

Think of IOSF in Your Will



The International Otter Survival Fund (IOSF)

The International Otter Survival Fund (IOSF) was inspired by observing otters in their true natural environment. Because the otter lives on land and in the water and is at the peak of the food chain it is an ambassador species to a first class environment. IOSF was set up to protect and help the 13 species of otter worldwide through a combination of compassion and science. It supports projects to protect otters, which will also ensure that we have a healthy environment for all species, including our own.

IOSF's guide to making and updating your will

Why you need an up to date Will

■ **By having your Will up to date** it will ensure that your final wishes are undertaken and your property and possessions will go to the people for whom you care.



If you don't make a Will your spouse and children won't automatically inherit everything. The law will decide and this will mean your family and friends will have to wait several years while this is resolved.

■ **If you have children** under the age of 18 a Will will make sure they are properly looked after if anything should happen to you. You should appoint a guardian who will become responsible for them should anything happen to you or your partner.

■ **If you have a pet** you should include instructions for their care in your Will.

■ If you support the work of IOSF please see below



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How do I make a Will

- 1. List your assets:** Create a list of everything you own. You can use our sample inventory to help you do this.
- 2. Executors:** Nominate people to act on your behalf. Choose close friends or members of your family you can trust to ensure your instructions are carried out properly.
- 3. List people you care about:** Make a list of the people you want to remember in your Will. If you have precious items you want to leave to a particular person write it down. Once you have made sure your family and friends have been provided for list any organisations like IOSF you would like listed in your will.
- 4. Use a solicitor:** To produce a legal document you really have to use a solicitor. If you don't have a solicitor ask a friend or family member if they could recommend one. You may like to compare the cost from several solicitors - most will charge between £100 and £200.
- 5. You will need two witnesses:** Once your Will is complete make sure your executors know where it is kept.



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Working out what you have

The list below will help you work out the value of your belongings and property.

Property/possessions	Approximate value £
House or Flat	
Second home	
Other	
Car (s)	
Business Assets	
Jewellery	
Equipment	
Furniture	
Pictures	
Other	
Other	
Financial	
Bank Account	
Building Society	
Post Office Account	
Stocks & Shares	
Premium bonds	
Pensions	
Life Assurance	
Other	
Outstanding money you owe	
Mortgage	
Loans	
Overdraft	
Credit card	
Other	

Summary

Total assets (a)	£
Total Debts (b)	£
Final amount (a-b)	£



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Inheritance Tax

At present [September 2010] for an individual Inheritance Tax is charged at a rate of 40% upon a person's estate over and above the first £325,000 (the "nil rate band"). This means that in very simple terms if you die leaving an estate of £400,000, the first £325,000 will be free of Inheritance Tax, but you will pay tax at the rate of 40% on the balance, £75,000. This equates to Inheritance Tax of £30,000. For married couples/civil partners up to two nil rate bands can be available.

You can reduce this tax liability by leaving money to a charity such as IOSF. If you left £20,000 to IOSF and £20,000 to another charity, then for Inheritance Tax calculation purposes your estate is reduced by a further £40,000. Therefore only £35,000 of your estate is then subject to IHT at 40%, equating to £14,000 of tax.

This calculation is given as an example only. You must always take independent legal and financial advice before taking any estate planning steps.

How you can help IOSF

The International Otter Survival Fund (IOSF) is a unique organisation - we are the only organisation actively helping and protecting the world's otters.

The conservation of the otter is not a sentimental luxury. Being at the top of the food chain and using both the aquatic and terrestrial environments their presence indicates that both habitats are in pristine condition.

In 1993 Paul and Grace Yoxon started IOSF, and their enthusiasm and drive has made this charity one of the leading roles in wildlife conservation.

IOSF achieves:

- **Otter rehabilitation** - our Scottish sanctuary receives 10-12 otters a year and has rehabilitated over 140 otter successfully back to the wild.
- **Campaigns to preserve safe habitat worldwide.**

- **Brings otter scientists together** in international conferences
- **Funds** otter research internationally
- **Educates** people worldwide in otter conservation
- **Conducts** research in the UK and holds a complete database on otter sightings in the UK



Helping the world's otters

Leaving IOSF a legacy will help our important work to continue.

As a registered charity, every legacy we receive is free from tax and is a very positive way to help otter conservation internationally.



An IOSF Legacy

If you would like to leave a legacy to the International Otter Survival Fund you could include this in your Will. " I bequeath unto the International Otter Survival Fund, Registered Charity number SC003875, of 7, Black Park, Broadford, Isle of Skye, Scotland, IV49 9DE the sum of £ x or x percent of the residue of my estate, free from tax and I direct that the receipt of an authorised officer of the International Otter Survival Fund would be a good and sufficient discharge of such a legacy".

The Otter's Thank You



If you include IOSF in your Will we would like to thank you by sending you a signed copy of the book “Echoes of Camusfearna”, the story behind IOSF written by Paul and Grace Yoxon. Please complete the pledge form below.



PLEDGE FORM

My pledge to the International Otter Survival Fund

I would like to help the work of the International Otter Survival Fund by including a legacy in my Will.

- A special Item of Value
- A percentage of my estate
- A fixed amount
- I would like to receive the signed copy of Echoes of Camusfearna, the story behind IOSF.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr).....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Post Code.....

Telephone.....

IOSF membership number.....

Please return this form to International Otter Survival Fund, 7 Black Park,
Broadford, Isle of Skye, IV49 9DE.

Thank you very much for your support of IOSF

Grace Yoxon

Founder, hands-on rehabilitator of otters and Director of IOSF