

Thank *You*

We are extremely grateful to everyone who chooses to leave a gift in their Will to The London Library.

With your support, the Library can inspire readers, writers and thinkers for generations to come.

If you would like to discuss your future gift, or require any further information about leaving a gift in your Will to The London Library, please contact:

legacy@londonlibrary.co.uk
or call us on 020 7766 4795

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REGULATOR

The London Library, 14 St James's Square, London, SW1Y 4LG
Registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales
(charity number 312175)



THE
LONDON
LIBRARY

Your Library Your Legacy

Remembering the Library in your Will



A gift in your Will helps to ensure that The London Library will provide inspiration for generations to come

From its opening in 1841 to the present day, The London Library has been a haven of creativity and community for readers, writers and thinkers.

As the world's largest independent lending library, it plays a uniquely important role in the cultural life of the nation and the world. We thank those who have helped to secure the future of the Library by leaving a lasting legacy and we invite you to leave a gift in your Will.

All gifts are received with gratitude and care, contributing to the life of the Library and all those who find inspiration and pleasure through using its spaces, collection and resources.



With your support, The London Library will be here for the use and enjoyment of many future generations, and continue to be the very special place that we all know and love.

Philip Marshall
Director, The London Library



“.....
The London Library collects the books of each generation and hands them down as an heirloom to the next. What could be a more fitting purpose for a legacy?”

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David Lough, Library member and trustee
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Your legacy is our legacy – a vital gift

Since its inception, the Library has been exceptionally fortunate to benefit from gifts in Wills of all sizes. Legacy gifts have played a significant role in the Library's development and helped it to become the institution it is today.

Leaving a gift in your Will to The London Library, once you have provided for loved ones, is a generous and thoughtful way of acknowledging the pleasures and rewards that being a Library member has brought to you. You will have the privilege of knowing that your future gift will directly contribute to the long-term success of this much-loved library.

Free of inheritance tax, a gift in your Will is an efficient and effective way of supporting The London Library that costs nothing in your lifetime, and can help the Library and its members in the future. Ask your solicitor about how gifts in wills above 10% of the value of your estate can reduce inheritance tax to 36%.

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Not only is it a place for writers and researchers but also for people who are passionate about books. I have found many interesting books whilst browsing in the stacks that I would not have read if it was not for The London Library. This is why I have included The London Library in my Will.” Janet Cook, Library member

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Gifts in Wills have helped to shape the Library

A gift left by Major William Prevost in 1929 supported the very fabric of the Library by contributing towards major building improvements.

Florian Carr, who was a generous supporter of the Library during her lifetime, left a gift in her Will in 2007.

In 2019, Gillian Comins left the Library an unrestricted gift that will contribute to whichever areas of the Library's work most need support.



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As to why The London Library ... it seems normal to me to ... pay back by donating as both a thank you and a way of enabling others to have the same privilege ... ultimately it doesn't seem to me to be necessary to direct my money to any particular corner of the Library's requirements.”

Library member who has left a gift in their Will

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How to support the Library in your Will

There are three main types of gift you can choose to leave in your Will to The London Library:

RESIDUARY GIFT

This is a share, or the whole, of your estate after debts, expenses and other gifts have been distributed. These are the most flexible gifts, as the shares remain proportional to each other, regardless of the value of your estate.

Suggested wording:

Subject to the payment of my debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, I give (the whole/insert percentage value) of my estate not otherwise disposed of by this my Will to The London Library of 14 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LG registered charity number 312175, for the general purposes of the Library. I further direct that

the receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer of the said charity for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift.

PECUNIARY GIFT

This is a fixed sum of cash. Due to inflation, the value of this gift will decrease over time. To avoid this, you can choose to index-link your gift so that it keeps pace with rising prices.

Suggested wording:

I give to The London Library of 14 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LG registered charity number 312175, the sum of £__ for the general purposes of the Library. I further direct that the receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer of the said charity for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift.

SPECIFIC GIFT

A particular item, shares or property left to the Library. For example, some members have chosen to leave royalties from their publications as a specific legacy gift.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss any specific gift you are considering leaving to the Library ahead of you writing your Will, to ensure The London Library is the best recipient of the item.

Suggested wording:

I give to The London Library of 14 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LG registered charity number 312175, absolutely (write in here whatever you wish to give) for the general purposes of the Library. I further direct that the

receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer of the said charity for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift.

Amending an existing Will:

If you already have a Will, you can add further gifts by using a codicil. A codicil is a simpler way of making small changes to your Will, without having to rewrite it entirely. Codicils still need to be written carefully, signed and witnessed.

Making a Will is an important and considered action, and it can be comforting to know that your wishes have been expressed. The process need not be complicated, however, we strongly recommend you seek professional legal advice to ensure your Will reflects your intentions and is valid.

It is very helpful for us to know that you have chosen to include a gift in your Will to The London Library, and we would like the opportunity to thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Please get in touch at legacy@londonlibrary.co.uk or call 020 7766 4795