



*How will  
your legacy be  
remembered ...*



Part of a  
nationwide network  
of Wildlife Trusts

Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future

# *Thank you for considering supporting Dorset Wildlife Trust through a gift in your Will*

Dorset Wildlife Trust relies on the generosity of the local community for vital support. For some, the best way to support us is to leave a gift in a Will. These gifts have never been more important to us.

All sorts of people leave us legacies. About twenty-six percent of our income comes from people like you who decide to leave a lasting legacy to wildlife in Dorset which has brought them so much joy in their lifetime.

Legacies from supporters like you have made a huge difference to our work. Generous legacy gifts to DWT have ranged from one hundred pounds to whole nature reserves and an orchard.

It was, for example, through the help of Joan Shewring's legacy that we were able to buy Taylor's Plot, an important piece of land adjoining Kingcombe Meadows nature reserve.

*It really doesn't matter how much you give - we are grateful for all gifts, large or small.*



## *Why we need your support*

Your legacy will bring a deeper understanding of our wildlife in Dorset, inspiring others with the knowledge, passion and urgency required to protect our precious environment, through:

- Our conservation work; working for Dorset's environment to be richer in wildlife for everyone.
- Defending wildlife sites, advising planners and providing evidence to save threatened habitats and species.
- Inspiring and educating; from natural history courses and community education programmes to organised walks and talks to ensure that all generations are taught the importance of conservation.
- Marine Projects & Research; we are engaged in a range of projects aimed at protecting and enhancing marine wildlife.

This means with your kind support we can continue to plan for vital long term projects involving wildlife and sea life across Dorset.

## *What type of legacy can I leave?*

If you wish to leave a legacy to Dorset Wildlife Trust, you will first need to decide the type of legacy you wish to leave:

- A specific legacy consists of a specific item of personal property.
- A pecuniary legacy consists of a specified sum of money.
- A residuary bequest is the residue of your Estate, or a share of the residue, after your debts have been settled and any legacies you leave to other people have been paid.

## *Adding to your existing Will*

If you have already made your Will, a bequest to Dorset Wildlife Trust may be added to your Will by way of a codicil.

*Your legacy will be a precious gift for local wildlife.*



## *Leave a lasting legacy and benefit your estate at the same time*

By leaving a legacy to Dorset Wildlife Trust in your Will you may be able to considerably reduce the amount of tax your estate pays on your passing or even remove it altogether.

Inheritance Tax (IHT) is a tax on money or possessions you leave behind when you die, and on some gifts you make during your lifetime. However, a certain amount can be passed on tax-free, called a 'tax-free allowance'.

Gifts to registered charities are wholly exempt from Inheritance Tax.

- If you leave all of your estate to charities, no Inheritance Tax will be paid from your estate at all.
- If you choose to leave part of your estate to relatives and friends, you can reduce the Inheritance Tax payable by also making a bequest to a registered charity.

*“Those who genuinely desire to preserve the natural features of the county must take positive action to safeguard them”.*

*Our founder, Helen Brotherton*



## *How you can leave a gift to Dorset Wildlife Trust*

Many people want to leave money to a charity after their death. This is an effective way of ensuring that the causes close to your heart can benefit from your passing.

You will be pleased to hear that the process for leaving a gift to charity in your Will is relatively straightforward. A bequest is no more than an instruction in your Will:

- 1.** You can therefore create a charitable bequest by simply leaving details in your Will of the asset you wish to bequeath, and your intended beneficiary.
- 2.** You should also ensure that your Will is prepared in accordance with the law and, amongst other things, it should be signed by witnesses.
- 3.** Upon your death this document will be read by your executors (the individuals you have nominated to carry out your wishes) and they will act on your instructions.



## *Detailing the beneficiaries*

It is vital that you give full details of the charity you wish to leave money or assets to, particularly if they are not well known. You should include the full name of the charity, its registered address and its registered charity number.

Should you choose to give to Dorset Wildlife Trust you would require the following details:

Dorset Wildlife Trust,  
Brooklands Farm, Forston, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7AA  
Registered Charity No. 200222

It is also important that you include a clause making clear that, if the charity changes its name or is amalgamated with another charity between the writing of the Will and your death, your gift should still be passed on to your intended organisation. A solicitor can help you to insert this clause.

## *Find a solicitor*

A Will is an important legal document, and one that must abide by certain rules and conventions if it is to be valid. The importance of this cannot be overstated; Wills are often challenged, for example by creditors, and it is therefore vital that it is watertight.

You may well wish to seek the help of a solicitor or professional Will writing service to help you ensure that the document is prepared properly. They will also be able to help you determine which type of legacy is the most appropriate.



*When the time comes to write or update your Will, please consider a gift to Dorset Wildlife Trust*

**Reply form**

I would like to let you know:

- I have already remembered Dorset Wildlife Trust in my Will
- I intend to remember Dorset Wildlife Trust in my Will

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like any further information please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

**Please complete this form and return to:**

Fundraising Officer  
Dorset Wildlife Trust, Brooklands Farm, Forston, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7AA

**Alternatively:**

- Instruct your solicitor to advise us in confidence.
- Email us your intentions to **legacies@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk**
- Visit our website **www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/legacy** and complete our online form.

Dorset Wildlife Trust will keep your data secure. We never sell your personal data and will not share it with other companies unless it is necessary to provide you with information or a service that you have requested from us. We may use your information to contact you in the future about Dorset Wildlife Trust activities, including fundraising.

- If you would prefer not to receive communications from us, please let us know by contacting us or by ticking the box.



Any information that you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence and is not legally binding.

Dorset Wildlife Trust assures its donors and benefactors that:

- It is committed to the highest standards of professionalism in managing bequests.
- It offers donors the utmost courtesy, respect and sensitivity.
- All information concerning donors and bequests is kept confidential.
- All bequests go to further Dorset Wildlife Trust work in wildlife conservation and nature reserve management.

If you would like any further information we are always on hand to help. You can call us on 01305 264620, or email us on: [legacies@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:legacies@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk)

Thank you for your support



Dorset Wildlife Trust  
Brooklands Farm, Forston, Dorchester,  
Dorset DT2 7AA

Tel: 01305 264620

Fax: 01305 251120

Email: [\*\*legacies@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk\*\*](mailto:legacies@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk)  
Website: [\*\*www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/legacy\*\*](http://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/legacy)

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