

Life on the High Street

As I walked down the High Street I was reflecting on my day and realised that two of my clients had not only the same Christian name but also had problems, although very different, for the same reason. I had spent some time with Sylvia* that afternoon. She is a lovely old lady, now sadly very much at the end of her life, and she was very worried about what would happen to her money when she passed away. She had only one distant relative in another part of the country, who she hadn't seen for a long time, but she had many local friends who she wanted to inherit her money. I made her Will but was left feeling very sad that she should have to bother herself with it (and her funeral directions) at such a time. My second Sylvia* has just been widowed and her husband had made a Will but he had not used a solicitor. Now his estranged daughter is making a fuss about her dad leaving his estate to Sylvia* who is her stepmother. I am sure his Will could be much clearer which would have helped his daughter to understand why he did what he did. Have you thought about making a Will, planning your funeral and leaving letters of explanation to your nearest and dearest? Your family and friends might appreciate it if you did. I am always happy to give preliminary advice free of charge. As I've said before it is so important to have a Will now, leaving it until you are older may not be the best idea. More news from the High Street next week.

DHC.

*all names have been changed