“When I made the decision to remember the Charterhouse in my Will, my motivation was to ensure that I could play my part in maintaining the sense of history and continuity that being there evokes. I am comforted to know that my gift will help preserve the unique sense of peace and calm that is so important to our visitors and the Charterhouse community.”

Anonymous resident of the Charterhouse
“...the greatest and noblest gift that was ever given by one man, public or private, in this nation.”

Daniel Defoe describing the charity one hundred and eleven years after it was established by Thomas Sutton in 1611.

Even before Thomas Sutton established his charity, the precinct of the Charterhouse was a London landmark.

From its origins as a Black Death burial ground in the mid-fourteenth century, the Charterhouse has witnessed many of the key moments in the story of our nation. Elizabeth I spent the first days of her reign at the Charterhouse and, early in the seventeenth century, the Charterhouse became home to the charity that thrives to this day. James I of England was among the first Governors of the charity and since that time every monarch has played the same role.

In 2017 the Charterhouse garden square was enlarged and restored while a museum and learning space was created in the Tudor mansion.

For the first time, the general public can join the residents to discover the part the Charterhouse has played over the centuries.

Our charitable mission is to provide support, care and wellbeing for older adults in need, whilst preserving and sharing our heritage for future generations. The provision made by Thomas Sutton in 1611 still provides for our residents but the ever-increasing costs of supporting our ageing community and the ancient buildings means that we must generate further income.
Securing the Charterhouse

Our responsibility to our beneficiaries is clear and we have a further duty as custodians of the remarkable assemblage of buildings and collections. We must ensure they can be cherished and enjoyed now and in the future. Currently this comes at a cost of £750,000 every year or about £2,000 per day. This does not include the additional costs necessitated by urgent remedial works that are often required by ancient buildings of this kind.

For the first time since the 1950s, we are also seeking support for an essential £3 million conservation management plan which will ensure that these precious buildings are enjoyed now and preserved for future generations.

We are most grateful to those who have already remembered the Charterhouse in their Wills. Some who have left legacies are inspired by their love of history, others by our architecture or the tranquillity of the Charterhouse, borne of the charity’s enduring purpose. We hope you too will be moved by the Charterhouse and our community and that you will consider remembering the charity in your Will. All donations are of immeasurable help, whatever their size.

Since the Charterhouse was opened, many thousands of our visitors have taken delight in their encounter with living history. We are determined to ensure that the Charterhouse continues to inspire into the future. By leaving a legacy to the Charterhouse you will play an important and greatly appreciated part in making this happen.

1611 Society

Everyone who informs us that they have left a bequest to the Charterhouse automatically becomes a member of the 1611 Society (although they can, of course, choose not to take up their membership). This society is named after the year of our foundation. Every year we host an evening for the members of the society to show our appreciation which features a talk from an expert and a few glasses of wine for members and their guests.

“The particular highlight of my membership of the 1611 Society has been our special annual gathering. It has provided us with a glimpse into how the charity looks after its treasures, with talks by experts, each one of whom has been informative and fascinating.”

G Vermont

The Great Hall
Those who have already remembered the Charterhouse in their Will appreciate the comfort that comes from ensuring that their estate is contributing to benefit something of real importance to them and to the nation.

We would be very grateful if you would let us know that you intend to remember the Charterhouse in this way, or if you have already done so. This will enable us to thank you and to activate your membership of the 1611 Society. We will also ensure that you receive our regular newsletters and that you are invited to events at the Charterhouse.

There are four ways you can help the Charterhouse by remembering us in your Will:

- **Pecuniary Legacy**: A specified sum as decided by you.

- **Specific Legacy**: You may like to leave a personal possession or an asset that has some link to the Charterhouse (for example, texts and works of art).

- **Residual Legacy**: This is a donation of the residue (or remainder) or a specified percentage of your estate after all debts, taxes, expenses and other bequests have been made.

- **Reversionary Legacy**: This type of legacy allows you to leave assets to provide for your loved ones to enjoy during their lifetime with the whole or a portion reverting to the Charterhouse on their death.

Adding a Codicil to your Will is a straightforward matter. It might be worded as follows:

```
This is the (first, second etc) Codicil to my last Will. I give to the Hospital Branch of Suttons Hospital in Charterhouse (Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6AN, charity number 207773) the sum of £xxx for the general Charitable purposes of the said Charity. In all other respects I confirm my said Will and any existing Codicils thereto.

Signed and dated

Witness 1       Witness 2
Name  Name
Address  Address
Occupation Occupation
Signed and dated Signed and dated
```

All those who leave a legacy to the Charterhouse can rest assured that we will respect the terms of their bequest. Those legacies that are unrestricted will be directed towards the fund that helps us to secure the future of the buildings.

Gifts of this kind can prove extremely tax-efficient as they are not subject to inheritance tax and can reduce the taxable value of your estate.