

Your Gift

to Age UK Barnet

A gift in your will could be a lifeline, ensuring older people always have someone to turn to.

A guide to leaving a gift in your will



Making every day a little brighter for older people in the borough of Barnet

Reducing loneliness and isolation, and improving health and wellbeing, are Age UK Barnet's guiding principles for all older people.

We offer a range of preventative services to ensure that later years are fulfilling and enjoyable, and that older people can maintain meaningful connections within their communities.

We are an independent local charity that has been working with older Barnet residents since the 1940s. We depend on the financial support from individuals like you, from charitable organisations and local businesses in order to deliver our vital work. All the funds we raise are spent in Barnet.

Our work is only possible because of generous support from people like you. Every single gift is important to us and will go a long way to help someone who needs us.

Age UK Barnet is a one-stop shop for clients, like Joan, who use more than one of our services.

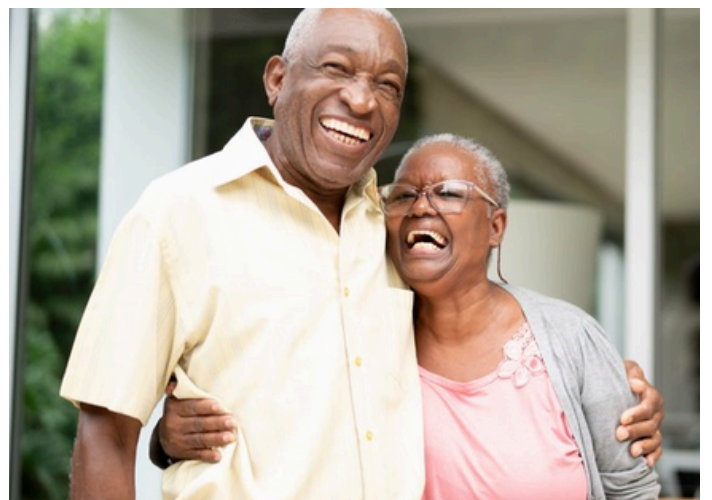
Joan says:

'It's such a relief and comfort to have Age UK Barnet – you always tell me what you can do – AND DO IT!

'Age UK Barnet has helped me with dementia advice, footcare and even hanging my curtains.

'Thanks, you all do so much for us. I don't know where I would be without you all.'

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your will



Make a lasting difference in your local community

By choosing to leave a gift in your will to Age UK Barnet, your kindness will help older people living in the borough find comfort, support and friendship.

We are proud that Age UK Barnet is recognised as a dependable and trustworthy organisation in the borough. We are committed to working with other local organisations to ensure that we reach those older residents most in need.

On average our Later Life Planning advice team help claim over £1.5 million in weekly benefits for Barnet residents every year. This has been life changing for many.

Our 70 members of staff (mostly part-time) and on average 400 volunteers reach more than 18,000 older Barnet residents each year - that's 1 in 8 older people in the borough!

Every legacy helps us continue to provide vital services and activities including a handyperson service, a shopping service for those who can't get out, friendly weekly chats as well as information and advice on crucial issues affecting older people including benefits, care options and housing.

Our dementia hub which includes day clubs, an adviser service and dementia befriending, supports families living with dementia. And our wide range of activities include exercise classes, social walks, a lunch club, art and cooking classes plus IT classes to open up the online world to older people.

One recent legacy helped us set up a Men's Shed project, giving men a chance to socialise, share skills and engage in practical tasks. Activities like these tackle the growing problem of loneliness and isolation among older men.



Your gift can help us be there for future generations

Of course we understand that you want to take care of your loved ones first. After you have done this, a small gift in your will to Age UK Barnet could make a lasting difference to older people who need our help.

We are hugely indebted to everyone who has chosen to make a difference to the lives of our older residents and left a gift in their wills to Age UK Barnet.

Without these gifts, we would not have been able to grow our services over the years.

Under increasing financial pressure and facing tighter budgets, with increasing demand from an ageing population, gifts like these will become even more important for us in the future.

In fact, the number of older people we help in the borough has more than doubled in the last five years

If you could consider leaving just 1 or 2% of your estate, this can make a real difference to the people who need us.

'My involvement with Age UK Barnet has helped me feel part of the community and less lonely.'

86 year old former accountant living alone with no friends or family nearby who asked for a befriender to help him feel less isolated.

'Your help is very much appreciated, I had no idea where to start and you stepping in took a lot of stress away at a time when I was overwhelmed. Thank you so much.'

Graham, who contacted our Later Life Planning team about getting a sickness certificate.

'My grandchildren tried to teach me how to use my computer but they're just too quick for me. My volunteer is so patient and we go through everything step by step.'

A client who is now sending emails for the first time at the age of 93



Useful information



Leaving a gift in your will can also have positive tax implications. It is important that you speak to a qualified professional, such as a solicitor, when making or amending your will.

We hope that the following helps answer some of the questions that you might have.

I need to make a will. How do I get started?

You can download from a will planner from our website, which can help you set out your wishes. A solicitor of your choice will be able to advise you on the required wording to carry these out.

How can I take care of my family and leave a gift in my will to Age UK Barnet?

After setting out your wishes to take care of family and friends, all you need, in order to leave a gift to the charity, is:

- Our name: **Age UK Barnet**
- Our charity number: **1080458** and
- Our address: **The Ann Owens Centre, Oak Lane N2 8LT.**

I already have a will. How can I make a change in order to leave a gift to Age UK Barnet?

A qualified professional such as a solicitor may be able to make the necessary change by means of an amendment (known as a codicil) to your will, unless the change is more complex, calling for a new will.

Useful information



What kind of gift can I leave Age UK Barnet in my will?

There are three main types of gifts:

- **residuary** - a percentage of your estate, once specified gifts have been made to friends and family, and taxes and debts have been paid
- **pecuniary** - a fixed sum of money
- **specific** - a specified item, such as a personal possession, land, building, or stocks and shares.

Leaving a gift to charity can reduce the amount your estate pays in inheritance tax. Your solicitor will be able to advise you.

How can I help Age UK Barnet make a difference in the future?

Gifts left to us are vital to our work. They can be directed toward a specific purpose but contributions marked for general charitable purposes of Age UK Barnet are preferred as they will allow the charity to use your legacy where it is most needed at that particular time.

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your will.

Help us continue changing the lives of older people in Barnet

The work we do transforms the lives of people in the borough of Barnet

'My befriender has become a trusted friend and I feel less alone. Just knowing she is there to talk to or an email away is a great load off my mind. She has helped me in so many ways – already too many to mention!'

Ann is housebound and has long periods alone – her befriender has helped with everything from sorting out online shopping, referring to Age UK Barnet advice team for pension issues, picking up food for her and they speak up to twice a week on the phone for over an hour.

'It was a godsend when Pigeon Post first arrived on my doorstep and it made me feel very emotional to read that Age UK Barnet were doing this for people who didn't have internet access. People like me are the forgotten ones and your magazine remembers us and brings us laughter and information that we would never have otherwise known about.'

Mavis on Pigeon Post, the magazine that we launched during Covid and continue to produce and send out to people who are not online and feel cut off.

'Thank you for helping me with pension credit. It's been so difficult since losing my husband. I took out five loans and got myself into terrible difficulty and have struggled to pay bills. Getting the pension credit will change my life.'

Our Later Life Planning information and advice team helped a client get the pension credit she was entitled to.

'I bumped into Maud when I was shopping, and I couldn't have been more pleased. I knew my job was done! A few months ago she wouldn't go out, worried about tripping on the pavements. She can now go shopping with her trolley, manage the uneven pavements and up and down the steps to her house. She's like a new woman.'

Volunteer Jenny who helped Maud gain confidence to go out and about again after a stroke and a fall.



Thank you

**for considering leaving a gift
in your will**

**We are here to help. If you have any questions, please
do not hesitate to get in touch.**

Age UK Barnet

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Registered charity number 1080458.
Company number 3863045

