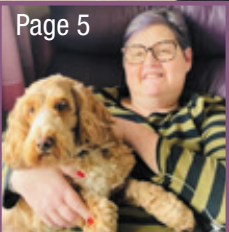
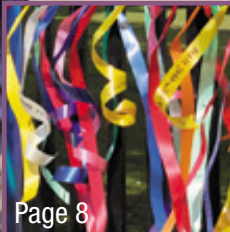




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Hospice funding takes centre stage

In April, parliament held a backbench debate on hospice funding. MPs from all parties spent almost four hours praising the incredible work of local hospices, acknowledging the support they provide for NHS organisations and highlighting concerns about statutory funding.

There is broad agreement that the current situation is not sustainable. Levels of funding received by the NHS are on average 30% of what hospices need to deliver services. Many are unable to meet local demand because of this.

Hospice UK is reporting that hospices across the country are facing a collective deficit of £77 million this

year. While we continue to benefit from incredible support from our local community, we are not immune to this.

We receive around **27%** of our total running costs through statutory funding (just under £2 million). **The remaining 73% is raised through the hard work and support of our dedicated team of staff plus volunteers and supporters from our local community.** We remain financially secure and have good levels of reserve to support our ongoing work in the short term, however, these reserves will not last if we continue to see such poor levels of statutory funding in the coming years.

We expect to receive only a 2.9% increase for 2024/25. This falls well short of the actual increase in costs that

we are expecting and leaves us facing the next financial year with a £750,000 deficit in our budget.

Everyone living with a life-limiting illness should have access to the best possible care and be supported to die well. To have services providing care for patients and families at their most vulnerable time funded mainly by our donors and supporters is simply unacceptable. We would not accept this level of funding for maternity services, and we should not accept it for end-of-life care.

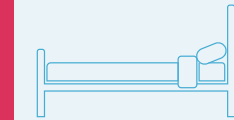
It was great to see **Rachael Maskell, Julian Sturdy** and **Kevin Hollinrake** supporting this in parliament and we would encourage you to raise this issue with your local MP, so the debate remains front of mind.

“It’s not just about those final moments. Hospices get involved at various times in the end-of-life process, and it’s important that all people from every community get access to that. We’re not going to be able to achieve that if the funding isn’t provided, and the Government ultimately has that responsibility.”
Rachael Maskell, MP

Our services in numbers

April 2023 to March 2024

In-Patient Unit



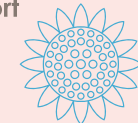
269 patients

Hospice@Home



518 patients

Bereavement Support



166 people supported

Single Point Of Coordination (SPOC)



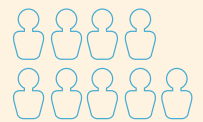
15,881 calls

Sunflower Wellbeing Hub



285 attendees

Carer Support Service



226 carers received a break

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Meet our patients

Meet three of the 269 patients we have looked after on our In-Patient Unit this past year. Here is what they have to say about our care.

Ian

“I’ve spent the last week as a patient at St Leonard’s and have been really impressed with the care, so much so that I would like the MND specialists to visit the Hospice to experience the care here. The support and kindness oozes out of this place and the people here. Kindness doesn’t do it justice

really. I rarely come across a team of people who are so absolutely on the same page with the standard of care they offer. They find out what I need, listen, and then go out of their way and do their utmost to deliver the care I need. I’ve not felt relaxed like this in a long time, my pain and tightness has really improved. Some places you feel get close to good enough and they feel that’s enough, but this place has gone above and beyond. The way people communicate with each other and with me is second to none.”



Ian with his wife, Rachael



Jenny

“Being here has been wonderful, everyone is warm, caring and compassionate. I came here because I was in a lot of pain, and now it’s much better controlled and easier to manage. The staff want you to be the best you can be, and they want to look after you in the best way they can.

It’s lovely to have my dog Penny come and visit whilst I’m a patient here. She’s such a loving dog and has missed me at home. Having her come and visit makes me feel more at home.”

Did you know it costs just over £40 to fund an hour of care for a patient in the Hospice. Every donation really does make a difference.



Ian

“I was worried at first, because when you get told you’re going into a hospice, you don’t think you’ll be going home. But even from day one I was put at ease. Everybody makes time for you, and there’s really no place better. I came in to help manage my pain, and they quickly got on top of it within the first night.

The staff take time to talk to you and find out what you need, it’s reassuring. It’s also lovely to have my family coming in to visit, including my little grandson here. I can’t praise it highly enough.”



Hospice@Home becomes a 24-hour service

Since its launch in 2009, Hospice@Home has been invaluable for patients who want to spend the last few weeks of their lives in their own homes. Over the past three years the team has cared for nearly 2,000 patients and families across York and North Yorkshire.



Now, thanks to a generous private donation, the service has extended its hours to become a full 24-hour service. This is a pilot for one year providing support overnight when it is most needed. The hope is this will reduce avoidable admissions to hospital out-of-hours, and support more people to die at home.

Continuation of this service will be reliant on securing funding beyond March 2025.

“They went above and beyond to treat my husband with care and respect at all times, even giving head massages to help him feel more comfortable. I could spend time as a wife and not just a carer. My husband had the best care possible.”

Wellbeing sessions grow

It's been a year since the launch of our Sunflower Wellbeing Hub, providing drop-in sessions for anyone in our community living with a life-limiting illness. So far 285 people have attended with many returning for ongoing support.

Jan whose husband, John, lives with Parkinson's disease is finding the sessions very beneficial. She says:

“We get marvellous support from St Leonard's. The Thursday Sunflower Wellbeing Hub is our lifeline, it's vital to us and John finds it therapeutic. I do too, and I've had lots of support here. It's made such a difference, and it gets John out. He never says he doesn't feel up to going!”

The **Thursday Wellbeing Drop-In at the Hospice** runs from 10am to 12.30pm every week. You don't need a referral, you can just call in and be met with a friendly smile and people ready to support you.



Other sessions on offer include:

Bereavement Support Group running on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm.

MND Wellbeing Drop-In in collaboration with the MND Association York Group and running on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 1pm to 3pm.

Visit our website for further details.
stleonardshospice.org.uk

Celebrate and remember someone you love

This summer sees the return of our spectacular Rainbow of Ribbons. Whether you want to celebrate an occasion, say thank you or dedicate a ribbon in memory of someone special, you can brighten up our community this summer, all while raising valuable funds for our care.

This year the ribbons will be displayed outside the Hospice, in Easingwold Market Place, Museum Gardens in York, our Pocklington charity shop and at Selby Abbey.



Peter and Helen Ryan explain why they will be dedicating a ribbon to their son, Dominic (Nick).

“When Nick became unwell, we helped look after him at home. But it wasn’t enough because his needs became complex, and we were struggling. We were so relieved when St Leonard’s said he could be cared for at the Hospice. We felt a massive weight had been lifted.

He got to know the nursing staff really well and felt more comfortable. They all liked him. We didn’t realise what the Hospice did for people until Nick came in here. It’s incredible the care that he got.

Nick had young children and it was a lot for them to deal with at home. At the Hospice, the family could spend quality time together in the family areas, playing games and doing crafts.

The Hospice allowed his family to be just that – his family.

During the six weeks that Nick was in the Hospice, everybody treated him with dignity, but they also looked after us. We miss him terribly, but we are also still being supported by St Leonard’s as we process and come to terms with the loss of our son.

We know that Hospice care isn’t free to provide. It doesn’t get much government funding and we would like to do what we can to help. We’d like others to know what the Hospice does, and the fact that all the small donations from people in the community add up and make a real difference to help people.

Our ribbon dedication for Nick will help the Hospice to be here for more families like ours.”

To dedicate and donate visit stleonardshospice.org.uk/RoR or call **01904 777 777**.



Rainbow of Ribbons

Annie gets her Snook!

If you were out and about in York earlier this year you probably noticed some colourful sculptures dotted around! St Leonard's Hospice was the charity partner of the first ever Snooks Character Trail organised by Make It York. During March and April people could go on an enchanting search to find the 21 Snooks scattered throughout the city.

Each one of the unique four and a half foot characters was sponsored by a local business and decorated by talented artists to create its own unique identity and style.



People were then able to bid for their favourite Snook in a live auction hosted by Derek Matthewson from TV series Bangers and Cash.

One lucky bidder, who saved up her pocket money towards buying one, was nine year old Annie O'Shaughnessy. Annie, along with her mum Portia, completed the trail several times with Annie having her picture taken with each one. She was bursting with happiness when she successfully bid for her favourite **EY UP... it's a Snook** which will be in her garden.

Overall, the auction raised just over £27,000 which will be split between the Hospice and York Creates Fund.



Fundraising fun!

It's been a busy start to our fundraising events season, with people dancing, planting and taking part in an array of challenges to support the Hospice.

Strictly St Leonard's

It was a night of sequins and spray tans as our Strictly St Leonard's Class of 2024 took to the dance floor to showcase dazzling routines including the tango, jive and Viennese waltz. A big well done, and thank you to the 10 couples who took part, **raising a whopping £15,704!**

Accumulator Challenge

Through February we ran our Accumulator Challenge where we invited local businesses to raise as much money as they could for the Hospice. There were a range of creative fundraising challenges including car washing, a 13-mile walk, bake sales, pub quizzes, a variety night, leg waxing and even a name the Heifer competition! **Overall, the teams raised a brilliant £18,075.**



Plant Sale

Last month the Hospice became home to an amazing array of plants, all grown and donated by our green fingered supporters. **The annual sale was our biggest one yet raising nearly £8,000!**



Strictly winners Adam and Steph

What's coming up



Sunday 4 August York 10K

Saturday 14 September
Moonlight Walk



Sunday 20 October Yorkshire
Marathon, Relay and 10 Mile



Check out our events page on our website for details of how to sign up.



Fostering a fundraising community

Next year will see St Leonard's celebrate its 40th anniversary. We are busy planning a celebration year to remember, including a Ruby Ball taking place on Saturday 15 March 2025.

Over the years we have heard stories from many wonderful supporters about how they have raised funds for the Hospice, but the person who helped start it all was Trevor Copley, our first Chairman. Trevor was a passionate supporter of the hospice movement and played a key role in the formation of St Leonard's. Staff working at the Hospice during the time Trevor was Chairman fondly remember his weekly Monday meetings, known as 'Trevor's Mondays' and how he would regularly turn up with his lawnmower to cut the grass!

His devotion to the organisation helped him raise millions of pounds to secure funding, most notably launching an original appeal for £750,000 and then a £2 million Millennium Appeal in May 1999.

But Trevor was not alone in his fundraising efforts. His wife, Colleen, fondly remembers the community supporters.

"It was lovely, everyone wanted to help. Each village had groups of supporters who would arrange coffee mornings and bonfire nights. It started off basic then grew organically. I remember when cakes were first introduced to the coffee mornings!"

One of the most anticipated events on the fundraising calendar was the Pride and Prejudice Ball held in York Assembly Rooms. The first ball took place in 1996, raising £6,000 (around £14,000 today). One of the organisers, Rachel Semlyen, who used to be a Trustee at the Hospice, remembers it being a joyous occasion.

"It was such fun! We wanted to do the proper dancing so dance classes were organised, the Theatre Royal in Leeds opened its costume department for us. We even had the Pemberley Players,



a period band, formed especially for the occasion and a CD of their music was sold to raise more funds. Cast members from the popular Pride and Prejudice series running at the time even attended, including Lucy Davis and Polly Maberly."

While fundraising has had to move online over recent years to reach more people, it is still lovely to see local communities coming together to support St Leonard's.

And it is great to see that community support still running in the Copley family, with Trevor and Colleen's grandson, Eddie Copley-Farnell, owner of the Curious Coffee Company, also organising fundraisers for the Hospice.

"St Leonard's was part of Trevor. It was his raison d'être. Out of everything he did during his life, he was most proud of the Hospice. He would be amazed to see what it has grown to become!"

Trevor and Colleen at the Pride and Prejudice Ball in 1996

RUBY BALL

SATURDAY 15
MARCH 2025
YORK RACECOURSE

Join us for a spectacular evening to celebrate 40 years of supporting us caring for families with life-limiting illnesses and helping us to be there for the future.



To book your ticket,
or for more information
stleonardshospice.org.uk
01904 777 777

Ben's Twenty for Twenty



This year is a significant anniversary for Ben Tranter and his family. It is 20 years since his dad, Kevin, died at the age of 46 from cancer.

To mark it, Ben has decided to take on an epic fundraising challenge in his dad's memory. He is aiming to complete 20 challenges – one for each year since Kevin passed away – all to raise money for the Hospice.

He says: “St Leonard’s is very close to my heart as it was where my dad was cared for during his final days. I have vivid memories of the Hospice. I was only young, but I remember the care and compassion and how well they looked after us.”

Ben has chosen a mix of walking, running, and cycling challenges all with the aim to test himself. He has now completed seven, including 10,000 Steps a

Day in March, the Thirsk 10 Miler, the Isle of Wight Randonee – a 100km ride around the whole of the island which he describes as epic – and his favourite so far, the Leeds Half Marathon.

“It has been my most challenging, but I have never known an atmosphere like it! I also had seven mates run it with me which was great, especially as seven of us got a new personal best!”

Upcoming challenges include the Three Peaks where he is most looking forward to climbing Ben Nevis.

“I enjoy walking and had the vague hope of doing Mount Kilimanjaro but settled for staying in the UK and doing the national ones instead.”

There is also the one which he is least looking forward to, the Yorkshire Marathon.



“I disliked running when I was younger and hated running around fields at school. But I enjoy it more now and thrive having a goal to work towards. The marathon is significant so it makes it more worthwhile.”

To date Ben has raised an amazing £5,000, with his employer also agreeing to donate £1,000.

“Everyone has been so generous, but it is for such an important cause. We come back to the Hospice on my dad’s anniversary and every time I step back in there, I remember how lovely it is. It is a sad place for a lot of reasons, but it is also a happy place.

I can’t do enough for St Leonard’s, not only because of how they supported me and my family but also to help all the other families that need their care.”

If you would like to support Ben with his Twenty for Twenty challenge, you can visit his fundraising page at [justgiving.com/bentranter](https://www.justgiving.com/bentranter). You can also follow his journey on his blog, [twentyfortwenty.blog](https://www.twentyfortwenty.blog).

Leading the York Bereavement Alliance

There is expected to be a greater demand for bereavement support over the coming years. Our Bereavement Support Service has certainly seen an increase in the number of people supported on both a one-to-one and group basis.

There are many bereavement support services across the city, provided by different organisations and individuals. However, support is not currently coordinated, is offered at varying levels and is not always available to people when needed. For instance, there may be a gap where children's bereavement is concerned, and many other factors such as age, gender, class, ethnicity, deprivation, or type of death can result in people not having access.

It is our belief that everybody should be able to access quality bereavement support when they need it. This year sees the start of a two year project to develop the York Bereavement Alliance in which the Hospice is taking a leading role.

The aspiration of York Bereavement Alliance is to build on bereavement provision already in place across the city. It is a collaboration between many varied health, social care, education, charity, and voluntary services, working to the following aims:

- Provide an accessible, comprehensive, dynamic, and coordinated response to people seeking bereavement support in the city.
- Work with the population of York to meet need and gaps in provision, which can be addressed through an Alliance-wide approach.
- Use research, data, mutual support, and shared learning to deliver best practice outcomes for people.
- To seek sustainable, long-term funding solutions to establish the York Bereavement Alliance as a permanent offer.

Work is underway to provide a real-time directory of bereavement support across York, which we hope to launch over the coming months.

Most importantly we are interested in hearing the bereavement experiences of York residents to see what we can learn from our communities and what more we can do as a city to help. If you would like to give us your feedback, please email christopher.charters@nhs.net



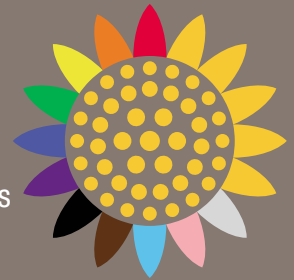
Bereavement is the experience of losing someone important to us. It's characterised by grief, which is the process and the range of emotions we go through when we experience a loss.

Supporting Pride Month

During Pride Month (June) we have organised a range of activities to support members of the LGBTQ+ community living with a life-limiting illness to talk about death and dying.

Many of us do not realise that we can plan ahead to make sure that our priorities and wishes are clear, and that those who matter most to us are listened to if we can't speak for ourselves.

Events included a York Pride stall, Advance Care Planning drop-in sessions and open days at the Hospice.



We also want to hear from the LGBTQ+ community about what more we could be doing to make our services more accessible. Please let us know by filling out the feedback form on our website.



Edward's gift

One in four of our patients is cared for by our hospice team thanks to gifts in Wills, as Edward Waterson discovered when his wife Jill was an in-patient for the last few days of her life.

Jill died in February 2023 and Edward will never forget the care they received.

“St Leonard’s Hospice were just fantastic. ‘It’s lovely, isn’t it?’ said Jill as she settled into her room.

I couldn’t have hoped for a more positive reaction to the care, not just physical but also emotional, which we received during the week she was there.

The Hospice team provided amazing support to Jill, me and our family from the word go. They were there for us whenever we needed them.

They helped to control Jill’s pain, ensuring she had a peaceful end. We were always a close couple and although it may sound a strange thing to say we had some quite wonderful moments together at St Leonard’s.”



After Jill died Edward took up the offer of our bereavement service.

“You just don’t know what it’s like until you’ve been there, and I found it very helpful in coming to terms with the loss of someone I loved.”

Edward has now left the Hospice a gift in his will.

“It seemed the natural thing to do, helping people in our situation and enabling St Leonard’s to plan ahead. I would encourage others to join me in this.”

To find out more about how you can leave a gift to St Leonard’s in your Will, and learn more about our free Wills offer, visit stleonardshospice.org.uk/giftsinwills

Our vision, mission and values

The health and social care sector is at a turning point. More people are living with complex long-term conditions such as frailty and dementia and end-of-life care demands are going to increase by 40% in the next 10 years.

To ensure we are fit for the future, we have launched a new vision and mission to give us a clear sense of purpose and focus. We have also worked collaboratively with our staff and volunteers to create a new set of values to live by each day in our interactions with patients, families, partners, and each other.

Our vision

Everyone living with a life-limiting illness has access to the best possible care and will be supported to die well.

Our mission

Our mission is to help more people across York and North Yorkshire by:

- Developing accessible services based on the diverse and changing needs of our population.
- Campaigning for better public policy and awareness of palliative and end-of-life issues.
- Encouraging partnership working to improve the quality of care for patients and secure the future of hospice care.

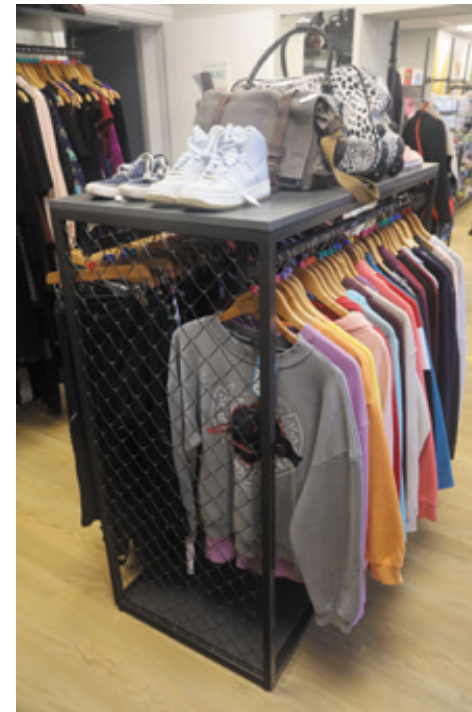
Our values

C ompassion
A ccountability
R espect
E xcellence
S ynergy

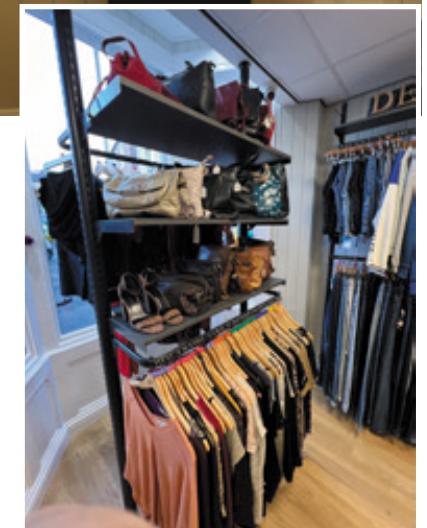
New shop in Malton

This month sees us opening up a shop in Malton. The shop, located on Wheelgate, will have the same look and feel as our Pocklington shop. It will offer a unique and modern shopping experience, complete with digital displays and touch screen information where shoppers can learn more about what is going on at the Hospice.

The new look shop is certainly working well in Pocklington with trading currently 26% ahead of target. Malton will be the fourteenth shop in our retail portfolio selling a range of pre-loved fashion, furniture and more. Make sure you call in when you are in the area.



What our new shop will look like



St Leonard's
Hospice



Moonlight
Walk

Paint the town neon

Join St Leonard's Hospice on

Saturday 14 September
for this year's Moonlight Walk!

With 2 hours of fun, music and entertainment beforehand, you'll be in the party spirit ready to walk around our beautiful city.

All to support our Hospice.



Book online stleonardshospice.org.uk
or call **01904 777 777**



01904 708 553



stleonardshospice.org.uk



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