



THE
PARACHUTE
REGIMENT
CHARITY

Are you ready for anything?

A guide to helping The Parachute Regiment in your will



The Parachute Regiment Charity

Registered Charity No 1131977

RHQ PARA · Merville Barracks · Colchester · CO2 7UT

The charity amalgamates the former Central Fund and Airborne Forces Charities. As of 2010, this is a new charity carrying on our best traditions in the relief of hardship, need and distress amongst all members of the Regiment and Airborne Forces and their dependents, and doing much



besides to promote morale and military efficiency, and to promote and maintain our heritage.

These are the some of the ways we have helped soldiers and their families:

- Bespoke wheelchairs
- Equipment to enable an amputee to enter Paralympic cycling
- Travel and accommodation costs for soldiers attending commemorations such as Arnhem and Normandy
- Helping towards special mobility vehicle for a soldier's disabled child
- Travel and hotel costs to enable families of those killed to attend memorial parades or services
- Soldiers' adventure training and sports teams
- Family days aimed at providing support and communication during deployment
- Transport costs for overseas relatives of wounded soldiers

For more information please visit our website at www.paracharity.org



As we celebrate our first 70 years, I am proud to be Colonel Commandant of The Parachute Regiment during such a momentous era, when we both honour our history and remain at the forefront of the British Army's present-day capability.

We face challenges as never before. But we are a family united in our airborne training and heritage. The welfare of our serving and retired soldiers and their dependents remains vital to our esprit de corps. Just as Airborne troops have always done in the field, we must bend all our efforts to look after our own. In this we need your help.

The Parachute Regiment Charity is at the heart of our work, providing for the welfare needs of both Regiment and Airborne Forces soldiers and families. Please consider if you can help us by including us in your Will. A legacy enables you to support us in a way which might not be possible during your lifetime.

For most of us, it is the best opportunity we ever have to make a really worthwhile contribution to a cause we believe in. It's a chance to make a real difference to the lives of others who have served and who one day may need and deserve our help.

I urge you to read this booklet and hope that you feel you can act upon it.

Utrisque Paratus and thank you

Major General Jonathan Shaw CBE

Have you made a Will?

Did you know that as many as one in five people in the UK die without making a Will? Many mistakenly think that they do not own enough property or cash to make one necessary.

However, making a Will is the only way to ensure that whatever you own is distributed according to your wishes. Indeed, without a Will your family will be faced with sorting out legal matters at an already distressing time.

Your first priority must be to your family. Once you have taken care of them, you might consider including **The Parachute Regiment Charity** in your Will. By doing so, you continue to help the Regimental family and the welfare and memory of our soldiers for years to come. A legacy enables you to support us in a way which might not be possible during your lifetime.

Making a Will is a tax-efficient way of donating money to charity. All legacies to charities are free of Inheritance Tax and Capital Gains



Tax and could reduce the tax burden levied on your estate.

We strongly recommend that you use a Solicitor to help make or amend your Will. In most cases this is not expensive – many solicitors charge a flat fee. A Solicitor will ensure your wishes are practicable and will be carried out. You do not need a new Will; you can simply make a brief addition – known as a Codicil – to include us in your existing Will.

We understand that a Will is a very private matter, but it would help us enormously to know you plan to leave a legacy to the Charity. This booklet has a simple form that you can return to us.

Do I have to make a Will?

Making a Will is the only way to take control of your affairs and decide who you want to benefit from your estate. Without a valid Will, the law decides who gets what – it does not necessarily follow that your nearest and dearest will benefit. If you haven't made a Will, you leave everything to the rule of intestacy, chance and possibly even the Inland Revenue (HMRC).

Can I change my existing Will?

Yes, even if you already have a Will you can still leave a legacy by completing a Codicil. It is still advisable to seek advice from your Solicitor.



Do I have to tell the Regiment of my wishes?

You do not have to tell us if you have made or intend to make a legacy in our favour. However, it would be greatly appreciated if you could do so. Knowing about legacies helps us to plan for the future. If you can help in this very valuable way then please complete the form and return it to us. It is not legally binding, but notifies us of your intention and enables us to avoid corresponding with you inappropriately in the future. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Are there any tax implications?

Yes – charities are exempt from Inheritance Tax and Capital Gains Tax. So, if you are eligible to pay Inheritance Tax, money that would

otherwise go to HMRC could go to help the Charity in its work.

Do I have to use a Solicitor to draw up my Will?

You can buy and complete a “Do it Yourself” Will if your affairs are very straightforward. However, we do strongly advise you to use a Solicitor. Many Solicitors charge a flat fee for this service and you will be able to rest assured that all your affairs are in order.

How do I go about finding a Solicitor?

The telephone directory has a list of solicitors in your local area. Your local library may also be able to help. You can also contact the Law Society on **0870 606 2555** or at **www.lawsociety.org.uk** where you can search online using your postcode.

What type of gift can I leave?

There are three main types of legacy:

Residuary Legacy – This is the gift of the remainder of your estate (or a percentage of the remainder) after all other gifts to family and friends have been distributed and all outgoing have been dealt with. If you are generous enough to leave your entire estate to one Charity this is also known as a Residuary Legacy. A Residuary Legacy is usually of greatest benefit as its value increases in line with inflation.

Cash (or Pecuniary) Legacy –

This is a fixed sum of money

Specific Legacy – This is a legacy of a specific named item of value that you have left in your Will. It could be a house, property, life insurance, shares, a painting or even a classic car!

The wording below will help your solicitor draw up your Will.

Residuary Gift

I give _____ % of the residue of my real and personal estate which I can dispose of by Will in any manner I think proper to The Parachute Regiment Charity (Registered Charity No 1131977) of Reed Smith LLP, The Broadgate Tower, 20 Primrose Street, London EC2A 2RS and the receipt of the Treasurer or the proper officer for the time being of The Parachute Regiment Charity

shall be a complete discharge to my Executors

Pecuniary Gift

I give the sum of _____ to The Parachute Regiment Charity (Registered Charity No 1131977) of Reed Smith LLP, The Broadgate Tower, 20 Primrose Street, London EC2A 2RS and the receipt of the Treasurer or the proper officer for the time being of The Parachute Regiment Charity shall be a complete discharge to my Executors

What should I do before visiting my Solicitor?

These three steps will prepare you for the questions your Solicitor will ask and make drafting your Will more straightforward.

1. Make a note of all your assets, including savings and investments.
2. Decide who you would like to provide for in your Will – your family, friends and favourite charities.
3. Choose at least two executors (they can be friends, relatives or professionals) who will ultimately make sure that your wishes are carried out. It is a good idea to check that the people you have chosen are happy to take on the responsibility. On a practical note, it is advisable for at least one executor to be younger than you.

Please let us know

You do not have to tell us if you have made or intend to make a legacy in our favour. However, it would be greatly appreciated if you could do so. Knowing about legacies helps us to plan for the future.

If you can help in this very valuable way then please complete the form and return it to us. It is not legally binding, but notifies us of your intention and enables us to avoid corresponding with you inappropriately in the future.

All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Title (MR/MRS/MISS/OTHER) _____

First name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

My Donation (TICK YOUR CHOICE)

I have left a donation in my Will to The Parachute Regiment Charity

I intend to leave a donation in my Will

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return to:

Controller · RHQ PARA · Merville Barracks · Colchester · CO2 7UT

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