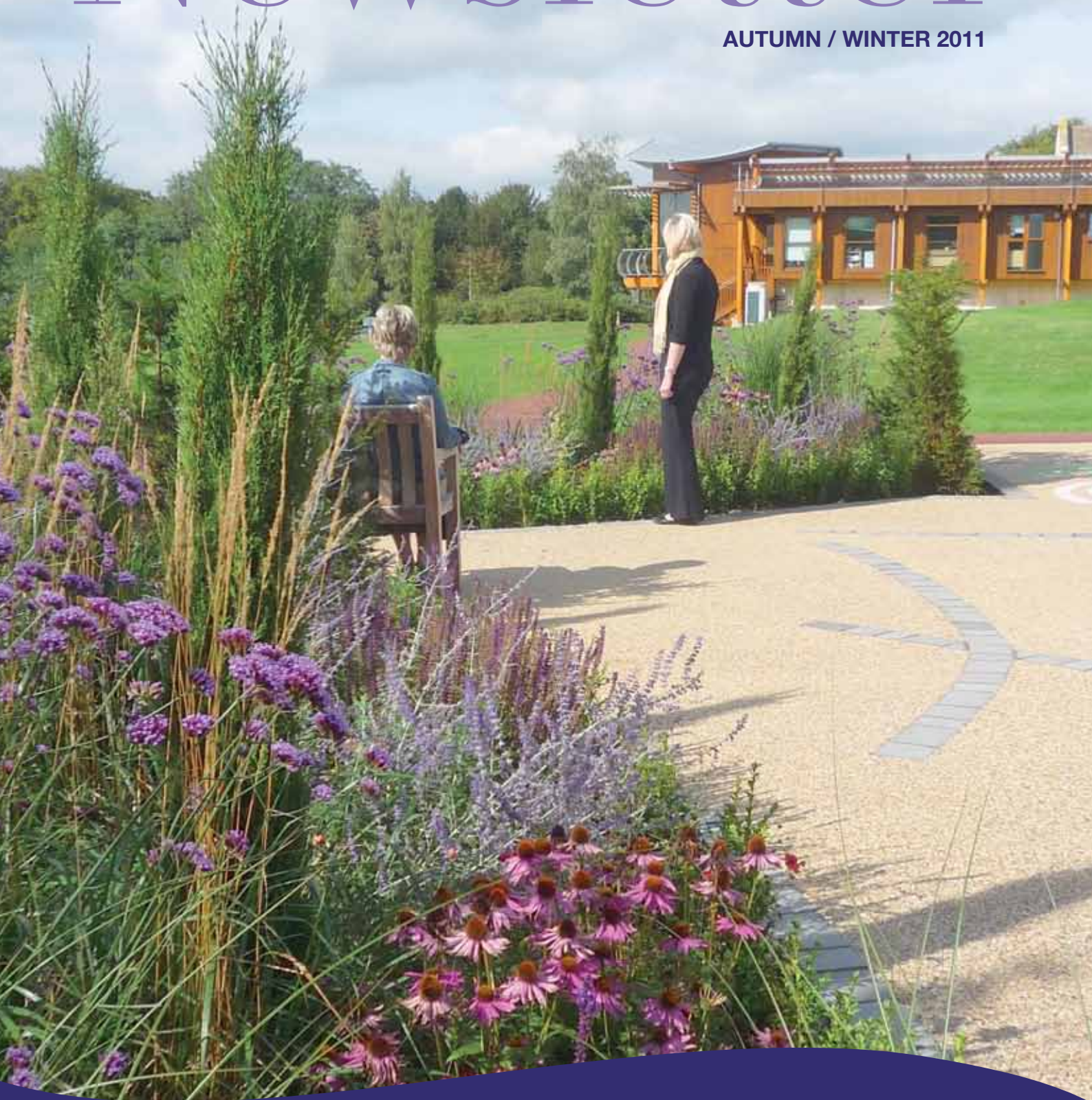


The Newsletter

AUTUMN / WINTER 2011



**DOROTHY
HOUSE**
Hospice Care



Hospice care in your own home

www.dorothyhouse.co.uk • Registered Charity No. 275745

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Dorothy House

Dorothy House Hospice Care was set up in 1976 at the Bath home of its founder, Prue Dufour (formerly Clench). In 1995, Dorothy House moved to its present home in Winsley, from where we provide free care and support for 700 patients and their families every day in Bath, Wiltshire and parts of Somerset.

Contact

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this newsletter, or the work of Dorothy House Hospice Care, please contact Katrina Sudbury during office hours – Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm

Katrina Sudbury
 Director of Fundraising and Communications
 katrina.sudbury@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk
 T: 01225 721480

The Dorothy House Foundation Ltd
 Winsley, Bradford on Avon
 Wiltshire BA15 2LE
 T: 01225 722988
 F: 01225 721478
 E: info@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk
 W: www.dorothyhouse.co.uk



Registered Charity No. 275745

Comment



It's the autumn/winter edition of *The Newsletter* – so it must be time to talk about this year's Bath Midnight Walk. As you can see from the terrific selection of pictures on the opposite page, it was probably the best yet. Nearly all the 1,200 ladies who registered turned up to take part in the walk, and the sight of over a thousand pairs of flashing bunny ears streaming out of SouthGate and into the night is something none of us is going to forget in a hurry.

This issue's wonderful cover photo captures the very best of the past few months here at Dorothy House – because although we've had a rather mixed summer, as far as the weather is concerned, our tulip garden has literally blossomed into the most wonderful space for patients, carers, staff and volunteers to sit, contemplate, chat with friends or simply admire the view.

In the past month, we've also opened the new children's play area. Writer Jeremy Strong came along to talk to the children and cut the ribbon, and a great time was had by all. The children's service is a vital part of the work of the hospice: you can meet children's social worker, Anna Jacobs, on page 11, where she answers 10 Questions.

Our Focus feature, on pages 6-7, takes an in-depth look at the expanding Hospice at Home service. Its value to patients and carers cannot be overstated, so I hope you enjoy finding out more about what makes the service so special to all who use it.

We said goodbye to medical director Chris Higgs at the beginning of September, and welcome Tricia Needham, who takes over from Chris, supported by Marina Malthouse as lead medical clinician. We wish Tricia and Marina all the very best in their new roles.

Sarah Whitfield

Chief Executive

sarah.whitfield@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk



On the cover ...

Since our tulip garden was officially opened in July, it has become a favourite place for patients and their families, staff and volunteers. More pictures on page 11.

News



As you can see from the great selection of pictures on this page, the Bath Midnight walk, held on 10 September, was a roaring success.

The sight of nearly 1,200 women – the vast majority of them wearing flashing bunny ears – moving away from the start line in SouthGate in a river of multi-coloured light is something we'll all remember for years to come.

The atmosphere was fantastic, and the weather mild and clear – apart from a

minor downpour just after the walkers crossed the river at the start of the event.

Many walkers stopped in Royal Victoria Park to light a candle in memory of loved ones – a quietly moving interlude in a night of fun and high spirits.

We have room for only a tiny selection of pictures from the best girls' night out of the year. To see hundreds more, as well as video clips of the start of the walk, log on to the website – www.dorothyhouse.co.uk – or visit our Facebook page – www.facebook.com/dottyhouse



Join us at 'the Half'

Team Dotty are looking for people with independent places in the Bath Half Marathon 2012 to run for us. If you have a place we would love to hear from you! If you haven't got a place, you can sign up at www.bathhalf.co.uk

Once you know you're taking part, contact Emily Knight on 01225 721480 or at emily.knight@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk and she will be delighted to provide you with a vest/T-shirt, sponsor forms, a running pack full of hints and tips – and of course lots of Dorothy House support. We'll be there on the day, cheering on Team Dotty, so see you then!

Northern lights

You don't have to live locally to raise money for Dorothy House – as James Roff, from Northumberland, proved recently when he took on the Lakeland Montane 50 challenge. James and two friends completed the gruelling 50-mile fell run to raise money in memory of James's mother-in-law, Sheila Wayne, who was cared for by Dorothy House until her death in August 2009. They've raised more than £1,700 already, with more sponsorship still coming in – a fantastic total!

Festive fundraiser

Staunch supporter Flossie Battle has once again organised a fabulous Christmas Fair at the beginning of December. For two days, the Bloomfield Hall at Dorothy House is well and truly decked with all kinds of wonderful gifts – most of them hand-made by Flossie – as well as preserves, table decorations and more: everything to make your Christmas extra special. The fair is on 2 and 3 December, from 10.30am-3pm, with a Gingerbread House competition running from 1 December, when there will also be a Christmas fair preview and chance to buy. Competition numbers are limited, so if you'd like to take part, call Yvonne on 01225 721480.

My Dorothy House



Volunteer complementary therapist Anna Hawker talks about her long relationship with the hospice

Anna Hawker started volunteering at Dorothy House more than six years ago, as part of the newly set-up complementary therapies team. But her awareness of the hospice goes right back to the earliest days, when her father was cared for at home in the late 1970s by Dorothy House nurses based at Bloomfield Road.

Now Anna is one of the longest-serving volunteers in the complementary therapies team, offering aromatherapy, reiki and Indian head massage to patients, carers and bereaved relatives.

"It's such a joy to see how much the service has developed over the past few years – and continues to do so," she says. "We offer so many more sessions now, both at the hospice and at the outreach centres, as well as providing much-needed pampering at the Carers' Week events."

Anna volunteers at Winsley one or two days a week, working with both day

patients and in-patients. She says: "Even people who are very ill can benefit from a hand or foot massage: it's a gentle, loving touch, which people really appreciate."

Anna enjoys being part of the team at Dorothy House: "A lot of us therapists usually work alone, so I really value the team; they're a lovely bunch to work with and we constantly swap ideas and new techniques. I'm also on the complementary therapies steering group, and am very interested in the work of the Dying Matters group. People often talk about quality of life, but quality of dying is so important too, and Dorothy House offers people that safe space where it's OK to talk about anything and everything."

"I don't want to sound trite or sentimental, but I do feel a tremendous sense of privilege to be working here. It's very special being around people who are prepared to be so open and to share their vulnerability."

Channel crossing

Sixteen swimmers crossed the English Channel this summer to raise funds for Dorothy House – without even leaving Bath.

The team of staff and friends from city estate and lettings agency Whitfield Nash and JD Lettings set themselves the challenge of covering the 22-mile distance from Dover to Calais in the outdoor pool at the Royal United

Hospital – by swimming 1,690 lengths between them.

The swimmers were so successful, each completing well over 100 lengths apiece, that they not only swam the full distance but made it halfway back to Dover – 2,461 lengths in all. Their efforts were well rewarded: the team raised the magnificent total of £2,126.67.

● See pictures of the team on our website.

'I'm not afraid of dying'



"Dorothy House is a safe haven" – Iris Jupe enjoys her weekly sessions at the Day Patient Unit in Winsley

Photo: Lloyd Ellington/Bath Chronicle

Iris Jupe has a wonderfully infectious laugh and a smile that lights up the room – despite the fact that, according to her doctors, she's already living on borrowed time. As she sits in the Day Patient Unit's sunny orangery, working on a hand-painted backpack for her youngest grandson, Iris speaks frankly about her attitude to death and dying.

"Last March, I was told by my consultant there was nothing else that could be done for me. I asked what my prognosis was, and he said I probably wouldn't see Christmas," says Iris. "When I heard that, I thought 'I'm going to beat this, I'm going to live longer than that', and I just looked at pictures of my three little grandchildren and that made me determined to beat it. And that was 15 months ago, and I'm still here and still enjoying life."

Her grandsons – aged 10, eight and four, are a huge source of delight to Iris, who was widowed two years ago and now lives on her own in Winsley, close to Dorothy House. "My family are very open with me, and with one another, about the fact that I am going to die," she says. "In fact, a few months ago my eldest grandson asked his mum: 'What are the doctors going to do with Nanny now she's past her die-by date?'" She hoots with laughter, adding: "And then the little one asked me when I was going to die, because his mummy had told him they couldn't go on holiday on an aeroplane while I was still here!"

"The family accept that I'm not going to be around for much longer, and I'm glad we are able to discuss everything so freely. I do feel it's hard on my children, though: they lost their father only a couple of years ago, and now me – it's not fair, really."

Iris's indomitable spirit is inspiring to everyone who meets her – but she is quick to stress that the support she has from Dorothy House is very important to her. "You feel safe here and, although I'm not afraid of dying, you don't know what's going to happen and it is a bit scary. I know by talking about dying I have helped others, who say their families won't talk about it."

"Dorothy House is a safe haven for us: they're all angels here, and I don't think I would have been here if it wasn't for the hospice. I have a very, very strong personality and a strong faith and I think that's helped – but Dorothy House is keeping me going. They keep an eye on me here, without making it too obvious and I know somebody is looking after me."



'Let's talk about it'

I wonder what your reaction is when you look at the logo above. Do you think dying does matter, and that we should talk about it – or do you think it's too difficult a subject, and best ignored?

Talking about dying isn't always easy, but we believe it's important for everyone to talk about it before it's too late.

Dorothy House is already committed to public education about death and dying and has joined the Dying Matters Coalition, made up of 15,000 organisations and individuals, which is encouraging people to talk about their wishes towards the end of their lives. It has a lively and interactive website – www.dyingmatters.org – and produces a range of interesting posters, leaflets and other resources.

Dorothy House staff and volunteers have been working for the past two years to encourage people to have conversations about the future. We've learnt that one of the most effective ways of doing this is to use existing events as an opportunity to promote Dying Matters material alongside information about Dorothy House – for example, a display stand at the Bath Older People's Show, and another in Bath Library during Dying Matters awareness week. We've also talked to the Bradford on Avon's Patient Participation Group about planning for the future. A play about a family's response to a dying mother was well received by an audience of interested staff and volunteers – we're hoping to arrange a public performance next year.

We're always looking for new ideas and opportunities, so if you would like to be involved or have any suggestions for future activities, please contact me on 01225 721470 or email

anne.alsop@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk
Anne Alsop education facilitator

Thanks for long service



Volunteers who have completed ten, 15 or 20 years' service with Dorothy House were invited to the annual long service tea party, held in June at the Bloomfield Hall at Winsley. More than 20 volunteers, plus guests, attended the party, where they were presented with certificates and warmly thanked for their lasting commitment. Some of the longest-serving volunteers have worked for 20 years or more at the Dorothy House shops in Bath and Warminster, with Gillian Cook clocking up an amazing 23 years at Bath's Abbeygate shop.

The tea party followed a week of activities and other events organised at Winsley to mark National Volunteering Week. Head of retail and voluntary services James McDonald said: "We couldn't provide many of our services without the outstanding contribution made by our volunteers. They save us £1.3 million a year just in financial terms, but give so much more with their generous commitment to our patients and their families."

Playing their cards right

The Pip Dewey Dorothy House Bridge Tournament raised more than £4,000 for the hospice in the 2010/11 season: £3,485 from donations made when signing up to the popular winter tournament and a further £584 from the tea party held in June at Dorothy House. This year's winners of the elegant glass bowl trophy were Myles and Daphne Marchington. Any bridge player wishing to join the tournament for 2011/12 should call Joan Donovan on 01225 446465 or Ann Cook on 01225 316251.

Focus

Home is where the heart is

Most Dorothy House patients want to stay at home during their last weeks of life, surrounded by family and friends. The Hospice at Home service helps them to do just that, supporting patient and family through difficult times

Looking after people in their own homes has always been one of the core aims of Dorothy House Hospice Care – and it's what the Hospice at Home team excels at.

The team was originally set up as a 'sitting service' – providing overnight support for people who wanted to remain at home for their last weeks or days of life. It later became the Family Carer Service, reflecting the philosophy that the carers were there not only for the patient, but for the family as well. Now known as Hospice at Home (or H@H), the service has developed and expanded to meet growing demand.

"The service is vital ... I can't praise it highly enough"

H@H is a nursing service that offers palliative care to patients with complex needs in the last three months of life. The service is provided to patients at home, in residential care homes or other settings. A key aim of the service is to help people avoid hospital admissions, and to speed up discharge for those who have received hospital treatment, in line with the government's national end of life care strategy, which recognises that the majority of terminally ill people would prefer to die at home. The service is not



restricted to Dorothy House patients, either – referrals can be made by a variety of health professionals, including Dorothy House specialist nurses and district nurses.

In 2009/10, the H@H team provided 20,000 hours of care to patients in their last three months of life. This care may include a couple of nights' respite for a family member to enable them to get a good night's sleep or perhaps care during the day so they might go shopping or have time to themselves. As the patient reaches the final days of life, the care may be increased to every night, or 24-hour care.

The team covers all the Dorothy House geographical area and works alongside both health and social care community services. "We both supplement and complement the services they provide," says Hospice at Home manager Sue Arthur-Stevens.

"The service is delivered by health care assistants who are trained specifically in end of life care, managed by a senior specialist nurse. It is co-ordinated by experienced registered nurses with the assistance of an administrative co-ordinator. More efficient working has

been achieved by replacing two registered nurse co-ordinators with an admin co-ordinator overseen by a registered nurse."

"Without your help ... I would have gone under. Hospice at Home is like the cavalry"

Sue added: "During the latest review of H@H services, it became apparent that the co-ordination of the service needed to extend its working hours. This was to ensure that the H@H carers are more supported, that there is an effective and efficient use of H@H carers seven days a week and that we are more accessible to our referrers."

The H@H office is now open 8am to 7pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 4pm weekends and bank holidays. The extension of the co-ordination element of the service has been generously funded by the Roper Family Charitable Trust.

In practical terms, the H@H team not only make sure the patient is safe and comfortable, but also support family members. This can involve enabling regular carers to get a good night's

sleep; stepping in to provide extra care at a stressful time – over Christmas, for example; making it possible for people to attend special events, such as a wedding, by either accompanying the patient or staying with them at home so the family can attend, or by simply supporting carers in looking after a terminally ill loved one.

The service is highly valued by carers. As one explained: "It's vital. I can't praise it highly enough. Knowing I can sleep means I can manage, whatever comes at me during the day. I don't think I could do this, keeping my husband at home, if not for the night care."

Another carer said: "I felt lost at Christmas and didn't know how I would cope. Then the specialist nurse came and organised H@H. The relief was tremendous and I knew I had someone to call if I needed to."

Perhaps the last word should go to another family member, who summed up just why H@H is so important to our patients and their families: "I could not have kept mum at home without your help at nights – I would have gone under. Hospice at Home is like the cavalry!"

The H@H team receive many cards and letters from families who have benefited from the service; here is just a small selection of some of the comments made over the past few months

"I just don't know where you get the Hospice at Home carers from – they have this presence about them. Heartfelt thanks from all the family"



"The Hospice at Home service is wonderful – we feel safe when your carers are involved"

"We can't thank you enough for all the care and concern when my husband was so ill. We were so grateful to you for organising the lovely nurses who came at night to look after him, so we could have a night's sleep. Their expertise and dedication shine though"

This one is from a GP: "The Dorothy House service is first class. The care and support you give is exceptional"

"Without your help the family wouldn't have been able to get through these tough times"

"You were all so kind and considerate and Mum loved you all very much!"
"You are marvellous!"

"You were caring, sensitive and, when necessary, sufficiently direct in helping us through this difficult journey"

"Thank you all so much for everything you did to make my Dad's last days as comfortable as possible. I couldn't have asked for a nicer bunch of girls and I applaud you all on a fantastic job"

"Mum felt safe and cared for whenever you were involved and her peaceful end was due to your kindness and love and medical advice"

There is a Dorothy House shop near you

Come along and support your local Dorothy House shop: we always need good quality clothing, bric-a-brac, books, toys, jewellery and home furnishings.

BATH

37 Broad Street 01225 471664

15 Moorland Road 01225 444695

14 Argyle Street 01225 444991

3 Abbeygate Street 01225 444299

115a High Street, Twerton 01225 469653

BRADFORD ON AVON

2/2A The Shambles 01225 862093

CALNE

1 Phelps Parade 01249 818818

CHIPPENHAM

12 The Bridge 01249 443393

CORSHAM

Unit 20, Martingate Centre

01249 715556

DEVIZES

3 Old Swan Yard 01380 729355

FROME

19 King Street 01373 453484

KEYNSHAM

51 High Street 0117 986 7757

MALMESBURY

3 Market Cross 01666 824710

MELKSHAM

7A Church Street 01225 700990

MELKSHAM Furniture

10-14 Church Street 01225 704244

MIDSOMER NORTON

74 High Street 01761 412196

SALISBURY

11 Catherine Street 01722 411983

(Joint venture with Salisbury Hospicecare)

SHEPTON MALLET

48 High Street 01749 346940

TROWBRIDGE

15 Silver Street 01225 754237

WARMINSTER

14 Three Horseshoes Walk

01985 215101

WESTBURY

41/43 High Street 01373 858232

News

Shop nets £1,300 on first day



Vintage clothing and a fantastic range of second-hand books are on sale now at our stylish new shop in Broad Street, Bath

Our 20th shop opened in August – at 37 Broad Street, Bath. The city's mayor, Cllr Bryan Chalker, cut the ribbon, and customers were soon flocking in to browse the shelves of top quality second-hand books and stylishly arranged racks of vintage and boutique fashion.

By the end of the first day of trading, the shop had taken £1,300 – a fantastic start for our latest retail venture. Big thanks are due to everyone involved in stocking, styling and running the shop, including area manager Rowena Midgley, shop manager Julie Banks and deputy manager Isha Harris.

As ever, we need your donations to keep our shelves well stocked, so please

take your good-quality books or vintage items of clothing, accessories and jewellery to the shop, where they will be very gratefully received.

In September, we returned to Shepton Mallet, which has been without a Dorothy House shop for a number of years. If you would like to join the volunteer team at 48 High Street, just call in, or phone 01749 346940.

Back in June, we opened our extended and refurbished Warminster shop. The extra selling space has allowed us to stock furniture and small electrical items – so pop along and pick up a bargain.

Finally, we are preparing to open a new furniture shop in Station Hill, Chippenham, in November.



Come and meet TV star Paul

Tickets are on sale now for An Evening with Paul Martin – featuring the popular TV presenter whose new Sunday evening series, *Britain's Hidden Heritage*, began on BBC1 in the summer.

Paul – who lives in Wiltshire and has attained a nationwide following through his appearances on the TV antiques show *Flog It!* – will be talking about his life and career on Friday 25 November at St Michael's Church, Bath. After Paul's talk, members of the audience will have a chance to have items valued by local antiques experts – but please bring along only small, portable items!

The evening starts at 7.30pm, and tickets are £15 each, to include a free glass of wine. To book your tickets for what promises to be a thoroughly entertaining event, please call 01225 721480.

News

Taking a break from caring

Something for everyone – that's how one carer described the afternoon spent at Winsley in June, when more than 50 carers of Dorothy House patients came to have time for themselves, meet other carers and have a break from looking after their loved ones. Others talked about the friendly atmosphere and all the smiling faces.

The grounds were full of people playing boules, welly whanging, strolling around the gardens – or even trying Tai Chi, enjoying a relaxing hand and foot massage and having fun with the Wii Fit.

Inside, a range of stalls selling cakes, bric-a-brac and clothes were popular – as were the information stalls on help available for carers. As ever, the cream teas were much in demand.

People told us the events gave them a lovely feeling of wellbeing. Some came with the person they look after, others were there to have a little 'time out' for themselves. Nearly everyone took up the offer of a tour of the hospice and all said how much they enjoyed being taken around Dorothy House to see it for themselves.

Staff and volunteers were kept busy meeting all the visitors. But the stars of



Tea and home-made cakes were on the menu at the carers' afternoon held at Winsley in June

the day were, of course, the carers who took time out of their busy lives to meet and support each other and Dorothy House. Thanks to you all!

Wendy Barker family support team

The long and winding road



Three brothers have raised well over £3,000 for Dorothy House, in memory of their parents, by taking on an amazing cycling odyssey. Peter Tillin – pictured with Dorothy House fundraiser Yvonne Brunton – his brothers Adrian and Martin, plus friend Kelly Davey, cycled 420 miles from Warminster to their mother Joan's home town of Carrickfergus, in Northern Ireland, and back earlier this year. They revisited the places where they spent holidays as children, and stayed with family members and friends along the way. Read more about the brothers' road trip on their entertaining website: www.thetillin1000.blogspot.com

10 Questions



Anna Jacobs

Children and Young People's Service
Co-ordinator

1 How long have you been involved with Dorothy House?
Since October 2009.

2 What would you be doing if you weren't working for the hospice?
Strolling in the countryside, gardening, visiting the Lake District, where I used to live – and visiting far-flung places like India!

3 What do you enjoy most about your job?

Being able to make a difference with young children who need to cope with their loss or potential loss. I love the creative therapeutic side of my work – and also the training side, having just completed the first training for new volunteers.

4 What is your favourite music?

I love Dvorak and his *New World Symphony* – it reminds me of days and nights spent struggling as a student in my degree days!

5 How do you relax outside work?

I walk my dog, listen to music, read a good book and occasionally go out and have fun. I meditate regularly and have done for 30 years.

6 Describe your role in a maximum of ten words.

Crazy, busy, family talking, creative, meetings, and taking a breath!

7 What single thing would make your life/job easier?

A staff room to relax in.

8 Who is your hero?

Ghandi, for his non-directive way of transforming the world.

9 What has been the highlight of your Dorothy House career so far?

The recent training experience with eight new volunteers has been a great highlight.

10 Describe yourself in three words.

Sense of fun!

News

Flowering passions

Make a note in your diary to visit Kapunda Castle in Bath next spring: owner Juliet Davis has a stunning collection of Lenten hellebores, which will be at their best when she opens her garden for Dorothy House on Sunday 11 March. Community fundraiser Yvonne Brunton visited last year, and had a sneak preview of the delights on offer (see photo, below). She said: "Juliet's collection is absolutely beautiful – the variety of specimens is quite breathtaking – this in an absolute must-see." Juliet will also have plants on sale. It's never too early to sign up for our open gardens season – we had a wide variety of gardens open in 2011, and despite some disappointingly wet days, raised £15,500 for patient care! If you'd like to open your garden for us in 2012 – and it really doesn't matter how large or small it is – please get in touch with Yvonne on 01225 721480.



Season's greetings

Dorothy House Christmas cards and our 2012 calendar, featuring stunning photos of our area (see below), are on sale now in all our shops, at reception in Winsley and online at www.dorothyhouse.co.uk/shop



You're all such good sports!

Our supporters have excelled themselves over the past few months: not only in raising funds for Dorothy House, but also setting new standards in imaginative and testing challenges.

Football fan John Dalley, pictured, travelled furthest in pursuit of sponsorship – marking 25 years of running Rowde Football Club by visiting all 92 clubs in the Football League on his 1970 Honda 250 motorcycle. John completed his 2,000-mile journey in August, and raised £5,000, to be divided between Dorothy House, Youth Action Wiltshire and the Air Ambulance.

Mike Fuller ran the London Marathon for us in April and raised a phenomenal £5,172.95, which included a significant donation from the Derek Butler Trust, organised by Mike's uncle, the Rev Michael Fuller, vicar of Kensington. Mike's father is a patient, and the whole family visited the hospice for the 'thank you' coffee morning for marathon



runners. Michael will be running the Bath Half for Dorothy House in 2012.

On the subject of 2012, we're delighted to announce that two of our supporters, Steve Cleaver and Mark Cleverley, have been nominated to carry the Olympic flame on its journey around Britain next year. Good luck, lads! Find out more at www.lloydstsbldon2012.co.uk

M&S staff rake in the cash



Fantastic fundraisers: Yvonne Brunton of Dorothy House, left, with M&S staff members outside the Stall Street store

Photo: Lloyd Ellington/Bath Chronicle

Marks & Spencer in Bath adopted Dorothy House as their charity for 2010/11, and in August handed over a whopping £21,569.18. Members of staff raised the majority of money, with Nuccia Nice instigating the wide variety of fundraising ideas – which included auctions, members of staff donating unwanted gifts for a table top sale, raffles and sales of homemade cakes. Director of fundraising Katrina Sudbury said: "This is an amazing amount of money to have raised and we are very grateful to everyone at Marks & Spencer who contributed in any way to what seemed like a never-ending stream of creative fundraising ideas over the past year. Donations like this enable us to continue to provide free care for our patients and their families. We couldn't do it without you."

News



The tulip garden was officially opened in July, and over the summer the planting has matured beautifully, with colour and structure combining to stunning effect – as you can see from the pictures above. Garden designers Marc and Vickie, of Native Spaces, have been particularly pleased by the responses they've had from patients and their families. After speaking to one couple about the garden, Marc said: "I was very, very moved by the experience, and as they were sitting there I felt that we have given them a bit of a much-needed hug in making such a garden."

Help us to care when it counts

Critical to the funding of the work we do at Dorothy House is income from legacies.

An increasing number of people who are eager to support us – once they have provided for their family – are making a gift to the hospice in their will.

By remembering Dorothy House and the 700 people we care for every day in your will, you will be giving a gift which helps people make the most of their life, however long that may be.

Two local firms of solicitors, FDC Law and Mogers, are supporting Dorothy House by offering a free will writing service, so you can be sure that your affairs and wishes are administered both efficiently and sensitively.

Please contact Katrina Sudbury on 01225 721480 if you would like more information on leaving a gift to Dorothy House in your will.

Royal visit for Phyllis

Phyllis Thorne, pictured, who has been a Day Patient Unit volunteer for 18 years, attended a Buckingham Palace garden party earlier this summer, along with Dorothy House medical director Chris Higgs. Phyllis said: "It was brilliant – a wonderful day. I shall take away lots of memories: the beautiful gardens, two military bands playing, a lovely afternoon tea – and of course, the royal party: the Queen and Prince Philip, Prince Charles and Camilla, the Duke of Kent and Princess Alexandra. I'm so grateful to Dorothy House for giving me the opportunity!"



Light up a Life

Our seasonal services of remembrance begin on Wednesday 30 November with the Light up a Life service at Bath Abbey, starting at 6pm. All are welcome to attend. For details of other services in the area, check our events diary on the back page or visit the website: www.dorothyhouse.co.uk Also, as part of the annual Light up a Life appeal, people can sponsor a light to shine on the Christmas tree in the grounds of Dorothy House. Anyone can sponsor a light – you don't have to have a connection with the hospice – and the tree will be lit from 1 December until 6 January 2012.

Dashing away

We have a new fundraising event starting this year – a sponsored 5km fun run at Brokerswood country park,



near Trowbridge – with all the competitors in Santa costume. Open to anyone aged 16 or over, the Santa Dash takes place on Sunday 4 December – register online at www.dhsantadash.co.uk

Coming up roses

The Dorothy House rose is now available again to buy. With soft pink, fragrant blooms and glossy foliage, it has rapidly become a favourite with gardeners, and is supplied bare-rooted for planting now. At just £10, including delivery, it's available via our website, or call 01225 721480.

Visit us online

Our supporters raise thousands of pounds for us by organising all kinds of events and taking part in some amazing challenges. Sadly, we don't have room to mention them all in the newsletter, but you can see their stories and pictures at www.dorothyhouse.co.uk and at www.facebook.com/dottyhouse

Dates for your Diary

4-29 October

Photographic exhibition

Work by Hilary Shearing, Ale & Porter, Silver Street, Bradford on Avon. Percentage of sales to Dorothy House

Saturday 15 October

Street collection

Bath city centre – if you would like to take part, call Emily on 01225 721480

Monday 17 October

Autumn Fair

Raising money for Dorothy House, Prospect and Salisbury Hospice, The Corn Exchange, Devizes, 10am – 4pm, £3 entry on the door

Thursday 27 October

Take 2 - At the Movies

A song-studded musical journey, Wiltshire Music Centre, Bradford on Avon, 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from box office: 01225 860100

Friday 28 October

Quiz night

Devizes Conservative Club, 7pm for 7.30pm start; £10 per team of four. Enquiries: 01380 725523

Take 2 - At the Movies

A song-studded musical journey, Wiltshire Music Centre, Bradford on Avon, 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from box office: 01225 860100

Saturday 29 October

Halloween fancy dress party

Chippenham Town Hall, 7.30pm-midnight; tickets £10 from Maria Pocock on 01249 461325

Thursday 3 November

Coffee morning

10am-12 noon, Devizes Town Hall. Organised by Devizes Friends of Dorothy House

Saturday 12 November

Quiz night

Crudwell Village Hall, 7pm for 7.15pm. Teams of four to six; £8 per person, to include a ploughman's supper, tea and coffee. Organised by Malmesbury Friends of Dorothy House. Tickets from Judy Paginton on 01666 577370

CanZona Concert

Towards Remembrance (in music and words), 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Bathwick. Programme includes Fauré's *Requiem* and Goodall's *Eternal Light*. Tickets £12 (£10 concs) from Helen Francis on 01225 722082

Wednesday 23 November

Autumn bazaar and coffee morning

Bradford on Avon Rugby Club, 10.30am-12.30pm. Free entry. Organised by the Bradford on Avon Friends of Dorothy House

Friday 25 November

An Evening with Paul Martin of

Flog It! and *Britain's Hidden Heritage* fame, 7.30pm, St Michael's Church, Bath. Tickets £15, to include a free glass of wine, from 01225 721480. Why not bring a small (portable) item for valuation by local valuers?

Tea dance

Bloomfield Hall, Dorothy House, 2-4pm. £5 to include tea and cake. Limited tickets available from Yvonne on 01225 721480

Saturday 26 November

Charity fashion show

7.30pm, Chippenham Town Hall. Proceeds split between Dorothy House and the Tim Waycott Trust Fund. Tickets £6 in advance from Chippenham Tourist Information/ £7 door

Thursday 1 December

Gingerbread House Extravaganza competition

Roper Room, Dorothy House.

Why not bake a gingerbread house and enter our competition? Contact Yvonne on 01225 721480 to register (numbers limited). Admission £3 (children/students free), with opportunity to view/purchase in advance at the Christmas Fair

Friday 2 December

Christmas Fair

Bloomfield Hall, Dorothy House, 10.30am – 3pm. Crafts, jewellery, decorations, cards, stationery, seasonal food, preserves, bottle tombola, books, etc. Admission £1 (children free)

Saturday 3 December

Christmas Fair

Bloomfield Hall, Dorothy House, 10.30am – 3pm. Admission £1 (children free).

Brunch with Father Christmas

While you're at the Christmas Fair, treat the children to a brunch with Father Christmas (light refreshments and a gift), in The Orangery, Dorothy House, 10am, 11am or 12 noon. Limited tickets £7.50 from 01225 721480

Annual Village Pump Night

Arc Theatre, Trowbridge. Doors at 7pm (bar open), concert 8pm. Tickets £10.50 from the Arc box office: 0845 299 0476

Winter Serenade

With Philomel Ladies' Choir, United Reformed Church, Trowbridge, 7.30pm. Retiring collection in aid of Dorothy House

Sunday 4 December

Santa Dash

A sponsored 5km fun run for over-16s at Brokerswood Country Park, near Trowbridge. You can register online at www.dhsantadash.co.uk

Friday 9 December

Carol Supper

Spencers Sports and Social Club, Melksham; doors 7pm, for a 7.30pm start. Tickets £12

(including hot supper) from Ann Peirce on 01225 761447 or Brenda Abbott on 01225 700702

Thursday 15 December

Dorothy House carol service

St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, 5.15pm. All welcome

February

Snowdrops at Great Chalfield

The first event in the 2012 open gardens season will take place in February at Great Chalfield Manor. Look out for more details in the local press and on our website

Sunday 11 March

Open garden

Kapunda Castle, Southstoke Lane, Bath, 2-4pm. Large collection of Lenten hellebores, with plants for sale. Home-made tea and cakes. Admission £4

Bath Half Marathon

Get in touch with Emily Knight on 01225 721480 if you have an independent place and would like to be part of Team Dotty!

Light up a Life

This year's seasonal services of remembrance will take place at 6pm on the following dates:

30 November: Bath Abbey

6 December: Frome, St John's Church

7 December: Shepton Mallet, Market Square – open air service

8 December: Devizes, Market Place – open air service

12 December: Chippenham, Buttercross – open air service

14 December: Trowbridge, St James' Church

Everyone is welcome to take part in these services: you don't have to have a connection with Dorothy House

Check our website www.dorothyhouse.co.uk for an up-to-date list of all Dorothy House events