

# Step One Charity's Make a Will Week

3rd - 7th March 2025

Write or update your will for free with a suggested minimum donation to Step One, Devon's local mental health charity.

In partnership with Scott Richards Solicitors.



# What is Make a Will Week?

Step One Charity's Make a Will Week is an opportunity for you to write or update your will with a trusted local solicitor, for free, in exchange for a suggested donation\* to Step One Charity.

By participating in Make a Will Week, you, in partnership with local solicitors Scott Richards, are helping to raise essential funds to support people with mental health problems in Devon whilst also receiving expert legal support to write your will.

\*The suggested minimum donation is £200 for an individual and £250 for a couple.

**Signing up couldn't be simpler:**

**1. Call [Scott Richards](tel:1626772441) direct on 1626 772441 to book an appointment during our Make a Will Week 2025.**

**2. Write or update your will.**

Appointments are available between 3rd and 7th March 2025, during which time our partner solicitors will help you to create or adapt your will, ensuring that your wishes are accurately reflected and verified.

The appointment is for you to take care of your loved ones and is completely confidential. We do not expect you to leave Step One Charity a gift in your will, however we would be extremely grateful if you did as gifts left in wills help fund our work to support local people with mental health problems.

Further information and how to book an appointment can be found on our website at [www.steponecharity.co.uk/make-a-will-week](http://www.steponecharity.co.uk/make-a-will-week).



# What should I expect from Make a Will Week

**Local couple Michael and Noni have previously participated in Step One Charity's Make a Will Week; they booked a couple's will-writing appointment. Read about their experience below:**

“We phoned and made an appointment with the solicitor, and they said we had to bring a passport or something for ID.

Then we went along to the appointment, and we met Becca. She was very nice and put us at our ease. We discussed what we wanted to put in the will, and she explained the different kinds and implications of the things we wanted to do and how best to do it.

Next, she wrote everything down and sent it to us. We looked at it and made sure it was ok and it was what we discussed, then we made another appointment to go and see her and sign the document.

It was all very simple and very friendly and very straightforward. We're really glad we took part in the scheme. It encouraged us to do something we'd been meaning to do for a long time, and it made us get on with it and do it.”



**The above description is for Tozers Solicitors, however each of our partners may have a slightly different process for your will-writing appointment.**

# Making a Will FAQ's

## **Why would I make a will now?**

Making a will is something that most of us need to do in our life-times. For many people, it is something which, for many reasons, is on their mind for a long time before getting round to making that appointment. Once it's done however, you can relax in the knowledge that you have made preparations for the future and confirmed your wishes. If it's something you've been thinking about, why not take the opportunity to be supported by a trusted legal professional for free by making a donation to much-loved local charity.

## **What if I don't have any major assets or I don't know what my assets will be in the future?**

A will does not necessarily need to identify specific items unless you would like it to. You can choose to write your property as percentages dedicated to specific people or organisations. This means that you do not need to update your will every time you acquire new items or property, or if the value of your estate changes. Your beneficiaries will receive your chosen percentage no matter the actual financial figure.

## **What happens if a will is complicated?**

Make a Will Week will cover simple wills only, although it covers both individual and couple appointments. If you think your will may be complex - e.g. leaving gifts in trust - the solicitor may ask for you to pay the balance. Rest assured that most people require simple wills.

## **What should I bring to my appointment?**

To make the most of your appointment, it would be helpful if you can bring:

- A list of you assets (property, savings, investments etc).
- Names and contact details of your chosen executors.
- Details of any beneficiaries and their contact information.
- Specific wishes, such as guardianship for children or charitable donations.

# How do I book an appointment?

You can book your individual or couples appointment directly with our partner solicitor Scott Richards.

Appointments are available between 3rd to 7th March 2025 and are provided on a first-come-first-served basis. Please remember to quote 'Step One Charity' when you make the booking.

Our solicitors offer in-person, telephone and video call meetings. They may also be able to make a house visit. Please call them direct to find out their accessibility options.



**Scott Richards Solicitors**

01626 772441

Teignmouth and Newton Abbot locations

“It cost so little of my time but can provide so much to my family and the charities I have chosen should the unexpected happen. This can give them relief in a really bad time and shows that I was thinking of them.”



# Why support Step One Charity?

Step One Charity is a much-loved local mental health charity that has been a part of the Devon community for over 85 years. Previously St. Loe's Foundation, the charity supports up to 800 people every year to manage their mental health and wellbeing.

We offer a variety of services and support, including rehabilitation and personalised recovery plans, group support, employment support, and more.

**Here are just a couple examples of how we have made a difference:**

**We helped Becky to learn techniques to manage her wellbeing and gain friends in a social group:**

“Taking part in the BeWell@StepOne courses and groups has helped me break the cycle and gain friends in a social group. I have loads of support and forever learning new things, especially within the peer support group. I feel completely safe in a safe place.”



**We helped Jaime to overcome his agoraphobic tendencies, start afresh in a new city and start attending university:**

“Quite soon after working with Step One, my agoraphobic tendencies were challenged in a healthy and productive way; I went from a complete shut-in, afraid of answering the door, to regularly going outside every week alongside a variety of new faces.”



With your help we can deliver the services that so many people across our community are desperately in need of.

# Leave a legacy

At your appointment, your chosen solicitor may ask if you would like to leave a gift to Step One Charity in your will. More and more people are choosing to donate to charities in this way, with nearly 11,000 UK charities receiving donations from gifts in wills in 2021.

Leaving a gift to a charity in your will has many benefits, both to you and to the charity you choose. Not only are you making sure that a charity close to your heart is able to continue their valuable work, but you are also potentially reducing your overall inheritance tax rate as the donation is made before inheritance tax is calculated.

Leaving a gift in your will is one of the most effective ways to give to charity.

Your gift is not taxable which means that 100% of your donation goes directly to the organisation, and you pay nothing now. In addition, a donation in your will has minimal administrative costs at either end meaning that more of your donation will go directly to supporting those in need.

Last year 550 people received group-based mental health support through BeWell@StepOne.



Leaving Step One Charity a gift in your will can make a huge difference to someone's life, helping them to rebuild hope after crisis or to cope with daily activities.

Contact [legacies@steponecharity.co.uk](mailto:legacies@steponecharity.co.uk) to find out more.



Your gift could allow us to run cookery classes for people with long-term mental health conditions or learning disabilities.



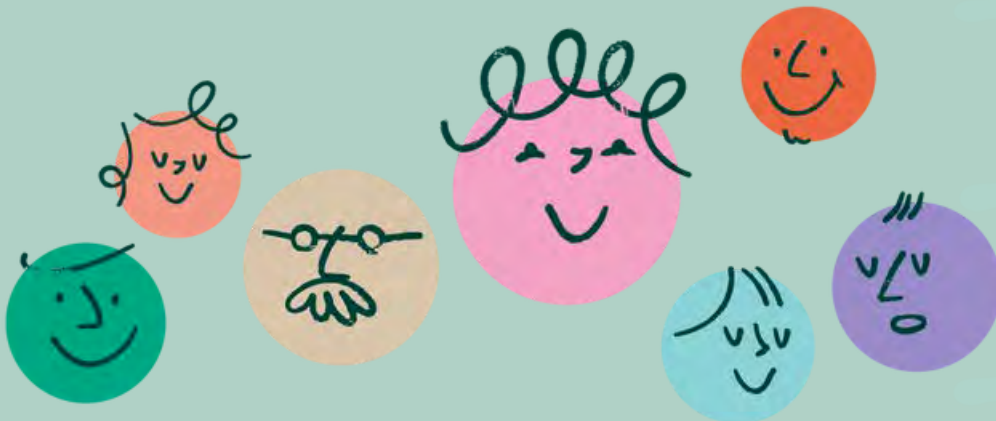
Your gift could offer precious wellbeing activities such as visiting local animal centres.



Your gift could allow an Occupational Therapist to assess and understand what support someone needs in the community after discharge from our rehabilitation service.



Your gift could provide peer support activities such as a wellbeing walking group for people at risk of mental health crisis.



[www.steponecharity.co.uk/make-a-will-week](http://www.steponecharity.co.uk/make-a-will-week)  
[legacies@steponecharity.co.uk](mailto:legacies@steponecharity.co.uk)