



**St Oswald's
Hospice**

Make a Will Month

Information Sheet

**Every June Make a Will Month
raises funds for St Oswald's,
your local charitable hospice.**

Thanks to the support of local high street solicitors, every penny the campaign raises will benefit local families who rely on hospice care.

**0191 246 9123 | fundraising@stoswaldsuk.org
stoswaldsuk.org/make-a-will-month**

Reg Charity No. 503386

Preparing to Make Your Will

The solicitor you choose will kindly donate their time and expertise by preparing your Will in return for a donation from you, to St Oswald's Hospice. The suggested donation (and special discounted rate) for this service is:

£90 for a single Will

£125 for a pair of Wills

Step 1. Choose your solicitor

Please see the enclosed sheet for a list of participating solicitors.

Step 2. Book an appointment directly with your solicitor

Please quote 'St Oswald's Hospice Make a Will Month' when you call. Your appointment must be held during June 2021. Your solicitor will also advise you of how appointments will go ahead depending on what restrictions are in place at the time of booking.

Step 3. Consider your wishes

To maximise the time you have with your solicitor it would be useful for you to consider your wishes and make a note of the following aspects that will be covered during your appointment.

Make a note of your assets

- House value
- Bank or building society accounts
- Shares, bonds or debentures
- Life insurance policies
- Pensions
- Car
- Jewellery
- Furniture/antiques
- Other possessions

Who to include in your Will

Make a note of the intended beneficiaries that you would like to remember in your Will.

- Family
- Friends
- Charities.

You may wish to consider leaving a gift to St Oswald's in your Will. The best way to support a charity is through a residuary or percentage gift as this gift will retain its real value over time. Even a gift of 1% of your residue will make a huge difference to your favourite charity.

Other important information

- You will need to choose who you would like to act as your executors (people responsible for carrying out the instructions in your Will).
- If you have children under 18 you should decide who you would want to be your children's guardians.
- Funeral instructions.

Step 4. Instructing your solicitor

This could be face to face or by telephone or video call, depending on the guidelines in place at the time of your appointment.

Your solicitor will discuss your wishes with you and draft your Will. The Make a Will Month scheme covers a basic Will, so if you have a large estate or your circumstances are complicated, your solicitor will advise you of any extra costs involved before you proceed. Your donation will then be directed to St Oswald's to support those in our care.

Making a Will: Facts

Many of us put off making a Will but it's something we all know we should do. By taking part in Make a Will Month, you are giving your loved ones the most important gift of all – comfort, security and peace of mind.

- If you currently don't have a Will, you are certainly not alone. Two out of three adults in the UK do not have a Will and of those that do, almost one out of three are out of date.
- Wills should be revised periodically to take into account any major life changes including marriage, having children and divorce.
- Dying intestate (without a Will) means the government will decide the order of who gets what from your estate, irrespective of your personal wishes.
- If your estate is worth more than £325,000 you can reduce the amount of inheritance tax you pay by leaving a gift of 10% or more of the net value of your estate to charity. Please speak to your solicitor or a financial advisor about advice on inheritance tax.

How your Make a Will Month donation will make a difference at St Oswald's

As a local charity we rely on the generosity and support of our community to continue to provide our specialist care services, free of charge, to those who need us. Although we receive some funding from local authorities we still must raise over £8 million each year through voluntary giving and legacies. To date St Oswald's Hospice Make a Will Month has raised over £190,000 to support local people who require hospice care.



£90 could pay for two bereavement support for adults or children, and help them come to terms with the loss of a loved one. You'd be helping someone who might be feeling vulnerable and afraid, by giving them access to caring support which can have a huge impact on their life.



£100 would provide five hours of specialist nursing care to our patients and their families. As well as expert care, our nurses are a listening ear and a hand to hold at what could be the most difficult time of people's lives.



£200 could go towards creating special memories for our younger patients receiving care within our Children's Service. Arts and crafts materials, baking ingredients, music therapy sessions and sensory toys are just some of the ways your donation can create magical moments.

Your lasting legacy: leaving a gift in your Will to St Oswald's Hospice

Gifts left in Wills are a vital source of funding at St Oswald's and make up one third of the donations we need to receive as voluntary gifts.

Leaving a gift in your Will, no matter how small, will help us to continue to make a difference to local people for years to come and is a wonderful lasting legacy, ensuring your support can continue to change lives.

12p in every £1 St Oswald's spends to provide our services comes from a gift in someone's Will.

Around 75% of people give to charity in their lifetime, but just 7% of people choose to leave a gift to a charity in their Will. If you would consider leaving a gift, after all your family and loved ones have been considered, we would be extremely grateful. Thank you

Don't forget, you can make a **Free Will** all year round thanks to our partnership with Beyond, the online Will experts.

Visit [www/stoswaldsuk.org/free-wills](http://www.stoswaldsuk.org/free-wills) for more information

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