

# Leaving a Legacy

A guide to leaving a gift in your Will

# Welcome

## **Thank you for considering St. Michael's Hospice for a gift in your Will.**

It's thanks to the kindness of our supporters that we're able to care for hundreds of people every year in North Hampshire. Our services are free to patients and families, but it costs more than £6 million a year to run our inpatient, community, and support services.

When the time is right for you to consider a charity in your Will, please remember St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire). By leaving a gift, you will be entrusting a lasting legacy of compassion and kindness – helping us provide exceptional care and support for patients and their loved ones in their time of need.

*As a local charity, 78% of our funds come from our community either giving donations, taking part in fundraising events, supporting our shops, playing our lottery and leaving gifts in Wills. To put it another way, 8 in 10 of our patients are cared for thanks to our community.*





St Michael's  
Hospice



“My wife, Jacqueline, was referred to St. Michael’s Hospice in 1998. The compassion, comfort, and support we received during that time were beyond words. This experience inspired me to become a long-term volunteer and supporter of this wonderful organisation.

I’m dedicated to ensuring that St. Michael’s continues to provide its invaluable services to those who need it most. I have even included a gift to the Hospice in my Will, as I want to leave a legacy of quality care so that others can receive the same support that Jacqueline and I did.”

**Graham, Volunteer and Legacy Pledger**



# Leaving a gift in your Will

## 1. Family and friends first gifts

We understand that providing for your loved ones is a priority. After making provisions for them, you could leave whatever is left to just us or split it with other charities.

## 2. Cash gifts

Cash donations are always very welcome. To avoid cash donations decreasing over time you can index link your gift or review it periodically to retain its original value.

## 3. Gifts in kind

Leaving us a property, shares, items of jewellery or furniture is another kind way to support the Hospice.

**If you already have an existing Will, there is a quick and easy way to add a gift to St. Michael's Hospice.**

You can make changes at any time by simply writing a 'Letter of Wishes' or adding a codicil to your existing Will. Please get professional advice before making any changes.

Gifts in Wills are tax efficient. The threshold at which Inheritance Tax commences changes from time to time. If your estate is going to attract Inheritance Tax, any gift you leave to charity will be deducted from your estate before any tax liability is calculated. So, if your estate is £20,000 over your tax-free allowance and you leave St. Michael's Hospice £2,000, the Inheritance Tax will only be payable on £18,000.

Leaving a gift in your Will, however large or small, has the power to make a huge difference to lives of local people in North Hampshire.



Only **2** in 10 patients at the Hospice are funded by the Government.

# Your gift, our future

Since 1992, we've been providing specialist care and support for people in North Hampshire living with a life-limiting illness, facing the end-of-life or experiencing bereavement.

Our support can begin from the moment someone is diagnosed with a life-limiting illness, through to palliative and then ultimately end-of-life care. We also support families and carers, from coping with the pressure and strains of illness, to supporting with their bereavement.

This is only made possible due to the continued support and generous donations from our community. St. Michael's is a charity, and all our services are provided free of charge. **We receive 22% funding from the government**, which means 78p of every £1 we spend on care is funded by donations and fundraising.

Gifts in Will's not only give us the flexibility to respond to the challenges of providing vital care to a growing population, but they also give us the confidence to plan new services and expand existing ones. Helping us be there for future generations.

## All your solicitor needs:

- The name of our charity - **St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire)**
- Our registered charity number - **1002856**



**"We cannot add days to life, but we can add life to days."**

**Dame Cicely Saunders**  
Founder of the modern Hospice Movement

# How your gift could help St. Michael's Hospice



**£1,913**

To run our Hospice at Home  
Service for a day.



**£9,100**

To run our Living Well  
Service for 4 weeks.



**£4,973**

To run our In-Patient Unit  
for a day



**1 in 5**

Patients are cared for  
thanks to gifts in Wills.

**A gift of 10% to one or more charities in your Will reduces  
inheritance tax payable.**



# Terminology

## **The Executor(s)**

The person(s) responsible for the legal and financial aspects of your estate, appointed by you to carry out your Will instructions.

## **The Guardian(s)**

The person(s) responsible for your children if both parents die.

## **The Beneficiaries**

The persons or organisations who will be given a specific gift from your estate, such as money, land or property.

## **Types of Gift**

1. A fixed sum of money, called a pecuniary gift.
2. A residuary gift (a percentage or share of what is left of your estate once all other payments and gifts have been made). Many people choose to give a residuary gift because it doesn't lose value over time in the way a fixed sum of money will.

## **Your Will**

An up-to-date Will is the best way to ensure that your wishes are carried out how you want. It makes it easier for your executors and can help avoid lengthy and costly delays in administering your estate. An out-of-date Will might not reflect who you want to benefit and if you don't make a Will at all, the rules of intestacy (the legal process that determines how your property will be distributed if you die without a Will) will determine who will receive your property and possessions – which may not be the people or causes you want.

## **Power of Attorney**

A Lasting Power of Attorney is a legal document that allows you to appoint someone you know and trust to make decisions on your behalf, should you become unable to do so in the future.



## **There are two types of Lasting Attorney:**

### **Health & Welfare**

This allows someone to make decisions about your health, care and welfare, for example, what medical treatment you receive and whether you move into a care home.

### **Property & Financial Affairs**

This allows someone to manage all your financial affairs, including paying bills, managing bank accounts, collecting benefits and selling property or investments. You should make sure you understand all the implications of setting up a Power of Attorney and you might want to get advice from a solicitor or Will writer.

**You must have the capacity to make your own decisions when you set up a Power of Attorney, so it's a good idea to get it set up well before you need it. It's much harder and more expensive for someone to help you with your money and property if you've already lost mental capacity.**

## **Your Will tells people who should:**

- Receive your money, property and possessions when you die.
- Be your 'Executor' – the person(s) in charge of following the instructions you leave in your Will and organising your estate.

You can use your Will to tell people about other wishes you might have, like instructions for your burial, cremation, or funeral.



# FAQs

## **Do I need a solicitor?**

You don't need a solicitor to write a Will but we strongly advise using one to make sure your Will is viable and to avoid complications later.

## **What happens if I die without a Will?**

Dying without an up-to-date Will is known as 'intestacy'. If you die intestate it's up to the law to decide how your Estate is distributed, which might not reflect your wishes.

## **Is making a Will difficult and expensive?**

Making a Will is easy, quick, and inexpensive. Solicitors will send you a list of things you need to think about before your appointment with them. That way you can work out at home what you own, what you want to leave, who you want to leave it to and who you want to appoint as your Executor(s).

## **How often should I update my Will?**

It's a good idea to regularly review your Will so that it continues to reflect changes in your life. It's important that you don't write on an existing Will. Ask your solicitor about making changes to your existing Will or writing a new one.

## **Can I make a Will through St. Michael's?**

For more information about making a Will with us, please visit our website: [stmichaelshospice.org.uk](http://stmichaelshospice.org.uk)

A gift of 1%, or more, from your estate could help fund care for future generations.

# Thank you

We understand the details of your Will are a personal matter. However, if you'd like to tell us that you've made a gift to the Hospice in your Will, please complete the below form, so we can thank you personally and invite you to be kept informed about our work and events.

Any information you provide will be treated with respect and strict confidentiality.

Please return the below form to:

**Lorraine Pink, Director of Income Generation**  
**St. Michael's Hospice**  
**Basil De Ferranti House**  
**Aldermaston Road**  
**Basingstoke,**  
**RG24 9NB**

## 1 Please let us know your contact details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Keep in touch

We'd like to continue keeping you up to date about our work, fundraising and how your support helps make an enormous difference. As well as staying in touch by post, we can update you by email.

☐ Yes, **I DO** want to receive emails from St. Michael's Hospice

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Even if you've received our communications in the past, we honour the preferences you express here. If you'd rather not hear from us, or would like to change how we contact you, email [supportercare@stmichaelshospice.org.uk](mailto:supportercare@stmichaelshospice.org.uk) or call 01256 848848. Our full privacy notice is available at: [stmichaelshospice.org.uk/privacy-notice](http://stmichaelshospice.org.uk/privacy-notice).

## 3 Leaving a gift in your Will

- ☐ I've included a gift in my Will to the Hospice
- ☐ I intend to leave a gift in my Will to the Hospice
- ☐ I'd like to discuss this with a member of the Hospice team

## 4 Being a Legator for St. Michael's Hospice

- ☐ I'd prefer **NOT** to be recognised as a Legator.
- ☐ **YES**, I'd like to be recognised as a Legator.

