

'Sadmin'

Published: January 18, 2026, 4:27 pm

It is a Bank Holiday in England today. I don't always respect them. The habits of 40 years of self-employment encourage such indifference. But today I might do little here because of other demands on my time.

Tomorrow I will be at the funeral of my late (and only) uncle, and will then be meeting the lawyer acting on the estate of another relative where I have been asked to act as executor because all those nominated in the will are either dead or too old to act. That requires me to spend time on what I might call 'sadmin' today.

Our demise is an inevitable part of life. It does, however, seem to leave a great deal to do. I might put my head above the parapet occasionally, and there is a video out this morning, but in the main my mind will be elsewhere today, and tomorrow. I do, however, have three requests.

First, if you have not got one, please write a will.

Second, make sure the executors agree to act and that at least one has a good actuarial chance of surviving you.

Third, ensure they have the right to employ a lawyer with funds provided by the estate.

You will save a lot of hassle for someone if you do.