



Your Hospice

Newsletter 2026

See the difference you've made to local families

Inside:

Sarah & Karl's
story, our
latest news &
your impact



Get involved: www.khhospice.org.uk



▲ Dave Fletcher with our Chair of Trustees, Peter Catchpole, and members of our care team

Welcome

2026 is already proving to be an important year for our hospice. Thanks to the kindness of supporters like you, we've been able to support **2,630** local people and their loved ones during 2025-26.

This edition of our newsletter also marks a new chapter for Katharine House Hospice. Earlier this year, Dr Richard Soulsby departed after almost 30 years of dedicated service. Richard helped shape the hospice that so many local people know and trust today, and we thank him for his remarkable contribution.

As the new Chief Executive, I'm proud to be building on that legacy. Having led the care team at the hospice for the last four years, I've seen first-hand the difference your support makes to local people and families every day.

Inside this newsletter, you'll meet some of the people whose lives have been touched by your kindness and learn more about the difference your support makes every day. You'll also get an update on our Building Care project.

I'm incredibly proud of what our hospice community achieves together every day, and grateful for the continued support that makes our care possible.

Thank you.

David Fletcher
Chief Executive

20 years at the heart of the community

For 20 years, Angie has been at the heart of our Penkridge shop, where every donation and volunteer hour helps fund our compassionate care.

Leading a team of volunteers aged 24 to 82, Angie says the shop is powered by kindness, with some giving their time for free for nearly 30 years.



What I love most is knowing we're making a difference. I couldn't do it without our wonderful volunteers.

Angie

Dan has also gained confidence since joining the team as a volunteer.

"I was struggling with my mental health, finding it hard even to leave the house. This has been fantastic for me. I feel so supported." Dan.

If you've ever thought about getting involved, we'd love to welcome you. With more volunteers, we can fund more care.



◀ Dan enjoying new-found confidence thanks to volunteering

◀ Angie & the Penkridge team

Pop into your nearest shop for a no-commitment taster. www.khhospice.org.uk/find-a-hospice-shop-near-you

Find a shop



Amazing support, inspired by our care

Going the extra mile

In January, eight-year-old Teddy set himself a challenge: to run a mile every day in memory of his great-grandad, Duncan.

Through rain, snow and dark winter mornings, he kept going, raising over £3,000 to thank the team who cared for his family.



I decided to run a mile every day... in memory of my great-grandad. The hospice really cared for him and supported my nanny.

Teddy

◀ Eight-year-old Teddy, a fundraising superstar



▲ Teddy enjoying time with his great-grandad

His mum Zoe added: “No matter how tired he was, Teddy got it done. I’m bursting with pride.”

Since completing his challenge, Teddy has been named a finalist in the BBC Make a Difference Awards, recognising the incredible impact of his fundraising.



► Tributes to Julze on the cars at Silverstone



When taking part means more

Julze was well known at Silverstone, where he worked as a Pit Lane Manager in the British GT Championship.

Although too unwell to take part in our Firewalk, he still shared a moment that mattered. With help from our care team, he stood from his wheelchair to hold his wife Rachel's hand as she walked the hot coals. He died just a few days later.



It meant so much to Julze to be part of it. He felt included – and so proud.

Rachel

► A proud moment for Julze with his certificate



She later asked for Julze's Katharine House Hospice Firewalk wristband to stay with him; it meant that much to them both.

During the Silverstone 500 race weekend, colleagues honoured Julze with a minute's silence and tributes on their cars.

These are the moments your support makes possible.

Be inspired. Take part in a fundraising event and make a difference.
www.khhospice.org.uk/events-and-challenges/

Take part



Because of you, moments like this are possible



“

I need everyone to know what an amazing place this is.

Sarah

When Karl's health declined suddenly, he had one simple wish: to marry his fiancée, Sarah.

They had already been planning their wedding and hoped it could still happen. When Karl shared his wish with our team, everyone came together to make it happen.

In just 48 hours, our inpatient team, volunteer chaplain and catering team transformed our Therapy & Wellbeing Centre into a beautiful wedding space.

Sarah: "Karl feels safe here, and he relaxes – which makes me feel safe too. The support is out of this world."

Thanks to your support, more families can share cherished moments like these.



Did you know?

One in four patients is cared for thanks to a gift left to us in a will. Gifts in wills help make compassionate care possible, at no cost during your lifetime.

Find out more



Find out more:
www.khhospice.org.uk/wills

Together, we're making a difference

2,630

People

received expert hospice care and support



7,877

Hours of care

were provided in people's homes by our Hospice at Home team



1,927

Specialist nurse

home visits supported patients and families



2,381

Social group

attendances helped reduce isolation & improve wellbeing



1,565

Counselling sessions

supported patients and those close to them through illness, loss and bereavement



2,624

Lymphoedema

treatments helped patients manage the impact of their condition



226

Inpatient admissions

for specialist palliative and end-of-life care



► Foundations being laid for
our expanded Inpatient Unit



Building more room to care

Work is well underway on our £1.8 million project to improve and expand our inpatient unit. Building Care will create more room to care for local people and families.

Demand for hospice care continues to grow, with more people being referred to our services than ever before. At the same time, many patients are living with increasingly complex needs, and demand for our inpatient beds remains consistently high.

When complete, our refurbished inpatient unit will provide 10 modern en-suite bedrooms, offering greater comfort, privacy and dignity for patients, as well as more space for families to be together when it matters most.

While work continues, our specialist inpatient care team are temporarily based at County Hospital, where patients and families continue to receive the same expert care from the same dedicated hospice staff.

Thanks to you, all our care continues to help patients and loved ones every day.



► Our care
continues

Building Care so far

- Inpatient care successfully relocated to County Hospital
- Demolition complete
- Construction underway
- Reopening planned for November/December 2026

Find out more:
www.khhospice.org.uk/build

Find out more



The small things matter

Sometimes, it's the smallest things that make the biggest difference.

At our Therapy & Wellbeing Centre, support often begins with a simple question: "What matters to you?"

For one patient, it was LEGO. After becoming too unwell to work, something she loved had become out of reach.



"She absolutely loved building LEGO models," says Cathy, our Outpatient Lead.

"It gave her something positive to focus on."

By helping her access a LEGO subscription, we helped her reconnect with something she loved.

▲ Just talking with our care staff can really make a difference



When someone reconnects with what matters to them, that's when you see real change.

Small things like this can mean everything – helping someone feel like themselves again.

By giving a small amount regularly, you can help make moments like this possible every day.
www.khhospice.org.uk/regular-giving/

Donate here



Join us for our biggest event this September

Walk to Remember brings hundreds of people together to honour loved ones while raising funds for hospice care.

“

I come back every year because it keeps Adrian close to us. Walking alongside my family and others who understand means everything.

Gaynor

Gaynor with her family at Walk to Remember ►



For Gaynor and her family, the event has become a special way to remember her husband Adrian, who was cared for by our specialist teams.

After first taking part in 2024 with 12 family members, three generations of Gaynor's family now walk together each year in Adrian's memory.

Join us:
**Saturday,
26 September
5.30 pm,
Shugborough
Estate**

Register today and walk in memory of someone special. www.khhospice.org.uk/walk

Join us



Please return your completed form to the address at the bottom of this form, or in the FREEPOST envelope provided.

Title	First name	Surname
Address		Postcode
		Year of birth
		Tel
		Email

I would like to make a donation to support your care:

☐ £20 ☐ £35 ☐ £100 Other £

If you would like to set up a regular donation, please visit our website.

Please complete your payment details

☐ Cash / Cheque enclosed (payable to Katharine House Hospice) ☐ Credit / Debit card (please debit my card using the details below)

Cardholder's name:

Expiry date:

Security code:

 / 3 digits on back of card

Debit/credit card number:

Date:

Signature:

Please return your completed form to the postal address below.
You can also donate online at
www.khhospice.org.uk

Your donation is worth more to us if you Gift Aid it

First name	Surname
------------	---------

giftaid it

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand if I pay less Income Tax and / or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in the tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify the charity if you: want to cancel this declaration, change your name or address, no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

☐ No, I am not a UK tax payer

We will continue to contact you by post or phone where appropriate unless you ask us to stop. You can change how you hear from us by calling Fundraising on **01785 270 808** or emailing **fundraising@khhospice.org.uk**

If you are happy for us to

email you then please tick here ☐

Email

Katharine House Hospice, Weston Road, Stafford, ST16 3SB
Tel: 01785 254645 Email: info@khhospice.org.uk

www.khhospice.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1011712. Company Limited by Guarantee.
Registered Office as above in England. Registered No. 2700516

**katharine
house
hospice** 

embracing life and living

Thank you for your support; it makes all the difference.