

How your gift can make a difference

Wirksworth Heritage Centre is committed to bringing the past to life for future generations to enjoy. We are constantly working to preserve and develop our museum collections, interpretive exhibitions and learning activities so we can offer our users the best possible experiences.

Leaving a gift in your will is a valuable source of funding to support the work we do. Whatever its size, your legacy can help us:

- to enable more people to appreciate the town's heritage by enhancing and developing new learning activities for children, schools, families and visiting groups.
- maintain, conserve and add to our museum collection of important artefacts and documents.
- to borrow items from national museum collections.
- develop new exhibitions and events to tell the many and varied stories about the town and its people.
- continue with research into the town's history and its families.
- care for the 17th Century heritage building that forms part of our site.
- maintain and improve our centre environment and services for our visitors.

Leaving a gift to the Heritage Centre in your will, no matter the size, enables us to continue and improve upon our work. Even a small donation can make a big difference.

Invest in our future by leaving a gift in your will

Making a will is one of the most positive things you can do. It offers you peace of mind, securing the future of your loved ones and the things that you care about. A will ensures that your estate is divided as you choose, providing for your family, and, if you wish, a charity or charities of your choice.

You can leave a legacy to Wirksworth Heritage Centre whether you are making a will for the first time or making an addition to an existing will.

By remembering Wirksworth Heritage Centre in your will, you will be playing a valued role in preserving the heritage of the town.

Wirksworth Heritage Centre Trust advises anyone making a will or legacy to take legal advice. A solicitor will be able to guide you through each step of the process and advise on the different types of legacy you can leave.





**Wirksworth
Heritage
Centre**


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Leaving a legacy



**Wirksworth
Heritage
Centre**



Our story

Wirksworth Heritage Centre was created in the 1980s with the aim of interpreting the history of the town and preserving the stories of its people - bringing its past to life for future generations.



Over thirty years on, our vision is still clear - to be an independent, sustainable heritage organisation which, through the use of our exhibitions, museum collection and our learning activities, makes a relevant and valued contribution to the culture and economy of the town.



Since 2014 we have raised around £1.6m for a major project to relocate the original heritage centre into a new building kindly bequeathed to us by a local resident. This project has

involved repair and modernisation of the building to include new exhibitions and displays, storage for our museum collection, a studio, shop and café.

However, we still need ongoing funding to develop and run our organisation and to carry on our work.

The Heritage Centre is a non-profit making charity which receives no government or local authority financial support. We rely entirely on generating our own income through grants, admissions, commercial activities and donations.

We depend on a small number of employees, a committed group of voluntary trustees and a fantastic team of volunteers who play a crucial role in helping us manage the centre, look after our museum collection and help run our activities.

Legacies and donations – large and small – play a crucial role in helping us continue our work for the town and its people.



How to make a legacy gift

A gift in your will - also called a 'legacy' or a 'bequest' - is easy to make.

If you do not already have a will, you will need to consult a solicitor, who can explain the options. If you already have a will and would like to make a small change to include a gift for the Heritage Centre, a solicitor will also be able to advise you on making a revision (called a codicil) to the existing document. Some suggested wording for a codicil is included below.

There are a different types of legacy to consider - the three most commonly used are:

1. A Pecuniary Gift

This allows you to give a specific sum of money. Over time, the actual value of this gift may decrease with inflation so you may wish to review this regularly. To ensure that it keeps its value over the years, you can also ask your solicitor to include an instruction that it is index-linked.

Example wording to give to your solicitor to include in your will:

"I give to Wirksworth Heritage Centre Trust, 31 St. Johns Street, Wirksworth DE4 4DS (Registered Charity in England and Wales No. 515399) the sum of £ (free of all taxes) absolutely for its charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer will be a full and sufficient discharge to my executor(s)."

2. A Residual Gift

This type of legacy is a bequest of a portion or a percentage of your estate remaining after all debts, expenses, legacies and Inheritance Tax due have been paid. This protects the gift against inflation (because 10% of your estate will always be 10% of your estate regardless of the amount.)

Example wording to give to your solicitor to include in your will:

"I give the (amount)% of my real and personal estate which I can dispose of by will in any manner I think properly to Wirksworth Heritage Centre Trust, 31 St. Johns Street, Wirksworth DE4 4DS (Registered Charity in England and Wales No. 515399) absolutely for its charitable purposes and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer will be a full and sufficient discharge to my executor(s)."

3. A Specific Gift

This may be part of an estate which might constitute a collection of objects, documents, drawings or other valuable items. If you are kindly considering this form of gift, please contact us so that we can ensure it is in line with our collections policy and we can conserve and store the items properly.

Inheritance Tax

Currently all legacies to charities, including Wirksworth Heritage Centre, are free from Inheritance Tax.