



Your guide to gifts in Wills



West Herts
Hospitals
Charity

Charity no. 1052210



Thank you so much for opening this booklet and taking the first steps to considering leaving a gift in your Will.

Inside you'll learn how leaving a gift in your Will to West Herts Hospitals Charity, can have a huge impact on thousands of people's lives in West Hertfordshire, today, and for many years to come.

Your local hospital does amazing things every day, and has a big impact on people's lives. An operation, a scan, a bandage, a held hand, a smile, an injection, treatments and X-rays, medicines and diagnoses. They all make a life-altering difference to families who need treatment and care.

Gifts in Wills play a fundamental part in supporting your local NHS hospitals. Your gift can

help support families who are bringing new life into this world when it's needed most, creating a ripple effect that will be felt by generations to come.

With thanks to Gifts in Wills, staff in our three hospitals can provide a level of patient care beyond that which would be possible with NHS funding alone.

On behalf of the families and staff who make our hospitals what they are, thank you for being here.

Alison

Alison Rosen,
Chief Executive at
West Herts Hospitals Charity

Leave a forever thank you to the NHS...

A gift left in your Will to West Herts Hospitals Charity to support the NHS hospitals in West Hertfordshire will make a huge difference to improving patient care, so loved ones can receive the best treatment, delivered by the best staff, in the most modern facilities and with the most up-to-date equipment.

Supporting patients is at the core of our work, providing funding for specialist services, equipment and comforts that complement existing NHS-funded services.

Helping the tiniest humans grow bigger - thanks to gifts in Wills.



"Our son Oscar was born in Watford General in February, eight weeks early, and weighed only 2lb 14oz. In what was a very scary situation, the teams in the special care baby unit and the neonatal unit provided unbelievable support and made us all feel safe. In those early weeks, the team gave Oscar one-to-one care, 24 hours a day. They looked after our baby boy and made sure he came home strong. I can never thank the staff enough for everything they did for us." Simon, Oscar's dad.

Oscar is now flourishing, a smiley and chatty baby boy.

With a gift in your Will, you can help to ensure that future generations receive care over and above what the NHS alone can afford.

Will you consider a gift in your Will to help tiny humans grow, by funding the best equipment and outstanding care and support?

The latest technology

Medical equipment evolves at a speed with which the NHS cannot keep pace. With thanks to gifts in Wills, we can help to ensure that patients receive the best care possible, using the very latest technologies.

A gift in your Will could help fund something big that enables the NHS to go further, with improvements that couldn't and wouldn't happen without your gift.

We recently received a gift in the Will of local Watford resident, Joyce. Joyce's gift proved to be pivotal in the development of a new interventional radiology service at Watford General Hospital. We were able to use Joyce's gift to kick start a fundraising appeal to raise £695,000 for a new hi-tech scanner to sit at the heart of a new interventional radiology suite at Watford General.

Thanks to Joyce, and other kind members of the community, we have reached our target and now, with the new scanner, clinicians are able to carry out



pinhole surgery rather than open surgery, meaning that patients can be treated closer to home, heal faster and return home sooner. Joyce's kindness will benefit thousands of people for many years to come.

National firsts, right here in West Hertfordshire

West Herts Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is cementing its reputation as one of the most advanced robotic centres in Europe – and the technology could soon allow cancer patients to go home within 24 hours of an operation.

West Herts bought two Versius robots in 2022 – more than any other Trust in the country at the time – and has now invested in three more: the da Vinci Xi, which is considered the most advanced in the world, and the Procept BioRobotic, which is used to treat an enlarged prostate. An orthopaedic robot will be arriving at the Trust soon thanks to a collaboration with a major contractor.

Before the robots were introduced, patients typically stayed in hospital for around five days after an operation.

That has now been cut to two days and the aim is for patients to be allowed home within 24 hours in future – as the less invasive surgery leads to less pain and blood loss.

Will you leave a gift in your Will to help fund the most life-changing of operations for families in West Hertfordshire?

Healing spaces

Calm and well-structured surroundings can reduce stress during a visit to hospital, aid recovery and enhance wellbeing and safety. Gifts in Wills can help fund the extra touches, which bring joy and comfort to staff, patients, and their loved ones.

Attending hospital can be a frightening experience for children. Parents or carers can also feel anxious, however brave a face they portray outwardly.

The Emergency Department has low ceilings and no external windows and can feel a little oppressive. So we were delighted to fund new LED light panels which help to transform

previously poorly lit rooms, providing an alternative for the dull white ceilings our young patients had to stare up at.

By simulating daylight with LED panels and their realistic high-resolution pictures, children can now feel that they're being treated under a blue sky. The colour temperature of the light matches daylight and gives the appearance of actually looking outside through a real window.

Patients, families and staff all experience the positive effects of daylight even though they are inside. Children are more relaxed; staff are more energised and the unit has a real wow-factor focus.

A gift in your Will can help turn an idea into reality, which will have a huge impact on many thousands of people for future generations.

The new hospital at Watford General has been given the green light. We can now continue the work with our clinical teams and partners in the local health and care system to take the design of the building to the next stage.

The hospital design is driven by a model of care which will extend beyond our hospital walls and into the community, drawing on the latest developments in technology,

providing a state-of-the-art care environment for our patients.

This is an opportunity for us to work locally, regionally, and nationally with our partners to truly transform the way NHS care is delivered.

Building and maintaining such special healing spaces for our patients and families is largely thanks to gifts in Wills. Will you consider leaving a forever thank you to the NHS, with a gift in your Will to West Herts Hospitals Charity?



Staff excellence

With gifts in Wills, we can support initiatives which enable staff to develop their skills and expand their knowledge so they can provide even better care.

Thanks to gifts in Wills, we can ensure staff wellbeing is a focus by providing initiatives to help them relax and take care of themselves, such as fitness classes and wellbeing spaces.

Together we can create the working conditions our staff deserve.

With a gift in your Will, we can say thank you and support our NHS staff.



Remembering West Herts Hospitals Charity in your Will

**There is always work to do;
by leaving us a gift in your Will,
you could change the future for
thousands of people who use
the NHS.**

We are here to make it as simple as possible for you to make the decisions that are right for you.

Types of gifts in Wills

There are three different types of gifts in Wills you could leave West Herts Hospitals Charity after you have provided for your family and friends:

- 1. A residuary gift** is a percentage of the remainder of your estate after other gifts and expenses have been settled.
- 2. A pecuniary gift** is a specified cash sum. Due to inflation the value of a pecuniary gift is eroded over time, so you may like to consider index-linking this type of gift.
- 3. A specific gift** is where a donor leaves us a defined non-cash gift such as property, stocks and shares, or a personal item.



Why is making a Will so important?

There's so much more to a Will than simply dividing your assets among loved ones. Whilst that is important, a Will is an opportunity to reflect on what causes are and have been important to you during your life, and how you can continue supporting them for years to come. Making a Will is also very important for the following reasons too:

- You can ensure your family and friends are looked after financially.
- Arrangements for your funeral and other wishes will be respected.
- Leaving a gift to charity can reduce the inheritance tax your family pays.
- You can name an Executor, someone you trust, to deal with your affairs.
- Sentimental items can be distributed according to your wishes.
- Having a Will makes it easier for those you leave behind.

Take advice



Take legal advice; it is best to speak to a solicitor or qualified Will-writer. If you (or your solicitor or Will-writer) need any further information about West Herts Hospitals Charity, please email Alison Rosen at westherts.raise@nhs.net

A gift can be included as you make a new Will. A gift can also be made simply by adding a codicil, an amendment to an existing Will. A codicil form is included for you in this pack.

Your free Will-writing offer

West Herts Hospitals Charity are partnering with Beyond who can help you write your Will for free online, or over the phone.

There's no obligation to include a gift to West Herts Hospitals Charity, but after you've taken care of your own family, please consider the impact you can have for years to come on all families in West Hertfordshire.

Write your Will online at <https://bit.ly/west-herts> or email team@beyond.life, referencing the code **WESTHERTS100** to book an appointment to get your Will written over the phone.

If you would like to use one of our local solicitors, please call **01923 436182** to book an appointment.

Suggested wording for your Will

After your loved ones have been taken care of, if you decide to leave a gift to West Herts Hospitals Charity, you will need our full charity name, address and registered charity number.

Don't forget

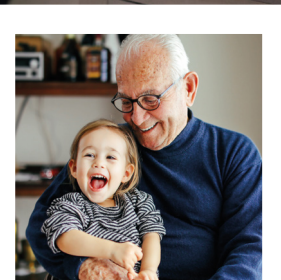
All gifts to charities are exempt from inheritance tax and in some cases can reduce your overall tax liability. Your solicitor can advise you further on this.

You may find the following wording useful:

"I give [GIFT] to West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust Charity, Sycamore House, Watford General Hospital, Vicarage Road, Watford, WD18 0HB (registered charity number 1052210). I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised office shall be a valid and appropriate form of discharge to my executors."*

*complete as appropriate

Registered by the charity committee:
West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust Charity.





Important decisions. Huge impact.

We believe that every patient deserves the highest quality care possible, whether it's support through a pregnancy, care in an emergency, treatment for a long-term illness, or kindness in final days.

These are the promises we make to anyone who's considering leaving a gift in their Will to West Herts Hospitals Charity

- West Herts Hospitals Charity exists to help support excellent patient care for people living in West Hertfordshire and the surrounding area at our three hospitals; Hemel Hempstead Hospital, St Albans City Hospital and Watford General. With gifts in Wills to West Herts Hospitals Charity, we can go above and beyond what the NHS can offer alone for our patients and staff.
- We are dedicated to supporting the delivery of exceptional treatment and care.
- We understand that, rightly, your family and friends come first.
- We promise to treat you and your loved ones with sensitivity, respect and compassion.
- We promise to be here to talk to and answer your questions, whether it be explaining the work of the charitable trust in more detail or directing you to more information about how your gift will make a difference.
- We will use your gift wisely and cost-effectively so that it has the greatest impact.
- You can change your mind about leaving a gift in your Will at any time and we will respect your decision. Any personal information that you choose to give us will be handled securely and confidentially.
- We will always respect your privacy – you can decide when and how often we contact you.



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A gift to West Herts Hospitals Charity in your Will can make a very big impact for years to come

Contact us for a chat about anything you've read in this booklet, for more information or guidance on leaving a gift in your Will.

Please contact Alison Rosen on **01923 436182** or email **westherts.raise@nhs.net**. We are here to support you.

West Herts Hospitals Charity:
The charity for Hemel Hempstead, St Albans City and
Watford General Hospitals
westherts.raise@nhs.net www.raisewestherts.org.uk



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