

Leaving a gift in your Will to Mothers' Union

How you can help
ensure we will still
be supporting the next
generation.



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

www.mothersunion.org



How your Will can help change lives

After all you've done, leave a lasting Legacy

Mothers' Union members do so much to support communities around the world. Leaving a gift in your Will to Mothers' Union can ensure that legacy continues, providing Christian care to those most in need.

Even a little goes a long way

By leaving a Legacy you can make sure our work continues long into the future. You will be helping people, at home and abroad, build a better future for themselves and their families. Which is why we are so grateful for any gift, whatever size, you choose to leave in your Will. It is a lovely way to make a lasting contribution to an organisation you care about.

Supporting parents

Being a parent or carer for a child is hugely rewarding yet it can be daunting. In 26 countries, including Britain and Ireland, Mothers' Union's Parenting Programme trains facilitators to help groups of parents discuss the issues they are facing, develop skills and meet the challenges of the modern parent.



Helping people learn to read and write

Since 2000 Mothers' Union's Literacy & Financial Education Programme has trained facilitators to help over 150,000 people learn to read and write, form savings and credit groups and learn skills that help them set up or develop businesses. As a result many women have taken on leading roles in their communities.



Campaigning

Our campaign work aims to promote conditions in society that enable families to flourish. For example, our Bye Buy Childhood Campaign challenges the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood and has brought about greater awareness of the issue, especially in the media and Parliament, bringing in better safeguards for children.



Empowering communities

Mothers' Union's Church & Community Mobilisation Process trains facilitators around the world to lead Bible studies that inspire Churches to work with their wider communities to make changes together. Communities are empowered to take control of their futures by using the resources God has given them.



Providing holidays for families facing adversity

When families are under a lot of pressure it can have a negative impact on their relationships. Members across the UK and Ireland provide Away From It All holidays, giving families in need a break from the stresses of everyday life and a chance to spend quality time together.



Promoting stable marriage

Mothers' Union's Loving for Life programme trains members to facilitate marriage preparation groups. Through these sessions couples learn more about each other, ways to communicate, and discuss matters that will help them as they journey through their married life together.



How to write your Will

Writing a Will allows you to make sure your money and possessions go to the ones you love.

Once you know they will be looked after, you may also like to leave a gift to the causes you care about, such as Mothers' Union. This can also have the added benefit of reducing the amount of Inheritance Tax paid on your estate (see FAQs on page 7)

Writing a Will needn't be a complicated process but hopefully these simple steps will help.

1. Find a solicitor

While DIY Will writing kits are available, a solicitor will ensure your intentions are clear and legally binding. To find a solicitor in your area you can contact the Law Society on 020 7320 5650 or visit their website solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk

2. Choose executors

It is best to officially appoint two people to make sure the wishes expressed in your Will are carried out.

3. Decide who will receive what

Once you have covered the needs of family and friends, a gift to Mothers' Union will ensure we can continue our vital work for the next generation. There are several types of gift you can leave, which are outlined in the Glossary enclosed on page 11. We will be happy to discuss your options with you.

4. Let us know your intentions by using the pledge form enclosed in this pack

Of course it is your decision as to whether or not you would like to notify us but we would like the opportunity to be able to thank you and show you what you are helping us to achieve.

5. Bear in mind that our projects and programmes can change over time

If there is a particular area of our work that you are committed to, please get in touch so we can discuss how you might be able to support this. But, to avoid making your gift inaccessible, you should keep any instructions as open as possible. Giving to Mothers' Union's General Fund will ensure that your money can be used where it is most needed at any time.

6. Keep your Will up to date and safe

Your circumstances may change over time so it is worth reviewing your Will every few years to make sure it is up to date. Make sure to keep the original in a safe place such as a bank or with your solicitor, keep a copy for yourself and give one to your executor/s.

Note:

Including Mothers' Union in an existing Will

If you have already made a Will but would like to include, or change the gift you would like to leave to Mothers' Union you can complete the codicil form enclosed on page 10. If substantial changes are to be made, we advise that you contact your solicitor to draft a fresh Will to avoid any errors.

NB. We recommend that any wording suggested in this pack be checked by a solicitor.



When referring to Mothers' Union in your Will, please use the following details:

Charity Name:	The Mothers' Union
Address:	Mary Sumner House 24 Tufton Street London SW1P 3RB
Registered Charity Number:	240531



Our promise to you...

We understand that deciding who to include in your Will is an important decision that only you can make. Therefore we promise to:

- recognise that you will, naturally, want to take care of your loved ones first.
- respect your privacy.
- leave you to make your own decisions in your own time.
- not put you under any pressure to tell us if you are leaving a gift to Mothers' Union. But doing so will allow us to thank you and show you what you will be helping us to achieve.
- use your gift wisely and efficiently.
- handle your gift with sensitivity and respect.
- let you choose how often and how we communicate with you.
- recognise that you have the right to change your mind about leaving a gift to Mothers' Union at any point in the future.
- be ready to answer any questions you may have.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I need to make a Will?

Wills are the only way to ensure that your hard earned assets go to the people you love or the causes you care about. Even if you don't have much to leave it is still worth making a Will. When you consider your home and items of sentimental value you may realise you have more to leave than you expected!

What is the best wording to leave a gift to Mothers' Union?

I give, free of inheritance tax and all other fiscal impositions,

- the sum of OR
- all of the residue of my estate OR
- a % share of the residue of my estate*

absolutely to Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB, Registered Charity No. 240531, for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.

I already have a Will. Is it difficult to change?

No, your Will can be amended using the Codicil in this pack as a guide. We always advise you to consult your solicitor to ensure the changes are legally binding.

How will a gift to Mothers' Union affect my tax position?

Depending on the value of your estate, you are liable to pay inheritance tax on anything you leave to family and friends. However gifts to charity are deducted before inheritance tax is calculated. Therefore a gift to Mothers' Union could help reduce the amount of tax paid. Taxation laws can change so please consult your solicitor.

Can my gift benefit a specific area of Mothers' Union's work?

Most people give to Mothers' Union's General Fund to ensure the money is used where it is most needed. However we are happy to discuss the possibility of

leaving your gift to a specific area of work. Bear in mind however that our work changes over time so it is best to keep any instruction as open as possible to avoid making your gift unusable.

Can I leave a gift to a branch?

Branches are not charities in their own right. So if you would like to leave a gift to a branch you should put the details of the diocese (which is the registered charity), stating that it is to benefit work in which the branch is involved. As branches can close or merge, please use wording that allows the diocese to use the money for other similar purposes should it become necessary. Please avoid leaving money to benefit branch members, as it can be construed as being to benefit individuals and therefore not for charitable purposes.

Can I leave a gift to a diocese?

Yes but it is worth contacting the diocese to ensure your gift can be put to good use. To find out more please contact the diocese before writing your Will.

Can I trust Mothers' Union to look after my money?

We will make sure to be good stewards of your money, spending it wisely and efficiently, according to your wishes.

Isn't this a private matter to me?

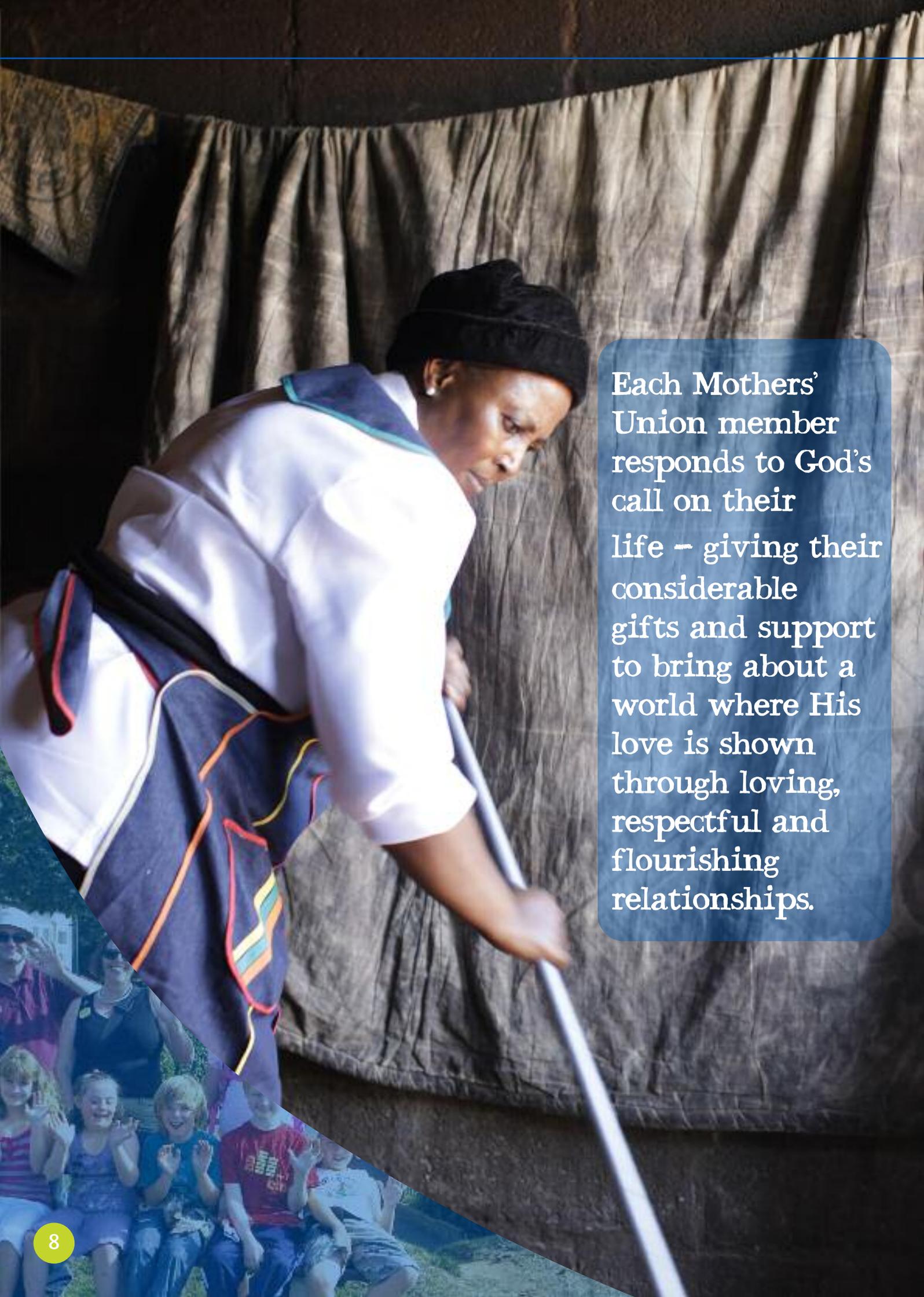
Absolutely. You are under no obligation to tell us of your intentions but doing so will enable us to thank you and allow us to plan better for the future.

What if I change my mind?

You are able to change your Will at any time using a Codicil. Do make sure to consult your solicitor to ensure any changes are legally binding.



NB. Should you have any other questions please contact us using the details on the back page.



Each Mothers' Union member responds to God's call on their life – giving their considerable gifts and support to bring about a world where His love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships.

Pledge Form

I want to ensure Mothers' Union can continue to support families far into the future.

Thank you so much for taking the time to consider leaving a gift to Mothers' Union in your Will. You are under no obligation to tell us your plans but doing so, by filling out this form, will allow us to thank you for helping to change lives. The information you provide will be kept confidential and is not legally binding, simply a statement of your intent at this time.

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Email.....Telephone.....

Mothers' Union Branch.....

Please tick the box that applies to you:

I have already included a gift to Mothers' Union in my Will, which will be

A proportion of my estate.....%

A specific sum of money £.....

An item of value

I intend to leave a gift to Mothers' Union in my Will and would like to discuss my options with someone further

Please return your completed form to:

Freepost RTGU-SBBL-LXSX, Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB

Thank you

Signature.....Date.....



Codicil to include Mothers' Union in an existing Will

Please use this form if you would like to amend your Will to leave a gift, or change the amount you plan to leave, to Mothers' Union. To ensure that the codicil does not invalidate or contradict the contents of your existing Will, please consult a solicitor before embarking on making changes.

Signing your Codicil:

1. Ask two people (not the executors, beneficiaries from your Will or their spouses) to witness your signature.
2. Sign the Codicil in ink, using your normal signature, in the presence of both your witnesses.
3. Ask the witnesses to complete their sections in full in the presence of you and each other.
4. Store the Codicil with your Will but do not attach it.

Codicil (please complete in capital letters)

I (full name).....

of (address).....

.....
.....

Postcode.....

declare this to be a (first/ second/ third etc)

Codicil to my Will, dated and made the

(day).....of (month).....

year (in words).....

The Will shall be construed and take effect as if it contained the following clause (please tick as appropriate):

I wish that donations, in lieu of flowers at my Funeral, be given

I give, free of inheritance tax and all other fiscal impositions,

the sum of £.....

all of the residue of my estate

a.....% share of the residue of my estate*

absolutely to Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB, Registered Charity No. 240531, for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt (s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors. In all other respects, I confirm my Will and any other Codicils thereto.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this

.....**day of** (month).....20.....

Signed by the Testator (signature)

.....

in our presence and witnessed by us in the presence of him/ her and each other.

First witness (signature)

.....

Full name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Occupation.....

Second witness (signature)

.....

Full name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Occupation.....

**A share of your estate is very valuable as it usually maintains value or increases over time. Should you wish to leave a percentage of your estate to Mothers' Union with your Codicil, we suggest you consult your solicitor to ensure the correct wording is used and avoid the possibility of the residuary gift with your Codicil and/or Will being held invalid.*

Glossary of legal definitions

Administrator If you die without a Will or without an executor, an administrator will be appointed to handle your estate.

Assets Everything you own, including savings, shares, investments, premium bonds, insurance policies, pensions, property, cars, household items, jewellery etc.

Beneficiary An individual, group or organisation to whom you would like to leave a gift in your Will.

Bequest A gift in your Will.

Codicil A supplement to a Will, which changes or amends part of it.

Conditional cash gift A type of gift you can leave in your Will, which can only be inherited based on certain conditions. For example, when a young person reaches a certain age or by a charity if your other beneficiaries die before you do.

Die intestate If you pass away without having a valid Will the Government will take charge of your estate, meaning your wishes are likely to be ignored or it will take longer to release your assets.

Estate The total value of all your assets less any liabilities.

Executor The person/s named in your Will to administer your estate after you die. It is best to appoint two in case one becomes unable to carry out your wishes. Professional executors include solicitors, banks, trust corporations and Will writers. Lay executors include family and friends.

Grant of probate A court document giving your executor/s the legal right to distribute your Will according to your wishes.

Inheritance tax A certain percentage of your estate, over a certain amount, that is paid to the Government. Gifts given to charity are exempt so could significantly

reduce how much tax is claimed on your estate. See www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax/overview for the latest information.

Legal guardian/s Individual/s with legal responsibility for another person's personal and financial interests. Most commonly associated with a Power of Attorney.

Liabilities Everything you owe including mortgages, loans, credit card and store card debts etc. These are normally paid off by your assets before gifts are administered to your beneficiaries.

Pecuniary gift A type of gift you can leave in your Will, which is a specific amount of money. While the amount stays unchanged, its value is likely to change significantly over time because of inflation.

Probate process The official process to prove your Will is authentic and valid leading to Grant of Probate.

Residuary gift A type of gift you can leave in your Will, which is a percentage of your estate. It is less likely to be affected by inflation so is the best way to provide for your family, friends and causes you care about.

Residue The remainder of your estate once all liabilities, funeral expenses, costs of administration of the estate and all specific and other gifts in your Will have been paid.

Specific gift A type of gift left in your Will, which is non-monetary such as a house or painting.

Testator/ Testatrix You, who are writing your Will.

Trustee An individual appointed to look after any part of your estate for the benefit of others.

Trust fund A type of gift left in your Will and released at a specific date.



To find out more about leaving a gift in your Will to Mothers' Union:
Tel: 020 7227 0620
Email: legacy@mothersunion.org

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Registered charity no: 240531