

*A gift to help others tomorrow*

# LEAVING A BEQUEST TO THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY



*A gift in your Will is a  
life-affirming promise  
made today to help  
others tomorrow*





## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

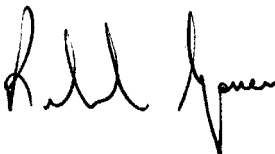
From its earliest beginnings in 1813, The Benevolent Society has responded to those in need. We have a rich history of providing social and community services such as Australia's first maternity hospital and children's health clinics, adoption services, aged care services, and legal aid programs. We also played an important role in the introduction of the age pension and legislation to protect children.

The Benevolent Society continues to work with children at risk, families in crisis, women experiencing domestic violence, older people and carers. We're also encouraging community and corporate leaders to look at how they can address social challenges in their own communities.

Without the support of our donors we would not be able to carry out the vital work that we do and I am particularly grateful to those who have chosen to leave a gift in their Will. Such an enduring gesture enables us to continue to support people in need well into the future.

If you are considering leaving a bequest to The Benevolent Society in your Will or if you have already done so, I thank you.

Yours sincerely



Richard Spencer  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**The Benevolent Society**

*“The support I received from  
The Benevolent Society through  
the toughest times helped me  
see that there is a light at the  
end of the tunnel”*



## LEAVING A BEQUEST

Leaving a bequest to The Benevolent Society will ensure that your values of helping other Australians will continue. Your Will allows you to build hope, transform lives and make an impact on future generations.

Bequests have helped us –

- ensure children are nurtured and safe
- help women make positive futures for themselves
- help older people to age well and to live independently for as long as possible
- support people who are carers
- provide information, counselling and support for people affected by adoption.

As Australia's oldest charity, our organisation has a long and proud tradition of taking bold action on social issues. Helping to shape social policy and government programs is a vital part of our advocacy work. We are willing to take the lead on issues of importance to us and to society.

## SYD TELLS HOW THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY HELPED TO CHANGE HIS LIFE

*I first came into contact with The Benevolent Society 48 years ago when my wife and I decided to adopt children and after a close relative suggested the Society as a possible help in achieving our aims. In due course we adopted a girl and two years later a boy, both just a few days old when coming into our lives.*

*The following years were devoted to raising the children in what was a normal and happy environment. Family relationships are close, continuous and now include 3 grandchildren, a boy of 14 and twin girls aged 11.*

*During my long and unbroken association with The Benevolent Society over nearly 5 decades, I have met senior and operational managers and accepted invitations to visit various centres run by them. Annual Meetings and other events have also been attended whenever possible. I have generously been accepted as a member of the Society, a Life Governor and a Member of the Benevolent Circle, in turn accepting the responsibilities that go with these appointments and enjoying the benefits involved.*

*The tasks of The Benevolent Society, and like charities, have today become massive and important to the community. One wonders whether without them, the costs and logistics of the services provided would be affordable or even measurable by governments or taxpayers.*

*In ever increasing numbers, those in modern society at risk or serious need seem to be on a scale unknown in earlier*

*days, and is sometimes alarming, if not frightening. This is particularly so as we generally have been living for such a long time in circumstances of affluence not seen before.*

*So years ago as a mark of thanks and gratitude, I included The Benevolent Society in my Will, a gift given on behalf of all my family. This bequest is provided with my utmost confidence in the dedicated, competent people working at all levels of the Society, to manage and apply the proceeds in achieving The Benevolent Society's aims so clearly stated in more recent times.*



**Syd and his wife with their children and grandchildren**

## HOW TO LEAVE A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL

If you don't have a Will as yet, or you are not sure how to include a bequest in your Will, you can speak to any solicitor.

We can help you if you are considering leaving a bequest. Our good friends at Hicksons Lawyers will prepare a Will for you, free of charge.



To coordinate a meeting with Hicksons Lawyers, or if you have any other enquiry about leaving a bequest to The Benevolent Society, please contact Karen Miller at:

The Benevolent Society  
Level 1, 188 Oxford Street  
Paddington NSW 2021

Tel: (02) 9339 8043

email: [karenm@bensoc.org.au](mailto:karenm@bensoc.org.au)

## SAMPLE WORDING FOR YOUR WILL

If you would prefer to speak to your own solicitor, here are three of the most effective options for including a bequest in your Will:

1. **After you have looked after your family and friends** you may choose to leave what remains to The Benevolent Society. This is called a ‘residuary bequest’ and the correct wording is:

*“I give the rest and residue of my estate both real and personal to The Benevolent Society (ABN 95 084 695 045), registered office 188 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021, for its general purposes and declare that the receipt of an executive officer at the time shall be sufficient discharge of my executor’s duty”*

2. **An alternative** is to give whatever percentage of the residue of your estate you wish to, in which case the correct wording is:

*“I give and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ per cent of the residue of my estate to The Benevolent Society (ABN 95 084 695 045), registered office 188 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021, for its general purposes and declare that the receipt of an executive officer at the time shall be sufficient discharge of my executor’s duty”*

3. If you choose to bequeath **a percentage of your entire estate** (up to 100%) the correct wording is:

*“I give and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ per cent of my estate to The Benevolent Society (ABN 95 084 695 045), registered office 188 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021, for its general purposes and declare that the receipt of an executive officer at the time shall be sufficient discharge of my executor’s duty”*

If you wish to leave a bequest for a particular area of our work, please contact us.

Established in 1813 Ga  
and to destitute childre  
and cash relief during  
legal aid available to de  
district nursing in Austr  
the old age pension S  
centre in Australia Esta  
for Women, Australia  
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vulnerable mothers a  
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atives

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