

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE TARGET RIFLE CLUB

The RAF TRC Trust

- 1 The RAF TRC has formed a Trust with the specific aim of providing a long-term source of help with both equipment and finance in order to encourage serving members of the RAF to take up and continue the discipline of target rifle shooting at the highest levels. The Trust also has the advantage of providing a facility for either equipment or money to be received from donors during their lifetime or once they are deceased.

Background

- 2 Making a will is something many people always intend doing, but sometimes never quite get around to completing. It's a staggering fact that seven out of ten people die without making a will. Some people assume that they have no need of a will because their possessions automatically go to their husband or wife, but this is not necessarily always true. If no will exists, then the law decides how possessions will be divided up and this might be to share everything amongst all living relatives. Thus having a will is an important need for everyone but it does not have to be complicated nor is it expensive to draw one up. It is in fact the only sure way that a person's specific wishes can be carried out, particularly if the intention is to make a specific gift to a charity or organisation. Of course if a will already exists, it is also a simple matter to add an amendment, or codicil, to the will which can specify certain additional instructions in favour of the receiving organisation. Another important consideration is that for loved ones left behind, often the very existence of firearms is an added complication and a burden for them. Under such circumstances, the RAF Target Rifle Club Trust will provide a service to the bereaved.

Aims of the Trust

- 3 The aim of the Trust is twofold:
 - (a) Firstly, to provide a source of target rifle equipment and finance which can be used to benefit and encourage serving members of the RAF in the pursuit of target rifle shooting to the highest levels.
 - (b) Secondly, to provide a service for members whereby they will know that their relatives will be able to easily dispose of firearms and equipment with the proceeds being distributed according to their personal wishes.

Details

- 4 ***Making a Will:*** For those who need to have a will drawn up, it is recommended that a solicitor is employed or the services of an organisation specialising in writing wills is used. A local solicitor or specialist will-writing service can be found through the local papers or Yellow Pages. Whilst a solicitor will usually be more expensive, if there are any complicated wishes or instructions, the extra expense may be worthwhile.

5 ***Adding a Codicil:*** For those who already have a will, additional instructions may be added using a codicil. An example is attached and providing the words used are entirely unambiguous and certain other actions are completed [\(as indicated in this paragraph\)](#) then there is no need for a solicitor to be used. In particular your signature and date on a codicil must be witnessed and dated by two completely independent persons. They do not have to be shown the contents, they are purely witnessing the signature being made by you on a particular date Independent means not family, or related to you by birth or marriage and not due to benefit from the will in any way.

6 ***Administration of the Trust:*** The Trust will be administered wholly by the RAF TR Club and its officers. Officers of the Trust will be the Chairman, ~~Vice Chairman~~, Secretary and Inter-Service TR Team Captain [and Guest-day Co-ordinator; should one of these be the same person another TRC Committee member will be nominated](#). All decisions will be taken by a majority decision of all four officers, which must always include the Captain. If necessary, to cater for absence on duty, ~~an~~RAF TR Club committee members may take the place of one of the remaining officers. All firearms will be registered on the TR Club firearm certificate and therefore the Secretary will retain overall control of all firearms. The Captain will, however, maintain a separate record book on behalf of the Trust showing the location of all firearms and property, the property transactions including loans, sales and write-offs and the financial details of any transactions. The Captain may delegate the maintenance of such records to a Property Member of the Committee. A full set of accounts must be maintained and be balanced ready for audit by 31 December each year. The Chairman of the RAF TRC, [or his nominated representative](#) is to audit the books. All decisions of the Trust are to be recorded in the record book and the TRC Committee are to be advised of the major decisions on a regular basis.

7 ***The RAF TRC Teams Account.*** [The RAFTRC raises funds by running Guest Days and the funds so raised are used to support club members when they travel on the regular RAF TRC overseas visits. The full Committee will agree the level of these grants.. The Guest day co-ordinator administers this fund and the Officers of the Trust will decide on capital expenditure from this fund to support the fund raising activities. A full set of accounts must be maintained and be balanced ready for audit by 31 December each year. Both the Trust account and the teams account will be audited at the same time by the auditor nominated by the Chairman and both accounts presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Committee..](#)

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Ideas for Your Consideration [to Support the Trust Fund.](#)

78 As shown by the aims of the Trust, it offers a wide range of facilities. The Trust will cater for a wide range of ideas from the simple aim of providing help and a service for the loves ones with all proceeds returned to them, to the opposite end of the scale, where money or equipment is donated to the RAF TRC. Specific conditions might be attached, but we would urge that these are not too restrictive, so that the officials of the Trust will have the maximum flexibility. Some ideas are given below which might be suitable or might suggest other ideas.

- (a) Rifles and equipment to be sold at best possible price within 6 months with 10% of proceeds being retained by the Trust.
- (b) Rifles donated to the Trust for loan or sale to a serving member of the RAF TRC with any proceeds used to further the aims of the Trust.

- (c) Shooting equipment donated to the Trust for disposal in accordance with its aims.
- (d) All rifles and equipment to be sold with proceeds used to provide a rifle for permanent use by a member of the RAF Inter-Service team as nominated by the Captain.
- (e) Rifles and equipment to be used by the RAF Inter-Service team members or sold with any proceeds being used to provide grants in the following priority:
 - 1. One-off grants to the servicemen who are under 25 years old.
 - 2. Grants to RAF servicemen representing their country at home or abroad.
 - 3. Grants to RAF TR teams competing abroad.

Next Step

| 89 If you wish to proceed, it is now necessary to fill in the attached blank codicil, or, if you do not have a will, to arrange for one to be drawn up. We would urge you to act today for the benefit of your relatives and RAF TR shooting in the future.

| Useful Addresses (at ~~December 2014~~[September 92](#))

- 1. <https://www.gov.uk/make-will/overview>
- 2. www.willsdirectuk.com/
- 3. www.tenminutewill.co.uk/
- 4. Yellow Pages or Thomson's Directory for local solicitors.

CODICIL

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I (full name)
of (address)
.....
.....

DECLARE this to be a (first/second (etc)Codocil
to my Will dated (date in words)

1. I give to the Royal Air Force Target Rifle Club (note 1):
for (note 2):
2. I give to the Royal Air Force Pistol Club (note 1):
for (note 2):
3. I give to the Royal Air Force Small Arms Association (note 1):
For (note 2):
- 4 I further direct that the receipt of the Secretary or any other proper office of the named Club or Association for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge of the said legacy.
- 5 IN ALL other respects, I confirm my said Will. IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand this (date in words)

SIGNED by the said (full name)
The Testator as and for a (first/second etc)
Codicil to his said Will dated the (date)
in the presence of us both being present at the same time who at his request in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.

Signature of Testator

And two witnesses (who must give their full names and addresses).

Notes:

1. Specify the exact details of particular rifles, pistols and equipment in separate paragraphs as appropriate. Remember serial numbers may change and would mean that the Codicil would have to be changed if they are quoted.
2. Include specific instructions here for usage or disposal. Either use general statement, e.g the benefit of RAF Shooting, or see Club notes.
3. Do not pin or staple the Codicil – this may give rise to the supposition that it is not a complete document and attachments are missing.