

# Your Will

has the power to make wishes  
come true for seriously-ill children

Make-A-Wish<sup>®</sup>  
AUSTRALIA



We make the vital wishes of children and teenagers battling life-threatening medical conditions come true.

# By leaving a gift in your Will, you have the power to make life-changing wishes come true.

I have seen firsthand how vital it is that we help children battling critical illness.



A wish journey has a positive impact on wish kids and their families, with ongoing effects lasting long after the wish itself has taken place.

Each wish journey is carefully designed to ensure each child experiences something they previously found impossible; overcoming the isolation of being hospitalised through caring for a puppy, even seeing a unicorn fly. We rely on the generosity of our supporters - individuals, local communities, businesses and our wonderful volunteers who continue to make these amazing life-changing wishes come true.

In recent years, demand for wishes has grown significantly – and continues to grow day by day. Currently, we're only able to reach around one quarter of the really sick kids around Australia who would benefit from a wish journey. **With your help, together we can reach more of these seriously ill kids with a vital wish journey.**

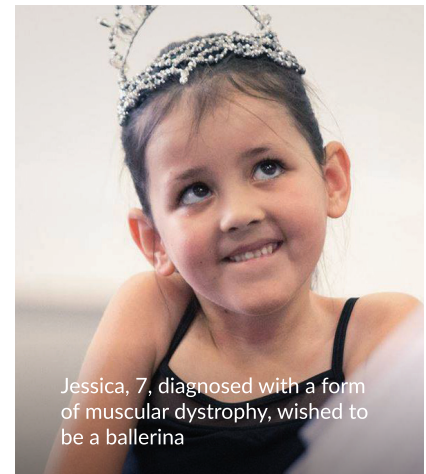
When the time is right for you, please consider including Make-A-Wish in your own Will. Your gift has the power to make cherished wishes come true for really sick kids. From my experience as CEO, I know that the children's wishes will be granted in a most beautiful and personalised way. Your gift will have a long lasting impact and will truly change the lives of these children and their families.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally Bateman". The script is fluid and cursive.

**Sally Bateman**  
**CEO**  
Make-A-Wish Australia

# Jessica's ballet wish comes true

When Jessica was just 18 months old she was diagnosed with a form of muscular dystrophy, which meant that the movement in her arms, legs and muscles were all affected. But the determined 7 year old wasn't going to let any of that stop her from dancing last year!



Jessica, 7, diagnosed with a form of muscular dystrophy, wished to be a ballerina

## Jessica wished to be a ballerina!

Every ballerina needs a tutu, ballet slippers and a tiara! So our volunteers made sure that Jessica had a real ballerina outfit in her favourite colours of pink and black all ready for her big day.

Jessica spent the day at the Australian Ballet Centre, and learnt some dance moves with their principal ballerinas. Jessica was all smiles as she danced beautifully around on a trike instead of her usual wheelchair.

The ballerinas helped Jessica learn how to do pirouettes from Princess Aurora in time with the piano while her family cheered on.


Jessica's mum said *"Years down the track Jess will be able to say, 'remember that day when I was a ballerina?' And it will give her so much strength."*

Every day we receive great feedback from our wish families about the wish journey, and the ongoing positive effect it has on their children and the family as a whole. In fact, over 90% of our families reported greater energy or vitality in their child, a stronger sense of wellbeing, and a belief that their wish significantly added to their quality of life.

Wish journeys give these kids something to look forward to, and something to focus on other than hospital appointments and scary, painful treatments. And afterwards it leaves them with amazing memories and a strength to draw on in the future.

*"To be a ballerina is Jessica's biggest dream, and she still can't believe that her wish came true... We can't thank Make-A-Wish and their supporters enough."*





Frank and Helen have supported Make-A-Wish in countless special ways as volunteers, and have included a gift in their Wills.

**Our Will,  
our lasting wish**



*“Our bequest is in the form of a percentage of our estate. As a financial planner, I know the benefit of that type of bequest. It is a realistic and fair way of making a meaningful contribution, and ensures you provide for your family.”*

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### **The power of a special wish**

Helen and I started volunteering and supporting Make-A-Wish in 1986.

There is one wish from almost 20 years ago that has stayed in my mind. It was for a very sick 16-year-old girl in Adelaide who had a wish to see a rainforest.

We had organised everything and had planned her visit to a rainforest in May. Then, one Monday morning in March, her specialist called. I will never forget his words, *“Frank, her condition is deteriorating rapidly. If she is to go, she needs to leave tomorrow.”*

### **It wasn't easy to organise, but we did it.**

The next morning Make-A-Wish put this seriously-ill teenager, along with her family, on a flight to the Gold Coast to make sure she realised her wish to visit a rainforest. Even though she struggled with her health during the trip, she and her family were able to spend such cherished moments together that otherwise wouldn't have been possible. Just days later, she died. This was very heartwrenching and I still find it emotional to share that story.

Quite a few years back my wife, Helen, and I were in the process of updating our Wills. With Make-A-Wish being such an important part of our lives, we thought we'd like to leave something behind for this special cause.

### **We spoke to our children first**

When Helen and I first started supporting Make-A-Wish, our four kids were young and healthy so we wanted very much to give to families whose children were not healthy like ours.

Now we've got five kids and naturally they are eventually going to be the beneficiaries of our estate. It is important that they are comfortable with the idea of us including Make-A-Wish in our Wills. And yes, they are very happy with our decision.

### **Why our gift is a percentage of our estate**

Our bequest is in the form of a percentage of our estate. As a financial planner, I know the benefit of that type of bequest. It is a realistic and fair way of making a meaningful contribution, and ensures you provide for your family.

I think a percentage provides certainty for all those who are included in your Will. It has the benefit of keeping up with inflation and the changing value of your estate over time. A percentage helps maintain the realistic value of the provisions for your family members and loved ones, as well as the intended contribution to the causes that are dear to you.

### **Our wish is to make more wishes come true**

Over the years, Helen and I have been lucky to see the incredibly positive impact that a wish can have on very sick children and their families. That's why we know that our bequest will grant even more wishes and provide those special moments, life-long memories and much-needed support.

For us, it's also a way of providing an ongoing memory of us and the cause that is close to our hearts. Our own family will have the comfort of knowing that, through this special gift, their mum and dad's support for Make-A-Wish will continue beyond our own lifetimes.

**Frank Jackowiak**

# Types of bequest

It is important to think about the type of bequest you might leave. Your legal advisor will be able to provide more information. The main types of bequest include:

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## Percentage

You can make provision for a percentage of your entire estate to go to Make-A-Wish.

## Residuary bequest

After making provision for your family and loved ones, you can choose to give part or the balance of your estate to Make-A-Wish.

## Set amount

Nominate a specific amount of money to go to Make-A-Wish (often called a pecuniary bequest).

## Specific items

Specific items of value can be listed in your Will and bequeathed to Make-A-Wish, such as property, shares and life insurance funds.

## Whole estate

You can leave your entire estate to Make-A-Wish.

## Which type of bequest is best?

Your bequest will depend on your personal and family circumstances. It is important to properly provide for your family and loved ones, as well as your favourite causes. That is one of the many reasons it is so important to seek independent and professional advice about the terms of your Will and your bequest.

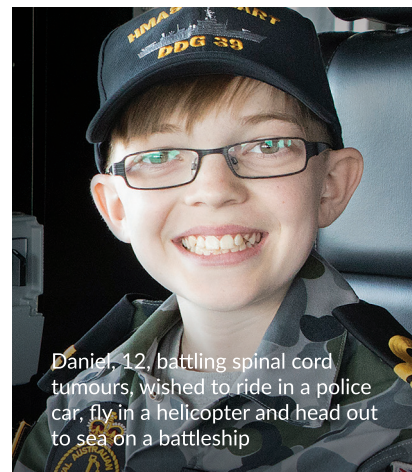
Wherever possible, we suggest you consider leaving a percentage of your estate or a residuary bequest. The benefit of this is that they maintain their relative value over time. The value of the bequest changes as the value of your estate changes. This gives you peace of mind that your bequest will achieve exactly what you want it to.

Bequests of any size will make a big difference to the lives of children with life-threatening illnesses and their families. On behalf of all the children, families and the entire team at Make-A-Wish, we want to thank all our supporters who have included, or are considering including, Make-A-Wish in their Wills.



# Wording your bequest

When it comes to Wills and bequests, it is important that you seek independent and professional advice. You may need to write or update your Will. Alternatively, you may be able to attach a codicil, which is an addition or supplement to your Will outlining your bequest. A qualified legal advisor will be able to provide you with advice about which is appropriate for you.



Here is some suggested wording for the inclusion of a gift to Make-A-Wish in your Will. It is a little technical, but it's important that everything is correct.

I hereby give and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ (insert details\*) to the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Australia Ltd of SUITE G.01 OFFICE C, BUILDING 3, 658 CHURCH STREET, RICHMOND VIC 3121 AUSTRALIA, ABN 97 006 497 632, for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.

\*See the previous page for more information about the types of bequest you might like to consider.

## Information for legal advisors and trustee companies

We have a special information sheet available for legal advisors and trustee companies. We can fax, email or post it to you, or directly to your legal advisor. Please contact our Philanthropy Specialist for more information by phone on 1800 032 260 or email [philanthropy@makeawish.org.au](mailto:philanthropy@makeawish.org.au).

# Inspired by a child's special wish

All wishes are special, but the wish of one teenager touched me deeply. Daniel, an avid surfer and American football fan, had cancer and wished to see a live gridiron game, and to surf the revered Hawaiian Banzai pipeline.



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In an amazing letter, Daniel wrote about his wish coming true.

*"Watching the unrelenting powerful waves overwhelmed me. Every emotion seemed to flood over me all at once. I wanted to laugh. I wanted to cry. The surfers completed the scene. Trying to soak it all in at once was very hard and it gave off a real sense of unrealness. It made me feel really special to be a part of the picture... And remember, always keep your chin up as dreams really do come true."*

Daniel's wish has left an imprint on my own life and heart forever. Every time I think of Daniel, I am reminded of what Make-A-Wish can give to the lives of seriously-ill children.

That's why I've included a gift to Make-A-Wish in my Will. When my lawyer asked if I wanted to include any bequests to charity in my Will, I immediately thought of Make-A-Wish. It's a lovely way of supporting the work they do to help very sick children like Daniel by making their wishes come true.

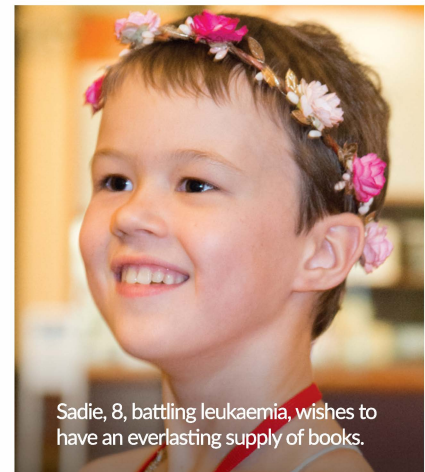
**Charmaine Griswood**

**Volunteer and supporter**

has included a gift to Make-A-Wish in her Will.

# Please get in touch

Please contact us if you have any questions about including a bequest to Make-A-Wish in your Will.



Sadie, 8, battling leukaemia, wishes to have an everlasting supply of books.

We can provide information and assistance about the form such a bequest might take, or any other special requirements you may have. We want to ensure that including Make-A-Wish in your Will is a simple and rewarding experience.

Please don't hesitate to contact us for a confidential conversation about how, through your Will, you can truly make a difference to seriously-ill children and their families.

## Please contact our

Philanthropy Specialist  
1800 032 260  
[philanthropy@makeawish.org.au](mailto:philanthropy@makeawish.org.au)

## Visit us in person

Make-A-Wish Australia  
Suite G.01 Office C, Building 3,  
658 Church Street,  
Richmond VIC 3121

## Write to us

PO Box 5006  
Burnley, Victoria, 3121, Australia

## Visit us online

[makeawish.org.au/giftinwill](http://makeawish.org.au/giftinwill)



**Make-A-Wish Australia**

ABN 97 006 497 632

PO Box 5006, Burnley VIC 3121

Toll Free 1800 032 260

Fax +61 3 9426 0799

[enquiries@makeawish.org.au](mailto:enquiries@makeawish.org.au)

[makeawish.org.au](http://makeawish.org.au)