

Giving to life

St Teresa's Hospice News

Winter 2018



A TRIBUTE TO YVONNE ROWE

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St Teresa's
Hospice
Giving to life

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Welcome to the Winter Edition of the Hospice Newsletter



Jane Bradshaw, Chief Executive

After a more-often-than-not glorious summer, which I hope you all enjoyed, we are now well underway with our preparations for the Christmas fundraising season. As I write my usual message, Christmas is 13 weeks away and as ever will be a very special time of the year, and a very busy time for our fundraisers. I am delighted that our Christmas Cracker Concert will take place on Saturday 22nd December, at the Dolphin Centre, Darlington once again.

Remembering loved ones - The Hospice team always acknowledges that, although a time of celebration for many, Christmas is also when many people miss someone dear to them. Our Christmas Tree of Memories will be organised by the Hospice's excellent

Family Support Team, where help and support is provided to recently bereaved relatives and friends in memory of our patients. Our Giving to Life Tree will again sparkle in the Cornmill Centre, and here members of the public from near and far can leave a special message. Additionally, through our Light up a Life campaign, many more people have the opportunity to make a tribute gift in memory of a loved one, and to participate in a tree lighting service just before Christmas. Afterwards, the trees are on display in the Hospice for the remainder of the festive season.

A final word about Christmas - Thanks to our partnership with the Rotary Club of Darlington, we are once again offering a recycling service to come and collect your Christmas trees for a donation in aid of the Hospice. There is just nothing to beat the lovely scent of a real Christmas tree in your home and, thanks to this scheme, you don't have the hassle of what to do with it when the holidays are over! More details on page 4.

Farewell to a Special Lady

In September it was our privilege to care for our founder, Yvonne Rowe, in her last days.

In an account of the early events, following her letter to the paper to ask if people thought there should be a Hospice in Darlington, she describes how, urged on by a group of friends, she wrote to our three local papers (1985), and goes on to say "The response was amazing, letters of encouragement coming from far and wide, some to me and some to the press, an elderly lady even sent a few stamps - 'to start you off' she said".

You can just see Yvonne telling this story and taking so much joy out of the response and kindness of others. Yvonne and her family have remained very active supporters of the Hospice during its development over 33 years, and it has been my honour to know her for the last 22. There are few people who I have met in the course of my work and life who have impressed me more - Yvonne was intelligent, sincere and loving and was prepared to bring the need for better care to the public's attention, which resulted in everything our Hospice provides today.

Please read our tribute to Yvonne on page 2 - she will be such a big miss and everyone at the Hospice wishes her family well.

My warmest thanks go to everyone who has supported us this year, in whatever way and I send very best wishes from all at St Teresa's Hospice.

Jane Bradshaw, Chief Executive



Alan and Yvonne Rowe



Spread The News

Finished with your copy of the Winter 2018 Newsletter? Pass it on! You'll be doing your bit to raise awareness of the Hospice, and being environmentally-friendly at the same time!

To receive a regular copy of the St Teresa's Hospice Newsletter, sign up to become a Friend of the Hospice. For a donation of just £30 a year you will receive copies of the newsletter with a personalised cover letter. Contact us on 01325 254321 or email us at enquiries@darlingtonhospice.org.uk for further information.

One Wish Hospice Lottery

One Wish is the North East Hospices Lottery, in aid of St Teresa's Hospice and three other hospices in the region. Thousands of pounds are given away every week. To join visit www.onewish.net





Yvonne lends a hand during the Hospice's annual Flag Day bed push collection

A tribute to Yvonne Rowe

On September 12th 2018, Yvonne Rowe, a dignified and humble charity worker who sparked the Darlington & District Hospice Movement, was nursed to a peaceful end by the Hospice she helped found.

Staff at St Teresa's Hospice, as we're now commonly known, said they'd had the privilege of caring for Yvonne in her final moments, their fitting tribute to the 'amazing example of people power' whose letter to the editor prompted a revolution in end of life care.

In 1985 Yvonne nursed her best friend Mary Hester through the rigours of cancer when she first heard about the hospice movement, a service which cares for people with life-limiting illnesses, keeping them happy and free from pain.

She wrote to The Northern Echo, Darlington and Stockton Times and Evening Despatch saying: "When chatting to a group of friends, we all thought how marvellous it would be to have a hospice in Darlington."

The letter led to a public meeting, a campaign and the formation of the Darlington & District Hospice Movement charity, which at first provided home care via a team of volunteers.

Later a donation by the town's Carmelite Convent nuns resulted in the Hospice's first building, attracting a message of support from Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Today the Hospice offers the people of

Darlington, South Durham and North Yorkshire day, inpatient and community services and leads the country in the care of patients, our Rapid Response Team having recently become one of the first to be included as a 999/111 emergency service, which Yvonne herself was able to use.

Hospice Chief Executive Jane Bradshaw said: "Yvonne was so humble, so unassuming, yet with that one letter to the editor sparked something which has helped thousands of patients and their families for more than three decades.

"She is such an amazing example of people power and even in her final days had the strength and will to help promote the hospice in a television interview. She was so practical; she would fund raise through arts and crafts and introduced me to so many people as she promoted St Teresa's.

"She was knitting toys in her last week and I have a collection of the Santas which she completed every Christmas - including many in different colours, one in Lurex, and another like Dennis the Menace. Only a couple of weeks ago, Yvonne gave me the one she had knitted for this year, a Santa holding up a newspaper with 'World Cup 2018' on it."

Yvonne was given the Hospice's highest honour in 2000 by being made an honorary life member. Her name will become a permanent feature of the Hospice's new memory tree, which honours patients with a dedicated leaf on a beautiful wall sculpture.

Jane said: "Yvonne really loved that tree as she thought it was such a respectful way to commemorate people. Our thoughts are with her husband Alan who has supported her in all of her ventures. Anything we asked of Yvonne, Alan was always there too."

Hospice Chairman Harry Byrne said: "Yvonne was the catalyst for the development of the hospice movement in Darlington, South Durham and North Yorkshire. Despite that she remained one of the most modest and dignified people you would ever hope to meet."

Head of Care at St Teresa's Hospice Alison Marshall said: "Yvonne was always full of praise for the care she received and thanked us for everything we did, even though we were only there because of what she had done. She was always there for the Hospice and when her health was affected it was a privilege to be there for her."

Hospice President Alasdair MacConachie added: "A modest and in so many ways ordinary person Yvonne achieved extraordinary things. Her enthusiasm and relentless support leaves this area with a lasting legacy in the form of one of the best hospices in the country, with an incredible staff who help countless patients and their families at their most vulnerable times. We owe Yvonne such a lot and it is so nice that we were able to look after her in a final gesture of thanks for the amazing things she did for us."

Directory of Services launch

We are proud to announce that in August we became the first hospice in the region to have a 24/7 service be added to the NHS Directory of Services (DoS) enabling local 999 and 111 calls to be referred to our Rapid Response Team.

Calls to 111 will be triaged by call-handlers and clinicians, with patient information used to establish if the Rapid Response Team would be the most appropriate service for the patient.

Head of Care at St Teresa's Hospice Alison Marshall said: "Under the current system palliative care patients in Darlington dialling 999 or 111 would often have an ambulance dispatched and be inappropriately admitted to hospital, when what they may actually need is a visit from our Rapid Response Team.

"This may be because they are distressed during the night and need reassurance or emotional support. Some may require pain relief or may have become disorientated, while others may just need help to and from the bathroom. These are all things that our Rapid Response Team is there to assist with, within an hour of receiving a call.

"The new DoS service will ensure that palliative care patients in Darlington will receive appropriate care in a timely manner, from basic support to complex symptom management, and we will also hopefully see a significant reduction in inappropriate admissions to hospital."

St Teresa's Hospice Rapid Response Team can be contacted directly on 07720947430.



Brave mum Helen Thomas, pictured with daughter Annabelle

A lasting legacy

Helen Thomas, a devoted young mum who bravely battled a terminal illness, has left a lasting legacy to St Teresa's Hospice in the form of a video made shortly before she lost her fight with cancer in July 2016.

Helen approached the Hospice to suggest making a video to tell her own story, in her own words, while also offering to help show people the real side of hospice care.

Chief Executive of St Teresa's Hospice Jane Bradshaw said: "It was a great privilege to work with Helen, who I knew before her illness due to her support for our cause, and we are all tremendously grateful to her for sharing her story."

Before her death, former solicitor Helen was a staunch supporter of the appeal to raise funds to complete our new 10-bed

inpatient unit, and one of the first people to be shown around the facility before it officially opened in November 2016.

Speaking on camera Helen said: "It was like a five star hotel, it didn't feel like walking into a hospice at all. The rooms were ideal, functional, but at the same time very very elaborate in terms of décor. I was so impressed."

Helen's former colleagues at Latimer Hinks Solicitors, the 'Hel's Angels' team, raised in excess of £20,000 to help equip and support the new unit. This has paid for a room, named in honour of Helen (read more about their efforts on page 6). "I would like to thank Helen's colleagues for their ongoing support and also to her family for allowing us to show the video to the public," added Jane.

"The video captures Helen's reactions as a new patient. Helen's lovely personality shines through and the video will help raise both awareness and funds, so that many more people can benefit from the breadth of expert care provided at St Teresa's Hospice." Helen's Story can be viewed at darlingtonhospice.org.uk

Supporters rally to the cause

The appeal for the Darlington Community Rapid Response Team is now over halfway to its target of £30,000!

St Teresa's Hospice Chief Executive Jane Bradshaw said: "As an independent charity we rely on donations and the

support of our communities to provide all of our services free of charge.

"We receive some funding towards our work, including the Rapid Response Team, but we must negotiate for this and it cannot always be guaranteed.

Our pioneering Rapid Response service is part-commissioned by the Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS) which provides funding for 50% of this facility. Unfortunately, a separate charitable grant to the Hospice ceased

to be available from April this year.

"There was no immediate risk to the Rapid Response Team, or patients currently accessing the service, and plans to raise the £30,000 needed to cover the shortfall are currently in place via our funding appeal."

To date St Teresa's has received £17,250 in one-off donations from just 211 donors. Anyone wishing to support the appeal can give online at darlingtonhospice.org.uk

Festive Fundraising



Hospice Christmas Cards On sale now!

We stock a range of greetings cards, 11 different styles in total, along with gift wrap. At just £3.25 for a pack of 10 you can pick up a bargain now at any of our shops or from the Hospice reception.



Christmas Cracker Concert Saturday 22nd December Dolphin Centre, Darlington

An evening of festive fun, entertainment and audience sing-a-longs with all your favourite carols! Don't miss the fabulous hamper raffle and our Christmas Jumper Prize Giveaway!



Giving to Life Tree November until Christmas Eve Cornmill Centre, Darlington

Visit our tree to leave a Christmas greeting, a message to loved ones, or remember someone you have lost.



Darlington Santa Run Sunday 2nd December

West Park Academy, Darlington

Join in Darlington's favourite festive fun run! Routes for all ages and abilities, free Santa suit or hat PLUS a unique medal on completion.



Christmas Tree Collection Service Saturday 5th January 2019 Darlington & Newton Aycliffe

Enjoy your real Christmas tree, and we will collect it for a donation in aid of your local Hospice, saving the mess in your car!

Are you planning some festive fundraising of your own?

We're here to offer help and advice and we can promote your effort.

Contact the Income Generation Team on 01325 254321 or events@darlingtonhospice.org.uk



Light up a Life Sunday 16th December Dolphin Centre, Darlington

Remember a loved one and support your local Hospice. A Dedication Service and Lighting Ceremony will take place at 3pm.



For more information visit darlingtonhospice.org.uk and to sign up for events!



A grand find, Restaurateur Mohammed Miah with the piano he will be shipping out to his new hotel in Bangalore in India from St Ts Superstore in Darlington

A grand purchase

Our charity superstore proved to be the key to successful shopping when a local businessman discovered the perfect buy in a baby grand piano.

Restaurateur Mohammed Miah had been scouring the country for a baby grand which will take pride of place in the lobby of his new hotel currently being built in India. The proprietor of Akbar The Great Indian Restaurant, in Bondgate, Darlington, snapped up the bargain which had been donated to the St Teresa's Hospice Superstore on McMullen Road.

Built originally by Challen for Selfridges, London, piano makers since 1804, the baby grand still carries the 'By Royal Appointment' mark but is in need of a full refurbishment.

Instruments in full working order can cost as much as £10,000 and Mr Miah plans to spend around £1,000 having it restored to full working order in India.

Eventually it will be painted white and be played in the lobby by a professional pianist in his new five star hotel which is under construction in Bangalore.

He said: "I am looking for another three and was delighted to find this one in St T's Superstore. I had been looking all over and ended up finding this one on my doorstep.

"The St T's Superstore is brilliant. The

staff are so friendly and helpful and the proceeds go to continue the work of the Hospice which is such a great cause. I like to do as much as I can for charity. We are only here once so we have to help each other."

St T's Retail Manager Marjorie McIntyre said: "Mohammed is a great supporter of the Hospice and we were thrilled that he was so pleased with his purchase.

"The baby grand is a lovely piece of furniture and we were delighted to receive it, but it needs a lot of work before it can be played as an instrument. It is such a lovely thought that it will bring pleasure to people for many years to come in the new hotel in Bangalore."

DID YOU KNOW?

Our professional Logistics Team carry out a bespoke house clearance service. We offer a full clearance service and even part-clearances. We will totally clear properties for a nominal charge, and all proceeds will go to the Hospice to directly benefit our patients.

- We offer FREE house clearance assessments
- We will work to your specific requirements
- We take all items
- Sensitive material will be dealt with professionally
- We provide excellent customer care using our trained team

Contact us on 01325 488701 to arrange your free house clearance assessment.

OUR SHOPS



St T's Superstore

Unit A, McMullen Road, Darlington, DL1 1XY (01325) 488701

St T's Charity Shop

8 Skinnergate, Darlington, DL3 7NJ (01325) 240040

St T's, Cockerton

305 Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 9AA (01325) 288423

St T's Interiors, Mowden

90 Fulthorpe Avenue, Darlington, DL3 9XT (01325) 382755

St T's, Shildon

67 Church Street, DL4 1DT (01388) 775445

St T's, Leyburn

21-22 Market Place, Leyburn, DL8 5AS (01969) 624865 (01969) 623600

St T's Home Shop, Richmond

7 Victoria Road, Richmond, DL10 4DN (01748) 825833

St T's, Thirsk

89 Market Place, Thirsk, YO7 1ET (01845) 523897

St T's Online

www.stores.ebay.co.uk/St-Terasas-Hospice-Shop

Please donate unwanted goods

We are constantly in need of good clothing, books and bric-a-brac for our shops. Also, we gratefully accept items of furniture and electrical goods. We can arrange to collect or items can be taken to our Logistics Centre. Please call 01325 488701

Latimer Hinks supports St Teresa's with £20,000 donation

Latimer Hinks Solicitors, a leading North East law firm, made a considerable donation to the Hospice in memory of former colleague Helen Thomas, who sadly passed away in 2016 (you can read more about Helen's story on page 3).

The Darlington-based company contributed £20,000 to our inpatient unit. The Legal 500 and Chambers UK firm organised various fundraising events throughout 2017 to support local charities, which included St Teresa's Hospice in honour of Helen.

As part of those events, Latimer Hinks marked its 125th anniversary with a Charity Ball which raised over £36,000 from auctions, raffles and ticket sales. Of that, £15,000 was donated to the Hospice.

A further contribution of £5,000 was raised by Hel's Angels, a team of colleagues who came together to raise money in Helen's memory. The group participated in various fundraising events, including the Hamsterley Forest 10k, St Teresa's Hospice Knockout Challenge and Bark in the Park.

One of the inpatient rooms has been named 'The Helen Jane Thomas Room supported



The 'Hel's Angels' from Latimer Hinks join Head of Care Alison Marshall and Chief Executive Jane Bradshaw in the room they helped fund

by Latimer Hinks Solicitors' as a lasting tribute to Helen, and the team from Latimer Hinks unveiled the plaque at the Hospice earlier this year.

Anne Elliott, Chief Executive at Latimer Hinks, said: "It means a lot to us to be supporting a charity which is so close to the hearts of our team and the local community. Helen was a highly-valued member of Latimer Hinks, and is greatly missed, so to have a room dedicated to Helen is a fitting tribute."

Director, Natalie Palmer, who led the fundraising drive said "We would like to say thank you to everyone who has donated and fundraised in honour of Helen and all of the other local causes we have supported over the years. St Teresa's Hospice was a

great support to Helen during her illness, and supporting the new inpatient unit was something very close to her heart."

Chief Executive of St Teresa's Hospice Jane Bradshaw said: "We are extremely grateful to the team at Latimer Hinks for the enthusiastic support they have given to St Teresa's Hospice over the years. The recent donations towards our inpatient unit and Rapid Response service will make a real difference to the lives of so many people across South Durham and North Yorkshire.

It is such a fitting tribute to name a room in the inpatient unit in memory of Helen. Her colleagues have honoured her dedication to the charity by fundraising this last year, and they should all feel proud of what they have achieved."



Pupils and staff at Reid Street Primary School celebrate after raising nearly £3,000 for the Hospice



Sainsbury's customers choose St Teresa's Hospice as Local Charity of the Year

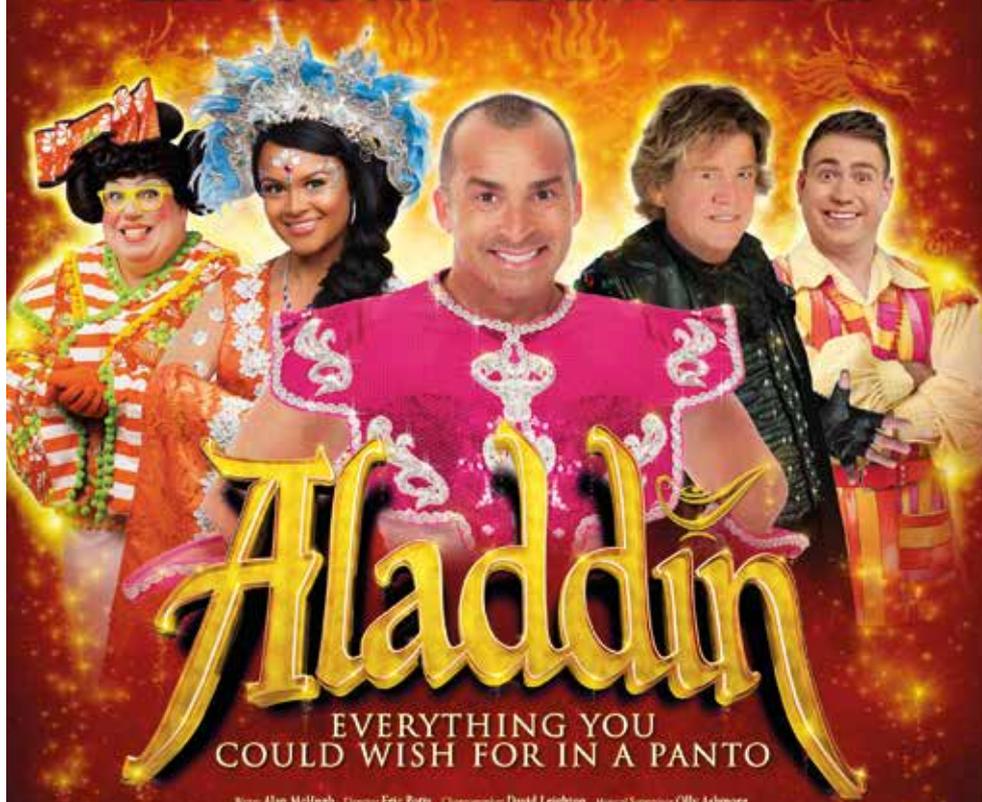


Staff from the Croft Hotel visited in August to receive their adoption certificate

We're immensely grateful to all the businesses and organisations that have chosen to adopt St Teresa's Hospice as their favourite charity because they believe passionately in helping terminally ill people and their families in our communities. They include:

- | | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1st Stop Party Shop | Darlington Building Society | Headlam Hall Hotel, Spa and Golf | Nationwide Building Society | Sirius Minerals |
| Anthony Jones Properties | Darlington Football Club Supporters Trust | Heighington C E Primary School | Otter & Fish | Technocopy Ltd |
| Asda Stores | Darlington Funeral Service | Heritage Healthcare | Outsourced HR Ltd | Teesside Karting Ltd |
| Barclays Bank | Darlington Hippodrome | Hurworth Concert Band | Planet Leisure | The Brinkburn |
| Best Western Walworth Castle Hotel | Darlington Operatic Society | John Meynell Funeral Service | Premier Inn | The Croft Hotel |
| Centre for Process and Innovation, Darlington (CPI) | Darlington Rugby Football Club | Latimer Hinks Solicitors | Purple Creative Studios | The George Hotel |
| Clark Willis Solicitors | Darlington Woodland Bowling Club | Lloyds Bank | Quakers Running Club | The Old Yard Tapas Bar |
| Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd | Durtona Euro Design Ltd | Longfield Academy Of Sport | Queen Street Shopping Centre | The Quakerhouse |
| Close Thornton Solicitors | Enterprise Rent a Car | Lookers Volkswagen Darlington | Royal Bank of Scotland | Thyssenkrupp Access Ltd. |
| Cornmill Shopping Centre | Fone Cabin | Model T | RPMI Ltd | Whitehouse Funeral Service Ltd |
| Cummins Ltd | Halfax Plc | Morrisons Morton Park | Sainsbury's Superstore Victoria Road | |
| Darlington 21st Allstars JFC | Hays Travel Cockerton | Morrissey Hair Design | Savills Darlington | This list is up to date at the time of going to press! |
| | | MT Print | Sherwoods (Darlington) Ltd | |

LOUIE SPENCE
ZOE BIRKETT ROBIN ASKWITH
ERIC POTTS LIAM MELLOR



EVERYTHING YOU
 COULD WISH FOR IN A PANTO

Wrote Alan McHugh Director Eric Potts Choreographer David Leighton Musical Supervisor Oby Ashmore
 Lighting Designer Ben Cracknell Visual Special Effects The Twists FX

You have three wishes - make one of them a magical carpet-ride.

Saturday 8 December to
 Sunday 6 January

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IN AID OF ST TERESA'S HOSPICE

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Halloween Run
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 South Park, Darlington

Santa Run
 2 December
 West Park, Darlington

St Patrick's Day Run
 17 March 2019

Missed the Summer Fun Run?
 Contact us to find out how you can
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Register at darlingtonhospice.org.uk

