

# The Shakespeare Hospice update



October 2011

## Light up a Life



The annual Light up a Life service of celebration will take place in the Great Garden of New Place in Stratford-upon-Avon on Sunday 4th December, starting at 4pm. The beautiful service will include readings, carols and the switching on of the tree lights in memory and celebration of loved ones. After the service you are invited to join us for mulled wine and mince pies at the Town Hall, where you can view the books of Remembrance and Celebration. After the event, the books may be viewed at the Hospice until twelfth night.

You can remember and celebrate the life of a loved one within these books by completing a form and lighting a tree light in their memory.

For more information on how to sponsor a light, please see our leaflet or visit the website, [www.theshakespearehospice.org.uk](http://www.theshakespearehospice.org.uk)

Light up a Life pin badges are now available from the Hospice and our shops and are a great way of remembering a loved one while supporting the work of the Hospice.

## Carol celebrates ten years of care

Carol Davis, Healthcare Assistant at The Day Hospice, celebrated a decade of hard-work and dedication last month.

It is the wonderful atmosphere at the Hospice that has kept Carol working here for so long. "The Hospice is great," she says, "it's like a family here. Everyone cares about each other. The patients are fabulous. They're all so different with their own needs and I enjoy getting to know each person. We are also helping more carers now than we did before. The volunteers are brilliant – some of them have been here longer than me!"

The greater provision for carers, for whom a dedicated 'carer day' has been established on a Monday, is just one of a number of developments that have taken place at the Hospice. "When I started there was no Hospice at Home or bereavement service and very little counselling available," Carol explained.



Carol Davis

More than anything, though, it is the time with the patients that Carol values in her role. "The key thing about The Shakespeare Hospice is that nursing staff have much more time to spend with patients. When I joined it took a bit of time to get used to not feeling guilty about sitting down and talking to patients. The time we are able to give all those in need makes the Hospice a really special place."

## Taking Care of Yourself

Physiotherapist Sue Horne has started a weekly group on a Wednesday morning that will provide discussion and practical instructions on postural care and regaining fitness after Cancer treatment. The group will include Tai Chi exercises and massage, mindfulness mediation techniques and relaxation and breathing techniques. To join the group, or for more information, please call the Hospice on 01789 266852.



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Registered Charity No. 1064091



# Complementary Therapies at Home

We are very pleased to announce that in August we launched our Complementary Therapy service to Hospice at Home patients and their carers. The service offers Hand and Foot Massage, Aromatherapy, Reflexology and Reiki. These therapies, available free of charge to patients, are used alongside other treatments with the aim of providing psychological and emotional support and the relief of symptoms.

## Can you help?

Complementary Therapy is an integral part of the service we offer to our patients and their carers. We desperately need more volunteers to enable us to offer more regular appointments, as we have seen how effective complementary therapies are at the most difficult times in our patients' lives.

## Are you a qualified Therapist?

Do you have a couple of hours to spare each week? If so please call Carole Lomas on 01789 266852 for an informal chat.



Kate, Hospice at Home nurse with Complementary Therapist Alex

# Christmas Card selection

**Our Christmas card selection is now on sale!**  
**Priced from £3.50 for a pack of 10.**

The cards are available from the Hospice reception, our shops in Stratford, Alcester and Henley and online from November 1st.



Making Friends



Mary and Baby Jesus



RSC Theatre



Bearing Gifts

For our complete range of cards, please visit our website  
[www.theshakespearehospice.org.uk](http://www.theshakespearehospice.org.uk)

The Shakespeare Hospice 2012 calendar, featuring staff and volunteers is also available for only £4.50



Cherita Lynchhouse performing at Patrick's Day event at the Hospice grounds!

# Forthcoming Events Calendar

For further information on all events, please contact the fundraising department on 01789 266852 and speak to Claire.

## Saturday 15th October Ladies' Day

The Stratford WI Lite ladies will be hosting a wonderful day of food, fashion and facials at The Shakespeare Hospice. Tickets are available from all of our shops for only £5.

## Saturday 15th October The Folking Heroes Celidh

The Folking Heroes will be holding a fundraising Celidh in Tiddington, Stratford-upon-Avon. Tickets are £15 each including a light supper. Please call Ruth or Colin on 01386 593590 for more information.

## Thursday 3rd November Dinner at the College

The Stratford upon Avon College will be hosting a fabulous evening of dining and wine. Tickets £30 include a four course meal with wine and a chocolate demonstration.

## Friday 11th November The Stratford Friends of The Shakespeare Hospice's Barn Dance

Taking place at Quinton and Adminton Village Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15, including hot supper and a licensed bar will be available. Please call Lynn on 01386 438551 for more information.

## Coffee Champions

With the days getting colder, it is harder to walk past a coffee shop and resist a warming drink. Could you give up the cost of a coffee (or two) to help your local community? The Shakespeare Hospice is looking for coffee champions – coffee addicts who would be willing to give up one or two coffees a month to help care for the seriously ill. If you think you are up to the challenge please speak to Linda on 01789 266852 and she will send you a leaflet with more information.

## Saturday 26th November North Cotswolds Friends of The Shakespeare Hospice, Chipping Campden Food and Craft Fayre

Come and join us for the popular Food and Craft Fayre at Chipping Campden Town Hall, 10am - 5pm

## Saturday 3rd December The Stratford Friends of The Shakespeare Hospice, Tarantara Night

This highly acclaimed choir will be performing live at St Andrew's church, Shotton. Please call the fundraising office for information.

## Sunday 4th December Light up a Life

Please see the front page for more information about this year's celebration of life.

## Dates for the diary

Don't miss out on some of our most exciting events over the coming year!

**The Ball 2012: 19th May**

**Moonlit Walk 2012: 23rd June**

**The Shakespeare Hospice Carnival 2012: 7th July**

**The Great Shakespeare Ride 2012: 12th August**

## Robin and Alison join the Hospice



The Shakespeare Hospice gave a warm welcome to two new members of staff this summer.

Robin Haslam, who joined the Hospice as our new Head of Fundraising, said, "It is a privilege to join The Shakespeare Hospice and to work with such a dedicated group of people. Having spoken with patients, carers and their families, I know just how important the Hospice is to them and what a difference it has made to their lives.

Also joining The Hospice this summer was new Chaplain Alison Hampton. Speaking at her licensing ceremony, Alison said, "This is the job I feel I have been waiting all of my life for." Alison, who has previously worked as a parish vicar, also thanked staff at the Hospice for their warm welcome.

**REMEMBER A CHARITY  
IN YOUR WILL**  
Help the work live on...

The Hospice took part in Remember a Charity Week (12 - 18 September), to highlight how essential gifts left in wills are in funding our services. With just 6% of funding coming from the NHS, gifts left in Wills help fund many of our vital services.

Whilst the needs of family come first, if you would like details on how you can support The Shakespeare Hospice in this way, please contact Robin Haslam on 01789 266852

# Thank you!

We are very grateful to everyone who has supported the Hospice in recent months by kindly donating their time, money or skills. It is your generous support that enables us to care for the seriously ill in our community. Here are just a few of our wonderful supporters:

## Our Volunteers

None of our events would be possible without the many people who give up so much of their time for us. We are very grateful for all the hard work of our wonderful volunteers at our events and throughout the Hospice.

### Alison Balaam

Thank you very much Alison, a volunteer counsellor at the Hospice, who walked 70 miles around the Isle of Wight and raised over £1700 for the Hospice!

### Global Gathering

We were delighted to be one of the dozen charities receiving £750 raised at this year's Global Gathering weekend.

### Stratford Friends of The Shakespeare Hospice

Yet again, The Stratford Friends of The Shakespeare Hospice have worked hard with a variety of events to raise money for our services. We are thrilled that, at the time of going to print, the total raised by the group this year is nearly £30,000!

### North Cotswold Friends of The Shakespeare Hospice

Our newest Friend's group has had a fantastic year raising thousands of pounds for The Shakespeare Hospice and providing invaluable support at many of our big events.

### Inner Wheel of Stratford-upon-Avon

Thank you very much for all involved in raising the fantastic amount of £100 through a variety of fundraising activities.

## The Stratford Sharks Swim Club

Thank you to the Stratford Sharks for helping to organise our annual 10,000 metre swim relay. This year's winners were the Stratford Sharks team "Big Jaws" who completed their swim in the amazing time of 1 hour and 45 minutes. Last year's winners, Stourbridge, were a close second.



## The Bicyclettes

Thank you to Jeremy Rodway-Smith who arranged for the Bicyclettes to ride the Shakespeare Way. A big thank you to Jeremy, Weldon Marquis, Blair Collier, Shaun Cross, Mark Haselden, Oliver Rose and Richard Rose for cycling from RSC theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon to the Globe Theatre in London and raising over £5,000! We wish the team good luck in their training for next year's London to Paris ride!

## Midsummer Ball

Colin and Margaret Greenwood hosted another unforgettable Ball and raised over £555. Special thanks to Mercedes-Benz of Stratford-upon-Avon for donating a fantastic selection of prizes to be used in the raffle.

## Stratford Town Trust

We are delighted with the continued support of The Stratford Town Trust. The Town Trust has awarded a grant of £50,000 towards our 'Hospice at Home' service.



## Stratford Athletics Club

£1,000 was raised for the Hospice through the Hilly 100 race.

## Wakeley Pollen

Raised the wonderful amount of £828 from their unique Summer Fayre.

## Rose and Crown

Thanks to the Rose and Crown on Sheep Street for holding a fundraising weekend for us and raising nearly £400.

## Shakespeares

We appreciate the continued support of local solicitors Shakespeares through our recent evening reception at Halls Croft.

## Rotary

We are very grateful for the continued support of the Rotary Club of Stratford-upon-Avon. We received a very generous donation of £16,500 from the Marathon and Half Marathon earlier this year, and more recently received an invitation to hold a collection at the Bulldog Bash, raising over £400!

We are also very grateful for the many, many hours of support the members of the Club give to the Hospice throughout the year.

## Alex McDowell

We said a sad goodbye to Alex McDowell, former head of Fundraising and Marketing, this year. We would like to thank Alex for all of his hard work and support for the Hospice and wish him the best of luck in his new role.

## A Summer of Events

### Moonlit Walk

We are grateful to everyone who took part in this year's walk. We would also like to thank Stratford High School, Dudley Simpson, Martin Heap, Dave Sharpe, Kally Laity, Paula Watson, Mel Ashworth and Stratford Dance and Jazz. The total raised this year is £16,500.



### Carnival

We were thrilled with such a high turn out at our first Carnival. We are very grateful for the hard work and dedication of our Carnival Committee, who made the day possible. We would also like to thank Sketts, Britvic, Barclay's Bank, The Bath Store, NFU Mutual, Stratford District Council, Lush, Lombard Vehicle Management, Wellesbourne and District Lions, DCS and Cartridge World. A total of over £8,000 was raised by this event.

### The Great Shakespeare Ride

We would like to thank Stratford Manor Hotel, SONA online, Belvoir Lettings, Towergate Insurance, Johnsons Coaches, The Cycle Studio, Paul Moss, NFU, Simon Pilling, WI Hook Norton, WI Ebrington, Scouts in Winchcomb, Stratford Scouts, Morrisons, Tesco and all the other shops that helped. The total raised from this year's ride is £26,000 – a fantastic amount.

### Big Sing

We were delighted to have over 190 singers from all over Warwickshire register for the Big Sing. We would like to say a big thank you to Barry Todd, Geraldine Rouse, Chris Wiltshire for all their help, and to Kestral Medical Limited for their generous donation.

### Golf Day

We were delighted to raise £5,778, and would like to thank HSBC Private Banking, Sandy from Whitedog Events, The Cotswold Lodge Hotel, Murphy Salisbury, Apex Credit Management, and Water Utility Control Systems for their terrific support of the Hospice.