

Remembering the future

A gift in your Will is the most profound and lasting way to remember and care for the generations that follow you.



Once you have provided for your family in your Will, a gift from you to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland will help to build a better and more caring future for every person living with Alzheimer's or any other form of dementia.



THE ALZHEIMER
SOCIETY *of* IRELAND

“I developed a mantra to handle living with the disease which is; prepare for the probable, work for the possible and hope for the future.”

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Introduction

After you have cared for your family, a gift in your Will to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland will help to ensure that, when it is needed most, your legacy will continue to care for the ones you love and the generations that follow.

A unique opportunity

Making a Will is one of the most important and deeply personal decisions you will ever make.

But, for many of us, the thought of making a Will makes us feel uncomfortable. We often just prefer to put it off until a later day.

Yet when you talk to those who have already made their Will, they will tell you that it is one of the most satisfying and liberating choices you could ever make.

Because your Will is so much more than simply a way of settling your financial affairs. It is a unique opportunity to shape your legacy and decide exactly how you continue to care for and remember the people and causes who are special to you – for years to come.

Your family comes first

When you decide to make your Will there is, of course, one clear priority. You will want to ensure that all your family's needs are met and that you have done all you can to protect them.

But once you have cared for your family's immediate needs you may also want to remember their futures – and the future of the thousands of families whose lives will be affected by Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

A gift from you in your Will, no matter how big or small, will help provide the expert and loving care they will need, when they need it the most.

By remembering the future needs of others, you are helping to build a better and more caring world for the ones who will remember you.

“I want to leave a legacy where I know that I’ve done everything I possibly can, for as long as I possibly can, to try and change how the world looks at Alzheimer’s and all kinds of dementia.”



“Through The Alzheimer Society of Ireland we have Michelle who works with us. She gives us lots of support and teaches Dad, and us, strategies on how to live well. I don’t worry about the future at all. We’re living and working in the now.”



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An inspiring legacy

When her mother died suddenly, Judy Williams became the sole carer to her father Norman, who had been diagnosed with dementia and Parkinson's.

It was so hard. I had no idea what to do, or where to get care, or how to access services. And I was coping with a distraught father as well as with my own grief.

But once her local district nurse suggested she contact The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Judy began to receive the support and guidance she so urgently needed.

The Alzheimer Society did so much for us. Their family carers training course helped me hugely. We also had respite care as well as regular visits from The Alzheimer Society carers. They were fantastic because they had such a great understanding. They really brought out the best in Dad.

Though the four years that she spent caring for her father were difficult and challenging, Judy still cherishes the time they spent together.

They were the worst four years of my life but they were also the best four years.

But the legacy Norman has left behind is far greater than just the warm memories that Judy treasures. Just after he was diagnosed both Norman and his wife decided to donate their brains for medical research. Having both battled cancer, and now facing the challenges of dementia and Parkinson's, they knew just how important research would be to future generations.

We were so incredibly proud of them for making that decision. And it made such a difference for us to know exactly what they wanted to happen after they died.

Today Norman's wonderful legacy can also be seen in the way his daughter Judy continues the proud family tradition of caring for others. Judy works with a number of charities and is also chair of The Alzheimer Society of Ireland's Dementia Carers Network, working to support families as they care for loved ones living with dementia.

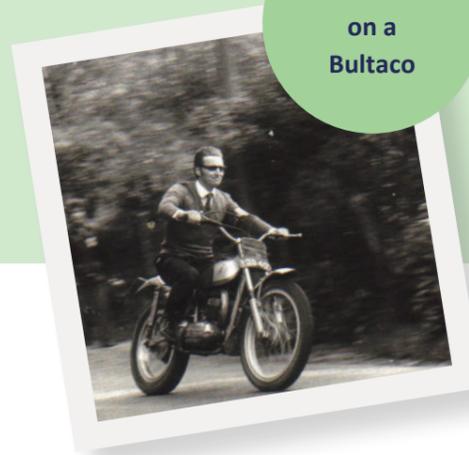
The reason I'm still involved is because I saw just how much the support of The Alzheimer Society could help.

The example Norman set and the people that he inspired are probably the most lasting part of his wonderful legacy – and the most fitting tribute to such a courageous and caring man.

Norman and Jean's wedding, Sept 1956



Norman on a Bultaco



“The reason I'm still involved is because I saw just how much the support of The Alzheimer Society could help.”

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

From a simple act of love to the leading voice in dementia care.

A little over 35 years ago, two ordinary Irish women discovered that they shared the same struggle. Both were caring for loved ones who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's – the most common form of dementia. Without any support or advice, the strain of care was becoming overwhelming.

So, in December 1982, they founded The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, in an effort to ensure that no one else would ever have to face a diagnosis of dementia alone.

Today their legacy of compassion and love has grown into the largest provider of dementia services in the country.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland's dedicated volunteers and staff now work throughout the country providing essential services to thousands of people living with dementia and the families who care for them every day.

Over the last 35 years our advocacy services have changed the way dementia is now treated and have helped to ensure that the voice of the person with dementia is heard and respected.

The challenges we face

Over 35 years we have come so far. But the battle has only just begun.

Our growing and aging population means that the demand for our services will double in the next 20 years.

By leaving a gift in your Will to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, you will be helping to ensure that our specialised supports and expert care will be available to the growing number of people affected by dementia.

Your gift will also ensure that the families who care for them will have somewhere to turn for advice and support when they need it most.

“Once you have made your Will, the comforting knowledge that your promise of care is secure will remain with you day after day.”



Leaving a Gift in Your Will

It is so easy to think of a Will as something that will only have impact after we are gone.

But your Will is so much more.

Your Will is a deeply personal and living expression of the love you have for your family and friends – and a proud declaration of the values that you stand for.

So, when you decide to make your Will, the first and most important step is to ensure that your family are fully cared for.

But once you have provided for your family, you will realise that your legacy can reach so much further and affect the lives of so many more people.

The power of your Will

Each and every one of us wishes we could change our world for the better. If we could, we would all do whatever is possible to ease pain and suffering and to care for those who need our care the most.

That is why a gift in your Will would be such a precious gift to so many. Because the gift you leave today – no matter how big or small – will help create a better and more caring future for anyone facing a diagnosis of dementia.

Once you have made your Will you will be filled with the deep satisfaction of knowing that the people and causes that matter most to you will continue to enjoy your love and support for years to come.

There can be no more lasting or loving way of remembering and protecting the people you care for.

Your Will is a decision you make today to help shape a better tomorrow.

“My mam remembers the day dad was diagnosed. The very first thing she did was to call the Alzheimer helpline number. Then she joined a support group. That was so important. We owe everything to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.”

Leaving a Legacy of Hope

Helen has always been a master of multitasking. As well as being a devoted wife and mother, Helen was a very successful business woman and an active community representative – working tirelessly for the people of the North West.

But when she was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's Helen felt that her wonderful life had come to an end.

I was absolutely devastated. I went into the deepest, darkest depression.

Like so many who face a diagnosis of dementia, Helen and her family felt completely lost and alone.

There were no supports for me or my family. Nobody to tell me that I could still have a life. I felt like my life was just ebbing away.

But with the support of The Alzheimer Society of Ireland and the Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy we provided, Helen slowly began to gain control of her life again.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland gave me my life back. They showed me I could live again. They gave me the tools to carry on.

Today Helen is busier than ever, traveling all over Europe campaigning for the rights of people living with dementia and the families who support them.

I want to leave a legacy where I know that I've done everything I possibly can for as long as I possibly can to try and change how the world looks at Alzheimer's and all kinds of dementia.

Helen has also ensured that her great legacy of hope will continue long into the future, by including a gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland in her Will.

The person that leaves a hundred euro or a thousand euro is making a major change. Because every penny that is put into a legacy is going to be used wisely to create a better environment, better conditions and especially better research.

And knowing that her work will live on after her is a constant comfort for Helen.

Sometimes it is very difficult to get through a day and stay positive. But when you see how you are influencing change, that keeps you going.



Remembering each other – our true legacy

We have all been touched in some way by Alzheimer's or some other form of dementia.

We have all felt its deep sense of loss or seen it in the distant gaze of a loved one. We have all clung to the fading memories of a parent, a spouse or a friend and longed for one more moment of clarity.

The sense of loss that sometimes grips us is so great because we all know just how much our loved ones mean to us.

And we all share the same prayer. That, come the day when the people we love are in need, they will receive the most expert and loving care when and where they need it.

That is why so many wonderful people and their families are choosing to leave a gift in their Will to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.

Your living legacy

Every gift we receive helps us to provide expert advice and specialised day and home care to thousands of families.

Every legacy gift we receive helps us to continue the relentless pursuit of better treatments and care.

The choices we make today can continue to inspire and shape the world around us long after we have gone.

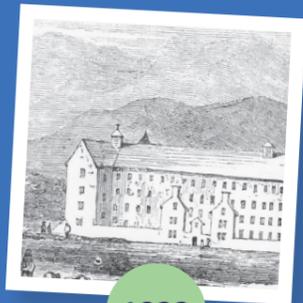
Our true legacy lies in the lessons we teach our children. The examples we set. The plans we make and the gifts we leave behind us.

How we care for each other is the only real measure of who we are.

"Every penny that is put into a legacy is going to be used wisely to create a better environment, better conditions and especially better research."

30 years of loving care – and plans for a better future

1922: 'Country Homes' replace workhouses as the main centre for elderly care. There is still no direct provision for dementia.



1922

1982: Winifred Bligh, who is caring for her sister, and Imelda Gillespie, who was caring for her husband form The Alzheimer Society of Ireland to provide information and raise awareness of the reality of life with dementia.



1982

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland hosted the Alzheimer's Disease International Conference



1989

1994: Awareness increases as former President Ronald Reagan announces that he has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease.



1994

2009: The Government introduce the 'Fair Deal' scheme to help finance residential care.



2009

2013: The Alzheimer's Society facilitate the first ever Irish Dementia Working group, giving people living with dementia a powerful and public voice.



2013

2025: The G8 Dementia Summit has called for a united international effort to find a cure by 2025.



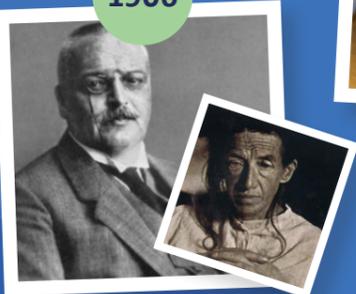
2025

1968



1968: The Care of The Aged Report – recommends elderly people, where possible, should be cared for in their own homes.

1906



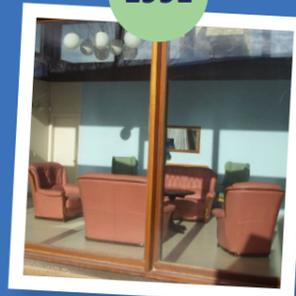
1906: Alzheimer's disease is named by Dr. Alois Alzheimer when he notices changes in the brain tissue of Auguste Deter, a 51 year old woman who had died of an unusual mental illness.

1987



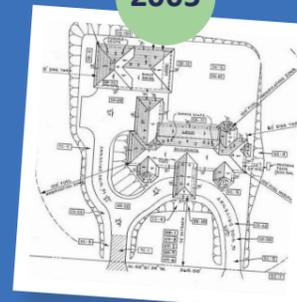
1987: The first Alzheimer Society of Ireland Day Care Centre is opened in Sandymount, Co Dublin.

1991



1991: Waterford Day Care Centre opened

2005



2005: The Daughters of Charity donate a site for a purpose built day and respite centre.

2012



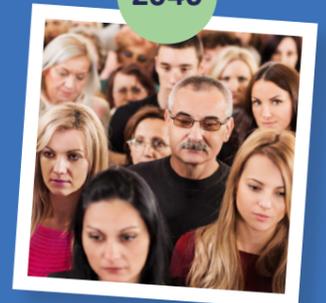
2012: Research continues apace. There are now over 330 separate clinical trials in progress.

2016



2016: Understand Together – the largest ever awareness campaign is launched by The Alzheimer Society of Ireland in association with the HSE.

2040



2040: Estimated 110,000 people living with dementia.

“There’s massive research being done. I think that it’s almost inevitable that there will be a cure. It may not be in time for me but that hope is a very important part of what it is that keeps me going.”



“The wonderful carer that came two days a week, or Rose Cottage, the day care centre Derek loved – if it weren’t for that support and those few hours respite I think I would have gone crazy.”

Alzheimer’s and dementia – Our greatest challenge lies ahead

Right now, there are over 55,000 people in Ireland living with some form of dementia.

Every day another 11 people are diagnosed.

In the next 20 years the number of people living with dementia will have doubled.

With no cure in sight and with Ireland’s aging population, the pressure on our already over-burdened services will continue to increase.

Caring for people living with dementia will be one of the greatest challenges our society will face in the years to come.

A better future

That is why The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is dedicated to providing the very best of care both today and in the future. We are working every day, building better care models, expanding our network of supports, advocating for better services and funding pioneering research – all to ensure that the future care needs of all families are provided for with dignity and respect.

A gift from you in your Will is by far the most powerful and lasting way that you can help us achieve that goal.

The gift you choose to give today can profoundly change the lives of so many people tomorrow.

Caring for people living with dementia will be one of the greatest challenges our society will face in the years to come.

Our promise to you

Choosing to leave a gift in your Will is a remarkable and inspiring act of compassion and love.

It is also one of the most important and defining decisions you can make in your life.

If you are considering leaving an inspiring gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland it is essential to us that you feel you can make that choice with complete confidence.

So, here are our fundamental promises to you:

Your Will is confidential.

We promise to always respect your privacy and your wishes. We promise that we will never share your details with anyone or with any other organisation.

Your family comes first.

Before you consider leaving a gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland we urge you to ensure that you have cared for your family first.

Your gift is private.

If you have left a gift in your Will to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland – or if you are considering doing so you do not need to tell us. But, if you are so kind as to let us know we would be very grateful. We would love to thank you and keep you up to date with all the great work you will be helping to make possible.



We will help in any way we can.

If you would like any advice or assistance – or would simply like to chat to someone about The Alzheimer Society of Ireland and the difference your gift could make – we are always available to help. Just contact us on 01 207 3833 or email: fundraising@alzheimer.ie

You are under no obligation of any kind.

Even if you tell us that you intend to leave a gift to The Alzheimer Society you are under no obligation to do so. You can change your mind at any time.

You can choose how your legacy is used.

The Alzheimer Society provides essential care and support in every community in Ireland. If you wish, you can choose where you want your legacy to be used. Or you can talk to us about which part of our work you want your gift to support.

Your gift will make a real difference.

We promise that your gift will always be used to ensure the greatest possible impact in the greatest area of need.

We will always respect you and the wonderful gift you make.

Your generosity and compassion will mean so much to so many people. We promise that we will always treat you and your gift with the respect and affection you deserve.

You can change your mind at any time.

The most important thing to remember is that you can change your Will at any time. So the decision you make today to leave a gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland can be changed at any time and for any reason. We will always respect and protect your decision.

Your Will is your choice. Your legacy is yours to decide.

"Day care, or her 'club' as she calls it, gave Mam a whole new level of social interaction...and it brought back one of her greatest pleasures in life, singing. She always loved to sing."

Why a gift in your Will is so powerful

Your support will be needed most in the years to come.

The number of people living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia is increasing every year. By the time the next generation are adults, that number will have doubled. The demands for the supports and care services provided by The Alzheimer Society of Ireland will be enormous. By making a lasting gift in your Will to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland you will be ensuring that our expert support and loving care will be available for those who need it most – when they need it most.

Your gift is a wonderful promise to the next generation.

A gift in your Will is a wonderful inspiration and example to future generations. It clearly states that, no matter what may come, your dedication and love will continue to protect and care for them long after you have gone.

Your legacy can help shape a better future.

Knowing that we can rely on your support in the future enables The Alzheimer Society of Ireland to plan for tomorrow with confidence and assurance. With your pledge of support we can increase our efforts to build a better and more caring future for every person who will face a diagnosis of dementia – and for the loving families who will care for them.

Your gift will be remembered.

It is often said that the memories we cherish most are the memories of the people who loved us the most. A gift in your Will is a unique and profound expression of love and compassion for your family and friends and the generation that will follow. Your legacy will continue to care for others long after you have gone. But the generosity that inspired your gift and the great love with which it was given, will be remembered for even longer.

Your legacy is yours to shape.

Leaving a gift in your will is an extraordinary act of kindness and generosity. It is also a unique opportunity to shape the legacy you leave behind. It is your once-in-a-lifetime chance to leave an everlasting testimony by proudly declaring who you are and what you believe in.

By choosing to remember others and using your legacy to protect and care for them long into the future, you are also setting an inspiring example for your family, your friends and for the generations that your legacy will provide for. You are clearly saying that the true measure of our worth is the way in which we care for each other.

Using your legacy to remember and care for others will protect their futures and shape their memories of you.

“The difference to our life has been enormous since Maeve (the specialist dementia home care worker) came. As well as that mum is in great form, all the family notice it....she is just so happy”

Your Questions Answered

Q. How do I take care of my family and leave a gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.

A. Once you have cared for your family, any gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland will make a huge difference.

When you make your Will, the most important thing is to ensure that you care for your family first. They are the centre of your life and providing for them in your Will means that you can continue to care for them long after you have gone. But once you have properly cared for your family's immediate needs, a gift from you to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland will help protect and care for the people you love and the community you are a part of, long into the future.

Q. I have already made a Will. What do I do?

A. Simply inform your solicitor that you would like to change your Will.

If you have already made a Will but would now like to include a gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, don't worry. All you have to do is contact your solicitor and inform them that you wish to amend your Will. Remember your Will is yours to change at any time.

Q. I can only leave a small gift, will that make any difference?

A. Any gift you leave – no matter how big or small – will make a profound and lasting difference to so many people.

The true value of your gift is the knowledge that it will be there, in the future, when it is needed most. For the thousands of people and families who will be affected by dementia in the years to come, your gift will be simply priceless.



Q. What if I want to change my mind later?

A. You can change your mind at any time.

Remember your Will is entirely your decision. You can change your Will at any time and for any reason. Some people change their Wills many times over the course of their life as their finances and circumstances change. It is a very simple and quick process. Just contact your solicitor and they will guide you through it in a matter of minutes.

Q. Are there tax benefits to leaving a gift in my Will?

A. Yes. Any gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is tax free.

When you leave a gift in your Will it may be subject to tax. Your solicitor will advise you as to what the thresholds currently are.

But a gift in your Will to a charity like The Alzheimer Society is entirely tax free – meaning every single penny of your gift will go directly towards caring for people living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

Q. Do I have to notify The Alzheimer Society of Ireland that I have decided to leave a gift in my Will?

A. No.

Your Will is very a private and personal decision and we respect that privacy completely. If you choose to leave a gift to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, you are under no obligation to let us know. But if you do choose to contact us we would be so grateful. Simply fill out the pledge form included and send it back to us. Knowing that we will have your support in the future will mean so much to us.

Remember your pledge implies no obligation whatsoever. You can change your mind at any time.

Q. Can I contact you to discuss my Will?

A. Yes.

If you would like any advice, or would simply like to chat about what is involved, we are always available to help in any way we can. Just call our fundraising team on **01 207 3833** or email **fundraising@alzheimer.ie**

“That support is really important, both for my mother and for me, because carers can get so isolated as well.”

How to make a lasting gift in your Will

The best and most effective way to make a gift in your Will is to contact your solicitor and simply inform them that you wish to leave a lasting legacy to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.

Or, if you want to make your own Will, please use one of the following wordings to make sure your legacy follows your wishes exactly.

Option 1.

To leave a set sum of money

If you want to leave a certain sum of money to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland after your family and friends are taken care of, you can use the following wording:

I give the sum of [.....] to:
The Alzheimer Society of Ireland,
National Office,
Temple Road,
Blackrock,
Co Dublin,
Ireland
Charity Reg: CHY 7868

Option B.

To leave a portion of your estate

If you wish to leave whatever is left over of your estate (a residuary gift) after you have cared for your family, you can use the following wording:

I give to:
The Alzheimer Society of Ireland,
National Office,
Temple Road,
Blackrock,
Co Dublin,
Ireland
Charity Reg: CHY 7868

all (or you can specify a fraction here) of the residue of my estate.

Please Remember, the easiest and most effective way to make a Will is to contact your solicitor.



The Alzheimer Society of Ireland – essential services in every community

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is the leading provider of dementia services in the country and the loudest and most passionate voice advocating for the rights of people living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

Home Care

Helping people remain in the familiar comfort of their own home for as long as possible.

Day Care Centres

Providing an essential social outlet and support for people living with dementia.

Support Groups

Offering carers the vital support and solidarity they need to cope.

The Alzheimer National Helpline – 1800 341 341

A free and confidential source of information and support. For many the only place they can turn for help.

Alzheimer Cafe

Alzheimer Cafes provide a warm and welcoming space for people with dementia, their family and friends and social and health care professionals to meet, exchange ideas and learnings.

All of our essential services depend on the generosity and kindness of the legacy gifts we receive.

"I did an online carers' course through The Alzheimer's Society, which gave me a great understanding of what dementia is and how to help Dad deal with it."

"The Alzheimer Society of Ireland gave me my life back. They showed me I could live again. They gave me the tools to carry on."

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