



INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Our nationwide charity is the only one of its kind in Britain. We believe that there is nothing more precious than recording our loved one's life stories and listening to their voices and we want to make this possible. Our aim is to give people who are nearing the end of their lives, the opportunity to have their life stories professionally recorded on audio.

We have put together the most commonly asked Q and A's to tell you more about how we record life stories and what to expect on the day.

May I have my Life Story recorded on audio?

Yes! Any person in a care setting or end of life setting can take advantage of our Stories for Life recording service. It is free of charge. All we ask is that you complete, sign and return the Consent Form to the biographer to confirm your recording.

Who records my life story?

One of our Stories for Life Biographers who has been professionally trained to record life stories will organise the recording of your life story and precious memories. They will guide you through the process of recording your life story.

How do I prepare to tell my life story?

We want to put you at your ease and to help you enjoy every bit about the experience of telling your life story. With this in mind, one of our Biographers will contact you either in person or on the number that you provide to arrange a suitable date and time to set up your recording. During this call or meeting, the Biographer will ask you some questions about the stories you want to tell (and those you don't) and to ensure you feel comfortable about the process. They will ask you to complete a Consent Form and return it to them in order to confirm your recording.

What can I expect on the day of the recording?

- Your Stories for Life Biographer will already have phoned you or met you prior to your recording to prepare you for the telling of your life story. On the day, the Biographer will meet with you or phone you on the number you have provided, check you are settled and ready and will then connect our Audio Engineer to the call.
- The Audio Engineer ensures the audio quality of the call is clear and professional. Once this is checked, he then records the story.

- The Stories for Life Biographer, using a chronological approach and using the information you have already provided, will ask you to tell your life story using gentle prompts, if necessary, along the way.
- Once complete, our Audio Engineer transfers your life story via WeTransfer as a link to an email address of your choice. Once you click on the link you can download your story to your computer. The link is “live” on WeTransfer for seven days, thereafter it automatically deletes. For GDPR reasons, Stories for Life do not keep a copy of your recording. We strongly advise that as soon as you receive the link, you send it to at least one other email address to keep a copy safe. **We know the recordings are very precious.**

Do you make changes to what I’ve said in the recording?

No. We do not edit the recording in any way. It is your story as you told it to keep and share as you choose, for evermore.

Is everything I say during the recording confidential between me and the Stories for Life Biographer?

Yes, the Stories for Life Biographer will keep this information completely confidential. You only ever need to share your life story with those you wish. However, if you tell the Biographer something which leads them to believe you or others around you could be at risk, or it concerns the carrying out of a crime under the laws of England and Wales, the Biographer is bound by the safeguarding code of conduct to pass this on to their line manager in their care setting.

What happens if I accidentally delete or lose my life story?

We recommend that you pass a copy of your life story to a minimum of one other person for them to keep it safe for you or to loved ones who you want to benefit from being able to share your story for years to come.

What about data protection?

We do not keep any personal details on file. Stories for Life only keeps basic, anonymous details on the biographies recorded. It is useful for us to have basic data concerning our recordings, such as age, gender, ethnicity, and area you live in to report to our Board of Trustees and to grant and fundraisers. We also keep a note of the care settings we are working in. We only use this information to track how we’re performing as a charity and to report to our board of trustees and those companies that fund us through donations and grants.

We value your feedback

We would love to contact you after you have told your life story, to get your feedback about your experience and to discover how we might improve our service. To achieve this, we will be in touch after your story telling and ask you to fill in a questionnaire. Thank you for taking part!

CONTACTING US: Please don’t hesitate to contact us on hello@storiesforlife.co.uk