



Surf Life Legacy

# MAKE A LASTING IMPACT WITH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

ENSURING SAFETY IN COASTAL WATERS AND COMMUNITIES



# The Keepers

Written by Kate Cantrell

From first light, then sky,  
to the black void and beyond,  
they watch over us.

With soft hearts and joint will,  
inflatable muscles and nerves of steel,  
their armour is solid bronze,  
and their weapon of choice is oxygen.  
The vital spark of life.

At dawn they draw a line in the sand  
and stay at their post to the end,  
regardless of consequence.

Like old friends,  
they know us better than we know ourselves.

When we slip and trip on our pride,  
they offer a hand,  
they reach for us.

When we forget our limits,  
they remind us.

When we blunder in blind panic  
and the swell and tide conspire against us,  
they find us and carry us home.

Like prophets, they see the signs before we do.  
But their vision isn't 20/20.  
Their vision is zero.  
Zero lives lost on their constant watch.

We don't see our invisible protectors  
but they see us.  
Because saving our lives  
is their mission.





# SECURING OUR LIFESAVING MISSION

## YOUR IMPACTFUL DONATION SAFEGUARDS OUR VOLUNTEER SURF LIFESAVERS

With 316 Surf Life Saving clubs scattered along our extensive 59,000 kms of coastline, ordinary people volunteering to do extraordinary things form the backbone of Surf Life Saving Australia. These selfless individuals, ranging from butchers to doctors, hairdressers to mechanics, office workers to builders, dedicate their own time to patrol our coastlines and swiftly respond to distress. They willingly risk their lives to rescue those in danger.

For over 115 years, these courageous volunteers have upheld the lifesaving tradition of Surf Life Saving. They inspire the next generation of dedicated volunteer surf lifesavers who will fearlessly venture into harm's way to save lives in the open water.

As a charitable organisation, our lifesaving operations depend on the generosity of voluntary contributions. Your gift in a Will has the power to provide essential resources, equipment, and training, enabling our volunteer surf lifesavers to carry out their duties safely. Your benevolence ensures they remain steady on deployment, warm in freezing temperatures, and composed during a crisis. Thank you for contemplating the creation of a lifesaving legacy.

**For years, Australians have left gifts in their Wills to help our volunteer surf lifesavers save lives. Leave a gift in your Will today, so they can watch over all of us tomorrow.**

# EMPOWERING CHANGE THROUGH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

A gift in your Will holds the power to ignite a transformative impact within Surf Life Saving Australia, touching lives and safeguarding our coastal communities for years to come.

Observe the far-reaching effects as you witness the nerves of steel of volunteer surf lifesavers manoeuvring through crashing waves, driven by the determination to reach those in distress. It is through gifts in Wills that Surf Life Saving Australia can provide the essential resources our courageous lifesaving patrols rely on – from protective gear like safety helmets and life jackets, to the cutting-edge equipment that enhances their lifesaving capabilities. These gifts enable them to respond swiftly and effectively, bringing hope to individuals in their darkest moments.

These legacies ensure our vigilant volunteer surf lifesavers are equipped with essential watercraft like rescue boards and Inflatable Rescue Boats. Supported by gifts in Wills, they stand ready to brave the elements and navigate treacherous waters to rescue swimmers in danger, exemplifying the unwavering commitment to coastal safety.

Through our training courses, gifts in Wills empower us to recreate challenging scenarios, enabling our volunteers to undergo rigorous training in realistic, adverse conditions. This comprehensive preparation equips them with the skills and resilience needed to face the unpredictable and protect lives.

By leaving a gift in your Will, you become an integral part of our mission, giving our surf lifesaving patrols the confidence to confront the dangers of the ocean, and providing their families with the reassurance that they are supported and protected. Your generosity ensures that our selfless volunteer surf lifesavers can continue their lifesaving work, striving to save every life at risk.

Consider the legacy you can create through a gift in your Will. Together, we can empower change, safeguard our coastal communities and preserve the noble tradition of Surf Life Saving.

**“Anyone who is considering leaving a donation to surf lifesavers in their Will, should be strongly encouraged; with the realisation that the gift they make will make a huge difference to people’s lives. They can save lives. They leave a wonderful legacy, and as such will never be forgotten.”**

- DAUGHTER OF DEREK MEYERS, 5 JUNE 1925 – 16 JULY 2014.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE: HOW YOUR GIFT IN WILL SUPPORTS SURF LIFE SAVING

Today we have over 46,000 dedicated volunteer surf lifesavers who actively patrol our beaches, relying on lifesaving training and essential equipment to navigate extreme conditions and keep our coastal communities safe.

To ensure their readiness, our rescue boats and helicopters require ongoing maintenance and updates, enabling them to launch rapidly when every second counts. Our 316 operational Surf Life Saving patrols provide a vital search and rescue service, and they depend on proper equipment to fulfill this critical mission.

When you leave a gift in your Will to Surf Life Saving Australia, you directly fund lifesaving initiatives, making a tangible impact on our operations. Your gift is carefully allocated to maximise lifesaving impact now, while sustaining our ability to save lives into the future.

By leaving a gift in your Will, you become an essential partner in our mission to save lives and safeguard our coastlines. Your generosity ensures that we can continue to make a difference, both today and in the future.





# YOUR GIFT WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED

If you choose to leave a gift in your Will to Surf Life Saving Australia, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. Your remarkable generosity will forever be cherished, and your lifesaving impact felt across our coastlines and communities.

In recognition of the invaluable contributions of our supporters who have chosen to include Surf Life Saving Australia in their Wills, we are pleased to introduce a new initiative. By leaving a lasting and impactful gift, above a certain threshold, whether as a specific amount or a percentage of your estate; you will be honoured on one of our new Legacy Boards at Bondi Beach, a heartfelt tribute to those whose extraordinary generosity helps protect future generations across our coastline.

Upon receiving your gift, we will honour your commitment by inscribing your name on one of our Legacy Boards. These boards, bearing the names of our valued supporters, will serve as a testament to your enduring dedication to our cause.

Australia's most famous beach, Bondi, is home to one of the oldest Surf Life Saving Australia clubs in the world. The Bondi Icebergs is one of Australia's oldest swimming clubs and is an internationally recognised landmark. Our headquarters is located at the southern end of Bondi Beach and perched above the Bondi Icebergs pools. With sweeping views across Bondi and the sights and sounds of the surf crashing into the pools

against the backdrop of the spectacular Pacific Ocean, your legacy will be proudly honoured in esteemed company.

As visitors and future generations explore our headquarters at Bondi Beach, they will witness the profound impact made by individuals like you who have left a lasting legacy. Your name on the legacy boards will inspire and remind others of the incredible difference that can be made through their own support.

We understand that some individuals may prefer not to have their gift publicly acknowledged or may have specific preferences regarding how their name is published. Whether you wish to have your family name recognised, such as "The Brown family of Bondi," or have your name published in a particular way, we are committed to honouring your wishes. Please reach out to our friendly Supporter Services team on **1800 642 925** or email **legacy@sls.com.au** to share your instructions with us so that we may duly respect your preferences.

To learn more about the inclusion of your name on a legacy board and its display at our Bondi Beach headquarters, please visit: **www.giving.sls.com.au**.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for considering this remarkable gift that will forever be etched in the history and heart of Surf Life Saving Australia.

# OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

**At Surf Life Saving Australia, we hold ourselves to the highest standards of transparency, respect, and stewardship when it comes to your decision to leave a gift in your Will. We want to assure you of our unwavering commitment to honour your wishes and provide you with peace of mind throughout this process.**

- We will be there with honest and timely answers, supporting you every step of the way.
- Take all the time you need – this decision is significant, and we are here to patiently stand by your side.
- Your special gift will be used wisely and effectively, making a lasting impact on lives.
- Your loved ones will always be our priority – we will honour and respect what your Will says, recognising that it may undergo changes and refinements over time as you update and adapt your estate plans.
- Your decision is personal, and we will safeguard your privacy with utmost care and sensitivity.
- Experience our mission firsthand – come and witness the incredible difference you make.
- Your wishes will be cherished and upheld, ensuring your legacy lives on in the way you envision.

# PROTECT THE FUTURE OF OUR VOLUNTEER SURF LIFESAVERS WITHOUT ANY COST TODAY

## WHAT ARE OUR FREE WILLS SERVICES?

Surf Life Saving Australia recognises the invaluable contributions of our dedicated volunteer surf lifesavers. To ensure their ongoing protection, we have partnered with trusted Will writing services to offer you the opportunity to write or update your simple Will for free. Choose the service that suits you best and join us in securing the future of our selfless volunteers.

## CONVENIENT ONLINE OPTION

With Safewill, EveryWill and Willed, you have accessible options for writing your Will.

EveryWill offers simplified Will writing at no charge, ensuring a straightforward process. EveryWill also offers other services including Probate & Funerals. For more complex Wills, they offer the convenience of completing them at a onetime legal cost.

Safewill provides legal viewing and may involve a minimal cost for completion (discounted for SLSA supporters), unless secured during a promotional period.

Willed supports end-of-life planning through guided Will writing and more, with discounted options (pricing varies).

Willed offers additional services for broader estate planning support, including power of attorney and prepaid funerals, ideal for supporters who want to plan more than just their Will.

All services offer the flexibility you need to protect your legacy and support our volunteer surf lifesavers.

Protecting the future of our volunteer surf lifesavers should never come at a financial burden to you. With our recommended Will writing services, you can ensure their safety and well-being without any cost today. Take advantage of these options and make a lasting impact.

Will-writing providers and offers are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website or contact our Gift in Wills Team.

## GIFTS IN WILLS TEAM

If you would like to have a more detailed conversation or seek personalised guidance regarding leaving a gift in your Will to Surf Life Saving Australia, we encourage you to reach out to our dedicated Gifts in Wills Team. They have extensive knowledge and expertise in this area and are ready to assist you. Whether you have specific questions, require clarification, or need assistance with the process, our team is here to provide the support you need. Contact our Gifts in Wills Team today on **1800 642 925** and let us help you make a meaningful contribution to Surf Life Saving Australia's mission.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for considering Surf Life Saving Australia. Together, we can secure a bright future for our dedicated volunteer surf lifesavers.





# LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY WITH SURF LIFE SAVING

**Making a lasting impact with Surf Life Saving Australia is easier than you think. By including us in your Will, you have the power to create a legacy that will help protect lives and ensure the safety of our coastal communities for generations to come.**

## **EVERY GIFT MATTERS, NO MATTER THE SIZE**

Whether your contribution is big or small, it will have a profound impact on our volunteer surf lifesavers who selflessly dedicate themselves to saving lives in our waters. Your gift will provide them with the resources and support they need to carry out their life-saving work.

## **THINK OF LOVED ONES FIRST**

Look after your family and loved ones first and then consider Surf Life Saving Australia. Family and friends must always come first, but many of our supporters like to choose to leave a gift in their Will to Surf Life Saving Australia after they have looked after their loved ones.

## **KEEP YOUR WILL UP-TO-DATE FOR PEACE OF MIND**

Updating your Will regularly is essential to ensure your wishes are accurately reflected. We recommend seeking professional advice or working with our trusted partners to ensure your intentions are legally sound and aligned with your passion for supporting Surf Life Saving.

## **NAMING SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA IN YOUR WILL**

To ensure your gift is carried out exactly as you intend, it is important that Surf Life Saving Australia is named correctly in your Will.

“Surf Life Saving” is a widely used description, but it is not a legal entity. If this wording is used, a bequest may be difficult to administer and, in some cases, may be legally challenged.

We strongly recommend that your Will includes our full legal name and ABN: Surf Life Saving Australia Ltd (ABN 67 449 738 159) and we encourage you to share this information with your solicitor or Will-writer when preparing or updating your Will.

## **FLEXIBLE OPTIONS FOR YOUR GIFT**

You have the flexibility to choose how you want to make a difference. A residuary gift allows you to allocate a portion or the entirety of your estate’s remaining assets after other bequests and expenses have been settled. A pecuniary gift ‘specific legacy’ involves a specified amount of money, and you can even request it to be adjusted for inflation. If you have specific items or property you wish to donate, a specific gift can ensure they support our cause.

By remembering Surf Life Saving Australia in your Will, you leave a remarkable legacy that will protect lives, support and strengthen our dedicated volunteers, strengthen our coastal communities, and uphold the wonderful traditions of Surf Life Saving and volunteerism. Thank you for considering this meaningful gesture and for your unwavering commitment to our vision of zero preventable deaths in coastal waters.



# THE **'WORDING'** FOR YOUR WILL

## **HOW DO I GIFT A NOMINATED PERCENTAGE OF MY ESTATE?**

A gift of a fixed percentage of your estate (often known as a 'proportional legacy') allows you to nominate a specific percentage of your estate to Surf Life Saving Australia. A legacy of this kind does not depend on your estate being of any set value or size and it is flexible enough to allow for changes in the composition of your assets or financial situation. No matter how your estate changes, whether it grows or decreases in value, your decision as to the proportions will always remain the same.

### **The correct wording for such a gift is:**

*"I [Your Name] give and bequeath to Surf Life Saving Australia Ltd, ABN 67 449 738 159, free of all duties, \_\_\_% of my estate and I direct that the receipt by the Proper Officer of Surf Life Saving Australia shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor for the Bequest which is to be applied to the general purposes of Surf Life Saving Australia."*

## **A GIFT OF A NOMINATED PERCENTAGE OF THE REMAINDER OF YOUR ESTATE:**

A gift of a remainder of your estate (often known as a 'residuary bequest') allows you to make specific gifts to family and friends and leave the whole or portion of what remains of your estate to Surf Life Saving Australia.

### **The correct wording for such a gift is:**

*"I [Your Name] devise and bequeath to Surf Life Saving Australia Ltd, ABN 67 449 738 159, free of all duties the residue of my Estate and I direct that the receipt by the Proper Officer of Surf Life Saving Australia shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor for the Bequest which is to be applied to the general purposes of Surf Life Saving Australia."*

### **A GIFT FOR A SPECIFIC OUTCOME:**

You may nominate a specific Surf Life Saving program to benefit from your gift, for example, rescue equipment. Gifts for specific rescue equipment are often difficult as the cost of the equipment is likely to change between nominating the gift and the gift being realised. Where there is a difference, Surf Life Saving will do its best to ensure the intent of the gift is still achieved.

#### **The correct wording for such a gift is:**

*"I [Your Name] give and bequeath to Surf Life Saving Australia Ltd, ABN 67 449 738 159, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ specifically for: (whichever is applicable) - Rescue equipment, and/or - Education programs for surf lifesavers, and/or - Community surf safety programs, and/or - Research and development and I direct that the receipt by the Proper Officer of Surf Life Saving Australia shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor for the Bequest which is to be applied to the specific purpose(s) of my bequest or for the general purposes of Surf Life Saving Australia."*

### **A GIFT OF A SPECIFIC SUM OF MONEY OR SPECIFIC ASSETS:**

A gift of a specific sum of money or specific assets in the form of property, shares or articles of value (known as a 'specific legacy') enables you to have the full use of your assets during your lifetime. An advantage of this form of bequest is that it gives you the comfort of being certain about exactly how your estate will be divided. This is a common legacy, however certain considerations must be taken into account. First, when you make your Will you have no way of knowing what the value of

your estate will be. Secondly, with inflation, the value of your gift may change. To maintain the value of your gift you should revise your will on a regular basis.

#### **The correct wording for such a gift is:**

*"I [Your Name] give and bequeath to Surf Life Saving Australia Ltd, ABN 67 449 738 159, free of all duties, the following (whichever is applicable): - the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ - Property (details) - Or other assets (details) and I direct that the receipt by the Proper Officer of Surf Life Saving Australia shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor for the Bequest which is to be applied to the general purposes of Surf Life Saving Australia."*

### **GIVING A GIFT TO A SPECIFIC SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB:**

You may wish to benefit a specific Surf Life Saving Club from your estate. In such cases, all your gift will benefit the nominated club, and Surf Life Saving Australia acts to ensure your gift has the maximum long-term benefit through its national buying power and investment options.

#### **The correct wording for such a gift is:**

*"I wish to give the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Surf Life Saving Australia Ltd, ABN 67 449 738 159, specifically for \_\_\_\_\_ Surf Life Saving Club, and I direct that the receipt by the Proper Officer of Surf Life Saving Australia shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor for the Bequest which is to be applied to the specific purpose(s) of my bequest or for the general purposes of Surf Life Saving Australia."*



# WE ARE HERE TO HELP

We are here to assist you every step of the way, answering questions and guiding you to fulfill your wishes. Your support is deeply appreciated, and we are grateful for your consideration. Contact us with any inquiries or to discuss leaving a gift in your Will.



**Surf Life Legacy**

Information contained within this booklet is accurate as of March 2026 and subject to change. Statistics taken from Surf Life Saving Australia's Annual Report 2025. SLSA: Sydney. The full report is accessible at [https://issuu.com/surflifesavingaustralia/docs/slsa\\_annual\\_report\\_2025](https://issuu.com/surflifesavingaustralia/docs/slsa_annual_report_2025)



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