

here4horses

The North East's Specialist Horse & Pony Charity

Your guide to leaving a Gift in your Will



“The wind of heaven is that which blows through horses’ ears.”

Leaving a Legacy

The Here4Horses team are very grateful that you may be thinking about leaving a gift to us in your will. We know this can be quite a daunting process, so we have pulled together some advice in this booklet, which we hope will be of help.

It is a fact that legacies left to small charities like ours, make a significant contribution to enabling essential welfare work to continue.

Our website illustrates first-hand, the difference we make to the lives of horses and ponies. Find us at www.here4horses.org.uk

Our work is made possible thanks to our generous donors. We are entirely run by volunteers and you can be assured that all funds contribute to horse welfare.

We'd like to make it clear that if you do decide to leave us a bequest in your Will, then we will treat your gift with the utmost care.

All horses, ponies, donkeys and mules remain in our ownership for life and we promise to ensure that your generosity and kindness to them, will be felt way beyond your lifetime.

We Rescue, We Rehabilitate, We Rehome, We Educate – this mantra clearly outlines how we work to secure a better life for horses and ponies.

Please feel free to call or email us with any questions you may have. Whether it's to find out more about us, discuss your plans, or request assistance from our free Will Writing or Will Review service - we'd love to hear from you.



“Thank you for considering Here4Horses as a recipient of a gift in your will. If you love horses, your legacy will help long into the future, by protecting the lives of countless horses and ponies”

**Nicola Endersby, MRCVS
Chair, Here4Horses**

Noggin the Nog

Noggin came into our care in 2017 and his case instantly captured everyone's heart. A large group of fly-grazing horses were giving us serious cause for concern.



Thankfully the RSPCA decided to seize the entire group.

The round up went well but a last-minute decision to make a final sweep of the field, led to a grim discovery.

Almost invisible in a sea of mud, there lay what looked like a dead body – then miraculously, Noggin whickered for attention.

The pictures here go some way to show the horror of the situation.

Noggin arrived, freezing and completely exhausted, with every inch of his skin covered in mud; it had to be carefully cleaned from his mouth, eyes and nostrils.

Over the coming weeks he made a truly remarkable recovery but was (perhaps understandably), very grumpy in the early days of his recovery.



That is all a distant memory, as he is now such a sweet natured little chap who craves human attention, despite his appalling early neglect.

He has started his education as a riding pony and we are delighted that he will soon be looking for his perfect partner on our Loanie Pony Scheme.

Shelby

In late 2021 we were contacted by a lady whose life had been turned upside down.



She had just bought a lovely Irish Cob when Covid-19 struck and lost both her husband and her father within 24 hours of each other.

Julie clearly needed to come to terms with her traumatic loss.

Then, once riding again, she took a serious fall from Mr Shelby which would change things forever.

Julie punctured a lung and broke her pelvis, vertebrae, shoulder and ribs. She was too afraid to ride again and made the sad decision to sell Shelby.

However, with health and behavioural issues of his own this didn't happen but Julie was determined that he should find a permanent home where he would be treasured.

She contacted us in desperation to see if we could help secure Shelby's future.

We assess all horses and ponies on a case by case basis and Trustees were unanimous that help should be offered if at all possible.

So, Shelby came to us and underwent intensive training and his health issues were resolved.

He was ready to charm his way into a perfect Loanie Pony home which we have found for him in deepest Staffordshire.

As we all know, life can take us in some thoroughly unexpected directions.

The team at Here4Horses want to be able to step in and protect horses and ponies, no matter what the tragic circumstances. A gift in your Will can make this possible.

What is the cost of care?

- The annual cost of boarding for one horse or pony £2,600
- Our monthly winter feed (and treats) bill over £800
- Annual vaccinations cost us at least £1,700
- Nursing a very sick horse back to health - in the region of £3k
- Keeping all the hooves in good shape comes to £300 per month
- One emergency tooth extraction is £680 (min)
- Passports and microchips are £45 per horse or pony x49
- Marketing, publicity, printing, IT - minimum of £750 per month
- Treating a serious wound can be as much as £1,800
- Insuring our activities comes to £1,130 annually
- Additional VAT on the above @ 20%

*Estimated costs correct as at August 2022



Educational Initiatives

We believe that connecting with horse lovers who want to learn (and indeed those who might not), is the ultimate key to success. We accept that the equestrian world is steeped in tradition and old habits and beliefs die hard.

'The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old but on building the new'. (Socrates)

Almost 2500 years have passed since these wise words were first written - but they are as relevant for us today as ever.

Even very small changes to how horses are cared for and trained, can have a huge impact on their welfare.

The immediate focus of our work initially lies in the UK but there is no doubt that the world wide web

provides us with a platform upon which our influence has no boundary.

We are discovering ways to engage with anyone who loves and cares for horses - helping them to give their animals the best life possible.

With your support, we can intervene when horses need help and we will work hard to bring about change for the better, for horses and ponies everywhere.

**We are Here4Horses...
how about you?**

"I have seen things so beautiful they have brought tears to my eyes. Yet none of them can match the gracefulness and beauty of a horse running free"

What type of gift can you leave to here4horses?

Once you have decided to leave us a legacy, you have several options available to you:

Residuary Gift

A residuary gift is a way of donating the residue of your estate to us, once all your other wishes and commitments have been met.

Residuary gifts are calculated as a percentage, so they remain proportional to the value of your estate.

Residuary gifts can reduce the number of times you need to update your Will as they will automatically change according to your financial circumstances.

Suggested wording for your Will:

I hereby give {390} of my residuary real and personal estate to Here4Horses of Farnley Farm, Hunwick, Crook, Co Durham DL15 0RB. Registered Charity Number 1189709.

This legacy can be used for general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the proper officer for the time being of Here4Horses, shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

Pecuniary Gift – Also known as a Cash Gift

If you'd like Here4Horses to benefit from a fixed sum of money, you will need to choose what is known as a Pecuniary Gift.

It is worth noting that inflation is likely to affect the value of your Pecuniary Gift over time, unless this sum is inflation linked. Your solicitor/advisor should be able to assist you.

Suggested wording for your Will:

I hereby give the sum of [...in words] pounds [£...in figures] to Here4Horses of Farnley Farm, Hunwick, Crook, Co Durham DL15 0RB. Registered Charity Number 1189709.

This legacy can be used for general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the proper officer for the time being of Here4Horses, shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

Specific Gift

This refers to a clearly identified item or items, such as jewellery, paintings, a property (vacant or let), land, shares, insurance or assurance policies or other securities.

Suggested wording for your Will:

I hereby give, to Here4Horses, Registered Charity Number 1189709 of Farnley Farm, Hunwick, Crook, Co Durham DL15 0RB absolutely my [...name and description of item].

This legacy can be used for general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the proper officer for the time being of Here4Horses, shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

Gift in Trust

A gift in trust means that you leave something for someone to use over a given period of time. When that time has ended, the gift can be passed on to another recipient, such as a charity. This is known as a 'life interest'.

Conditional Gift

This type of gift is made only if another event, or your Will could perhaps state that a gift only applies if all other beneficiaries named in your Will, die before you do.

We suggest talking to a solicitor/advisor to make sure the wording is correct.

We understand that you may have some clear ideas as to how you would like us to use your money.

The Here4Horses team welcomes your thoughts and inspiration and believe we keep learning and changing as we go along.

Listening to our supporters is an essential part of this. However, we would encourage gifts left to us to be unrestricted if possible; we are then free to use the money where it is most needed at any given time.

Every gift to us really does matter and some of the frequently asked questions we are asked can be found here:

Q Is it worth leaving a gift to Here4Horses if I don't think I will have much to leave?

A Here4Horses is still a very small charity, which has slowly grown from very humble beginnings. There is no doubt that our success so far, has been built on the fact that we are always very grateful for all gifts bestowed upon us, no matter how small.

We recognise and value the consideration given to every gift – where people are sharing our belief in securing a better life for horses.

Q I want to take care of my loved ones first and don't really know whether there will be anything left to leave to your charity – what should I do?

A We completely understand that it is incredibly difficult to estimate your financial situation in the future.

That's why some Here4Horses supporters choose to leave a residuary gift (a share of their estate once all their other wishes and commitments have been carried out).

Even 1% of your estate, after family and friends are provided for, could make a huge difference to us.

If there is nothing left in the estate, then Here4Horses would simply not benefit - but your kindness in remembering us would always be appreciated.



“Small acts of kindness are never wasted”

“A great horse will change your life, whilst the truly special ones will define it.”

Q What do I need to do, if I decide to leave a gift in my Will to Here4Horses?

A The first step is to choose the beneficiary's you wish to remember in your will. This might include family, friends and charities. You will then need to decide how you would like to divide your estate between them.

It can be useful to work out the approximate value of your estate and any outstanding debts. You may well find you have more to leave than you think.

You will also need to include the registered charity number for any charity that you wish to include.

The Here4Horses Registered Charity Number is 1189709

Q Can I leave a gift to a special area of Here4Horses work, close to my heart?

A Yes, you can ask that your legacy be used for a specific area of our work that matters most to you.

We will do our very best to honour your wishes. We do however ask that your solicitor expresses this as a specific wish in your Will.

Then, should things change in the future, we will endeavour to put your legacy towards a similar project or area of our work where it will have the most impact.

Our Trustees would be very happy to discuss any specific areas you would like your legacy to support.

Q Will I need a solicitor?

A Whether you're writing a Will from scratch or amending an existing Will, you will need an approved advisor or a solicitor.

A professionally prepared Will ensures your affairs are left in order and could save your loved ones from months of stressful administrative work during a difficult time.

It also gives you the chance to leave lasting gifts and mementos to the people and organisations that matter to you.

You can find a local solicitor who specialises in Wills by calling the Law Society on 020 7242 1222 or online at www.lawsociety.org.uk



Q Are there any other legal considerations?

A You will need to choose executors. Your executor(s) will be responsible for carrying out your wishes and must be over 18 years of age. It is best to name two people in case one is unable to act for you.

You can choose a friend or family member to be an executor, even if they are a beneficiary of your Will.

Many people choose an executor from their own age group; however, it could be a good idea to choose an executor slightly younger than you.

The role of an executor can be quite a responsibility and may involve a considerable amount of work, so it is best to discuss it with the person you would like to nominate first.

You can also nominate a solicitor or bank, although they will charge your estate for their time.

Wherever Here4Horses is a beneficiary of a Will, we would monitor professional executors to ensure that they do not charge excessive fees.

Q Where should I keep my Will?

A Your solicitor or bank may store your Will for you without charge. It is also a good idea to keep a copy in a safe place at home, and make sure a relative or close friend knows where the original copy of your Will is stored.



Q Will I pay tax on my estate?

A If the value of your estate is close to the inheritance tax threshold, you may want to consider discussing options with your solicitor to limit any inheritance tax liability.

A properly drafted Will can help reduce the amount of tax paid by your estate, ensuring it goes to the loved ones and causes that you have chosen to benefit.

The rules surrounding tax can be complex so it's worth seeking the assistance of a Wills, probate and tax solicitor to discuss any inheritance tax implications in order to maximise the amount inherited by your beneficiaries. Making a list of your beneficiaries' addresses will also save you time with your solicitor/advisor.

Charitable gifts are 100% exempt from tax and they can reduce or even eliminate the overall tax on your estate altogether.

If you would like more information you can visit www.hmrc.gov.uk/inheritancetax

Q What happens if I don't have a Will?

A If you don't have a Will or your Will is invalid (perhaps because it isn't signed or witnessed properly), your estate is deemed to be 'intestate'.

This means that ultimately your estate may not be distributed according to your wishes.

The way to ensure your requests will be met is to have a professionally prepared, up to date Will.

Q If I already have a Will - do I need to update it?

A Once any Will is written, it is not necessarily the end of the process.

We all know that life takes us in different directions and our best laid plans may need to be modified - or perhaps our priorities simply change. Your Will can be updated to reflect this.

You can add Here4Horses as a beneficiary, or change the details of the gift you have already left Here4Horses by using something called a Codicil.

By using a Codicil, you can leave the contents of your original Will in place and simply add the new information.

This document amends your Will and must be signed and witnessed just like the original and is best kept with your Will.

Heidi

A call from a member of the public, led to a volunteer making a visit to a Durham building site in April 2018.

To get here...



Peering through a fence, she was horrified at what she thought was a dead horse amongst the rubbish.

The picture below shows the deep furrows in the mud where Heidi had been struggling to get up for what had clearly been a long time.

Miracles do happen however, as moments later she was seen to be breathing and the shocked volunteer quickly made a call for assistance.

Heidi was lifted to her feet and from the beginning showed a unique fighting spirit which convinced everyone that she should be given a second chance.

She was carefully transported to us where she embarked upon a very long and arduous road to recovery – unable to stand without our help for a total of 45 days.

Her treatment included an immediate plasma transfusion, long term management of deep & painful pressure sores and the need to lance a huge abscess.

Her recovery took the best part of a year and she is now in excellent condition, perhaps even a little too portly. Her skin is still extremely sensitive, especially at the site of old wounds.

Heidi's special case means she is likely to remain at Here4Horses.

From there...



Takes generosity and care.

Why choose here4horses?

The earlier pages provide a glimpse of the important work your legacy would support.

Horses possess unique qualities and have undoubtedly stirred emotions in human beings for centuries. They can sense our feelings and we naturally identify with their unique personalities.

Many people find themselves fascinated by – and are drawn to - the beauty and sheer majesty of horses, even though they might be afraid of their size and strength.

The horse has been a valuable partner to us, providing transport, labour and companionship - a very special connection that will forever continue.



We believe that a huge debt of gratitude is owed to this extraordinary species. Yet even now, in the 21st century, there is still so much important work to be done, protecting these magnificent animals from abuse, neglect and abject ignorance of their needs.

Whatever your connections or whether you simply love horses like we do and want to help them in the future, you can be certain your gift matters.

Please help us be Here4Horses.

Your Will is one of the most important documents you will ever write.

It is where you legally decide what will happen to your money and possessions, once you are no longer here.

It is the only way that you can make sure, that the people and causes you care about are looked after by your legacy.

"There is an unbelievable spirit at Here4Horses.

Wendy and her team are just brilliant at what they do, giving every possible chance to those horses and ponies that have been neglected and need help.

The care and dedication, is second to none, confirmed by the stablemates who come to greet you for a nuzzle.

It's a very special place".

Matt Baker – President, Here4Horses



Matt with Heidi

For more information and to find out how you can leave a legacy for here4horses please contact us at any of the following:

Email: legacy@here4horses.org.uk • Telephone: 07494 931 744

Mail: Farnley Farm, Hunwick, Crook, Co Durham, DL15 0RB UK

Registered in England and Wales Charity No. 1189709

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Securing a better life for Horses and Ponies

