

# OpenDoor

Issue 20

The magazine for supporters and friends of The Open University

“

Things like this  
don't happen to  
people like me.  
Thank you.

**Michelle**  
Scholarship Recipient

”





## You are transforming lives and rewriting futures

Welcome to the latest edition of Open Door, created especially for you – the University's amazing family of donors and supporters.

Firstly, I'm sure like everyone you've been thinking of the situation in Ukraine and on page 9 you can read about the University's response in a special column from the Vice-Chancellor.

This issue also brings to life the Open Futures Fund of scholarships and bursaries, sharing with you stories of those that the Fund, through incredible donor support, is already making a life-changing difference to.

I'm delighted to say that the Fund's reach is growing and offering access to higher education for even more people in need. This is only possible thanks to the wonderfully generous OU family. I continue to be inspired by the kindness of our donors and the stories that we hear from the students you're supporting. This is particularly heart-warming given recent events and those of the past two years.

We remain so grateful to you for your unwavering support for those that are looking to access higher education and unlock a future full of hope and opportunity.

Thank you.



**Karen Hart**  
Deputy  
Director of  
Development

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## Get in touch

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## Giving Day 2022



### Help us make this year an even bigger success

Last year, over 1,500 of you came together and made history on the OU's first-ever Giving Day to raise money for the Open Futures Fund. As a result of this incredible collective philanthropic effort, more students will be able to rewrite their futures through life-changing education. This year, we hope to continue to build on the success and grow the OU family by offering even more scholarships and bursaries.

From 9am on Thursday 7th July to 9pm on Friday 8th July 2022, the OU will host its second Giving Day. The 36-hour fundraising event will ensure more people can unlock their potential and achieve life-long aspirations. The aim of the day is for the OU family to come together to continue to rewrite lives and transform futures.

### Changing lives through the Open Futures Fund

At the very heart of the OU's social justice mission is the Open Futures Fund, encompassing a number of scholarships and bursaries that help a range of students transform their lives through education.

Since 2018, the Fund has provided 210 scholarships to disabled veterans and 91 scholarships to carers. Over 3,000 students were also given urgent financial assistance during the pandemic to ensure they did not have to give up on their dreams and aspirations.

### Transforming lives and rewriting futures

This year, all fundraising activity on the Giving Day will contribute towards the Disabled Veterans' Scholarship Fund (DVSF), the Carers Scholarship Fund, and launching this year, our two new funds; the Black Students' Support Fund and Sanctuary Scholarships.

The Black Students' Support Fund will provide 50 scholarships and 50 bursaries to Black students from disadvantaged backgrounds, giving them access to OU study and helping address racial inequalities in higher education.

Sanctuary Scholarships will help displaced people build brighter futures, giving them the study support and qualifications they need to secure work in the UK. Scholarships will help those seeking sanctuary create a future full of hope. You can read more about these funds on pages 4 and 5.

### Will you join us on the Giving Day?

Last year, we raised over £158,000 – an incredible collective effort that is already making a huge difference to people's lives. This year we want to build on the success! If you'd like to make a difference and show your support, here are just a few of the ways you can get involved:

- Make a gift on the day
- Be a Futuremaker – from online quizzes to nature walks, why not organise a fundraising activity and raise vital donations within your community?
- Take part in our matchfunding challenges – these will be announced online during the Giving Day
- Support our social media campaign – help raise awareness by following, liking and sharing our Giving Day posts across our social channels.

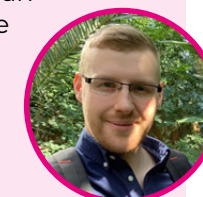
**Join us on the Giving Day and help transform lives and rewrite futures. Together we can break down the barriers to education.**

### Be a Futuremaker

Last year, Futuremaker and PhD student Bradley Neal applied skills from his BSc in Environmental Science with the OU, alongside his passion for the natural world, and performed a 'walking' taxonomy lesson:

**“** I was motivated to become a Futuremaker to support an institution I love and encourage others to see what an amazing community the OU Family is.

**Bradley Neal**  
PhD Student



**Follow the latest news and updates about the Giving Day, or find out more about Futuremakers**

<https://openuniversity.givingday.co.uk>



# New Scholarships for 2022: Helping people create better futures



OPEN  
FUTURES  
FUND  
BLACK STUDENTS'  
SUPPORT

For more than 50 years, The Open University's social justice mission has been breaking down barriers through its open access policy and unique distance learning model. Yet evidence shows that certain groups of students, especially Black students, have access to fewer opportunities to higher education.

We are committed to driving change and that's why we're extending our Open Futures Fund to include scholarships and bursaries specifically to support Black students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

This Fund will provide:

- Scholarships for free OU undergraduate study – from £3,300 to £20,000 per student. Recipients will also be eligible to receive a one-off, £500 study costs grant to support with the costs of preparing to study, such as buying a laptop or arranging internet access.
- Bursaries for Black students who have not received a scholarship, of up to £500 to cover study costs or other living expenses, restricted to UK undergraduate students with a personal income of not more than £25,000.

We are determined to improve the representation of Black students across the University and working to close the Degree Award Gap so that students are supported to fulfil their potential. We know that when someone is given the opportunity to succeed, impossible dreams can become a reality.

The OU has a history of supporting students across society and from disadvantaged backgrounds, with 26% of undergraduates coming from the most deprived areas in England.

We know that providing financial aid and incentives for Black students is only a small part of the solution to dismantle racial inequalities across higher education. There is much work to be done. By supporting the Black Students' Support Fund, together we can make a difference. A scholarship can enable one student to attend university and begin a qualification that could rewrite their future. A bursary could help to ease financial pressures and give a student every chance of success as they begin their exciting OU journey.

We will offer 50 scholarships and 50 bursaries in 2022. Your support can help to ensure Black students from disadvantaged backgrounds succeed and access vital life-changing education.



Thank you so much. It's true that other ethnic groups are not given the same opportunities, or access to them, as others so I'm glad The Open University is. The University really is open to all. Because of the OU I can have hopes and dreams and still believe in myself. I'm not limited here by disability, money, social class or lack of diversity.

Bursary recipient



We believe that where you start in life shouldn't limit where you go, and that anyone, anywhere, should have the opportunity to transform their lives through learning.

The Open University's Open Futures Fund provides a unique collection of life-changing scholarships, bursaries and support to disabled veterans, carers and students who would otherwise miss out on education and all the opportunities it brings.

Since the launch of the Open Futures Fund, the OU

## Sanctuary Scholarships

People arriving into the UK seeking refuge from threats to their lives face many challenges, but they also have the opportunity to build a new life and a hopeful future for their families.

For many people seeking sanctuary, the security of arriving in the UK after fleeing armed conflict or persecution in their home nation, often means they have their very first opportunity to engage with higher education and/or have access to meaningful employment. Other people seeking sanctuary are successful and highly qualified professionals in their country of origin but need recognised qualifications to continue their careers in the UK.

When a person has both the ambition and the chance to succeed, impossible dreams can become a reality. The opportunity to access higher education enables individuals to pursue their passions and provides a sense of purpose, identity and achievement. It enables people seeking sanctuary to rewrite their future and contribute to the society in which they make their new homes.

This is why the University has launched Sanctuary Scholarships, to provide hope and promise for the future.

Building on the success of the Open Futures Fund, Sanctuary Scholarships offer financial support for refugee, forced migrant and asylum seeker students beginning study with the University in Autumn 2022.



OPEN  
FUTURES  
FUND  
SANCTUARY  
SCHOLARSHIPS

donor community has come together to ensure that more students – regardless of age, background or circumstance – have the opportunities to transform their lives and rewrite their futures.

In 2022, the University is delighted to introduce two new scholarship programmes to the Fund – the Black Students' Support Fund and Sanctuary Scholarships. These two new funds will continue to break down barriers, reduce inequalities, and provide opportunities to those desperately wanting to access education.



Studying at the OU has boosted my confidence and I have discovered that I have determination to achieve my personal goals despite some obstacles such as trying to find time for studying and looking after my children at the same time. I surely recommend anyone to embark on an OU course to go ahead and do not hesitate to take this step as it will be the first step in the way to success and achieving your goals.

Rasha Mourd  
BSc (Hons) IT and Computing



We will provide 12 full fee waiver scholarships, per year, over the next three years. Alongside this commitment, there will also be 50 fully funded OU Access Modules starting in October 2022 with the aim of preparing successful applicants with the skills and confidence to progress into Higher Education.

Our Sanctuary Scholarships will enable people who have already come through great adversity to rewrite the future, for themselves and their loved ones. It is one small way in which we can make a positive difference, through the gift of education, and the power of The Open University's philanthropic community.

**Only 5%** of young refugees and displaced people worldwide have access to higher education

compared to the global average of **37%** of young people



Find out more about  
the new scholarships

[alumni.open.ac.uk/donate](https://alumni.open.ac.uk/donate)



# Empowering disabled veterans to find new careers

**Karen Stock, Welfare Support Worker and Disabled Veteran**

**Karen was one of the first students to be awarded a Disabled Veterans' Scholarship. We asked her about her experience with the Careers and Employability team.**



"When I was awarded the scholarship, I was really hoping to improve my career prospects. I chose to study with the OU because I felt I needed to gain an academic qualification in my new area of work. Although my previous employer (a military charity) was happy to continue to employ me without a relevant

qualification, I felt that to progress in my chosen second career other employers would need that academic base.

"Although a shock when you're first told that you'll be medically discharged, you're forced to focus on the practical aspects of your circumstances – no income, loss of home and sense of belonging. I believe now it has given me greater opportunity not only to move into a second career but has shown me that, despite me thinking I had no future, I was able to overcome the challenges and stigma of being classed as having a disability. My condition is common, and most employers are happy to make alterations in order for me to become a valued worker.

"Having regular contact with Justin, my careers adviser, was so useful as it allowed me to build a relationship with him. He was able to develop my critical thinking whilst offering practical solutions to the concerns I had, enabling me to transition from my current level of employment whilst developing those skills/experience expected from a graduate workforce. Whilst studying I have been fortunate enough to undertake a six-week placement, arranged by the OU, within the NHS. This gave me not only practical experience, but I was able to work with others in similar careers. It totally reinforced that I had chosen the right course and career path.

"I am currently working as a Welfare Support Worker within my local authority area. My role is to provide support and advice, and where necessary refer clients onto specialist services.

"My service experience has allowed me to gain a number of skills – in HR, customer service, management of people, diversity and inclusion, empathy and tolerance of others. These skills have given me the confidence to seek new challenges. Understanding the different language of civilian work life and how my skills were actually transferable was a light bulb moment for me; allowing me to see that although my experience was different it was still valued.

"Planning and realistic expectation are also key to success – maybe even taking lower entry roles to gain that experience before moving on. Generally, I find military people are "masters of change", so we are very able to deal with challenges when they arise."

## DISABLED VETERANS' SCHOLARSHIPS FUND

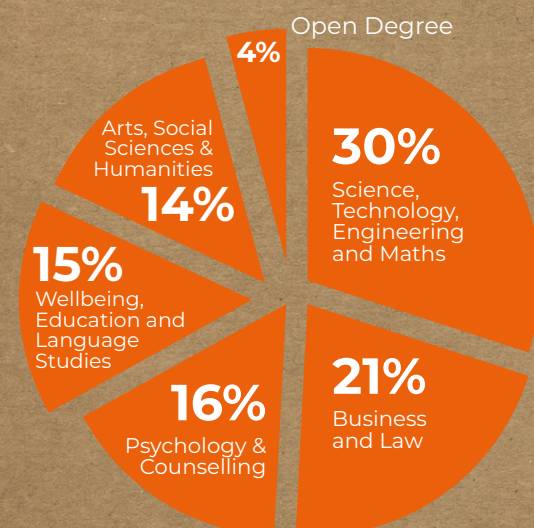
### STUDENT OVERVIEW

**210**  
scholarships  
awarded

**84%**  
undergraduate

**86%**  
Studying for career  
related purposes

**16%**  
postgraduate  
or masters



Our pioneering Disabled Veterans' Scholarships Fund (DVSF), launched in 2018, supports veterans who were disabled in or during military service and has already provided free Open University education to over 210 disabled veterans.

As part of their scholarship, disabled veterans receive one-to-one specialist careers support from the OU's Careers and Employability Services. This can include career planning, help with job searches, help with CVs, applications and interviews. This allows those disabled veterans that have so much to offer an opportunity to rebuild their career.

**Justin Richardson, OU Careers and Employability Consultant**



"Helping Karen, and the other disabled veterans scholarship students, open the door to a new chapter of their working lives is a source of motivation for me and my colleagues in the OU's Careers and Employability Services. But it's not only part of our roles; it's a key part of something everyone at the OU is driven to achieve. Disabled veterans are very capable individuals and have often overcome adversity. Their military forces experience has given them a strong set of skills which employers need and seek. We call these transferable skills, a concept well-known to some but, as Karen says, is often a light-bulb moment for others. In Karen's case, these were qualities such as empathy and tolerance of others, and skills such as customer service and managing people. Despite this, nearly half of military veterans face difficulty in finding a fulfilling job (Deloitte report Veterans Work: Moving On, 2018).

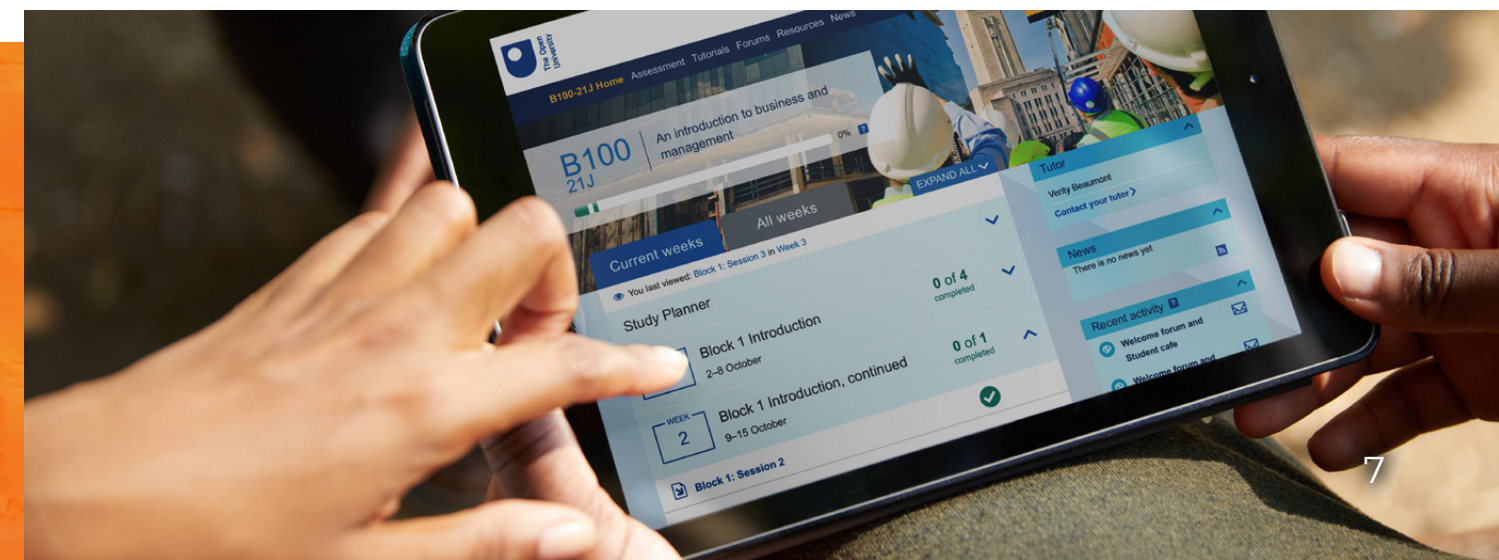
"For this reason, a key aim of the DVSF is rooted in employability. We helped Karen recognise her strengths and how to get these across effectively in her CV and applications. As well as having a background in the armed forces, she has proved herself to be extremely resilient, managing her studies alongside her job and caring responsibilities. We also gave her support to secure a work placement with NHS Scotland, which helped her recognise how her skills could be utilised in a setting working directly with vulnerable people. She accessed the career mentoring scheme developed for disabled veterans on the scholarship. Through this, she connected with a social worker and developed a better understanding of what this career involves.

"The support of the OU's Careers and Employability Services has been invaluable helping scholarship veterans move their career forward, with 92% of the veterans saying they would recommend the careers service to other students.

"Building on the OU's experience in distance learning, we employ a variety of accessible methods to build confidence and create a support community amongst students sharing a military background. We showcase inspiring stories such as Karen's and highlight opportunities created by employers working with the OU's Careers and Employability Services. We have produced bespoke webinars and podcasts that are available on-demand, on subjects such as 'Selling your skills to employers as a military veteran'. We provide monthly electronic newsletters and host a LinkedIn group to provide a safe and supportive environment to build networking skills and share experience.

"Our Employer Engagement team works with trusted, inclusive employers to create and promote placements and internships in a variety of sectors which are looking for exactly the kinds of skills our disabled veteran scholarship students can provide. As Karen confirms, employers are much more ready than many veterans expect to make reasonable adjustments, both in the recruitment process and in the workplace and working methods.

"I hope we can continue empowering this group of individuals, enabling them to move to a new, fulfilling career and to continue to make a meaningful contribution to the economy and society."





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CARERS  
SCHOLARSHIPS

# A 'glimmer of hope' for carer Michelle



Michelle

## The Carers Scholarship Fund

Every day another 6,000 people in the UK take on caring commitments. That's over 2 million people a year. By giving so selflessly to others, unpaid carers often end up exhausted and struggle to cope with their other commitments – being forced into unemployment or to give up their dreams of higher education.

The Carers Scholarships Fund is designed to support carers and young carers so they don't have to miss out on the opportunities they deserve. Students can study flexibly with the OU for free, alongside their caring commitments, so they can develop their sense of identity outside of their caring role and retrain towards fulfilling employment opportunities and a better future.

“

It was a real gift, the gift of an improved education and hopefully a better future for my family. Studying with the OU means I can do things on my terms, at times that best suit our family. The other week I revised for an assignment while in the corridor of my local leisure centre while my children exercised!

Michelle  
Carer and OU student

”

## MICHELLE'S STORY

**Michelle is not your average student. Alongside her studies, she home-schools her two children, looks after her elderly parents, and is primary caregiver to her husband, who has advanced liver disease.**

“In the summer of 2021, I reached a crossroads. Knowing my husband's life expectancy was greatly reduced, I knew I would eventually have to become the sole bread winner. Yet because of my caring and childcare responsibilities I'd been out of work for some time.

“I had a BTEC National Diploma and an NVQ in IT, but both were taken over two decades ago, and I hadn't studied since. I knew I had to forge a new career for myself and gain some employability skills – but where to start?

“When I discovered the Carers Scholarships Fund online, I seized the opportunity. I was truly shocked when I heard that my application had been successful, things like this don't happen to people like me! It was a real gift, the gift of an improved education and hopefully a better future for my family – and a little glimmer of hope amongst a very difficult time personally.

“For me, and many other OU students, flexibility is essential. From one day to the next, I might be dashing to hospital for medical emergencies or supporting my husband during a particularly bad day. Planning is never easy.

“Studying with the OU has really helped me accomplish something for myself, gain confidence and valuable employability skills. Thanks to the Carers Scholarship Fund, I'm looking ahead with newfound optimism.

“It can change a future for the better and gives people in really challenging circumstances a light to look to at the end of a very dark tunnel. Thank you for supporting this fund and me!”

The life of an unpaid carer is extremely challenging. With your help, more carers like Michelle are accessing educational opportunities, transforming their lives and seeking opportunities outside of their caring responsibilities.



Find out more  
[alumni.open.ac.uk/donate](https://alumni.open.ac.uk/donate)

# Educating tomorrow's leaders

As we emerge from the pandemic, and in this rapidly changing world, the leaders of tomorrow are more important than

ever in helping to rebuild businesses, society and our way of life. The Future Leader Fund offers a scholarship for the first two modules of the OU's MBA (Master of Business Administration), allowing potential future leaders to

take that all-important step in not only accelerating their career, but also enabling them to use their skills and expertise to benefit their organisations and the wider community in any part of the world as we move forward.

Thanks to donor support, Peter, one of the first recipients of the Future Leader Fund has graduated and is already applying his new-found knowledge and learning to make a difference.

“I applied for the Future Leader Fund, as being relatively early in my career, I felt that the support provided would enable me to accelerate my success during my studies. My MBA has not only helped to develop my working practices but has also had a positive impact on the way I manage and relate to colleagues. I would like to thank the generous donors who have made the Future Leader Fund possible and enable people like me to develop both personally and professionally.”

By supporting the Fund, you can help someone like Peter to transform their future and take their first steps on an invaluable lifetime journey. More than ever, it is so important to give the leaders of tomorrow the opportunities to make a difference across society, now and in the future. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Future Leader Fund.



Find out more about  
the Future Leader Fund

[www.bit.ly/oufutureleader](https://www.bit.ly/oufutureleader)



# From the Vice-Chancellor

The Ukraine crisis continues to weigh heavily on everyone's minds. We are committed to doing what we can as a University to support Ukrainian academics and students, refugees and the wider humanitarian effort. This is a fast-moving situation with work still evolving, but I wanted to provide an update of some of the actions we have taken already.

We have reached out to all current Ukrainian students and staff including those in Ukraine to offer them support. We have waived student fees and made further hardship funds available. From those that have been in touch with us, we are hearing testimonials that are heart-breaking but their intent to continue with their studies is remarkable.

We have also been in touch with our Russian and Belarusian staff and students to check on their welfare and offer pastoral support.

For staff who decide to sponsor Ukrainian families there will be support through our policies on leave and contingency so they can do what they need to in settling them in. The University also has an employee assistance programme that offers free and confidential support from trained counsellors for staff impacted.

Together, with Universities UK (UUK), we are working on a collective sector response to support Ukrainian Higher Education as there is a concern about brain drain from the country and to ensure that the higher education system survives the war despite the damage to infrastructure. In the short-term, they need support from international partners with access to libraries, online learning resources and physical spaces to complete practical elements of courses. UUK will be coordinating assistance and we will offer everything we can. We have committed to support for academic refugees (from Ukraine or elsewhere) through the Council for At-Risk Academics.

Our partnerships and collaborations with Russian and Belarusian academic institutions have been reviewed to satisfy ourselves that these are appropriate in the current situation. Also we have undertaken a full review of our investment portfolio to divest funds from Russian assets and to ensure that we are fully compliant with international sanctions.

The University is setting up dedicated pages on OpenLearn and we are exploring with the Department for Education and Home Office how this could be a useful resource in the coming days and months, in the same invaluable way that OpenLearn stepped up to the pandemic for furloughed workers.

As you will read in this issue, we are launching our new Sanctuary Scholarships for refugees and asylum seekers. These will include full fee waivers and wraparound support, and there will be bursaries for access modules.

As this situation unfolds, we will do everything we can to help. Thank you for the support you have shown already, changing lives, one ambition, one dream at a time.

Best regards

*Tim Blackman*

Professor Tim Blackman  
Vice-Chancellor





# Improving biodiversity and conservation

## What are Floodplain Meadows?

Once common across the landscape, since the 20th century Britain has lost 97% of its flower-rich meadows. Today, floodplain meadows occupy less than 1,500 hectares in the UK – a total land area just under the size of Gibraltar. Floodplain meadows support a wide diversity of plant species rarely seen elsewhere and are home to a wealth of wildlife including birds, bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects.

In 2006, the Floodplain Meadows Partnership, led by academics from The Open University, began a ground-breaking project to promote and conserve floodplain meadows. These habitats are valued for their ability to store and cleanse flood waters, store carbon and trap nutrients and sediments.

The Partnership undertakes a wide range of activities across the UK, seeking to demonstrate the value of functioning meadows, increase public appreciation of them and advocate for their restoration as a tool in tackling the climate and biodiversity emergencies.

Activity undertaken by the Partnership includes site visits to provide management advice and run management trials; research on the most important meadow sites across the UK; and supporting landowners to undertake restoration work. The Partnership is active in all four UK nations, supported by the Ambassadors' Network. We currently have 46 Ambassadors, spread across the country, each of whom is a volunteer who has pledged to undertake outreach work in their locality, advising meadow owners and managers.

The Partnership is continuing to grow, and we're delighted to share with you some of the current projects, along with some of the exciting activities planned for the future.



Learn more and support this project

[www.bit.ly/floodplainmeadows](http://www.bit.ly/floodplainmeadows)

### >> LOCAL PROJECT FOCUS

#### A botanical survey and invertebrate survey of Long Mead

Long Mead is an old floodplain meadow on the Thames just upstream of Oxford. This meadow is being used to provide seed for the restoration of other meadows in the area. The botanical survey will enable us to map the meadow's botanical composition to guide where to collect seed from. In addition, an invertebrate survey will enable us to gain a thorough knowledge of the invertebrate community within this meadow to track their development in the restored meadows (using seed from this meadow).

Funding required: £5,500

### >> LOCAL PROJECT FOCUS

#### Soil analysis for a new project designed to attract yellow wagtails back to the Thames downstream of Oxford

A new project has been launched by Wild Oxfordshire on the floodplain of the River Thames in Oxfordshire focusing on floodplain pasture and the restoration of an area of traditional floodplain hay meadow. We want to complement this activity by measuring the nutrient availability in the soil to advise on the best method of restoration.

Funding required: £1,800

### >> LOCAL PROJECT FOCUS

#### Field trip to the Outer Hebrides to survey soil, hydrology and vegetation and to interview those who manage it

This field work surveying the wet areas within the Machair of the Hebrides, which started in 2018, allows us to estimate the extent of species-rich wet grassland on the islands and take the understanding of similar wet grasslands elsewhere to advise on management of water levels, nutrients and grazing.

Funding required: £3,500

### >> UK WIDE PROJECT FOCUS



#### Production of a community toolkit for historical floodplain analysis and research

To provide a roadmap for floodplain analysis for amateur groups to follow, encapsulating the methods and sources used by professional historians and archaeologists in their historical analysis of land-use patterns on several floodplains, including Dorset Stour, Sussex Rother, Yorkshire Ouse and Oxon Thames.

Funding required: £4,000

## Thank you to our Floodplain Meadows Partnership supporters

The Partnership's important work is dependent on the generosity of philanthropic support, and we are extremely grateful that a number of trusts and foundations, companies and individuals have supported its work since it was established over 15 years ago. Supporters include:

- Ecover
- The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- The John Ellerman Foundation
- The Halpin Trust
- Mrs Judith Pursell
- Mrs Rachael Webb
- Banister Charitable Trust
- HDH Wills Charitable Trust
- Mr and Mrs J A Pye's Charitable Settlement
- William Dean Countryside and Educational Trust





# Making higher education accessible for future generations

The OU remains true to its founding mission of being open to all and we are so grateful to those who have already remembered the University by leaving a gift in your Will. A gift in a Will is a wonderful seed to bear fruit in the future. It will help to continue to transform more people's lives for generations to come and give them the opportunity to fulfil their dreams and potential.

Legacies were vital in establishing our Open Futures Fund, which has helped to support disabled veterans', unpaid carers and those from disadvantaged backgrounds to rewrite their futures and unlock their potential through the power of education.

## Creating ripples of positive change

We believe passionately that everyone should have the chance of a higher education, no matter what their personal circumstances or individual challenges may be. A legacy creates wonderful ripples of positive change that will touch many people and have a long-lasting, far-reaching effect for generations to come. This may be through the particular research our future graduates undertake, the career they pursue, their work, or through charitable and other activities.

The seed planted today by a gift in a Will promises to grow and live on through the people who benefit and begin their higher education journey; one they might otherwise have missed out on.

## Make a difference

Gavin Powell completed his BA (Hons) in History in 2018 and has chosen to remember the University in his Will.

"The education was life-changing but just as importantly The Open University is helping to create a kinder and more compassionate society, as well as challenging stereotypes and working to create a better life for all. I cannot tell you the pride and sense of belonging I feel from being part of the OU family."

If you would like to discuss leaving a legacy, find out more information, or you have already remembered the OU in your Will or you intend to do so, please contact the Legacy Team. Any communication will be treated with the utmost sensitivity and complete confidence.

## Get in touch today



**giving@open.ac.uk**  
**01908 659 141**



If you're thinking of leaving a legacy, you couldn't leave it to a better cause. You cannot give people anything better in their lives than education, because it frees them from poverty of knowledge.

Once you give people knowledge, you empower them.

**Patricia Campbell**  
Alumna and Legacy Supporter



As part of my role and as an Open University graduate, it is my pleasure and privilege to talk to many OU alumni about the amazing difference they can make to future generations of students by remembering the University with a gift in their Will.

**Steve Lowe**  
Alumnus and Legacy Team Fundraiser

