

My Life and Memories

Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I bother to make a record of my own or my loved one's life and memories?

Everyone has had a unique and interesting life. By creating a record of your own or your loved one's Life and Memories precious family memories get handed down through the generations; they get added to and they provide a greater understanding of how people lived and the real person behind the name. They will, at some stage, excite and fascinate younger generations. Even 40 years ago life was very different.

What questions will I be asked?

You will have "free rein" to talk about anything and everything in your own or your loved one's life in order that the record of your Life and Memories provides an accurate reflection of your perceptions of events, people, your own character and your attitude to life in general. If you feel that any question is intrusive or makes you feel uncomfortable then there is no need to answer it. We shall do our best to be sensitive and to make it a pleasurable and fulfilling experience.

There are some things which I don't want to write about, is this OK?

Absolutely yes. This will be your record and it will only contain the memories that you wish to share and to be preserved. Sometimes people choose to share their memories with us but then ask that such memories are not included in the book. This is fine. We know that all lives contain both light and shadow.

How much will it cost?

Costings are explained in a separate section of this website. There are three options. Option 2 is popular because it provides people with greater scope to record their memories. This costs £499. For many people option 1 at £299 provides them with all they need.

How and when do I pay?

After making your booking you will receive a confirmation letter. This will request a £25 cheque as a non refundable deposit. You will not pay anything further until you have received and are satisfied with the finished record of your Life and Memories. All payments should be made by cheque or cash please, payable to "Angela Bond". We are not currently able to take credit or debit cards.

I want to give this as a present. Do you sell gift vouchers?

Yes, please telephone 01256 770223 for further details.

What are the steps in producing my Life and memories booklet as described in Option One of My Charges?

You will telephone my office (01256 770223) and, if you are happy to proceed, we shall make an appointment to meet. The meeting can be at your home or at another public place of your choice. You can choose to have someone else present at the meeting if you wish, but a quiet space is very important. We will send you a confirmation letter of the appointment, along with some topics that you may wish to think about in advance of our meeting. We will meet for 2-3 hours and, with your permission, we shall audio record our discussions onto a Compact Disc (CD). We will then type up the narrative (not verbatim but in a readable format) and send it to you for approval/final amendments within 14 days of the meeting. You will sign to say that you are happy with the content; it will then be printed and bound. It will be sent to you within 28 days of the meeting. The CD recording of our meeting will also be returned to you.

If you wish to pursue Options 2 or 3 then the above procedure will take longer and additional meetings will be necessary. The process will be the same.

Do you have any examples of your work?

Yes, we shall bring at least one example of a finished booklet to our first meeting. Short extracts of some of the life stories I have covered are included on this website.

I've already done a little bit of writing about my life and my family history. Can this be included?

Yes, certainly. However, if the total content of your finished Life and Memories booklet exceeds 20 sides of A4 then there would be an additional charge. Any additional charges would be agreed with you before production of the booklet.

I have some photographs that I would like included. Is this OK?

Definitely. We would encourage you to include photographs as these bring the narrative to life. Up to 20 images can be included and will be embedded at appropriate points in the narrative. You may also wish to use a photograph on the cover.

Will you need to take my photos away and will I get them back safely?

We shall need to take the photos away and every effort will be made to keep them safe and well preserved. We shall return them to you with the finished booklet. Whilst every effort will be taken to preserve them, I regret that no responsibility can be accepted for loss or damage to your photos. Please ensure that you pencil your name and the name of the person(s) in the photos on the reverse of each photo. Alternatively you can use a 'post-it' note to attach to each photo.

Who will own the copyright?

You will own the copyright to your Life and Memories booklet and you may do whatever you like with it.

Will my life story and memories remain confidential?

We operate in strict accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and your details will remain confidential to you and to anyone with whom you choose to share the content of your booklet. We shall retain your information securely on file in case you should commission us to update it at a later stage. It will not be published or passed on to any third party without your written consent.

Can I change anything in my Life and memories record?

You can change anything you wish when you receive the draft document for approval and amendments. If you decide that you would prefer to omit anything that has been written then that is fine, but this must be done at the stage of approval and amendments, not once the document is bound and complete. No alteration is possible at this stage unless an additional charge is paid.

How many copies of my Life and memories record will I receive?

The basic option (Option 1) entitles you to one copy. If you would like additional copies these can be provided at an additional cost.

What areas of the UK do you cover?

At present we are able to cover: Hampshire, Surrey, Dorset, Wiltshire and Berkshire. This may be extended in the future.