Horatio's Garden

Nurturing lives after spinal injury

Your guide to leaving a gift in your Will



Horatio's Garden is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.
Registered charity number 1151475/SC045386

By leaving us a gift in your Will, you'll make a profound difference to people facing life-changing injuries.

Spinal cord injury strikes randomly. It shatters bodies and souls, hopes and dreams. Everything and everyone has to readjust to this catastrophic event, while patients live in austere, clinical, hospital environments for months and months.

My son Horatio, an aspiring doctor, was a volunteer in the spinal injury centre in Salisbury. There he saw patients who had nowhere to go from the ward when friends came to visit, nowhere to be immersed in nature, to feel the weather or watch the clouds.

He gathered the evidence needed to persuade the hospital to allow the disused land around the spinal centre to be made into a beautiful garden.

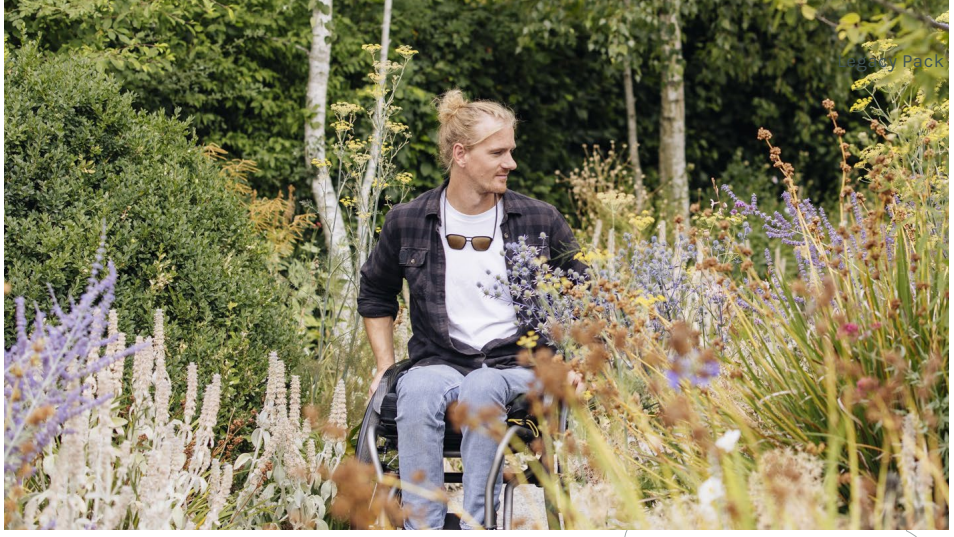
When Horatio tragically died aged seventeen, his garden idea was the gift he left us. And that gift has now become a vibrant lifeline for people with spinal injuries across the UK.

By choosing to leave us a gift in your Will, you'll be creating your own legacy and giving people with spinal injuries the gardens they need and deserve.

Thank you.

Dr Olivia Chapple OBE EMH
Founder, Horatio's Garden





Three ways your Will can make a difference

1 Look after the people you care about and make your wishes clear

An up-to-date Will helps ensure the people and causes you care about are looked after as you intend. It also makes it easier for your family and friends to manage your estate.

2 You may reduce inheritance tax

Leaving a gift to a charity such as Horatio's Garden may reduce the inheritance tax due on your estate.

3 Help people with spinal injuries across the UK

A gift in your Will can help give people with spinal injuries a beautiful, safe garden where they can spend time in nature and begin their recovery.



The impact your gift can make

Since Horatio's Garden was founded, kind gifts left in Wills have raised an incredible £1 million to support people with spinal injuries across the UK.

> "As a doctor, it gives me a great sense of satisfaction to know that my Will includes a gift to Horatio's Garden, and that my legacy will have a lasting effect on people with spinal injuries. I hope that others will consider supporting this unique charity."
>
> Dr John Prince

If you're thinking of leaving Horatio's Garden a gift in your Will, we'd be incredibly grateful and will make it really easy for you.

Already have a Will?

If you have a Will and wish to add in a gift to Horatio's Garden, please contact your solicitor or Will provider.

You'll just need our charity name and number: Horatio's Garden, Registered Charity Number: 1151475/SC045386

Making a new Will?

If you're making a new Will, this pack provides the information you need to get started.

Although you can write a Will yourself, it must meet certain requirements to be legally valid. We recommend using a solicitor or professional Will-writing service.

We've partnered with Farewill to offer our supporters a free Will-writing service. We'll cover the cost and hope you'll consider leaving a gift to Horatio's Garden, helping us improve the lives of people after spinal injury.

Online
If you live in England or Wales, you can make a straightforward Will online by clicking here.

Telephone
If you live anywhere in the UK, you can make a straightforward or complex Will by telephone with one of Farewill's in-house specialists. Click here to find out more.

In person
To make or update your Will in person, find a registered solicitor near you through the Law Society.



What to consider

Thinking about these key points before you start writing your Will can make the process easier.

1. **List your assets**
   Calculate the total value of your estate, including property, savings, investments and possessions.
2. **Choose your beneficiaries**
   Decide who you would like to receive your assets, including family, friends, charities and other causes you care about.
3. **Choose your executors**
   Appoint one or more trusted people to carry out the instructions in your Will.

Your questions answered

Will I have to pay tax on my gift?

No. Gifts to charities are free from inheritance tax and can reduce the tax due on your estate. If your estate is over the inheritance tax threshold and you leave at least 10% of the taxable amount to charity, the tax rate may fall from 40% to 36%. For the latest information, visit GOV.UK or speak to your solicitor.

What kind of gift can I leave?

There are four main types of gift:

- **Residuary gift:** A share, or all, of what is left of your estate after costs and other gifts have been paid.
- **Pecuniary gift:** A fixed amount of money.
- **Specific gift:** A particular item, such as property, jewellery, shares or a car.
- **Conditional gift:** A gift that is made only if something else happens first, for example, if the other people named in your Will die before you.

I want to look after the people I love first. Can I still leave a gift?

Of course. Your family and friends come first. After you have provided for them, a gift to Horatio's Garden can help ensure our gardens are there for people with spinal injuries when they need them most.

Who should I choose as my executors?

Your executors can be any trusted adults aged 18 or over, such as family members, friends or your solicitor. It is a good idea to name at least two, in case one cannot act for you.

I don't have much to give. Will my gift still make a difference?

Yes. Every gift, whatever its size, helps us support people with spinal injuries.

Where should I keep my Will?

Your solicitor or Will writer may store the original for you. Our trusted partner Farewill does this if you use their service. Keep a copy in a safe place and make sure your executors know where to find the original.

James's story: a place to know I'm going to be alright

I've always loved rugby and played for my local club, Winchester, for many years. But devastatingly, it was during a match watched by my family and close friends, that I broke my neck in a scrum. My life changed in an instant.

At first, I couldn't move any of my limbs, but over ten days I regained use of my arms. I was delighted I could continue my recovery when a place quickly became available at the rehabilitation centre in Stanmore.

But seeing my wheelchair as I arrived on the ward brought the reality home. I realised how difficult the coming months would be and became upset and anxious, withdrawing from everyone around me.

When I discovered Horatio's Garden, it became my refuge. I chatted, drank coffee and laughed with other patients and formed a community. The team gently drew me out of my shell and encouraged me to try activities.

One day, my rugby team paid me a surprise visit and the space meant twenty of us could be together. The outdoor rooms have allowed my wife to work while I attended therapy, so we could still share coffee and lunch and I even celebrated my birthday here with a party for family and friends. Moments like these have made this tough journey feel possible.

The garden has also been a lifesaver for my parents. My mum has dementia, but here she notices the plants and birdsong, and it's almost as if her illness disappears.

My dad, her main carer, has recently received the same diagnosis but in the garden he can relax, knowing she is safe. It has enabled them to visit without the stress of the ward and for us all to enjoy simple family time together.

I'd never normally talk about it, but the garden has been intrinsic to my mental health and I don't believe I'd heal without it. It has helped me work out how to get on with life. My memories of this time will be of the outstanding care and Horatio's Garden: a place to listen to the birds or my thoughts and know I'm going to be alright.





Ready to get started?

We'd love to help. Please email or give us a call.

01722 326 834
bethan@horatiosgarden.org.uk

If you've already remembered Horatio's Garden with a gift in your Will, we'd love to hear from you. Knowing about your gift helps us plan for the future and gives us the opportunity to keep you close to our work, sharing the difference your kindness will make for years to come.

Thank you for your kindness.

"Horatio's Garden has given me the space to feel every emotion, process it, and move through it and that's how you build resilience. Being surrounded by nature has been incredibly important for my rehabilitation and my peace of mind."

Horatio's Garden is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Registered charity number 1151475/SC045386

FR FUNDRAISING REGULATOR