

How will you  
be remembered?

# LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

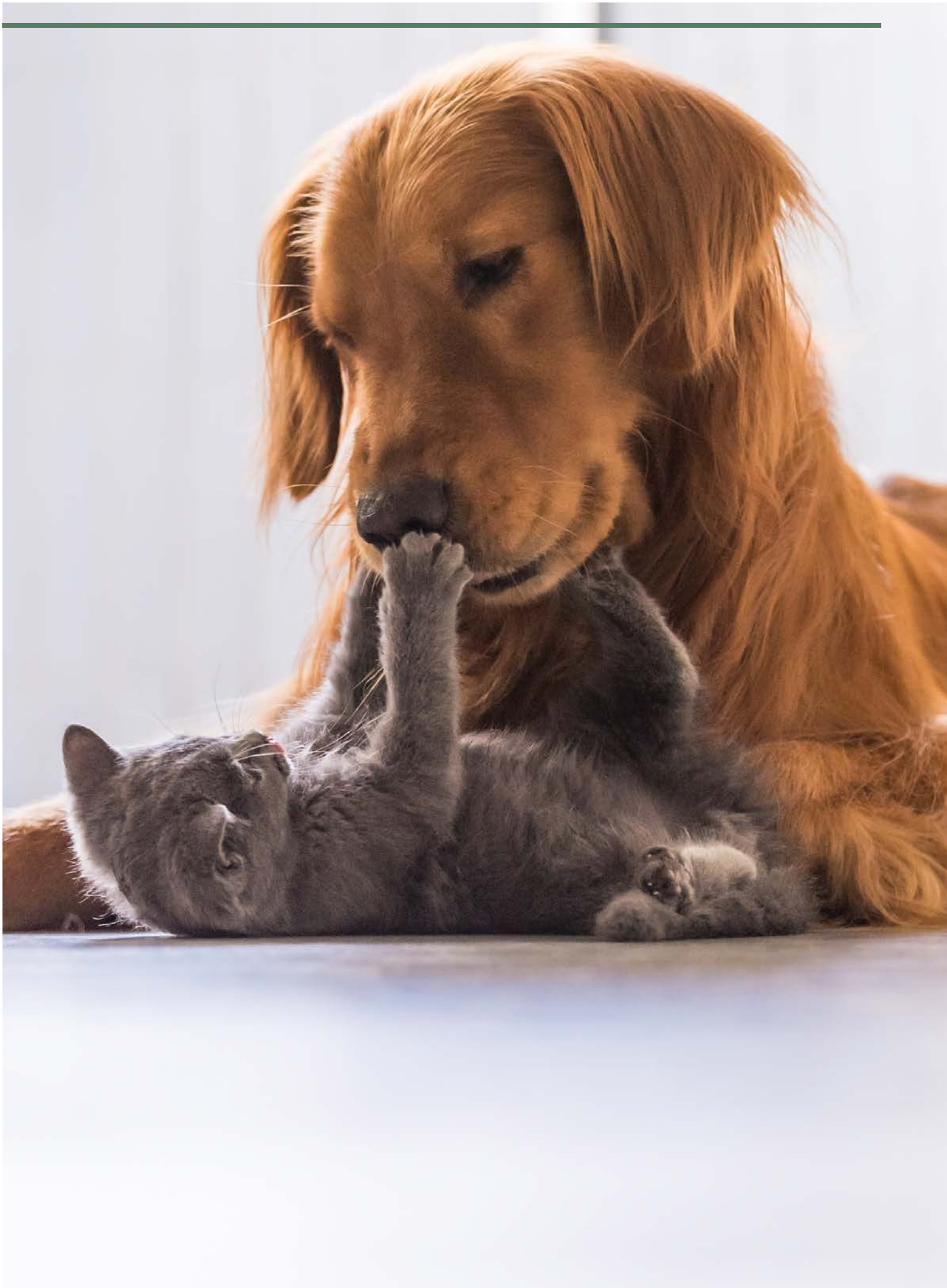
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A HELPFUL GUIDE

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The Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary





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# Leaving Your Legacy.

**“The only thing you take with you when you’re gone is what you leave behind.” John Allston**

If, like us, you believe that every animal deserves the best possible opportunity at living a fulfilling life then a gift in your Will means you can always be there, helping Oxfordshire’s mistreated, scared, abandoned and most vulnerable animals and for those pets whose owners can no longer care for them.

In 1967, we were founded as an inclusive place where any animal was welcome, a Sanctuary in the truest sense.

Since then we’ve made it our mission to receive, rehabilitate and rehome over 25,000 animals.

We work tirelessly to find forever families for desperate animals, but sometimes where this isn’t possible – our dedicated team offer those animals as close to a pet’s life as possible.

**By deciding to remember us in your Will, you’ll help us be there to care for and defend animals in need.**

**You’ll help create a future that’s kinder to all animals and help us find more families to love our furry friends...**



**Iain Atkin**  
Sanctuary Manager  
The Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary

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## Why should I consider leaving a gift to The Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary?

If you're an animal lover like us, then you'll already feel deeply obliged to care for and give a voice to those who can't speak for themselves.

It's this promise to animals that we've worked hard to keep over the last 50 years – and one that many people have helped us to deliver, by remembering us in their Will.

Legacy gifts are our most important way of raising funds to care for our animals.

**In fact, we rely on gifts in Wills to fund up to 70% of our work each year.**

This makes gifts in Wills essential to our survival. Without them, Oxfordshire's most vulnerable animals would have nowhere to go and no one to care for them.

When you leave a gift to the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary, you can be assured that we use every penny wisely – 90% of our staff are animal carers. We don't have huge administration overheads, we don't employ fundraising teams and we only invest in food, medicines and enrichment items that directly benefit our animals based on the latest behavioural science.

“That is your legacy on this Earth when you leave this Earth: how many hearts you touched.”

—Patti Davis





**Your  
Gift.  
Our  
Future.**

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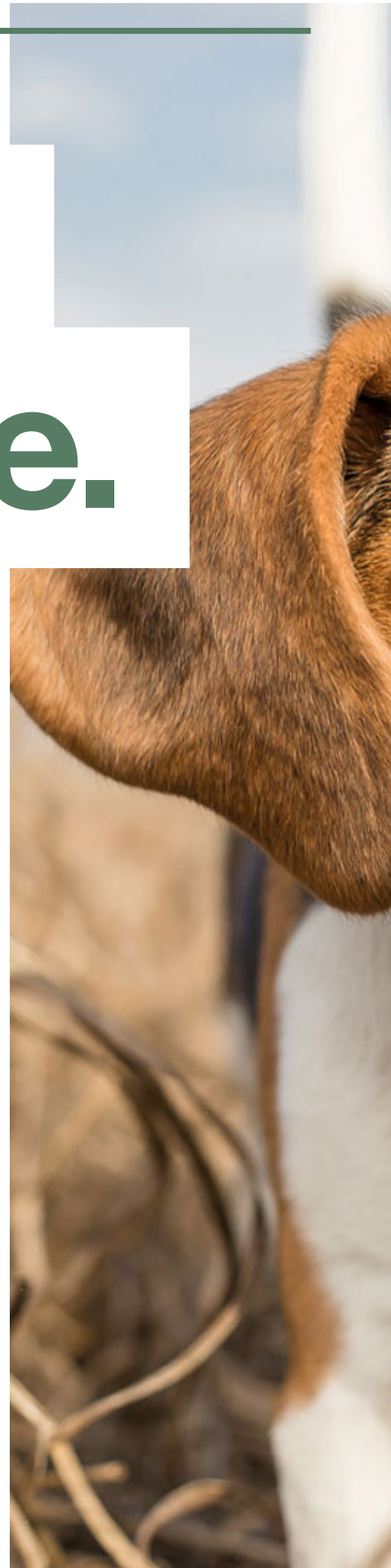
# Making a Difference.

Help us create a better future for Oxfordshire's most vulnerable animals...

A gift in your Will can really make a difference to a small charity like the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary.

Your gift directly helps provide for our animals on a day to day basis, providing essentials like food and shelter. It helps our staff provide the best care for the animals looking for their forever families and helping our mistreated resident animals find the peace and love they deserve against the backdrop of an often traumatic past.

If you leave us a gift in your Will, your generosity will be appreciated immediately and your impact will be remembered for generations to come. Legacy gifts allow the Sanctuary to thrive and invest in larger projects for the longer-term benefit of all the animals in our care. Your gift can help remove the stressful and severe difficulties we've experienced over the last 50 years and help us focus on the future.





## Help us keep our promise...

Without your kindness our promise to care for the most vulnerable animals would not be possible.

By including us in your Will you are helping us strive to create a better world for our animals and find adoptive forever families for them.



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# Types of Gifts

What gifts can I leave to the Sanctuary?

There are many different ways you can give a gift to the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary in your Will.

It is best that you discuss these options with your chosen solicitor to understand the options in detail and to assess which is the best choice for you, your other beneficiaries and the charity.

We've outlined the three most popular ways people give to the Sanctuary in their Will.

These are called residuary, pecuniary and specific gifts.







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## RESIDUARY

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This is a share of your estate. This type of gift is the most beneficial to the Sanctuary as it is a percentage of your estate rather than a fixed amount.

This means it retains its value.



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## PECUNIARY

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A pecuniary gift is generally the simplest form of legacy. It allows you to leave a specific sum of money.

The gift can be a defined figure that does not change with time or you may instruct your trustees to take account of the impact of inflation.



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## SPECIFIC

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This is where you give the Sanctuary a particular item.

This could be a piece of jewellery, stocks and shares or a property.

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# How would my gift be used

We understand that it is important that any gift in your Will is spent in direct accordance with your wishes.

It is essential to us that your wish truly reflects your values and those things that you cared for most throughout your life.



## Your Choice of Animals

Whether you are a lifelong canine companion or fond of feline furry friends, we can ensure that your gift is spent in accordance with your animal preference. We are more than happy to allocate spending to either cats, dogs or rabbits in accordance with your wish.



## Survive & Thrive

If you require your legacy to be allocated to food, shelter and medicines then we'd greatly appreciate this. We rehome over 500 animals a year and have to feed, shelter and vaccinate all of them.

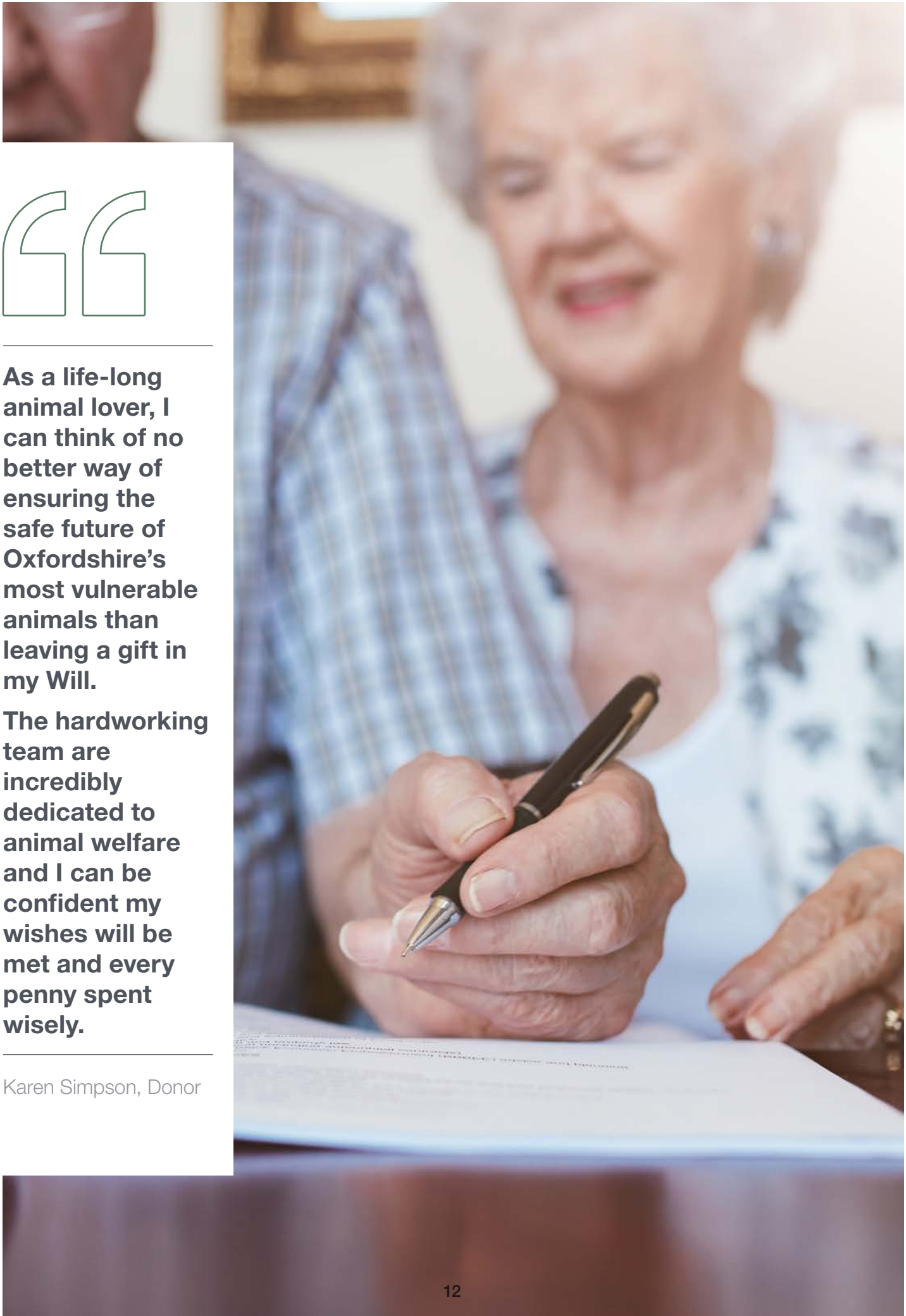
We can also directly invest your gift into behavioural training or enrichment programs that help our residents thrive and our potential adoptive pets find homes more quickly.



## Capital Investment

If you would like your gift to be invested in capital assets, such as a new kennel block, cattery improvements, training area or assets to help the Sanctuary care better for our animals then we will ensure your wishes are obliged. This helps us protect the future of the most vulnerable animals by ensuring they will always have a safe haven at the Sanctuary.

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**As a life-long animal lover, I can think of no better way of ensuring the safe future of Oxfordshire's most vulnerable animals than leaving a gift in my Will.**

**The hardworking team are incredibly dedicated to animal welfare and I can be confident my wishes will be met and every penny spent wisely.**

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Karen Simpson, Donor

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# Next Steps...

**Making or amending a Will raises many important questions. We understand you will want to think about these in your own time, on your own terms and with your family and loved ones in mind.**

We are here to guide you through the process step-by-step, so you can continue to protect vulnerable animals, even after you are gone.

Writing a Will may seem like a difficult or complex task, but it need not be. With the right professional help, it can be made into a simple, reassuring and empathic process and one that is a weight off your mind.

There are numerous other considerations such as inheritance tax, but be assured that gifts to charities are 100% tax free and taken from your estate before tax is calculated.

If you would like to know more about the Sanctuary and our future plans we would be incredibly happy to show you. Our team would also love to give you a tour of our Sanctuary, demonstrating how we work and this would also give you an opportunity to meet some of the beautiful animals we rescue and rehome 365 days a year!

**Thank you for considering a gift in your Will to the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary.**



# We're here to help you

We are sure you've probably got lots more questions about how best to leave a gift in your Will. These questions are best answered by a legal professional.

We would recommend that you look at the Law Society (<http://solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk>) to find a local solicitor that can help discuss the options available to you and ensure your wishes are met.

Who needs a will and why?

It's important that everyone has a Will. If you die with no valid Will in England or Wales the law will decide who gets what. If you have no living family members, all your property and possessions (including your pets) will go to the Crown.

Who should write or update my will?

We would recommend that a professional solicitor write or update your will. This ensures that all legal formalities are carried out correctly. It will be validly written and witnessed which leaves you with the peace of mind that your wishes will be honoured exactly as you want them to be.

What do these legal terms mean?

Estate: Your estate is the total value of everything you own – after any outstanding debts are paid.

Assets: You assets are the things you own that are worth money such as a house, car, savings or shares.

Liabilities: These are the things you owe money on, such as credit cards, loans, debts and mortgages.

Executor: An executor is the person or people you choose to make sure the terms of your Will are carried out. We recommend choosing two executors.

How should I word a gift in my Will?

To make sure your gift reaches the Sanctuary, it is very important to include the full name and charity number.

We'd be so grateful if you decided to leave us a gift and should word this as " I give to the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary Society (Registered Charity No. 254642) of Seacourt Tower, West Way, Botley, Oxford, OX2 OFB



## Ways to get in touch...

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Visit: [oascharity.org/uk/legacy](https://oascharity.org/uk/legacy)



Call us on 01865 890239



E-mail us: [legacy@oascharity.org.uk](mailto:legacy@oascharity.org.uk)

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**Thank you for considering giving a gift in your Will  
to the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary.**

**Without your generosity, we could not continue  
to care for mistreated, abandoned and vulnerable  
animals.**