



CHARITABLE TRUST

# How a gift in your Will can be a lasting legacy to the Railway

**Leaving a gift in your Will to the SVR Charitable Trust  
will have a real impact on the Railway, and can be  
easier than you might think**



[svrtrust.org.uk](http://svrtrust.org.uk)



# Gifts in Wills are vital to the SVR

## **They form a third of the Charitable Trust's income and make a huge difference to the Railway**

Without gifts in Wills, many important projects at the Severn Valley Railway would simply never see the light of day. It was two separate legacies that seed funded the early stages of the Carriage Shed at Kidderminster. Another gift in a Will was instrumental to the purchase of the land where the Engine House now stands. Gifts in Wills from other supporters have contributed to station improvements at Hampton Loade, essential renovation work at Sandbourne viaduct, and carriage and locomotive restorations. And the Charitable Trust's endowment Future Fund has benefitted from a number of legacies. This fund's balance is now approaching £2 million and we are building it up to at least £10 million, so that it will eventually generate sufficient income to ensure the Railway is there for future generations to enjoy.

All sorts of people leave gifts in Wills, and the gifts themselves come in all sorts of sizes, from a few pounds, to tens or even hundreds of thousands of pounds. In every single case, the individual who decided to leave a gift in their Will felt a strong connection with the Severn Valley Railway, and gained comfort and satisfaction by deciding to leave a lasting legacy for its future. To see what a gift in your Will means to the Railway, have a look at our video at: [www.svrtrust.org.uk/Gifts-in-Wills](http://www.svrtrust.org.uk/Gifts-in-Wills)



**We know that your first priority will be to look after  
your loved ones in your Will. Once you've done this,  
you may wish to leave something to the Railway,  
through the SVR Charitable Trust.**

*Margaret hails from London and describes herself as a true cockney. She served as an Army nurse, then worked as a laboratory research technician before retiring to care for her husband John, who died in 2017.*



“ I love seeing families at the Railway. Although I never had children myself, it’s important to me to know that the SVR will be there for young people in the future. Once I saw an elderly gent holding up his baby grandchild for a photo in front of one of the locos. The sheer delight on his face, and the connection between the generations, has stayed with me ever since. I’m happy to know that by leaving a legacy I’m doing something to keep the railway going.

The apprenticeship scheme here is wonderful. Young people are getting the training they need to look after these amazing machines, and they wouldn’t get that anywhere else.

I remember steam on the railways in the 1950s, and I’m afraid to say that they were actually filthy back then, you literally couldn’t see through the windows! That’s not the case today, because everyone involved in heritage rail takes such pride in what they do.

As someone who has pledged a gift in my Will to the Charitable Trust, I feel very much valued here. I know I’m playing my part in something very special. It’s a wonderful feeling.

**Margaret Flint**



## **Becoming a member of the SVR Guardians’ Club**



When you write to tell us that you intend to leave a gift in your Will to the SVR Charitable Trust, we will enrol you as a member of the Guardians’ Club. We want to recognise your support and interest by inviting you to join a very special group of people who are supporting the Railway in this way. You’ll receive a Guardian’s lapel pin badge, regular updates on our work and invitations to special events and visits at the Railway.

# A Lasting Tribute day as a thank you from us

We offer a Lasting Tribute day to the family and friends of Guardians who have passed away, leaving a gift of more than £25,000 to the SVR Charitable Trust in their Will. This is a special opportunity to celebrate their life and commitment to the SVR by visiting the Railway and travelling in a luxurious observation saloon. This will be hauled by a heritage locomotive along the 32-mile round trip of the Severn Valley. We call this special day a Lasting Tribute, and offer it in recognition of the generosity of your final gift.



**Gifts in Wills make a huge difference to the Railway. A third of the Charitable Trust's income comes from legacies.**

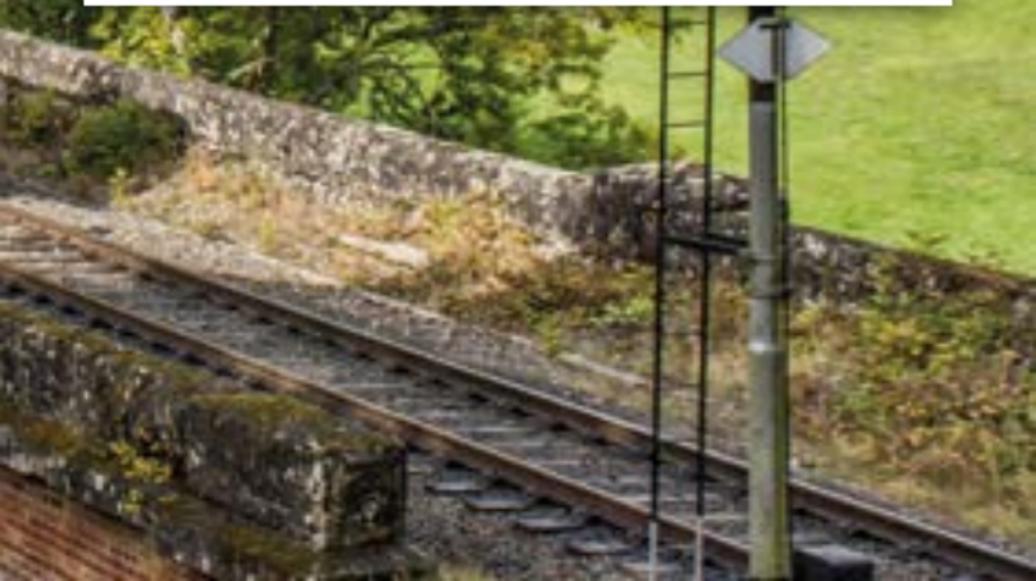
## **Your life, their celebration, our gratitude**

A Lasting Tribute day provides your loved ones with a memorable and fitting way to celebrate your life and your achievements. By choosing to leave such a generous gift to the Charitable Trust in your Will, you are helping to ensure that the Railway continues to thrive. The Lasting Tribute day is our way of recognising your support and the contribution you have made to the SVR in your lifetime.

## **A fitting farewell**

If you choose, your ashes can be scattered during your Lasting Tribute day. Many people feel this is a way of reflecting their life and passion for heritage rail. During the observation saloon trip, your family and friends can arrange, according to your wishes, for your ashes to be scattered down the track, placed in the locomotive firebox or scattered at a specific location on the SVR dear to your heart.

**For more information on a Lasting Tribute day please contact Sue Chance on 01562 757915.**



# Other ways you can support the Railway

There are many other ways you can support the Railway such as setting up a regular gift, giving a single donation, or making a donation in memory of a loved one. Many families also choose to ask for donations in lieu of flowers at a funeral. It can be a great comfort to remember a loved one in this meaningful way.

All of these different types of donations will make a real difference in helping to preserve the Railway for future generations.

If you would like to know more about the different ways you can support the Railway by donating to the SVR Charitable Trust please contact 01562 757915, or [legacies@svrtrust.org.uk](mailto:legacies@svrtrust.org.uk) or visit our website [svrtrust.org.uk](http://svrtrust.org.uk)



# Thursfields

Solicitors

**Thursfields Solicitors are pleased to offer a discounted rate for Will writing and other services to SVR supporters. They have offices across Worcestershire and the West Midlands, and can advise you on all aspects of writing your Will.**

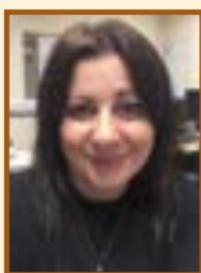
**Please quote 'SVR' when you contact Thursfields to make an appointment at your nearest office  
01562 820575 [svrctwills@thursfields.co.uk](mailto:svrctwills@thursfields.co.uk)**



**A legacy to the SVR Charitable Trust is exempt from Inheritance Tax. In certain circumstances, a gift in a Will to a charity can be a useful way to reduce or avoid the payment of Inheritance Tax on some or all of your estate. Your solicitor will be able to advise you further.**

**If you have left a gift to the Railway, you can make sure it will reach your intended beneficiary by specifying the "Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust, registered charity number 1092723" in your Will and including our address.**

# We're here to help



The SVR Charitable Trust is a registered charity, set up by the Severn Valley Railway family to help ensure the long-term future of the Severn Valley Railway.

Leaving a gift in your Will is an important decision. If you would like to talk to us, in confidence, about this please contact Sue Chance on 01562 757915 or email [legacies@svrtrust.org.uk](mailto:legacies@svrtrust.org.uk). Alternatively, please complete and return this form.

Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust,  
Number One, Comberton Place,  
Kidderminster, DY10 1QR

Registered charity No: 1092723



**[svrtrust.org.uk](http://svrtrust.org.uk)**

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone no:

Email:

Date of birth:

- I have already remembered the SVR Charitable Trust in my Will, please send me a legacy pledge card.
- I would like to talk to someone about leaving a gift in my Will.
- I would like more information on the SVR Charitable Trust's Lasting Tribute.

**May the Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust (Reg Charity No: 1092723) update you from time to time on the SVR and its appeals? Your details are safe with us, and we will never share them with anyone outside the SVR family. The other two members of the SVR family are Severn Valley Railway (Holdings) plc, and the Severn Valley Railway Company Ltd. You can change your mind at any time about how we contact you. For full details of our privacy policy, please visit: [www.svrtrust.org.uk/Privacy-Policy](http://www.svrtrust.org.uk/Privacy-Policy) or call 01562 757940.**

I am happy for you to contact me by:

- Post  Email  Telephone