



Friends of the  
Lake District



# Gifts in Wills

Your lasting legacy for the Cumbrian landscape

*Landscape is much more than just a view.  
It is our relationship with nature and heritage,  
inspiring and enriching our lives.*

Campaigning was the reason Friends of the Lake District was established over 90 years ago, when we called for the creation of a Lake District national park. We finally realised this ambition in 1951. Imagine what you could help us achieve for this precious landscape in the next 90 years, with a gift in your Will.

Friends of the Lake District continues to be a strong voice for the landscape, campaigning against threats and challenges, alongside practical conservation and projects aimed at inspiring others. Our actions secure a landscape that is tranquil, environmentally healthy, and accessible for all to enjoy, for generations to come. Without your support, we simply wouldn't be able to achieve this.

Thank you for considering supporting Friends of the Lake District with a gift in your Will. We are eternally grateful to those who remember the incredible, fragile landscapes of Cumbria in this way.



Michael Hill  
CEO, Friends of the Lake District



Volunteer hedge planting  
at Alpacaly Ever After



# Friends of the Lake District History

We work to sustain the rich, diverse, living pattern of landscape, wildlife and culture, that makes Cumbria and the Lake District unique. Here are some key highlights of our work:

**1934**

Friends of the Lake District founded.

**1936**

First piece of land bought, to provide public access to nature.

**1949**

Planners agree all power lines that damage landscape should be underground.

**1951**

Lake District National Park created.

**1977**

First annual hedging competition held.

**1980**

First annual dry stone walling competition held.

**1993**

New native woodland planted near Staveley, establishing Mike's Wood.

**2007**

Part of the Helm purchased, to improve access and introduce conservation grazing.

**2011**

First Fell Care Day held.

**2014**

Our Leaders Landscape Training scheme begins.

**2016**

Successful campaign stopping 24km of 50m tall pylons being built in the national park.

**2018**

Dark Skies project launched to reduce light pollution in Cumbria.

Founding members of Friends of the Lake District, 1934





# What are gifts in Wills?

A gift in a Will, no matter the size, is a donation that costs nothing today, but has a lasting impact beyond our lifetimes. It is the opportunity to decide how and where your estate is distributed, to those closest to you and causes important to you. Leaving even 1% of your estate to Friends of the Lake District, has 100% impact on the Cumbrian landscape.

## Why does Friends of the Lake District need gifts in Wills?

The role of the charity is as important today, as it was over 90 years ago when it was founded. Congestion, climate change and unsuitable developments are some of the many threats currently faced by the Lake District.

Sometimes known as legacies, gifts in Wills are a vital source of revenue that funds our core charitable activities, making up 50% of our fundraising income. They enable us to carry out vital conservation work on our fells, comment on planning applications that will have a significant impact on the landscapes of the Lake District, and campaign on issues of importance to Cumbria.

Morecambe Bay Walk



## What impact have gifts in Wills made to Friends of the Lake District?

The income received from gifts in Wills makes a huge difference. It has helped us to:

- create more native woodlands in Cumbria.
- deliver volunteering and educational events which inspire hundreds of people each year to look after our fragile landscape.
- fight off inappropriate developments, such as the proposal for a holiday lodge resort at Roanhead.
- launch activities to ensure the protection and recognition of our nocturnal skies through Dark Skies Reserve accreditation, and educate and support local communities.

Developing deeper connections with the landscape, we are able to inspire and educate others, to become custodians of this beautiful landscape. Find out more about the work of Friends of the Lake District: [www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/](http://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/)

*“Probably one of the biggest gifts that you can give to anybody, is to hand on a world that's worth living in.”*

**Rachel Pugh**  
Member and volunteer

# How to leave a gift in your Will

Making a Will is the only way that you can ensure that your estate goes to those closest to you, and any causes that are important to you.

We highly recommend you use a solicitor when writing a Will, or to amend an existing Will, to ensure your wishes are recorded as you intended.

## Types of gifts in Wills

If you decide to leave a gift in your Will to Friends of the Lake District, we will be extremely grateful. There are two ways you can do this.

1. Leave a percentage of your estate (residuary)
2. Leave a specific amount of money (pecuniary)

Residuary gifts are particularly helpful because they tend to be inflation-proof, being a percentage rather than a specific sum.

## What needs to be included

- Full Name: Friends of the Lake District
- Address: Murley Moss, Oxenholme Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 7SS
- Registered Charity number: 1100759

*Go Wild Under the Stars,*  
an outreach session with local schools





# Frequently Asked Questions

Writing a Will can seem daunting, but it doesn't have to be. It is an important document that outlines your final wishes, and how you would like to be remembered.

We are exceedingly grateful to all those who consider leaving a gift in their Will to Friends of the Lake District. A gift, no matter the size, will make a difference to our unique and spectacular Lake District and Cumbrian landscapes, by helping us continue our mission to protect and enhance them for future generations.

## Why is it important to have a Will?

Making a Will ensures that your estate goes to those closest to you and causes that are important to you. We cannot provide you with any legal advice and recommend you use a solicitor when writing a Will, to ensure your wishes are recorded as you intended and are actioned after death.

## How do I leave a gift in my Will to Friends of the Lake District?

Once you have considered those closest to you, you can decide whether to leave a gift in your Will to Friends of the Lake District. A solicitor can assist with wording, but you will need the following information:

- Full Name: Friends of the Lake District
- Address: Murley Moss, Oxenholme Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 7SS
- Registered Charity number: 1100759

## What will my gift support?

Gifts in Wills are a critical source of funding to help us safeguard the Lake District and Cumbrian landscapes, making up 50% of our fundraising income. From campaigning and education to tree planting and planning work, we tackle the issues that matter most to the Lake District and Cumbria, ensuring it remains a place of adventure, inspiration, and tranquillity.

We encourage those who choose to leave a gift in their Will to make their generous donation unrestricted, so we can allocate the funds to where they are most needed.

If you have a specific project or cause you wish to leave a gift for, please speak to our Fundraising Team. Where possible, we will honour your wishes, but if we are unable to (e.g. the project has finished), we will speak to those closest to you, and your executors, and agree how the funds can be spent.

## What kind of gift can I leave?

Should you decide to leave a gift in your Will to Friends of the Lake District, you can choose to leave either:

- a percentage of your estate (residuary); or
- a specific amount of money (pecuniary)

## Can I change my Will?

It is a good idea to review your Will from time to time. We understand that priorities and circumstances change, and updates need to be made to Wills. If you would like to make substantial changes to your Will, we suggest seeing a solicitor to write a new one. If it is a small update, you can use a Codicil, but you need to ensure your changes have been recorded correctly; a solicitor can advise.

## Do I need to let you know I have left a gift in my Will?

No, you don't need to tell us. Should you wish to share your intentions with us, we would love the opportunity to thank you for your kindness. We understand circumstances and priorities change, and that notifying us of your intentions is not legally binding.

## Can Friends of the Lake District help write my Will?

Following the guidelines set out by the Institute of Fundraising, we can't be involved in drafting your Will. We recommend you seek legal advice from a solicitor.

The Law Society

020 7242 1222

[www.lawsociety.org.uk/en](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/en)

Make a Stand in the Sand Event



# Terminology

- **Will** – a legal document outlining the final wishes of a person to be actioned upon their death
- **Codicil** – an addition to a Will that provides further details, amends, or revokes part of a Will
- **Probate** – legal process to prove validity of Will
- **Legacy** – an amount of money or property left in a Will to a specific person, organisation, or charity – another word for a gift in a Will
- **Estate** – everything owned by a person who has died
- **Beneficiary** – an individual or organisation named in a Will who is a recipient of a gift
- **Pecuniary** - when you leave a specific amount of money
- **Residual** - when you leave a percentage of your estate
- **Legator** – a person who leaves money or property to another person, charity, or organisation after death
- **Testator** – a person who dies leaving a Will
- **Intestate** – a person who has died without leaving a Will
- **Executor** – someone who actions the instructions in a person's Will



Drystone walling  
Coniston Fell Care Day

# Gift in Wills Charter

## Our promise to you and the Lake District

A gift, no matter the size, will make a difference to the Lake District, conserving this beautiful landscape for generations to come. Here is our commitment to you when considering leaving a gift in your Will:

- Every gift in every Will makes a difference. We would be happy to discuss with you how your money can be used to make a positive impact on the Lake District and Cumbrian landscape.
- The decision to leave a gift in your Will to Friends of the Lake District is a personal one and should be yours, and yours only, with no pressure from the charity.
- We understand those closest to you always come first.
- You are under no obligation to notify Friends of the Lake District if you have decided to leave us a gift in your Will.
- Should you decide to notify us of your intentions, we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your kindness, at your discretion. You can decide if you wish for your gift to remain private.
- We understand that circumstances change, and pledges made are your current wishes and are not legally binding. It is your prerogative to change your Will at any time and you do not need to tell us of your changes.
- Your privacy will be respected at all times, and any information you provide us with will be stored securely. We will only contact you if you have given us permission to do so.
- We will use your gift appropriately, so it has the greatest impact on our diverse and important Lake District and Cumbrian landscapes, honouring your final wishes. We will be transparent on how funds have been spent with those closest to you.
- We follow the Fundraising Regulator's Fundraising Code of Practice. Our fundraising promise can be found here: [www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/our-fundraising-promise](http://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/our-fundraising-promise)

Thank you for considering leaving Friends of the Lake District a gift in your Will.

If you have any questions, or require any additional information, please contact our Fundraising and Membership Officer, Anne-Marie Rooney – [fundraising@fld.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@fld.org.uk) / 01539 720788



*Wastwater -  
Mark Hetherington,  
Photo Competition Winner*



Registered with  
**FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR**



**Friends of the  
Lake District**

Learn more about how we protect and enhance Cumbria's landscapes:

[www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk](http://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk)

Friends of the Lake District is a registered charity in England under the charity no. 1100759,  
and a company limited by guarantee registered in England, under the company no. 04878364.