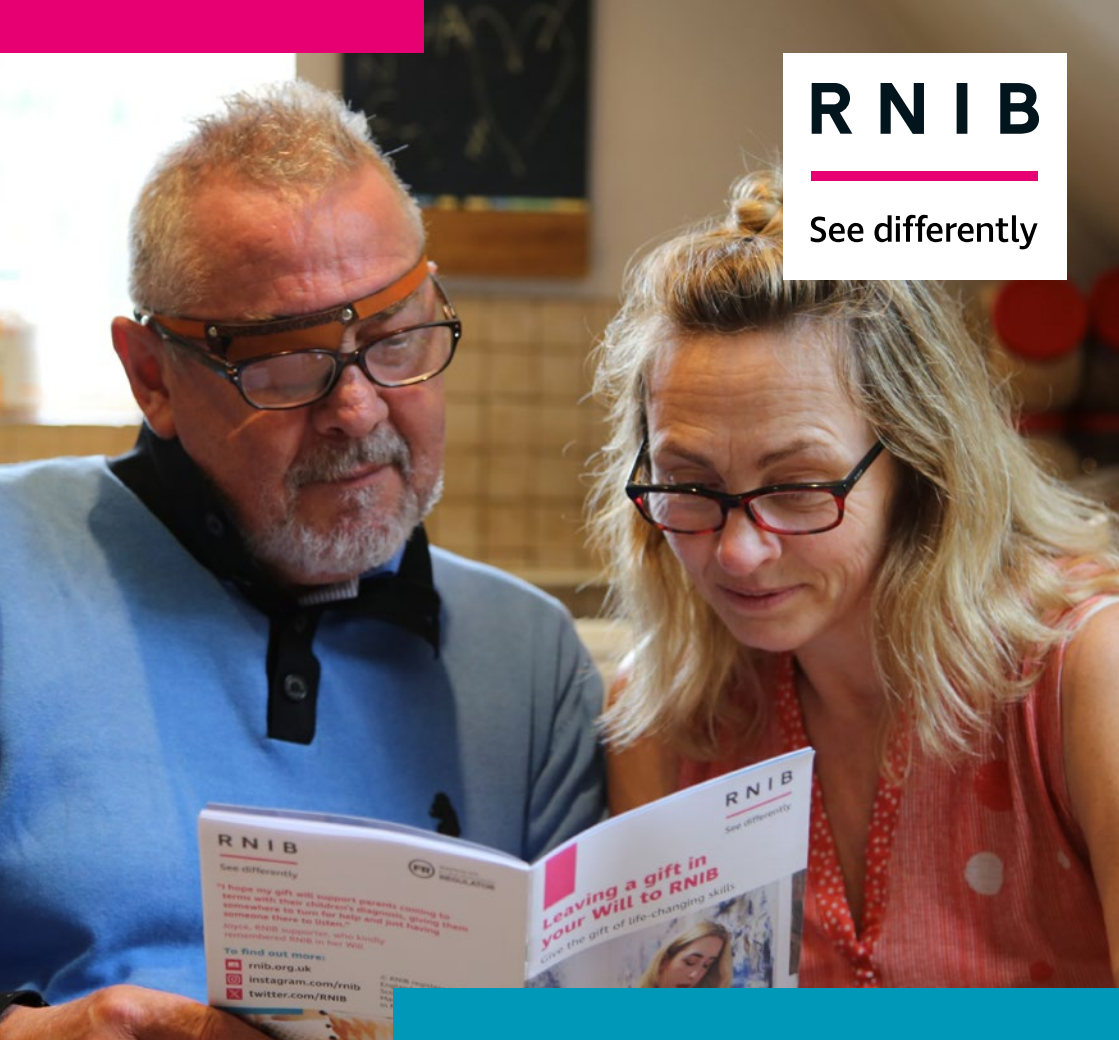


**RNIB**

See differently



**Why gifts in Wills  
are so important  
to RNIB's work**

# The power of gifts in Wills

Hello,

I'm Helen Smith, Head of Supporter Experience at RNIB.

Over a third of our income comes from Gifts in Wills, and much of our work is made possible by people who remember us in this way. Without these gifts, we can't provide the same practical and emotional support when it is needed.



Whether you're making your first Will or updating your current one, having it all written down is very important. It makes sure your wishes are carried out and makes things easier for those left behind. It's so easy to put off making a Will but it really is quite straightforward. This guide contains details of the services we provide to support you.

By remembering RNIB in your Will you help us continue to support the people who need us. We are very grateful to everyone who chooses to leave a gift – it really does make a huge difference.

If you have any questions, please get in touch by calling **0330 002 0051** or emailing **[GiftsInWills@rnib.org.uk](mailto:GiftsInWills@rnib.org.uk)**.

Thank you again for considering RNIB.

# The impact of RNIB's services

## Our 2024 impact:



**Our Eye Care Liaison Officers (ECLOs) reached more than 72,000 people.**



**We helped more than 110,000 people through RNIB's Sight Loss Advice Service.**



**RNIB's Bookshare gave almost 56,000 learners access to more than 1,146,000 titles.**



**2,739 volunteers supported RNIB.**



**We helped 744 people with sight loss to find work and 1,154 blind and partially sighted people stay in employment.**

# RNIB offers a range of services you can rely on

Joanna Hogg and both her son and daughter all have hyperplasia, which is a type of aniridia - a condition where the iris has not formed properly. The underdevelopment of their eyes affects them in a number of ways. It stops their eyes from adapting to light changes, because they don't have a circular or central pupil; they also have photophobia, nystagmus and don't see much detail.

"Both my children are SEN (have Special Educational Needs), and the school can't facilitate them. There are so many issues. They're both finding it hard to attend school so we asked for a reduced timetable, only to be told the school would have to check if they would still receive funding.

"I've used RNIB's counselling service a few times over the course of my life. When I was younger, I used the service to help me make the transition from an RNIB school to being out there in the real world. I'd gone from an environment where everything was constructed around VI to a world where nothing was geared up for me. I had to rely on whatever was in my little bag of tricks – magnifiers and markers and all sorts of workarounds.

"As a VI person living in a very sighted environment, receiving counselling support was incredibly important, especially when I went to university. I studied art and



specialised in photography, which is a very visual aspect of an already visual world.

"I've had a lot to do with the Education Team, who have been really helpful and accessible. There's always been lots of contact and support, and if they can't deal with something, they point me to someone who can. They signposted me to local agencies and other organisations like Guide Dogs, as well as to legislation, because you can advocate for your children much more effectively if you know the policies. They also sent us lots of links to information about physical education, adaptations and equipment that can be used for children with VI, which I sent on to the school. Whether they take notice or not is down to them.

"The range of support RNIB provides to blind and partially sighted people would not be possible without gifts generously left to RNIB in people's Wills."



# How RNIB and gardening helped Kevin adapt to sight loss



Kevin Smith has Temporal Arteritis, with severely limited vision. He was happily working as an inspector on the London buses, but when he lost his sight age 54, he was forced to change jobs.

Through RNIB's guidance Kevin completed an NVQ in horticulture. His infectious enthusiasm for gardening has given him a renewed purpose and joy for life.

Kevin has turned his garden into a sanctuary for himself, his plants, and the visiting wildlife. Having originally struggled to accept losing his sight, gardening has helped him to work through this process.

"You've got to come to terms with who you are and what you're capable of and gardening has helped me do that."

He explains there's a lot of trial and error involved in gardening. Kevin's always learning as he goes along.

"What I've planted doesn't always work out, because obviously my vision is not that good, but when it does it's lovely. The most important thing for us visually impaired people to realise, is that what we do won't necessarily be perfect."

Kevin explains that he gets a lot of joy from experiencing something grow. He loves eating what he's grown and has planted many more edible plants - like lettuce, courgettes, and French beans.

**"Gardening gives you that sense of achievement. You can say to yourself, I grew that, I pickled that. I thought my days of gardening were over, but thanks to the RNIB, they're not."**



# The impact of Gifts in Wills

**"Your generosity lifts a heavy weight from me and from those around me who wish to help but are at a loss how to."**



**Amrit**



**Joyce**

**"I hope my gift will support parents coming to terms with their children's diagnosis, giving them somewhere to turn for help and just having someone there to listen."**





How you can help **RNIB**  
be there for people  
with **sight loss**,  
long into the future

# How to use our Will-writing services

Our free, accessible Will-writing services make the process of writing or updating a Will as simple as possible. RNIB pays a discounted rate to enable you to do this through our trusted partners. We provide this service in the hope that you may consider RNIB when writing your Will, although there is no obligation to do so. These services cover the cost of simple Wills; if your needs are more complex then there may be additional fees which will be discussed with you.

## Online, at home or over the phone

We've partnered with Octopus Legacy to provide an easy and accessible Will writing service for our supporters. You can choose to write your Will online, over the phone or book a home visit. For more information, visit [rnib.in/WriteYourWill](https://rnib.in/WriteYourWill) or contact us at [GiftsInWills@rnib.org.uk](mailto:GiftsInWills@rnib.org.uk) or call **0330 002 0051**.

## With a local solicitor

We've partnered with the National Free Wills Network – a national network of local law firms offering Will writing services to supporters of RNIB. The Network works with solicitors in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The Channel Islands and Isle of Man are not covered at the moment.

To request a referral to the service, email us on [GiftsInWills@rnib.org.uk](mailto:GiftsInWills@rnib.org.uk) or give us a call on **0330 002 0051**.

# Types of gifts

There are different ways to leave a gift in your Will, so do take the time to consider which is right for you.

## Residuary gift

A percentage share of your remaining estate, once all specific gifts and debts have been paid. This type of gift holds its intended value over time and so is a reliable way to ensure each gift is as you intended.

## Pecuniary gift

A gift of a specific sum of money. These gifts are paid before any residuary amounts.

## Specific gift

A gift of assets, such as jewellery, investments or even property.



## All you need to include a gift in your Will to RNIB:

Registered office RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People), The Grimaldi Building, 154a Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JE. A registered charity in England and Wales (no. 226227) and Scotland (no. SC039316). Also operating in Northern Ireland.



# RNIB

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If you have a question about living with sight loss, no matter how big or small, we're here to offer support.

You can call **RNIB** on **0303 123 9999** anytime from **9am-6pm**, Monday to Friday.

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Also operating in Northern Ireland.