

PROVINCE OF EAST LANCASHIRE

Prepared by the Education and Training Committee

The Will to Give

About this Document

This brief document is by way of reminder to Freemasons that a legacy in favour of the EAST LANCASHIRE MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION (ELMBI) will be a lasting memorial to their time and enjoyment within the Masonic movement.

It is a sad fact that seven out of ten people never make a will. Not only can this cause distress to those left behind but it also means that possessions may not be distributed, as their owner might have wished. And of those who have made a will, how often has it been checked and brought up-to-date?

What should be done?

If you have not yet made a will.

If you have not yet made a will then it should be done as soon as possible, preferably with the guidance of a professional adviser who will express your wishes in recognised legal language. Of course it will cost you a small fee to have your will drawn up, but it will be a lot cheaper than legal costs subsequently paid by those left behind to sort out your estate if you don't make one.

If you have already made a will.

Check it! If you haven't checked your will recently it should be done NOW to ensure that it still reflects your current wishes. For instance, has there been an addition to your family or sadly any deaths that might affect the contents of your existing will? Basically, only named individuals or organisations will benefit from your will. Changes in the law may effect your will in particular the rate of Inheritance Tax or Trust Investments for children.

Whatever the situation you should look at your will to see that it still reflects your wishes. If it doesn't then ask your professional adviser to prepare a new one or simply a codicil while at the same time looking to reduce your tax liability if funds allow by making a tax-free gift to charity, for example, the ELMBI.

Why the ELMBI?

The ELMBI is expertly managed and no qualifying applicant is ever turned away. Its funds, created by donations, gift aid and legacies of East Lancashire Masons, are professionally managed on the money markets.

By including the ELMBI in your will you will be acknowledging the long term requirements of the Institution because with ever growing numbers of senior Citizens to be state supported out of taxes from a decreasing work force there will be an even greater demand on Institutions like the ELMBI.

Specimen Clause

“I bequeath to the East Lancashire Masonic Benevolent Institution of Freemasons’ Hall, Bridge Street, Manchester, M3 3BT the sum of £.....”

Copies of this text can be obtained in leaflet form from the Secretary of the Provincial Education and Training Committee.
Gordon Haworth, 124 Bolton Road, Chorley. PR7 3EZ. Tel:01257 262626

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