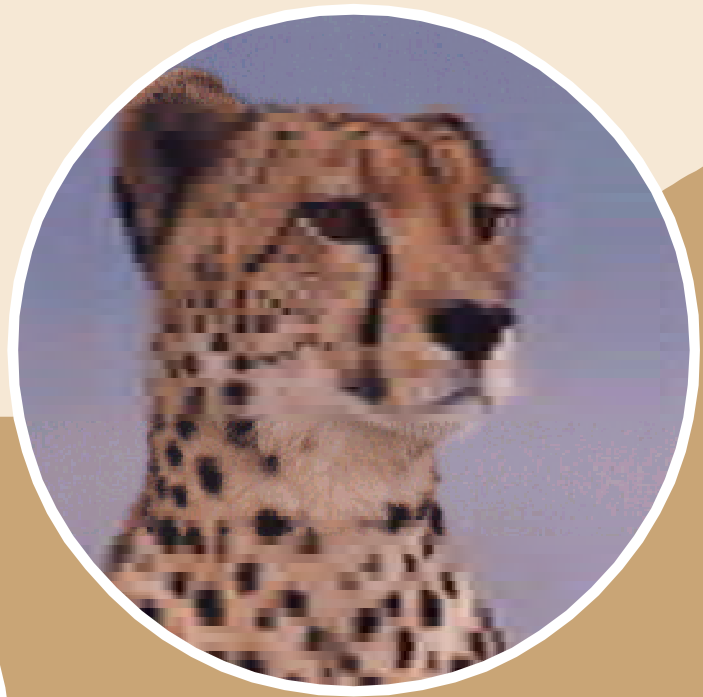


~ A most precious gift for the future of the cheetah ~

# LEAVING A LEGACY TO THE CHEETAH



**Cheetah**  
Conservation Fund UK

Cheetah Conservation Fund UK Eagle House, 108/110 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6RH  
Registered charity number 1079874 E-mail: [uk@cheetah.org](mailto:uk@cheetah.org)

## Your gift for the future of the cheetah

In 1900 there were 100,000 cheetahs. Today fewer than 10,000 remain. In one century man has reduced the cheetah population to less than 13% of its original population. By remembering the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK in your will you are ensuring the long-term survival of the wild cheetah for future generations to enjoy.

### About The Cheetah Conservation Fund

The Cheetah Conservation Fund UK (CCF UK) was registered as a charity in 2000 (charity number 1079874) and works closely with the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF). As Namibia has the largest and healthiest population of cheetahs left in the world, CCF's international research and education centre is based in Namibia, near Otjiwarongo.

The Cheetah Conservation Fund was founded in 1990 by Dr. Laurie Marker. CCF's mission is to be an internationally recognised centre of excellence in research and education on cheetahs and their ecosystems, working with all stakeholders to achieve best practice in the conservation and management of the world's cheetahs.

### Why leave a legacy to the cheetah?

After taking care of your loved ones you may wish to leave a gift to CCF UK. Every legacy is vital to the CCF UK and we depend heavily on legacies to continue the conservation work and issues affecting the survival of the cheetah and its habitat.

The cheetah may become extinct within the next 20 years and has already become extinct in at least 16 countries during the last 60 years. It took 4,000,000 years for the cheetah to evolve into the unique animal it is today. It has taken less than 100 years for man to place it on the endangered species list.

The cheetah cannot speak for itself. Researchers, volunteers, farmers and youth are raising voices of support and, with your help, will carry the cheetah with us through the next millennium.

*Leaving a legacy to the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK is the most lasting gift you could make and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK in your will*

### Your legacy and inheritance tax

Leaving a legacy to CCF UK is totally free of inheritance tax. The value of your estate for tax assessment is reduced by the value of the gift, therefore your tax liability can be reduced or even eliminated. The tax band stands at £325,000 (for 2010/11). Any money or property left to your spouse or charity is free of inheritance tax. Any money or property given to other beneficiaries is tax free up to the current tax threshold. If the value of your assets rises above this amount (excluding gifts to your spouse and charities) the residue will be taxed at 40%. Your solicitor will be able to answer your questions about inheritance tax.

### Will jargon explained

**Administrator:** a person appointed by the court to administer the estate of an intestate or of a testator when an executor has not been appointed or the named executor will not or cannot act

**Bequest:** a gift in your will. A legacy.

**Beneficiary:** someone who inherits something because of a will.

**Codicil:** a document on which changes or additions are made to an existing signed will. Both the will and the codicil must be read in conjunction with one another.

**Estate:** what you own when you die.

**Executors:** people appointed by you to carry out your wishes and make sure your estate is dealt with in accordance to your will.

**Intestate:** a person who has died without making a valid will.

**Probate:** is the legal procedure to establish whether you left a valid will.

**Witness:** A person who signs your will in your presence, who must not be a beneficiary.

## Making your will

We recommend you get professional advice when writing your will, with the help of a solicitor or other professional advisor. If you don't have a solicitor, speak to your local Citizen Advice Bureau. We are not able to advise you on any legal matter and information in this brochure is for your guidance only. If you have already made a will let your solicitor know of any changes.

### How important is a will?

Making a will is not difficult or expensive. Making a will is the best way to ensure your wishes are carried out. Not leaving a will can result in unnecessary stress to your loved ones at a difficult time. If you die intestate (i.e. without having made a will) the government can end up with your assets if you have no blood relatives. Even if you do, your wishes may not be followed. The only way to make sure you know how your estate will be distributed is to make a will.

### What if I already have a will?

Your solicitor can add a charity to your will with a written instruction called a codicil. This is simple and inexpensive to arrange. The codicil must be signed and witnessed and should be kept with the will.

### Can I write my own will?

Yes you can, however small mistakes can lead to legal problems with the will, making it invalid. Making a will is not expensive and we recommend you consult a solicitor for peace of mind. The cost of a professional advisor is small when compared to the cost your family will incur if your will is not valid.

### Appointing an executor

You should appoint at least one executor to carry out your instructions in your will, however two is recommended. You should ask someone you know personally such as a relative, to ensure your will is dealt with in accordance with your wishes. Otherwise a professional person such as a solicitor may be suitable. Many people appoint two executors although you can appoint up to four.

### Can an executor be a beneficiary?

Yes for example, your spouse or relative.

### Witnesses

A will needs to be signed and witnessed or it will be invalid. Please consult your solicitor or legal advisor for further information. A witness cannot be a beneficiary.

### Will making process

1. Make a list of all your significant possessions
2. Make a list of the money you owe and money you are owed
3. Decide who should benefit from your will
4. Decide on what gifts to leave
5. Choose your executors, up to four can be appointed
6. Arrange to see your solicitor or advisor about writing your will
7. Keep your will up to date, especially if your personal circumstances change

### Main ways to leave a legacy

There are three main ways you can leave a bequest :

**Residuary Legacy** - this enables you to leave CCF UK a proportion of the residue of your estate, i.e. a proportion of what is left after all your debts, taxes and gifts have been paid. This form of legacy is the most advantageous to CCF UK because it is in effect inflation-linked.

**Pecuniary Legacy** - this is a fixed amount of money left in your will. Please note that a pecuniary legacy can be eroded by inflation. Ask your solicitor about index-linking them to keep in line with inflation.

**Specific Legacy** - this is a particular item such as property, land, shares or other items.

*"Your generosity will always be remembered and is a lasting memorial to your concern for the cheetah. Any legacy you wish to give will provide a future for this endangered cat and its habitat"*

## Your will and the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK

The examples below on *"what to write in your will"* may or may not suit your particular needs therefore we recommend you seek expert advice before proceeding especially if you are updating an existing will. Any information you give us will remain confidential and is not binding in any way. You are able to alter the details of your will at any time.

### \*What to write in your will

#### Residuary Legacy

' I give (the residue / or % share of the residue of my estate), after my debts have been settled and the legacies I leave to other people have been honoured, to the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK (charity number 1079874) Eagle House, 108/110 Jermyn St, London SW1Y 6RG, to be used for its general charity purposes.' I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executors/Trustees.

#### Pecuniary Legacy

' I give the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_ to the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK (Charity number 1079874) Eagle Hse, 108/110 Jermyn St London SW1Y 6RH, to be used for its general charity purposes.' I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executors/Trustees.

#### Specific Legacy

' I give (specific item of property) to the Cheetah Conservation Fund UK (Charity number 1079874) Eagle Hse, 108/110 Jermyn St London SW1Y 6RH to be used for its general charity purposes.' I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge for my Executors/Trustees.

Although CCF UK would prefer general purpose bequests, we would gladly discuss specific proposals.

#### Important clause to use in your will

If at my death any charity named as a beneficiary in this Will or any Codicil hereto has changed its name or amalgamated with or transferred its assets to another body then my Executors shall give effect to any gift made to such charity as if it had been made (in the first case) to the body in its changed name or (in the second place) to the body which results from such amalgamation or to which such transfer has been made.

*Note: Legacy clause details differ in Scotland*

### Please let us know

Anything related to your will is a personal matter and we respect your privacy. However, if you decide to remember Cheetah Conservation Fund UK in your will, it would help us greatly if you would let us know. Doing so will help us plan for the future and gives us the opportunity to thank you for your kindness. This information will remain confidential.

If you wish to let us know of your legacy, please fill in the details below and send to the following address:

#### Cheetah Conservation Fund UK

Eagle House, 108/110 Jermyn St London SW1Y 6RH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My legacy takes the form of: (please tick where applicable)

- My whole estate
- The residue of my estate or the percentage of the residue
- A percentage of my estate
- A specific sum
- A specific item (examples, jewellery and land)

If you would like to give details of your legacy, please do so below..

Legacy details: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_