REMEMBER A CHARITY

In this supplement from Remember A Charity find out how to pass on something wonderful by including a charity in your will.

Pages 2-3
Stars of the '80s share how they are helping good causes today and for tomorrow.

Pages 10-11
Read how Disability Sports Coach could use gifts in wills to help more disabled people access sports.

Pages 12-13
Actress Pam St Clement explains how international charity Brooke protects working animals.

THIS IS AN INDEPENDENT SUPPLEMENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY REMEMBER A CHARITY WHICH TAKES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTENT.
We tend to think of social housing as part of our modern welfare system, a safety net for people in need, yet almshouses have been protecting the most vulnerable in society since the 10th century. Often distinguishable as historic buildings in rural towns and villages, almshouses are just as likely to be found in city centres, with new properties still being built today.

Founded in 1946, The Almshouse Association represents more than 1,600 independent almshouse charities which provide 30,000 affordable homes for 36,000 people. Celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2021, art historian and BBC presenter Dan Cruickshank is an ambassador for the organisation.

"Almost every town has a splendid collection of almshouses, many of which are amazing buildings," he says. "We tend to think of almshouses as places such as The Royal Hospital Chelsea, home of the Chelsea Pensioners, which care for older people and this is the enduring spirit of almshouses. In my work as an art historian I often find myself in almshouses writing about the beauty of these buildings. When I first got involved with The Almshouse Association I was reminded of the relevance of almshouses to today's society and the current housing crisis. The oldest almshouse foundation is thought to be The Hospital of St Oswold which was founded around 990 by the Bishop of Worcester as a place to 'minister the sick, bury the dead, relieve the poor and give shelter to travellers'.

"We are working on a programme about the endowments made by many incredible characters throughout history, particularly during the 17th and 18th centuries. One of these was Lady Margaret Hungerford who purchased a plot of land in Horsham in 1665 to build almshouses and a schoolroom as part of the medieval Roman Catholic tradition of funding good works for the good of the soul - ultimately an act of charity." The Almshouse Association's chief executive Nick Phillips says that while almshouses begin with compassion, they go on to create companionship and community. "Almshouses come from the activism of people seeing those in need and doing something about it," he says. "More almshouses are being built now than at any time since the Industrial Revolution. In the Victorian age, it was..."
**Time to reflect**

The events of the past 18 months have led more people to think about leaving a gift in their will, says Rob Cope, director of Remember A Charity.

For many charities, the pandemic had an immediate effect on their fundraising efforts, but it also created a moment of reflection. With more people choosing to leave a gift in their will, the pandemic has highlighted the importance of future planning and the need to put their affairs in order.

“Living in a beautiful building is good for you,” says Dan. “We tend to take almshouses for granted, but to ensure they continue to be here for the future we need the next generation of philanthropists to step forward. In London, Southwark Charities has been granted planning permission to build 62 new, sustainable almshouses as part of a mixed-use scheme to replace outdated properties built in 1973. Affordable workspace will help to create jobs and generate income to support the scheme. "Almshouses are a constant reminder that legacy works, and a gift in a will can help support generations to come."

To find out more and see how you can help, visit almshouses.org

---

**Gifts in Wills**

fund a third of our research

Laura, Research Nurse

Pledge a gift when you write your Will using our Free Will Service

To find out more, visit cruk.org/freewillservice or call 0300 123 7733

Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464), Scotland (SC041666), the Isle of Man (1103) and Jersey (247). © Cancer Research UK 2021.