



**Lort Smith**  
*caring for animals*

**A Gift in your Will provides  
lasting care for animals in need.**

**Pet Legacy offers you peace  
of mind.**

# Bequests & Pet Legacy Program

[lortsmith.com](http://lortsmith.com)



# About Lort Smith

Lort Smith was built on its current North Melbourne site in 1936 by the Animal Welfare League of Victoria, which was established in 1927 to care for the animals of people who were poor and disadvantaged.

A founder of the League, Louisa Lort Smith, was passionately committed to easing the suffering of animals. She was equally committed to easing the financial pressures of people of limited means.

This mission created a unique establishment: a hospital that was committed to both animal welfare and social welfare. This remains the heart and soul of Lort Smith today.

Not only did Louisa Lort Smith found the organisation, she also left a lasting legacy through a Gift in her Will that continues to financially assist the organisation to this very day.

With your help, by including a Gift in your Will, we can continue our unique and important work caring for animals when they need it most.

Cover image: Diane and Melody



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# How will your Gift help our work?

It costs approximately \$1.5 million per year to run our Adoption Centre and \$15 million per year to run our Animal Hospital. Most of the services provided by Lort Smith run at a loss. This is because we significantly subsidise our services to care for the pets of people of limited means. We care for surrendered animals, many of who need extra care due to illness or injury.

Lort Smith receives no ongoing government funding and relies on the generosity of the community to continue our important work.

Without the bequests we receive each year we would simply not have the capacity to continue to care for over 25,000 animals each year.

By leaving a bequest to Lort Smith you will assist us to meet the ever increasing needs of the community now and well into the future.

## Your Gift will specifically help us in these three important areas:

- 1 In our Animal Hospital where we provide exceptional veterinary care and preserve the human-animal bond irrespective of a person's circumstance.
- 2 In our Adoption Centre where we provide sanctuary, rehabilitation and a new home for animals.
- 3 Via our important community outreach programs where we promote responsible pet ownership and nurture the human-animal bond.



Image: Doris with Angus



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# Types of bequests

Your solicitor or trustee company will advise you about which of the following may suit you best:

- ➔ A specific dollar amount
- ➔ Residue (whole) – after your specific bequests have been distributed, the residue (remainder) of your estate will be left to Lort Smith
- ➔ Residue (percentage) – after your specific bequests have been distributed, a percentage of the residue (remainder) of your estate will be left to Lort Smith
- ➔ Specific item, such as property or shares.



Image: Pepper

# How to word your bequest

Should you decide to include a Gift in your Will to Lort Smith you will be helping sick, injured and vulnerable animals.

The wording provided can be given to your solicitor to help make sure your wishes are carried out when the time arises.

We suggest that in your Will you also make reference to why you have decided to leave a Gift to Lort Smith. For instance, your passion for animals or the animal welfare cause or perhaps it was because of a relationship or experience you had with Lort Smith.

## Example:

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Your Name)  
of \_\_\_\_\_ (Your Address)

give and bequeath free of all duties and taxes payable at my death (if any)

(please insert the appropriate statement listed below)

- 1 the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 (insert number) % of my estate
- 3 the residue of my estate (or [insert number] % of the residue of my estate)

to Lort Smith (ABN 87 004 238 475) for the use and purposes of the said organisation. The official receipt of the organisation shall be a full and sufficient discharge of my bequest.



Image: Richard and Felix

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# Pet Legacy Program



Image: David, Henry and Murphy

Despite the fact that pets are much loved members of the family, very few of us have a plan in place to ensure they have a wonderful, caring home for life if we pass away.

Many people will consider asking a trusted friend or family member to care for their pet. Should you choose this option please discuss your wishes with your nominated friend or relative.

If this option is not possible, Lort Smith's Pet Legacy Program can provide you with peace of mind knowing that, should the need arise, Lort Smith will find your pet/s a loving home and provide for all their medical needs for the rest of their days.

To register your pet/s in the Pet Legacy Program please fill out the registration form attached to this booklet. We also ask that you make a specific bequest in your Will.

By giving us as much detail on the registration form as you can about your pet's health, temperament, medical and general needs, we will be able to provide the highest level of ongoing care for your pet.

Lort Smith abides by the Victorian Government's Code of Practice for the operation of shelters and pounds. We will rehome all pets that can be rehomed in accordance with this Code.

**Please note:** Pets accommodated at Lort Smith that are not registered in our Pet Legacy Program are found a loving new home via our regular adoption program. Unfortunately we do not have the resources to provide veterinary services at no cost to their new adopters.

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## FAQs

**Q: Are there any conditions to enrolling pets in the Lort Smith Pet Legacy Program?**

A: All pets must be desexed and microchipped.

**Q: What types of pets can be registered?**

A: Cats, dogs, Guinea pigs, rabbits, and ferrets.

**Q: What veterinary care is covered as part of the program?**

A: From the moment your pet arrives at Lort Smith all their needs will be lovingly met. Once your pet has been rehomed all veterinary care, medication, vaccinations and prescription food (if needed) will be provided by Lort Smith at no charge to the new adopter. This means we can monitor their health and wellbeing and ensure they are receiving the best veterinary care.



Image: Bear and Columbus

**Q: What is not covered in the program?**

A: Over the counter products (e.g. worming, flea treatment) and non-prescription food.

**Q: Is there a minimum bequest required to register in the program?**

A: To register your pet in the Pet Legacy Program you must include specific wording in your Will and a minimum bequest of \$5,000 for each pet registered. This will go towards their future veterinary care.

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Please use these additional words in your Will if it is your wish that Lort Smith take over the care of your animals as part of the Pet Legacy Program.

*'I express the wish that on my death Lort Smith should take responsibility for the ongoing care of my pet/s that I may own at the time of my death or otherwise act in their best interests. This Gift will not fail if I do not own any pets at the time of my death.'*

# Lort Smith Pet Legacy Program registration form

Pet Details	Pet1	Pet2	Pet3	Veterinarian details:
PET'S NAME				CURRENT VETERINARIAN
DATE OF BIRTH				
SPECIES				ADDRESS
BREED				
COLOUR				
GENDER				TELEPHONE
MICROCHIP NUMBER				
SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIRMENTS				Executor details:
BEHAVIOUR PROMPTS*				EXECUTOR
				ADDRESS
MEDICAL CONDITIONS				
MEDICATIONS				TELEPHONE

\*e.g. frightened of loud noises, loves children, inside/outside pet, etc.



# Confidential response coupon

## Your details

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

ADDRESS

SUBURB

STATE

POSTCODE

D.O.B.

TELEPHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL

## Additional details

- ☐ I bequeath the future care of my pets to Lort Smith – please register them in the Lort Smith Pet Legacy Program (fill in details on the reverse side of this coupon).

### Please tick all that apply ☒

- ☐ I have already included a bequest to Lort Smith in my Will.
- ☐ I intend to include a bequest to Lort Smith in my next Will.
- ☐ I would like to discuss a bequest or the Lort Smith Pet Legacy Program, please call me.
- ☐ I would like to visit Lort Smith in North Melbourne to see how my bequest would be used, please call me.

### I have included

- ☐ A specific amount \$
- ☐ Residue (whole)
- ☐ Residue (percentage)  %
- ☐ Specific investment or item

## Please fill out and return to:

### Bequests

**Lort Smith**

**24 Villiers Street**

**North Melbourne VIC 3051**

### Contact Lort Smith

**Phone:** 03 9287 6430

**Fax:** 03 9329 5347

**Email:** [bequests@lortsmith.com](mailto:bequests@lortsmith.com)

ABN: 87 004 238 475



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**For more information on  
our Bequests or Pet Legacy  
Program call 03 9287 6430**

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