

Helping our clients to achieve

Quick Guide to Certainty and why you should register your Will

The UK's national Register of Wills is now online and Phillips is a member of the Register called **certainty.co.uk**. It is designed to eradicate the real possibility of a Will being lost, destroyed or stolen.

Unfortunately not being able to find a Will can cause real distress and potential financial loss for your family. We can register your Will for you and then you will be certain your Will is not lost, misplaced or forgotten over the passage of time.

So why Register?

In a recent survey, 67% of people in the UK didn't know where their parent's Will was!

Although we keep a database of all the Wills which we hold, we know sometimes clients change their Wills without us knowing. Changing circumstances, moving to another area or simply the passage of time can sometimes make it difficult to identify an individual's last Will. The Register ensures that solicitors across the country can log the existence of Wills in a central place. This should ensure that your Will, or any updated version of it, is not overlooked.

What does the Register do?

- The Register records that we are holding your Will; no one there sees it, and we keep the Will here.
- Your details are confidential and only available to your next of kin when you pass on.
- The Register serves to make your beneficiaries aware that a Will exists and which solicitor holds it, so they don't lose out.
- The Register ensures that your last wishes are respected.

We are pleased to be members of Certainty which is endorsed by a former President of the Law Society and is designed to build up a comprehensive Register of Wills. Frequently Wills cannot be traced after a person's death leading to considerable anxiety and distress. For example it might be that after your death, for some reason your next of kin/executors are not aware that we hold your Will. They would be able to search the certainty.co.uk Register to see where your Will is actually held – much simpler than writing to all the solicitors in the area.

The good news is that we can offer our clients a free Will registration if your Will was written with us prior to 5th May 2008. Wills written after that date will incur a small charge to register them with Certainty.

Sadly, none of us are immortal and we cannot take our possessions with us. Regularly reviewing your Will and having it registered is one of the most important things you can do for your loved ones.

So if you would like to register your Will, or if you haven't yet made a Will, call Sheila Glyn-Owen or Shirah Real on 01256 460830 and be certain that you have protected your loved ones.