



katharine
house
hospice 
embracing life and living

Annual Review 2007/2008

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ORJ Solicitors LLP, in line with our ongoing commitment to Katharine House Hospice, are delighted to sponsor the 2007/08 Annual Review.

We hope our continued assistance will further enable Katherine House to provide their much needed care and support.

Queensville House, 49 Queensville, Stafford, ST17 4NL
Tel: 01785 223440 Email: lawyers@orj.co.uk

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The trustees are delighted with the many developments that have helped to consolidate the work of the Hospice during the last year. The most visible sign of continued progress was the extensive refurbishment of the Day Care Unit and entranceway. This work was fully funded through the successful efforts of the fundraising team.

"The trustees are indebted to our volunteer workforce. The hospice would be unable to function as it does without the valuable contribution they make."

The result is a Day Unit that is much more spacious for patients, and with a great deal more privacy. The dining room has been moved next to the old reception, which has been converted into the patient's lounge. One benefit has been to create a single welcoming entrance to the hospice and a consequent improvement in security.

Another high profile development was the launch of our first Recycling Centre on St Albans Road, Stafford in December. Initial progress is positive with supporters old and new embracing this new concept. It is expected that this venture will break even in its first year of operation.

Less visible has been the improved relationship with the local Primary Care Trust. South Staffordshire PCT was formed in October 2006 and promises were made that they would look into hospice funding. During the latter part of last year it became clear that South Staffordshire intend to deliver a transparent and equitable system of funding. It has been refreshing to feel that the Hospice is now being treated as a partner.

The trustees continue to be indebted to our volunteer workforce. The hospice would be unable to function as it does without the valuable contribution they make.

The future is looking much brighter for the hospice, and as always we continue with our aim to deliver the best level of palliative care for those in Stafford and the surrounding areas faced with an illness that cannot be cured.

Dr John Gibson
Chairman



Pictured healthcare assistant
Ginny Owen

Peter Liptrott had been in remission from lymphoma when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. The cancer was non-curable and the emphasis of treatment was to get his cancer under control. Peter comes into the hospice for periods of planned respite.

Peter says: 'I was in a lot of pain and it was my Macmillan Nurse who suggested that I should go to Katharine House Hospice as an in-patient. I wasn't keen on the idea although my wife was confident.

"The care and attention that you as a patient receive is second to none and makes a difficult experience easier to bear."

When I arrived at the hospice I was given a very warm welcome. I had been in terrible pain for a couple of months but after the care I received at the hospice I felt like a different person within a matter of days.

The moment you enter the doors the staff seem to work their magic to allay ones fears. The care and attention that you as a patient receive is second to none and makes a difficult experience easier to bear.'

David Hughes from Moss Pit in Stafford has been caring for his wife Edith since she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2006. David comes to hospice to access the carers group which is run by Staff Nurse Karen Bell. David says:

'It is vital that I stay well to keep Edith well. It's important to keep her spirits up. She comes to Katharine House on Monday and Wednesday, so that helps and I come to Karen's group every other Thursday.

'I didn't know about Katharine House until Edith started coming here. People who are in a similar situation to me, I am sure would benefit from coming or at least giving it a try.'

It's a break from it all. There are people in similar situations, we do different activities, we do painting – it's a way to switch off. It's relaxing, it gets me out of the house and if I need anything I have got Karen here.'

David encourages other carers who may be feeling alone and unsupported to visit Katharine House Hospice. David concluded:

'I didn't know about Katharine House until Edith started coming here. People who are in a similar situation to me, I am sure would benefit from coming or at least giving it a try.'



Pictured David with Staff Nurse Karen Bell

Photo courtesy of Lee Morrall 01543 876267

We are pleased to announce that the building project that has seen the reconfiguration of the key patients areas in the hospice is complete and all the new refurbished areas are up and running.

The cost was funded by a series of one off grants and donations from Charitable Trusts and a small number of significant donations from individual supporters. The cost of construction was raised over the last three years in addition to the £1.72 million it costs to keep the Hospice running annually. The Day Care patients have settled in nicely to their new ultra

roomy lounge which can accommodate more wheelchairs and is spacious, airy and benefits from lots of natural light. Making their way to the dining room next door is now much easier for the patients when they go to enjoy their midday meals.

"Its really good, its brilliant – the layout of the rooms. Everything is there for you. Its easier for the care team to move people round and make them comfy. Its much more convenient to have the dining room next door, now we push the tables together and lunch is a lot more sociable."

Adrian, Day Care Patient.

The newly created activity room forms part of the lounge enabling patients who are not directly participating to feel part of the action. Increased space and wider door openings

also increase the capacity of the building to cater for patients coping with the challenges of conditions that may affect their mobility eg multiple sclerosis.



We now have one central and multi-functional reception area for use by patients, families, volunteers and staff alike. The space that has been created is larger and accommodates a small shop as well as a comfortable waiting area.

Just off reception is a small relative's room which families can use whilst they are visiting the hospice. The chapel is also located near to the reception area to make it a lot more accessible to patients and their families.

*"Its lovely, beautiful, airy and so very comfy.
There is plenty of room. It has enabled the nurses to deliver
a better standard of care as there is lots more room."*

Laurie, Day Care Patient

We would like to thank all those who contributed to this project. Our thanks also go to our patients and their families, the volunteers and the staff for their patience during the alterations, we look forward to delivering an enhanced level of care to more patients.

BUILDING RECONFIGURATION PROJECT

The Charles Hayward Foundation	Henry Smith Charity
The Connie & Albert Taylor Charitable Trust	Mercers' Company
Department of Health	Stafford Borough Council
Help the Hospices	Stafford Aid in Sickness Fund
	The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation

Our special thanks also to Barry Baggott and Derek Colwell for their tremendous personal donations for this project.



Our income generation teams continue to try to raise the shortfall between our statutory funding and running costs. The hospice receives a healthy level of support from the community it serves. This support is vital and is much appreciated. The public can donate to the hospice in many ways including by attending an event, donating items for sale in our shops or by becoming a lottery player.



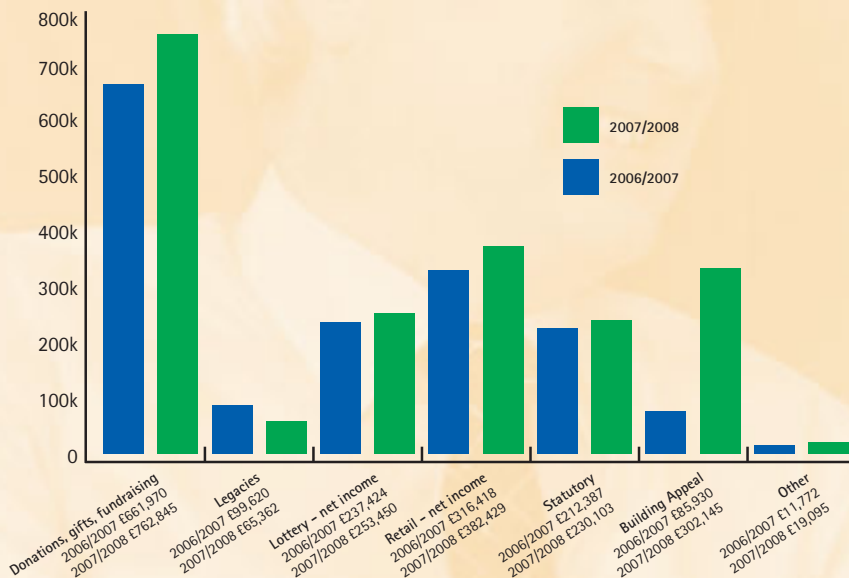
Volunteer Facts and Figures

- Number of volunteers in total 320
- Number of hours contributed in total 16425
- Value of voluntary time £94,115
(based on minimum wage of £5.73)
- New volunteers recruited this year 46
- Age of youngest to oldest volunteer (naming no names!) 19/80
- Number of long service awards awarded 33

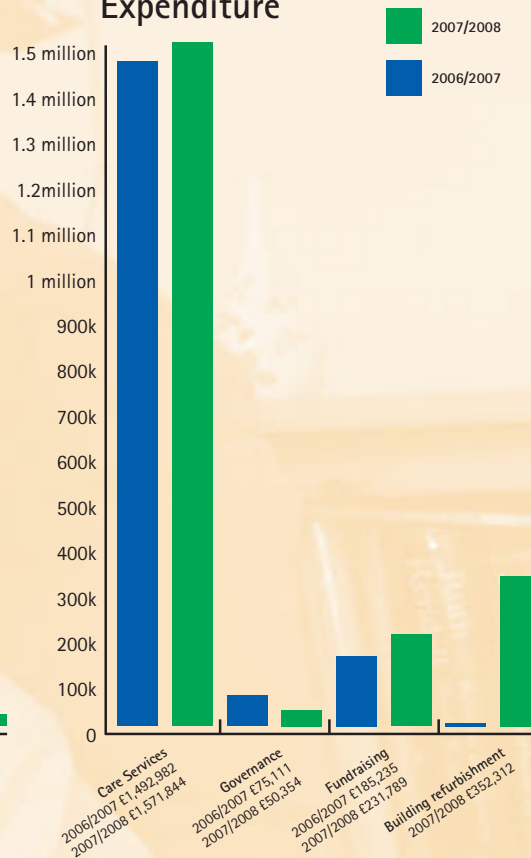


"Katharine House Hospice remains in a financially challenging position and will always look to the local community for the vast majority of our funding"

Income



Expenditure



Trustees have now approved additional resources during 2008/09 to increase our capacity to take patients in both the day unit and lymphoedema services and this will be a priority for the second half of the coming year.

A second priority will be to ensure we widen access to our services to as many people as possible. This will mean ensuring our staff and volunteers are trained to assist patients with a wide range of conditions. Already the proportion of non cancer patients in day care is approaching 20%, but there are many more people who could benefit from our support and we must reach out to them.

Now that Katharine House is soon to be in the position of having a stable and more appropriate level of statutory funding, the trustees and managers need to review the charity's strategic vision. Initial discussions have given rise to a wide variety of ideas.

It is clear that the hospice will need to support South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust in its objectives of providing people who are coming to the end of their lives with greater freedom and choice in the type of care they receive and where

this care is delivered. Katharine House will also need to look at partnership working. However, the highest priority will be to develop the multi-disciplinary team, especially consultant medical input and support from physiotherapy, occupational therapy and family support workers.



I would like to thank the local community in Mid-Staffordshire for the wonderful support of time and money they provide to the Hospice. The increasing support of the community since the inpatient unit opened has ensured the success of the hospice. Thanks also to ORJ Solicitors for supporting the hospice by sponsoring this publication.

*Thank you for your
continued support
Richard*

Richard Soulsby
Chief Executive

Roll of Honour 07/08

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The Castle Tavern
The Moat House Hotel
The Swan
Tillington Hall Hotel
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Traction
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Uttoxeter Racecourse
Virgin Trains
Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe, Stafford
Yorkshire Bank

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W E Dunn Charitable Trust
Wesleyan Charity Advisory Committee
Wilfred & Elsie Elkes Charity

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

We are hugely grateful to the following individuals for remembering us in their will:

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Angela Janet Sally Capey
Nora Edith Denham
Ronald Henry Kirby
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Mary Goodwin

Katharine House Hospice, Weston Road, Stafford ST16 3SB

t: 01785 254645 f: 01785 247803

e. info@khospice.org.uk

w. www.khospice.org.uk