

Helping our clients to achieve

Press release - launch

Phillips first to embrace electronic online register of Wills

Date: August 2008

by Sheila Glyn-Owen, partner specialising in Wills and Probate

Direct line 01256 854637 email sglyn-owen@phillips-law.co.uk

'Certainty.co.uk, the UK's first 'on-line registry for Wills' has launched in Basingstoke with Phillips Solicitors as their Founder Member, after almost 20 years' lobbying for a national register of this nature', says Sheila Glyn-Owen, managing partner at Phillips. The register enables rapid registration of a Will and the ability to search for lost or missing Wills.

In a recent public survey commissioned by Certainty, 67% of people surveyed were unaware of the location of their parents' Will. Certainty.co.uk is launching with a unique offer whereby 12.8 million free of charge Will registrations are available to the general public to be used in association with solicitors. Phillips is naturally participating in this launch and offering free registration to any of their clients who have made their Wills prior to May this year.

If you're one of the 67% of people who don't know where your own or your parents' Will might be, then you may one day be glad of this national register which has just been launched and which can easily locate a Will when needed. Over time circumstances change, you might move house or enter a new relationship and keeping your Will safe may be the last thing on your mind. But now your solicitor can register your Will with certainty.co.uk and this will allow your family to locate your Will when you pass on and ensure that your last wishes are respected.

Certainty's Chairman, Kevin Martin and Law Society President 2005/06, holds the firm belief that Certainty provides a definitive solution supported by technological investment and consultations with key legal figures. Kevin, who is spearheading the initiative says, "We believe Certainty is the first organisation to actually provide a compliant solution to the chronic problem of Will registration."

What happens if you don't register?

If your Will is 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,

Helping our clients to achieve

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.

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. Sheila Glyn-Owen, managing partner at Phillips Solicitors in Basingstoke, a founder partner of Certainty, 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. Having your Will registered is one of the most important things you can do for your loved ones – our clients will 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

www.phillips-law.co.uk

ENDS

Note to editor: Phillips is a leading law firm in Basingstoke, with around 60 members of staff. We offer a comprehensive range of services to business and private clients, locally and nationwide. We specialise in helping clients achieve what they want.

Wills, probates and elderly client matters
Divorce, matrimonial and mediation services
Residential property conveyancing
Civil litigation and commercial mediation services

Company and commercial matters
Employment matters
Leases and tenancy agreements
Commercial property

For more information, contact:

Pam Whittle, marketing manager, Phillips Solicitors, Town Gate, 38 London Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 7NY.
www.phillips-law.co.uk t. 01256 854642, f. 01256 364333 e. pwhittle@phillips-law.co.uk