



Hunter Region Botanic Gardens

Bequests

A bequest is a gift made as part of your will.

The Hunter Region Botanic Gardens Limited (**HRBG**) welcomes bequests to assist in its work, including the maintenance and development of the Botanic Gardens.

Our Organisation

HRBG is a non-profit organisation registered as a Public Not For Profit Company limited by Guarantee pursuant to the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* (ABN 85 002 929 080, ACN 002 929 080). It was established on 11th November 1985, and operates the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens.

The general purposes of the HRBG are expressed in its vision and mission statement:

- The vision of the HRBG is to maintain and develop a Botanic Garden in the Hunter Region for the appreciation, study and enjoyment of horticulture, botany and related fields by the growing of Australian native and other plants.
- The mission of the HRBG is to grow, study, conserve and promote plants, particularly the plants of the Hunter Region.

The HRBG was created and is managed and operated by volunteers. The organisation has a small regular income conditional on maintaining the greater part of the Botanic Gardens site as a conservation area, but beyond that is dependent on income from operations, the work of volunteers, and donations from individuals, businesses and government agencies.

Benefits of a Bequest

Your bequest will:

- Contribute to the work of the HRBG developing and maintaining the Botanic Gardens.
- Support the HRBG's work and advocacy for preserving the plants and natural ecology of the Hunter Region.
- Support the HRBG's educational role in enabling future generations to understand and appreciate their living environment.

The Botanic Gardens represent a permanent living memorial to all those who have built, maintained and supported it into the future.

How to Make a Bequest

There are a number of different ways you can make a bequest to the HRBG in your will. Your gift may comprise:

1. **The *whole or a percentage of your estate.***
2. **A *residuary gift.***
The residue of your estate is what remains of the estate once all your loved ones and charges have been paid. A residuary gift could be a percentage or the whole of the residue of your estate.
3. **A *fixed sum of money, also known as a pecuniary gift.***
This is when you leave an exact sum of money to us. In making a will it should be recognised that the value of a fixed sum will decrease over time with inflation.
4. **A *specific gift.***
You may wish to leave us a particular item (known as a specific bequest), which can be sold or used to support the Gardens.

Wording for your Will

General

I give to the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens Limited ACN 002 929 080 of 2100 Pacific Highway, Heatherbrae NSW 2324, the whole or balance of the rest and residue of my estate for its general purposes, free from all duties and taxes, and declare that the receipt of the Chief Executive Officer or other proper officer of Hunter Region Botanic Gardens Limited is a complete discharge for my Executor(s) of this bequest.

Specific

I give to the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens Limited ACN 002 929 080 of 2100 Pacific Highway, Heatherbrae NSW 2324,

[Choose and insert the appropriate statement from the list below]

1. [insert number] percentage (##%) of the rest and residue of my estate;
2. the rest and residue of my estate;
3. the amount of [insert dollar value in words] dollars (\$##); or
4. my (insert name of asset),

for its general purpose, free of all duties and taxes, and the receipt of the Chief Executive Officer or other proper officer of Hunter Region Botanic Gardens Limited is a complete discharge for the Executor(s) of this bequest.

Making or Modifying your Will

This document provides general information about making a bequest to the HRBG. It does not represent and is not a substitute for formal legal advice.

If you need to make or modify your will, it is best to consult a solicitor who is experienced in wills and estates. Your solicitor will take account of your individual circumstances, ensuring that your will properly represents your wishes and makes appropriate provisions for your family.

It is important to talk to family and loved ones about your will and your intentions – communication will ensure your final wishes are carried out.

It would also be helpful for you to advise the HRBG of your intentions so that we can plan to make best use of your gift.

Bequests for a General or Specific Purpose

A bequest for the general purposes of the HRBG provides support for the whole of the Botanic Gardens and enables your gift to be used flexibly as circumstances change over time.

You may also make a gift for a specific purpose that forms part of HRBG's work, for example the Herbarium or a particular theme garden.

If you are planning to make a bequest for a specific purpose it is important that you discuss this with the Botanic Gardens to ensure that your intentions can be carried out. HRBG reserves the right to reject a gift if it is subject to conditions which the Board considers are inconsistent with our vision and mission statement, or where fulfilling the terms of the gift might impose future costs on HRBG.

Recognition of Your Gift

Gifts to the HRBG, including bequests, are normally recognised in our Annual Report and on signage in the Botanic Gardens, depending on the amount of the gift. If you prefer, gifts can also be made anonymously.

Any proposal for recognition as a condition of a bequest, for example the naming of a building or facility or the erection of a memorial plaque, should be discussed in advance with the HRBG.

Discussing your Intentions

HRBG encourages anyone planning to make a bequest to discuss their intentions with the Chief Executive Officer or the Chairman. Any such discussions will be held in complete confidence.

Hunter Region Botanic Gardens
August 2018