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Article

Where there's a Will

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If you're one of the 67% of people who don't know where your parents Will might be, you might have some difficulty in finding it when the time comes. But now, thanks to the national Will register, Certainty, which has just celebrated its first Birthday, your solicitor can register yours and your loved ones' Wills, then your family can easily locate it when needed and ensure that last wishes are respected. Over time circumstances change, people move house or enter a new relationship and keeping your family's and your own Will safe may be the last thing on your mind.

What happens if I don't register?

If your Will is not registered and not found, or worse still if you haven't made one, then your loved ones may not receive the inheritance that you would wish but would get the proportions laid down by law, and of course family disputes can occur. So for your own peace of mind, the best advice is to make or review your Will with your solicitor and ask them to register it with Certainty.

What are the advantages of registering your Will?

- Peace of mind - it will certainly make probate easier when the time comes and it means your wishes will be respected. It records which solicitor is holding your Will.
- No-one can see the Will except the solicitors who hold it so your details remain confidential and only available to your next of kin when you pass on

The recent explosion of unregulated Will writers, online and home do-it-yourself Will writing packs is confusing and these Wills cannot be registered, only those prepared by a solicitor. Shirah Real, solicitor at Phillips Solicitors in Basingstoke, says: "Everyone who cares what happens to their assets after they die should make a Will and review it regularly especially when they experience a major life change such as getting married, having children or moving house. If you travel a lot, like to keep your affairs private or don't have much family in your area, then having your Will registered gives added protection to those you want to benefit – our clients now have peace of mind that their loved ones can easily locate their Will when the time comes."

Call Sheila Glyn-Owen or Shirah Real now on 01256 460830 for friendly advice

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