

Making a Will

A properly executed Will ensures that your wishes are carried out. If you do not make a Will, the Law directs how your Estate will be disposed of. The results are sometimes surprising, expensive and can be a cause of unnecessary anxiety.

- Making a Will is the only way of making sure that your loved ones are provided for, that any gifts go exactly where you want on your death and that you are in control of the allocation of your assets which, in the absence of a Will or any family, could go to the State.
- If you make a Will it can help reduce the amount of Inheritance Tax liability you might pay, particularly as the Inheritance Tax threshold (2007) is relatively low in relation to house prices.
- Any Gift you make to UK registered charities, such as St Margaret's Hospice, will be free of Inheritance Tax liability which means the full Gift you leave to the Hospice would be received rather than 40% going to the Government.

Making or changing your Will does not have to be difficult or expensive but it is a technical job which requires technical skills. St Margaret's recommends that all Wills and Codicils should be prepared or checked by a Solicitor.

Updating your Will

Your Will needs to be reviewed regularly – preferably about once every five years. As we all know, lives change and this can often affect who you would like to benefit from your Will. Taxation laws may change too, and all of these things need to be taken into consideration on a regular basis.

Separation, divorce, moving house, a birth or death in the family or increase in the value of your estate are typical events that may require a Will to be changed. A Will is automatically revoked upon marriage unless the Will is made in anticipation of the marriage.

You may not need to rewrite your Will to update it. Changes can also be made simply and inexpensively by making a Codicil to your will. If you would like to include a gift to St Margaret's in your will, sample wording is shown on our [Sample Codicil](#).

Will making and changing is a technical job which needs technical skills.

St Margaret's recommends that all Wills and Codicils should be prepared or checked by a Solicitor.

For more information about making or updating your will contact us at legacy@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk, ring us on 01823 365621 or complete the [Legacy Enquiry Form](#)

Registered Head Office: St. Margaret's Somerset Hospice, Heron Drive, Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5HA | Tel: 01823 345901 | A company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England No. 1471345. Registered Charity No. 279473

Built on [Cubik](#)

©2012 St Margaret's Somerset Hospice