

Wollen Michelmore

SOLICITORS

TIME IS PASSING...

Does New Year feel as though it is in the dim and distant past, and your resolutions just haven't happened?

If one of your resolutions was to get around to making a Will, or replacing an existing one, there are often articles explaining the importance of making one. In theory these sound like good ideas, but you find it difficult to take action and just carry on worrying. An alternative is to ask yourself why you aren't getting around to it.

Take a look at these scenarios:-

I have bought my first house, or I have worked all my life to build up some assets – why wouldn't I want to say who can have them when I have died, rather than leaving it to be decided by rules set by the Government?

I have a Will but now I have got married – why wouldn't I want to make a new Will to replace the old one which has been invalidated by the marriage?

I have a partner, married or not – why wouldn't I want to make sure that they are financially provided for if I die?

I have children – why wouldn't I want to say who I want them to live with and to bring them up?

I have children from a previous relationship and a partner and/or children from my current relationship – why wouldn't I want to make sure that everybody is treated as fairly as possible, and do my best to avoid disputes?

I have children who I have lost touch with and wouldn't want to benefit when I die – why wouldn't I express my reasoning and leave my assets where I want them to go?

I wouldn't want my children to receive a large sum of money at the age of eighteen and maybe spend it all, regretting it later – why wouldn't I want to protect the money until my children have reached an age when they value it more?

I don't have close family – why wouldn't I specify that my friends, or charities, can receive my money instead of distant relatives who have to be traced to be able to receive my money, or even the state?

I have a member of my family who can't manage his own finances but I want to help him financially – why wouldn't I benefit them but protect the money for their future benefit, rather than just giving them a lump sum?

I have built up or inherited some money and am worried about tax – why wouldn't I want to find out the tax position and try to reduce the liability?

I have experienced problems sorting out the estate of a relative previously – why wouldn't I want to try to save my family from having the same problems?

And finally, and on a selfish basis – why wouldn't I want to do something that stops me having to worry because I have done the best that I can for now, in my current circumstances?

If you want to do something practical rather than just leaving everything to chance, please contact Wollen Michelmores Solicitor, Wendy Mansell on **01271 340497** or Email: wendy.mansell@wollenmichelmores.co.uk