

Our Year

Katharine House Hospice 2004/05

Apr 2004

Final Two Beds Opened for Patients

In Spring 2004 we appointed Dr Sam Soliman as medical director. Shortly after we opened the two remaining beds on our 10-bedded in-patient unit. This enabled us to extend our provision of in patient care for the people of mid-Staffordshire. This means that more patients and families benefit from in-patient care at Katharine House, whether for respite care, for pain and symptom control, or for terminal care. Following Dr Soliman's arrival we saw an increase in activity in a number of key areas, and we supported more patients and carers in this year than ever before. In total 311 patients and carers accessed our services.

In particular we have seen developments in the following areas:

- * Attendance at our Drop In Day has more than doubled
- * Our monthly caseload of Lymphoedema



patients has nearly trebled

- * The average length of stay dropped from 13 to 11 days, with nearly half of our patients going home
- * We reduced the waiting time from referral to admission benefiting both patients and their families
- * We began supporting carers formally through a pilot Carers Group

Patients Have Their Say

May 2004

We continue to develop our services in response to patient need, and also to offer as much choice as possible. This enables us to offer an appropriate and individual package of care for everyone.

With this in mind we set up a Patient User Group to involve patients in developing our services.

The group meets every other month and the outcome of these meetings is that patients help us to provide what they need rather than what we think they may need.



Care Services:

- *Day care
- *In-patient care
- *Drop In Day
- *Lymphoedema Clinic
- *Complementary therapies
- *Spiritual Care
- *Bereavement support
- *Respite for Carers
- *Carers Group

Jun 2004

VOLUNTEERS WEEK!



Volunteer Services Co-ordinator
Janice Coomer

Volunteers' Week takes place every year from 1 - 7 June but as far as Katharine House Hospice is concerned, every week is VOLUNTEERS' WEEK!

This is because a week never goes by without appreciating the valuable contribution that our volunteers make. The donation of time is, in itself, of enormous value but "value" can be measured in so many other important ways.

Volunteers bring the outside world into the Hospice and, after all Katharine House Hospice is for the people of this community so it makes sense that people from that community should be part of what we do. Patients also benefit from volunteer involvement not least because contact with "lay" people can sometimes help when patients and families are new to the Hospice environment.

Volunteers also bring a diverse range of valuable skills. This can be almost anything from IT and Admin skills to pewter work and music appreciation - we even have a volunteer who looks after the fish!

The true value of our volunteers cannot be measured in terms of quantity but in their commitment and reliability as well as the diversity of the services they provide and the most valuable gift of all - themselves.



Sue with Staff Nurse Karen Bell

Caring can be very rewarding, it can also be scary, isolating and tiring. In Summer 2004 we were busy planning the launch of a pilot Carers Group. The aim of the Carers Group was to reduce the 'scariness', help with the isolation, lessen the tiredness and increase the rewards.

Sue is a carer who has used the group, and this is her story - "My husband Bob has a rare muscle-wasting disease called Multiple System Atrophy and three years ago I gave up my job to care for him.

Like a lot of people I heard about Katharine House a long time ago but I thought it was just for cancer patients, but then I attended the Katharine House Hospice carers group and found it helped. The group offers a chance for carers to share experiences, enjoy afternoons out and listen to practical advice from professional speakers.

It gives an opportunity to talk to other carers because you can feel isolated if you aren't part of anything else. Everybody is different but there are similarities in the way we care for people and their needs. Every Friday and alternate Mondays Bob visits the Katharine House Hospice Day Unit. It's quite demanding caring 24 hours a day so it is good have that break. I thought I could do without it but then something happens and you find that you do need it. The input from the Hospice makes a great deal of difference, I was very optimistic and initially thought I could cope alone, but Katharine House Hospice helps me to carry on caring."

Sept/Oct 2004

Fundraising

As an independent local charity with running costs of £1.5 million we rely on voluntary donations and are extremely grateful to all those who support us through our Lottery, Shops and Fundraising activities.

Thanks to all those who support us we are able to go on providing our full range of care services free of charge.



We have been taken to the hearts of our local community as their hospice, and local individuals and companies continue to support us at all levels and in

many different ways. The challenge for us is to ensure that there are many ways to support the Hospice so that there is something to suit everyone's interests and personal circumstances. New activities for this year included a parachute jump which meant our fundraising reached new heights!

Our Lottery proceeds hit an all time high in 2004/05. More and more people are supporting our weekly draw and this was reflected by the fact that the total funds generated by the Katharine House Hospice Lottery hit £800,000 this year and our annual net profit passed the £200,000 mark for the first time ever.



This year was an award-winning year for our shops. Our Stone Shop won the Stafford Borough Council 'Service First' Award in the category of

Charity Retail, and our Eccleshall

Shop was Highly Commended in this category and won the award for 'Best New Business'. Eight of our shop managers achieved their NVQ Level 3 in Management.

Hutsby Mees Supporting Katharine House Hospice

Nov 2004

"I pass Katharine House Hospice on a daily basis, as most of us do, to and from work. One night after hearing a talk about the Hospice I realised how dependent they are on fundraising events. As I listened to the talk I began to realise that I could help this charity. Working with Hutsby Mees Solicitors in town, I thought of the idea of organising a charity quiz night on behalf of the Stafford and District Law Society.

From May I was trying to keep on top of my day-to-day work as well as organising the event. By October I realised everything was taking shape. Team entry forms were coming back thick and fast, and I had organised the venue, quiz master, and raffle prizes. The big day arrived and the venue was packed. The pressure was on - was it going to be a success? Well, everyone had a fabulous time and by the end of the evening, thanks to everyone who supported us, we raised an incredible £1,700 for Katharine House Hospice."

Rachel Greaves, Hutsby Mees



Rachel (centre) & her Quiz Team



Dec 2004

Leaving a Legacy

The income we receive from legacies is one of the most important building blocks for our future. We are extremely grateful for the support of the following generous individuals who remembered us in their will.

Our Thanks To:

Nellie Blackman, Edna Jessie Boyd, Ellen Doris Dale, Barbara Ellis, Joan Griffiths, Gladys Beatrice Groucott, Mr L J Jackson, Beatrice Mary Morris, Michael Anthony O'Donnell, Joan Mary Pearce, Gertrude May Roberts, Marjorie Nance Warren, Betty Irene Webb.

We hope that having made provision for their loved ones, more supporters will consider leaving a gift to Katharine House Hospice in their will.



Courtesy of The Express & Star.

Roll of Honour

Jan/Feb 2005

Our thanks to the following for their support this year:

Local Companies

ABV Training	John Leigh (Printers) Ltd
Academy of High Achievers	Millar Sandy
AP Webb Plant Hire Ltd	Mortgage Code Compliance Board
AREVA T&D UK Ltd	Motoring Solutions
Barclays	Norton Bridge Alliance
Bentley Jennison	Ottakar's Bookstore
BNI Stafford	Panda Press
Boomm.com	Peter Cooks Health and Beauty
Bostons of Milford	Pickering & Butters
Bridgemere Nurseries	Phusion
Carillion	Pritchard Holdings Plc
Carrier Ltd	RBS Office Supplies
ECS Ltd	Regent Travel of Stone
Elster Metering Systems	Roadchef
Esporta	Rowneys
Francesco Group Stone	Schott Glass Ltd
Friel Construction Ltd	Staffordshire Newspapers
George Street Press	Tesco
Guildhall Shopping Centre	The Chetwyn Arms
Hand Morgan & Owen	The Swan, Stafford
Hixon Airfield	Trident Steel (Reinforcements) Ltd
Hutsby Mees	Zero Seal Systems Ltd

Charitable Trusts

Albert Hunt Trust
Baron Davenports Charity
Childwick Trust
The John Ellerman Foundation
The Garfield Weston Foundation
Help the Hospices
Henry Smith Charity
Lichfield Charitable Trust
M. Lockhat Charitable Trust
Midlands Co-Operative Society Limited
Patients' Aid Association
St. James' Place Foundation
Tesco Charity Trust
Uttoxeter & District Aid in Sickness Fund

Thank you also to those trusts who wish to remain anonymous.



And many thanks
to our sponsors
Hutsby Mees

Mar 2005

Our Plans & Aspirations



As we come to the end of every financial year we look forward to the next.

- * Trying to address our inequitable level of statutory funding.

- * Continuing to develop our care services in response to patient need.



Our plans for the coming year include:

- * Developing the support we offer to carers through a Respite for Carers sitting service.

We are indebted to the people of Mid-Staffordshire for the fact that WE CAN plan for the future. As an independent, local charity we rely heavily on your contributions of time and money to enable us to go on caring for our patients and their families. It would not be possible to continue without your vital support. On behalf of the families who benefit, thank you for all that you do for Katharine House Hospice,



- * Increasing awareness that our services are not just for people with cancer but for those with any advanced life-limiting condition.

Richard

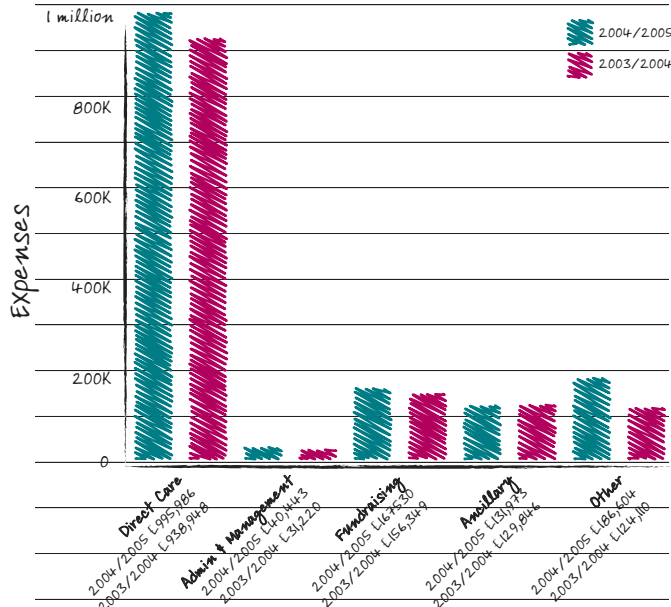
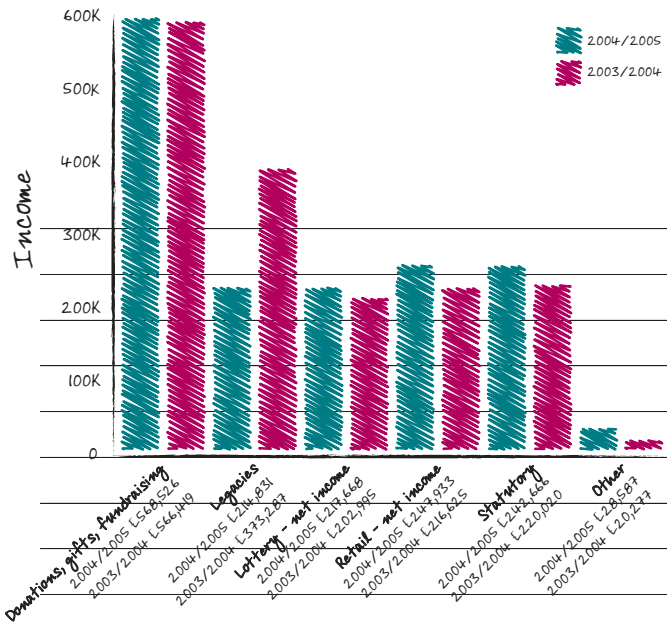


- * Strengthening our fundraising activities by opening more shops,

Richard Soulsby - Chief Executive

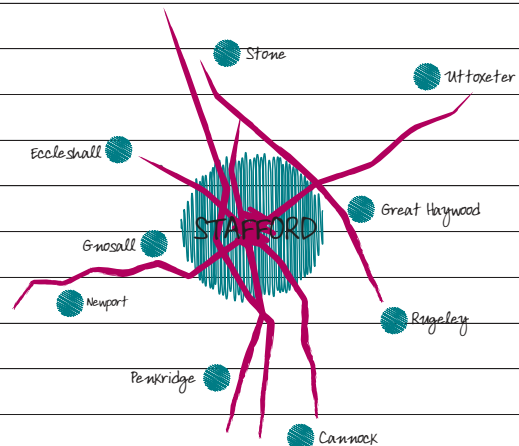
developing our calendar of events and appeals, and increasing the membership of our Lottery.

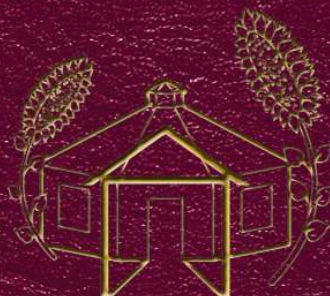
Notes



Our Financial Position - Financially Katharine House Hospice has continued to make significant progress. Incoming resources increased by £238K to £1.68m, whilst expenditure increased by £172K to £1.52m. The operating surplus increased from £60,694 to £156,131, whilst gains on investments were £26,457. The charity had a net cash inflow for the year of £125,552. The Trustees' policy is to build unrestricted reserves of twelve months operating costs. Currently our free reserves are £822,465 which is half a year's running costs. Our statutory income covers 16% of our running costs and we continue to rely heavily on voluntary donations.

The Community We Serve





with thanks to

Hutsby Mees who have kindly sponsored this publication

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