



# 1209

## N O T E S

SPRING 2019

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## WHY LEAVING A BEQUEST TO CAMBRIDGE MATTERS TO ME

### UPCOMING EVENTS

*We continue to plan regional 1209 Society events* for the remainder of the year to thank members for remembering Collegiate Cambridge in their estate plans. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible and thanking everyone in person for their bequests!

Visit our events site for more information: [www.cantab.org/events](http://www.cantab.org/events)

### RECENT ESTATE GIFTS

Cambridge in America is grateful to the generous alumni and friends who have remembered Collegiate Cambridge in their estate plans. The following is a sampling of recent estate gifts received:

—  
*Arthur Graham Down* (King's 1949)  
left \$10,724.45 to support the  
Choir of King's College.

—  
*David Webster* left 332 Shares of TD  
Bank stock to Downing College.

### Dr. Ann Altman (New Hall, 1966)

In my will, I have left 10% of my estate to Murray Edwards College which I attended, when it was known as New Hall, from 1966 to 1969. The bequest is an expression both of my gratitude to the University of Cambridge and of my belief that the best way to improve the world is to educate its citizens, specifically women.

These days, the words “refugee” and “immigrant” are spoken by many with scorn. The word “Jew” has been spoken with scorn and, often, hatred for centuries. My gratitude to the University of Cambridge is the gratitude of a Jewish child of a refugee who is, herself, an immigrant.

In 1939 my father, Stephan Körner, was a young lawyer in the Moravian town of Ostrava, in Czechoslovakia. In March of that year, a man who had been at school with him came to his door in full Nazi uniform and said, “Stephan, if you do not leave today, you will not be able to leave tomorrow.” My grandfather, a high-school teacher, reacted by saying, “We are not religious; we are not Communists or trade unionists. We have nothing to fear.” But my father and a friend took the warning seriously and made their way to the Polish border which they crossed on foot, with my father carrying only a briefcase of books. They spent several tense months in the Polish town of Katowice, waiting and hoping for visas to England.



Photo by Damian Hickey

When the Nazis invaded Poland in September 1939, those who had failed to get visas suffered an appalling fate. My father was one of the lucky ones and got to England. My grandparents perished.

During the war, my father served in the Czech Army in Exile, which was based in England. However, he also managed to gain admittance to the University of Cambridge (Trinity Hall) and worked towards a Doctorate in Philosophy, his first love, under the tutelage of Professor Richard Braithwaite. Professor Braithwaite behaved with extraordinarily tactful kindness towards the penniless refugee in his care and, as a result, my father was able to pursue a career in philosophy that led him, eventually, to the Chair of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Bristol and appointment as Fellow of the British Academy.

The education and doctorate that my father received at Cambridge were the foundations of the success of the next generations. I grew up in comfortable circumstances in Bristol and was accepted at New Hall. From New Hall, I immigrated to the USA and received my own doctorate from Yale University. My children went to Harvard University (the other “Cambridge”) and my son received his doctorate there; my daughter retrained as a midwife and delivers babies in one of Glasgow's biggest hospitals.

Every success in our family, since that fateful day in 1939, has depended on our ability to access the highest-quality education, without being subjected to discrimination as Jews, refugees or immigrants. And it is the University of Cambridge that provided the first stepping stones from poverty to success, from marginalization to full acceptance.

In establishing the Stephan Körner Graduate Studentship in Philosophy, Classics or Law at Murray Edwards College, I have repaid some of our family's debt, memorializing the career that Cambridge made possible. The terms of my future bequest specify that the money be used to provide a safety net for anyone at Murray Edwards who has a sudden unexpected need for one. The existence of such a safety net should provide reassurance to young women whose circumstances are more precarious than mine were when I was an undergraduate that, if they stumble, they need not fall.

I hope that those who owe debts to the University similar to mine will follow my example and repay those debts.

### Allison Goodwin (Clare, 1985)

I grew up on the campus of a boarding school in Michigan where my parents were teachers. That early experience may have left me with an unusual sense of connection to the schools and universities I've been fortunate to attend. Among them, Clare College and Cambridge hold a special place in my affections. The focus of supervisions and small group classes helped me to deepen and refine my ability to write and think. The kindness, intelligence, insight, good humor, and respectfulness of supervisors and my fellow students, and the beauty of the Colleges and town were a gift.

I've often heard (and read) other alumni comment that their time at Cambridge was a precious period in their lives. That feeling was evident in the obituaries in Clare's 2019 alumni Review, which left me with a surprising sense of kinship for the former Clare members who'd recently passed



Photo by Allison Goodwin

away—an unusually interesting, open-minded, thoughtful, bright, and adventurous lot.

I decided to give a bequest to Clare because of the quality of the education that Clare and the University offer, and because studying in such a unique, beautiful, and intellectually stimulating environment can be life changing. Clare's Development Office has been generous in taking the time to discuss the College's efforts and its future plans in areas that concern me most.

The planet faces daunting challenges, and our educational institutions must serve as role models in helping to bring about change. Economic, gender, and racial inequalities; global warming and pollution; and the rise of extremism and certain new technologies threaten democracy, human rights, and the environment. It's a time when so much human activity causes harm. I believe the College will continue to work to address these challenges, and I'm optimistic that the University as a whole will make greater strides toward acknowledging women's and minorities' contributions to history, literature, etc. in the curricula for the Tripos exams. What our institutions recognize as important works, people, events, and ideas will shape our future in incalculable ways.

By giving money or time, taking an active role in College projects, or voicing hopes and concerns, we may remain involved. Collectively, our contributions will help to

shape Cambridge's future, and have an impact on generations to come.

Elizabeth de Clare's 1359 Preamble to the Statutes of the Foundress of Clare College (below) is a reminder we've all benefitted from the generosity of earlier generations. That it took over 700 years from the date of her gift for Cambridge's (formerly all-male) colleges to admit women is evidence that those who see the need for change should get involved. De Clare's legacy and ideas helped to shape Cambridge and her religion, and to define the way that universities are structured.

"... Experience, the universal guide, plainly shows that learning is no mean advantage in every rank of life ... Though many people seek it in many ways, it is best acquired in a recognized university community; and when its pupils have acquired it and tasted its sweets, it sends them out well qualified to rise according to their merits... But so many have been swept away by the ravages of the plague that learning has lately suffered a sad decline in numbers. We, therefore, desiring to assist true religion and to further the public good by promoting learning so far as God has put it in our power to do so, have turned our attention to the University of Cambridge in the diocese of Ely, where there is a body of students. Our purpose is that through their study and teaching at the university they should discover and acquire the precious pearl of learning, so that it does not stay hidden under a bushel but is displayed abroad to enlighten those who walk in the dark paths of ignorance. And to enable the scholars residing in our said college to live in harmony under the protection of a firm discipline and so enjoy greater freedom to study, we have with the advice of experts made certain statutes and ordinances, set out below to stand in perpetuity."

For more details about estate planning, please visit [www.cantab.org/plannedgiving](http://www.cantab.org/plannedgiving) or email [plannedgiving@cantab.org](mailto:plannedgiving@cantab.org).



## A NOTE FROM THE TEAM

Cambridge's mission is to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence. With your support and involvement, combined with the generosity of other alumni and friends, Cambridge can continue to strive to fulfill its mission. Planned giving is often an effective way to make a tax-efficient and significant gift to help benefit the important causes that matter most to you. We hope you enjoy this latest issue of *1209 Notes* including the information contained herein.

The Planned Giving Team is dedicated to providing the highest level of service to ensure an excellent experience for donors to Collegiate Cambridge. We regularly assist alumni and friends who plan and complete gifts of all kinds. To learn more about such gifts, and the potential tax benefits associated with them, we invite you to contact us. We are always delighted to hear from you, and to answer any questions you may have.

*With thanks for your generosity,*

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- ☐ I have already included Cambridge in America, the University of Cambridge, or its constituent Colleges in my will/estate plan and I have not previously notified you.
- ☐ Please send me the membership information for The 1209 Society.

*I am considering a provision for Cambridge in America in my estate plan and I would like information about:*

- ☐ Making a bequest by will or trust
- ☐ Making a life income gift (e.g. trust)
- ☐ Making a gift of life insurance
- ☐ Making a gift of a qualified retirement plan



Spring 2019

[www.cantab.org/plannedgiving](http://www.cantab.org/plannedgiving)

Please detach, fold in half, seal, and mail back to Cambridge in America. Thank you!



## THE 1209 SOCIETY

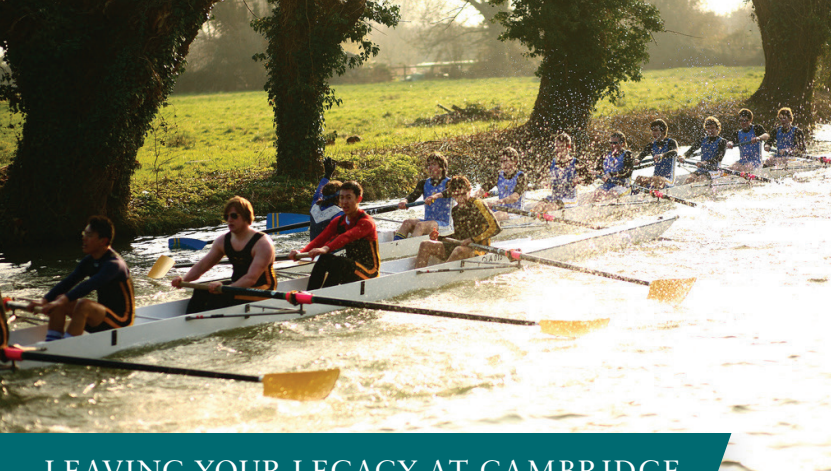
Established by Cambridge in America in 1998, The 1209 Society celebrates the many generous benefactors in the US who recognize the importance of the University of Cambridge and its thirty-one Colleges through their estate planning. With 290 members and growing, The 1209 Society is also a wonderful way to connect with like-minded Cambridge alumni and friends of Collegiate Cambridge. When you notify us that you've included your College or the University in your estate plan – by returning a response card, telling a gift officer, or sending us an email/letter – it is known as a bequest intention. This is all it takes for us to invite you to become a lifetime member of The 1209 Society.

### Membership benefits include:

- ▶ Invitations to special events
- ▶ Bi-annual newsletter
- ▶ Recognition certificate  
*(signed by the Vice-Chancellor of the University and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cambridge in America)*
- ▶ Listing in The 1209 Society Roll of Honor  
*(a bound book listing honorees kept by the University)*

Those that indicate their estate plans include support for a specific College or Colleges will also receive acknowledgement of this much-appreciated support from those named.





## LEAVING YOUR LEGACY AT CAMBRIDGE



Visit our website  
[www.cantab.org/plannedgiving](http://www.cantab.org/plannedgiving)  
to learn more

To update your address  
please call 212.984.0960  
or email [mail@cantab.org](mailto:mail@cantab.org)

## LET US KNOW

*Thank you* to all of you who have chosen to include Collegiate Cambridge in your estate plans. Planned gifts are a crucial source of support for Cambridge and its Colleges. Documenting your bequest – by providing further details such as the purpose, the amount, and structure of the gift – helps us keep a record of your intentions, inspires others, assists with our long-term planning efforts, and gives us the opportunity to thank you! Documentation does not make your gift irrevocable or binding. To document your bequest, please contact us here: [plannedgiving@cantab.org](mailto:plannedgiving@cantab.org).

*1209 Notes* is published by the Cambridge in America Office of Planned Giving. Please direct any comments to Maria Alonso at [maria@cantab.org](mailto:maria@cantab.org) or 212.984.0962.



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