

# A Guide to Gifts in Wills



Support us in  
your Will today  
to help us care for  
patients and families  
in the future

The care of  
**1 in 5**  
of our patients is  
funded by  
**Gifts in Wills**



# Gifts in Wills

cover the cost of caring for 1 in 5 patients

**Our dedicated nurses go the extra mile to provide individualised care to each and every person we support, helping loved ones to make special memories in the precious time they have together – like Margaret and her family.**

Margaret began receiving care from our community nurses at home, and spent her final days in St Catherine's. Her family were overwhelmed by the attention to detail and compassion expressed by our nurses.

Her daughter Nicola said: "They asked us if we'd like to have an imprint of Mum's fingerprints to keep as a memory. I would never have thought of doing something like that, but it sounded like a lovely idea.

"They demonstrated so much care and love when they were taking my mum's fingerprints. They talked her through every step and treated her with such dignity. The prints were on a card and they put them inside a gift bag for us to take home. It's those incredibly special, personal touches which really set St Catherine's apart from anywhere else."

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of our nursing team, the family was able to create special wooden butterfly plaques featuring Margaret's fingerprints.

Nicola added: "Mum wasn't afraid to talk about the end of life and she made important plans for the future.

"She'd had a Will in place for a number of years, and she even decided to organise her own order of service for her funeral. It really eased the pressure on us because we knew her wishes were being met and that everything was in place."



**Gifts in Wills make a significant difference to our charity, and enable us to help patients and families achieve what is important to them in the precious time they have together.**



# Our promise to you

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your Will to St Catherine's. If you do decide to leave a gift in your Will to the hospice, we promise:

- 1 We understand how important your family and friends are and that these people will always be considered first when you are writing your Will. We will treat everyone with sensitivity and respect.
- 2 We will spend the money you have donated where it will have the most impact. If you have specified where you would like the money to go to, we will ensure your wishes are carried out.
- 3 Any information you share with us will be kept confidential and secure; it will not be passed on to anyone else.
- 4 We will answer any questions you have honestly and quickly.
- 5 We will keep you up to date about our important work and how we're making a difference to local people.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Why should I make a Will?

Writing a Will now can make life much easier for your loved ones later. Having a Will is the only way you can ensure that your family, friends and any good causes you care about, are provided for in the way you wish.

## I don't have much to leave. Will my gift still make a difference?

Gifts of all sizes make such a difference to St Catherine's Hospice. We are extremely grateful for any donation received.

## Do I need a solicitor?

We recommend that you use a reputable solicitor or legal professional to ensure that your Will is watertight. St Catherine's Hospice partners with a number of local solicitors within Central Lancashire. You can find out their contact information on our website on [www.stcatherines.co.uk/wills](http://www.stcatherines.co.uk/wills).



## **What is St Catherine's Wills Week?**

Each March, St Catherine's works with local, reputable solicitors to give our supporters the opportunity to have their Will written.

Participating solicitors generously agree to donate their time in return for a donation to the hospice. Information about how to get involved is published in January on the St Catherine's website, on our social media channels and in our shops.

## **What is St Catherine's Wills Service?**

St Catherine's Hospice has partnered with a number of local, reputable solicitors to offer the opportunity to have your Will written at a discounted price all year round. Participating solicitors have kindly offered 15% off their individual standard charges for straightforward Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney.

For more information, please contact the Community Engagement team on **01772 629171** or visit our website at [www.stcatherines.co.uk/wills](http://www.stcatherines.co.uk/wills).

## **I want to find out more before I make a decision. What's the best way to do this?**

We are always here if you would like to discuss anything further. Please contact us on **01772 695279** or email [giftsinwills@stcatherines.co.uk](mailto:giftsinwills@stcatherines.co.uk). You may wish to come into the hospice, look around and meet staff in person. This is welcomed too.

## **How will my gift be spent?**

We will spend the money you have donated where it will have the most impact.

We will ensure that it is spent responsibly to help care for more patients and families when they need the care we provide the most. If you would like your gift to go to something specific, we will ensure your wishes are met.

# Writing your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will to St Catherine's Hospice couldn't be simpler. If you haven't yet made a Will or wish to make changes to your existing Will, speak to your chosen Solicitor or use our Wills service. It's important to keep your Will updated as your wishes may change with time.



## Important details for your solicitor

To include us in your Will, please let your solicitor have the following details:

- **Charity name:** St Catherine's Hospice, Lancashire
- **Charity address:** St Catherine's Hospice, Lostock Lane, Lostock Hall, Preston, PR5 5XU
- **Registered Charity Number:** 512186

# Glossary of terms

## **Beneficiary**

A person who benefits from a gift in your Will.

## **Bequest/legacy**

A gift in your Will.

## **Estate**

Total sum of all your assets, including possessions, property and money.

## **Executor**

A person you ask to make sure the wishes expressed in your Will are carried out. Executors can also be beneficiaries.

## **Will**

A legal document that declares the intention as to what should happen to your estate after your death.

## **Lasting Power of Attorney**

This a legal document that allows someone to make decisions for you, or act on your behalf, if you are no longer able to make your own decision.

## **Testator**

The person who is making the Will.

## **Witness**

A person present at the signing of your Will. They will also need to sign the Will. A witness cannot be a beneficiary.

## **Inheritance Tax (IHT)**

The tax levied on your estate if it is more than an amount specified by HM Revenue and Customs. A gift to charity is exempt from inheritance tax.

## **Intestacy**

If you die without a Will in place, your estate is distributed under intestacy rules. There is a strict order of who would inherit your estate. Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/inherits-someone-dies-without-will> for more information.

## **Pecuniary Gift**

A gift of a specified sum of money.

## **Residuary Gift**

A gift of all or part of what is left of your estate after all debts, taxes, costs and pecuniary gifts have been paid. This can be a percentage, fraction or part of an estate.

## **Specific Gift**

A gift of a particular item in your Will e.g. a car, jewellery, painting, etc.

Thanks to your wonderful support we can continue to be there for people who need us in the future.

There's no obligation to do so, but if you choose to remember St Catherine's in your Will, it's helpful if you can let us know your wishes so we can plan our care and continue to be there for the people who need us in the future

If you would like to talk about leaving a gift in your Will to St Catherine's, or for more information about Wills Week or the Wills Service, please get in touch:

Call 01772 695279

Email [giftsinwills@stcatherines.co.uk](mailto:giftsinwills@stcatherines.co.uk)



Be part of our future  
through a gift in your Will



Together With Compassion