

**NOVEMBER** 2019

PoW-WoW

Staff and Volunteer Newsletter

## Go Yellow for Hospice Care!

Thank you to everyone who took part in Go Yellow for Hospice Care, as part of Hospice Care Week. We loved seeing so many of you join in and get creative with the theme! We appreciate all the effort made to promote Hospice care.

The winners for best dressed, were Martin Ward and Doncaster shop. Well done to you all, we hope you enjoyed your chocolates!

Here are some of the photos from the day....

Carly Parkes, Marketing and **Communications Assistant** 



Winners - Doncaster shop







## Staff and Volunteers Awards Evening

Our annual staff and volunteers awards evening will take place on Wednesday 29th January 2020. You will be receiving your invites for this shortly.

As always, we will be recognising the long service of our colleagues who have worked for and supported the Hospice over a long period of time. Also, like last year there will be a number of other awards which we are inviting you to vote for.

Voting will open on Monday 11th November and will close on Friday 20th December. You are able to vote for the following awards:

- · Team of the year
- Employee of the year
- Volunteer of the year
- · Someone who has gone above and beyond

There will also be a further award of shop of the year presented on the night.

- · Nomination forms and the voting box can be found in the staff dining room.
- · Nomination forms have
- · Please complete a nomination form for each of the awards and post it into the voting box or envelope if
- All votes must indicate who has made the nomination and you cannot nominate yourself.
- · Remember, voting closes on 20th December.

Please get involved!

Lindsay Hamer, **Head of HR** 

#### also been sent out to each shop with an envelope to return all votes in.

- you work in a shop.

## Staff survey feedback and action plan been able to pull together a

A big thank you to everyone who came along to hear the staff survey results during October. Once again we've had fantastic results and it was great to be able to share such good news with everyone.

There are some areas we can continue to improve and the groups considered these during each of the feedback sessions. As a result we have

staff survey action plan which went to the SMT and our Resources Sub-Committee in October. Together we will start to work through the actions with the view to continuously improving. We will provide regular updates on how we are progressing through the

Lindsay Hamer, Head of HR

## **Update from**

Well October was another busy meeting! Our discussions included:

- An update on our new roster/HR system which we are currently in the process of implementing (we hope to roll this out early in the new year).
- · Our performance against our income generation targets.
- The business case putting forward the possibility of us opening up a new children and baby shop in Pontefract. Chris and Natasha have been working really hard to pull everything together for this proposal.
- An update on our recent round of Trustee recruitment (we are hoping to introduce our new trustees shortly).
- The Hospice's financial position in terms of our management accounts.
- Our statutory accounts for 2018/19 have been audited and presented to the Resources Sub-Committee in October.
- Our strategic risks and our quarterly complaints and incidents.

In addition, we signed off 10 non-clinical policies. Look out for these being issued shortly.

We also discussed the staff survey feedback sessions and our draft action plan and your suggestions received through the suggestion box. Updates about these are included in this edition of Pow Wow.

If you have any questions about any of the above or you would like to feed anything up to be discussed at a future SMT meeting please let a member of the SMT know.

SMT: David, Amanda, Sam, Sharon, Jo, **Hazel and Lindsay** 



# Christmas tree collections

Christmas is almost upon us which means our Christmas tree campaign is too! We will be opening tree registrations with thanks to the support of Just Helping on Friday 15th November.

To register your real Christmas tree for collection please head over to www.pwh.org.uk/christmas. Registration will close at 5pm on Monday 6th January. We will be collecting Christmas trees from Thursday 9th to Sunday 12th January with thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

If you know someone who could spare some time in helping collect Christmas trees over this period then I would love to speak to them. We are urgently seeking volunteers and vans for support on our collection days of Saturday and Sunday.

Last year we collected 261 trees raising £3,000, this year we have opened up collections to even more postcodes and aim to collect a record 500 trees! With an average donation of £15 per tree we hope to raise £7,500 which can run our Hospice for a whole day.

We will be collecting from WF6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and LS25 5. It's thanks to S & D Landscapes in Nostell who kindly chip all of our trees free of charge which make this appeal possible.

Please do get in touch with me if you feel you may know someone who can help with this amazing appeal. Please contact me on 01977 781487 or via email at rtaylor@pwh.org.uk.

**Becki Taylor, Community Fundraising Officer** 



# Updated policies & documents

The following documents have been updated and approved in recent times:

- · Health and safety policy
- Risk assessment template
- Risk management policy
- · Privacy policy
- Working with display screen equipment policy
- Display screen computer equipment user selfassessment
- Fire safety policy
- Data protection impact assessment policy
- Data protection impact assessment form

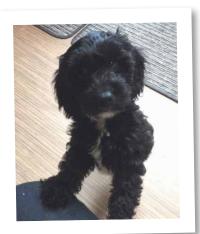
They can be found within the usual locations, including the policies and guidelines folder on the shared drive and the document management server. Please familiarise yourself with the policies and documents if it is appropriate to assist you in your work.

Thanks as always for your continued help and cooperation.

#### Martin Ward, IT Manager

Meet the gorgeous Ella! sent in by Tracey Mearns, Partnership Development Coordinator. Tracey told us; "As I celebrated my 50th birthday earlier this year, my partner lan finally agreed to let me have a dog, so we welcomed Ella, our now 11 week old Cockapoo on the 11th October."

"She is adorable but also very cheeky and is already getting into lots of mischief. We can't wait to start taking her on walks to burn off some of her energy! She's been the best birthday present ever."



Pets corner
We want to meet your pets!

Take a snap and send it in!

## **Suggestions box**

We've had more suggestions via our suggestion box in the staff dining room which we want to share with you.

One request has been for us to look at having more recycling facilities in the Hospice. The most sensible place to enhance recycling is in the staff dining room. We will look to do this as part of the kitchen renovations early in the new year.

Another request is around whether the staff dining room could be reconfigured to allow more seating, or whether the Haven could be used instead. It is recognised that staff dining space can sometimes be stretched, particularly at certain times. Amanda is looking at the new kitchen/staff dining plans in order to try to increase capacity.

We had previously received a suggestion about stocking Coke instead of Pepsi in our vending machines. We have looked into this, particularly at any offers which might be available however we have found Coke to be 33p more expensive per can than Pepsi. If we are to keep prices competitive then unfortunately it wouldn't be cost effective for us to stock Coke at the present time.

A reminder that the suggestion box is there for anyone to use whether you are an employee or volunteer, so please let us have other suggestions too. If you can't get to the Hospice to put your suggestion in the box then please feel free to send it over to me and I'll put it in there for you.

Lindsay Hamer, Head of HR

# Badsworth Outreach - a poem written by one of our patients

In a picturesque village stands a green shed where a regular weekly meeting is taking place there's plenty of people who regularly attend all have a big friendly smile on their face.

No-one has ever been turned away from the door new comers are welcomed upon their arrival the twist is the reasons for this get together they all have something which effects their survival.

Everyone who attends are all in the same boat all have an illness which effects their life all are carrying on as though nothing is wrong those there are all someones husband or wife.

This select company is slightly different to your regular coffee morning type soiree there's nothing to pay for a coffee and a cake and the entrance to this club it's all free.

There are plenty of tasks we're all able to do play dominoes some sewing and have a friendly chat so i've made up my mind to return there again and possibly continue to keep coming back.

The leaders of the group who have organised it all are the most considerate compassionate and kind they would never make any nasty comments about you but they do keep you constantly on their mind.

## 30th birthday parties!

We are all having a great time celebrating our 30th birthday this year, and it has been fantastic to see so many of you getting involved. I am thrilled to update you all with how well the birthday packs are going. So far they have raised an incredible £9,317 and not only that, The Barbara Taylor Trust has very kindly pledged to match fund the donations (up to a total of £5,000) totalling our 30th birthday packs to an incredible £14,317.

Thank you to our very own shops who have pull out all the stops to help raise money in celebration of our 30 year milestone. Our

Hemsworth shop organised a fun day which included a cake sale, a raffle, a tombola and name the dog. They raised a wonderful total of £190.00! The Doncaster shop crocheted handmade flowers which raised £30.00. Our Castleford clothes shop held a tombola and cake sale which raised £135.10 and our South Elmsall shop organised a Soul and Motown event in South Kirkby which raised a whopping £1.445.

I know how hard all of the shops have worked organising these events and I would like to say a huge thank you again to them for their incredible enthusiasm and continued fundraising efforts.

Would you like to continue the celebrations with us? There is still time to get involved with your friends and family. If you would like a birthday pack then get in touch with me on 01977 781487 or via email at rtaylor@pwh.org.uk.

Thank you all for making our 30th year a continued success.

Becki Taylor, Community Fundraising Officer

## Junction 32 firework display

This November, we will be helping light up the skies with a spectacular firework display to mark the launch of Christmas at Junction 32. As their Charity of the year, the Hospice will be there with games, toffee apples and lots of Christmas goodies!

Join us on Thursday 14th of November from 5:30pm for a fun-filled evening for the whole family, with fireworks starting at 7pm.

Not only will their firework event be setting Christmas off with a bang, but we will also be hosting surprise giveaways, and our stores will be offering exclusive discounts for the whole day, for that extra added sparkle!

There will also be live performances from Wakefield Gospel Choir & The Salvation Army band.

Jessica Poole, Corporate Fundraising Assistant



#### Last information evening for the Thailand trip. 4th November 6pm in the Haven.



## Hell fire walk and disco

You're invited to walk on fire with one of our corporate supporters, Millennium Support.

Sunday 3rd November, 6pm, at Featherstone Rovers Stadium.

The walk is £30 entry (cash only), disco and spectating is free.

Email info@mcare.info to sign up for the walk (available for anyone 14+ but a consent form must be signed by a parent or guardian for anyone below 18, before the event has taken place).

Limited spaces available!





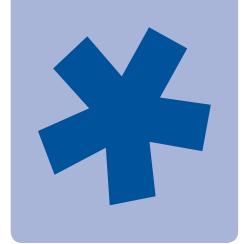
## **Starters**

#### **Angie Short**

Supervisor
Castleford Furniture shop
28/10/2019

#### Laura Deacon

Consultant 28/10/2019



## Make your mental health a priority

Remember Anne and Susanne are available for confidential chats in the workplace. Their contact details are:

Anne 01977 781488 agiblin@pwh.org.uk

Susanne 01977 781461 syoung@pwh.org.uk



## **Getting to know you**

This month we caught up with Bereavement Counsellor, Kathryn Atherton.



Question: What do you enjoy the most about working at the Hospice?

**Answer:** There are many aspects to my work that I appreciate. Central is seeing people begin to cope with their grief after life changing bereavements. It gives my work meaning, all of which is possible and bearable through being part of a team where we have learnt to share and laugh together.

Question: Describe yourself in three words.

Answer: Calm, creative and challenging.

Question: Do you have any pets?

**Answer:** Max, an adopted blue point ragdoll cat, previously featured in PoW WoW. He's seven now and was recently spotted on the roof of our extension having climbed through an open window.

Question: What is your favourite song?

**Answer:** Songs change for me but right now it's Perfect Day by Lou Reed as I've had a perfect weekend with one of my sons and his wife.

Question: If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?

**Answer:** I think it would have to be Brazil, as my daughter in law is from Soa Paulo and I've never been.

Question: Tell us something not many people know about you.

**Answer:** I'm quite an open book once you get to know me. I'm not sure if people here realise I'm from Lancashire though. I have lived most of my adult life in Yorkshire, West and North.

## Staff & volunteer Christmas lunch menu

#### Main course

Turkey crown, cranberry sauce and stuffing ball served with:

Roast potatoes, brussel sprouts, julienne carrots, roasted parsnips and pigs in blankets.

### **Vegetarian option**

Nut roast with all the trimmings

#### **Dessert**

Christmas pudding & custard (v)

or

Homemade white chocolate cheesecake "suprise" with milk chocolate swirls (v)

**Price £8.50** 

#### **Sittings**

Monday 16th December 12.30pm & 2pm

Tuesday 17th December 12.30pm & 2pm

Book on reception from mid November. Places are limited to 24 per sitting.

## Festive Florals & Winter Fayre

50
things for 50
ex

by Michelle Grainger

ex

ch

Tuesday 26th November 6.30pm – 9pm

Pontefract Town Hall

Live floral demonstrations, gift stalls & more.

### Tickets £5

From Michelle's Flowers and Hospice reception.
Under 16s go free with a paying adult.

In aid of



Michelle's Flowers, 76 Baghill Lane, Pontefract, WF8 2HB 01977 798300

michellesflowersltd.co.uk

Don't forget to make sure everyone in your team gets a chance to read PoW WoW.

And be sure to let us know your ideas for articles - or you could even write one! Send any ideas or articles by email to cparkes@pwh.org.uk or internal post for the attention of Carly Parkes.

The deadline for the December issue is **Friday 22nd November.** 

This year's Santa Dash will return on Sunday 1st December, and will see hundreds of festive figures dashing around Pontefract town centre spreading Christmas sparkle and cheer!

