

Make a Will for Wildlife



Cornwall



Protecting Wildlife for the future

A letter from our Chairman

Make a Will and you make your wish come true!

A legacy left to Cornwall Wildlife Trust is a legacy left to the wildlife of Cornwall. The Trust, founded in 1962 is a home-grown charity concerned solely with protecting Cornwall's precious wildlife and wild places.

Caring for wildlife has been our top priority for close to 50 years but now, at this time of increased demands brought about by such things as climate change, additional housing and our fluctuating economy, to name a few, our concern for the wildlife in this delightful little corner of the planet has gone into overdrive.

Our conservation work is vast but there is always more to be done. The Trust has a very long wish list, which, if put in to practice would help to protect the future of many of our key species and habitats. Your legacy could turn these wishes into reality.

Please think of Cornwall Wildlife Trust when you make or amend your Will because where there's a Will, there's a way to protect the wildlife of Cornwall.

Howard Curnow, Chairman, Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Aims of Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Cornwall Wildlife Trust is a registered charity formed in 1962 by a group of enthusiastic volunteers who wanted to safeguard the county's unique wildlife and natural environment for future generations.

Today

Our **vision** is: for Cornwall to be richer in wildlife, cared for and appreciated by one and all.

Our **mission** is: to rebuild Cornwall's biodiversity and engage everyone with the natural environment.

Our **aim** is: to be Cornwall's leading voluntary wildlife champion.

Since its formation, the Trust has grown significantly thanks to the combined efforts of dedicated members, volunteers and staff. It is now a highly effective force for conservation in Cornwall and is widely respected and listened to.

Your legacy counts

Remembering Cornwall Wildlife Trust in your Will is one of the most valuable ways that you can help save our wildlife. You really can make a difference.

Legacies to a registered charity are tax-free, which helps to reduce inheritance tax liability. Different **types of legacy** allow you to ensure that your friends and relatives are provided for, as well as any organisations or charities that you wish to support.

Types of legacy

Residuary bequest: when you wish to give whatever is left (or a share of what is left) after all costs have been met and all pecuniary and specific bequests have been deducted. This is known as the 'residue' of your estate.

Pecuniary bequest: when you leave a specific sum of money to a person, organisation or charity. Please remember that inflation can reduce the value of the amount specified.

Specific bequest: when you choose to leave a specific item, such as a painting, jewellery or even your home.



Avocet. Photo: Nigel Climpson

Make a difference

Legacies have already helped us to:

- Provide protection for endangered species
- Buy and manage nature reserves and landscapes
- Educate and inspire children
- Encourage volunteers to help conserve local areas
- Campaign on behalf of wildlife

Here are some examples of **how you could make a difference**:

£500 could buy pond dipping and other equipment for children.

£1,000 could enable volunteers to build otter holts.

£5,000 could pay for paths and boardwalks for visitors with wheel chairs.

£10,000 could restore a wildflower meadow to its former glory.

£50,000 could help us to acquire an important wildlife site and save it from development, forever.



Trust members on a guided mammal walk at Constantine. Photo: Alex Howie

Kay Hocking's legacy

I have been interested in wildlife all my life and I am very proud of what Cornwall Wildlife Trust is doing to protect the wildlife in Cornwall. Now that some government organisations are gradually withdrawing their support, I feel that I must do something to help.



I have left the Trust a legacy in my Will because I want their work to continue into the future for the benefit of my children, and my grandchildren and my great-grandchildren.

If enough other members do the same, I think we can rest assured that the wildlife of Cornwall will survive.

Kay Hocking **Trustee**



Help us conserve the beauty of Cornwall, by leaving a legacy. Photo: Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Taking the next steps

Why do I need a Will?

Making a Will ensures that your possessions are given to the people and charities that you have chosen. If you do not have a Will, the legal system will decide how your estate should be divided.

Making a new Will

It is a good idea to seek legal advice when making a Will. However, you can save time and money by considering a few things before you visit a solicitor. You should make a list of your assets, think about how you would like to divide your estate and decide who you will appoint as executors of your Will to ensure that your wishes are carried out.

Updating an existing Will

It is important to review your Will regularly to ensure that it reflects your current wishes. You may need to update your Will following major events such as births, marriage, deaths, buying property or a change in financial circumstances. You can make small changes or additions to a Will using a Codicil. This is an instruction that is added to your existing Will, and needs to be witnessed in the same way.



Fox cubs. Photo: Terry Dunstan

Stella Turk's legacy

'Shang-ri La' and Cornwall Wildlife Trust have been associated since the formation of the latter, when Frank Turk was its first President. A decade later he initiated the Cornish and Isles of Scilly Biological Records Unit as one of the 'indexes' promoted and held by the Institute of Cornish Studies. This was, and still is, essentially a library of species records from diatoms to basking sharks. It complemented the site records being amassed by the Trust and some quarter of a century later they were to be brought together as the Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) under the umbrella of the Trust.

During the life of the Records Unit, 'Shang-ri La' was the 'engine room', fuelled by Frank Turk's wide knowledge and our library and my enthusiasm for Cornish natural history studies. Rose Murphy's encyclopaedic knowledge of the Cornish flora and her comprehensive and ever increasing library has continued to ensure consultations with fellow naturalists. Although it is 10 years since Frank died, the purpose-built library and the botany and zoology huts in the setting of our much-loved garden, are known to many.

With the support of the Trust and many individuals, 'Shang-ri La' still plays a part in adding records to the 'species library'. I rejoice in the fact that after we die, 'Shang-ri La' has the chance to continue to be a 'Satellite Recording Station' whilst affording a pleasant home and garden for a naturalist(s) to warden it, and thus contribute to the conservation work of the Trust.

Stella Turk MBE Trustee



Stella Turk in her garden at Shang-ri La. Photo: Cornwall Wildlife Trust

The Jargon

- **Beneficiary:** someone who benefits in your Will.
- **Bequest/legacy:** a gift made in your Will; it can be in the form of money, property, stocks and shares or possessions.
- **Codicil:** any change or addition that you make to your Will.
- **Estate:** the total sum of your possessions, property and money (after debts have been paid) left after your death.
- **Executor(s):** person(s) appointed by you to make sure the wishes in your Will are carried out.
- **Inheritance Tax:** a tax paid on estates above a certain value.
- **Probate:** the legal procedure after death which confirms your Will is valid.
- **Pecuniary bequest:** a gift of a specific sum of money.
- **Residue:** what is left after payment of all debts, costs and taxes and after pecuniary and specific bequests have been made.
- **Residuary bequest:** all or a share of the residue of your estate.
- **Specific bequest:** a gift of a particular item or possession.
- **Testator:** a person who has made a Will.



St George's Island was left to us as a legacy. Photo: Stuart Hutchings

Suggested wording

If you decide to help us to protect Cornwall's wildlife with a legacy, the following is some suggested wording:

Pecuniary bequest

I give Cornwall Wildlife Trust (charity number 214929) of Five Acres, Allet, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 9DJ, the sum of £ _____
(_____ pounds) for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other property officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said Legacy.

Residual bequest

I give Cornwall Wildlife Trust (charity number 214929) of Five Acres, Allet, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 9DJ, the whole (or a ____ per cent share) of my residuary estate for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other property officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said Legacy.

(Please seek advice from your solicitor if you wish to split your residuary estate between charitable and non-charitable beneficiaries, as this may affect any inheritance tax exemption).

Specific bequest

I give Cornwall Wildlife Trust (charity number 214929) of Five Acres, Allet, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 9DJ, my (description of item or property)

for its general charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other property officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said Legacy.

We advise that you seek advice from your solicitor when making or updating your Will.

Other ways to help us

In lieu of flowers

If you are arranging a funeral, it may be appropriate to ask friends and relatives to give a donation to Cornwall Wildlife Trust, rather than purchasing flowers that will only last a few weeks. A gift in lieu of flowers will provide a memorial that will last long after the flowers have faded.

Donate in memory

Making a gift in memory to Cornwall Wildlife Trust can help to celebrate a loved one's life by supporting something important to them. We can also provide a page on our website where you can include a personal message with your donation.



Bottlenose dolphins. Photo: Colin Speedie, Shark Foundation

Let us know

Please help us plan for the future by letting us know if you are planning to include us in your Will, or if you already have. This is not legally binding, it will simply advise us of your intentions. Your details will be treated with the strictest of confidence.

- I am considering leaving a legacy to Cornwall Wildlife Trust
- I have already included Cornwall Wildlife Trust in my Will
- I would like someone to contact me to discuss this further

I am leaving/planning to leave:

- The residue of my estate or a share of the residue, worth approximately £ _____
- A cash gift of approximately £ _____
- A specific item _____
- Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please send the completed form to:
Cornwall Wildlife Trust
Five Acres, Allet, Truro, TR4 9DJ

- Please tick this box if you are happy to receive any further information about Cornwall Wildlife Trust and our work by post or email.
- To say thank you, when we receive your legacy we will include your name in our memorial book. Please tick this box if you would prefer us not to display your name in our memorial book.

Thank you for your support.



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