



Friends

AUTUMN 2022

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Welcome

May I offer you all a very warm welcome to our latest newsletter.

I hope the months have been kind to you since our last newsletter. The country is looking a little different since then with rising fuel costs, a new Prime Minister and the very sad passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II. In spite of all the changes, one thing has remained constant and that is our commitment to the Rossendale Valley and its residents.

We are going through a recruitment drive to grow our valuable team and enable us to meet the growing needs of our community. To do this our fundraising department has worked hard to develop new ways to bring financial support to the Hospice.

As you will see in this issue, our website has had a marvellous makeover, with a clearer system for how your donations help the hospice, as well as a brand new online shop where you will be able to purchase products and gift items exclusive to the Hospice; ideal for Christmas.

We have built on last year's inaugural Gin 'n' Trek event by developing our very own gin which is already becoming a favourite amongst local gin lovers.



For the tech savvy amongst you you'll see QR codes which will take you directly to set areas of our website to make helping us even easier.

This is a particularly positive issue of the newsletter, with lots to look back on with pride, plenty of great things to look forward to and some astounding stories of generosity, strength and inspiration.

We are just a few months away from our end of year Light Up A life Service, where our supporter community gathers to celebrate, remember and share a special moment. I hope you will join us there so that we may thank you in person for your continued support.

Geoff Summers, Chairman

Get in touch if you'd like to advertise your business with us: fundraising@rossendalehospice.org

Rossendale Hospice
New Cribden House
Rossendale PHCC
161 Bacup Road
Rawtenstall BB4 7PL

Tel: 01706 253 633 option 3

Email: fundraising@rossendalehospice.org

Web: www.rossendalehospice.org

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Taking fun seriously

Patients accessing our Wellbeing Services are there for serious reasons, but it doesn't mean we can't make their time there enjoyable.

Our Wellbeing Team are some of our most prized staff members. They work the balance of helping patients through some incredibly difficult times and finding new ways for them to express themselves, retain social relationships and very importantly, laugh.

This year alone in between vital services like complementary therapies and counselling, our patients have been treated to some very special moments.

*Pictured below:
Our Wellbeing team (and Her Majesty) ahead of the special Jubilee party)*



So far this year, special events have included celebrating the Queen's Jubilee (complete with cardboard Queen and tea party) games of chair tennis with strawberries and cream during Wimbledon and a Summer luau with grass skirts, flowers and mocktails.

They were even treated to a visit from the Rossendale Ukelele band for a good sing-a-long. (pictured above)

For many patients, these days provide much needed moments of light relief. It is very important to our team to ensure that even on days when patients are in for sessions which focus on their condition and diagnoses, that there are smiles and humour to help balance the scales.



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CARE

Can you help fund our Wellbeing Days with a regular donation ?

£25
Per Month
Wellbeing Day Care

More than just fun though, moments like these remind those with a life-limiting condition that life is for living. A huge part of what we do is to support patients emotionally as well as physically. To us they are always more than just patients, they are humans with plenty left to give.

We have patients like Roy, who got to show his skills on the dance-floor by taking Palliative Support Worker Thayne by the hand for some expert Jiving. Moments like this remind us all that the person we are pre-diagnosis will still be there afterwards; we just have to give ourselves the courage and a safe space to let them out.



Roy may not be up for winning any competitions now (though we wouldn't put it past him) but it doesn't mean he has to stop doing what he loves. Rossendale Hospice will always be there to encourage patients to keep those experiences coming. There's a reason our motto is "Make Every Moment Count"

One very special art therapy project focused on creating pieces of hand-painted art to be displayed in gardens for Rossendale Civic Pride's entry into the Britain in Bloom competition.

Patients were tasked with creating plaques using techniques learnt during their art therapy sessions with tutor Sandra which would compliment the themes and colours of the beautiful floral creations displayed across Rossendale managed by the fantastic volunteers at Civic Pride.

Patients like Robert (pictured below) were overwhelmed by the joys of learning new skills at this point in their lives and all were thrilled at being an integral part of a big community project. Opportunities like these remind patients that they are useful, important and creative and we have even had enquiries from people wishing to purchase their work.

Jill Jackson, a Civic Pride volunteer said "Having the plaques from the Hospice added a real community feel to the displays and I think helped remind people why they should be proud of their Valley. The judges loved it"

So did Robert.



Here come the brides

So many wonderful brides chose to donate their own special dresses to Rossendale Hospice this year that recently we had a Bridal Extravaganza!

To make the most of some spectacular gowns, we enlisted the help of volunteers and local venues to help create a gorgeous gallery of photographs.

Members of the Rossendale Hospice team, Joanna and Melanie were joined by the very inspirational Francesca Dean for some impromptu bridal photographs.



With over 40 dresses donated it was tricky choosing which ones to shoot and we were inundated with offers of volunteer models and assistants.

These beautiful shots and more were captured by local photographer Nicky Ashworth of Art to Heart Photography much to the fascination of visitors to Rawtenstall Train Station. They were even joined for a few shots by scene stealer, Jam. (pictured below)



Joanna's beautiful felt sunflower bouquet and head-dress (pictured left) were kindly on loan from Jo at the Alternative Florist who also ran sunflower making workshops with donations made to the Hospice.

Increase the value of your clothing donation by **25%** for FREE by saying YES to *giftaid it*

The high point of the project though was the day spent with Francesca who contacted the hospice to volunteer for the shoot.

Francesca has Cerebral Palsy and was eager to prove that living with a limiting condition doesn't mean you are limited in what you can achieve. A real advocate for disability awareness, when not posing for the camera she can be found playing powerchair football with the Lancashire Spitfires!

On the day beautician Leoni Jade gave her a makeover and Francesca had her pick of the dresses, choosing the one whose sparkles most closely matched her personality.



Francesca wanted to help promote the Hospice as she has benefitted from some of our services in the past. She says that her experience with the hospice *"empowered me to feel stronger and more confident. It doesn't matter what your path is in life, disability isn't your destination"*

We can't thank her enough for her time, her drive and her infectious positivity.

For more photos and information from the shoots, please head to our newly re-vamped website:

www.rossendalehospice.org/bridal



Light Up A Life

After two years of COVID and the recent loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, there is a real sense of people being more reflective as we head into the latter end of the year.

Our Light Up A Life Service is an annual December event that allows for and encourages reflection on the past year and memories of loved ones this Christmas.

This year's non-denominational service will be held at St. Mary's Church in Rawtenstall on the evening of Thursday 8th December and will feature readings, song and entertainment. There will be tea, mince pies and time to mingle with others.

Crawshawbooth Primary School Choir will treat attendees to song whilst the 2nd Rossendale Scout Band will provide rousing brass band music, perfect for the season. There will also be memorial items to purchase in advance or on the night such as mini wreaths and lapel badges.



The evening culminates in a very special video presentation of dedications.

Anyone who wishes to can request a dedication for their loved ones through our website and those names will be displayed on screen with musical accompaniment during a candle-lit service of remembrance. This is always an emotional moment but will provide a wonderful sense of healing and community.

Funds from dedications continue to contribute to vital care in the Valley from Rossendale Hospice as we work all through the Christmas period, assisting those in need of palliative care in their own homes; supporting families going through an incredibly difficult time, spend one last Christmas together.

Those making a dedication will be able to attend the evening service if they wish. We hope to see you at there and share the evening with you.



How to book

Tickets for the service, personal dedications and wreaths can all be ordered through our website, along side other gift items available to purchase from our brand new on-line shop. You can head to www.rossendalehospice.org/LUAL or for those with a smart phone, hover your phone's camera over the QR code below to take you straight to the Light Up A Life page.



Alternatively, those of you who have taken part in Light Up A Life in previous years will receive an easy to complete paper form in the post to make it as simple as possible.



Hospice Heroes

We love being able to say a huge thank you to anyone who raises funds for us here at Rossendale Hospice, no matter how much they raise. This year, many individuals have helped fund our services; from buckets of change gathered at street parties, to a few hundred pounds from supporters like Granville Barker who asked for donations to the Hospice in lieu of gifts for his 80th birthday. Everything you do makes a huge difference to us.

We were so very proud of the amazing team at Gamma Communications (pictured below) who chose Rossendale Hospice as one of

their corporate charities of the year this year and ran the Great North Run 2022 for us.

Together they raised an astonishing

£9,178.75* (*so far!)

That's an amazing amount which could fund over 57 Night Sits.

Thank you Team Gamma.



Pride of Rossendale

Back in June we decided to give back to all those out in our community who have dedicated huge parts of their lives to others by launching the Pride of Rossendale Awards.

With seven categories to choose from Valley businesses, community groups and individuals were nominated in acknowledgement of their good deeds.

We were inundated with nominations from the general public, happy to lay praise on those that had given aid through the COVID crisis, who were working on community initiatives, or who have simply spent years volunteering their services to the benefit of others.

The Awards Ceremony took place on June 17th at the Ashcroft in Whitworth and was compered by Peter Sweetmore. Over 170 people gathered to congratulate the winners and nominees.



*Left:
Young Person of the Year:
Agatha Midgley*

*Below:
Man of the Year:
James Neary*



The first winner of the evening was the Special Recognition Award. Deborah Harrison, pictured left, who was overwhelmed to find her name on the trophy.

The top award, Pride of the Valley went to Louise Cooper for all her work helping disadvantaged children with her volunteer-led group, Kids In Rossendale.

Winners were escorted from stage to a photographer and interviews with Rossendale Radio by the very charming Tom O'Toole and treated to entertainment from Grant Bromley and the Valley Actors with a preview of 'Calendar Girls', showing at the Civic Theatre, Oswaldtwistle, 21st-25th February 2023.



*Left:
Special Recognition
Award: Deborah
Harrison*

*Right:
Entertainment
from
Grant Bromley
and the
Calendar Girls*





Left:
Pride of the
Valley winner,
Louise Cooper

Can you collect for us?

We appreciate that this winter, bills may be high but there are ways you can help Rossendale Hospice continue their services without large financial donations.

One way is to host a collection box. This could be at reception at work, on your shop countertop or school canteen. Many items have monetary value for us if recycled. These include:

- **Used and foreign stamps**
- **Foreign currency**
- **Broken jewellery**
- **Outdated or broken phones and other technology**

If you can't host a box there may be one in your community you can donate to. So next time you go to throw away that old envelope or snapped chain, why not consider donating it to us instead.

Collection boxes can be ordered directly on 01706 253633, through our website, or by scanning below and we will drop off and collect when it's full. There's also a full list of collection points to be found so start saving now.



Full list of winners:

Special Recognition Award

Deborah Harrison

sponsored by Rossendale Ladies Supper Club

Man of the Year

James Neary

sponsored by Thrive Gym

Woman of the Year

Janet Wilmot

sponsored by Unscripted

Young Person of the Year

Agatha Midgley

sponsored by Kids In Rossendale

Hospice Star of the Year

Joshua Bee

sponsored by David Gould Opticians

Community Group of the Year

Kids In Rossendale

sponsored by Mr. Fitzpatrick's

Supportive Business of the Year

Ninja Coffee Company

sponsored by Churnside Funerals

Pride of the Valley

Louise Cooper

sponsored by Scentsh

Our thanks go to event sponsors, **Scentsh** and welcome drinks sponsor **Harrison Saw** plus **Anna McMullen** for capturing the wonderful photographs of the evening.



Be inspired by Charlotte

We are always humbled when supporters go the extra mile for us. Some have leapt from aeroplanes, some driven across deserts, others climbed mountains. This time the mountain was Ben Nevis and the climber was very special indeed.

Meet Charlotte. Not only did she and her team raise over £2,000 for Rossendale Hospice, she did it whilst under incredibly difficult circumstances.

Charlotte has inoperable stage 3 Ovarian Cancer and has been a regular patient and recipient of our Wellbeing Service this year.

Climbing Ben Nevis has been a life long ambition for Charlotte and she was not about to allow her diagnosis to hold her back from achieving it.



Together with her friends and team mates, Drew and Kayleigh (pictured above) Charlotte proudly reached the summit in September and was truly exhilarated by the whole experience.

When asked what spurred her on to climb for Rossendale Hospice, Charlotte said:

"The wonderful team at the hospice have done so much to help me through, both physically and mentally. They've helped me remember I'm still Charlotte and with the right support I can do anything, even climb mountains."

Charlotte, you are an inspiration. Thank you.



GIVE
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CARE

Can you help patients like Charlotte receive therapies such as massage or reiki to ease their symptoms and improve their stress levels?



Team Hospice

We are very proud of the team we have here at the hospice and are always looking for more people to join us across all departments.

Some come to us as volunteers, other as permanent full time employees, others on an ad hoc basis.

If you have skills that we may be able to utilise, please do get in touch. Our ad hoc Palliative Support Workers are integral to us being able to offer our Hospice at Home and Wellbeing services when they are needed most.

We currently also have vacancies in our retail and fundraising departments. The vacancies page on our website is updated regularly, including volunteer posts, so please feel free to head to **www.rossendalehospice.org** or by scanning the QR code below.

Or you can call us anytime if you you'd like to discuss how you might become a part of our team on 01706 253633.



Let's Celebrate

In 2023 Rossendale Hospice will be celebrating 35 years of service and we want to shout about it!

We're so proud of every single member of our team and extended volunteer family that we want to spend the year highlighting their great contributions and remembering standout moments.

We're looking for ideas on how to showcase, celebrate and get the community engaged, so if you have suggestions, drop us a line.

We'd love to hear from you if you:

- Could volunteer a venue
- Have a band, act or service that could contribute to an event
- Can loan out party equipment
- Would like to join our 35th Birthday Celebration Committee
- Or simply have a great idea for your own co-ordinated event

If you think you can help, please get in touch:

fundraising@rossendalehospice.org
or call 01706 253633 opt 3



Using our 'Gin Initiative'

Our newest initiative in fundraising for Rossendale Hospice is the launch of our very own Gin.

From the success of our Gin 'n' Trek event came an idea: to make our own branded gin. We didn't just want to add our logo to any gin though, we wanted one that we felt truly represented the hospice, our services and what we stand for. That's why we turned to Paul, of Ramsbottom based distillery Holcombe Gin to work with us on a special blend exclusive to the hospice.

Being mindful of our patients and their needs, we wanted the botanicals in our gin to have properties that throughout the ages have been used for healing, so that in our case, the gin IS the tonic.

Paul, who wanted to support the hospice after his wife developed cancer, infused his London dry gin with dried orange peel and our hand-selected herbs to produce a quality gin we are very proud of.

The team worked together to pool a list of herbs, an eye-catching design and a name that worked. So was born our brand, '**Moments Count**' and our first gin, **Courage**. We're hoping this may prove so popular that we might produce other blends with other properties, but for now, you can enjoy a spot of **Courage**, safe in the knowledge that your tippie is helping to fund palliative care in your community.

About our gin

Our **Moments Count: Courage Gin** is hand-crafted in small batches.

Blended with a bouquet garni of healing herbs and perfectly complimented by warming dried orange peel, our **Courage** gin will soothe your body and mind.

Botanicals include:

- anti-inflammatory Lovage
- anti-oxidant Nettle
- vitalising Rosehip
- calming Mugwort
- tonic for the blood, Angelica
- traditional hangover cure, Feverfew
- plus Vervain famed for reducing pain, insomnia & anxiety

Smooth and aromatic, **Courage** gin is best enjoyed with an Elderflower tonic, over ice with a slice of orange or sprig of thyme.

Order through our website or by scanning the QR code opposite.





COURAGE

Moments Count

GIN

Courage

is the first small batch **Moments Count Gin** exclusively blended and hand-crafted for **Rossendale Hospice**; a charity who provide Rossendale people with life-limiting conditions quality compassionate care within their own home and wellbeing services for patients, their families and carers.

Find out more at
www.rossendalehospice.org/gin



GIVE *the gift of* CARE

By choosing to donate to Rossendale Hospice, you are helping to ensure we are here to provide vital support to those who need it the most in our community.

Title: Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms First name:

Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Tel no:

Email:

From as little as £7.50 per month, you can help fund vital care.

To find out which services you can support, please visit:

www.rossendalehospice.org/donate

Alternatively, please tick here if you'd like us to send you details

If you wish to donate by card or cheque please complete below:

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Card No:

Security No:

Expiry Date:

Donation Amount: £

CHEQUE: I enclose a donation of £

Please make cheques payable to Rossendale Hospice

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giftaid it

If you are a UK taxpayer, Rossendale Hospice is able to claim the tax you have paid on your donation and increase the value by a further 25%. In order for us to reclaim the tax, please tick the declaration below:

I have ticked the box to confirm that I am a UK tax payer I would like Rossendale Hospice to reclaim the tax on this donation, any donations made in the last four years prior and all future donations, unless I notify you otherwise. I note that I must have paid enough UK income tax or capital gains tax to cover all of my charitable donations. Council Tax and VAT do not qualify.

Signature Date

With your permission, Rossendale Hospice would like to send you monthly updates by email to keep you informed about services, fundraising events and shop offers:

Yes, I am happy for Rossendale Hospice to keep me updated in the future

No thank you, I do not wish to hear from Rossendale Hospice in this way

Rossendale Hospice respects you and your data. We will never pass your details on to any third-party for marketing purposes. www.rossendalehospice.org/privacy
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