



**Ayrshire  
Cancer Support**  
*Here to help*



**GIFTS IN WILLS GUIDE**

# **“When we leave a gift in our Will, our values live on forever”**

In any given year, one in two of us will be affected by cancer. As one of those affected, I'm very conscious of the immense difficulty faced, throughout families, of a diagnosis. I also know how vital the help is offered by Ayrshire Cancer Support.

They're determined to be there for future generations and the growing numbers. Please consider, like I did, remembering Ayrshire Cancer Support in your Will.

It's one of the most valuable ways you can ensure they will still be here for everyone who needs them, at their most vulnerable time.

Thank you,  
Rachael

Rachael T,  
Model used to protect service users identity



# A gift in your Will to Ayrshire Cancer Support is a gift to everyone with cancer.



Ayrshire Cancer Support gives people going through cancer a crucial lifeline.

In recent years, the number needing our support has continued to rise and with more people being diagnosed every year, it's clear that generations will need us even more.

We're determined to ensure our services reach everyone; children, young people, families and adults all over Ayrshire, we depend on gifts in Wills to do so. Your gift will allow us to keep delivering our vital services to those who need us most.

Your Will is a personal matter, and taking care of those closest to you will be your priority. However, many of us also support the causes we value.

We hope you will consider supporting us in this wonderful way.

With our Free Will Offer, making a Will costs nothing. It's also much easier than you might think. This guide tells you all you need to know.

If there's anything else you'd like to discuss, you can do so in confidence, by calling 01563 538008 and ask to be put through to the legacy officer.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Hunter".

Dr. Helen Hunter  
Volunteer Director of the Board  
Ayrshire Cancer Support



Caroline Wright,  
Complementary Therapist



# You can help us secure our future...

By supporting us, you can help create a world where everyone in Ayrshire with cancer seeking practical and emotional support, is helped.

Your Will is one of the most important documents you'll ever write. It ensures your loved ones are looked after when you're no longer around and that your final wishes are respected. But once your family and friends have been included, your Will is also a way for you to continue to support a cause close to your heart. More and more people today are including a gift to charity in their Will - also known as a 'legacy' - to support the causes that matter to them. Even a small sum can make a huge difference.

Every day, 1000 people are diagnosed with cancer. With more people than ever needing our help, our services will become more stretched. Knowing that we can count on gifts in Wills in years to come means we'll be able to meet the growing need.

With our hospital transport service, staffed by volunteer drivers, we take thousands of patients to and from hospital for treatment and other cancer related appointments. For many patients this means travelling to Glasgow on a daily basis for a period of up to eight weeks and many people rely on us to get them there.

Our drivers now make between 1,000 and 1,500 patient journeys each month on behalf of Ayrshire cancer patients.

Our counselling services provide the client with an opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings with a sensitive

and responsive listener. It can help people to come to terms with their own illness or that of a loved one.

Our counsellors and therapists are all experienced, fully qualified and hold full accreditation with their relevant professional body. Therapeutic staff are trained to support cancer patients, families and carers.

We have a warm and friendly drop-in centre in Kilmarnock where we offer support groups, workshops and cancer information, as well as the counselling and complementary therapies.



Volunteer driver, Simon Jenkinson



# John Currie shares his story of how Ayrshire Can became a lifeline for him and his family.

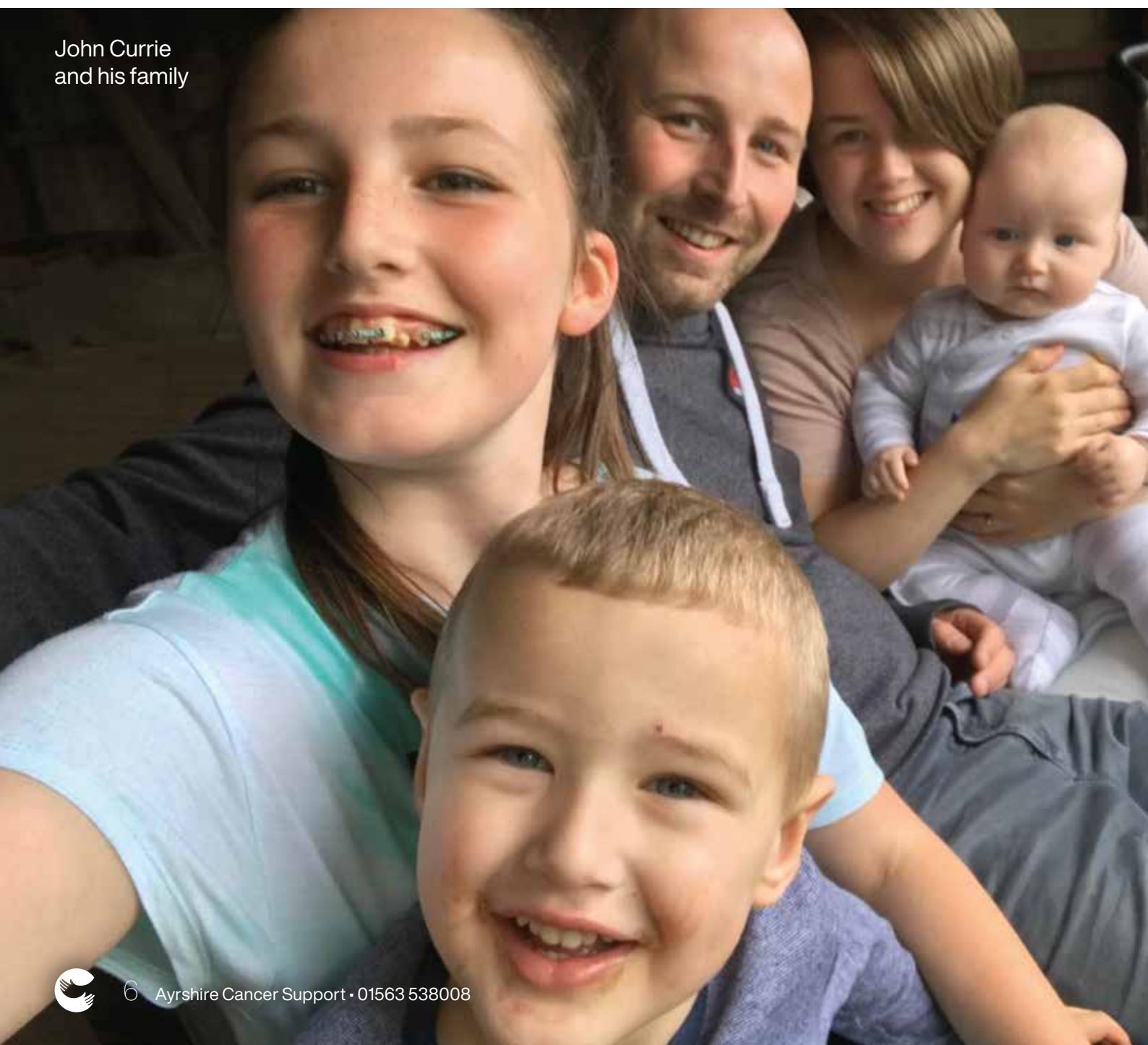
As John Currie took the hand of his new bride Kim, to lead her onto the dancefloor for their first dance at their wedding in September - never in a million years could he have imagined that two weeks later he would be receiving the most devastating news of his life.

Whilst on their honeymoon, on the way back from a trip to the zoo, John

began to feel unwell. His wife took him straight to his GP's surgery, where he was then sent to A&E.

John was admitted to hospital and had many different tests and an MRI. When the doctors came to his bedside the next morning on their ward rounds, they asked John if he had anyone with him - on replying no, he was told that he'd best get

John Currie  
and his family



his wife to the hospital as soon as possible.

At only 32 years of age, with his new wife by his side, John found out he had Burkitt lymphoma - an extremely rare but highly aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphoma. The scans had shown quite advanced tumours on the underside of his diaphragm.

The only option available to him at that point was palliative care.

After six sessions staying in hospital throughout, the tumour in John's stomach reduced in size and he began to have hope for the future. With two young children at the time, John could not bear to think about what could have happened if he hadn't decided to accept the only treatment that was offered to him - In 2019 they had a son to add to their family.

**“You can’t undervalue the help offered to me and my wife, Kim, during my cancer treatment. From the transport service, to the counselling and therapies - it was so reassuring to me to know that we were supported every step of the way”**

A few weeks later, at an appointment with Ayrshire & Glasgow consultants, one of the oncologists said they'd like to have a shot at treating it, but it would be a very robust and rough treatment - would John be up for it? For John it was a cut and dried decision. In his own words “What were the other options? It was an easy decision, I just thought to myself, let's do this!”

John was admitted to Station 15 at Ayr hospital to undergo his treatment, he clearly recalls sitting before his first session, feeling nervous and excited, desperate to get started. He envisaged himself carrying on going for runs & feeling great. Reality was much tougher. The first three sessions were rough with John passing out numerous times, experiencing hallucinations and generally feeling wiped out.

His wife, Kim, a staff nurse, was his rock throughout and kept everything together. She was there explaining the more technical medical terms and kept the family going. Kim is not reluctant to say she found it all overwhelming, especially so early in their marriage when they should have been enjoying their honeymoon period. Kim got in touch with us and had a few counselling sessions, which she said made a massive difference in her ability to cope day to day.

John still worries about the cancer returning. Sometimes he feels weary - his body aches and he feels tired most of the time.

“Nevertheless” he says, “It’s a small price to pay to still be here and watch my kids grow up.”



# Making or changing your Will has never been easier.

Writing a Will gives you peace of mind, because you know that your wishes will be carried out after after you're gone. Many of us put it off, worried that will be expensive or difficult.

However, getting your Will drawn up professionally is usually simple and - if you use our free Will offer - costs nothing.

**Cancer affects everyone - the young and old, the rich and poor, men, women and children. Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in the world.**

Once you've taken care of those closest to you, you may choose to remember one or more charities in your Will.

We'd be delighted if you make a gift to Ayrshire Cancer Support, but there is no obligation or pressure to do so. If you do decide to help us in this way, every gift - whether its £500 or 1% of your estate - will make a difference to many people living with cancer.

If you already have a Will, it's important to keep it updated to reflect changes in your circumstances. Or you may decide to remember a cause close to your heart, like Ayrshire Cancer Support.

Whatever you decide, a solicitor will guide you through the process.

If you decide to take advantage of our free will offer we'll provide a local list of law firms who can help - simply choose the one you want to work with.

*My last will*



# Questions you might have before you start

## Q. Why should I write a Will?

- A. A Will makes a difficult time a little easier for those closest to you and, if you don't, the government could divide up what you own contrary to your wishes.

## Q. Why should I update my Will and how do I do it?

- A. Your circumstances may change if you marry, divorce, start a family, lose your parents, or retire, so it's wise to review your Will regularly. To amend your Will, you need to add a codicil - a document your solicitor will help you draw up that's kept with your Will.

## Q. Why should I remember a charity in my Will?

- A. A gift in your Will is a tax-efficient way to support a charity, because it's not subject to inheritance tax - and could reduce any tax to pay from your estate.

## Q. What are the different types of gifts I can leave to charity?

- A. There are three main ways to leave a gift (also known as a legacy or bequest) to charity.
- **A residuary legacy** is all or part of what remains of your estate, when all other gifts have been distributed.
  - **A pecuniary legacy** is a set amount of money.
  - **A specific legacy** is a particular item of value, such as jewellery.

## Q. What is an executor?

- A. An executor is someone responsible for making sure the instructions in your Will are carried out. You can choose up to four. Please remember to check they're happy to take on this role.

If you have further questions please visit [ayrshirecs.org](https://www.ayrshirecs.org); or email [GiftsinWills@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:GiftsinWills@ayrshirecs.org), you can also call **01563 538008**



# It would be helpful if you could complete and return this form to let us know if you plan to leave a gift to Ayrshire Cancer Support in your Will.

The form does not commit you to anything and your answers will help us keep you informed about the work that your gift will help fund. Thank you.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

We would love to send you information on Ayrshire Cancer Support and how you can help us through fundraising, events and volunteering opportunities. Simply complete the form and return to us. Please tick below to tell us how you want to hear from us:

Post: Yes ☐ No ☐

Email: Yes ☐ No ☐

We take your privacy seriously and will never sell or swap your details with third parties. You can withdraw your consent to be contacted at any time by calling 01563 538008 or by emailing [GiftsinWills@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:GiftsinWills@ayrshirecs.org)

Please return this by post to:

Ayrshire Cancer Support, 5 Dundonald Road, Kilmarnock KA1 1EQ  
or by email to: [GiftsinWills@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:GiftsinWills@ayrshirecs.org).



*A gift in your Will will help people like Ruth McSorley (pictured) who used our services, is now cancer free and enjoying life to the full.*



**Thank you for considering leaving a gift  
in your Will to Ayrshire Cancer Support.**

**You are helping future generations  
living with the effects of cancer.**



Ayrshire Cancer Support, 5 Dundonald Road, Kilmarnock KA1 1EQ

01563 538008 • [admin@ayrshirecs.org](mailto:admin@ayrshirecs.org) • [www.ayrshirecs.org](http://www.ayrshirecs.org)

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