

Lara's Special Legacy

Lara chose to donate money in her Will so that others could benefit from a Special Day, just as she had.

A fiercely independent young woman, Lara lived a full life, travelling and working in South and Central America. Back in London, aged 38, she was diagnosed with advanced stage breast cancer and thrown in to a life of aggressive treatment – surgeries, chemotherapy, radiotherapy. The hospital routine was relentless, but after six months she had to stop working as the cancer had spread to her bones.

In need of a break from the invasive treatment and endless appointments, Lara applied for a Special Day – an overnight stay, theatre and a meal in London with her good friend Hannah.

“The distraction from illness and a chance to laugh was enormously therapeutic, bringing some joy to an otherwise very difficult time. We talked about her Special Day a lot and it now has a special poignancy for me because it helps me remember Lara being well and enjoying herself” says Hannah.



Sadly, Lara passed away aged just 40. Testament to the positive impact of her Special Day, she left a gift in her Will to Willow.

With the help of Lara's legacy, Special Days will continue to touch the lives of families across the UK for many years to come.

If you too would like to leave a legacy of precious memories like Lara, contact us today.



A Special Day is more than just a day. Each day provides a seriously ill young adult with a positive experience to be shared with family and friends. To date, Willow has provided more than 11,000 Special Days for young adults diagnosed with a life-threatening condition such as cancer, motor neurone disease, cystic fibrosis and Huntington's disease.

Willow is totally reliant on the generosity of individuals, companies, trusts and foundations to fund its work.

To find out more about the difference leaving a gift in your Will can make visit willowfoundation.org.uk/wills

If you have questions or would like to let us know that you are thinking of leaving a gift to Willow, then please send us an email or letter, or call a member of the team using the details below.



E: legacies@willowfoundation.org.uk
T: 01707 259 777 **W:** willowfoundation.org.uk
Willow, Gate House, Fretherne Road, Welwyn Garden City,
Hertfordshire AL8 6NS

Creating Precious Memories into the Future



Leaving a gift to Willow in your Will



Providing Unforgettable Memories

“It makes us smile, thinking back to those early days of Willow, when we founded the charity in a back bedroom from our home in Hertfordshire. But it makes us even more proud to look at what Willow has gone on to achieve in the years since then.



“Willow would not be where it is today without our loyal supporters, thank you.”

Only in our wildest dreams had we hoped that our daughter Anna’s legacy would go on to make such a real and positive difference to so many young lives; creating more than 11,000 Special Days in 15 years. Willow would not be where it is today without our loyal supporters and volunteers, making these unique Special Days possible.

However, 14,000 young people are diagnosed with a serious illness every year and it is Willow’s vision to offer a Special Day to each and every one of them. We invite you to leave a gift in your Will, making it your legacy to create precious memories for families across the UK for many years to come.

On behalf of every future beneficiary and those closest to them, thank you for making more Special Days a reality.

Bob & Megs Wilson
Co-founders and Life Presidents, Willow

If you choose to make it your legacy to create more precious memories we promise to:

- answer any questions quickly and honestly.
- understand that your loved ones come first.
- respect your privacy, your Will is personal to you.
- let you make your decision in your own time.
- treat your gift in confidence and with sensitivity.
- use your lasting gift wisely.

Your Questions Answered

Do I really need a Will?

Although it can seem daunting, making a Will is the only way you can be sure that your estate is distributed in the way that you wish when you are no longer here.

What if I only have a small amount to give?

A gift of any amount will play a big part in the future of Willow, creating Special Days and precious memories for even more seriously young adults and their families.

I’ve already made my Will – how can I add a gift to Willow?

Using a Codicil means that you can add a gift without making changes to any of the provisions within your Will. Call us on 01707 259 777 or email legacies@willowfoundation.org.uk to find out more about using a Codicil.

Can I let you know once I’ve added Willow to my Will?

We always love to hear from our supporters but understand that a Will is a deeply personal matter. However, we would like to keep you up to date on the Special Days happening and letting us know allows us to do this.

How does this affect my tax?

Gifts to Willow are exempt from inheritance tax. We advise you to talk to your solicitor to find out more about tax benefits.



“My Special Day aided my recovery. It was restful, healing and brought me back into the real world.”
James, age 40

Your Step by Step Guide

1) Think of friends and family first

We know that your first thought will always be those closest to you. Once you have provided for them, you can choose to make it your legacy to create precious memories for families across the UK.

2) Decide what type of gift you want to leave

There are a number of ways to leave a gift in your Will and all are vital to the future of Special Days. For example,

A **residuary gift** – a percentage of your estate, after all other gifts have been distributed.

A **pecuniary gift** – a specific sum of money.

3) Choose the correct wording

Using the correct wording will ensure your gift creates Special Days for many years to come. As well as Willow’s name, make sure to include the Registered Charity Number 1106746.



If you have any questions or need more information, please email legacies@willowfoundation.org.uk or call us on 01707 259 777.



For Netty’s Special Day, she took her husband Pete and their children indoor skiing. It was an opportunity to smile and laugh together, creating precious memories for her family to share after she’d gone. To read more about Netty’s story and to watch her video, visit willowfoundation.org.uk/netty