

# ALBERT'S LEGACY



*Albert with Volunteer Manager Andrea and former Chief Executive Heather Wood*

## **It was 21 years ago that Albert Bennett first heard of Rainbow Trust Children's Charity.**

He and his wife Betty were watching *Hearts of Gold* on BBC1, and listened to Rainbow Trust's founder Bernadette Cleary talking about the charity she set up at her kitchen table back in 1986. Albert and Betty were both so moved by the interview that they called us the very next day, offering to help us raise funds.

Albert gave dozens of talks about his time in the RAF, asking for a donation to Rainbow Trust in lieu of his speaker's fee. His talks to community groups and schools reached thousands with news of Rainbow Trust's support for families.

He raised more than £6,000 to support the families helped by Rainbow Trust - not only through his talks, but later through sales from his book 'Spitfires Over Burma'.

Albert died peacefully at home in October last year, just two weeks shy of his 102nd birthday. He is greatly missed by our staff, who got to know him very well during his years of enthusiastic support.

Albert was a tireless advocate of Rainbow Trust. His kind decision to donate a percentage of his estate to Rainbow Trust could provide support for up to 40 families for a whole year.

# MY LITTLE MIRACLE

## Legacy donations can have a lasting impact by supporting one of our special projects.

Last year, Rainbow Trust began a cardiac support service in partnership with Evelina Children's Heart Organisation. Our first Cardiac Support Worker, Diana, works closely with families whose children have life threatening and complex heart conditions, to give them the unique support they need.



*“ When I was 20 weeks pregnant, the doctors found that one of the arteries in my baby’s heart was not fully developed. When she was born safely, I named her Miracle because, against all the odds, she had survived.*

*Miracle had her first open heart surgery at two weeks old. Although the operation was successful, she’ll need surgery later in life too. She also*

*suffers from sleep apnoea, which means she’s on an oxygen machine to help her breathe and needs constant monitoring.*

*We met Diana when we were discharged from hospital. I had my hands full taking care of my three older children as well as Miracle, so I needed an extra pair of hands. Without Diana’s help, I couldn’t go shopping as I can’t push a trolley, a buggy and hold onto my son’s hand all at the same time.*

*Diana takes me to the hospital when Miracle has appointments. She also takes my older daughter to the park and my son to nursery. It means the older ones can still do fun things, so they feel less restricted by Miracle’s condition.*

*Diana feeds Miracle*

*All my children love Diana. They are so happy to see her because they know she will devote her time and attention to them and them alone. I appreciate her help so much and I don't know what I would do without her. ”*

**Stephanie**

It costs Rainbow Trust £1,690 to support a family for a year. £42,300 pays for a Family Support Worker for a whole year, during which time they can support up to 25 families at one time. Just 1% of your estate pledged to Rainbow Trust could give families like Stephanie's precious time together during their most difficult times.



**If charities received 1% of the value of every estate in the UK, it would generate £71m towards good causes this year**

Over half of RNLI's, and nearly a third of Cancer Research's wonderful work is funded by legacy donations. But at Rainbow Trust just 3% of our income comes from legacies.

Legacy donations can change lives. If just 1% of Rainbow Trust supporters pledged just 1% of their estate, it could raise up to £1 million to give support to families of life-threatened and terminally ill children in the future.

By simply doubling the current value of our legacy gifts, we could fund four full-time Family Support Workers, who would be able to support up to 100 families at any one time.

After you have provided for your own family, could you remember Rainbow Trust in your will and support families caring for a seriously ill child?

**[rainbowtrust.org.uk/onepercent](http://rainbowtrust.org.uk/onepercent)**

# ARE YOU READY FOR CHANGE?

Life-changing events happen to all of us. A wedding, a birth, a divorce, a bereavement, even a lottery win can cause a shift in your priorities.

Changing a will can seem daunting but it needn't be. If you already have a will and want to make a simple change, you can often do so with an easy codicil form. Simply complete the details, ask two witnesses to sign it and keep it with your existing will.

If you choose to amend your existing will to leave a donation to Rainbow Trust, you can do so with this codicil.

[rainbowtrust.org.uk/codicil-form](https://rainbowtrust.org.uk/codicil-form)

All money donated to Rainbow Trust Children's Charity in a will goes directly to supporting families with a child who has a life-threatening or terminal illness.



*Aimee, Phoebe and Nathan, supported by Rainbow Trust.*

## Our legacy promise

We understand the particular importance of legacy donations and make the following promises to all our legacy pledgers:

- We will respect your wishes and decisions at all times
- You and your family will be treated in a respectful and considerate manner
- Your donation will be used in accordance with your wishes

You can speak, in confidence, about any aspect of legacy giving, to our Legacy Officer.

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[rainbowtrust.org.uk/legacy](https://rainbowtrust.org.uk/legacy)