

1955

The Wolfson Foundation is founded



Sir Isaac Wolfson
(1897-1991), Founder
(1955), Chairman
(from 1963 to 1972)
and then President
(from 1975) of the
Wolfson Foundation.

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“As we sat around your sittingroom in Portland Place and you, your wife, Leonard and I signed the document – not, as might have been expected at a table with some show of formality, but passing the document from hand to hand, resting it on our knees as we signed – I could not help thinking that we were participating in a notable and significant occasion.”

A letter from Lord Nathan (the first Chairman of the Foundation) to Isaac Wolfson in July 1955 describing the signing of the Foundation’s Trust Deed. Despite the lack of formality, the Foundation had, in Nathan’s words, been “*finely conceived and long meditated.*”

example grants

1956

British Empire Cancer
Research Campaign
Equipment and apparatus
for cancer research
£150,000

1957

University of Oxford
Chair in Metallurgy
(Isaac Wolfson Professorship
in Metallurgy)
£65,000

1958

Westminster Hospital
School of Nursing
Wolfson School of Nursing
£250,000

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award
Contribution to fund
£20,000

Institute of Criminology,
Cambridge
Establishment of the Institute
(including endowing the Chair)
£150,000

1959

National Playing Fields
Association
Joint programme
£125,000

1960

Royal Postgraduate
Medical School, W12
Wolfson Institute
£150,000

St Anne’s College, Oxford
Wolfson Building
(student accommodation)
£100,000