



**How to leave a gift in your will
Information pack**

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in leaving a gift in your will for the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team.

We can all play our part in helping our volunteer team to be ready to respond in the moment that they are needed. Gifts in wills make a big difference to our team, their 40 volunteers, the people who are rescued and their families. Scottish Mountain Rescue has ~850 volunteers.

What can a gift in your will do?

Any gift however big or small can really make a difference, you can make a contribution by leaving as little as 1% of your estate to the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team, or Scottish Mountain Rescue.

Gifts in wills can help kit out our volunteers with everything from winter gloves to jackets so that they are prepared for rescues in all conditions and all weathers.



They can help give teams the equipment they need for rescues too, the stretchers that help teams to carry injured hill walkers and mountaineers home to their families and the ropes and technical equipment that are needed for more complex rescues.

Gifts in wills can also help to fund the specialist vehicles to help our volunteers reach people in difficulty in rural or remote locations.

Whatever you choose to give as a gift in your will, you can help our volunteers save lives.

Tips for making or updating your will

Including a gift in your will for the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue is easy to do. You don't need to spend any money now, but by remembering the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue or Scottish Mountain Rescue in your will, you can help save lives in the future.

If you would like to leave a gift in your will to the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue, or Scottish Mountain Rescue, we recommend you consult a solicitor who can advise on wording to ensure that your wishes are carried out exactly as you want them to be.

You can arrange your gift in different ways:

A pecuniary gift is a specified sum of money. To ensure that it keeps its value over the years, you can ask your solicitor to make it index-linked.

A specific gift is an object, like a painting, a house or a piece of jewellery.

A residuary gift is made from whatever is left over once gifts of money and items have been distributed. You can give the whole of the residue to a person or a charity like the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue, or a portion of it.

To leave a gift in your will for the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team, make sure you have our correct address and charity number: SCO09451 and address: Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team, St John Base, High Street, Melrose, TD6 9RY

To leave a gift in your will for the Scottish Mountain Rescue you will need their address and charity number: SCO45003 and address: Scottish Mountain Rescue, Glenmore Lodge, Glenmore, Aviemore, PH22 1QZ.

Keep it safe When you've written your will, make sure you keep the original in a safe place, like your bank or solicitor's office. We also recommend making a couple of copies – one for you to keep and one for you to give to your executor(s)

Keep it up to date Your circumstances are bound to change in the future, so you'll need to update it every now and then. You might move house, for example, or have new additions to your family. That's why it's worth reviewing your will every few years to make sure it stays up to date.

Changing your will If you already have a will but are thinking about leaving a gift to a charity, it's very easy to make a simple addition. All you're likely to need is a simple legal document called a codicil. Just ask your adviser for more details



Our Promise to you

We understand that leaving a legacy is a special and personal decision. That's why we make this promise to you:

- We respect that writing a will involves personal decisions. We are here if you have any questions, but it is your decision about whether you choose to support the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue
- You can choose to leave a gift in your will to the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue, it is your decision. We will support you in whatever decision you make.

- We recognise that your loved ones come first
- You never have to tell us your intentions, we respect your right to privacy
- We fully understand that personal circumstances change and there might be a time when you must take us out of your will
- We will always be happy to answer any questions, explain the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Teams work in more detail, and tell you where you can find further information about how a gift in your will make a difference to us or to Scottish Mountain Rescue
- We promise to use your gift wisely and cost-effectively so that it has the greatest impact for the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue



Frequently Asked Questions How do I make a will?

We recommend that you contact a qualified legal professional. The Law Society can provide you with a directory of solicitors near you. www.lawscot.org.uk

How much does writing a will cost?

The cost of writing a will varies depending upon how complex it is. You will also need to keep your will up to date as your circumstances and family situation can change over the years. Minor additions can be made using a document called a codicil, and this is also an easy way to leave a legacy to support a charity.

Should I leave a gift in my will for the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue?

This is completely up to you, you can choose to leave your gift to the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or to the Scottish Mountain Rescue where the funds will be used to support all teams.

Can I say where I would like my money to go?

You can choose to leave your gift for the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue. If you have specific wishes regarding how the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team or Scottish Mountain Rescue uses the donation and restrict your gift to a particular project or area of work then we would encourage you to discuss this with us, so we can advise a form of words to ensure that your donation is used in line with your wishes. As gifts in wills are often realised many years in the future, things can change so we ask donors to allow us to be as flexible as possible as to how we might use these donations. This flexibility enables us to use your gift where it can make the biggest difference at that moment in time.

How will the Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team spend the funds?

The Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue Team will spend funds donated via gifts in wills to support our team. The funds will be spent where they are needed most e.g. on team equipment, or whatever other ways of supporting the team is needed at the time.

How will Scottish Mountain Rescue spend the funds?

Scottish Mountain Rescue will spend funds donated via gifts in wills to support our member teams. Our 24 Member Teams vote on how funds donated to Scottish Mountain Rescue are spent. The funds will be spent where they are needed most, this might include training courses for our member teams, distributing directly to teams to spend on team equipment, or whatever other ways of supporting the teams is needed at the time.

