

# THE SCAR FREE FOUNDATION

MAKING A WORLD WITHOUT SCARS A REALITY



Together for a world without scarring

**LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL  
A GUIDE**

# WHY SCAR FREE HEALING NEEDS GIFTS IN WILLS

Over 20 million people in the UK live with scarring. Our mission is to achieve scar free healing within a generation.

Visible scarring can affect anyone at any time and cause a lifetime of pain, restricted movement and function, and profound psychological challenges. Internal scarring, known as fibrosis, can be life threatening.

Science has made great improvements in saving lives in recent years – but developments in the healing process have not kept up.

With the hard work of our researchers and the generosity of our supporters over the last 20 years, we have learned more about how our bodies heal, and how to live with scars, but there is much work still to do.

Our researchers and supporters share our vision, and drive our mission. By pledging a gift to scar free healing in your Will, you will become a vital part of this effort.

**Together, we can make scar free healing a possibility for future generations.**



## INVESTING IN RESEARCHERS

After remembering her friends and family, Dorothy Sainsbury pledged a gift to The Scar Free Foundation in her will. Her kindness led to ground-breaking research to support vulnerable patients to access cosmetic surgery safely, which featured in UK Parliamentary briefings and national newspapers. There is a huge need for research to help protect patients from poor outcomes.

Dr Nicole Paraskeva, the Dorothy Sainsbury Research Fellow at the Centre for Appearance Research, University of the West of England, led the first project. She says:

“I’ve seen first-hand how Dorothy Sainsbury’s legacy has made possible an amazing project that continues to help patients today. It was an honour to meet her friends and family and find out more about why scar free healing meant so much. I’m so grateful for her generosity.”

Dr Nicole Paraskeva is now a Senior Research Fellow using her skills and experience for a world without scars.



## YOUR GIFT AND THE DIFFERENCE IT COULD MAKE

- In the last 20 years, Gifts in Wills have enabled major breakthroughs in how we understand scars and treat people with scarring
- Right now, Gifts in Wills are being put to work in research labs across the country
- With funding from Gifts in Wills we can invest in new healing treatments and psychological interventions

### **Why Gifts in Wills are important:**

Gifts in Wills are critical to funding research, and the discoveries of our researchers. They accelerate the pace of change, and enable quality research into all aspects of healing and scarring.

### **How your gift will be used:**

We invest funding in high-quality, cost-effective research that helps to:

- understand more about how and why we scar,
- how to prevent scarring and
- how to live with scarring.

Answering these questions, the building blocks of our research strategy, could be your legacy. If you'd like to, we can "restrict" your gift to a particular theme of our strategy.

## ABOUT GIFTS IN WILLS

### Why do I need a will?

- A will is one of the most important documents you will ever write. It is the only way to make sure that the people and causes you care about are looked after, and it's where you can decide what happens to your money and possessions when you die.

### Why do people leave a gift to The Scar Free Foundation in their Will?

- People leave gifts to The Scar Free Foundation in their wills for different reasons. For some it is a way of paying tribute to someone whose life has been affected by scarring or lost to fibrosis. It could also be a dedication to someone who has experienced better healing thanks to our research, or in honour of a clinician or surgeon who supports the Foundation. It might be a way to ensure that others don't have to face scarring in the future. Whatever your reason, your gift will make a meaningful contribution to our vital work.



## **Where will my gift go?**

- We work with our supporters and their executors to show them where their gift will go. If you want, you can restrict your gift to a particular research theme but making your gift unrestricted will help us direct it where the need, and the research promise, is greatest.

## **What happens if I don't have a Will?**

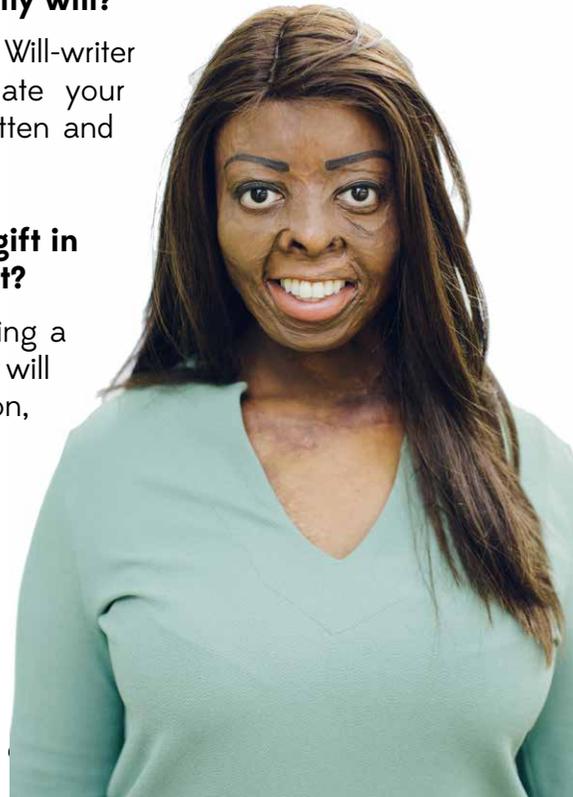
- If you do not have a Will, or if your Will is not valid, (for example not correctly signed or witnessed), your estate is said to be 'intestate'. That means your wishes may not be carried out. Having a professionally written, up to date Will is the best way to make sure that your requests are met.

## **Who should write or update my will?**

- You can use a professional Will-writer or solicitor to write or update your Will to ensure it is validly written and witnessed.

## **I'm thinking about leaving a gift in my Will, who should I contact?**

- If you are thinking about giving a leaving a legacy gift in your will to The Scar Free Foundation, our team are here to help. To find out more about leaving a gift, please email [hello@scarfree.org.uk](mailto:hello@scarfree.org.uk)





**Mr Simon Withey,**  
Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon

Every day I see how scars change lives.

Scarring following trauma, disease processes or major surgery can result in significant functional impairment and psychological challenges, and a profound impact on the quality of a patient's life.

People, like Dorothy Sainsbury, ask me how they can contribute to better treatments and care for the future. Leaving a gift to The Scar Free Foundation is a hugely effective way to do that. Investing in world-leading researchers, who have a single-minded pursuit of scar free healing, will have an enormous impact on the quality of life of millions.

# THE SCAR FREE FOUNDATION

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