

# Create Your

## Let's talk about it...

No one knows what lies ahead but whilst not always easy, it is comforting to talk to your loved ones and have plans in place that you and your family are happy with.

One of the most important things in life is making a Will, as it ensures your wishes for your estate are carried out after your death. Your Will is how you can Create Your Legacy; deciding how things are done, and who benefits from the life you lived. By having a valid Will, you are in control of your legacy. You can be sure who will make arrangements, who will receive what, your burial or cremation wishes and even who is to be a guardian for your children if you have any.

Making a Will is easy to put off. But having a Will means that those you leave behind know exactly what your wishes are so that they can truly honour your memory. The first step is to find a solicitor and make an appointment. If you'd prefer, you could instead use on online Will writing company, but be careful and prudent when choosing one; you'll need to ensure the Will services are legally compliant. A good Will gives everyone peace of mind.

A legacy or gift in your Will can be:

- A specific gift such as a painting or a watch
- A pecuniary gift or a set amount of money,
- Or,
- A share of what is left over which is called a residual gift or a gift of residue.

Gifts in Wills have been a lifeline for equines protected and cared for by Bransby Horses for over 50 years. A huge amount of our life-changing work for horses, ponies, donkeys and mules has been accomplished thanks to the generosity of people like you leaving a gift to help the charity rescue, rehabilitate and rehome horses.

## Who can help?

Anyone can help us to continue our life-changing work for horses and other equines by leaving a legacy to the charity.

A gift like this can help us provide a safe haven and secure future for rescued animals that have suffered severe neglect or abuse. Sadly there are always more...

Three out of every four horses are cared for by funds that come from legacies. This shows how vitally important leaving a gift in your Will is to the future of our charity.

Your Will is a very personal document and we understand that there are many responsibilities and wishes to think through; but after taking care of your family and friends, we would be so pleased if you would consider including a gift of either a pecuniary or residual legacy to Bransby Horses in your Will.

## Can we help you?

If you have any questions or want to talk about leaving a legacy to Bransby Horses please get in touch or call in to see us for a chat over coffee and cake – we would love to meet you and have the rare opportunity to say thank you in person! You can also return the enclosed form.

Please contact the Legacy Team on 01427 788464 or e-mail: legacyofficer@bransbyhorses. co.uk

#### Details for your solicitor:

Your solicitor will need the following details to ensure the legacy in your Will or Codicil comes to us: Bransby Horses, Bransby House Bransby, Lincoln LN1 2PH Registered Charity Number: 1075601 We understand that leaving a gift in your Will is a very personal matter. If you are kind enough to include a legacy to Bransby Horses in your Will we will do our very best to support your wishes through the following commitments to you.

## Our Commitment to you and your loved ones is to:

- Respect you and your wishes
- Treat any information you provide as confidential
- Be guided by you as to how the relationship between us develops
- Understand that your legacy is a tremendous gift, which Bransby Horses truly values
- Use your legacy wisely and in line with the charity's objectives
- Say a huge heartfelt thank you to you now.

We welcome your gift whatever it is – it all makes a huge difference.

Thank you for thinking of Bransby Horses

## What is a Will?

A Will is a legal document that sets out clearly how you want your estate, which is everything you own, to be handled after your death. In it, you can name someone to do this for you (your executor) and tell them what you want them to do. It is also very important to keep your Will up to date.

Changes in personal circumstances such as marriage, a birth, death of a loved one, divorce or remarriage can result in your Will, or part of it, becoming invalid (where this happens the intestacy rules will apply). A Codicil is a simple document linked to your Will that can update and add wishes to your original Will very simply at any time.

### Why do you need a Will?

To give you and your family peace of mind and leave them organised for when the time comes. It is one less thing for them to worry about and gives them the support they really need at an extremely difficult time.

UK Intestacy Laws are complex and they apply unless there is a valid Will.

Problems may arise from a badly written Will. If a clause or wording is unclear and open to interpretation there may be difficulties in knowing what the true meaning was or is. This could result in your estate not being dealt with as you wish. Imagine how distressing this would be for your family. It could lead to costly and stressful legal action to try to rectify matters and honour your true wishes.

A well-written Will ensures everything is as you want it to be and will spare your family any unnecessary difficulties or stress.

What is a legacy? In your Will you can include gifts known as legacies which can be money, shares, property or particular items. You are free to leave legacies to people special to you and remember any charities you wish to support.

A **pecuniary legacy** is an amount of money fixed at the date the Will is made, which is, then subject to inflation so may be worth less over time.

A **residual legacy** is whatever is left after pecuniary legacies, tax and costs are taken out of your estate. Residual legacies benefit Bransby Horses more as they keep pace with inflation through interest rates and increase in property and share values.

A solicitor's fee for writing your Will now costs a lot less than the cost of trying to sort out the true meaning of a Will when you are not here to say "it means this..."

## **Your Solicitor**

Your solicitor is qualified to advise you on how best to prepare your Will to give you peace of mind. They will discuss your thoughts and wishes, your assets and who you want to leave them to. They will help you to work out what you want to put in place. They can also anticipate any problems as well as providing you with up to date legal and sound tax planning advice.

A legacy to a charity is exempt from tax and could reduce your overall tax liability. They will then draw up your Will for you to check and execute (sign and witness) properly.

Your solicitor can also store your original Will and give you a copy to keep safe so that the original can be found quickly in the event of your death.



#### **Privacy Notice**

For more information on how we use your personal information, please see our Privacy Notice at: BransbyHorses.co.uk/privacy or contact us for a copy.

## Matters which you may also wish to consider...

It's surprising what needs to be done by whoever deals with your estate when you die. Remember that getting your affairs in order now will save time, money and heartache for those you leave behind and for the people you have appointed to handle matters on your behalf. You may like to use the following prompts to start gathering information and talking to people who can help you.

#### Start by naming and listing everything you own and put a value to it such as the following:

Property(ies)	£
Furniture	£
Vehicle(s)	£
Jewellery	£
Antiques	£
Tools and equipment	£
Bank/Building Society accounts	£
ISAs	£
Stocks and shares	£
Life assurance policies	£
Pension(s)	£
Online assets e.g. cryptocurrency	£
Other assets	£

#### Now list everything you owe and put a value to it such as the following:

Mortgage (outstanding balance)	£
Overdrafts	£
Bank loans	£
Credit/debit cards	£
Other loans	£

#### Does anyone owe you anything?

Name of person/organisation

Now consider all the various accounts that need passwords which will change over time. Remember to give your executor authority to access your online and social media accounts. Don't forget that password information needs to remain confidential.

Bank accounts

Share dealing accounts

Pensions

Facebook, Instagram, etc

Email

Others

Other thoughts or questions to ask your solicitor or proposed executor e.g. appointing a guardian for your children, care for your pets, etc.

## Notes



Find us at LN1 2PH • Tel: 01427 788464 BransbyHorses.co.uk



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