

40th Anniversary Special News

Spring 2018

For St Gemma's supporters
www.st-gemma.co.uk

40

Years together
1978 - 2018

 **St. Gemma's Hospice**
Always caring

40 Years Together

40 Years Together



One of the first patients, Terry, talking to Sister John, the Hospice cook and one of the founding Sisters of the Cross and Passion

Thanks to your support, St Gemma's Hospice has been providing exceptional care to patients and families for 40 years. When the Hospice first opened in 1978, it was the local community who made it possible through their donations and volunteering. The care given to patients in the Hospice and at home today is still only possible because of your dedication and support. Throughout 2018 we will be hosting lots of special events and projects to reflect on our history, mark this special Anniversary year and look to the future of our care. Helen Baldwin, whose father Terry was one of the very first patients to be admitted to the Hospice said:

'My family has held St Gemma's close to our hearts for the last 40 years. My dad came to the Hospice when it first opened

- he was only 48 and I was 18. My cousins had been students at St Gemma's school previously so we had heard about plans for the new Hospice and were relieved that it would be open in time for my dad to be admitted for care. It was a stressful and worrying time but the whole team made us feel welcome, respected and cared for. I remember Sister John spending time with him asking what he would like to eat and if he had any particular favourites. Nothing was too much trouble. Even now, I can remember feeling that we were in safe hands and our positive experience has stayed with us for all of these years. My mum still smiles when we talk about my dad and how lucky we felt to have been in St Gemma's care.'



Terry's daughter Helen and wife Agnes return to the Hospice after 40 years

See inside for more milestones from over the years and how you can get involved.

Visit www.st-gemma.co.uk/40

"I had tea and toast at 2, 4 and 6 o'clock in the morning - always brought with a smile and a hug. The staff were always cheerful, respectful, gentle. It has been years since Jean's death, but those memories still brighten up the gloomiest of days."

Your donations have made sure that we have been there for patients, every single minute of every single day, for 40 years.

Without you, none of this would have been possible.

Because of you, for 40 years we have cared for your neighbours and loved ones, giving them a cup of tea or loving smile when they need it the most. Only you can ensure this care continues for many years to come.

By donating just £10 today, you can ensure that patients like Jean can find peace in their final days for another 40 years and beyond.

PTO



Become our Friend on Facebook
www.facebook.com/st.g.hospice



Follow us on Twitter
www.twitter.com/stgemmahospice



Caring for the people of Leeds

St Gemma's has been part of the Leeds community since 1978. Here are a few of the significant events and milestones we have seen over the last four decades...

For more details about our history and ways to get involved please visit www.st-gemma.co.uk/40

Upcoming 40th Anniversary Events

A Night to Remember, 21st March at Leeds Town Hall from 7pm.

This is a chance to remember every patient cared for since 1978 and celebrate your support that's made it possible. Tickets are £5 and the evening includes spectacular performances from Leeds Symphony Orchestra and the new Hospice Choir.

Mass of Thanksgiving, 16th May at Leeds Cathedral from 10am.

All are welcome to this special Mass led by Bishop Marcus Stock and joined by the Leeds Trinity Cathedral Boys' Choir. Refreshments available afterwards.

For tickets or more details of these events visit events.st-gemma.co.uk or call **0113 218 5550**.



The Sisters of the Cross and Passion

The Sisters of the Cross and Passion identified the need for a hospice caring for terminally ill patients and a public meeting was held to launch an appeal for funds.

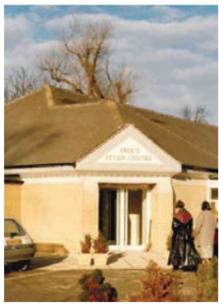
New Hospice Opens

The Prince & Princess of Wales opened the new 45 bed Hospice on 30th March and met patients, staff and supporters.



Education Centre Opens

Princess Diana returned to open the Elizabeth Prout Education Centre. Teaching has always been an important part of St Gemma's.



Garden Awards

The gardens received the Yorkshire in Bloom Award, one of many that they have won up to the present day.



365 Days of Care

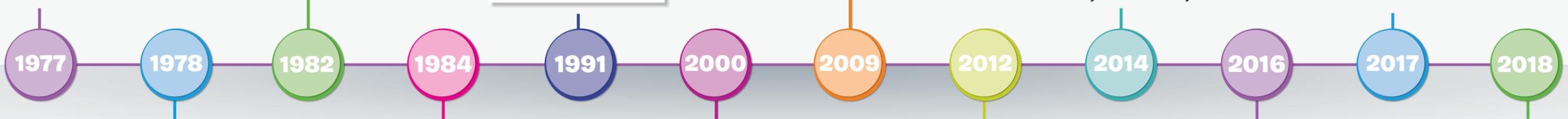
After a very successful appeal, home visiting by the Community Nurse Specialists was extended to include Saturdays and Sundays.



University Teaching Hospice



St Gemma's was formally recognised as the country's first University Teaching Hospice, the first hospice to achieve this in the UK and the world.

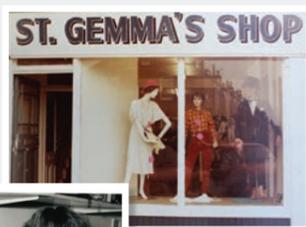


Establishing the Hospice

A building on Harrogate Road which had previously been a private school was converted into a 9 bed Hospice, and St Gemma's Hospice was opened on 12th March 1978.

First Shop

St Gemma's opened its first charity shop in Harehills. The Hospice now has 23 shops around Leeds. Kathleen, the first shop manager, is still in post today!



Redevelopment

A major redevelopment of the hospice buildings and grounds began in 2000 at a cost of £5million.



Academic Unit of Palliative Care

The St Gemma's Academic Unit of Palliative Care was inaugurated in 2012. The AUPC improves the care of those approaching the end of life through research, teaching and clinical practice.

Outstanding Care

St Gemma's was awarded the top rating of 'Outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission.



40th Anniversary



Raising funds to support our care...

Vintage Fair Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 March, 11am-4pm at St Gemma's Hospice

Over 30 vintage and retro stall holders selling a variety of items from clothing, homewares, vinyl records and furniture along with the opportunity for a vintage make over! **Contact Charlotte.**

Spring Fair Saturday 17 March, 11am-4pm at St Gemma's Hospice

Our annual Spring Fair hosts lots of stalls, games, refreshments and entertainment including Gemma the Giraffe, a treasure hunt and a large plant stall. If you would like to donate items or volunteer, **contact Charlotte.**

A Night to Remember Wednesday 21 March, 7pm at Leeds Town Hall

A special event including performances from Leeds Symphony Orchestra and our new Hospice Choir. This will be a chance to remember loved ones and celebrate the community support which has made 40 years of care possible. Tickets are £5, **contact Emily.**

Superhero Abseil Saturday 24 March, 10am- 5pm at CLV building, Leeds City Centre

Calling Hospice Heroes! We need you to sign up for our biggest ever Superhero Abseil! Descend down a massive 300ft off the CLV Building, one of the tallest buildings in Yorkshire. Registration is just £35 and heroes must aim to raise £200 in sponsorship. **Contact Freya.**

Swim the Channel Pool Challenge 2 April – 25 June

Take the plunge and swim 21 miles across the Channel by swimming the distance in your local pool in 12 weeks or less. Swimming is low impact so this is ideal for people of all abilities and ages. To register and for your free fundraising pack **contact Fay.**

Leeds Ninja Challenge Saturday 28 April, Harewood House

Join us for this brand new event that will test your speed and agility as well as your nerve over a 5k course! Make your way through scramble nets, rat run tubes, up and overs, slides and much more to slam the button in the end zone and crown yourself a Ninja Champion! This event is suitable for all the family, though anyone under 1.2 metres will need to take the mini ninja inflatable option. For more information or if you would like to volunteer, **contact Alice.**

Turn Back Time Ball Saturday 12 May, Elland Road Centenary Pavilion

Join us for a spectacular night of retro nostalgia. The £38 ticket price includes a 3-course meal, entertainment and fundraising activities; with the chance to win some fantastic prizes in our raffle, auction and retro Rock 'n' Roll bingo. Then it's time to dust off those dancing shoes and take to the dance floor to twist the night away! **Contact Freya.**

St Gemma's Annual Golf Day Wednesday 13 June, Moor Allerton Golf Club

Swing into action! Teams of four are £400 and sponsorship packages are available. Includes lunch, dinner and prize giving. **Contact Becky.**

Windermere Row Friday 22, Saturday 23, Sunday 24 June, Lake Windermere

Take to the lake this year and row the 10 or 21 mile route along the beautiful Lake Windermere. Participation in this event is free, so we would like you to raise a minimum of £100 per person in sponsorship. Boats for between 2-7 people are available, but are limited per time slot, so be sure to get in fast to ensure your first choice! **Contact Freya.**

Yorkshire 3 Peaks Saturday 15 September

Challenge yourself to complete all 3 famous peaks in less than 12 hours. You'll walk with a team of St Gemma's supporters to keep you motivated and be led by professional guides. This is the perfect challenge to do with a group of friends, family or colleagues. Start training now and come along to our information evening night on Tuesday 12 June! Registration is £35 and we ask that you aim to raise £200 in sponsorship. **Contact Maria.**

Contact Details

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Freya 0113 218 5580 or freyas@st-gemma.co.uk
Maddy 0113 218 5565 or maddyb@st-gemma.co.uk
Maria 0113 218 5196 or mariaw@st-gemma.co.uk
General: 0113 218 5555 fundraising@st-gemma.co.uk

events.st-gemma.co.uk

Other ways to make a difference...



Car Raffle

Kindly supported by Luscombe Suzuki Leeds
 Win a car in our Spring Raffle! For just £1 per ticket you could be in with a chance of winning the star prize in our spring raffle plus other fabulous prizes. If you have not received any raffle tickets with this newsletter or for additional tickets please visit the website or **contact Becky.**



Knitted Chicks

Our knitters have been hard at work knitting our super adorable chicks for Easter! Make sure to keep a look out for them in our charity shops or at the Hospice reception. If you would like to join our knitting team please **contact Maddy.**

Change the seasons

Spring cleaning? If you find any unwanted change stuffed down the side of your sofa or foreign coins from your last adventure we can make good use of them! You can pop your change in one of our collection boxes or donate them at your local shop or direct to the Hospice.

Open gardens

We are looking for green fingered gardeners to take part in our annual Open Gardens between June and September. Welcome the public, friends and family to enjoy a visit to your garden in return for a donation. We will also be opening the award winning Hospice gardens on Saturday 23rd June. **Contact Maddy.**

Dates for your Diary!

Friday 30 March
 Skipton Castle
 Your entry fee supports
 St Gemma's Hospice

Sunday 8 July
 Summer Fête
 St Gemma's Hospice

Saturday 21 July
 G Fest
 Glebelands Playing Fields,
 Garforth

Saturday 18 August
 Classic Car Show
 Temple Newsam

Saturday 8 September
 Midnight Walk
 Leeds Beckett University
 (Headingley Campus)

Support St Gemma's on your Special Day

From weddings to birthdays, anniversaries to bar mitzvahs, if you've got a special day coming up this year, you might want to consider supporting the Hospice by either asking your guests for donations to St Gemma's in lieu of presents or by purchasing our beautiful favours which can be personalised to suit any occasion. For more information call Jo on 0113 306 9170 or email joanne@st-gemma.co.uk



Local Hospice Lottery



Support our new Lottery

We are proud to be working with Local Hospice Lottery, a weekly lottery that provides financial support to hospices across Great Britain.

Playing the Local Hospice Lottery is win-win: for only £1 a week per entry, you have a great chance of winning and you'll be making a real difference to local families, as the lottery provides an income we can rely on receiving every month. Over the next five years, we're hoping to raise at least £670,000 through the Local Hospice Lottery to support of patient care at St Gemma's Hospice.

Prizes are issued automatically each week, so you don't even need to worry about remembering to check your number(s) or claim any prizes.

For more details and to sign up, please visit www.st-gemma.co.uk/hospice-lottery or call freephone 0800 316 0645.

WEEKLY PRIZES:

£2,000

£1,000*
ROLLOVER

£100

PLUS 150 Prizes of £10!

ROLLOVER
prize of up to
£25,000!

*If the £1,000 prize is not won, it rolls over each week to a maximum of £25,000 (excluding Super Draws where the £1,000 prize will remain £1,000)

PLUS

A CHANCE TO WIN
£10,000
TWICE A YEAR IN OUR
SUPER DRAWS
(during the last weeks of
March and September)

Help St Gemma's bloom this summer

Keep an eye out for the exciting launch of our special 'Forever Flowers' Appeal. The beautiful handmade, iron flowers have been specially created for St Gemma's by the talented team at the British Ironwork Centre.



A Forever Flower can be yours for a suggested donation of £25 – a lovely, colourful keepsake for our 40th Anniversary year and perhaps a wonderful way to celebrate the memory of a loved one.

For more information about the Forever Flower Appeal, contact Jo on **0113 306 9170** or visit events.st-gemma.co.uk to pre-order.



St Gemma's Community Nurses holding the new Forever Flowers



Make a Will month – thank you

Thank you to everyone who made a donation in exchange for having your Will written during our annual Make a Will Month in October 2017. You have raised over £17,000 so far – enough to provide a day of care for 37 patients.



MYTH BUSTING

Many people associate hospices with the very end of life, but this is only part of our care. We specialise in pain relief and symptom control to help local people with life-limiting illnesses live as well as possible for as long as possible. For more information about our care, please visit www.st-gemma.co.uk

Caring for our future through a Gift in your Will

By leaving a gift in your Will, you can help local patients and families facing a terminal illness.

Thinking about the Hospice today can make a real difference to those who need support in the future.

For more information, please contact Tara on **0113 218 5506** or tarab@st-gemma.co.uk

You are receiving this Newsletter because you are a valued supporter of St Gemma's Hospice. We think it is important that we tell you about developments from around the Hospice and how we are using your donations. You can opt out of receiving our mailings at any time, or ask to receive our Newsletter by email. Simply call **0113 218 5555** or email busadmin@st-gemma.co.uk.

Thank you for your support.

Registered Charity No. 1015941