

LEAVING A LEGACY



ASHBURNHAM
PLACE

A GIFT
OF A LIFETIME

For many of you, as Friends of Ashburnham Place, regular and sacrificial giving to the work of Ashburnham Christian Trust (ACT) has been a long-standing and faithful part of your love and support of the Trust's vision to extend the Kingdom of God. By leaving a legacy you will be able to support ACT and its vision long after you have gone to be with the Lord.

A MESSAGE FROM PAUL AND ANDY

our General Directors





Since the very start Ashburnham Place has been dependent on legacies; indeed its very existence was the result legacy giving. Over recent years we are delighted, with your help, to have got to a more sustainable financial footing which enables us to maintain our week-by-week service to guests.

We thank God for this, but we are also constantly aware of the major works and projects that we would love to be able to do in order to increase the gift of Ashburnham Place. Typically these are exciting, impacting projects but they are beyond our current financial capacity to achieve. This is where your legacy giving can make such a huge difference. We firmly believe there is still much more that God wants to use Ashburnham Place for and that it is to be a gift for many generations to come, we are working to this end and humbly ask you to consider sowing into this long-term future by leaving a legacy.

To make this as easy as possible we outline over the next pages the basic legal steps of leaving a legacy over the next pages. We have included a simple form at the back for you to fill in so that we can keep in touch with you.

HOW WE HAVE USED LEGACIES AND MAJOR GIFTS IN THE PAST

Library – we transformed the beautiful but rather tired and under-used Library into a stunning space designed for study and learning. It is now used by local believers who need a quiet place to study theology or to reflect in peace.

New Online Booking System – As a result of a significant gift we have been able to launch an online booking system on our website that enables guests to book a retreat at Ashburnham Place at any time of day or night.

Survival – in the past 15 years legacies have ensured the survival of the trust in exceptionally difficult financials circumstances.

Without such gifts it is hard to see how we'd still be serving as ACT today.



ASHBURNHAM THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY, refurbished

HOW WE PLAN TO
USE LEGACY GIFTS
IN THE FUTURE

Now that we are on surer financial footing we have some specific projects that we believe could be made possible by legacy giving:

ORANGERY KITCHEN EXTENSION – This would enable us to meet the growing demand for this special facility for local people and guests.

BOATHOUSE RESTORATION – We would love to restore this now unusable building into a unique prayer space overlooking the lake.

THEOLOGICAL STUDY BURSARIES – We want to enable deep and impacting theological study here at Ashburnham Place particularly for those who may not otherwise be able to afford to do so.

TENT HILL – This would be a significant project involving the complete redesign and build of a beautiful, accessible and fit for purpose meeting and accommodation space.

CARE AND RECOVERY – With significant legacy funding we could create a purpose built learning area for those recovering from crisis and increase the capacity of this project for those most in need.

Wills are legal documents and as small errors can cause big problems it is preferable to have someone legally qualified to draft it for you. If you do not have a lawyer, ask someone you trust for advice or look on review sites on the internet. There are some low cost options if you think that you only have limited assets to distribute.

Options can be found on the internet or through companies such as Saga, Which?, and charities such as AgeUK. Also, you can make a will online but this option may not provide any tangible professional advice to help you with all the legal details.

Lastly, if you feel very brave you can write a will yourself using a template. Such templates are available from stationers or once again the internet. It is perfectly legal to write your own will but few of us have the skills needed to do this properly. So think carefully before taking this option.

For the sake of a relatively small saving there is a far greater risk that mistakes could be made, which could mean that your will is invalid!

If you already have a will in place, congratulations as this is the most important thing. Should you want to make changes to your existing will it is not difficult. There may be a number of times during your life when your circumstances change and as a result you may wish to change your will. Unfortunately, you cannot simply write changes onto an existing

1. MAKING A CODICIL – This is a legal document giving details of the changes you wish to make which is then signed, dated, witnessed and attached to your existing will.

2. MAKING AN ENTIRELY NEW WILL –

As a rule, it is probably simpler and more straightforward to use the codicil for relatively small changes or additions to your existing will. Writing a new will is more suitable if the changes are more substantial or significant. Generally, it is best to seek legal advice as to which option is more appropriate for your particular circumstance.

If your will is more than 5 years old, it is probably a good idea to review it to see if it still fulfils your wishes and takes into consideration any changes in your circumstances.



IF I WANT TO LEAVE A LEGACY

what type of gifts can I leave?

There are three main types of gift:

1. A share of what's left of your estate once all other gifts and expenses have been deducted – this is called a residual gift
2. A specific fixed amount of money – this is called a pecuniary gift
3. A particular item, such as an asset or money – this is called a specific gift

The most valuable gift is the residual gift, but any gift in your will, however large or small, will be most appreciated by the beneficiary.

WHAT SHOULD
I DO NOW?

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. If something you have read strikes a chord in your heart – do pray about it and explore whether God is speaking to you about leaving a legacy to Ashburnham Christian Trust. If after praying you feel that this is right, talk to a solicitor about making a will or changing your existing will to include a legacy to ACT.

If you have already included a legacy to Ashburnham Christian Trust in your will – thank you. In any event, we are grateful to you for your continuing support for the work of ACT and pray that God will continue to bless you in the days and years to come.

If you would like to discuss this first with our General Directors, Paul and Andy, they would be happy to talk to you in confidence and help you with the next step.

Contact us for further information:

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