

Your lasting legacy

Our Wild Sussex, a legacy to be proud of



Sussex
Wildlife Trust



At Sussex Wildlife Trust we protect and support the wonderfully rich natural life found in our towns, countryside, on the coastline and at sea.

Now, more than ever before, wildlife in Sussex needs us to act on its behalf to create and sustain habitats that are resilient to the effects of climate change - providing safe havens for our precious wildlife.

Across Sussex, the Trust secures and manages land to safeguard vital habitats while at the same time creating opportunities for people and communities to connect with, and take action for nature.

You can be a part of our vision by making a gift in your Will to Sussex Wildlife Trust. After taking care of loved ones in your Will, any gift you make, no matter how large or small, will make a crucial difference.





Sussex Wildlife Trust

– securing a future for wildlife

The following wildlife success stories illustrate the varied work that the Trust undertakes across Sussex with the help of our supporters. Leaving a legacy to the Trust can make a real difference to local wildlife and wild places.

Thanks to two incredibly generous legacy gifts, we have extended Ebernoe Common Nature Reserve in the west of our county. Ebernoe forms part of one of the largest ancient woodland complexes in Britain and plays an important role for wildlife and the storage of carbon.

Adjoining this reserve is Butcherlands, now a stronghold for Nightingale and Turtle Dove, and large numbers of Whitethroat and Linnet. We purchased this piece of land over 20 years ago to develop it into wood pasture after a long history of arable use. This developing landscape now also provides good foraging opportunities for many species including the rare Barbastelle Bat.

Our heathland restoration work at Iping and Stedham Commons has increased numbers of threatened populations of Dartford Warbler, Nightjar and Woodlark as well as the rare Field Cricket.

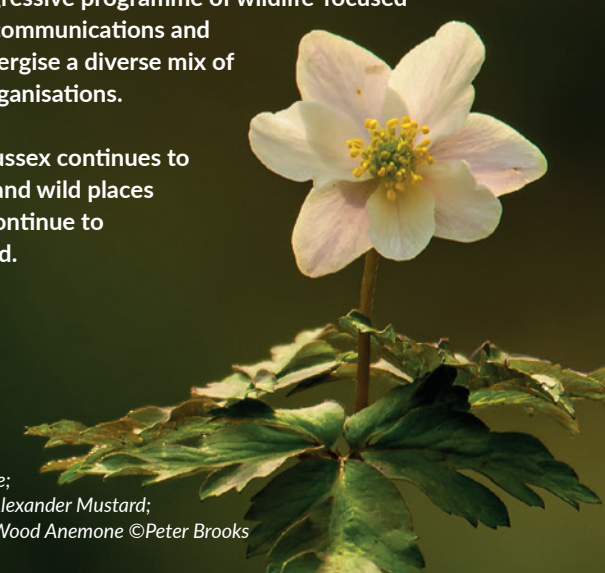
In the east, Rye Harbour Nature Reserve is one of the largest and most important wildlife sites in England and home to more than 4,453 species of plants, fungi and animals, including 300 rare or endangered species. In partnership with other organisations, we have created a new reedbed and restored large areas of rare coastal saltmarsh on the reserve which act as a buffer to climate change and sea level rise. The reserve is also home to the wonderful Discovery Centre helping even more visitors enjoy this very special place.

The Trust is also managing and restoring chalk grassland habitat on Malling Down and Southerham Farm Nature Reserves, protecting rare flowers and butterflies such as the Adonis Blue, allowing them to flourish.

As a coastal county our marine work is crucial and the Trust is proud to be working alongside others in the innovative Sussex Kelp Restoration Project. We are also inspiring Sussex communities to care for the marine environment and enabling them to protect their local coast and sea. Working with children, young people, local fishermen and the wider community, our Wild Coast Sussex project has made a positive difference through its beach cleans, engaging coastal activities and the recycling of marine litter, including end-of-life fishing gear and 'ghost' gear removed from the sea.

We encourage young people across Sussex to take effective action for wildlife through an engaging and progressive programme of wildlife-focused projects, events, education, courses, communications and activities that inspire, connect and energise a diverse mix of individuals, community groups and organisations.

Your legacy will help us ensure that Sussex continues to be home to a huge variety of wildlife and wild places and will allow future generations to continue to experience the joy of our natural world.



Images from left to right; Turtle Dove ©Mike Read; Barbastelle Bat ©Hugh Clark; Field Cricket ©Graeme Lyons

Images from left to right; Bearded Tit ©Bob Eade; Adonis Blue ©Nigel Symington; Hermit Crab ©Alexander Mustard; Rye Harbour Wildlife Watch Group ©Kt Bruce; Wood Anemone ©Peter Brooks



How to leave a gift to Sussex Wildlife Trust

Leaving a gift to the Trust is straightforward. All you need is our charity name, charity number (207005) and address, and to decide on the nature of your gift.

After taking care of loved ones in your Will, any gift you make, no matter how large or small, will make a crucial difference.

We are very grateful for every single gift we receive. Conservation needs and priorities change over time, so the most helpful gifts are those that are unrestricted, allowing us to use the funds wherever the need is greatest. If you would like to leave a gift towards a particular area of our work, please get in touch to discuss this with us.

There are three main types of gift that you can leave

- **A residuary gift:** This is a gift of all or a percentage of what is left of your estate after taxes and debts are paid and all your other legacies have been distributed
- **A pecuniary gift:** This is a specific sum of money left to a person or organisation
- **A specific gift:** This is a gift of a specific item, such as an object of value, property or land

We recommend that you speak to a solicitor or qualified adviser about writing or updating your Will. They will be able to advise on appropriate wording for making a gift to the Trust.

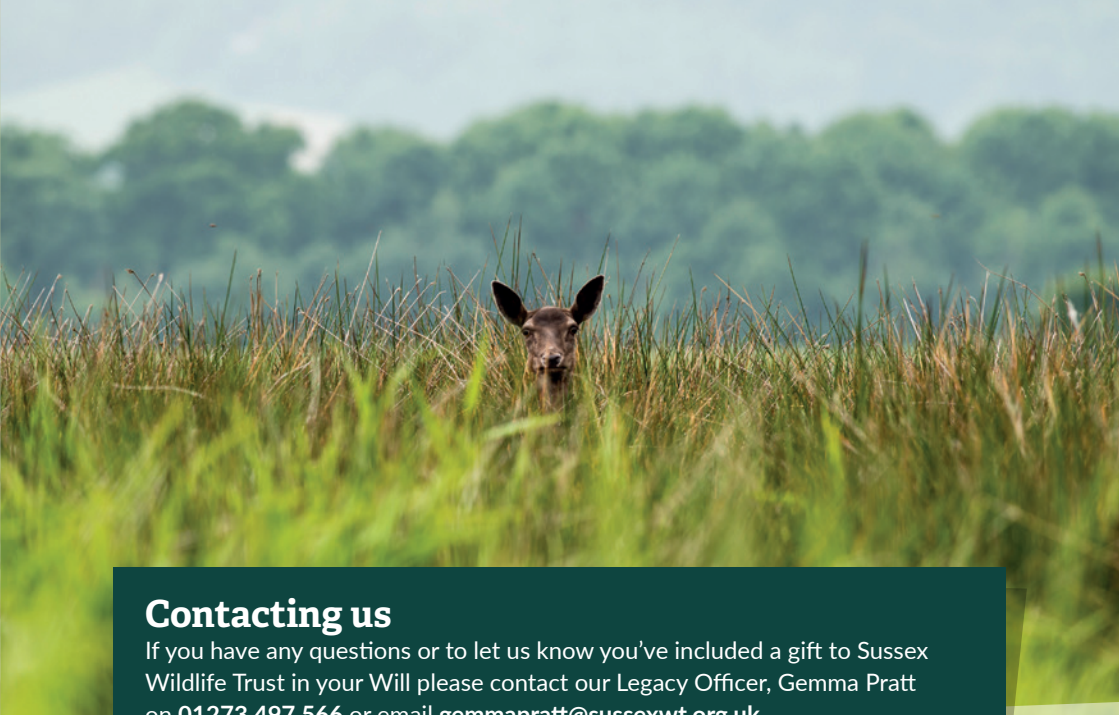
Examples of wording which you may find helpful:

For a pecuniary gift to the Trust:

"I give the sum of £x to Sussex Wildlife Trust, First Floor, The Keep, Woollards Way, Brighton, BN1 9BP (Registered Charity Number 207005) for its general charitable purposes and I further declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Sussex Wildlife Trust for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

For a residuary gift to the Trust:

"I give to Sussex Wildlife Trust, First Floor, The Keep, Woollards Way, Brighton, BN1 9BP (Registered Charity Number 207005) (1-100%, or stated portion) of the residue of my estate for its general charitable purposes and I further declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Sussex Wildlife Trust for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said gift."



Contacting us

If you have any questions or to let us know you've included a gift to Sussex Wildlife Trust in your Will please contact our Legacy Officer, Gemma Pratt on 01273 497 566 or email gemma.pratt@sussexwt.org.uk

You can also visit our website for information:
sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/legacy

Inheritance Tax

Under current legislation Inheritance Tax at 40% is payable on your taxable estate. However, gifts to exempt beneficiaries, including charities like Sussex Wildlife Trust, are free of Inheritance Tax and are deducted from your estate before Inheritance Tax is calculated.

Anyone leaving 10% or more of their net estate to charity will qualify for a reduced rate of Inheritance Tax of 36% on their taxable assets, which could save a considerable amount.

Please let us know your intentions

Legacy gifts help us to plan for the future and invest in land purchases and other special projects that we normally might not be able to afford. Of course, you don't have to tell us that you are planning to leave a gift, but doing so means we will be able to look forward with confidence to a future that will protect more habitats and enhance their biodiversity.

How will you keep in touch with me after I have pledged a gift?

If you let us know that you have remembered us with a gift in your Will, we will get in touch to thank you for your generosity. From time to time we will also invite you to events held solely for people who pledge a gift to the Trust, so you can have an exclusive insight into the work you will be helping to fund. Of course, if you would rather that we didn't get in touch with you in the future, we will respect your wishes. Please just let us know.

Will you acknowledge my gift?

We like to acknowledge the gifts that we receive through legacies from our supporters. Unless you would prefer your gift to remain anonymous, we will mention it in our members' magazine during the year we receive it. We will also arrange for an inscription in our Book of Remembrance.

Here are just some of our milestones from our journey so far...

These success stories have all been made possible through gifts in Wills from our supporters.



1961

The Sussex Naturalists' Trust was set up and meetings took place in the Trust members' homes.



1966

Woods Mill, with 15 acres of land was given to the Trust, providing our headquarters for over 50 years, and a much-loved reserve for people to explore.



1978

We successfully opposed proposals to pump drain the grazing marshes of Amberley Wildbrooks.



1988

We appointed our first Community Wildlife Officer, to encourage people to become involved in the environment.

1993

We bought 220 acres of land adjacent to Pevensey Marshes to create a large nature reserve for wetland habitat restoration.



2009

Our joint campaign to designate the South Downs as a National Park was finally successful, safeguarding 1,000km² of Sussex countryside.



2021

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre was completed, providing a much-needed facility for staff, engagement and education at our most visited reserve.

1998

The Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan, a partnership we led, helped to form a shared nature conservation agenda across the county.



2021

We purchased Willand Wood, adjacent to Ebernoe Common Nature Reserve which significantly expands this important ancient woodland site.





Legacy enquiries:

Please call Gemma Pratt on **01273 497 566**
or email **gemma Pratt@sussexwt.org.uk**

**Sussex Wildlife Trust, First Floor, The Keep,
Woollards Way, Brighton, BN1 9BP**

sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/legacy



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Registered Charity No: 207005