



Your Hearts and Minds **NHS**

Make a Difference

Charity newsletter issue no 1



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Registered charity no: 1055641



Jenny Baynham
Fundraising Manager

Welcome to the very first edition of our dedicated charity newsletter, 'Your Hearts and Minds Charity Make a Difference.'

This newsletter is more than just updates, it's a space where we share stories, celebrate impact, and keep you connected to the heart of what we do.

In this edition, you'll find highlights of our recent work, inspiring stories from the people and communities we support, and ways you can continue to make a difference. Whether you've been with us from the start or are just getting to know us, your support means everything.

Thank you for being part of something meaningful. Together, we're making a real difference in our local communities.

Why we need your support

Your Hearts and Minds is the charity for Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust, supporting people in Rotherham, Doncaster and North Lincolnshire. Every pound raised funds care, projects, education and research beyond standard NHS care, improving comfort and support for patients and families. Our current funding priorities

Supporting end of life care

We aim to support our staff to deliver the best possible end of life care and support, from diagnosis through to bereavement, not only for the patient, but support for their loved ones within our inpatient settings and the wider community.

**Sustaining Compassion:
The Impact of St John's Hospice Support**

£680,000+
Contributed Annually

Total yearly funding provided to cover the running costs of St John's Hospice.

Compassionate Family Support

Dedicated assistance for patients and their families during life's most difficult times.

Over three decades of providing specialist palliative care and community support.

Hospice staff

TARGET
£250,000

THERAPY POOL APPEAL



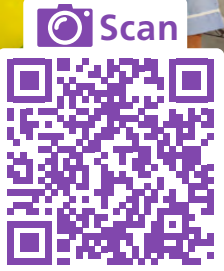
Transforming our Therapy Pool

We're raising **£250,000** to replace the therapy pool at the Diamond Therapeutic and Activity Centre, which supports adults with learning disabilities, physical or neurological conditions, communication disorders, and complex health needs. Our current fundraising total is **£91,242**.

The new, fully accessible pool will:

- Serve more clients at one time
- Enhance sensory and therapeutic benefits
- Improve comfort and accessibility
- Open up hydrotherapy to the wider community.

Please give us your support and donate today.



Diamond Activity and Therapeutic Services [JustGiving](#)

Please support our Therapy Pool Appeal

Latest news round up

Amanda Smashes the London Marathon.

A Rossington runner has raised £1,764 for St John's Hospice after completing this year's London Marathon in just 4 hours and 20 minutes.

Amanda Smith, 47, a Fraud Prevention Lead at the NHS Counter Fraud Authority, joined more than 59,000 runners in the world-famous 26.2-mile race on Sunday, 26 April. She ran in memory of family friend Lynn Hissey, who received end-of-life care in our hospice in 2020.

Amanda said: "I wanted to raise funds as a way of saying thank you for the wonderful care Lynn received. She took up running at 60 and completed a 10k, so this felt like a fitting way to remember her."

Although Amanda had previously completed marathons in 2014 and 2017, this year's challenge carried a deeper significance. Not only was it her first London Marathon, but simply taking part marked a major personal victory.

Amanda lives with Lupus, and a severe flare-up, combined with major surgery in 2023, left her unable to walk or work for two months. Her return to the start line was a testament to resilience, determination, and hope.

She added: "I didn't run for over a year, and when I did return, I had to start from scratch. This was an emotional run for me personally, but when I learned how much the hospice needs to raise through charity fundraising each year, it felt right to take on the challenge and help."

Fundraising Manager Jenny Baynham said: "We are so grateful to Amanda, and we couldn't be prouder of her incredible achievement. On behalf of everyone at the hospice, we want to offer a huge thank you and our warmest congratulations."



Amanda Smith is proudly pictured with her London Marathon finisher's medal.

Latest news round up

Cuppas, coffee and cakes help boost our fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who has baked, volunteered at, or supported our Care for a Cuppa charity events over the past few months

Whether you've helped raise funds for end-of-life care or contributed to our Therapy Pool Appeal, your kindness and generosity are making a real difference to the people and families we support every day. From homemade cakes and freshly brewed coffee to friendly conversations and community spirit, every cuppa shared has helped bring us closer to our fundraising goals.

We're incredibly grateful for your continued support, thank you for being part of something so special.



Every slice of cake, every cuppa poured, and every moment spent volunteering adds up to something truly meaningful.

We'd also like to give a special shout-out to our friends at the People Focused Group (pictured). On Friday 20 March, they went above and beyond with their incredible bakes and fantastic stalls, all in support of our Therapy Pool Appeal. Their generosity and community spirit shone through, and we're so grateful for everything they did.

Thank you to the Bailey family

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Bailey family, who have donated £635 to St John's Hospice in memory of Barry Bailey.

Barry (86), who passed away at the hospice on 30 March, dedicated much of his life to fundraising and public service in Doncaster. A retired telephone engineer, he was a longstanding member of Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust (DCDT) and the City of Doncaster Rotary Club, serving as president twice.



Barry played a key role in raising £2 million to build the hospice and a further £1.5 million for the Information and Support Centre. His efforts also helped fund more than 80 pieces of vital cancer care equipment and many other local healthcare initiatives.

The Bailey family visited the hospice in May to present the funds, raised at Barry's funeral. They were warmly welcomed by staff and Barry's good friend and hospice volunteer, Elizabeth Taylor.

Jenny Baynham, Fundraising Manager, said: "We are incredibly grateful to the Bailey family for their generous donation, and to Barry for his many years of dedicated support. His contribution has had a lasting impact on our hospice and the community we serve."

Barry's two daughters and family added: "We'd like to thank the staff at St John's Hospice for the wonderful care they gave our dad, and to everyone who donated in his memory to a cause that means so much to us."

Latest news round up

Our Easter Coffee Morning at St John's Information Centre was another success, despite the bus strike on the day!

With a huge selection of home-baked goodies, along with lovely stalls and a tombola we raised a grand total of £1,405 on the morning, so thanks to everyone for the support.



Members of the Learning Disabilities Team raised £254 on Monday 23 April.

With delicious Easter treats, hot drinks and a raffle and tombola, they did our Therapy Pool appeal proud.

Thank you to everyone involved - you're helping us raise funds, one cuppa at a time.



Back Baz in the Great North Run

We're incredibly proud to share that Hospice Ward Manager Barry Martin is going the extra mile to support the patients and families he cares for every single day by taking part in this year's Great North Run.

He's a regular runner but has never competed in a road race or half marathon before, but he's willing to put his best foot forward to raise funds for the hospice.

Now, he's asking for your support. Every donation, no matter the size, helps us continue providing compassionate, specialist care when it matters most.



If you can, please donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/barry-martin-2>
We'll be bringing news about all of our 8 Great North Runners in future editions of this newsletter.

AMM
and

COMMUNITY

FUN
Doncaster
DAY

Sat
18 July

10 am
to 4 pm

Flourish
Woodfield
Park

EVERYONE
WELCOME

Tickhill Road,
Doncaster
DN4 8QP

FREE ENTRY AND FREE:

Ice cream, pop corn and candy floss!!!

- Face painting • Games area • Dance machine • Giant Lego
- Soft play area • Alpacas and much more!

Street food vendors, pizzas, coffee and picnic area.

Come and watch community teams taking part in an
Gladiator style competition and **Netball**



All cars to use: Weston Road,
Tickhill Rd Hospital entrance,
DN4 8QN.

 Website: www.rdash.nhs.uk

RDASH NHS Bright Futures Summit 11am to
12 noon. Annual Members' Meeting (AMM)
2.30pm. Volunteer's Event will also take place
in St Catherine's House, public welcome.

Latest news round up

Take part in our first Hospice Hike



St John's Hospice has announced the launch of its very first Hospice Hike, inviting supporters to take on a scenic 13.5-mile sponsored walk on Saturday 15 August 2026.



Starting and finishing in the picturesque village of Sprotbrough, the charity event will raise vital funds to support hospice care services across Doncaster and the surrounding area.

Walkers will set off at 10am from Nursery Lane, Low Sprotbrough, near The Boat Inn, following a carefully planned countryside route that takes in woodland trails, riverside paths and wildlife-rich nature reserves.

The hike passes through a number of well-known local beauty spots including Sprotbrough Flash Nature Reserve, Adwick Washlands RSPB reserve, the Trans Pennine Trail and Conisbrough Viaduct before returning along the River Don.

Event Co-ordinator Richard Smith said the walk is designed for people of all abilities with a moderate level of fitness and is also dog friendly.

He said: "We're incredibly excited to launch our first Hospice Hike. This event is about bringing people together, enjoying our beautiful local countryside, and raising vital funds that allow us to continue providing compassionate care to local patients and families."

Registration is free, although participants are encouraged to raise sponsorship to help fund specialist palliative and end-of-life care for local patients and their families.

Participants are advised to wear suitable footwear, bring water and a packed lunch, and prepare for a full day of walking.

Sign up now on our website at: <https://yourheartsandminds.org.uk/hospice-hike-2026/>
Or email our team on rdash.stjohns-hospice-fundraising-team@nhs.net



Latest news round up

Fundraising volunteer makes a splash

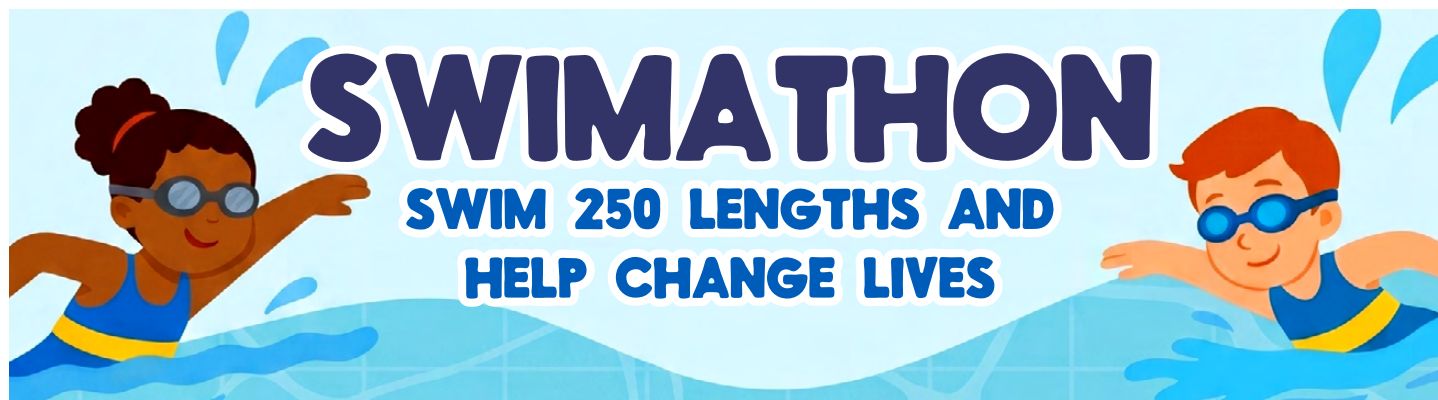
A huge thank you to Andrew Cooper, one of our dedicated volunteer drivers in the Day Therapy Unit, for his incredible fundraising efforts.

Andrew swam an impressive 200 lengths at Dearne Valley Leisure Centre over just four days, taking on a challenging personal goal to raise money in support of our hospice. Thanks to his determination and generosity, he raised a fantastic £330.

We're so grateful for Andrew's commitment, both in his volunteering and in going the extra mile, or rather, the extra lengths, to support the care we provide.



Andrew is pictured at the Hospice



Schools and swimming clubs invited to support therapy pool appeal in our Swimathon

Schools, swimming clubs, and community groups are being encouraged to take part in the new 250 Length Swimathon Challenge in support of our Therapy Pool Appeal.

Participants are invited to swim 250 lengths over three months while raising sponsorship to help fund a new sensory-rich therapy pool at the Diamond Activity and Therapeutic Centre, run by Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDash).

Supporters can take part individually or as part of a team, with certificates and prizes available for participants. Registration is free via the Your Hearts and Minds website <https://yourheartsandminds.org.uk/take-on-the-250-length-swimathon-challenge/> or by contacting the fundraising team on email rdash.your-hearts-and-minds@nhs.net

Scan the QR code for a quick link to the form:



Latest news round up

A heartfelt thank you to Sarah Bedford

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Sarah Bedford, who has kindly donated £278 to our Day Therapy Unit in loving memory of her husband, Carl Bedford.

Carl was a much-loved member of the unit. His visits gave him the chance to socialise, maintain his independence, and enjoy the activities he loved, especially arts and crafts. Sarah's thoughtful donation is a touching tribute to Carl's memory and a meaningful acknowledgement of the support he received during his time with us.

We are truly grateful for her generosity and the love behind this gift.



Sarah is pictured presenting her donation to our Day Therapy Unit staff

Jaguar enthusiasts give us a £500 boost



Members of Doncaster and District Jaguar Enthusiasts Club are pictured presenting their donation to Hospice Fundraiser Tracey Gaughan

A group of Jaguar car enthusiasts have helped support hospice care with a £500 donation. Members of the Doncaster and District Jaguar Enthusiasts Club presented the funds to members of the charity team at Burghwallis Pub, where the club meets once a month.

The club regularly organises events and gatherings centred around their shared passion for Jaguar cars. Last year, they used their annual summer event at Cusworth Hall on 31 August to raise funds for St John's Hospice.

Thank you to local businesses and organisations for the wonderful support...

The generous support of local businesses plays a vital role in enabling our charitable work and we're very grateful that so many companies are already on board for our cause.

Doncaster Opticians Sponsor Top Prize in St John's Hospice Summer Raffle



Parkhurst and Co with Maureen

Tickets are now on sale for the St John's Hospice Summer Raffle, with independent opticians Parkhurst and Co, of Doncaster sponsoring this year's top prize.

The first prize, a pair of JS sunglasses with single vision lenses worth over £350, has been generously donated by the local business in support of the Hospice's fundraising efforts.

St John's Hospice provides specialist palliative care and support to patients and families across the

community, relying heavily on charitable donations to sustain its services.

Fundraiser Maureen Harwood said: "We need to raise over £680,000 in charitable funding each year to support care at the Hospice. Every contribution, including through our raffle, makes a real difference."

She added: "We're very pleased to have the support of Parkhurst and Co, and we are very grateful for their generosity in sponsoring this year's first prize."

Other prizes include a £150 Love2Shop voucher, a luxury picnic hamper with a £50 Love2Shop

voucher, and a host of additional prizes.

Tickets are available now and throughout the summer by contacting the St John's Hospice Fundraising Team: Phone 03000 021 4871, or email: rdash.stjohns-hospice-fundraising-team@nhs.net

They will also be available at selected hospice fundraising events and the RDaSH Annual Members Meeting and Fun Day on Saturday 18 July, between 10am and 4pm at Woodfield Park.

The raffle winners will be drawn on Tuesday 21 July.

Thank you for your support

Tiffany fashion show

Womenswear retailer Tiffany Fashion has raised an impressive £2,789 for St John's Hospice through its popular fashion show events.

Their most recent Spring Show, held at Walker's Nurseries, contributed £610 to the total. Tiffany Fashion hosts these shows twice a year, showcasing their latest collections and generously donating 100% of ticket proceeds to the hospice.



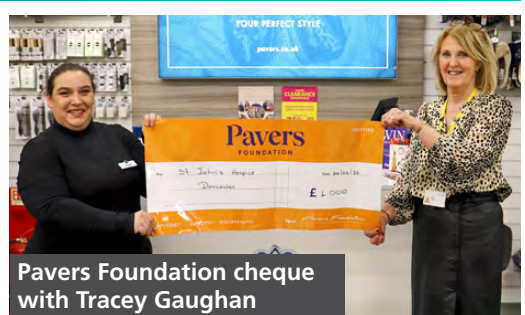
Tiffany Fashion show

Thank you Biffa Waste for the recent donation of £750

Pavers Foundation support

Our hospice has received a £1,000 boost from the Pavers Foundation through their Customer Causes programme.

The cheque was presented to our fundraising team at the newly opened Pavers store in Frenchgate Shopping Centre, Doncaster.



Pavers Foundation cheque with Tracey Gaughan

Mast Digital our new corporate charity supporters

We were delighted to welcome CEO Stuart Smedley and Marketing Manager Callumn Mitchell from Epworth-based CCTV distributor and security systems specialists Mast Digital UK Ltd to St John's Hospice recently to say thank you for supporting our hospice charity.

The family-run company is planning a whole host of fundraising activities over the coming year, along with raising awareness of our charity at their regular supplier showcase events which run throughout the year.

Fundraising Manager Jenny Baynham said: "We are very grateful to the team at Mast Digital for choosing to support St John's Hospice and look forward to working with them over the coming months."



Mast Digital UK Ltd CEO Stuart Smedley is picture with members of our Fundraising Team



Could you be a corporate supporter?

Supporting our charity isn't just about giving, it's also an opportunity for your business to showcase good corporate responsibility, while also gaining other benefits.

What's in it for your company?

- Tax efficient giving
- Limited companies can reduce corporation tax through monetary or sponsorship donations
- Employee engagement
- Support through volunteering and fundraising. Wage related costs can be deducted against taxable profits
- Strengthen your reputation locally
- Showcase meaningful corporate responsibility impact while building stronger connections with customers and businesses.



Ways to support us

Corporate donations

Support us through financial donations, goods, services or employee fundraising.

Engage your employees

Involving your team in fundraising builds engagement and purpose. As a local charity linked to NHS services, many employees have personal connections to our work. You may even wish to consider making us your *Charity of the Year*.



Measuring your impact

Maintaining clear records of your charitable contributions helps support tax reporting and allows your business to track its support over time. It also provides a clear impact your partnership is making over time.

Corporate brand partnerships

Partner with us long-term for greater impact. Our Corporate Brand Partners sponsor flagship events and campaigns, covering operational costs so funds go direct to patient care.

Benefits include:

- Brand visibility across events, campaigns and digital platforms
- PR and media exposure in press releases and communications
- Customer engagement through co-branded materials and event presence
- Clear corporate responsibility impact reporting on funds enabled and community outcomes.



If you'd like more information about supporting Your Hearts and Minds, please email: rdash.your-hearts-and-minds@nhs.net, or give us a call on 07760 401089.

Free wills

Change starts with a will, and yours could make a lasting difference.

By leaving a gift in your will to our charity, you can help ensure that we're able to support patients and families in the communities we serve. Because sometimes it's the smallest steps that can leave the biggest legacy.

That's why we've made it easier than ever to write or update your will. We've partnered with expert estate planners Octopus Legacy, so you can create or update your will at no cost (applies to simple wills, wills with trusts are also available at a discounted rate when you quote our charity name).

We'll cover the cost of your will up to £150, which means you can:

- Write a simple will for free, or
- Create a will with trust at a discounted rate.

Many of our supporters choose to leave a gift to our charity, but there is no obligation to do so when using this service.

Writing a will can bring peace of mind for you and your loved ones, and including a gift can help us continue providing vital palliative care now and in the future.

You can choose which option suits for your to write your will:

- Online
- Over the phone
- At home or in-branch.

Simply visit our website for more information about our free wills: <https://yourheartsandminds.org.uk/how-you-can-help/gifts-in-wills/> or scan the QR code.



Leave a dedication on our Memory Tree

Situated near the main entrance to the Hospice, our Memory Tree offers a meaningful way to celebrate and remember someone special. By dedicating a leaf, you create a lasting tribute to your loved one's memory while helping us continue to provide care to patients and their families when they need it most.

Your leaf dedication includes:

- One engraved leaf. Choose from Bronze, Silver, or Gold
- £120 for a two-year dedication
- Option to renew after two years or receive your leaf as a cherished keepsake
- The opportunity to visit and view your leaf during its display period.



Dedicate your leaf online here:

<https://yourheartsandminds.org.uk/st-johns-hospice>



New Dragonfly pin badges

We're delighted to introduce our new dragonfly pin badges, available for just £3 each.

A big thank you to Daisy Noble and Andrew Moores, who've kindly chosen these badges as wedding favours for their September celebration.

Daisy's Grandpa John and Andrew's Uncle Andrew both received care at the hospice, making this a meaningful way to give back, support our work, and remember loved ones who can't be there on their special day.



Andrew Moores is pictured with hospice fundraiser Maureen.

Support us at all our Fundraising events...

- **May to September** – Swimathon, register your school, team or swimming club for free with the Your Hearts and Minds Fundraising Team and commit to swimming 250 lengths over the next 3 months and collect sponsorship from family and friends to help raise much-needed funds for our Therapy Pool Appeal
- **26 June - Summer Coffee Morning at St John's Information Centre**, join us for a cuppa, home baked goodies, a wide selection of stalls, between 10am and 1pm
- **18 July - RDaSH Fun Day and Annual Members' Meeting Doncaster** – Woodfield Park, we'll be out and about raising funds for our charity at this annual event, which includes fun and lots of free activities for all the family
- **15 August - Sponsored Hospice Hike**, calling all ramblers! Please dust off your walking boots and join us on this 13.5 mile walk around Sprotbrough. Scenic 13.5-mile sponsored walk through some of the most beautiful countryside and nature reserves in Doncaster. Every mile walked and every pound raised will help St. John's Hospice continue providing specialist palliative and end of life care to people and families across Doncaster
- **13 September - Great North Run**, we'll be supporting our eight runners who are raising funds at this iconic event in Newcastle
- **28 October - Halloween open air cinema night**, join us for a fun-filled Halloween-themed family movie in the lovely surroundings of Woodfield Park
- **27 November - Christmas Coffee Morning at St John's Information Centre**, join us for a cuppa, home baked goodies, a wide selection of festive stalls, between 10am and 1pm
- **2 December - Light up a Life Event at Alder Grove Church**, save the date for our annual remembrance event, which will once again be held at this welcoming Balby-based venue
- **4 December - Christmas Afternoon Tea at Flourish**, start your festive season early with a delicious afternoon tea in the surroundings of the historic St Catherine's House
- **6 December - Doncaster Santa Dash at Sandall Park**- more details to follow soon!

Sky diving can be booked to suit as well if we have a large enough team we can book a bespoke session. If you'd like more information on how to support our charity's fundraising priorities, please don't hesitate to contact us via email: rdash.your-hearts-and-minds@nhs.net or call us on: 07760 401089.



Follow us on social media @yourheartsanfminds on   