

**ST CATHERINE'S
HOSPICE**

YOUR GUIDE TO LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

*By including a gift in your will, we'll
be here for the people you care about*



For over 35 years, St Catherine's Hospice has been there when life comes full circle

Nothing prepares you for the news that your wife has cancer

Jenny and I had been together for 45 years – we thought we'd have many more happy years. But in one moment, our plans and dreams for our future fell apart. As the news sank in that we were both facing the end of Jenny's life, we thought we'd be forced to sit at home, waiting for her to die.

How wrong we were

Thanks to St Catherine's, our local hospice, Jenny and I were able to enjoy some of the most precious moments of our marriage. St Catherine's gave Jenny the chance to keep living right until the end, and us the chance to make memories together. This was only possible thanks to the wonderful care, dedication and support of the amazing staff at St Catherine's. They looked after everything – from managing her pain to counselling – so Jenny and I could focus on being together.

When Jenny's death finally came, it was of course greatly distressing. But thanks to St Catherine's, it was as peaceful and dignified as it could have been for the two of us, our family and friends. I will always be deeply grateful for the ways St Catherine's helped us through that difficult and anxious time.



I knew I wanted to do something to demonstrate that gratitude. That's why, when I retired, I volunteered to become the Chair of Trustees of this wonderful charity. And it's also why I have chosen to leave a gift in my will to St Catherine's.

I hope that you'll consider doing the same; together we can make sure that future generations in West Sussex and East Surrey won't have to face death and loss alone.

Terry O'Leary,
Chair of Trustees

With your support, we'll be there for more people in your community

Over 35 years ago, a group of local people decided care for people dying in their community wasn't good enough.

So they built your local hospice. And we've been building a reputation for excellence ever since. Now, we want to provide even more care, and be there for everyone in the future.

Gifts in wills are vital

It costs more than £10 million to run the hospice each year, and we receive less than a third of our funding from the NHS. So we rely on the generosity of our community to allow us to provide expert care, and gifts in wills play an incredibly important role. **In fact, gifts in wills fund the care of one in every four of our patients.**



1 IN 4 PATIENTS ARE CARED FOR THANKS TO GIFTS IN WILLS



WE CARE FOR AROUND 2,000 TERMINALLY ILL PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES EACH YEAR



30% OF PEOPLE WE CARE FOR HAVE A DIAGNOSIS OTHER THAN CANCER

"It gives me peace of mind to know that St Catherine's will support my loved ones when they need it most. I know how much counselling has helped me so the thought of it helping my family and friends after I'm gone makes me feel a lot happier and more content." Jane, Patient



You can make lives better in your community

"As Diane became less well St Catherine's made sure she fulfilled her final wish of going back home again. She passed away at home surrounded by her family. Her death couldn't have been better."

Anne-Marie, Relative

We're incredibly proud of all that we've achieved with the support of our local community. But the reality is that we're not there for everyone that needs us.

With our current funds, for every person we currently help there are two others we can't help. That means two in three terminally ill people in your community are being left to manage their illness without hospice support. It means people are being left to deal with pain alone, and it means families are being left to care for loved ones without expert support. And it's happening all around us.

With your support, we can be there for everyone when life comes full circle.

APPROXIMATELY 4,000 LOCAL PEOPLE WOULD BENEFIT FROM HOSPICE CARE AS THEY APPROACH END OF LIFE EACH YEAR



We'll be there when people really need us

We're a local charity, funded by our local community, and exist to make life better for local terminally ill people and their families.

We're very different from a hospital and our services – both in the hospice and the community – are entirely separate from Macmillan or Marie Curie with whom we're often confused.

For us, hospice care is whatever our patients and those closest to them need it to be. We work with each person and their family to help them achieve the things that matter to them most.

Personalised care

For some people, that's coming to outpatient appointments to get advice on managing their illness. For others it's attending our Living Well Centre to benefit from therapeutic activities like art or gardening, complementary therapies, or spending social time with others in a similar situation.

Other people with the most complex medical conditions come to stay in our wards where our nurses help manage their pain or control the symptoms of their illness. Or maybe help them to enjoy a relaxing bubbly bath in our special Jacuzzi bath.

The majority of our care, however, is provided in the comfort and familiarity of people's own homes, where they can stay close to family, friends, pets and the things precious to them. Eight out of ten people are cared for in this way, so it's very likely that our nursing teams visit people in your neighbourhood.

And our care doesn't stop there. We know that when someone has a serious illness, it has a tremendous impact on their family and friends. To help, we offer emotional, welfare and spiritual support to the people we care for and those closest to them. And as you'd expect, we continue to support people after bereavement.

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of people like you, we're able to provide all our services free of charge.



Why you should make a will?

Everyone should make a will because it's the only way to make sure that when you die, the people and good causes you care about benefit in the way you choose.

Even if you have a will, it's a good idea to review it from time to time as changes in your life may cause you to rethink your intentions.

Family and friends always come first, but more and more people now choose to remember a charity that was important to them during their lifetime - such as St Catherine's.

Including St Catherine's in your will is a wonderful way to make sure your care for your loved ones and your local community can live on, leaving a lasting legacy in your memory.

It's also worth remembering that gifts left to charities will reduce any Inheritance Tax which your estate might otherwise have to pay.

"Gifts in wills are so important to St Catherine's – they fund the care we provide for 1 in 4 of our patients and families."

Caroline, Nurse

Choosing the gift that's right for you

There are three main ways you can leave a gift to St Catherine's in your will. Whichever you choose, your gift will be greatly valued and will make a big difference to people you care about in the future.

We understand, of course, that gifts to family and friends will always come first, but by also including a gift in your will to St Catherine's, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that your support for your local community will live on.

A share of your estate

The value of this kind of gift (also known as a residuary gift) will be determined once all set sums of money and personal possessions have been distributed to other beneficiaries and will often have the biggest impact for the hospice.

The share can be as much or as a little as you choose; anything from 1 per cent to 100 per cent.

"The care I've received has been exceptional. When my family visited, nurses took my bed into the garden so I could enjoy the surroundings. Hospice staff even threw me a surprise birthday party last week. I had a wonderful day. It was a birthday to remember."

Pam, Patient

At least one person or charity must receive a gift of this nature, but people often choose to split this between a number of family, friends and charities.

A set sum of money

You may choose to leave a set sum of money (also known as a pecuniary gift) to St Catherine's, so you know exactly how much the hospice will receive in due course.

Specific gift

If you would like to leave a specific item of value to the hospice, that's fine with us. Please bear in mind, however, that we will arrange for such items to be valued and then sold to raise funds to provide our services.

If you are considering this kind of gift, we'd recommend contacting us beforehand on: 01293 447361 or email: giftsinwills@stch.org.uk



Choosing the value of gifts

Before deciding the amount of individual gifts to leave to family, friends and charities, it's a good idea to review your financial situation and identify any personal items of significant financial or sentimental value that you may wish to leave to named individuals. There is a form in the back of this brochure to help get you started.

We also have a free guide available from the hospice or on our website that will help you to think about gifts, personal items or other matters, such as who to choose as your executors or specifying your funeral wishes.

To receive a free copy of the guide, please contact us on: 01293 447361 or email: giftsinwills@stch.org.uk

Will my estate have to pay Inheritance Tax?

This is a very complex area and your professional adviser will be able to provide expert advice.

Broadly speaking, however, under current legislation (2019/20), estates with a net value in excess of £325,000 (threshold) will be liable to Inheritance Tax, charged at a rate of 40 per cent on the amount in excess of the threshold.

Gifts left to charities are an effective way of reducing any Inheritance Tax, as the value of these gifts are deducted before calculating the net value of your estate.

By choosing to leave a gift in your will to St Catherine's, as well as helping others, you'll have the added benefit of reducing any Inheritance Tax your estate may have to pay.

How to include St Catherine's Hospice in your will

It's really easy to include a gift in your will to St Catherine's.

We recommend using a solicitor to draw up your will, or to add a codicil to your existing will. They will make sure your wishes are clear and provide the correct wording.

Important details for your solicitor

St Catherine's Hospice
Malthouse Road, Crawley,
West Sussex, RH10 6BH
Registered charity number: 281362

Need help finding a solicitor?

If you need help finding a local solicitor, contact The Law Society:

www.lawsociety.org.uk

Tel: 020 7320 5650

Everyone deserves dignified end of life care

"My husband Jim had kidney disease for over a decade before he died. We came to St Catherine's right at the end of his life - he was only at St Catherine's for 48 hours. But even in that short time the nurses really got to know us and understood exactly what we needed.

When Jim was in hospital staff used to call him William

It was strange for both of us, as although Jim was christened William, nobody ever called him that. At home, at work, with our family, he was always Jim.

I used to think, who's William? I'm married to Jim! Nobody in hospital ever asked if Jim would like to be known as something different, but when we arrived at the hospice, we were asked straight away what Jim liked to be called. From then on he was Jim again. Being known by his nickname helped Jim to feel more at home, and to maintain his dignity and self-respect. It helped me too.

"By including a gift in my will, it's my way of making sure St Catherine's can be there to look after other local people in the years and decades to come".

Jim dying was the worst possible thing but St Catherine's was the best possible place for it to happen.

The hospice's support meant a huge amount to me and my family

That's why I'm including a gift to them in my will. It's my way of saying thank you for the care Jim had, and for the kindness the hospice showed our family. Leaving a gift was an easy decision and it reassures me that St Catherine's will be around to look after other people in decades to come.

Everyone deserves dignified end of life care like my Jim had. This is my way of helping make sure more people get that."

Marianne





Keeping in touch

Whilst we respect that you might like to keep your decision to leave a gift to St Catherine's in your will personal, it's always lovely when people kindly take the time to let us know their intentions.

By doing so, it means we can communicate with you correctly in the future and if you'd like to we can:

- Send you our thanks for making such a wonderful gesture, together with a specially designed pin badge
- Make sure you'll be amongst the first to hear our most important news
- Invite you to special events where you can meet like minded supporters and hear about our future plans.

To let us know your intentions or if you have any other questions, please use the form enclosed or call us on: 01293 447361 or email: giftsinwills@stch.org.uk

Something special to pass on

Thank you for taking the time to read this brochure. We hope it has inspired you to leave a gift to St Catherine's in your will, so that everyone can face death informed, supported and pain free. Your generosity can make the end of life for someone in your community the best it can possibly be.

Every gift, in every will, makes a difference to the care we provide.



St Catherine's Hospice
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01293 447361
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t @StCHospice
i @stcatherinescrawley

Registered charity number 281362 and as a Company in England no.1525404.



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