks to those who have made a donation. We really appreciate your support!

MARK DOWNES
WGA SCHOLAR &
STUDENT CALLER
3rd YEAR FILM &
TELEVISION STUDIES



When I was considering which universities to apply to three years ago, the University of Warwick was high on my list because of its fantastic reputation as a leading UK institution.

My initial reaction to finding out that Warwick offers a scholarship to financially disadvantaged students was actually one of surprise. I had wrongly assumed that a university with such a standing would expect that all of its prospective students would be able to financially support themselves. I applied for the scholarship with hope, but didn't think I would be successful.

Upon learning that I had been successful in my application for the scholarship I was extremely pleased and knew that it would be useful, but didn't fully appreciate it until I actually arrived at Warwick. Having lived at home my entire life, I was in no way prepared for the shock of how expensive the day-to-day life of a student is. As I do not come from a particularly well-off family, my parents were unable to offer me any financial support and I soon realised that without the scholarship, my time at Warwick would probably have been brief.

I have come to appreciate the support that the scholarship offers more and more with each year I have been here. It is for the everyday expenses that the scholarship has been most useful. I feared that when I came to university I would not be able to take full advantage of the Warwick experience, that my time would be a precarious balancing act between studying and part-time employment.

Looking back at my time here I realise that the scholarship has not only helped me do things like pay my rent on time, but it has given me the chance to fully enjoy everything that Warwick has to offer. Without the scholarship I would not have had the chance to meet so many interesting people from such diverse backgrounds nor experience everything that has contributed to the person I am now.

Looking ahead to graduation I am certainly sorry to be leaving Warwick and will miss it very much, but I am immensely grateful for the experiences I have had here which I am sure will lead me to a bright future. **None of this would have been possible without the scholarship and I wanted to express just how essential it has been.**



RICHARD WALSH
MA INT. STUDIES
WGA EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEMBER
& BENEFACTOR

The University of Warwick has always been a backdrop to my life. The University had

only existed for eight years when I was born and as a 'Coventry kid' I have watched with great pride as it has developed into its pre-eminent position amongst UK universities. It was also a place of annual pilgrimage for my schoolmates and me as our poor unfortunate teacher would attempt (with varying success) to inject some culture into young minds by taking us *en masse* to the Arts Centre theatre!

Like most people who have studied at Warwick I have benefited enormously from my association with such a prestigious university. I truly believe that the global recognition of the 'Warwick brand' has opened many doors in my career. As a local graduate I am also keenly aware of the fantastic opportunity that studying for a

degree at Warwick affords the people of Coventry and Warwickshire. The fantastic work the University does in its innovative 2+2 degree system is rightly lauded as a magnificent way of broadening the horizons of many people who would otherwise be deterred from realising their true potential.

Hear both sides of the call!

Richard was telephoned by **Mark** during the Autumn 2003 campaign and as a result he made a donation to the Fund.

We asked them both to talk about their own Warwick experiences.

Apart from a desire to provide assistance for today's students and out of gratitude and genuine affection for the University, I agreed to become a Warwick Benefactor when I received a call during the Autumn 2003 telephone campaign. I think the student caller was quite taken aback at the ease at which I signed up and they proceeded (very politely!) to listen to me reminisce about the Students Union, Cholo, and Top Banana! Like many people I had always thought about becoming a Benefactor but typically had never got around to it. The telephone campaign was a great opportunity to give something back with as little effort and paperwork as possible.

As a member of the Executive Committee of the Warwick Graduates' Association (WGA), I was lucky enough to be invited to see the last telephone campaign in action and can testify to the hard work of Faye Jennings and her team of student callers. With great dedication and humour they enable many people to make a real difference to the lives of many students.

GIVING MORE IN DIFFERENT WAYS

We are fortunate that funding for higher education has received so much publicity during the past year. Here at Warwick we are eager to find solutions that enable the University to maintain the highest standards. Private funding from our graduates and friends is one solution.

There are many areas at Warwick worthy of funding and many ways to make a gift, as shown below. I hope you will feel free to contact me or others listed in this publication for more detailed information should you need it.

I am pleased to report that members of the Development and Alumni Relations Office have established the first WGA Scholarship funded by Warwick staff. We have chosen to do this because we personally believe in the WGA Scholarship Programme and it makes us feel good to help a student access all the opportunities Warwick has to offer.

If you are not currently listed on the *Roll of Benefactors*, please consider making a donation to the Annual Fund. Your support is always appreciated and we want you to enjoy being a part of your University and its future.

Ron Gray
Director, Development and Alumni Relations
Telephone: 024 7657 4374 Email: ron.gray@warwick.ac.uk

Give right now!

Donation form and freepost envelope enclosed
Give by cash, cheque, credit card or standing order
Give by Charities Aid Foundation cards and vouchers
Direct your contribution to benefit any area of the University
All donations at any level really make a difference
UK Taxpayers: Add almost 30% to value of your donation by signing the Gift Aid Declaration!

Give As You Earn & Matching Gifts

Easy to set up, most of work done by your employer
Can give directly from your salary to Warwick
Donation is tax-free for the donor
Government currently adds a further 10% to donations given through GAYE
Many companies operate Matching Gift schemes doubling (or more!) your donations
A list of companies that make 'matching gifts' can be found on our 'Giving to Warwick' site.

Share Giving

Tax efficient way to give to charity – can get Income Tax Relief and avoid paying Capital Gains Tax
Chance to give away 'windfall' shares if not required
Can help you to make a donation if your cash flow does not currently allow

Legacies

Make a significant and enduring contribution to Warwick
Ensure your assets are distributed according to your wishes
Different types of legacy can be made
No Inheritance Tax is payable on legacy gifts to charity and some Capital Gains Tax exemptions may be applicable.

If you would like to make a donation or require information on any of the above, please contact
Sam Howarth on 024 7652 8478 or email sam.howarth@warwick.ac.uk

Why I give to Warwick

I look back fondly on my time at Warwick. Not only the academic aspects, but also the friendships I formed. My experiences since then have added to my conviction that anyone who has the ability should have the opportunity to benefit from a university education and the social side of university life.

My eldest daughter starting university brought home to me just how much has changed since I was a student. Indeed, I doubt that I would have chosen to go to university had I been faced with the financial implications of such a decision today. However, as I came to Warwick in the early 70's I've had opportunities that I wouldn't have had without a degree.

I can now support my daughter through her higher education. But I am aware that for many other young people and their families the financial pressure is more demanding. It was this that prompted me to make a regular donation to the Annual Fund and support the University that gave me such good memories.

I found that I could support the Annual Fund through my employer's *Give As You Earn* scheme. This means that the Fund not only receives my regular donation, but also the tax rebates plus my employer double matches all my contributions. As a result, the Fund gets over 3 times my original donation!

Graham Ross
BSc Mathematics

www.warwick.ac.uk/giving

*Warwick changed my
life...being a Benefactor is a
simple and easy way to
'give something back'*

Warwick Benefactor

*As a first year, it is great
to hear the enthusiasm of
graduates towards Warwick.
It makes me feel certain
that I have made the right
choice of university, and
really makes me want to
enjoy every minute here.*

Student Caller

**Benefactors is the annual publication for
University of Warwick donors, graduates and friends.**

**If you would like further information on the Annual Fund or making a donation,
please feel free to contact us.**

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