

40th Anniversary Special

News

Autumn/ Winter 2018

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



St. Gemma's Hospice
Always caring

Van-tastic Generosity

Earlier this year, we were sad to report that a St Gemma's transit van was stolen from our retail hub in Bramley one Saturday evening.

Around the same time, our other van had seen better days and was close to becoming unroadworthy. This presented a very difficult situation for our retail operation as the vans are vital for transporting donated stock between our 24 charity shops

and for collecting your kind donations.

We are delighted to share the good news that we've been able to replace both vans - thanks to very generous donations from kind supporters who were upset to hear about our misfortune. Our beautiful new vans have now arrived and been named Dianne and Gemma.

Arthur Sears and his daughter, Sharon, made a substantial donation towards one of the vans, now named 'Dianne' to honour the memory of Mr Sears' wife, who was cared for by the Hospice. We were then also very grateful to receive support from two charitable Trusts so that we could purchase a second van, now named Gemma.



Sarah Cohen from the St Gemma's retail hub said: *'We were devastated when our van was stolen, especially as the other van was old and in need of repair. We quite simply could not run our chain of charity shops without the vans, so we were utterly delighted when Arthur and Sharon and the two Trusts came to our rescue and donated money to help us buy two new vans. We are so grateful and happy to be back in action and raising vital pounds to fund patient care.'*



Donor Arthur with Sarah collecting the new van

Light up a Life 2018

Donate to the Light up a Life Appeal to remember your loved ones, and a light will shine for them on one of our festive trees. Visit www.st-gemma.co.uk/lightupalife or call 0113 218 5555.

Wear it Festive



It's nearly that time of year again to Wear it Festive!



Why not organise a Christmas jumper dress-down day at work, or amongst your friends and family, to raise money for St Gemma's in our 40th Anniversary year.



If you would like any help with your fundraising please contact Maria on 0113 218 5196 or mariaw@st-gemma.co.uk to receive your Wear it Festive fundraising pack.



Please complete this form and send it in with any donations from your festive fundraising.

Title

Forename

Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone number

Email address

How did you raise the money?

Is this donation in memory of someone special?

Please return this form to: St Gemma's Hospice, 329 Harrogate Road, Moortown, Leeds, LS17 6QD or go to www.st-gemma.co.uk to make a donation.

St Gemma's Hospice would like to hold your details in order to contact you about our fundraising and services for people affected by life-threatening illness. If you do not wish to receive mailings from us, please tick this box.



Why our Chief Executive will be losing sleep!

St Gemma's Chief Executive, Kerry Jackson, is in for a sleepless night this November, but all for a good cause. She has teamed up with the Leeds Rhinos Foundation to sleep out in support of some of the city's most vulnerable people.

Kerry said: 'I, along with some intrepid colleagues, will be supporting The Big Sleep event at the Emerald Headingley stadium, home of the Leeds Rhinos, on 29th November. We are inviting people to join us, to raise money for three great Leeds charities - Leeds Rhinos Foundation, St George's Crypt and St Gemma's Hospice. We all have the same aim of helping people at a vulnerable time in their lives, whether that is from being disadvantaged or at the end of their life. We all want to make a difference to local people. I'm not particularly looking forward to sleeping outdoors on a November night, but at least I know it's short term pain for me. Other people aren't so fortunate.'

You can sponsor Kerry's challenge or register to take part yourself at mydonate.bt.com/events/2018leedsbigsleep.

Remember a loved one this Christmas...

"...Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day...unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed, and very dear."

If you would like a place to come and remember loved ones at the Hospice we have two very special ways you can do this, while supporting our work. You may want to sponsor a brick in our **Walls of Light** in the Hospice grounds, or dedicate a leaf on our **Tree of Life** in our Memory Garden. Both provide a lasting memory of that special person in your life, and somewhere to come and reflect on your time together.



For more details visit www.st-gemma.co.uk/remembering or call Sophia on 0113 306 9170



40 Faces of St Gemma's Hospice Project

We are proud that the St Gemma's Hospice gardens have once again won Gold awards in the Leeds in Bloom spring and summer competitions.

The stunning grounds and gardens across the Hospice's four-acre site are a therapeutic space for patients and their families. They are also a labour of love for the gardening team of staff and volunteers who work hard all year round to keep the gardens looking so well-groomed and colourful.

A volunteer recently told us that she wears a pedometer whilst working in the gardens and one day she clocked up nine miles! Thanks to everyone for helping to keep them at their award-winning best.



Training doctors of the future

St Gemma's has hosted medical students from the University of Leeds since 1978. The Hospice offers placements and training, and this was recognised when St Gemma's became the first official University Teaching Hospice last year.

medical school course, has been trialling an increase in the time students spend in a hospice. Since September 2017, after a day of classroom

teaching, all 4th year students now spend 4 days in a hospice.

"my week at St Gemma's was an excellent learning experience"

Dr Ward said: "Leeds is one of only a few medical schools to offer more than a one day placement. Recent student evaluations show how valuable the placement is as part of their training. We know that patients enjoy speaking to students and value contributing to the training of future doctors, and for a student speaking to a patient can have a profound effect"

"this is a great hospice and the whole team were so welcoming and friendly. I would recommend this placement to anyone."

Over the last few years one of our medical consultants Dr Jason Ward, who is also head of the 4th year of the



Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal

St Gemma's was delighted to be chosen as the Lord Mayor's charity this year and welcomed the Lord Mayor, Councillor Graham Latty and Lady Mayoress, Councillor Pat Latty, to the Hospice where they met staff and patients, see below. The Lord Mayor's Appeal will raise funds for St Gemma's until May 2018 so look out for ways that you could get involved.

Pictured below right is Cllr. Latty with a patient and his granddaughter and pups Roxy and Harry who were also visiting at the time.



40 Faces of St Gemma's Hospice Project

Providing care, compassion and dignity to local people for 40 years

St Gemma's has been part of the Leeds community since 1978. This year we have been holding a series of events and activities to acknowledge this important milestone in our history. One of these activities is the 40 Faces of St Gemma's Hospice project.

This beautiful and poignant series of portraits commemorates 40 years of St Gemma's Hospice,

highlighting the often surprising reality of hospice care. 40 people representing the Hospice, including patients, families, volunteers and staff, were photographed by Olivia Hemingway and each shared their personal story. The photographs went on display this summer in a thought-provoking exhibition at Leeds City Museum and had a fantastic response from visitors. The project has now gone on tour around Leeds in various pop-up exhibitions and will form part of the St Gemma's Hospice Arts Festival in October. Full details and all of the photos and stories can be found at www.st-gemma.co.uk/40Faces.



Images © Olivia Hemingway

Raj – Community engagement volunteer



"I got quite involved with St Gemma's and I was amazed at what I learnt. I just thought of it as a place where you go to die of cancer so it was very tunnel vision.

Now I've been there a few times it's a lovely place, they do amazing things. I'm quite a spiritual person so I was very interested from that point of view. I think very often at the end of life, that's when people turn to their spirituality, their

faith. So far I've been really impressed with what they've done.

My uncle was in St Gemma's, he died of cancer. I still didn't really know much about it, I just visited. Since coming and getting involved, I've learnt more about it and the things you do.

The word 'hospice' was affiliated with doom and gloom and death, but now I've learnt differently. I had a tour around the place and I can see that people can make it very homely; they put a lot of effort into it.

I think in my community, which is the South Asian community, a lot of people don't even know what a hospice is. The ones that do know probably think it's a place where you just go and die, that's it. I think the younger people are a bit more clued up compared to the older generation. The message is getting out there through people like us and what you're doing."

Kathleen – Manager of St Gemma's Charity Shop in Harehills for 40 years



"The past 40 years hold many cherished memories.

These include watching my children dig the first sod for the Hospice, writing Hospice shopping lists and securing donors to buy bricks, sheets, ambulances.

Jumble sales and fashion shows evolved into a charity shop. The first shop was a former outhouse in the Hospice grounds. The shop was so successful that larger premises had to be found. It was not politically correct for men to try trousers on in the car park!

In 1984 I became the manager of St Gemma's charity shop on Harehills Lane. From small beginnings our Hospice has grown from strength to strength. We now have 24 charity shops across Leeds.

I will never tire from feeling the buzz of raising funds to enable Hospice care to be provided. I am very proud of the Harehills team and their endless dedication, and all the fellow fundraisers I have met along the way."

Kathleen manages our newly refurbished charity shop on Harehills Lane. The chain of shops collectively raise over £2 million per year towards the work of the Hospice.



There are lots of myths about hospice care. Find out more about the reality of St Gemma's Hospice here: www.st-gemma.co.uk/MythBusting

Raising funds to support patient care...

40th Anniversary Arts Festival 24 to 28 October

Proudly supported by Progeny **progeny**

Come along to the Grammar School at Leeds for fabulous original artwork to view and purchase, alongside the '40 Faces of St Gemma's Hospice' photography exhibition, the famous Secret Art Project, and delicious homemade cakes at our Arts Café. **Contact Pete.**



The Secret Art Project 24 October to 2 November Proudly supported by Progeny **progeny**

We'll be auctioning postcard-sized artworks by celebrities and members of the public – but who has created which piece will be kept a secret until after the auction! All art will be displayed at the 40th Anniversary Arts Festival. To bid on a piece, visit our eBay shop between 24 October and 2 November!

Vintage Fair weekend 10 and 11 November 11am-4pm

Come and browse the best in vintage and retro goodies including books, clothing, furniture and records. **Contact Laura.**

'Questions of Sport' Celebrity Quiz and Dinner Thursday 15 November



Calling all sports fans! This star-spangled event at Leeds United FC, hosted by ITV's Duncan Wood, sees teams competing in an interactive quiz, with questions being asked by sporting celebrities. Complete with a drinks reception, 4-course meal, prize draw and an auction of sporting memorabilia, the evening is an excellent opportunity to entertain clients, colleagues and friends. **Contact Catherine.**

Winter Ball Saturday 24 November Proudly supported by Lawcris



Our most glamorous night of the year, the Winter Ball at Elland Road Centenary Pavilion includes a fizz reception, 4-course meal, live band, DJ, and fantastic prizes to be won in our auction and raffle. The perfect night to enjoy as a work Christmas party or with family and friends! **Contact Freya.**



City Centre Takeover Saturday 24 November 9am-5pm

Join us for our biggest charity collection day of the year where we'll be taking over Briggate all day to raise money! Can you help by collecting or providing entertainment? **Contact Maddy.**



Christmas Market Friday 30 Nov 3pm-8pm & Saturday 1 Dec 10am-4pm

Two days full of festive decorations, gifts, stalls, games and food. Santa will be visiting on both days and we'll also be selling non-drop Nordic Christmas trees. To reserve a tree, **contact Laura.**

Light up a Life Sunday 2 December

Join us at the Hospice for the ceremony to remember your loved one. A second ceremony will also be held on 12 December at Immaculate heart Church. **Call 0113 218 5555.**



Contact Details

Alice 0113 218 5570 or alicec@st-gemma.co.uk
Becky 0113 218 5296 or beckyh@st-gemma.co.uk
Catherine 0113 218 5537 or catherine.m@st-gemma.co.uk
Fay 0113 218 5559 or fayr@st-gemma.co.uk

Freya 0113 218 5580 or freyas@st-gemma.co.uk
Laura 0113 218 5197 or laurah@st-gemma.co.uk
Maddy 0113 218 5575 or maddyb@st-gemma.co.uk
Pete 0113 218 5505 or petew@st-gemma.co.uk
General: 0113 218 5555 fundraising@st-gemma.co.uk
www.events.st-gemma.co.uk



Leeds Santa Dash Sunday 9 December

Dash, dance or prance your way along the streets of Leeds dressed in a Santa suit in this fun-filled 1-5km sponsored event. A Santa suit can be provided when you register; all ages and abilities welcome. **Contact Alice.**

Christmas Tree Collections! Early January

Let us take care of your unwanted Christmas tree come January, in return for a donation to the Hospice. We'll collect and recycle your tree, with support from Leeds Commercial Vehicle Hire. Or if you have a van and can help with the collection, we'd love to hear from you too! **Contact Alice.**



Other ways to support us...

Festive Fundraising

The Big Four-0 Christmas Raffle
 £4,000 jackpot, Christmas hampers and other cash prizes up for grabs! Tickets £1. **Contact Becky or play online!**

Donate instead of sending Christmas cards

Save yourself the time and expense of writing and sending cards. Make a festive donation instead. We can send you a poster or e-card to use instead and show your colleagues, friends or family. **Contact Becky.**

Support your favourite Hospice at work – We can help and offer support along the way! **Contact Catherine.**

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2019!

- Fire Walk Sat 16 Feb
 Walk across red hot coals in support of our patients. **Contact Pete.**

- Bark in the Park Sun 24 Feb
 Sponsored walk for you and your pooch. **Contact Freya.**

- Abseil Sat 23 March
 See Leeds from the third tallest building before taking the plunge. **Contact Freya.**

- London to Paris Cycle September
 2 amazing cities, 299 miles, 40 cyclists and 4 days to do it. Join our exclusive Team St Gemma's. **Contact Fay.**

- Great Wall of China Trek October
 Take on the challenge of a lifetime on this 9-day trip, with 5 days of walking along the iconic wall with an experienced guide, plus time to explore Beijing. **Contact Fay.**

Find all our events here

www.events.st-gemma.co.uk

Make a difference and leave a gift in your Will

We know considering leaving a gift in your Will, of any size, is a very big decision. You may want to know more about how we would spend your donation, what our plans for the future of the Hospice are, or how the Hospice is run, before making any changes to your Will.

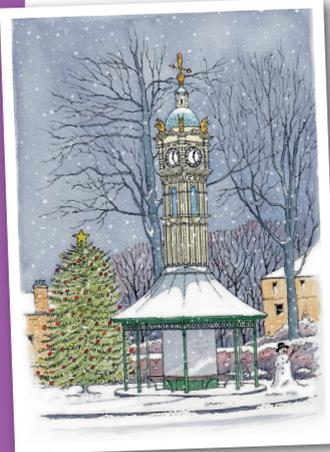
Gifts in Wills are incredibly important to the Hospice, covering the cost of care of 1 in 5 of our patients, so we couldn't do what we do without supporters making this very special gesture.



If you are considering leaving a gift to St Gemma's and you want to find out more, we would like to invite you to the Hospice so that we can answer your questions, and tell you more about what Gifts in Wills allow us to fund.

If you would be interested in attending an information session in spring 2019 please **contact Tara** on **0113 218 5506** or **tarab@st-gemma.co.uk**. Tara would be happy to talk to you over the phone or meet you in person.

Seasons Greetings



Our brand new range of Christmas cards went on sale recently, and they are selling like hot cakes, or warm mince pies! You can purchase yours online, in our chain of charity shops, or by mail order. There really is something for everyone from traditional wreaths and robins, to stunning snowy scenes. Our exclusive designs this year are a Leeds montage and a stunning depiction of Oakwood clock.

Stocks of some designs are already running low, so buy yours today.

Visit **www.st-gemma.co.uk/christmascards** or contact **0113 218 5555** for an order form.

Join us for our **Christmas Gift Sale at the Hospice from 16-18 November, 10am-4pm**. Brand new goods, including Christmas cards, gifts, decorations and other festive essentials. All profits will support patient care.

It's all thanks to you...

Did you know that the care and services provided by St Gemma's Hospice are completely free to patients, their families and carers? This is only possible thanks to the support we receive from people like you and our amazing community of supporters.

Thank you, and please accept our best wishes for the festive season and 2019.

Our busy year in review

St Gemma's Hospice Annual Review is now available if you would like to read about our achievements in the past year. If you would like a copy, please contact **0113 218 5555** or email **busadmin@st-gemma.co.uk**.

We really want to communicate with you and keep you posted about news, events and updates from across St Gemma's. We also want to show you how your support benefits local patients and their families. But we respect your decision if you wish to change how we send you information, or choose not to hear from us at all. Ring us on **0113 218 5555**, email **supportercare@st-gemma.co.uk** or update your preferences online: **www.st-gemma.co.uk/mydata**



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www.facebook.com/st.g.hospice



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