

1917 SOCIETY

Leave a Lasting
Legacy to IWM

‘The Museum was not conceived as a monument of military glory, but rather as a record of toil and sacrifice: as a place of study to the technician in studying the course of development of armaments; to the historian as an assembly of material and archives to instruct his work; and to the people of the Empire, as a record of their toil and sacrifice through these fateful years.’

Sir Alfred Mond, Chairman,
Imperial War Museum,
9 June 1920





IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUMS IS A GLOBAL AUTHORITY ON CONFLICT AND ITS IMPACT ON PEOPLE'S LIVES.

Founded in 1917, our aim has always been to collect objects and stories that give an insight into people's experiences of war. We aim to preserve these objects and stories for future generations, and we bring them to today's audiences in the most powerful ways possible. As a charity, IWM relies on philanthropic support to help us continue to tell stories of the human impact of conflict for current and future generations. The recent pandemic has not only resulted in dramatic losses in our commercial revenue and cash reserves but has also widened inequality and impacted conflict zones across the globe. To continue to tell these vital stories, we need your support now more than ever.

Our 1917 Society is a valued part of our IWM family. This community of legacy pledgers and loyal supporters share our passion for keeping history alive and relevant for future generations. By offering support through their Wills, it allows us to engage and present our vast collections to our over 2.4 million visitors each year through our permanent galleries, thought-provoking exhibitions, digital offerings, the IWM Institute and a yearlong calendar of events and learning programmes designed to offer opportunities to explore, discuss and debate the causes of war and its impact on people's lives.

Thank you for considering joining our 1917 Society and becoming a legacy supporter; we would love to welcome you into our vibrant community. Your support would strengthen all spheres of our vital work and ensure that both current and future generations will have access to and learn from our collections.

Dame Diane Lees, DBE
Director-General, IWM

THE 1917 SOCIETY HELPS US TO CONTINUE TO TELL THE PERSONAL STORIES THAT MADE OUR HISTORY AND INFORM OUR FUTURE

Since our founding in 1917, when Europe's fate hung in the balance during World War One, IWM has always been dedicated to using its vast and unique collections to tell the personal stories of the causes, course and consequences of war and conflict.

As we recover from the devastating effects of a global pandemic, now more than ever we need to build our support from external sources to ensure we can use our vital and extensive collections to tell the important stories of conflict for future generations to come.

By leaving a lasting legacy in your Will through the 1917 Society, you will help ensure that IWM can continue its essential work. The 1917 Society is a dedicated and enthusiastic group of Legacy pledgers who have committed vital support to IWM in their Will.

The 1917 Society allows you to build a close relationship with IWM, stay engaged with its current programme and be amongst the first to hear about our exciting future plans. 1917 Society members also receive annual invitations to our exclusive IWM Autumn Party onboard the HMS Belfast, as well as an annual 1917 Society event at one of our five venues. You can leave a legacy to IWM as a whole, specify it to one of our branches, or even to a particular area of work, for example conservation or education. However, unrestricted gifts are especially important as they enable us to use your donation wherever the need is greatest.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss matters in person and share the IWM's work. If you would like to arrange a meeting, please make an appointment to visit using the contact details on the back of this brochure.

Thank you for considering joining the 1917 Society.

YOUR GIFT WILL HELP US TO:

- Expand and enrich our collections that tell the stories of those whose lives have been affected by war and conflict.
- Continue developing our world-class education programmes for future generations to learn from other's people's experiences.
- Keep alive the memories of survivors of the Holocaust and Second World War veterans, whilst working to support them.
- Preserve incredible and rare items that illustrate experiences of conflict including artwork, photographs, aircrafts, large vehicles, letters, clothing, and personal belongings.
- Continue critical research through our IWM Institute which is deepening our understanding of war and conflict with innovative, sector-leading programmes.
- Keep our doors open across all 5 IWM sites including IWM London, IWM Duxford, IWM North, HMS Belfast and Churchill War Rooms.



HEAR FROM A MEMBER OF THE 1917 SOCIETY

We've had many days out at IWM sites over the years and, without exception, they have been enjoyable and stimulating experiences.

Our visits have allowed us to explore wars on land, sea, and air, and have taught us about how leaders such as Churchill thought and acted. They have helped us gain an insight into what our parents and grandparents endured in both world wars and understand how society in general deals with conflict.

When we made our wills recently, we both felt we wanted to help IWM continue its world-leading role in telling the stories of the past and preserving the wonderful collections within its family of museums. As the generations that actually experienced the world wars pass away, it feels more important than ever that IWM finds new ways of teaching and informing future generations about conflict. We feel that, in leaving a legacy to IWM, we are playing a part in not only helping the charity in its future work, but also saying a 'thank you' for enriching our own lives over the years.

Catherine and Ian Benson





TRANSFORMING IWM DUXFORD

IWM is delighted to have received an invaluable donation towards IWM Duxford through its Legacy Giving Programme. The legacy donor had a long career in the aerospace industry and was a regular visitor to our Duxford site.

Due to his exceptional dedication and love for aviation, the significant donation made in his legacy will go on to help support IWM in undertaking essential aircraft conservation and restoration at IWM Duxford.

The Conservation team's efforts over the past year have been focused on objects for the new Second World War galleries, which includes the Ohka 'Cherry Blossom' kamikaze aircraft, now suspended in the Atrium in IWM London. Currently, the Conservation team are conducting a 'large object review' which is assessing the conservation plans based on urgent care needed on objects which are planned for display across our sites.

This is in line with the Transforming IWM Duxford which looks to protect the site's heritage, ensure effective interpretation of objects for visitors, and make successful use of the incredible grounds and hangars. With the significant gift from our legacy donor, the Conservation team can now plan for long term projects that will enable a number of aircrafts to be restored to their former glory. This is just one example of how support from legacies can play a crucial role in achieving IWM objectives.

If you would like to help ensure that IWM can continue to tell the personal stories of war and conflict for future generations to come, please consider including IWM in your Will.



WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT

A Residuary Gift

is a share of your estate after all other commitments have been settled.

A Pecuniary Gift

is a donation of a sum of money e.g. £1,000.

An Unrestricted Gift

is a donation to the Museum as a whole, allowing the Museum to allocate the support to an area of need at the time of receipt.

A Restricted Gift

is a donation with which you have specified exactly how you wish your donation to be used: e.g., specifically for the conservation of IWM's collection of photographs from the Second World War. Restricted gifts should be noted in your Will but please also contact IWM directly to ensure that this is properly documented.

UNRESTRICTED DONATIONS

Unrestricted donations allow IWM to continue its vital work of remembering and honouring those that lived and died as a result of conflict. Your unrestricted donation would not only allow IWM to keep its doors open to the public but also continue its education and interpretation programmes to reach an even wider audience. In 2019 we attracted over 2.5million visitors to our sites who engaged with the permanent and temporary exhibitions on displays. Unrestricted donations allow IWM to assess the greatest need at the time of the donation which may be vital research programmes with the IWM Institute or continuing with an education programme that may not have been possible without your support.

WORDING IN YOUR WILL

You may find it useful to give the following suggested wording to your solicitor: "I give the sum of [amount in words] (£_____ [amount in figures]) to the Board of Trustees of Imperial War Museums, Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ for its general charitable purposes. My Trustees shall have no further duties relating to this benefit if they obtain the written receipt from the treasurer or other appropriate officer of Imperial War Museums.

CHANGING YOUR WILL

If you wish to make an addition to an existing Will, you can write a codicil to be kept alongside your Will. You can find a downloadable codicil form on the IWM website: iwm.org.uk/support-us/legacies. We strongly recommend that you speak to a solicitor when writing or amending your Will. This suggested wording and our codicil may not be appropriate for every circumstance and a solicitor will be able to advise you on this.

GIFTS IN MEMORY

Do you have a family member or friend who you would like to remember? Someone who enjoyed visiting IWM in their lifetime, was an avid historian or was a keen supporter of keeping stories alive for generations to come? Or would you like to make a donation to IWM instead of giving flowers at a funeral? Making a donation in memory of a loved one can be a meaningful way to honour their life and protect IWM's collections for the next generation.

Your donation In Memory could support our ongoing work and provide vital funds for the Museum to preserve and display the objects and stories of people whose lives were affected by war and conflict.

CHARITY STATUS

Imperial War Museums is a charity and relies on your support. As a national Museum, we are exempt from registration with the Charity Commission under Schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011, and we do not have a charity registration number. Instead, we are regulated by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Therefore, when referencing IWM in your Will, you do not need to quote a charity number.

As a charity, all donations bequeathed to IWM are exempt from inheritance tax, therefore a gift in your Will to the IWM may reduce the tax on your estate.

This information is not intended to constitute legal advice, when making your Will please do so in consultation with an independent professional adviser.



LEAVING AN OBJECT TO IWM

IWM has a responsibility to consider all offers of objects carefully to determine if they are suitable for the collection and can be safely stored, displayed, and conserved. If you are thinking of leaving an object in your Will to the IWM, please contact us in advance so we can discuss your wishes and ensure that the Museum will be able to accept your gift when the time comes.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

Please contact Dr Andrew Higgins, Director of Development on Development@iwm.org.uk or call 020 7416 5250 to discuss our Legacy programme and our 1917 Society.

Every gift we receive makes a valuable contribution to our work. By leaving a gift in your Will to the Museum, you will help ensure that we can continue to tell the causes, course, and consequences of war and conflict for future generations. If you have left a gift to the Museum in your Will, it is incredibly helpful if you can let us know by either contacting us directly or filling out the enclosed form. Not only will this enable us to thank you and keep you informed and involved with the Museum's activities and developments, but we can also welcome you into our 1917 Society.

**Thank you very much for considering supporting
and remembering IWM.**





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THANK YOU FOR LETTING US KNOW YOUR INTENTIONS

Thank you for remembering IWM in your Will. We understand that the details of your Will are a private matter, however if you would like to let us know that you have already made IWM a beneficiary of your Will, we would like to thank you and keep you involved in our work.

Please tick the relevant boxes

- ☐ I have already included a gift in my Will to IWM
- ☐ I intend to leave a gift in my Will to IWM
- ☐ I am considering leaving a gift in my Will to IWM

YOUR DETAILS

Title _____ First name _____ Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____ Mobile _____ Office phone _____

Email _____

Keeping in contact

- ☐ I would be happy for Imperial War Museums to contact me with information on general IWM fundraising activity, updating on the Legacy Giving Programme, updating on general IWM activities and the administration of the benefits that I receive with my IWM 1917 Society. From time-to-time IWM and IWM Trading Company would like to update you by post, telephone or email on forthcoming events, exhibitions and other activities to support our aims. IWM will store the data you supply securely and use it for administrative purposes. Your details will be shared across selected departments of IWM only for the purpose of administering your IWM 1917 Society benefits. If you would like to find out more about how we use your data, please visit our website at www.iwm.org.uk/corporate/policies/privacy.

If you do not wish to receive information you may opt out at any time by contacting the IWM Development Team: Development@iwm.org.uk

Acknowledging your support as a legacy supporter

Please specify the name(s) by which you wish to be credited in the IWM Annual Review when the donation is received _____

Or:

- ☐ I/We would like to remain anonymous

I have left/would like to leave

- ☐ A residuary bequest
- ☐ A bequest of a specific sum of money

Should you wish to provide any further information about your legacy donation you are welcome to do so here:

Thank you again for your support of Imperial War Museums.

Please return this form to: Dr Andrew Higgins, Director of Development
Development@iwm.org.uk | IWM London, Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ

