

The importance of making a Will

Thinking about making a Will isn't easy, and it's natural to have many reasons for putting it off. We might feel we don't have the time, think it's not needed, or simply prefer not to think about the future.

However, creating a Will is one of the most thoughtful things you can do to ensure your wishes are honoured and your loved ones are cared for. Yet only one in three people create one.

Without a Will, it can sometimes lead to unnecessary stress and confusion for your loved ones when they are already going through a difficult time. Taking the time to create a Will can offer peace of mind for both you and your family.

Creating or updating your Will doesn't have to be difficult or costly, and there's a comforting sense of peace in knowing that your affairs are taken care of. It's important to think about the people you'd like to support and consider any charitable causes that hold a special place in your heart.





About Tapping House

For four decades, our Hospice has been at the heart of the community, providing specialist palliative care, comfort, and unwavering support to thousands of individuals and families in their most difficult moments.



Tapping House was set up by healthcare professionals and local volunteers responding to a need for dedicated support for those with life-limiting conditions in our community. This continues to be the basis of our work: skilled professionals and trained volunteers working as a team to provide a wide range of extraordinary care services.

We currently provide care to around 1,500 patients a year and around 3,000 members of our community. Whether this be in our Inpatient Unit, through Hospice at Home or in our outpatient Tulip Centre.

Our services include:



Dr Hugh Ford Inpatient Unit

Our nurse led unit at the Hospice provides 24 hour compassionate palliative support and care for patients facing a life-limiting illness.



Hospice at Home

Our nurse led team provide support for people in the last 6 weeks of life in the comfort of their own home.



Rapid Response

Our overnight service provides expert telephone advice, support and signposting for healthcare professionals and family caregivers, as well as rapid response to unplanned care in the home.



Tulip Centre

Our outpatient unit supports patients and their families at the start of their journey with us. We offer a wide choice of rehabilitation activities and therapy to enhance independence and quality of life.



Emotional, Social and Pastoral Support Services

We offer emotional and spiritual support to patients and their families during the palliative stage of life and throughout the bereavement process. Our service is inclusive, catering to all faiths or none, and provides a compassionate space for reflection, grieving, and healing during an incredibly challenging time.



Compassionate Communities

We understand that strong social connections within communities play a vital role in supporting those living with serious illness, caregivers, and those coping with loss and grief. Our education programme helps healthcare professionals, community groups, and individuals rethink death, dying, and grief, empowering them to build meaningful connections with people facing this phase of life.

Your gift for the future

Legacies provide long-term financial stability, allowing us to continue with the care that is needed by so many. Today, in the communities we cover 26% of our population is already over 65, significantly higher than the UK average. And predictions are for the average age to continue to rise over the coming years, so the need for our services has never been greater. With demand for palliative and rest-of-life care set to increase, gifts left in Wills help us plan ahead and expand our services.

The difference your legacy can make

Leaving a legacy is something anyone can do. Even a small percentage, like 1%, can make a lasting impact, providing comfort, dignity, and support to those who need it most. It's a simple act of kindness that will be felt for generations to come.

We currently care for 1,500 patients a year and support 3,000 community members. No matter the size, your legacy gift has the power to change lives. It could help make sure that someone's loved one - perhaps even a member of your own family - receives the compassionate care they deserve in their final days.









Helpful tips for leaving a gift in your Will

List your assets

The first step in writing your Will is to make a list of all of your assets, such as property, cash, investments, vehicles and any other valuable possessions.

Choose your beneficiaries

You may choose anyone you wish to benefit from your Will. These may be family, friends, organisations or charitable causes.

Inheritance Tax

The legal rules on Inheritance Tax change regularly so it is important to make sure you have up to date information. All gifts to charity are exempt from Inheritance Tax. These funds are deducted before the estate is valued. For more information about Inheritance Tax, visit the HMRC website: www.gov.uk/browse/tax/inheritance-tax

Choosing your Executor(s)

An 'Executor' is a person or persons named in your Will who will be responsible for handling your estate and making sure that your wishes are carried out after you die. An Executor's duties include ensuring all debts, bills, funeral expenses and taxes are paid from your estate and that all your beneficiaries receive what you intended them to inherit.

Preparing your Will

There is no obligation in law to hire a professional to write your Will, but the legal and financial consequences of any error or oversight in the process can be quite serious. So you might see the cost of legal fees a wise investment. If you use a solicitor, all the advice they give is covered by their professional indemnity insurance.

Making changes to your Will

You cannot simply write changes on the existing document.

There are two legally valid ways to change your Will:

- for small changes by making a codicil
- for major changes by making a new Will and revoking the old one.





Wording your Will

If you would like to include Tapping House in your Will then you may want to give the following wording to your solicitor:

Pecuniary Gift

I give the sum of £ to Tapping House (Registered Charity No. 1062800) and I direct that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper office shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

Specific Gift

I give to Tapping House (Registered Charity No. 1062800) (write in whatever it is you wish to leave Tapping House) and I direct that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

A Gift of Residue

I give to Tapping House (Registered Charity No. 1062800) (write 'all' or the share you would like to leave to Tapping House) and I direct that the receipt of the treasurer or other proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

Can I choose where I would like my gift to be used?

Usually we try to use your gift where it can make the biggest difference. We do understand however, that you may like your money to go to a specific area of the Hospice and that can of course also be arranged. All you have to do is state clearly in your Will where you wish your money to go to.



No matter the size, your legacy gift has the power to change lives. It could help make sure that someone's loved one perhaps even a member of your own family - receives the compassionate care they deserve in their final days.

Keep in touch

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your Will to Tapping House. Your support will help us to continue providing compassionate care in our local community.

We completely understand that your Will is a private and personal matter, but we would love to know if you have included Tapping House so we can say a big thank you and keep you updated about our work and news.

If you have any questions or would like an informal, confidential chat about legacies please call our Fundraising Office on 01485 601701 or fundraisingteam@tappinghouse.org.uk.







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