Charitable Legacies

There are two main types of legacy you can make to a charity:

- 1. A pecuniary gift when you leave a specific amount of money or asset
- 2. A residuary gift when you leave a percentage of your estate.



Residuary gifts are especially helpful because, being a percentage rather than a specific sum, they are likely to be inflation-proof.

Such gifts can be also be "unrestricted" or "restricted". In the first case, you leave it to the Trustees to decide what the money's going to be spent on within the charity's overall objectives. In the second, you say that you want the money to be be spent on something specific - it could be for work on the Diamond Way, for example, or the replacement of stiles with gates in a particular parish.

If you would like to make a legacy gift, the following wording includes the basic information you will need:

I bequeath to the Cotswold Way Association (registered charity No 1167094;
registered address The Barn, Watery Lane, Doynton, Bristol BS 30 5TB) the sum of
£ (for a pecuniary bequest) or% of my estate (for a residuary bequest)
to be used by the Cotswold Way Association at its discretion (in the following
ways).

You may of course have already written your will. If you would like to add the CWA as a beneficiary, this can usually be done by simply adding a Codicil to the will. Here's an example of wording for a Codicil to amend an existing will including the basic information you will need:

I (full name and address) DECLARE this to be a Codicil to my will dated and made the (date).

I now give the following charitable legacy absolutely to the Cotswold Way Association (registered charity No 11670944; registered address The Barn, Watery Lane, Doynton, Bristol BS 30 5TB) the sum of \pounds ______ (for a pecuniary bequest) or _____% of my estate (for a residuary bequest) for the general charitable purposes of the Cotswold Way Association (or for the following specific project). I direct that the receipt of the person appearing to my Trustee to be the proper officer of the Cotswold Way Association shall be a full receipt to my Trustees for this legacy.

Once completed, you should store the Codicil with your will. Just double check with your legal adviser before you do, though, to make sure what you're proposing accords with any particular circumstances of your will.