

# Friends of the National Libraries

## Leaving a Legacy to the FNL

Over the years a number of very generous individuals have left legacies to the FNL. As a result of their generosity we have been able to help save many books, manuscripts and collections, ensuring that they remain in the UK and are accessible to the public in perpetuity.

If you would like to leave a legacy to the FNL we would be enormously grateful. The notes below give you a little information on how to go about it and where to seek additional advice.

### **I do not have a Will, how do I leave a legacy?**

If you have not made a Will it is very sensible to do consider doing so. Putting your wishes in a Will ensures that you can make provision for your family and friends in exactly the way you wish to.

Making a Will also enables you to leave a legacy to a charity that you support, such as the FNL.

Your legacy should state the full name of the charity – *Friends of the National Libraries* – and also the FNL's Registered Charity number: 313020.

It is best to consult a solicitor who can help you draw up your Will and ensure that it is clear and exactly reflects your wishes. If you do not have a Will then your estate will be distributed under the rules of intestacy and not according to your precise wishes.

The [Direct.gov website](https://www.gov.uk) has lot of useful information about how to leave a gift to a charity.

### **I already have a will, how can I add a legacy to it?**

You can make changes to your Will – such as adding a bequest to the FNL - by adding a 'codicil'. This should be drawn up by a solicitor; it needs to be signed and witnessed just like a Will, but it is a much simpler process.

### **What are the options?**

Your solicitor can advise in detail, but when you draw up a Will there are a number of ways you can leave a legacy to the FNL:

- You can leave a specific amount of money
- You can leave a percentage of your residuary estate (residuary estate is what is left after all the gifts set out in your will have been paid).

### **Can I specify what I would like FNL to use my gift for?**

Yes you can, for example you could state that you wish your legacy to be used to support the acquisition of modern literary archives. However, if you do not

specify how you wish us to use any gift that you may generously leave us then this allows us to apply it to where it is most needed.

### **Inheritance Tax**

If you leave a legacy to a charity that legacy is exempt from inheritance tax.

Also, since April 2012 any estate that leaves at least 10% to a charitable cause will be able to take advantage of a cut in inheritance tax from 40% down to 36%.

**Friends of the National Libraries**  
**Reg. charity no.: 313020**

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