

Light Up A Life

Would you like to sponsor a light on our Christmas Tree?

Our Light up a Life appeal can be an opportunity to remember loved ones who are no longer with us, to celebrate the gift of life as a new arrival enters a family or to celebrate the life of someone special that is over seas or faraway. Supporters also use the appeal to remember and celebrate the lives of their pets.

For every light sponsored a record is made in our Book of Lights and a card is sent, bearing the loved one's name, to the sponsor. If you would like to Light up a Life and celebrate the life of someone special please contact the Fundraising Team or complete and return the form below.

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS:

Title.....First Name

Surname.....

Address.....

.....Postcode

Telephone.....Email

I would like a light to shine in the name of: - (Only the name will appear in the book of lights)

and enclose my gift of £

I do not wish to Light up a Life but would like to support Katharine House Hospice and

enclose my gift of £

HOW TO PAY:

(Remember you can register your light and pay online. Go to our website for more details)

I enclose a cheque or postal order made payable to 'Katharine House Hospice'

I wish to pay by Credit card (please note we cannot accept debit card payments)

Please sign and enter card details below:

Signature.....Card expiry date.....

Card Number

The lights will be turned on at a service on Sunday 9th December at Katharine House Hospice. All welcome.

Reply Slip

Title.....First Name

Surname.....

Address.....

.....Postcode

Telephone.....Email

Make a Donation

I would like to help Katharine House Hospice enable patients and their families to live life to the full and enclose a donation of £

I would like to make a regular monthly donation. Please send me further information.

Cheques should be made payable to Katharine House Hospice

Gift Aid It

If you are a UK tax payer we can make your gift grow. For every £1 you give we get an extra 28p from the Inland Revenue. Simply tick the box and we will do the rest:

I am a UK tax payer. Please treat this donation as gift aid and all other donations that I've made for the last six years (prior to the date of this declaration) and any donations I make in the future.

To qualify for gift aid what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year. (Currently 28p in every £1 donated)

Date of Declaration:.....

Information Request

Please send me more information about

- Annual Ball, Saturday 6th October 2007
- Festive Fun, Tuesday 20th November 2007
- Vegas Night, Friday 23rd November 2007
- Light up a Life, Sunday 9th December 2007
- Santa Dash, Saturday 16th December 2007

- Becoming a hospice or shop volunteer
- Joining the Lottery
- Making a regular donation by standing order
- Leaving a gift in my will
- Forthcoming Support Group Events

Find a Katharine House Hospice shop near you

Stone – Retail Office (For general enquiries)

Andrea Holland
01785 814823

Please contact specific shops for location and opening times

Cannock

Manager: Linda Love & Sylvia Meads
01543 572973

Eccleshall

Manager: Sandra Wood
01785 850070

Hednesford

Manager: Pauline Keeling
01543 451423

Littleworth

Manager: Angela Whelan
01785 255906

Newport

Manager: Ellie Rowley
01952 814760

Penkridge

Manager: Carole Fairclough
01785 712754

Stafford

Manager: Angela Whelan
01785 225903

Stafford – Collectables

Manager: Lillian Hunt
01785 229500

Stone

Manager: Joan Lawton
01785 816907

Stone – Yesterdays

Manager: Annie Twemlow
01785 816423

Uttoxeter

Manager: Mary Larigo
01889 563454

katharine
house
hospice



embracing life and living

Newsletter

Autumn 2007

For friends and supporters of Katharine House Hospice

A Word from our Chief Executive



Welcome to the Autumn edition of Katharine House Hospice Newsletter. This issue will keep you up to date with everything that is happening in and around the Hospice. Quality of patient care as ever remains our top priority and this is reflected in the personal stories in this issue.

The need for the care we provide continues to grow in the community we serve and in the last twelve months the number of patients accessing the Lymphoedema service has increased by an astonishing 29%. The provision of care for non-cancer patients also continues to rise and has now exceeded 10% of patients.

The use of the Day Care unit has continued to rise as has the number of admissions to the In-Patient Unit. The continued increase in the usage of care services demonstrates the ongoing need for Hospice care in Stafford.

In the past year the cost of providing our care services has increased to £1.6 million whilst our statutory funding has dropped to just 12%, the need for the generosity of the community we serve continues to grow with our costs. So on behalf of our patients and their families thank you for your ongoing support which enables us to continue to care.

Richard

Dr Richard Soulsby
Chief Executive



Day care patient Linda says:

'If you get the chance give the Hospice a go!'

Read her story on page 4.

Supported by: Bentley Jennison

01952 290244. The Hospice relies heavily on donations from both members of the public and companies which is why this support is so important.

Katharine House Hospice would like to thank Bentley Jennison for their help and support by sponsoring this edition. For more information about Bentley Jennison log onto www.bentley-jennison.co.uk or telephone

An update from Voluntary Services

The Voluntary Services department is pleased to report that our new Voluntary Services Co-ordinator Bev Wheat has settled in well. Bev who joined the Hospice in April is now a familiar face around the Hospice.



'As we are all aware Katharine House couldn't function without its large and multi-talented volunteer work force and the department continues to be as busy as

ever – particularly when organising cover for the holiday period.

Once more drivers are very much in demand and Voluntary Services is appealing for suitable candidates to get in touch. The driver's role is a very rewarding one which offers, possibly, the most one to one contact with patients. Drivers are responsible for bringing patients to and from the Day Care Unit at the Hospice and also help with transport for Lymphoedema patients.

Driving is just one of a variety of diverse roles offered by the Hospice, ranging from patient care through to volunteering in one of the Hospice's eleven retail outlets. There is no minimum time commitment required and roles can be found to suit the skills and requirements of the individual volunteer.

Anyone who is interested in giving their time to Katharine House Hospice and finding themselves an interesting and rewarding role should contact me. I look forward to hearing from you!

Bev

Christmas is Coming...

As the Festive Season fast approaches check out these seasonal ways you can support Katharine House Hospice...



Christmas Cards

As always the retail team have a range of enchanting designs to choose from. Cards are available from the Hospice Shops or either reception. Cards are also available mail order by completing and returning the enclosed Christmas Card flyer.

Festive Fun

Following its successful launch last year the Ladies Luncheon committee will be hosting another afternoon of 'Festive Fun' on Tuesday 20th November at 2pm at the Moat House in Acton Trussell. Tickets are priced at £12.50 which includes professional demonstrations and light seasonal refreshments.

Snowball

Don't miss out on your opportunity to win some post-Christmas cash with the Katharine House Hospice Lottery Snowball. This annual draw takes place just before Christmas and the top prize of £2007 is paid out in the beginning of January. Tickets are priced at just £1 each and are available by calling the Lottery Office on 01785 270857.

Santa Dash

Do you want a fun event to get your friends, family and colleagues into the Christmas spirit? Then why not join us and take part in the sponsored 'Santa Dash' on Saturday 16th December at 10.00am. This 1 mile fun run will take place around the paved streets of Stafford town centre and by taking part you will help raise much needed funds for the Hospice. Don't worry about finding a costume though as all entrants receive a free Santa suit with their £10 registration fee to dash around the town in.

Tenth Anniversary Lottery Winner

The Lottery Team were pleased when a stalwart supporter won the 10th Anniversary Draw and pocketed the £2000 prize money. Lottery Manager Colin Martindale personally delivered the winning cheque to winner Gladys Rudd (pictured). Gladys who is a resident of Oliver Leese Court in Stafford was pleased by her stroke of luck and celebrated two fold as she also turned 90 the day after the cheque arrived.

Colin said: 'We are thrilled to bits that Gladys scooped the £2000 jackpot as she has been a loyal player for many years. It is an especially special win as she was also celebrating a big birthday herself!'



Since their inception in 1997 the Lottery Team have raised an astonishing £1.4 million towards Hospice funds, a valuable source of income for the Hospice. The team hope that they will be able to reach another milestone and sign up their 10,000th player in their tenth anniversary year.

The Katharine House Hospice Lottery has a weekly jackpot of £2000 in addition to 150 smaller prizes ranging from £5 to £125. It costs just £1 a week to play and with such excellent odds you'd be mad to miss it! For more information about the Katharine House Hospice Lottery please contact Colin and the Lottery Team.

Lilian and Martin's Story

Lilian Hunt is Manager of the Katharine House Hospice Collectables shop in Stafford and has worked for the Hospice since October 1998. Martin her husband of 22 years was diagnosed with prostate cancer in July 2005, he underwent a course of Radiotherapy and all seemed well.

In July 2006 Martin started to suffer with aching limbs - the prostate was clear but the cancer had spread and he started a chemotherapy programme. His condition worsened and he was admitted to hospital on 8th November 2006. Two months later on 8th January this year he was admitted to the Hospice as an in-patient. Lilian shares her story.

"It was such a relief to hear that Martin was coming to the Hospice. He was very happy to come and he was looking forward to it. Martin's time in hospital had been difficult as they kept trying different drugs and he kept getting conflicting advice - it felt like a constant battle.

Straight away it was such a different atmosphere – peaceful, relaxing and so tranquil.

I slept at home on the Monday night but then the nurses suggested that I used the relatives flat upstairs and stay at the Hospice. I liked the idea – but if I stayed I wanted to be with Martin. At first I hopped over the bar and got onto the bed with him, but because at the time there was an empty bed, the nurses wheeled it into Martin's room and I slept next to him. The nurses all said how peaceful we looked sleeping there together when they had come in to check on Martin at night.

Martin died at Katharine House at 3.50pm on Thursday 11 January. I was lying in bed with him stroking his face and holding his hand and I asked him to watch over me. It's very, very hard to explain but it couldn't have been a better death.

What surprised me more than anything else was that on leaving the Hospice that day I came out a different person. I felt a new strength within me especially as I realised that in my head I had planned Martin's funeral to the last detail.

The support from the staff had been so



Lilian and Martin on their Wedding Day.

personalised, and there was real support for the family too. Family and friends were made welcome at whatever time of day or night they arrived. The catering was fantastic and all geared towards Martin's individual tastes and wants, plus we had our own room and own space. The feel of the place was very cosy and intimate. In such a short space of time the Hospice made such an impact. I never expected to need the services here, but you just never know.

Getting back to work at the shop was a real help – where staff, volunteers and customers are a great support. Martin had been my 'silent volunteer' working and breathing Katharine House. I would do anything to get more money for the Hospice – I always have, but even more so now.

My friends and family collected £340 in memory of Martin and we wanted to put it towards something specific. When Catherine the Director of Nursing Services explained how the Hospice struggles to raise the money just to provide the care services let alone buy items of equipment I knew that we should spend it on patient care. The fact that we can sponsor a bed for a weekend and imagine exactly what our donation is doing makes it feel very worthwhile. We've decided to sponsor a bed on my birthday weekend – September 8th, as that's the last of the 'first anniversaries' left for me to get through since Martin went into hospital in November 2006. It seems a fitting tribute."

Sponsor A Service

An increasing number of supporters have been asking us to put their donations 'towards something specific'. This is particularly the case when a donation is made in memory of a loved one in the hope that recognition can be made of the person remembered. In light of this we have developed a scheme where supporters can Sponsor a Service.

When you Sponsor a Service you can make a donation that will deliver a specific aspect of care, and you can choose the day you would like to do this on, which could be a special anniversary or a birthday.

When you Sponsor a Service we will:

- Display a plaque recognizing your support. For example "On this day in-patient care is being provided thanks to the friends and family of [name]"
- Invite you and any friends or family to visit on that day and see the plaque
- Present you with your own copy of the plaque as a memento
- Send you a personalized pack outlining what your donation has made possible

There is a whole range of care services to sponsor including a bed on the in-patient unit for a day (£170), a Carers Group Session (£260), a whole day of day care (£800) or the entire in-patient unit for 24 hours (£1,700). To find out more please contact our Fundraising Team.

The Sponsor A Service scheme will be launched on 8th September by the family and friends of Martin Hunt when they sponsor an in-patient bed for the weekend in Martin's name.



Katharine House Hospice, Weston Road, Stafford, ST16 3SB • Registered Charity No. 1011712
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Annual Ball 2007

Don't forget to book your tickets for this year's Annual Ball which is taking place in the Ingestre Suite at the County Showground on Saturday 6th October. Tickets are priced at just £39.50 and include a whole evening of dining, dancing and live entertainment.



The glitzy occasion, which this year is being generously supported by Towergate MIA, is a celebration of the Hospice and its work in the community and is always well attended by a mix of volunteers, supporters and staff. This year's event looks set to be a huge success with fine food, music and dancing, entertainment and prizes.

For more information or to book your tickets please contact Charlotte Kay in the Fundraising Department.

Been Away?



If you have been away this summer don't forget that Katharine House Hospice can turn your unwanted foreign currency into pounds for the Hospice. Simply bring your spare currency into the Hospice or for more information contact Adele Williams in Fundraising.

Barclays Bank Staff in Garden Makeover

Brave bank staff swapped suits for shovels when they participated in a gardening project at the Hospice recently. The staff from Barclays Head Office Team for Local Business generously offered their time to give the grounds some tender loving care despite some appalling adverse weather conditions.

The team planted a large amount of new flowers and shrubs as well as erecting decorative trellis where required. They tidied up patios and borders and weeded paved and gravelled areas. They also intended to give garden furniture a new lease of life by stripping and re-oiling it but will return to complete it at a later date as the weather was so inclement.

We are delighted that the Barclays Head Office Team for Local Business has chosen to support us in this way. The improvements to the gardens will have a direct, positive effect on patients and their families.

Katharine House Hospice relies almost entirely on voluntary donations to continue to care for its patients and their families. As the Hospice receives

only 12% of the £1.6 million required annually to keep it going from statutory sources support from businesses and the corporate sector is gratefully received.

Nicki Cowie from the Barclays Local Business Team says; 'Over 26,000 Barclays staff are participating in fundraising and volunteering projects, this is a fantastic example of Barclays staff working closely with the local community to achieve something we hope will make a real and lasting difference.'



The Garden Makeover is not the only support received by the Hospice from Barclays Bank. Penkrige based Community Liaison Officer, Lindsay Wright and her team are very supportive of the Hospice on an

ongoing basis and regularly match funds raised at some of our events.

Katharine House Hospice is very grateful for the support offered by Barclays Bank and we look forward to working together in the future.

Are you a company who would like to help? If you would like to discuss the ways that your company could support the Hospice please contact Corporate Fundraiser Kelly Day in the Fundraising Department.

Rags to Riches

The Retail Team at Katharine House Hospice has spotted an opportunity to increase their turnover. The team are soon to be launching and opening a warehouse which aims to turn 'Rags to Riches' for the Hospice.

Clothing that is not quite suitable for sale or has been unsold for a long period of time are classed as 'rags.' The rags are sold to a merchant and then recycled overseas to developing countries. If Katharine House were able to increase the amount of rags we have to sell on then revenue would increase accordingly.

The Retail Team is in the process of securing a warehouse near to the tip on St Albans Road which will act as a central point for supporters to drop off their unwanted goods. From here the goods will be sorted and dispatched to the network of Hospice shops and any residue that is unsuitable for sale will be sold for rags.

The Team will be welcoming donations of any textiles in any condition. This will include all clothing and household fabrics such as bedding, curtains and shoes. The team wish to stress that they are appealing for donations of any

quality, not just the high quality textiles that people currently donate.

The Retail team will be opening the doors of their new warehouse on St Albans Road in November and hope to welcome supporters old and new to help turn 'Rags to Riches' for Katharine House Hospice.



Retail Collection Bags

The Retail Team has recently taken delivery of some brand new collection bags. The team relies heavily on the kind hearted nature of supporters who donate valuable stock for resale and the new bags are designed to make the process of donating pre-loved goods even easier.

The new bags can be picked up from the counters of any of the Katharine House Hospice shops and from Main Reception at the Hospice itself, they are also being given to customers. The content of a full bag can be worth up to £30 to the Hospice.

Once filled simply take your bag along to any of the Hospice Shops where it will be sorted, priced up and sold. For more information about the new bags or to request that one be sent out to you please contact the Retail Team on **01785 814823** or email retail@khospice.org.uk

Business Advisers

Bentley Jennison

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Care Team Achieve Nutrition Benchmark

Katharine House Hospice Care team is pleased to announce that it has achieved a nationally recognised benchmark in Nutrition. Patients, care staff, catering staff and volunteers all took part in the exercise.

To attain the benchmark staff needed to identify where they were and where they wanted to be as regards to meeting patients nutritional requirements. As a result of the answers to these questions the team were able to identify areas for improvement.

Patients are now assessed for their nutritional needs on arrival at the Hospice and all information regarding their needs and requirements is passed to the cooks who are able to ensure that this advice is acted upon. Specialist diets, religious and cultural needs are also taken into account when preparing meals.

A new range of patient information leaflets have also been produced based on the findings of the care team. The team are now in the process of working towards the 'Privacy and Dignity' benchmark.



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Grand Draw

Don't forget to grab your chance to win a fantastic Tour of Italy and enter the Grand Draw 2007. Second prize is a fabulous 32in flatscreen tv and third prize is a pamper day at Eden Health Spar. Tickets are priced at just £1 each and are available from the Fundraising Team at the Hospice. The draw will take place on 31st October so don't delay.



Celebration Gifts

More and more supporters are choosing to have their special days and occasions marked by a collection for the Hospice rather than accepting presents. This growing trend has seen a range of people supporting the Hospice in this way from auspicious birthdays to weddings, anniversaries and retirements.

The Hospice can provide you with personalised envelopes which feature information about your celebration and also a gift aid declaration for your friends and family to complete. (Don't forget a valid gift aid declaration gives the Hospice an extra 28p in the pound courtesy of the taxman!)

If you are interested in supporting the Hospice with your special celebration please contact Adele Williams in the Fundraising Department who can help you make the most of your support.

Carp-in-4-Cancer

Retired School Teacher Dorothy Allin was diagnosed with Burkitt Lymphoma in November 2005. Burkitt Lymphoma is a rare type of cancer that tends to affect children. Fortunately the cancer was detected relatively early and Dorothy was successfully treated and sent home with the all clear.

Life carried on as normal until one night Dorothy fell and broke her leg in the bathroom following a dizzy spell in the middle of the night. A trip to the hospital to have it attended to confirmed the worst possible cause of her faintness.

Dorothy's cancer had sadly returned and this time there was no hope of a cure. In fact the cancer was so advanced that she was referred immediately to Katharine House Hospice and after a short wait for a bed to become available settled in.

Dorothy's son Paul is full of praise for the Hospice and the level of care that his Mother received. In his own words Paul described the Hospice as 'fantastic' and reported that his Mother wanted for nothing whilst she was with us. Paul heaped praise on the staff for their gentle understanding and when the time came began to think of a way he could raise funds in her memory.

A keen fisherman, Paul soon came up with a highly unusual way to support Katharine House Hospice. He organised a fishing competition. 'Carp-in-4-Cancer' was an instant success within the fishing community and on Friday 15th June 66 committed anglers turned up to show their support at Edgbaston Reservoir.



Paul pictured far right with his team of willing helpers.

Over the course of the weekend the determined anglers battled it out for the titles of 'Greatest Weight of Carp Caught', 'Biggest Fish Prize' and a 'Casting Competition'. Competition was fierce as many top quality prizes were up for grabs courtesy of a range of generous sponsors and supporters of the event.

At the end of a very wet weekend Catherine Howlett, Director of Nursing Services was able to attend the prize giving and pass the Hospice's heartfelt thanks on to all who had helped to make the event a great success. In total the Allin family and their army of helpers had raised a fantastic £3,000 for the Hospice.

The Hospice is very grateful to the Allin family for all the hard work, planning and effort they have put into organising the event. The funds raised will enable us to continue to care for future patients like Dorothy.

Mike Mahendra Patel

Mahendra Patel, known to his friends as Mike Patel, worked at ALSTOM or GEC as it was known then after arriving in the county town in 1968. He then moved onto Areva where he fulfilled the roles of Tending Manager and later Bid Manager. Mike was also a keen cricketer and was a member of the GEC's team in the 70's.



As one of the first Asian families in Stafford Mike took it upon himself to provide support in the community. He was one of the founder members of the Indian Association in Stafford, which sought to provide education, advice and support to Indian families living in the Borough. It's aims were also to promote Indian culture.

Mike was just 56 when he was diagnosed with a cancer that was thought to be treatable however despite surgery and a course of chemotherapy the cancer spread to Mike's bones and the best treatment available was palliative care.

Mike was referred to Katharine House Hospice for the specialist care we provide. Initially his stay was planned for two weeks, in which time the care team would bring Mike's symptoms under control and provide him with effective pain relief. As it happened Mike stayed at Katharine House Hospice until the end of his life two weeks later.

During his stay Mike was moved to a different room because an incoming male patient required the use of a hoist located there. Mike told his family and friends that when he left the hospice he intended to raise the money to buy and install a hoist in the bay he had just vacated.

Sadly after seeing all his closest family and friends including those who flew all the way from America, Fiji Islands, United Arab Emirates and India, Mike passed away peacefully and in little pain. His family were determined to realise his wishes and started fundraising in earnest to buy the hoist in Mike's memory. In total £3,500 was raised. The hoist was fitted in June and the family are thrilled with the results.

Mike's daughter Kavita said: 'The family are pleased that we have been able to support the Hospice in this way and our support will continue. It enables us to express our gratitude for Dad's care. We would also like to thank everyone who has supported us in this project.'

All care services are provided free of charge but not without cost. The Hospice has to generate £1.6 million annually to continue to care, only 12% of our running costs come from statutory sources and the rest we must raise ourselves. The contribution from families of patients towards these costs is especially welcome as it enables the Hospice to continue to care for future patients and their families.



Friday 23rd November
7.30pm for 8pm

Ingestre Suite,
Staffordshire County Showground

£35.00 per person
including bucks fizz reception three
course meal.

Live performances from
Frank Sinatra
Elvis Presley
Vegas Showgirls
Fun Money Casino



Give a box a home!

Ever thought what a relief it would be to have a handy hiding place for all the spare change that mounts up at home, in your pockets or the bottom of you bag? Well look no further we have the perfect solution.

Home collecting boxes are a neat, tidy and efficient way to keep your home and pockets jingle free whilst raising funds for you local Hospice. To get your very own self assembly cardboard home collecting box please contact Adele Williams in Fundraising.