



Your Ocean Legacy

A gift that reflects your values
and passion for our ocean

“Seventy per cent of the earth’s surface is ocean. What better way to leave a legacy than through ensuring clean, healthy seas for future generations?”

Darren Kindleysides,
Chief Executive Officer



Leaving a legacy to the Australian Marine Conservation Society will protect and ensure healthy oceans for all life on earth.

The Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS) is the voice for Australia’s ocean wildlife. We are an independent charity, staffed by a committed group of professional and passionate scientists, educators and advocates who have defended Australia’s oceans for over 50 years. We work every day on behalf of the community to protect our ocean wildlife.

AMCS works on the big issues concerning the sea. We create marine sanctuaries, make our fisheries sustainable and protect and recover our threatened ocean wildlife, such as our sea turtles, seals and whales.

We also work to tackle the biggest threat to our Great Barrier Reef, which is global ocean warming. Through our Fight for our Reef campaign we are working to ensure that Australia takes urgent and rapid action to move from polluting fossil fuels to clean renewable energy.

If we can keep our oceans in their healthiest and most natural state, without pressures from overfishing and pollution, they will be better able to cope with global ocean warming. As part of this focus, we work to improve water quality and reduce pollution and marine debris, which entangles, chokes and smothers our marine life and habitats.

By leaving a gift in will, you are helping to ensure that Australia’s incredible coasts and oceans remain healthy and free for tomorrow’s generations.





TESTIMONIAL:

Kate Davey

My partner and I chose to include AMCS in our will because Planet Earth needs all the help we can give. We have always been ocean lovers and our children are ocean lovers. It breaks our hearts that our kids might not get to see the wonders we saw when we first put our heads under the water, let alone our grandkids...

But more than us and more than our kids – our seas and their amazing wildlife need our help.

AMCS does an incredible job turning this tide.

As monthly supporters through AMCS's Sea Guardian program it is a natural progression to continue our support. And it feels good to know that our money is working for good, even after we are gone.

The Ocean and you

Australians love our oceans and marine wildlife. Our seas are part of who we are. They're our identity. Think of Australia and you think of our Great Barrier Reef and our oceans teeming with marine life. You'd be hard pressed to find a neighbour who doesn't love the sea, although only a special few dedicate a legacy to the sea beyond their lifetime.





Australia's oceans are some of the richest on our blue planet. Over 80% of our southern ocean species occur nowhere else on Earth. Your legacy will help protect our incredible marine wildlife for the sake of our oceans and ourselves – so that future generations can be nurtured by the sea, as we have been so blessed in our lifetimes.

Our strong track record includes:

- Protecting special ocean places by securing marine reserves around our coastline
- Saving the Great Barrier Reef from oil and coral mining and making it a World Heritage Marine Park
- Protecting Ningaloo Reef as a World Heritage Marine Park (with its whale sharks and manta rays and beautiful corals hugging the coast)
- Helping secure the global ban on commercial whaling
- Stopping live shark finning at sea in Australian waters
- Turning the tide on plastic pollution with single use plastics bans
- Creating a sustainable seafood revolution with GoodFish: Australia's Sustainable Seafood Guide, for people who love their seafood and the sea
- Combatting destructive, industrial fishing like supertrawlers
- Securing Australia's first seabed mining moratorium
- Reforming Australia's fisheries so turtles, dolphins and sea lions aren't drowned along the way.

By leaving a gift in your will to AMCS you leave a legacy to our oceans, the source of all life on our beautiful blue planet.





Leaving a bequest for our living oceans

Some people believe that leaving a legacy to a charity is only for the wealthy but this is not the case. Bequests are a way for everyday Australians to leave a lasting impression on the things that really mattered in their lifetime.

Your gift will leave a legacy that contributes to the world you want to leave to your grandkids, the oceans you want them to know, and the marine life you want them to love.

When you entrust a gift to AMCS you can be sure that we will continue working for what you believe. Bequests help us plan for the long term and are a vital source of resources, no matter how large or small.

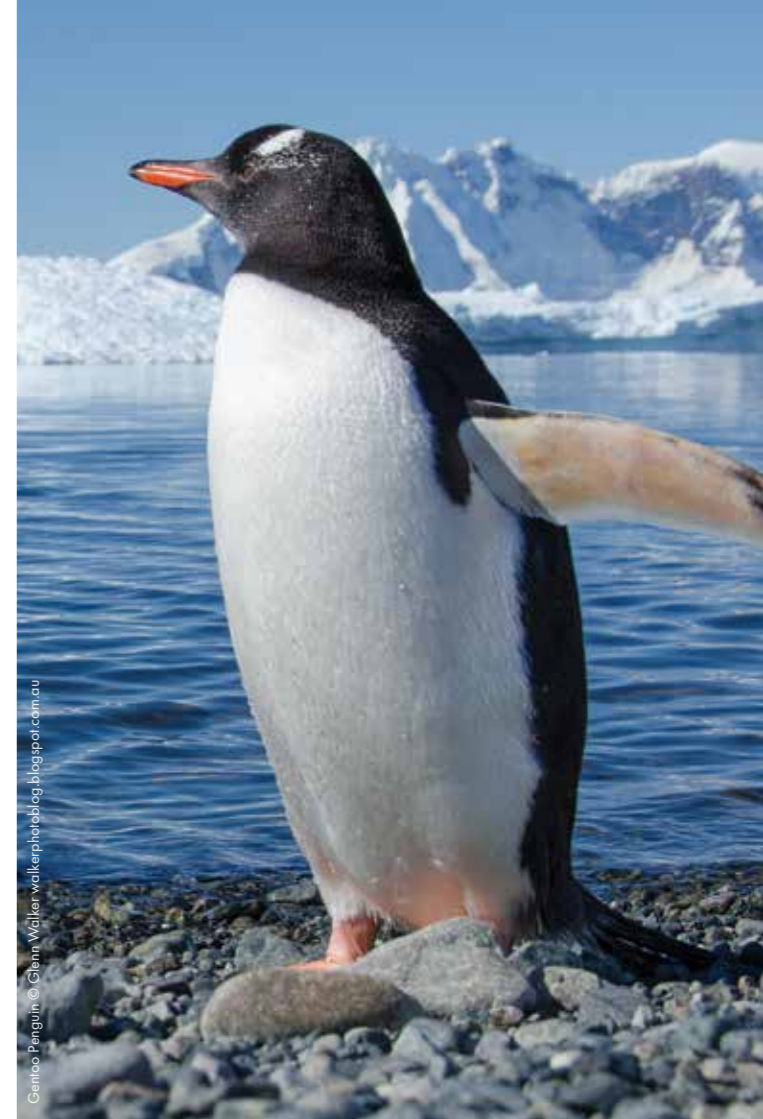
Our work is as diverse and important as Australia's wondrous and unique marine life. Our efforts are driven by a culture of excellence and a strong desire to look after our planet for the benefit of all living things.

Your Will

Everyone over the age of 18 should have a Will and yet almost half of Australians do not have a valid legal Will. Your assets represent a lifetime of work. It is therefore important that you, and not the state, decide how these assets are distributed.

Assets left in your Will can include your property, vehicles, savings, investments, life insurance and personal items such as artwork.

No matter how large or small, your bequest makes a significant contribution and will be treasured by the hard working team at AMCS and by future generations. Leaving a bequest is simple and easy.





Common Forms of Bequests

A RESIDUAL BEQUEST: After making provision for family and friends you can choose to leave what's left (the residue) to a charity such as the Australian Marine Conservation Society.

A PERCENTAGE: Some people decide to share their estate among a number of people and charities by allocating a percentage to beneficiaries. This overcomes the need to review your will regularly to take account of changes in your estate or to compensate for inflation. Even a small percentage of your estate can make a significant difference.

SPECIFIED GIFT: This form of bequest allows you to specify a gift clearly, whether it is a gift of money, property, artwork, bonds, shares or your estate. Remember that over time inflation may change the value of the gift. A specified amount of money is not always advisable for this reason.

YOUR WHOLE ESTATE: This usually occurs when there are no living relatives or if the Benefactor (you) wishes to make an outstandingly significant contribution to their beliefs.



“Australians are islanders. Coastal people. Almost all of us live on the edge of the world's biggest island. On the veranda of the continent.”

Tim Winton, AMCS Patron

An underwater photograph showing two divers swimming in clear blue water. In the foreground, there is a large, colorful coral reef structure. The lighting is bright, suggesting a shallow depth.

How you make a Will

It is necessary for Wills to comply with a number of legal requirements. It is therefore advisable that you consult a solicitor or the Office of the Public Trust. If you don't leave a Will, your estate will be allocated according to state laws and if there is no Next of Kin, your estate will go to the government.

NAMING AMCS AS A BENEFICIARY

To be sure your gift will reach AMCS please be sure to use our full name and ABN:

Australian Marine Conservation Society Incorporated, ABN # 53 409 718 351

WORDING SUGGESTIONS

Your solicitor will recommend appropriate wording. If necessary, ask your solicitor to contact us to discuss your wishes. Following are some examples of legally acceptable wording that can be included in your Will.

For residual gift: "I give the rest and residue of my estate..."

For a percentage of your estate: "I give a _____ % of my estate..."

To donate a specific sum: "I give the sum of \$_____..."

...to the AUSTRALIAN MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY INCORPORATED (ABN # 53 409 718 351) for its general purposes free of all duties and taxes payable upon or in consequence of my death, and the official receipt of the Treasurer or other authorised person shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for the Executor."

UPDATING YOUR WILL

A Will is an important and telling document and provides you with an opportunity to reflect on your life and your values. Your Will should therefore be reviewed on a regular basis, particularly when major changes have occurred in your life such as marriage, death of a loved one or a change to the Executor of your Will.

Different financial circumstances or changes in the needs of family members may also need to be taken into consideration.

CHOOSING YOUR EXECUTOR

Your executor will oversee the execution of your will. This person needs to be willing, trustworthy, reliable and likely to survive you. You should discuss your wishes in depth with your executor once your will is confirmed (and when any changes are made) to ensure that they are clearly understood and to avoid any misconstrued intentions.



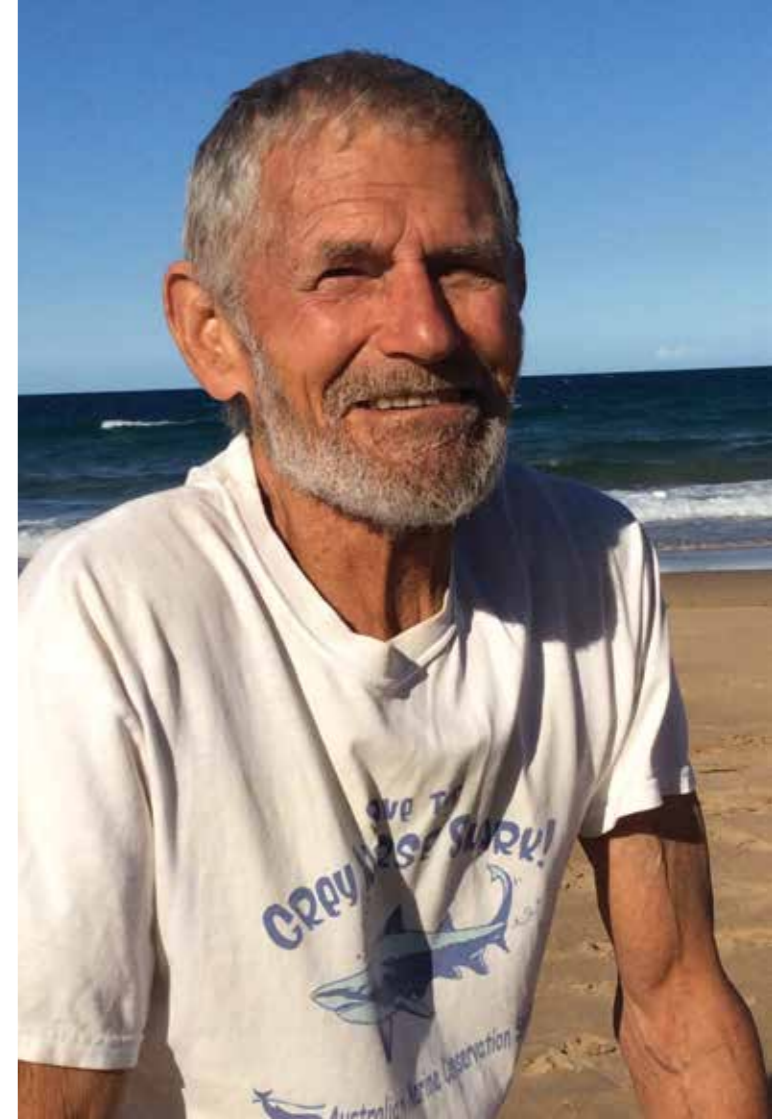
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TESTIMONIAL: Paul Sterling

Paul Sterling is a passionate ocean lover who has dedicated his life to advocating for the seas around us. We are honoured that Paul has dedicated a legacy to our oceans by choosing to leave a significant bequest to AMCS.

Paul's been an avid scuba diver since the 1950's and has witnessed our oceans declining "at an unbelievable rate". Paul told us he decided to leave a gift in his will because "AMCS is the only organisation that puts their whole heart and soul into protecting the Australian marine environment. Others spread their work and I feel our seas are very much in need of our protection. We need the Australian Marine Conservation Society to continue to be hands on in our own backyard."

Paul states "if the sea dies then we die" which is why he chose to leave a legacy to make sure AMCS is there to work for its protection into the future.



Ocean Legacy Circle



We've created a dedicated group for treasured ocean lovers like you, who are leaving (or considering) a gift in Will to AMCS. As a part of the Ocean Legacy Circle we want to acknowledge your enduring support and celebrate your lasting impact on Australia's unique ocean wildlife.

AMCS CEO, Darren Kindleysides says, "We want to build a deeper relationship with our inner circle of legacy supporters, and understand your unique values and concerns for our oceans."

As a member of this circle you will be invited to meet and hear from guest speakers or our campaigners for special AMCS briefings and VIP events. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate your legacy in person. To make sure you are included Please advise us of your gift in your Will by returning the confidential response form (enclosed).

Thank you for being one of our most cherished supporters. Your legacy is the ultimate gift to ensure clean and healthy seas for the future.



Contact us today, call
+61 (07) 3846 6777 or email
us on bequests@amcs.org.au
marineconservation.org.au