

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Free Will-writing service available to local residents this May

Local residents are being invited to write or update their Will for free this May, thanks to a partnership between Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC), Red Kite Solicitors and Wards Solicitors. As part of the charity's 'Make a Will in May' campaign, there are no standard fees for setting up a Will. Instead, anyone taking part is invited to make a voluntary donation of their choice to support GWAAC's lifesaving work.

Why making a Will matters

Making or updating a Will is an important way to protect the people who matter most – ensuring that wishes are honoured and loved ones are looked after. Once they have done that, many people also choose to leave a gift in their Will to a cause close to their heart: something that will go on making a difference long after they're gone.

Gifts to charities are also exempt from Inheritance Tax, meaning a gift in a Will can reduce the tax burden on an estate while leaving a meaningful legacy.

Hanna Chambers, Supporter Engagement Manager at GWAAC, said: "Writing a Will is one of the most loving things you can do for the people you care about, and we know it's something many of us put off for longer than we should. We're so grateful to Red Kite and Wards Solicitors for removing the financial barrier and making it that little bit easier this May. There's no obligation to include GWAAC, but for those who do, a gift in a Will – however large or small – can have a lasting, lifesaving impact. Ultimately, you'll be helping us be there for your loved ones long into the future."

How to access the free Will-writing service

The free service is available at selected branches of Red Kite Solicitors in Cirencester, Gloucester, Stroud, Stonehouse and Dursley, and at Wards Solicitors branches in Thornbury, Staple Hill and Yate. People who are not near a participating branch can still access a free Will-writing service through the National Free Wills Network.

A spokesperson for National Free Wills Network said: "A gift to charity in your Will costs nothing in your lifetime and makes a difference for years to come. Having an up-to-date Will prepared by a solicitor is the best way to ensure that your future wishes will be carried out. It is also the perfect way to leave something to help the charity continue their vital work for generations to come."

To find out more and to book an appointment, visit: gwaac.com/wills

About GWAAC

GWAAC relies entirely on public donations to raise more than £4 million each year to remain operational, receiving no day-to-day Government or National Lottery funding. One in six missions is made possible by gifts left in Wills, helping to fund the charity's Critical Care Team of Doctors, Advanced Practitioners and Specialist Paramedics.



The team attends an average of more than six patients a day across Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire, Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and parts of Wiltshire, with each mission costing around £2,200.

ENDS

Notes for editors

1. GWAAC provides the critical care and air ambulance service for 2.1 million people across Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire, North Somerset, and parts of Wiltshire.
2. The GWAAC Critical Care Team consists of highly trained and experienced Critical Care Doctors, Advanced Practitioners and Specialist Paramedics in Critical Care, who bring the skill and expertise of a hospital emergency department to the patient.
3. 2025 was GWAAC's busiest year on record with 2,344 people in urgent need of medical care. GWAAC's Critical Care Team is needed by more than six patients a day on average and rushes to treat them by helicopter or critical care car. On average each mission costs around £2,200 to attend.
4. The charity needs to raise over £4 million a year in order to remain operational yet receives no day-to-day funding from the Government or National Lottery.

For further information about Great Western Air Ambulance Charity, contact:

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