

WHY WONKTON WYLD?

Your Legacy

As a small intentional community we endeavour to live and work as frugally as possible in order to afford the upkeep and continuing improvement of the beautiful buildings and grounds, and so we are dependent on both volunteers and donations to keep us going.

By leaving a legacy to Monkton Wyld Court or School you will help in many ways, not least because such practical encouragement for our work is a great morale booster.

Since there are so many types of people who frequent the Court we are able to share the benefits of this lovely place across a broad range of society, spreading the word on sustainable living by both example and education.

Many of our courses now focus on land-based skills, making the most of our assets which include a fully-functioning micro dairy farm and productive vegetable and fruit gardens to demonstrate organic methods, as well as sustainable timber building, beekeeping, scything and other hand-tool skills not widely available elsewhere.

As our facilities steadily improve, many people and groups are now choosing to hold their events here, from Yoga courses to conferences for environmental organisations. We even host the occasional wedding.

How It Will Help:

Building – As a 160-year-old building Monkton requires a lot of maintenance; and, alas, when Mrs Hodgson built the Court in 1848, she forgot to provide any endowment for its upkeep in her will. *Your* legacy, however, could help to ensure the house is soundly maintained to last for future generations. Although we do as much of the work as possible ourselves, Grade II listing increases the specialist skills, and therefore the expense, required for upkeep.

Energy – Continually reducing energy consumption is our constant goal. You could fund a hydro-electric generator, or solar panels on the courtyard roof for fuelfree hot water.

Farming & Growing—Good food means good health, and at Monkton we aim to produce as much food on site as possible, making the most of the land we are fortunate to have. The walled garden and farm buildings are no longer neglected but many further improvements are desirable. The Kitchen now has a wood-fuelled cooker replacing the oil-guzzling Aga, but new cupboards and sinks would help a lot.

Education – We are here to share knowledge and skills, and to enlighten minds about the pressing issues of our times. With enough funding, we could offer more targeted programmes and hire specialist tutors to hone the skills of volunteers. Most usefully, we could rebuild the old 1960s classroom to provide a state-of-the-art teaching facility with fully sustainable passive solar heating, and suitable for a great range of activities.

Monkton Wyld School is a Registered Charity, No. 306217, and a company limited by Guarantee no. 361419. www.monktonwyldcourt.co.uk

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TYPES OF LEGACY

When you leave a legacy to Monkton Wyld every pound will make a difference due to the tax exemption benefits of us being a Charitable Organisation.

There are three main types of legacy you can leave us once you have provided for your family and friends:

Item 1: A share in your estate (Residuary)

This is a percentage or the remainder of your estate once all other legacies and expenses have been settled.

Item 2: A sum of money (Pecuniary)

This is a specific amount; the value of pecuniary legacies can reduce over time so it is worth speaking to your solicitor about index-linking your gift.

Item 3: A specific legacy

This is non-cash gifts such as property or stocks and shares or a personal item of value. Please contact your solicitor to discuss legacy giving in detail. Some examples of how your gift could be spent - you may want to specify a purpose:

£100 upwards. Small amounts are very welcome for upgrading or replacing vital items - garden furniture, the wheelbarrow fleet, worn-out woodburners etc.

£1,000 would provide extra play equipment for the "jungle gym" among the rhododendrons;

£1,500 -soft fruit cages and more trees for the Fruit Garden;

£2,500 - a Gothic timber replacement for the ugly fire-screen at the top of the Marble Stairs;

£5,000 - repairing the wall around the kitchen garden;

£10,000 will rebuild the old classroom with local oak timber framing and thermal glass;

£20,000 - repair and line the chimneys so that woodburners can be installed in the bedrooms;

£30,000 - a replacement for the ageing reed-bed system

£35,000 will help us to generate substantial energy with renewables - solar panels galore.

£50,000 - replace Beech Bottoms with an eco-friendly alternative;

£100,000 could repair the roofs, stonework and windows.

There are many possibilities and we are very much open to ideas: suggestions backed up by cash will be acted upon!

SOME RECENT SUCCESSES

As someone who has probably known the Court for many years - far longer than the current Community - you will be pleased to know that the old place is in good hands. Here are a few of our achievements in the good cause of ensuring that Monkton Wyld stays viable and sustainable for many years to come, while maintaining the honourable traditions of those who went before us. We have done all this on remarkably little money, mainly using our own skills and ingenuity. Just think what we could do with a real cash injection!

The cows are back - two fine Jerseys producing around 40 litres of milk a day, the source of our butter, cheese and yoghurt - and they're raising their calves too. The farmyard buildings have been substantially repaired ...

... and the magnificent new Hay Barn, built to a medieval pattern using local oak and larch and reclaimed roof-tiles will be stuffed with scythe-cut hay every summer to feed those cows through the winter



The long-abandoned Orchard below the church has been cleared of brambles and bracken and re-seeded: it is now a useful meadow producing good hay. Two old apple trees have survived: we'd like to plant more.

The derelict greenhouse in front of the walled garden has been repaired, and the old grapevine within is now flourishing. On a domestic note, our two fine compost loos (not shown here) have both won national prizes.



And the wooden buttresses that propped up the double-bay window for over 25 years have now been removed, because the bay is now reinforced with a stainless steel "trouser belt'' - at a cost of only £1,300 instead of the threatened £75,000. The house is returned to its former glory at last.