BLUE BOOK

S

Sam

Prepared 6 October 2026

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CHAPTER I

About You

Personal details, wishes, and the causes that matter most.



Samuel Hartley

Known as Sam

Born 12 April 1958 in Ashby Green

WISHES

FAREWELL

Something short and cheerful, then everyone to the Red Lion.

OTHER WISHES

Keep the Sunday lunches going, even if it's just soup. Maggie stays in the house for as long as she wants to; nobody is to talk her into moving. The allotment goes to Pat, who's had his eye on the rhubarb for years. Sort through the shed together, not in a rush, and keep the tools that are any good. And take Biscuit to the beach once a year for me.

CHARITIES

Hillside Dog Rescue
Where Biscuit came from

CHAPTER II

People and Pets

The people and pets who matter most.

PEOPLE



Maggie

Wife

Partner · Next of kin

Born 3 September 1960



Sarah

Daughter

Child



Tom

Son

Child



Alan Hartley

Brother

Two years younger, and three hundred miles away. Rings every Sunday after the football.



Doreen Clarke

Next door

Has a spare key and takes the bins out when we're away. Biscuit knows her.



Jack

Grandson



Lily

Granddaughter



Pat Okafor

Oldest friend

Knows where the fishing gear is.

RW

Ruth Webb

Solicitor

Hartley & Webb, Castle Street. She drew up the will and holds the original.

PETS



Biscuit

Dog · Border terrier

CHAPTER III

The Story

Moments worth remembering, and the keepsakes that hold them.

MEMORIES

Our first holiday in Cornwall

Summer 1983 · With Maggie



A borrowed tent, a leaking air bed and a week of rain. Maggie laughed the whole way through. Thank goodness one of us could.

Tom's first word was "train"

1989 · With Tom



Not Mum, not Dad. He shouted it at the level crossing and didn't stop for a week.

Biscuit meets the sea

October 2019 · With Jack, Biscuit



He barked at every wave, then refused to leave. We carried him back to the car, soaked and very pleased with himself.

Teaching Lily to ride a bike

Easter 2021 · With Lily, Sarah



Up and down the park path all afternoon. I let go without telling her, and she didn't notice until she reached the gate.

KEEPSAKES

01 Dad's pocket watch

For Tom

Kept: Top drawer of the bureau

Dad carried this every day on the railway for forty-one years. It still loses two minutes a week, and he never once had it fixed. He said it kept him humble.



02 The piano

For Sarah

Kept: Front room



We bought it second-hand in 1986 for two hundred pounds, and it took four of us to get it through the front door. Sarah learned on it, and now Lily plays it every Sunday after lunch.

03 Mum's recipe book

For Lily

Kept: Kitchen shelf, next to the radio



Her handwriting, her crossings-out, and a gravy stain on the Christmas cake page. Every birthday cake in this family has come out of this book.

CHAPTER IV

For Each Person

A page for each person — the messages, memories and keepsakes gathered for them.



FOR

Maggie

Wife

From Sam · 6 October 2026

MEMORIES

Our first holiday in Cornwall

Summer 1983



A borrowed tent, a leaking air bed and a week of rain. Maggie laughed the whole way through. Thank goodness one of us could.



FOR

Sarah

Daughter

From Sam · 6 October 2026

MESSAGES

9 August 2026
A private message for Sarah. Please make sure they get it.

MEMORIES

Teaching Lily to ride a bike

Easter 2021



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KEEPSAKES

02 The piano

Kept: Front room



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FOR

Tom

Son

From Sam · 6 October 2026

MESSAGES

14 March 2026

Watched you fix the gate today without once looking at the instructions. Took me forty years to learn that. Dad.

9 August 2026



Tom, thank you for all the Saturdays in the shed. You've got Grandad's patience and your mum's laugh, which is the best combination there is. See you Saturday. Dad.

MEMORIES

Tom's first word was "train"

1989



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KEEPSAKES

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FOR

Lily

Granddaughter

From Sam · 6 October 2026

MESSAGES

6 September 2026

Lily, you can do anything you set your mind to. You rode that bike all by yourself, remember? Love from Grandad.

MEMORIES

Teaching Lily to ride a bike

Easter 2021



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