

Some of the things people using our services have said

"I don't know what I'd do without the Alan Shearer Short Break Centre. Our son is 20 and it gives him some independence; it's like other youngsters having sleepovers."

Parent commenting on our Alan Shearer Short Break Centre that offers specialist respite care for disabled children and adults.

"You are all so appreciated. Your hard work, patience, kindness and dedication shines through."

From the comments book at our St Catherine's Nursing and Residential Care Home in Newcastle.

"Even as a seasoned volunteer, I'm still surprised by the extent of poverty and need I come across on the Sp Bus. There is no doubt that people rely heavily on this service to gain any quality of life in some instances."

Mike, St Cuthberts Care volunteer.

"The carers and the nurses on duty provided excellent, professional, expert care, ... treated our father and us with the utmost respect at all times and went beyond the basic duty of care expected of them."

Family of resident at Holy Cross Nursing and Residential Care Home in Sunderland.

"Before coming here, I had no idea what I was going to do to get food. Now I know there is somewhere to go nearly every day of the week."

Jim, who is homeless and a regular visitor at one of our community projects.

How do I leave a legacy ?

If you die without making a will, the law decides how your estate will be shared out. Making a will means **you** decide where the proceeds from your estate will go.

Many solicitors offer a fixed cost will service or you can make your own basic will by picking up a will template at larger post offices. It's advisable to have a solicitor check a will that you have drawn up yourself to make sure that it is witnessed and valid to ensure your wishes will be carried out.

If you choose to gift to us, it is very important that you name St Cuthberts Care in your will as the charity you wish to benefit from your legacy.

If you would like to speak to us further about leaving a legacy in your will to St Cuthberts Care, you can contact Iris Boyd on

0191 228 0111

or email iris.boyd@stcuthbertscare.org.uk

All donations we receive remain in the region and are spent entirely on the work of St Cuthberts Care

For more information on the work of St Cuthberts Care visit

www.stcuthbertscare.org.uk

Thank you for your support



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Patrons: Lady Elsie Robson • Lainya & Alan Shearer • Ant & Dec • Mike Browne

St Cuthberts Care is a charity, established by the Catholic Church, that works for the common good.

Registered Charity No 512912 Company Limited by Guarantee Company Registration No 1645917

My
lasting
legacy

A gift that
changes lives
forever



Your gift can change lives forever

Leaving a legacy to St Cuthberts Care means your good deeds will continue for many years to come. Your gift will provide us with the vital financial security we need in order to plan future work and to develop long-term projects and initiatives.

St Cuthberts Care is one of the longest-established regional charities in the North East. Founded in 1946 by the Catholic Church, its original aim was to offer food and shelter to disadvantaged families, particularly orphaned children from World War II.

Some 67 years on, St Cuthberts Care employs over 350 people and works across the whole of the north east region helping the most vulnerable members of our communities. Our work is specialised and often tackles areas of unmet need that are either unattractive or considered to be too high risk for other providers. We focus largely upon:

- Residential care for children
- Short and long-term fostering
- Specialist provision for people with profound disabilities
- Care for older people

In addition to our care services, we develop and run community projects. These span our region, targeting people who have absolutely nothing and supporting people who need the company and compassion of others. Our fundraised income and donations pay for the entire cost of our community work.

Our Purpose - *working for the common good by enabling people to develop to their personal potential* is the tenet that underpins everything we do. It is why people are at the heart of our work and why they will always remain so.

After reading this leaflet, I do hope you will feel inspired by our work and will consider bequeathing a gift to St Cuthberts Care.

Thank you.



Moira Ashman
Chief Executive

The lasting legacy of Auton Children's Residential Homes

Leaving a legacy to us in your will means the benefits of your generosity will continue long into the future. Our Auton children's residential homes, for example, are named after Leslie Auton who bequeathed a substantial legacy to us over a decade ago, asking that it be used to benefit children in care.

Thanks to his generous gift, we have been able to expand and develop our care provision for children and to modernise and renovate our homes to the highest standards.

Today, each of our four Auton homes in Newcastle, Sunderland and Darlington continue to provide children with the safety and stability they need to thrive and reach their full potential in life; this is the enduring legacy of Leslie Auton's gift to St Cuthberts Care.

If you choose to invest in the future of St Cuthberts Care and the work we do, you, too, will be playing a significant part in improving people's lives for generations to come.

Nathan's Story

Nathan arrived at one of our Auton children's homes when he was just eight years old. Almost ten years later, he is now living independently, already has a qualification in sport under his belt and is currently studying IT at college.

He's not sure yet what career path he'll take, but he knows the skills and qualifications he is developing now are going to provide him with the best opportunities for his life ahead.

The stable family life he experienced at Auton is paying real dividends, having provided him with the solid foundation and the confidence he needs to begin exploring his potential as a young adult.

Nathan has no doubt about how important Auton has been, and, indeed, continues to be, in his life. "I've always said that I wouldn't be the person I am now without Auton," he said. "I learned everything I needed to be able to live independently and I can now appreciate everything they taught me. The staff have been like family to me and I still pop in for visits from time to time. Like most teenagers leaving home, I feel excited to have a place of my own, but it's good to know everyone at Auton is still there for me if I need them."

Supporting our work with your lasting legacy

The impact of our work touches thousands of people's lives every year, with the benefits extending beyond those who use our services to their families, friends and relatives, too.

We work hard to build on the success of our services and our plans for the future will continue to be bold and forward-thinking. The only limitation we have is funding.

Let us give you a snapshot of some of our work:

- More than 1000 disabled adults and children regularly enjoy a wide range of free sessions at our specialist Alan Shearer Activity Centre. Free activities include our therapeutic and relaxing hydrotherapy pool, a creative music room, sensory rooms and giant ball pool.
- Our Alan Shearer Short Break Centre provides specialist, short-term accommodation for up to 14 disabled adults or 12 disabled children, providing them with a pleasant break away from home and a much-needed period of respite for parents and carers.
- Around 90 elderly people live in our two nursing and residential care homes, which are rated as providing the highest standards of care. A recent relatives' survey showed levels of satisfaction with the support they receive from staff reaching 100% in both homes.
- Because our fostering team has increased its number of foster carers by 17.5% since 2012, more of the growing number of children unable to live with their parents are able to benefit from a stable, loving foster family.
- Our 5p Bus provides 10,000 items of essential clothing every month to families and individuals across the region who are struggling to make ends meet. The service costs us £86,000 every year and is entirely funded by donations.
- Our new, longer-term residential home can provide up to six young adults with profound disabilities with the opportunity to live safe and stimulating lives.

By remembering St Cuthberts Care in your will, you are helping to make sure we can continue our vital work and expand into new areas that will support even more people in need.