

I THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOSEPHINE COUNTESS OF SEFTON of 80 Eaton Square in the City of Westminster Widow HEREBY REVOKE all Wills and testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me AND DECLARE this to be my last Will which I make this *eighteenth* day of *January* One thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine

1. I APPOINT James Michael Marshall of 1 Crosshall Street in the City of Liverpool Solicitor Frederick George Apedaile of Higher Lee Abbeystead in the County of Lancaster and Sir Douglas Inglis Crawford of Fernlea North Mossley Hill Road Liverpool aforesaid (hereinafter called "my Trustees" to be the executors and Trustees of this my Will
2. I DESIRE that my body may be cremated and my ashes placed in or near the Church at Abbeystead aforesaid and that a suitable tombstone shall be erected thereover at the expense of my estate failing which I DIRECT that a suitable Memorial or Tablet be erected against the west wall of Kirkby Church at the like expense AND I FURTHER DIRECT that it is my wish that a simple service be held at the Church in Abbeystead as soon as practicable after my death
3. I BEQUEATH the following specific legacies free of taxes and duty:-
  - (a) TO Mrs Tess Bertrand the daughter of Mr and Mrs Leo d'Erlanger of 44 Upper Grosvenor Street my Diamond Collet [1] Necklace with five diamond stars attached to necklace and one pair of star ear-clips
  - (b) TO my godson Rodolphe d'Erlanger the son of the said Mr and Mrs Leo d'Erlanger my Diamond Pave [2] Ring and my Gold Paper Knife with Diamond decoration
  - (c) TO Lady de Trafford of 70 Eaton Square London SW1 my Pearl and Diamond ring
  - (d) TO my god-daughter Susan Aird daughter of Lady Priscilla Aird of Forest Lodge Windsor Park in the County of Berks. my Gold Ring set with Rubies Sapphires Emeralds and Diamonds (from Kitchinsky [sic] [3] London
  - (e) TO Mrs Frank Farley of Kenneth Avenue Huntington Long Island USA my Fluted Gold Evening Box having catches on both sides one side catch being set with Diamonds and the other side catch being set with Sapphires (size of Box approximately four and a half inches by two and three-quarter inches) and my Gold Bracelet Watch
  - (f) TO the said Mrs Leo d'Erlanger my Victorian Diamond Floral Brooch but in the event of her death in my lifetime then I BEQUEATH the said Floral Brooch to her daughter the said Tess Bertrand
  - (g) TO Lady Dorothea Head of Throops Manor Bishopstone near Salisbury my Gold Fabergé Box and my Fabergé Paper Knife (Gold Green Enamel with small pencil) and my ring set in gold with five Diamonds (being the late Lady Sefton's ring)
  - (h) TO Nancy Countess of Dunraven of Adare County Limerick Eire my Diamond Bracelet mounted in Platinum composed of round and baguette Diamonds but in the event of her death in my lifetime THEN I DIRECT that the said Diamond Bracelet be given to her son the Earl of Dunraven AND I FURTHER DIRECT that in the event of the death of Nancy Countess of Dunraven and her said son in my lifetime the said Diamond Bracelet shall be given to Lady Ann Wyndham-Quin the daughter of the Earl of Dunraven
  - (i) TO Mrs Ambrose Chambers of Mayfair House 610 Park Avenue New York City my Fabergé Fox carved from Cornelian with Ruby eyes and my Gold

Brooch set with Diamonds Emeralds Rubies and Sapphires (from Kitchinsky (sic) London)

- (j) TO the Countess of Derby of Knowsley my Gold and Diamond Ear-clips in the shape of Flowers (by Cartier London)
  - (k) TO Lord Brownlow of Belton Grantham the Gold Box set with Diamond "OK" on the lid formerly belonging to the late Dorothy Brownlow which his father gave to me after her death
  - (l) TO Lady Benson of 49 Victoria Road London W8 the Gold self-winding Swiss Watch formerly belonging to the said Dorothy Lady Brownlow which the late Lord Brownlow gave to me after her death and my Sable Coat
  - (m) TO Mrs Donald Mixsell of 535 Park Avenue New York City the small Silver Box inscribed on the inside of the lid "A token to Dorothy Beatty from Josephine Sefton commemorating 35 years of friendship - December 25<sup>th</sup> 1945"
  - (n) TO Mrs Herbert Agar of 36 Hays Mews London the Silver Box inscribed in the inside of the lid "To Aintree's Own Fair Lady from Father Christmas 1957"
  - (o) TO Mrs Dorothy Davis c/o Rayne & Co of 15 Old Bond Street London the Diamond Brooch in the shape of a Bee
  - (p) TO The Jockey Club the portrait of my late husband The Right Honourable Hugh William Osbert Seventh Earl of Sefton painted by Oswald Birley such portrait now being at Abbeystead House but in the event of such portrait being removed by me to 80 Eaton Square I DIRECT that the bequest hereinafter contained in Clause 5 of this my Will to the Merseyside County Council for the Walker Art Gallery of all my pictures at 80 Eaton Square does not include the aforesaid portrait of my late husband which I confirm is bequeathed to the Jockey Club AND I FURTHER CONFIRM for the avoidance of doubt that the portrait of my late husband as Lord Mayor of Liverpool by James Gunn at present situate at 80 Eaton Square is to be included in the bequest to the Merseyside County Council under the terms of Clause 5 of this my Will
  - (q) TO Mrs Dorothy Poltock of 7 Acresgate Court Grange Lane Gateacre Liverpool 25 my Pearl and Diamond ear-clips
  - (r) TO Mrs Allan Ryan of Wells Road Palm Beach Florida USA my three Gold Rings – one with Rubies one with Emeralds and one with Sapphires
  - (s) TO Mrs John Sellar my Sapphire Ring with one Diamond on either side set in Gold which belonged to her aunt the late Helena Countess of Sefton
  - (t) TO Thomas Parr of 72 Eaton Square London the bronze d'oree (sic) [4] greyhound on stand inscribed "Sartorius" (sic) winner of the Waterloo Plate
  - (u) ALL my clothes (except Fur Coats) personal effects costume jewellery and hats not hereby or by my Codicil hereto otherwise specifically bequeathed shall be sold and the proceeds of sale given to such one or more Animal Charitable Organisations to be chosen by Mrs Joan Rimmer of Lower Alder Farm Winwick near Warrington or if she shall not be living at my death (or shall die before such choice is made) by my Trustees
4. I BEQUEATH the following pecuniary legacies free of taxes and duty:-
- (a) TO The Right Honourable Richard Aldred Earl of Scarborough the sum of Fifty thousand pounds
  - (b) TO the said Mrs Ambrose Chambers the sum of Fifty thousand pounds

- (c) TO the said Mrs Dorothy Poltock the sum of Ten thousand pounds
  - (d) TO the said Rodolphe d'Erlanger the sum of Ten thousand pounds
  - (e) TO such of them Eric Billington and his wife Madalena Billington both of the Vicarage Abbeystead as shall be living at my death and if both are then alive in equal shares the sum of Ten thousand pounds
  - (f) TO my god-daughter Amanda Hall and her sister Georgina Hall the daughters of Harry Hall of PO Box 1493 Johannesburg South Africa the sum of Five thousand pounds each
  - (g) TO such of them The Marchioness of Waterford and Lady Melissa Brooke sisters of the Earl of Dunraven of Adare County Limerick as shall be living at my death and if more than one in equal shares the sum of Five thousand pounds
  - (h) TO the said Lady Benson the sum of Two thousand pounds
  - (i) TO the said Mrs Dorothy Davis the sum of Five thousand pounds
  - (j) TO my god-daughter Nina Campbell the daughter of Major and Mrs Archibald Campbell of [blank] sum of Two thousand pounds
  - (k) TO whomsoever is employed by me as my personal maid at the date of my death the sum of Twenty-five pounds for every completed year of her service with me PROVIDED THAT she is not under notice to leave such employment whether given or received
  - (l) TO each of my Trustees the said James Michael Marshall Frederick George Apedaile and Sir Douglas Inglis Crawford the sum of Five thousand pounds if he shall prove my Will and act in the trusts thereof
  - (m) TO the said Frederick George Apedaile (in addition to the sum bequeathed to him under the preceding sub-clause of this my Will) the sum of Twenty-five thousand pounds
  - (n) TO
    - (i) my Butler John Edwin Palmer the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (ii) my Secretary Alan Peck the sum of Two thousand pounds
    - (iii) my Abbeystead housekeeper Anne Alexander the sum of Two thousand pounds
    - (iv) my Chauffeur Richard Edward Houghton the sum of One thousand five hundred pounds
    - (v) my House Carpenter William Owen the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (vi) my Housemaid Joselyn Grace Thorpe the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (vii) Mrs Millican of the Stables Yard Flats Croxteth the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (viii) Mrs Fanny Fallows of Finch Lodge Croxteth the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (ix) Thomas Dennehy of 5 Stable Yard Croxteth the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (x) Mrs Olga Bluml of Bothy Cottage Abbeystead aforesaid the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (xi) Mrs Dorothy Maud Reynolds (formerly my housekeeper) the sum of One thousand pounds
    - (xii) Roderick Church Banks of 12 Quernmore Road Caton the sum of One thousand five hundred pounds
- and for the avoidance of doubt I DECLARE that any such legacy shall be paid whether or not any legatee is in my employ at the date of my death

(o) TO the said Lady de Trafford the sum of One thousand pounds

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5. ... or the survivor of them will see that such mares and foals are looked after in a proper manner by either retaining them for their own use or finding suitable homes or humanely destroying those that are not required

(o) TO Miss Jessie Little of Fernlea Mossley Hill Road Liverpool a piece of jewellery to be decided by my Trustees

6. I DEVISE free of Capital Transfer Tax to the said Frederick George Apedaile or if he shall predecease me his wife Jane Apedaile my freehold premises known as Higher Lee forming part of my Abbeystead Estate AND I DIRECT that my Trustees shall at the expense of my residuary estate put Higher Lee into a proper state of repair and decoration if this has not been done during my lifetime.
7. (1) I DEVISE free of Capital Transfer Tax to Peter Entwistle and his wife Sally Theresa Entwistle in their joint names or to such of them as shall survive me my freehold premises known as Lentworth House and garage and outbuildings and gardens belonging thereto  
(2) I DIRECT that my Trustees shall as soon as possible after my death offer to the said Peter Entwistle and his wife Sally Theresa Entwistle in their joint names or to such of them as shall survive me a tenancy for three years of an area of land not exceeding six hundred acres with such cottages outbuildings and other works thereon forming part of the Home Farm Abbeystead Estate as my Trustees may in their absolute discretion decide at such rental and subject to such conditions as my Trustees shall in their absolute discretion consider fair and reasonable
8. I DIRECT that my Trustees shall as soon as conveniently possible after my death arrange to purchase on behalf of Alan Peck of 3 Broadacre Close Caton aforesaid such property or to transfer to the said Alan Peck any part of my estate which my Trustees may in their absolute discretion select and consider suitable for use as a private residence by the said Alan Peck and I DIRECT that all Capital Transfer Tax and Capital Gains Tax shall be discharged out of my residuary estate in exoneration of such property and of the said Alan Peck AND I FURTHER DIRECT that in event of my Trustees selecting a property other than that in which the said Alan Peck shall be residing at my death and if such property in which the said Alan Peck shall be residing in at my death shall form part of my estate such purchase or transfer shall be subject to the said Alan Peck relinquishing his occupation of such property of mine in which he may then be residing at my death
9. (a) I DEVISE AND BEQUEATH all the real and personal estate not hereby or by any Codicil hereto otherwise specifically disposed of and which I can dispose of by Will in any manner I think proper either or beneficially entitled thereto or under any general power unto my Trustees UPON TRUST that my Trustees shall sell the said real estate (including chattels real) and call in sell and convert into money such part of my personal estate as does not consist of money with power to postpone such sale and conversion for such a period as my Trustees without being liable to account may think proper and so that any reversionary interest be not sold until it falls into possession unless my

Trustees see special reason for sale AND I HEREBY DECLARE that my Trustees may in their absolute and uncontrolled discretion retain for so long as they think fit any part of my real and personal estate in its form of investment at the date of my death notwithstanding that it may be of leasehold tenure or may be of a perishable hazardous precarious or wearing out nature (b) My Trustees shall out of the money to arise from the sale and conversion of my said real and personal estate and out of my ready money pay my funeral and testamentary expenses and Capital Transfer Tax payable out of capital on my death and not charged on or primarily payable out of other property and my debts and shall also pay or provide for the legacies and annuities hereby or by any Codicil hereto bequeathed

(c) My Trustees shall hold the residue of the said moneys Upon Trust to pay or apply the same and the income thereof to or for the benefit of such charitable institution or institutions or such other charitable object or objects in England as my Trustees may in their absolute discretion at any time or from time to time think fit and if and if more than one (at any time) in such properties as my Trustees may think proper PROVIDED FURTHER that any such payment or application as above provided for shall be paid or applied for exclusively charitable purposes (including the general purposes of an exclusively charitable institution) AND I DECLARE that the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of any such charity shall be an effectual discharge to my Trustees in respect of any money or other property allocated under this bequest

(d) I DECLARE that it is my express wish but without creating any legal obligation or any trust whatsoever upon my Trustees or over any part of my residuary estate that subject to the devise contained in Clause 6 thereof and the directions to my Trustees contained in Clause 7 and 8 hereof of my freehold messuages lands tenements and hereditaments situate at Over Wyresdale and Caton in the County of Lancaster and known as Abbeystead Estate should be sold as one entire estate or sold as such number of separate estates as my Trustees shall decide with a view to keeping intact so far as practicable my said Abbeystead Estate and protecting the tenants thereof AND I FURTHER DECLARE to this end that my Trustees may sell the Abbeystead Estate or any part of parts thereof for such sum or sums as they shall consider appropriate and without being under any obligation to obtain the full market value thereof (and in particular may before any sale grant of tenancy or tenancies to any person or persons in occupation of premises at the date of my death at no rent or at a rent less than market rent) and that any taxation payable on my Estate or by my Trustees by reason of any such sale by way of undervalue or grant of tenancy as aforesaid shall be paid out of my residuary estate

10. THE power of appropriation conferred by the Administration of Estates Act 1925 shall be exercisable by my Trustees without any of the consents made requisite by that Act.
11. I DECLARE that any Executor of this my Will being a Solicitor or other person engaged in any profession or business may be so employed or act and shall be entitled to charge and be paid all professional and other charges for any business or act done by him or his firm in connection with my estate or the trusts hereof including acts which an Executor not being in any profession or business could have done personally

12. IN ADDITION to all the powers conferred upon them by the Settled Land Act 1925 the Law of Property Act 1925 and any additional powers which may be conferred on trustees for sale by any re-enactment of modifications of the said respective statutes for the time being in force or otherwise and notwithstanding the trust for sale hereinbefore contained my Trustees shall have and may exercise all or any of the powers following:

(a) over or in relation to all or any of the real leasehold or immovable property whether in England or elsewhere for the time being vested in them on the trusts of this my Will power to manage or superintend the management of such property (and to employ in such management on such terms and at such salary as they think fit the services of the said Frederick George Apedaile) with full power to fell timber or cut underwood from time to time in the usual course for sale or for repairs or otherwise and to erect pull down re-build and repair houses and other buildings and erections and to continue the working of mines minerals and quarries which have usually been worked and to drain or otherwise improve such property or any part thereof and to insure against loss by fire and to make allowances to and arrangements with tenants and others and to determine tenancies and to accept surrenders of leases and tenancies and generally to deal with such property

(b) power to carry on any business carried on by me at the date of my death (whether such business be carried on by me at such date either alone or in partnership) and either alone or in partnership with any person or persons who may be in partnership with me at my decease or may be subsequently admitted into partnership by my Trustees during such period as they shall think fit with power for that purpose to retain and employ therein the capital or my share of the capital which shall at my death be employed therein and to employ or concur in employing at such salary as they think fit any manager of the said business as if there were beneficially entitled thereto or to my share and interest therein and to delegate all or any of the powers vested in them in relation to the said business to any person or persons whom they may think fit

(c) power to retain unsold and continue for such period as my Trustees shall in their absolute discretion think desirable and find practicable my racing stables and breeding stud and all the business and animals and effects belonging thereto including as part of the business the purchase and sale and running of horses (whether such business be carried on by me at my death either alone or in partnership) and either alone or in partnership with any person or persons who may be in partnership with me at my decease or may be subsequently admitted into partnership by my Trustees

AND I DECLARE that every Trustee hereof shall be fully and effectually indemnified out of my estate and every part thereof in respect of my personal liability which he may incur in connection with the said business AND I FURTHER DECLARE that no Trustee hereof shall be liable to my estate or to any person claiming interest under this my Will for any loss which may be incurred in carrying on the said business

IN WITNESS whereof I have in this my Will contained in this and the preceding six sheets of paper set my hand the day and year first before written

SIGNED by the Testatrix THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOSEPHINE COUNTESS OF SEFTON as and for her last Will in the presence of us both present at the same time who at her request in her presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses:

*Josephine Sefton*

*Jane Herbertson*

*18 Kinnoul Road  
LONDON W6 8NQ  
Secretary*

*Hilary MacDougall,*

*85 Swan Court,  
London SW3  
Secretary*

### CODICILS

I, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOSEPHINE COUNTESS OF SEFTON of 80 Eaton Square in the City of Westminster Widow hereby DECLARE this to be a first Codicil to my Will which bears the date the eighteenth day of January One thousand nine hundred and seventy nine

1. I BEQUEATH free of all taxes and duty to each of my employees at Abbeystead and London who shall be in my service at my death and shall not then be under notice given by me or any such employee to quit my service such a sum as shall be equivalent to One hundred Pounds for each complete year of full time employment with me since the death of my late husband The Right Honourable Hugh William Osbert Seventh Earl of Sefton on the thirteenth day of April One thousand nine hundred and seventy two. I declare that such sum shall be in addition to any sums then owing to such employee for wages or otherwise and shall be in addition to any sum specifically bequeathed to such employee in my said Will
2. I DECLARE that in this Codicil and in my said Will references to persons in my employment shall include employees employed by the Executors and Trustees of my said late husband
3. IN all other respects I confirm my said Will

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand this Twentieth day of April One thousand nine hundred and seventy nine

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| <u>SIGNED</u> by the said <u>THE RIGHT HONOURABLE</u> | )                         |
| <u>JOSEPHINE COUNTESS OF SEFTON</u> as and for        | )                         |
| her First Codicil to her Will bearing date            | )                         |
| the Eighteenth day of January 1979 in the             | ) <i>Josephine Sefton</i> |
| presence of us both present at the same               | )                         |
| time who at her request in her presence               | )                         |
| and in the presence of each other have                | )                         |
| hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses:-          | )                         |

M.A. Pye  
2 Brookside Drive  
Dolphinholme Lanes  
Housewife

B.M. James  
29 Hanoover Court Beachley  
Wyebank View nr Chepstow Gwent Domestic

I THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOSEPHINE COUNTESS OF SEFTON of 80 Eaton Square in the City of Westminster Widow hereby DECLARE this to be a Second Codicil to my Will which bears date the Eighteenth day of January One thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine

1. I REVOKE the gift of my Gold and Diamond Earclips in the shape of flowers (by Cartier London) given to The Countess of Derby by Clause 3 (j) of my said Will
2. I REVOKE the gift of my Sable Coat given to Lady Benson by Clause 3 (l) of my said Will and confirm the bequest of the Gold self-winding Swiss Watch formerly belonging to Dorothy Lady Brownlow which the late Lord Brownlow gave to me after the death of the said Dorothy Lady Brownlow given to the said Lady Benson by Clause 3 (l) of my said Will
3. I GIVE free of taxes and duty my Sable Coat to Nancy Countess of Dunraven of Adare County Limerick Eire in addition to any gift in her favour contained in my said Will
4. I REVOKE the legacy of Fifty thousand pounds given to The Right Honourable Richard Aldred Earl of Scarborough by Clause 4 (a) of my said Will and in place thereof I give to him the sum of Seventy-five thousand pounds free of taxes and duty
5. I REVOKE the legacies of Five thousand pounds each given to my god-daughter Amanda Hall (now Amanda Heath) and her sister Georgina Hall by Clause 4 (f) of my said Will and in place thereof I give to them the sum of Five hundred pounds each free of taxes and duty
6. WHEREAS in my said Will on lines 2 and 3 of Sub-clause (d) of Clause 9 on Page 6 thereof there are written the words "subject to the devise contained in Clause 6 hereof" Now  
I DECLARE that Sub-clause (d) of Clause 9 of my said Will shall be read and construed as if the words "subject to the devises contained in Clause 6 and 7 hereof" had been written in the place of the words "subject to the devise contained in Clause 6 hereof"
7. IN all other respects I confirm my said Will as modified by my First Codicil to my said Will which said First Codicil bears date the Twentieth day of April One thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand this *twenty second* day of *January* One thousand nine hundred and eighty

SIGNED by the said THE RIGH HONOURABLE JOSEPHINE COUNTESS OF SEFTON as and for her Second Codicil to her Will bearing date the Eighteenth day of January 1979 in the

*Josephine Sefton*



presence of us both present at the same  
time who at her request in her presence  
and in the presence of each other have  
hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses:-

Olivia Donkin  
7 Rowley Cottages  
Cumnor - Oxford

Housewife

N. A. O'Neill  
50 Sussex Square  
London W.2. 2. SE

Nurse

#### Editor's Notes:

Text in this font has been inserted by hand into the typewritten document.

Illegible words are marked thus [?]

[1] Collet: A round band of metal encircling a gemstone to hold it in place

[2] Pave is a ring setting that features small diamonds along the band of the ring

[3] Kutchinsky's remains a fashionable London jewellers (2022)

[4] Doré: a gold or gold-like substance