



Your will is a powerful tool.

Passionate about a club, charity or community cause?
Leaving a gift in your will, after taking care of family
and friends, is the perfect way to say thank you.



Public
Trust

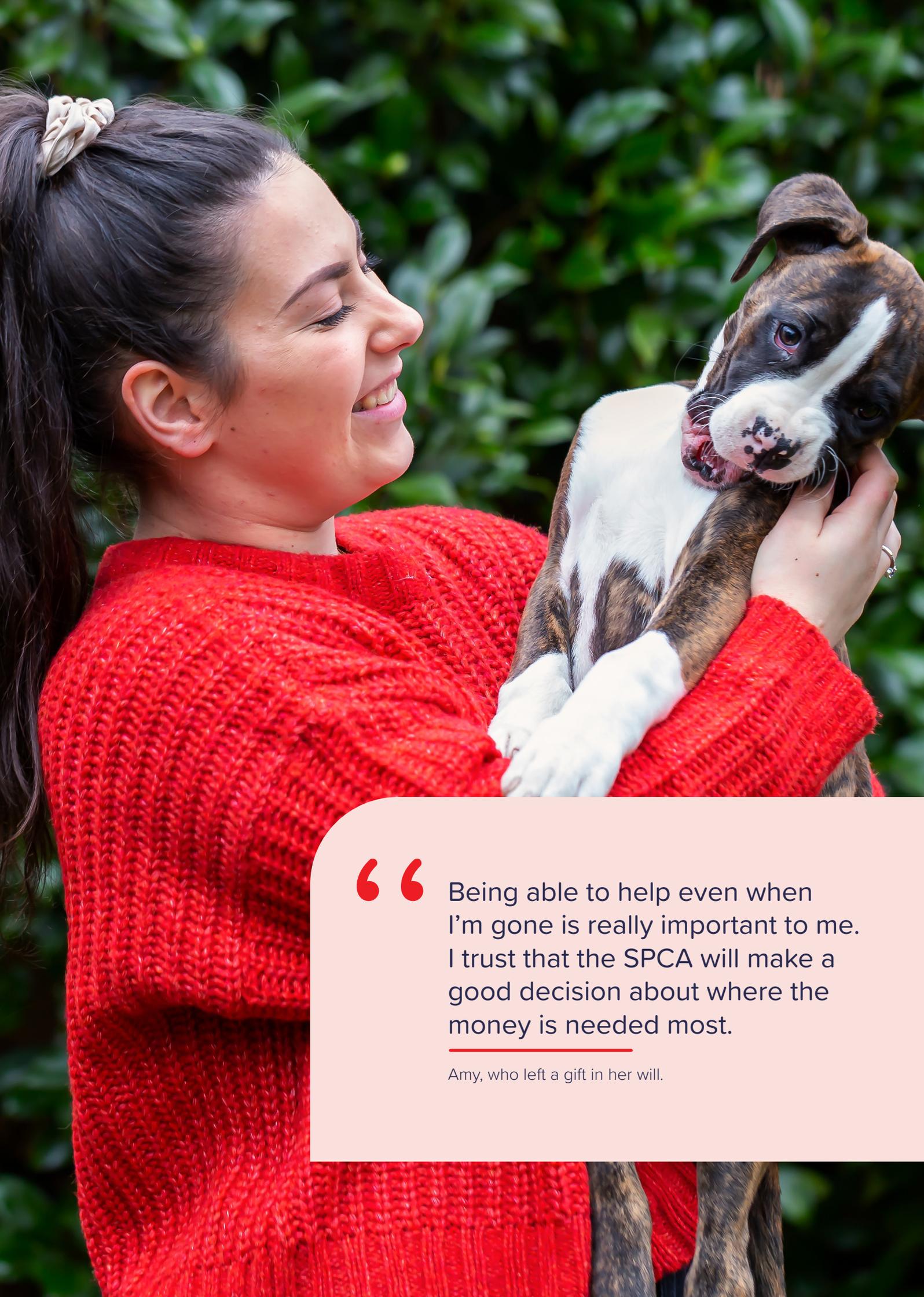
WILLS
WEEK 15-21 July

Leave a gift in your will & let your kindness live on.

From your local sports club, to a humanitarian effort, charities and not-for-profit organisations give so much to our lives and communities. So, if you're passionate about a club, charity or community cause, you might like to think about leaving them a gift in your will.

These special gifts are called bequests and they are a vital source of funding that enables charities and not-for-profits to sustain their programmes, expand their activities and reach their goals.

At Public Trust we've been helping Kiwis with their wills for over 150 years. We're New Zealand's largest provider of estate planning and administration services and one of the largest charitable trust administrators, helping charities distribute funds back to our communities.



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Being able to help even when I'm gone is really important to me. I trust that the SPCA will make a good decision about where the money is needed most.

Amy, who left a gift in her will.

Where there's a will, there's a way to support.

By making a bequest, whether it's big or small, your generosity lives on.

You can help to provide care and support, aiding scientific research, promoting education or enriching the arts. You may wish to consider:

- > Medical research, providing access to healthcare facilities, and supporting initiatives focused on disease prevention and treatment
- > Projects aimed at protecting and preserving New Zealand's natural habitats, wildlife, and ecosystems
- > Shelters, rescue operations, and advocacy campaigns aimed at protecting and improving the lives of animals
- > Supporting organisations that provide assistance to individuals and families facing challenges such as homelessness, addiction, or domestic violence or;
- > Supporting New Zealand's cultural institutions, arts education programmes, and initiatives that promote creativity and cultural diversity.

A lasting positive impact on your community.

Knowing you can have a lasting positive impact on your community and things you care about is a great feeling. The positive effects give others a big boost too, says Blind Low Vision NZ. The charity provides practical and emotional support and services to people of all ages who are blind or have low vision.

Relationships Manager Joanne Eve says it's a real honour to receive gifts left in people's wills. "Charitable gifts help make our work possible and allow us to support more people in the community and really make a positive impact on their lives," she says. This is also the reason why Joanne herself has included a gift to Blind Low Vision NZ in her will.

"I know the important work charities do, and the meaningful change we can bring to New Zealanders, and I wanted to continue giving after I'm gone."

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Bequests play an important role in Aotearoa's philanthropic sector and we see every day the good mahi happening in communities all around Aotearoa because of giving.

Philanthropy New Zealand
CEO Rahul Watson Govindan

How do I decide who to choose?

From your local sports club, humanitarian effort, to charities and not-for-profit organisations, deciding where to direct your gift can be challenging.

It may help to ask yourself the following questions:

- > What are your core values and interests, and is there a local or global cause that shares those values?
- > What causes are currently in need of support?
- > How do you envision your legacy enduring?
- > What form of contribution do you plan to leave behind? Property, a valuable asset, financial support, or something else?

Regardless of who you choose to leave a gift to, it's important to consider whether you see it as a short-term or long-term contribution. Take time to understand the needs of the cause, and conduct thorough research.

It's a good idea to discuss your intentions with your family, as it ensures transparency and may help prevent potential challenges to your will. Sharing your decisions with your loved ones is a meaningful way to include them in your wishes.

The Charities Register is a database of all registered charities in New Zealand that might help you to make informed decisions of where you might like to offer support.

How to leave a gift in your will.

With a gift in your will, your kindness lives on.
Your gift can vary in form, but commonly includes:



Pecuniary Gift:
A fixed sum of money designated in your will.



Percentage Gift:
Designating a percentage of your residuary estate.



Specific Gift:
Leaving a defined item in your will, such as property, shares, or an object.



Whole Estate:
An exceptionally generous gift of your entire residuary estate.

What is your residuary estate?

Once the expenses and debts are covered and any specific gifts distributed, whatever is left over is called the residuary estate.

Even a modest allocation, such as 1% of your residuary estate, can have a significant impact while still ensuring that your loved ones are provided for.

Gifts allocated to charities in your will are exempt from New Zealand inheritance tax and capital gains tax.

Writing your will with Public Trust.

A will is a legal document that outlines what you'd like to happen to your assets after you pass away. This can include things like:

- > Your assets divided equally between family members
- > Setting aside university money for you kids or a designated amount for your dog's treats to help their new guardian
- > Gift to the charity of your choice; or
- > Specific gifts you want to leave to loved ones. It also can outline your wishes or special requests for your funeral.

Why should I set one up?

If you have over \$15,000 worth of an asset (like your KiwiSaver) or own property, then formal administration of your estate is required by law and certain legal processes must be followed to administer and distribute your estate.

When your wishes are clearly outlined in a will, it gives everyone the certainty they need, and ensures nothing is overlooked or your wishes are not forgotten. Having a will helps ensure the people and things you love are looked after and gives your family peace of mind during the grieving process.

Four easy steps to writing your will.

1

Review your assets

Consider your assets and whom you might want to pass these on to before preparing your will and start the conversation with family/whānau. The enclosed will planner will help you understand what can be included in your will.

2

Write your will

It's easy to prepare your will online by following our step-by-step process – first you need to create an account at publictrustonline.co.nz to get started. Otherwise, feel free to make an in person appointment and one of our experts will guide you through the entire process.

3

Print and store

Once you're happy and you've purchased your will, you'll be prompted to print a hard copy so it can be signed in person with two independent witnesses who are not named beneficiaries. It then needs to be stored safely until needed.

4

Update

As life changes, so might your will. To make any changes to your will, simply login to your Public Trust account and make the necessary update to your will for a small fee.

Your will planner.

Here are some questions to think about as part of the planning process in writing your will. This planner will help to get your thoughts in order and save time before officially writing your will.

Step 1. How to estimate the value of your estate.

A/ Your assets	Value \$NZD
Your home	
Your KiwiSaver	
Life insurance policy (owned by you)	
Other property or land	
Cars or other vehicles	
Contents of your home including furniture, antiques, heirlooms	
Money saved in banks, or shares	
Value \$NZD	\$
B/ Your liabilities	Value \$NZD
Your mortgage	
Loans, overdrafts, credit cards and other debits you owe	
Provision for funeral and legal expenses	
Total liabilities	\$
Deduct A – B (assets – liabilities) = The estimated value of your estate	\$

Step 2. Think about your family and/or friends and any charitable causes you're considering leaving a gift in your will.

Names	Gift, amount or % share
Residuary Beneficiary - The entities that receive any residuary assets that are not specifically left to other named beneficiaries.	

If applicable, think about a testamentary guardian for your dependents and pets.

Names

Step 3. Consider your executor. Choose your executor carefully as they will be responsible for carrying out your wishes when you pass. If applicable, include details of your solicitor.

Executor name / solicitor
Back up executor

Step 4. Write your will.

- > Online by following our step-by-step process – first you need to create an account at **publictrustonline.co.nz**
- > In person by booking an appointment with one of our experts, by calling 0800 371 471 or visiting **publictrust.co.nz/locations**

This document is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to replace a legal will document. It should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional legal advice tailored to your specific circumstances.

