



Make a difference by remembering Open Country in your will



Registered charity no: 1107331

Open Country is an award-winning Yorkshire charity which strives to break down the barriers that can exist for people with disabilities when accessing the great outdoors.

With your support, we will be able to continue our valuable work of helping people with disabilities to access and enjoy the countryside.

Why leave a legacy to Open Country?

We believe access to the countryside is a right, not a privilege. If you believe this too, then a gift in your will - no matter the size - could be your way of helping us in our mission.

A legacy is a gift made in a Will. It can be a means of leaving a charity some of your wealth after you have died.

Unconditional legacies allow us to address needs as when they arrive, but if you would prefer to support a specific project, here are a few ideas:

- **£275** would pay for our community allotment, ground rent and equipment for a year
- **£3,000** would allow us to take a group of members on an unforgettable residential trip away, making new memories and forging new friendships
- **£5,000** could provide a suite of Breakfree packs - dedicated in your name - helping more people to find new accessible adventures with friends and family
- **£90,000** could purchase a wheelchair-accessible electric minibus, helping us get out and about while making an even greater contribution to the planet.

You could also consider requesting a collection at your funeral for Open Country, or asking loved ones to set up a remembrance fund in your memory.

Why should I leave a will?

If you die without leaving a will, it can cause unnecessary distress and expense for those left behind. Intestacy laws come into play and your possessions are divided according to law rather than your personal wishes. You may assume that you do not have to make a will because your partner, spouse, or civil partner will inherit everything automatically. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Under intestacy rules, your spouse or partner would not necessarily inherit everything you own. An unmarried partner would have no legal right to inherit anything from you

Do I need to use a solicitor?

Making or updating a will is a perfect opportunity to leave a gift to a charity such as Open Country. Although you can use an online or DIY kit, we recommend that you take legal advice from a qualified solicitor, because a badly-drawn will can be worse than no will at all.

They can also advise you about the tax benefits of the various options.

Think about what you want to do before you visit your solicitor. This will save both time and costs.

Many people make specific gifts in Wills of family items, amounts of money and then split the residue of their estate (which is usually the largest portion) between their loved ones.

If you decide you can help Open Country in your Will by leaving a donation, however small, then it may help your solicitor or Will writer to know the wording to use.

Below are the more common types of gift and suggested wording for including in your Will:

A Cash Gift (Pecuniary Bequest)

A cash gift is a fixed amount of money. You should remember that the value of cash can decrease over time and so you should keep your Will under review. "I give the sum of £ [enter amount to be given] to Open Country (Registered Charity number 1107331) of Community House, 46 East Parade, Harrogate, HG1 5LT. I also direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised Officer of Open Country for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for this gift."

A Specific Gift

This is the gift of a specific item and could be property, shares, a piece of jewellery and so on:- "I give (enter details of the item to be given) to Open Country (Registered Charity number 1107331) of Community House, 46 East Parade, Harrogate, HG1 5LT. I also direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised Officer of Open Country for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for this gift."

A Residuary Gift

After providing for family and friends many people decide to leave the remainder of their estate, or a percentage of the remainder, to charity. This is a particularly popular way to leave a gift to charity as the gift increases in line with inflation:- "I give [enter the word "all" or "a --- % share of"] the residue of my estate to Open Country (Registered Charity number 1107331) of Community House, 46 East Parade, Harrogate, HG1 5LT. I also direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised Officer of Open Country for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for this gift."

I've already made my Will. Do I need to write a new one?

No, but you will need to keep it up to date. You can add charitable legacies to your Will by seeing a solicitor about a short codicil. A new Will can be made at any time.

Thank you for reading

Every legacy helps us in our work and we truly appreciate every penny.



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