

## The Prince of Wales Hospice celebrates double victory at the Wakefield Business Awards

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# Jan and her family's story

Jan Powers, her husband and her sister all enjoyed the benefits of our Wellbeing Services, after they had found out how many different sessions we offer for the community.



"I'd seen the leaflet for the Coffee and Chat Drop-in at Pontefract Hospital." - Jan told us - "I persuaded my husband, Brendon to call by as I thought it might be useful for him. I've been going through chemotherapy for the last three years and have spent a lot of time at hospital appointments. It seemed like

somewhere he could pass his time while I was at an appointment."

"He attended the Coffee and Chat Drop-in and came home with all sorts of information about the groups and the full hospice services. The range that is on offer is brilliant and they work well around my existing appointments."

Jan herself attended a range of group sessions including complementary therapy, breathing and chair exercise groups.

Jan's sister, Pam has also tried other classes and has also accessed our Bereavement Service. "I suffered a bereavement during lockdown and it wasn't until I saw the Bereavement Service here that I thought it may be useful. It is 12 sessions and even after the first one I knew it would be helpful."

Jan added "It isn't just what's on offer in these groups but it's the support from the team as well as the social aspect, too. We feel we could call Jo at any time and she would make the time for us even if it was just for a chat. It's been great meeting new people too especially those in similar situations."



Find out more about our wellbeing activities on [www.pwh.org.uk/support](http://www.pwh.org.uk/support)

# Wakefield & District Bereavement Support provided by The Prince of Wales Hospice extends

**Our Hospice received further funding to provide emotional support for bereaved people in the Wakefield District for another year.**

This community service is commissioned to help any bereaved adults living in the Wakefield District and support them to find ways of coping and living with grief following the death of their loved ones. The service is available for people registered with a Wakefield District GP. It includes listening or counselling sessions, and it can be through the phone or face to face. People can refer themselves, or ask a health or social care professional to make a referral.

A patient, who has used the bereavement support said: “They are understanding and a good thing to have someone on the end of the phone when you need them. They have been invaluable to me.”

For the last three years, our Hospice has been providing this service in the Wakefield District and supported around 150 people each year. With the extra funding, we not only extended the support service for another year, but also could employ a highly professional bereavement expert who

could take on more complex cases and reach out to more people in the community.



Fay Olliffe, Bereavement Lead at the Hospice said: “Grief can be one of the hardest things people ever experience. The emotions they feel can be overwhelming at times. For some people, talking to a bereavement professional is often a good way to start feeling better. We are so glad that we can help a lot of people in their difficult times. “

People can find more information on [www.pwh.org.uk/bereavement](http://www.pwh.org.uk/bereavement) or refer by emailing [bereavement.pwh@nhs.net](mailto:bereavement.pwh@nhs.net) or by phone 01977 781452.

# **The Prince of Wales Hospice celebrates double victory at the Wakefield Business Awards**

**Our Hospice had outstanding success at this year's Wakefield Business Awards. We won not just one but two prestigious categories and claimed the titles of 'Charity of the Year' and 'Independent Retail or Hospitality Business of the Year.' Our nomination showcased our commitment to excellence and dedication to making a positive impact on the local community. The awards, organised by We Are Wakefield, recognised businesses and organisations for their exceptional contributions to the Wakefield business community.**

Claire Sutherley, Managing Director of We Are Wakefield said: "It is with great pleasure and excitement that I extend

my warmest congratulations to the Hospice on their double success at the Wakefield Business Awards! This is truly a massive achievement, and one that speaks volumes about the exceptional quality of their entry. The standards this year were extraordinarily high, and all categories were closely contested, making their success all the more impressive. Their hard work and commitment have truly set a standard for excellence in Wakefield's business community."

Our Hospice remains committed to the mission of providing exceptional care and support to those in need, and these awards serve as a testament to our dedication and impact within the Wakefield community.



# We're busting volunteering myths

**Volunteers are so important at our Hospice and we couldn't do what we do without them. We know it can be daunting to make that first step and get involved so we're here to help and bust some common myths:**



**Myth: "Volunteering is too time-consuming."**

**Fact:** Volunteering at our Hospice can be as flexible as you need it to be. Just let us know how much time you want to give and we can adapt your role to your schedule. You could sell raffle tickets at a one off fundraising event, or you could volunteer for a set amount of hours

every week in one of our shops, or our catering team, for example.

**Myth: "Volunteering is only for certain people with certain skills."**

**Fact:** We try and match people's skills and experiences with the task at hand. Some people like being front and center at an event, chatting with lots of different people, whereas others prefer being behind the scenes. We have volunteer roles to accommodate everyone.

**Myth: "I'm nervous about volunteering alone."**

**Fact:** All our staff and volunteers are incredibly friendly and welcoming. By the end of the day, you won't be volunteering alone, as you'll get to know all these people and make new friends. You could start by volunteering little but often, so you only have to push yourself out of your comfort zone for a few hours at a time, but in a few weeks it will end up becoming second nature.

Still unsure if volunteering is for you? Why not give us a call on 01977 708868 we'd be happy to have a chat and to see how we can help you get started.



**You can find more information on our website  
[www.pwh.org.uk/vacancies](http://www.pwh.org.uk/vacancies)**



# Fundraising highlights: incredible community support

As always, our community has overwhelmed us with their tremendous support. We want to say thank you to everyone who attended events and helped raise the vital funds for our Hospice. Here are some highlights:



## The Old Grocers

Thank you to The Old Grocers in Pontefract for their recent donation of £2,000! At each of their Wednesday quiz nights, they host a 'Hospice Question', entered by donation, and is a tradition that has been going on for an incredible 24 years!



## Co-op membership fund

Thanks to our supporters, we've raised a total of £3,406.45 through the Co-op Local Community Fund in the past year! You can support our Hospice every time you shop – all you have to do is become a member, select The Prince of Wales Hospice (Five Towns Hospice Fund) as your local cause, and scan or swipe your membership card the next time you shop at the Co-op.



## Chep

Thank you to CHEP, who raised a total of £521.62 for our Hospice at their charity football match. The match was held in fond memory of their friend and work colleague Steve Jarratt. Also, thank you to Pontefract Colliers FC for hosting the event at their grounds.



## Dog show cheque presentation

Thank you to everyone involved in organising the Dog Show in September; the event raised an incredible £854.74 for our Hospice!

# Ackworth Pram Fest cheque presentation

We're blown away by the incredible success of this year's Ackworth PramFest, which raised an astonishing £19,480 for our Hospice. This beloved event has become a yearly tradition, and you smashed last year's fundraising record this summer.

Thank you to the hardworking organisers who poured their time and passion into making PramFest 2023 such an enormous achievement. Events like this remind us how generous and dedicated our community is.

The funds raised will help us continue providing specialised palliative care to patients, and crucial support for their families when they need it most.

This donation can cover the cost of running a patient room for six weeks. PramFest is more than just a fun-filled day - it truly makes a difference for our Hospice.



## Make your free Will online

We have partnered with Bequeathed so you can get good legal advice and make a good basic Will that is suitable for your needs.

Solicitors at Bequeathed help thousands of charity supporters make their Will online each year.

And if you choose to leave a gift to The Prince of Wales Hospice, or any

charity, it will be a Will

For Good too.

Peace of mind  
We offer you free Will writing service

[www.pwh.org.uk/makeawill](https://www.pwh.org.uk/makeawill)

Professionally drafted with our partner: **bequeathed** make your Will For Good

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# We've reached a sustainable milestone



**We are delighted we have reached a major milestone in our ongoing commitment to become a sustainable organisation. With the aim of reducing our carbon footprint and taking on renewable energy sources, we have invested in the installation of 136 solar panels on the rooves of the Hospice building.**

In addition to its environmental advantages, the solar panel installation is expected to give significant financial benefits. The estimated payback period for this project is less than three years, showcasing the financial justification of this investment and it is projected to save us an estimated £20,000 per year in energy costs, which can be reallocated towards enhancing much-needed patient care.

Samantha Calvert, Director of Finance at The Prince of Wales Hospice: “The solar panels have been strategically placed to maximize energy capture. They have already begun to produce good results. We are excited about the positive impact it will have on the environment, our operational costs, and our ability to continue providing exceptional care to those in need.”

We would like to thank Craig Poskitt of JCP Energy Solutions for the introduction to Tom Mckay from Topling Energy who generously gave his time and knowledge to determine the feasibility of the installation and guided us through the process, and finally to Oakes Energy for the installation and minimising disruption to the Hospice.



# Our Strategy for 2023-26: Embed-Engage-Extend

After a really difficult few years for the health and care sector, the Hospice is stronger and busier than ever. We ended the previous strategy period and the 2022/23 financial year with a financial surplus, having increased patient numbers and launched a new Wellbeing Service. We created a collaborative and agile culture and began building an infrastructure and workforce that could operationalise agile decision-making and ways of working.

But we can't stop there. We know there are more people in the local community that could benefit from our specialist palliative and end of life care skills and knowledge.

And so we will build on these strong foundations over the next three years to enable everyone in our community to live well and die well, knowing their loved ones are supported. After all, it is what all of us would want for ourselves and our families.

## 1. Embed

We will embed both the new ways of working and new services we developed over the course of the previous 3-year strategy.

## 2. Engage

To do this we will engage the local community, our partners and our workforce so that we can continue to move forward together.

## 3. Extend

So that we extend our expert loving care for everyone to benefit from.



Find out more about our strategy on [www.pwh.org.uk/about](http://www.pwh.org.uk/about)

# Hospice makes wedding dream come true for terminally-ill patient

**Our Wellbeing Team has gone above and beyond to help a terminally-ill patient and his partner get married.**

When our Wellbeing Team heard that Dave Trundley wanted to wed his partner of 10 years, Alex, they got planning and managed to arrange a ceremony at their Featherstone home in just a few of days.

Our charity shops provided wedding outfits for the couple and the hospice team also organised the registrar, cake, flowers and alcohol-free fizz to ensure the couple's special day would be an unforgettable and happy occasion.

Jo Dunford, our Wellbeing Lead said: "We're so glad we could

be part of the couple's special day. Our mission is to create meaningful moments for patients and their families so we knew we had to help Dave and Alex. After the community nurse contacted us, we got in touch with the palliative care team, the registrar and others who could help to make this wedding happen. It was a team effort which

resulted in a fantastic outcome."

The couple exchanged their vows only a few days before Dave's 77th birthday, surrounded by a small group of close friends and family.

Reflecting on the day, Alex shared: "It was such a special day for us, one that we'll remember".



# Corporate support: We Are Wakefield help us get ready for Light Up a Life

In December despite gloomy and wet weather, community spirits were high as members from We Are Wakefield volunteered at our Hospice to help us get ready for our Light Up a Life service.



Representatives from 12 local businesses came together to support our Hospice and gave their all to make

sure our gardens were ready to welcome the community for a time of reflection and reconnection. These included leaf clearing, marquee building, sign writing and lighting the garden.

Representatives from businesses included JS Recruitment, Solupak, Ridley & Hall Solicitors, Blossom Training & Development, Mint HR, Crest Commercial Finance, The Wellness Mentor, Hickory's Smokehouse, Thornton Jones Solicitors, Pink Dragonfly Consulting, and Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

Thank you to We Are Wakefield and all the businesses who came to support us.

By supporting us, businesses can build their Corporate and Social Responsibility. If you know any business that could support our award winning charity, please email to [fundraising@pwh.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@pwh.org.uk) or call 01977 781477.

## Elevate Your Corporate Wellness with the 2024 Pontefract 10K Corporate Challenge!

Register your team of three in the Pontefract 10K Corporate Challenge.

All registration fee goes towards providing hospice care.



# How to celebrate this Mother's Day



**We asked Adrian Greenwood, our Fundraising Manager what event we offer to people for treating their loved ones on this special day:**

*"We understand the importance of celebrating mothers, and what better way to do it than with our Mother's Day Afternoon Tea experience. You can create everlasting memories with your family by joining us at this event. It will be held from 12pm on Sunday 10 March 2024".*

**"What can we expect at this event?"**

*"You can spend special time with your loved ones by treating them to a lovely afternoon tea, featuring selection of sandwiches, home-made scone with*

*jam and clotted cream, assorted mini cakes, tea and coffee. To add a personal touch, we offer an optional craft activity where you can paint your own mug or photo frame. Our photographer will capture those precious moments for you and provide a FREE digital photograph, ensuring the memories last a lifetime."*

**"How can people register?"**

*"Simply book online by visiting [www.pwh.org.uk/events](http://www.pwh.org.uk/events). If you have any enquiries please contact our Fundraising Team at [events@pwh.org.uk](mailto:events@pwh.org.uk) or by calling 01977 781477". Venue to be confirmed.*



**If you prefer celebrating at home with your loved ones, you can order our Afternoon Tea Box from our catering team. Visit [www.pwh.org.uk/catering](http://www.pwh.org.uk/catering)**



# Save the date!

Feeling sporty? Looking for a family event? Or want a challenge? Fantastic experience guaranteed and you'll raise money to support our vital work. Here is our events diary for 2024.

Sunday 10 March	Mother's Day Afternoon tea
Sunday 19 May	Pontefract 10k
Sunday 26 May	Spring Fair
Friday 7 June	Corporate Golf Day
Sunday 16 June	Father's Day Beer Tasting
Saturday 20 July	Cyclothon & Family Fun Day



For more information visit [www.pwh.org.uk/events](http://www.pwh.org.uk/events), or contact the fundraising team on **01977 708868**.



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# Our garden transformation: Paving the way for enhanced patient experience

With the commitment of enhancing the wellbeing of patients and their families, we are thrilled to announce the completion of phase one of its ambitious garden redevelopment project. Almost three years ago, our trustees signed off on a project to embark on a mission to transform the garden space outside patient rooms into a beautiful and tranquil haven.

The garden redevelopment initiative was born out of a mission to provide holistic care and respond to the growing need for accessible and peaceful outdoor spaces for patients and their families. Recognising the therapeutic benefits of nature, we have taken a thoughtful approach to create an environment that promotes healing and tranquillity.

What this garden transformation gives to patients and families:

- Patient patios of each room
- Shared areas for communal experiences and emotional support
- Improved accessibility for those with mobility challenges.

We received sufficient funding from a number of foundations and organisations including Next, Harworth Estates, Morrisons Foundation, PLR Trust, The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust and Garfield Weston Foundation at the beginning of 2023 and were able to complete phase one of the project this autumn.

We will now begin moving forward with the eagerly anticipate second phase of this transformative project, which will ultimately result in a garden space that will create a nurturing and supportive environment for patients and their families. If you would like more information on this project, you can call the Hospice on 01977 708868.



# Festive fundraising makes a significant impact on patient care



**During this festive season, our incredible supporters played a vital role in enhancing patient care through their generous contributions.**

**Light up a Life:** Our event gave an opportunity for families and friends to remember those no longer with us. Our two services of remembrance took place once again. Despite adverse weather conditions leading to the cancellation of one service, the appeal remarkably raised £20,000.

**Christmas appeal:** In the spirit of giving, our Christmas appeal received heart-warming support from kind people who aimed to provide a caring Christmas for patients and their families, especially those spending their last Christmas together. The appeal achieved an impressive fundraising result of almost £9,000 so far.

**Reindeer Run:** In the festive spirit, thousands of little reindeers—school

participants in our Reindeer Run—dashed, danced, and pranced to support Santa in raising funds for the Hospice. A total of 38 schools joined the cause and so far we have received £22,000 from 18 schools.

**Christmas tree collection:** As the festivities continued into January, our Christmas tree collection initiative, executed with the dedicated help of volunteers, saw the collection of 640 trees. This effort resulted in an additional £7,500 raised for the Hospice.

**New Years Raffle:** The New Year's Raffle brought joy to lucky winners who collectively received an amazing £5,000 in prizes. We extend our gratitude to everyone who participated, so far we have raised around £8,000.

Thank you to all of our supporters for helping us to give our patients and their families the best care possible.

# Charity shop make over

**Our charity shops got a stunning makeover for a nicer, greener and more affordable shopping experience.**

Our charity shops in Pontefract and South Elmsall have undergone a remarkable transformation, unveiling a new, vibrant look that is sure to make sustainable and affordable shopping more attractive to the community.



Kevin Hogarth, Retail Manager at The Prince of Wales Hospice said: “This refurbishment journey was driven by community feedback. The Pontefract store, which has been serving its community for the past seven years, needed a more inviting and well-organised space. We have reused over £10,000 worth of shop fitting equipment, generously donated by an upmarket clothing store.”

“The South Elmsall store, which had not seen a refurbishment in over a decade,

now is looking better than ever, giving a more pleasant and comfortable experience. Here, we have also used high-quality, donated shop fittings and display. Additionally, a grant from Wakefield Council was secured to enhance the shop's front appearance, making it more appealing to customers.”

“After reopening, customers have been incredibly positive praising the new designs, improved lighting, and customer-friendly layouts. This incredible upgrade brings a fresh and vibrant shopping experience for customers while supporting the Hospice’s mission to provide specialist care for people with life-limiting illness and their families.”

