Your legacy, their memory

Leave a lasting memorial

The dead are remembered on more than 100,000 war memorials in the UK. These link the tragic impact of wars with local communities across the land. Each memorial is unique – some are large centrepieces in a town or city, others are modest tributes on the side of a country lane or small plaques in schools or workplaces. They are all focal points for community remembrance.

Many of these memorials are cherished, but unfortunately others have been neglected, suffering the effects of ageing and weathering, or vandalism. It is estimated that 1 in 40 war memorials in the UK may be in a Poor or Very bad condition.

War Memorials Trust supports people and communities to ensure that each and every memorial is preserved so that we today, and those that come after us, can remember those who gave their lives. We hope you share our view that preserving our war memorials is vital to remember the fallen and the sacrifices made by so many in conflicts throughout history.

War Memorials Trust's specialist Conservation Team provides advice on a wide range of issues to ensure that war memorials are conserved appropriately; to support their long-term survival. Since 1997, the charity has helped over 2,000 communities to repair and conserve their war memorial through the schemes it manages. They shared more than £6 million of grants.

War Memorials Trust is dependent on voluntary contributions and is immeasurably grateful for the support received from donors and members. Every gift makes a difference. A legacy left by you to War Memorials Trust would be your legacy to protect our nation's war memorials. A gift in your Will would enable the charity to continue its important work ensuring that future generations can pay their respects at war memorials for years to come.



What your legacy might do

A gift of any size will make a difference to War Memorials Trust. Large or small it will help the charity do its work.



£72 will help us run our free telephone service for a

service for a month ensuring everyone can access our advice

£990 could help stop a name being lost forever



10% of a £100,000 Estate

enables the charity to employ expert staff who can visit war memorials and ensure that best conservation practice is embedded in all advice



Making a gift in your Will

If the time is ever right, and after you have looked after the needs of your loved ones, we hope that you will consider remembering War Memorials Trust in your Will. Giving in this way will cost you nothing now and a gift of any size will make a big difference to the charity.

Donating through your Will is a great way to give. A legacy does not get taxed so every penny comes straight to the charity. It can also reduce inheritance tax because the taxable value of your estate is calculated after charitable bequests are made.

Before you make your Will, you may wish to consult a solicitor. If you plan to leave a legacy they will need the registered charity number, charity name and address. If you do not have a solicitor, and you live in England or Wales, The Law Society can help www.lawsociety.org.uk. For Scotland and Northern Ireland contact War Memorials Trust and we can discuss how you might locate a solicitor.

Types of legacy and wording

There are different ways of leaving a gift to War Memorials Trust in your Will, the choice of which would be entirely up to you. When it comes to writing your Will you should always discuss which kind of gift is most appropriate with your solicitor or Will writer.

You can choose to give a **portion of your estate** to the charity. This is called a residual gift. It can protect the value of your gift from diminishing over the years due to inflation and potentially reduce inheritance tax. Alternatively, you may wish to give a **cash gift** which can be known as a pecuniary gift. Following, is the suggested wording for your Will depending on the type of gift you may like to make.

If you have already made your Will a Codicil can be added to make changes. These can be cheaper and easier than re-writing a Will.

Residual gift: a proportion of your estate

I give (all or % share of) the residue of my estate to War Memorials Trust (Registered Charity Commission No. 1201442) of 70 Cowcross Street, London, EC1M 6EJ for its general charitable purposes. I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised officer shall be a valid and appropriate form of discharge. If at the date of my death the Charity is no longer in existence, is in the process of winding-up, has amalgamated with another charity or has changed its name [my Executors shall pay the legacy to such other charitable body or bodies having the same or similar objects as my Executors shall select] [the legacy shall lapse].

Pecuniary gift: cash value

I give to War Memorials Trust (Registered Charity Commission No. 1201442) of 70 Cowcross Street, London, EC1M 6EJ the sum of (specific amount in figures and words) to be used for its general charitable purposes. I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised officer shall be a valid and appropriate form of discharge. If at the date of my death the Charity is no longer in existence, is in the process of winding-up, has amalgamated with another charity or has changed its name [my Executors shall pay the legacy to such other charitable body or bodies having the same or similar objects as my Executors shall select] [the legacy shall lapse].

Thank you and further information

Thank you for considering leaving a legacy to War Memorials Trust. We are very grateful.

If you would like further information or to discuss leaving a legacy please contact 020 7834 0200 or email info@warmemorials.org, alternatively visit www.warmemorials.org/legacy.

Images: 1. Stock telephone 2. Clayton war memorial in Manchester © Halcyon Conservation, 2021 3. North Shields war memorial © North Tyneside Council, 2024

© War Memorials Trust Registered Charity Commission number: 1201442 T: 020 7834 0200 E: info@warmemorials.org W: www.warmemorials.org