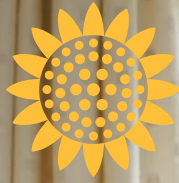


St Leonard's
Hospice



Supporting
expert hospice
care in and
around the
Vale of York

Gifts in Wills

A gift at the end of your life
to help others when they
need it most.

**The care we
provide at
St Leonard's is only
possible through
support from the
community we serve.**

**Gifts in Wills
pay for all the
care costs for
1 in every
4 patients**



St Leonard's Hospice began in 1978, as the dream of four members of the Royal College of Nursing. Today, our unique charity is the acknowledged leader in palliative and end-of-life care for the Vale of York and surrounding areas.



The dream was a place where local people living with life-limiting conditions could receive expert, compassionate care, allowing them to live their best life in their remaining days, and to have a 'good' death, in peace and with dignity.

Our founders formed a committee and began fundraising and, five years later, the foundation stone of the new Hospice was laid. The day care service began (just one day a week at first) in 1984, and a year later the first in-patient was admitted.

Over the years, our services at St Leonard's have grown and developed significantly as new techniques, equipment and experience have become available. But the focus has always been true to that initial dream, to support local people as well as we can, right to their final moments.

All the care and support the Hospice offers is given freely and without obligation. St Leonard's is a charity. The care for 4 out of every 5 patients is funded through fundraising and donations from the community.

Gifts in Wills have consistently been a principal source of our funding. This income currently funds one quarter of our entire care costs, and is vital to our ability to plan effectively for the future care needs of our community. Without gifts in Wills, we simply could not offer the compassionate, expert care that local people and their families deserve.

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your Will to St Leonard's. Your thoughtful generosity will help us to deliver better care to more people, for many years to come.

**St Leonard's
supports people
from the moment
of diagnosis, not
just at the end of
their life**

“For Betty, supporting St Leonard’s in her Will was absolutely the right decision for her and for us.”

“Aunt Betty and Uncle Ken met in the early 1950s, when they were still teenagers. They lived in Tadcaster and were blissfully married for 69 years. They were inseparable.”

“In 2023 Ken was diagnosed with stomach cancer and, once it was clear that there could be no cure, his doctor recommended going into St Leonard’s Hospice. He was so comfortable there. My family and I visited him regularly and found the Hospice to be such a calm and comfortable place.

“Ken had his own room, with a balcony looking out over the fields beyond. We’d often find him sitting out there with Betty or chatting to the nurses, who always had time to sit and talk to both of them. One time we found Ken sat in the sunshine on the balcony, laughing and chatting away to two nurses, drinking a can of beer! It’s a wonderful memory to have.

“Ken was at St Leonard’s for a good few weeks and we thought his condition had stabilised. Then there was a sudden dip in his health and the nursing team gave him the care he needed to slip away peacefully.

“After Ken died, Betty was heartbroken. We all pulled together to support her and make sure she had plenty of visitors, but she couldn’t be without Ken. She passed away, peacefully, just a few months later.

“We found out Betty had changed her Will after Ken’s death. She made sure that all her family were looked after first, but she added a gift to the Hospice to make sure that other people could get the same care and support that was so important to her and our uncle.

“For Betty, leaving a gift to St Leonard’s was absolutely the right and appropriate thing to do. We know she would have been so thrilled to have her story told, encouraging people to follow her lead (and seeing her and her beloved Ken’s name in print!).

“We would encourage everyone to consider supporting our local Hospice in this way, because we’ve seen how this charity provides a vital service; one we may all have to call on at some point.”

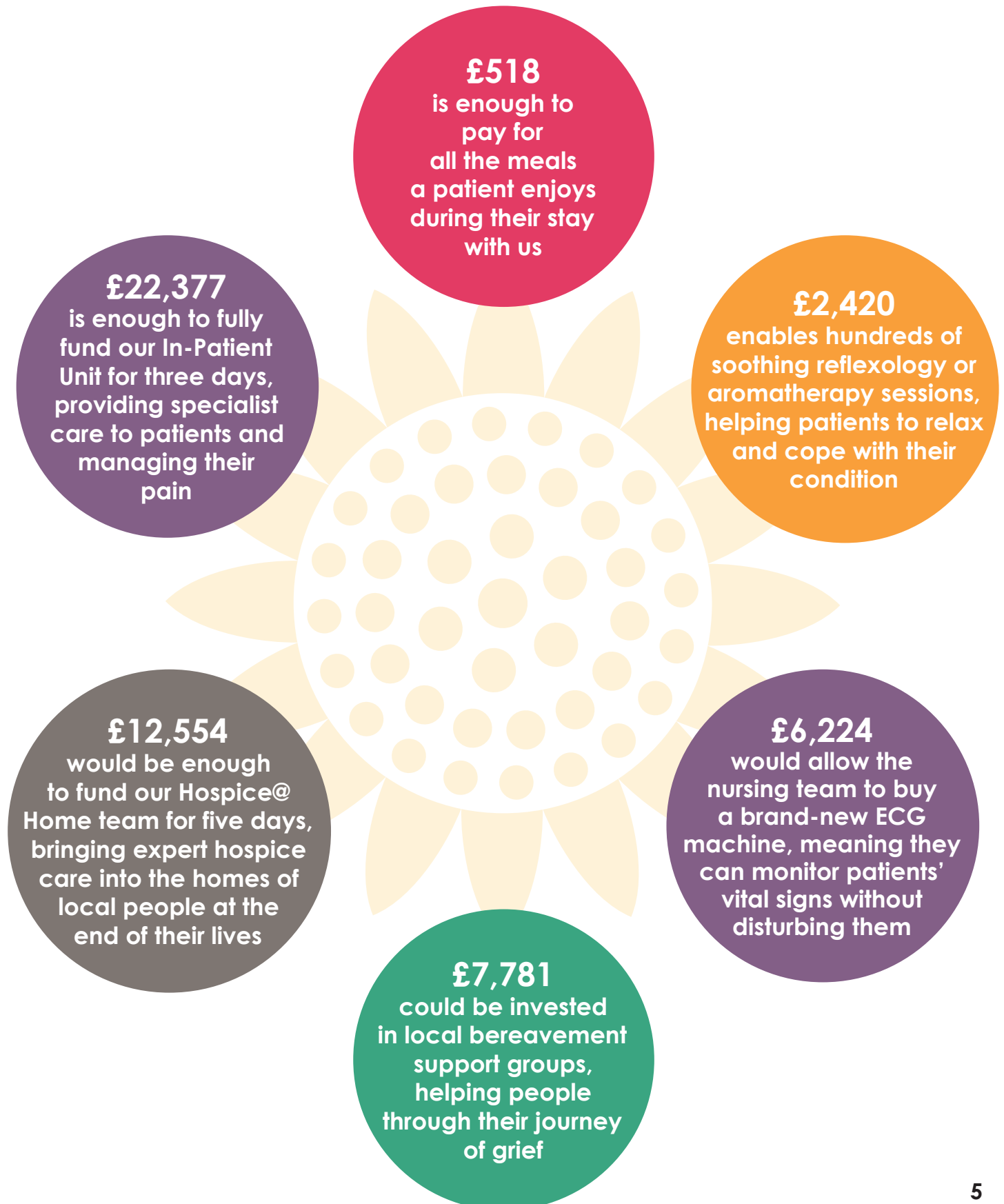
Peter

Peter Fox



Betty, pictured here with her husband, Ken.

A wonderful gift of £51,874 like Betty's can bring so many benefits for local patients and families:



Making a Will protects you and your loved ones.

A Will is a vital document for you, ensuring that those you care about are provided for after your death. Without a valid Will, the specific wishes you may have for your family or loved ones may not be carried out as you would have intended. Also, the final value of your estate after tax can often be significantly reduced.*

If you have not yet made a Will, it is strongly recommended that you do so. It is a simple process that most solicitors will be able to assist with. The Law Society offers a free 'Find a local solicitor' service, which can be found at The Law Society's website (www.lawsociety.org.uk) or by calling 020 7320 5650.

Write your Will for free

St Leonard's offers a range of ways to help you write or amend your Will, without charge (donations are requested). Each **October**, many local solicitors offer a free Will writing service as part of our **Make a Will Month** campaign.

Visit stleonardshospice.org.uk/GiftsInWills for more information.

*Please note that St Leonard's Hospice is not a financial advisor. It is important that you seek professional legal and financial advice about tax implications.

We support patients living with all life-limiting conditions, not just cancer



Jan and her husband, John, who has Parkinson's disease.

“St Leonard’s helped me to make my Will through its Make a Will Month.”

“My mum died, cared for by the wonderful nursing team at St Leonard’s. The calm, compassionate care they gave her in her final days was simply extraordinary. They looked after her like she was their own family, and they made sure that we all had the support we needed. St Leonard’s gave us good memories of Mum in her final days, and I don’t think we will ever truly be able to say thank you to them.

“After Mum had passed I needed to update my Will, and the Hospice helped me with that too, through its Make a Will Month. I made a donation to St Leonard’s and the local solicitor helped me for free, but treated us just as though we were fully paying clients.

“I wanted to be able to continue to support the Hospice, and to make sure that they could be there for another family like mine in years to come. It felt right and natural for me to include a gift to the Hospice in my Will. I discussed it with my family, who were all in agreement, and we thought Mum would have approved too.

“We never know when we might need the Hospice. I may have to call on it again at some point. We’re lucky to have such a comprehensive, expert care service that’s there for us all, completely free of charge. I think leaving a gift in a Will is such a simple way of supporting this vital local service, and I would encourage everyone to do so if they can.”

Robert



Robert, pictured with his mum, Rita.

Our promise to you.

We will use your gift wisely, investing your generosity in the best way we can to deliver expert hospice care for our community. We will respect your right to choose to support a specific part of our service if you wish.

We will never put you under any pressure. Leaving a gift in your Will is an important decision and we respect that you will need time and space to make the right decision for you and your loved ones.

We will always answer your questions promptly and honestly.

We will always recognise that those closest to you will come first, and will treat

them with absolute sensitivity, respect and gratitude.

We will understand that, if your circumstances change, you might have to change your mind.

We will respect your privacy. You do not have to let us know that you have included St Leonard's in your Will, but if you do, we will ensure this remains confidential.

We will be delighted to welcome you to the Hospice, and show you how your gift will deliver care and support for the next generation of local people.

Hello, I'm Ella and I am here to support you.

I am the Gifts in Wills Fundraiser for St Leonard's. It is such a privilege to be part of this amazing team, helping to provide expert local hospice care to all in our community. These precious, thoughtful gifts fund almost exactly one quarter of the care our charity provides. It is our single largest source of fundraised income.

I know that this is an important decision. That's why I am here to support you, by answering your questions and ensuring you have all the information you need to make the right decision for you and your loved ones.

I am available by telephone on **01904 777 777**, or you can email me directly on **legacies@stleonardshospice.org.uk**.

I would also be delighted to meet you in person if you prefer, or arrange a personal visit to our much-loved Hospice in York.

Thank you for thinking of St Leonard's. I hope we have the chance to speak soon.

Ella

Ella



The types of gifts you can choose to leave.

There are several kinds of gifts you can include in your Will. Each gift is precious to us and ensures that we are able to provide the very best care and support to the patients and families who need us, today and into the future.

A cash (or 'pecuniary') gift

This is when you choose to leave a single, defined cash gift from your estate.

A specific gift

This type of gift is usually something like property or an individual valuable item, such as an antique or piece of jewellery.

A life interest

If you wish, you can leave a gift for use over a specific period; for example, the income from an investment. After that time has passed, the gift can then be passed on to another recipient or family member.

A share of your estate (or 'residuary') gift

After you've provided for your loved ones and taxes have been paid, you could choose to leave a share, or the full remainder (the residue) of your estate, to St Leonard's. This means that you can prioritise the passing on of your estate to your loved ones, while still ensuring that you are maximising the benefit you will be providing to local hospice care.

Inheritance Tax

Each individual has a tax-free allowance of £325,000 before Inheritance Tax at 40% becomes due. Leaving your family home directly to your descendants raises this allowance to £500,000 (correct as of September 2025). All gifts to charities such as St Leonard's are deducted from the value of the estate before Inheritance Tax is calculated, and can therefore reduce the total amount of Inheritance Tax due. Leaving more than 10% of the value of your estate to charity can also reduce the taxable rate to 36% on the remainder of your estate.

For more information, please speak to your solicitor or advisor, or visit the HMRC website:

hmrc.gov.uk/inheritancetax

**St Leonard's
is much more than
just a building, and
many people receive
our care and support in
their own home, right
across the Vale of York
and surrounding
areas**

Jo and Jane, Hospice@Home
Healthcare Assistants.



Suggested wording to help you make your gift to St Leonard's.

We strongly recommend using a specialist solicitor or Will-writing expert to help create or amend your Will. They can give you the expert advice and support you need to ensure that your estate is distributed exactly according to your wishes, and on how to minimise the impact of Inheritance Tax.

If you do decide to leave a gift in your Will to St Leonard's, you will need to provide clear and unambiguous instruction to your executors. Here is some wording we recommend you discuss with your solicitor or advisor:

For a residuary legacy

'I give all / a fraction / a percentage of the residue of my estate absolutely to St Leonard's Hospice, 185 Tadcaster Road, York, YO24 1GL, Registered Charity Number 509294, to be applied by St Leonard's Hospice for its charitable purposes, and I further direct that the receipt of the Hon. Treasurer or any other proper officer of St Leonard's Hospice for the time being, shall be sufficient discharge to my trustees.'

For a pecuniary legacy

'I give to St Leonard's Hospice, 185 Tadcaster Road, York, YO24 1GL, Registered Charity Number 509294, absolutely, the sum of (amount in figures, amount in words) to be applied by St Leonard's Hospice for its charitable purposes, and I further direct that the receipt of the Hon. Treasurer or any other proper officer of St Leonard's Hospice, for the time being, shall be sufficient discharge to my trustees.'

A glossary of common terms

Estate

The property, including money, owned by the deceased, after any debts and/or expenses have been taken into account.

Beneficiaries

People or organisations (for example, a charity) who benefit from a Will.

Testator

A person who has made a Will or given a legacy.

Executors

Person(s) appointed in a Will by the testator to deal with the estate after his/her death.

Guardian(s)

Person(s) appointed in a Will by the testator to look after his/her children, if there is no-one else with parental responsibility to do so.

Residuary gift

A share of the estate (i.e. percentage) allocated in the Will by the testator.

Pecuniary gift

A single, defined cash gift from your estate.

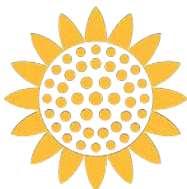
A specific gift

An individual valuable item, such as an antique or piece of jewellery.

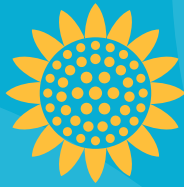
We support
the patient, their
whole family and
loved ones for
as long as they
need us



St Leonard's
Hospice



St Leonard's
Hospice



Thank you
for supporting
local hospice
care

For more information,
simply scan this code
with your smartphone



stleonardshospice.org.uk/GiftsInWills

St Leonard's Hospice, York is a registered charity, no. 509294 and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, no. 01451533