

THE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2009



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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 care and support for 800 patients and their families every day in Bath, north and west 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

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COMMENT



Although this is the spring edition of our newsletter, I am writing in what feels like the depths of winter, with the worst snowfalls we've seen in this part of the world for nearly 20 years.

The economic situation, too, is casting a chill – which is why I would like to begin by thanking all of you for your continued support: it is more essential than ever. Once again, I have to say we simply could not continue to provide our services to 800 patients and their families every day without your help.

This year, we need to raise about £3 million to maintain our current level of services. It's a daunting sum, but so far our income has been holding up – largely thanks to some very generous legacies. Legacies are a very important source of income to Dorothy House, and one of our trustees, Brian Roberts-Wray, writes eloquently on page 4 about why he has remembered the hospice in his will, and encourages others to do the same.

Along with income from our 18 shops, fundraising by groups and individuals is also more vital than ever: we highlight some of your extraordinary achievements in the following pages. We are grateful for every penny you raise – and almost all of it (81 per cent) is spent directly on patient care. A further 10 per cent is invested in our education department, which also indirectly benefits patients by providing palliative care education and training to hundreds of health and social care professionals and carers, who can then use their knowledge to help even more people faced with a life-threatening disease. We take a look at their work on pages 6 and 7.

Last, but by no means least, we've now launched our 'Hospice care in your own home' awareness campaign – starting with our liveried buses and taxi in Bath. Look out for them, and for some inspiring stories in the local press, over the next few months.

Sarah Whitfield

Sarah Whitfield

Chief Executive

sarah.whitfield@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk

Let's go dotty!

Yes, it's true, we really are dotty – just ask Dame Trott (aka actor Chris Harris) who joined young Dorothy House supporters Alessia and Leonora at the Theatre Royal Bath to launch Dotty Day 2009.

This year, we've brought Dotty Day forward – to 1 April. And in the true spirit of April Fools' Day we are asking you, our supporters, to go completely dotty for the day.

You can go dotty in any number of ways. In previous years some of our very imaginative friends have dressed down at school, dressed up at work, made dotty cakes, played dotty games – Twister, tiddlywinks and dominoes are dotty favourites – and painted dotty pottery. You can organise your event at work, school or at home and it can be as large or small as you wish. Don't worry if you can't hold your Dotty Day on 1 April – any day around that time will be just as good.

We can send you posters, invitations, balloons, stickers, an ideas sheet and more to help make your Dotty Day a real success. This is a really fun and easy way of raising money and is your chance to celebrate April Fools' Day along with us. Want to join in? Call Paula Smith or Yvonne Brunton on 01225 721480 for a Dotty Pack.



■ Dots before the eyes: actor Chris Harris, who played Dame Trott in this year's Theatre Royal pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, sets a dotty example to all our supporters, with help from Alessia and Leonora

Photo: Bath Chronicle

Midnight walkers' cash keeps rolling in

Sponsorship raised by the 2008 Midnight Walk has already topped £65,000, with more to come.

Around 650 women took part in the eight-kilometre walk last September, covering a circular route that began and ended at Dorothy House.

Event organiser Phillippa Watson said: "Our second Midnight Walk was another huge success – and seems to have caught people's imagination as a fun way to raise money for a great cause. We hope it will become a regular event on

the local fundraising calendar – this year's date has already been booked: Saturday 12 September, so make a note in your diaries, ladies!"

Entry forms will be available to download from our website – www.dorothyhouse.co.uk – around Easter.

The Midnight Walk relies on everyone raising sponsorship, as the £10 entry fee simply covers the event costs. So if you've not yet sent in yours, please do – and help us to break 2007's £70,000 record.

NEWS

Tune in to fundraising

Dorothy House supporters are hitting all the right notes with CD releases that support the hospice. A compilation album released in summer 2008, in memory of former patient Alan Briars, has already raised hundreds of pounds. The double CD, *For Alan and Dorothy*, features 25 tracks recorded by regular performers at the Trowbridge Village Pump Festival, which Alan ran for nearly 30 years. Artists include Show of Hands and Kate Rusby, as well as local favourites John Alderslade, Tim Webb and Tinker's Cuss. *For Alan and Dorothy* is available from Dorothy House shops, priced £10. Singer Janice Hinton has also recorded a fundraising album, *Sapphire*. Showcasing Janice's considerable vocal talent, the CD includes an eclectic selection of ballads and show tunes, from *Diamonds are Forever* and *Goldfinger* to *The Wind Beneath my Wings*. It is also on sale at Dorothy House reception, priced £5.

Shops in need

Our new Gift Aid scheme for shop donations is helping to ensure sales in our 18 shops are up on last year, despite the difficult economic climate. However, although we are seeing new customers in our shops, donations are down – so why not have an early spring clear-out and take unwanted good-quality clothes, accessories, jewellery, books and bric-a-brac to your local Dorothy House shop: there is a full list on page

8. If you Gift Aid your donation, we can make an extra 28 per cent on its value.

Did you know?
You can recycle your old mobile phone at any Dorothy House shop

Where there's a will

One of our most important sources of income – particularly in the current economic climate – is legacies. Here trustee Brian Roberts-Wray explains why he has remembered Dorothy House in his will, and why he would encourage others to do the same

Some years ago, I was invited to become a trustee of Dorothy House. Having worked in the hospice movement, I knew what a difference they make to people's lives, so I was happy to become a member of the board. A year later, my wife Jesmarie was diagnosed with breast cancer. She had surgery, followed by both chemotherapy and radiotherapy in order to prevent any spread.

Unfortunately, her cancer was very aggressive, and within a year it had spread to her spine and she was in constant, severe pain. From that moment Dorothy House stepped in and became a constant and marvellous part of whatever treatment she received. On three separate occasions she spent a week as an in-patient at the hospice, and each time she came out with the pain under control. She also had weekly visits from one of Dorothy House's Specialist Nurses, who was not only expert in pain control, but also had the knack of making both of us feel a whole lot better when she left the house than we had an hour earlier when she arrived.

That's one of the great things about Dorothy House – it's not just the patient who is cared for, but the carer and the immediate family as well; and it's not just the physical symptoms they tackle, but the emotional and spiritual ones too. Sadly, however, there was nothing that could reverse the course of Jesmarie's cancer and her condition deteriorated.

One weekend, I began to feel I needed more nursing expertise than I possessed myself. Even though it was a Saturday, I telephoned Dorothy House for advice. Within minutes the folk in the in-patient unit had arranged for a nurse to care for Jesmarie overnight. What a relief that was!



And we had that help every night until she died a few days later.

Over the following days people from Dorothy House were on the telephone several times, to see how I was coping, and offering practical advice.

When the immediate grief at Jesmarie's passing began to subside, I started to wonder how I would have coped without the constant support of Dorothy House. The answer was simple – I couldn't have coped at all. The sense of gratitude to Dorothy House helped me in my grieving and I knew that I wanted to give them something special.

To be honest, I wanted to be more generous than I could afford to be at that moment.

Then I had a thought. As a widower, I needed to make a new will. Within a couple of weeks I had seen my solicitor and I took real pleasure in including a bequest to Dorothy House in my new will.

I hope it will be several years before they receive that money! But when they do, it will represent a measure of my appreciation for the fact that Jesmarie enjoyed the last two years of her life. Without Dorothy House that would have been impossible.

● If you are thinking about leaving a gift to Dorothy House, and would like to talk to Brian about it, please contact him via the hospice on 01225 721480.

A day in the life ...

... of community fundraiser Yvonne Brunton, who joined the Dorothy House team in April



It was March last year when I saw the vacancy for a full-time fundraiser at Dorothy House.

The person specification seemed about right: 'Interpersonal skills and the ability to work with a wide cross section of people' (ability to talk for England about anything, to anybody); 'Excellent organisational, research and problem solving skills' (had been single parent, working full time, fitting life around football, dental appointments and what to cook for tea). I'd also worked in local government for almost 20 years, and organised many fundraising events during that time.

When I was called to Dorothy House for an interview, I was struck by the atmosphere of calm and caring – and also by a real sense of camaraderie. I was thrilled when I had the phone call the following day to say I'd got the job – and I'm still thrilled to be working with a great bunch of like-minded people.

I work alongside part-time fundraiser Paula Smith, who has been very supportive from the start and is still patiently answering my unceasing questions about who, what, when and where.

As fundraisers, we receive enquiries from local supporters who are organising anything from coffee mornings and concerts to parachute jumps! Sometimes it's the first event the person has ever organised, so we can talk through what to

expect and give practical advice on various aspects such as 'Does the date clash with another event?' 'Is there enough parking?' and, our favourite, 'What if it rains?'

We have our own in-house designer who will produce bespoke posters and invites, we have banners and signs that we can customise and we can offer balloons, stickers, collecting buckets or tins ... and I mustn't forget the VERY flattering pink T-shirts in all sorts of sizes!

As well as dealing with community events, the fundraising department organises a comprehensive list of regular Dorothy House events, such as Dotty Day, the open gardens season, our wonderful summer fete and the Light Up a Life services. We also help to support our fantastic local 'Friends' groups, who raise huge amounts of money for us every year.

We are often invited to talk to local groups about the work of Dorothy House and I have to admit this is one of my very favourite pastimes: NOT just the talking bit, but being given the opportunity to tell people just what a wonderful place Dorothy House is for so many reasons.

I am amazed at the ceaseless amount of support we have from people in the 700 square miles we cover. And the response I get when I tell people where I work never fails to remind me of the outstanding care we are able to offer, free of charge, to our patients and their families.

Pig tale's happy ending

Pigmalion, the Dorothy House contribution to last summer's King Bladud's Pigs project in Bath, has gone to her new home. She has been installed in the grounds of the St John's Hospital flats, near the Royal United Hospital, where she is sure to give much pleasure to residents and visitors. The sculpture, sponsored by the Friends of Bath Citizens' Advice Bureau

was painted by a group of young people working with Dorothy House

children's service co-ordinator Jenny van Dyk and creative therapist Ros Stroud. Pigmalion was sold in an online auction for £1,250, with an artist's fee of £312.50 coming to Dorothy House, along with the CAB sponsors' generous donation of their sponsorship refund, making a grand total of £1,062.50.



Salisbury success

The first anniversary of the opening of our Salisbury shop was marked in February with a tea party for the shop volunteers. The project – a joint venture with Salisbury Hospicecare – has proved profitable for both hospices, and we are now discussing the possibility of a second shop.

Brought to book

The Bradford on Avon Friends group are looking for your good quality, unwanted books to sell at their coffee morning on 11 March and at the summer fete on 6 June – both events to be held at Dorothy House. If you are able to bring your books to Winsley, please call at reception and ask for Paula Smith or Yvonne Brunton in fundraising.

Light source

The amazing display of lights at Alex Goodhind's home in Melksham gained national fame over the Christmas season, featuring in newspapers from The Daily Telegraph to The Sun. But the thousands of lights on the house Alex shares with his father, Colin, represent much more than a colourful celebration of the festive season: Alex puts on his grand display every year to raise money for Dorothy House, in memory of his mother, Gill, who died in 2006. The Christmas 2008 display raised £3,063 – a magnificent total.

Answers from A-Z

Dorothy House is setting up a new searchable database online, to give patients, carers and the general public access to information about where to go for help on a wide range of topics, including finance, bereavement, holidays, benefits and much more. The A-Z will provide links to websites, phone numbers and other sources of information, and will be accessible via www.dorothyhouse.co.uk

Take a chance



It's that time of year again, when we invite you to raise funds for the hospice by taking part in Dotty Lotty. Dorothy House's very own lottery gives

you 25 chances to win up to £250 in our fortnightly draws – and the 2008/09 Dotty Lotty raised more than £19,000 for patient care. It costs £50 to buy a number in the 2009/10 lottery; closing date for applications is 10 April. Find out more on our website, or call fundraising on 01225 721480. If you have already received a Dotty Lotty entry form, please pass on the one enclosed with this newsletter to anyone who may be interested.

Education, education

The work of Dorothy House extends far beyond the walls of the hospice building at Winsley. With 800 patients and their families to care for every day, the majority of our support, advice and specialist nursing care is provided in people's own homes. The services offered by Dorothy House also include sharing expertise with other health and social care professionals, carers and patients themselves. In this edition of the newsletter, we take a look at just some of the work being carried out by our education department

The education team at

Dorothy House is headed by Helen de Renzie-Brett. Here, she outlines the department's role both at Winsley and in the wider community.

"We can't provide all end of life care, but education means we can help and support others to do it," says Helen.

"The education department has a dual remit," she explains. "Firstly, it ensures that we meet the learning and development needs of the staff and volunteers working for Dorothy House. This is done using both in-house expertise and external providers, where necessary.

"It is crucially important that Dorothy House staff are able to meet the current and future requirements of their jobs within the organisation, as well as

continuing to improve.

"It's also vital that our staff and volunteers are able to deliver high quality care and services, whether they are practitioners involved in patient care or volunteers providing customer service in the Dorothy House shops.

"Secondly, the education department has a key role in educating external organisations and agencies about end of life care.

"We are committed to assisting in the development of everyone involved in the delivery of such care, whatever their discipline or professional background.

"The education department runs an external programme, which comprises a range of study days covering subjects of interest to people working in end of life care.

"The teaching staff, in conjunction with



Students are on a

Students are regular visitors to Dorothy House on short-term placements.

The hospice has close links with the University of the West of England, and welcomes nursing, physiotherapy and occupational therapy students on pre and post-registration courses.

University of Bristol medical students are also offered placements at Dorothy House, as are students from other universities across the UK.

, education



Education department staff and six volunteers pictured outside the education wing at Winsley – part of the extensions to the hospice building opened by the Princess Royal in November 2006

practitioners at Dorothy House – such as doctors, nurses and physiotherapists – also provide educational programmes in local care homes, primary care trusts, social services and GP practices. Such programmes help to take our expertise out to a much wider audience.

“The team are committed to a partnership approach, working with

individual learners and groups, and using a range of teaching and learning methods – from formal lectures to small group teaching and hands-on learning – all with the aim of enabling other practitioners and carers to provide the best possible end of life care.”

learning curve

Placements are a key way of helping students to spread the word among their colleagues about what happens in a hospice, and how Dorothy House manages end of life care.

Some of our recent visitors are pictured, left. They are UWE student Miranda Cooper; Emma Hill, a physiotherapy student at the University of East Anglia; Dorothy House staff nurse Sue Denison, Dorothy House physiotherapist Margaret Blagbrough and UWE student Chrissie Baker.

A key role in the community

At the heart of the community is educational facilitator Anne Alsop, who has been working closely with community matrons at Bath & North East Somerset and Wiltshire primary care trusts (PCTs).

The Care Beyond Cancer project is just one example of collaborative working between Dorothy House and other health and social care practitioners – in this case, Dorothy House specialist nurses and the community matrons whose role is to case-manage patients with long-term conditions, including end of life care.

The programme – funded through Help the Hospices – was initially set up for patients with a non-cancer diagnosis, but Anne says it could be easily adapted for all Dorothy House patients.

Among the project's positive outcomes is a greater understanding on both sides of how professionals from different areas can work together to benefit patients.

The conference facilities at Dorothy House also come under the education ‘umbrella’. The Roper Room, Bloomfield Hall and smaller meeting rooms are regularly used by a wide variety of clients – including health and social care organisations and corporate clients – for training days, conferences and short courses. Proceeds from facilities hire goes to patient care, providing another useful source of income for the hospice.

To find out more about Dorothy House as a conference venue, visit the website – www.dorothyhouse.co.uk – or contact the conference administrator on 01225 721474.

THERE IS A DOROTHY HOUSE SHOP NEAR YOU

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

BATH

15 Moorland Road 01225 444695

14 Argyle Street 01225 444991

3 Abbeygate Street 01225 444299

30 Westgate Buildings 01225 482606

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)

TROWBRIDGE

15 Silver Street 01225 754237

WARMINSTER

14 Three Horseshoes Walk

01985 215101

WESTBURY

41/43 High Street 01373 858232

NEWS



The first event of our 2009 Open Gardens season had to be postponed because of the snowy weather that overtook the region at the beginning of February. But we hope visitors will have been able to enjoy the snowdrops at Great Chalfield Manor on Sunday 1 March instead. Our picture shows last year's display at the National Trust property, enjoyed by hundreds of Dorothy House supporters. Details of this year's open gardens will be regularly updated on the website, and we will also be publishing a leaflet listing those taking part. If you would like to open your garden for Dorothy House this year, it's never too late to sign up – just call fundraising on 01225 721480 and speak to Paula or Yvonne.

What The Doctor ordered

Actor Colin Baker – a legendary Dr Who and the villain of this year's panto at the Theatre Royal – was a very welcome visitor to the Day Patient Unit just after Christmas.

Colin met patients, staff and volunteers and talked about his TV and stage career. He kept everyone thoroughly entertained – especially patient and avid fan Sarah Marritt. In fact, Colin found the experience so moving that he wrote about it in his regular column for his local newspaper, The Bucks Free Press. Here is what he had to say:

“I was invited to visit a hospice on the outskirts of Bath and share with them stories of my life and times, which they seemed to enjoy.

“But really I was the main beneficiary.

“I was quite honestly unsure what I could possibly offer to people who were coming to terms with their own mortality in such a final way.

“But I have never had a more interested, friendly and warm reception.

“I sat next to a young lady in her 30s who, it turned out, was not only a great Doctor Who fan, but was particularly fond of my version of the great man.

“It was humbling to be able to give so much pleasure, simply by talking to someone whose life expectancy was apparently short.

“Her greater joy, however, was in having survived, against her original prognosis, long enough to attend her daughter's 18th birthday party the following week.

“She had for many months been preparing gifts for her daughter in the expectation that she would not be able to present them herself.

“The fact that she would be able to do so irradiated her with so much pleasure that you would think she had just won the lottery. And in her eyes she had.

“I will doubtless moan and whinge again about all sorts of trivial things in my life, because we all too frequently forget to count our blessings.”

SPRING 2009

A magnificent effort

Once again, the support we've received over the past few months has been magnificent: many thanks to everyone who helped to keep funds coming in.

Trowbridge and Melksham Friends have surpassed themselves with donations totalling £23,000 – the proceeds of events organised by Ann Peirce and Brenda Abbott, Andy King, and Howard and Lyn Sutton.

The tulip fund set up in memory of James Eyers, who was killed in a road traffic accident two years ago, has reached nearly £34,000, thanks to numerous fundraising events organised by his friends and family. James' mum, Sue Edwards, recently handed over the latest donation, of £5,500 to Dorothy House director of fundraising Katrina Sudbury (see picture). Sue said: "I know James would have been



very proud to be part of raising money for such a wonderful cause."

A £5,000 donation was presented in memory of Vanessa Kyte by her sister, Nicola Noble. Nicola visited Dorothy House along with her daughter Alice, Vanessa's husband Mike and their mother Dianne Young.

Campaign takes to the streets



Public transport will be putting across the message about hospice care in our area this year. An eye-catching campaign, using specially liveried buses and a taxi, will be raising awareness of the services provided in people's own homes by Dorothy House specialist nurses and Hospice at Home carers. Look out for the buses and taxi in and around Bath over the coming months.

Many congratulations to the staff and volunteers at the Dorothy House shop in Fore Street, Trowbridge – it was voted Best Charity Shop 2008 by readers of the Wiltshire Times & Chippenham News. That is a fantastic achievement considering the number of charity shops in the area covered by the papers. The award will be marked by a tea party for the staff and volunteers.

Raising the bar

Sporting challenges are a fantastic source of income for Dorothy House – and one of our most dedicated sporting fundraisers is Steve Cleaver, who works for Royal Mail in Warminster. Having started with the Bath Half in 2007, he ran both the London and Dublin Marathons in 2008 and is planning to run the Paris Marathon in April. He also has a place in the London Marathon, which takes place shortly before the Paris race. Can he manage two marathons in one month? Watch this space! And if you would like to take part in a running event, sky dive or any other sporting challenge, please get in touch and we can help you to sign up for a suitable event, provide sponsorship forms and help with publicity. Just call Phillippa in fundraising on 01225 721480 or email pwatson@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk

We need your help

Volunteers are always needed in our shops, particularly now we are operating the Gift Aid scheme for donated items. Contact your local shop manager if you can spare a few hours a week – details are on the page opposite.

Look after the pennies

Our lovely new Dotty Boxes are now available – just the job for collecting up your loose change: every penny counts! Call fundraising on 01225 721480 if you would like us to send you one – or more.



NEWS

The future's bright

Walkers will be stepping out all over the UK on Good Friday, 10 April, to take part in this year's Walking on the Bright Side event. The walk is the brainchild of Lesley Lay, from Bradford on Avon, whose sister-in-law Gill Goodhind was looked after by Dorothy House. The idea is to ask every hospice in the UK to get one of their supporters to organise a team of 10 people or more to take part in a 10K fundraising walk in their locality, aiming to raise a minimum of £50 per walker. Each walk starts at the same time on the same day – and the Dorothy House event starts from Winsley at 10.15am for 10.30am. More details at www.walkingonthebrightside.co.uk or call fundraising on 01225 721480.

CEO joins shop staff

Stephen Dale, the new chief executive of the Bath and North East Somerset Volunteer Centre, has gone back to the shop floor to help raise awareness of the range of volunteering opportunities in the area. His first challenge was to join the team of volunteers at the Dorothy House shop in Midsomer Norton. Dorothy House voluntary services manager Phillippa Huxtable said: "The hospice could not continue to care without the dedication of our volunteers, who undertake a wide range of activities, including helping to run our 18 shops." Head of retail and volunteer services Stewart Hoare added: "I am grateful to Stephen for choosing our charity shop as part of his Chief Exec's Challenge initiative. During his day at the Midsomer Norton shop he will have gained a unique insight into life as a charity shop volunteer."

Winter warmer

Paddy's Carols – the open-air carol singing event in Bath in memory of our former chairman of trustees Paddy Stewart-Morgan – raised the magnificent total of £3,658. Sincere thanks to all the singers – and all those who supported them!

Families benefit from company's help



■ Matthew Curry from apetito and In-Patient Unit nurse Wendy Pepper try out the new TV and DVD player in the family room

Our family room, in the out-patient wing, has a brand-new television and DVD player – thanks to the generosity of Trowbridge-based frozen food supplier apetito.

Matthew Curry, whose mother Marianne was looked after by Dorothy

House, nominated us to receive funds from apetito's Staff Foundation to pay for the new equipment. The company donated £1,290 last year and £1,765 this year to Dorothy House, and Matthew raised a further £717.70 by running the Bristol Half Marathon.

We mean business

A key part of our continued fundraising is with the corporate sector. This can mean courting managing directors and chief executives or getting help from the employees. Did you realise that there are a number of ways you, as individuals, can help us?

1. Encourage your colleagues to join in one of our established events, such as Dotty Day on 1 April 2009 or t@3 during the summer.
 2. Choose Dorothy House to benefit from a 'dress down day'.
 3. Enter a corporate team in the Bath Half Marathon – or what about a parachute jump as a team building exercise?
 4. Make a donation to Dorothy House in lieu of sending Christmas cards to colleagues or business contacts.
 5. If you participate in a sporting challenge and raise sponsorship, or organise an event, you may be able to apply for matched funding from your employer. Nigel Crutchley, who works for Royal Bank of Scotland, doubled the amount raised by a harvest festival auction at the Talbot Inn, Mells, to £1,000 by securing matched funding from the bank as part of its Community Cash Back initiative.
 6. Run your own event – disco, race night, skittles night – in aid of Dorothy House.
 7. Propose and/or vote for Dorothy House to be your Charity of the Year.
 8. Promote the idea of Pennies From Heaven to your charity committee or work colleagues. This scheme collects the loose change (pennies) from your salary and donates them to the charity of your choice – if your firm has a large number of employees, the pennies can add up to a significant monthly sum. See www.penniesfromheaven.co.uk or www.charitablegiving.co.uk for further details.
 9. Come up with an idea of your own!
- If you would like to discuss corporate support in more detail, please contact Phillippa Watson in Fundraising on 01225 721480. We can help you with posters and promotional items, as well as publicity for your event or campaign.

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NEWS

Sculptor's generous gift



■ **Nigel Cann's stone and stained glass sculpture, Mother and Child, stands outside the Day Patient Unit at Dorothy House**

The latest addition to the grounds at Dorothy House is this stunning sculpture, also featured on our cover.

Entitled Mother and Child, it was given to us by the artist, Nigel Cann, who uses quarried stone and his own stained glass to create his distinctive pieces.

Creative therapist Ros Stroud explains: "We initially intended to borrow the piece just for the winter, under the Sculpture on Loan scheme – an initiative that gives us the chance to see some interesting art works, and really enhances the outside space for everyone at Dorothy House.

"But when Nigel saw the sculpture in its place outside the Day Patient Unit, he very generously offered it to us as a gift.

"Everyone loves it – patients, staff and volunteers. It has a very spiritual quality, and the stone will weather and change over time."

Keeeeeep dancing!

After two very successful fundraising Tea Dances in 2008, we can now tell you about the steps we've taken to hold more of the same in 2009!

The Friday dates for your diary are 24 April, 4 September and 11 December.

Numbers are limited and the routine for booking your place is as follows: send a cheque please (£5 each per dance), with telephone contact details, to secure your place and we will confirm receipt by telephone and add you to the list of those 'taking to the floor for charity'.

Plus – you'll get the usual cup of tea and slice of scrumptious homemade cake ... so take the quick step of booking now on 01225 721480 before all the spaces are taken!



TEN QUESTIONS

Physiotherapy and occupational therapy team leader Jeanne Burnett goes under the spotlight



1 How long have you worked for Dorothy House?

Three and a half years. I relocated from Southport, in the northwest. I previously worked for 11 years at Queenscourt Hospice as a physiotherapy clinical specialist, and before that I was in private practice.

2 What would you be doing if you weren't working for the hospice?

The master plan would be to open two specialist clothes shops – one for short, curvy ladies and another arranged according to the four seasons colour palette, complete with advisory colour therapist. We just need a sponsor or lottery win!

3 What do you enjoy most about your job?

Every day is different. Challenging, inspiring, rewarding, frustrating sometimes, but always different.

4 What's your favourite film and why?

Probably *Ghost*. I have watched it several times and it still hits me emotionally.

5 How do you relax outside work?

My home is rural so I enjoy all things related to it – gardening, walking in the countryside, camping, cycling.

6 Describe your role at Dorothy House in a maximum of ten words.

Ever changing, always challenging, usually enjoyable.

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

More time in the day!

8 Who is your hero/heroine?

I don't have one. I do admire several people who excel in their field, including Andrew Lloyd Webber and JK Rowling.

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

Portraying Joe from the button factory in the Christmas Revue 2006!

10 Describe yourself in three words.

Enthusiastic, always optimistic!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11 March

Coffee morning

organised by Bradford on Avon Friends of Dorothy House, 10.30am-12 noon. Bloomfield Hall, Dorothy House, Winsley. Home-made cakes, raffle, book stall and more.

15 March

Bath Half Marathon

– please come along and cheer on all our fantastic runners! The race starts at 11am in Great Pulteney Street

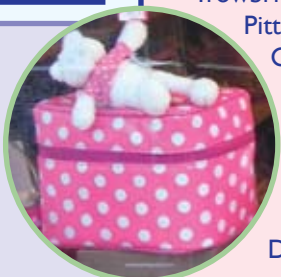
21 March

Bath Concertino at St Bartholomew's Church, Bath. Programme includes Haydn's Cello Concerto in D. Tickets £8, available on the door

1 April

Do something DOTTY

for Dotty Day! Call Paula Smith or Yvonne Brunton on 01225 721480 for a Dotty Pack full of fundraising ideas, and help us make Dotty Day 2009 the best and dottiest ever



10 April

Walking on the Bright Side

10.15am for 10.30am start, from the car park, Dorothy House. Join a fun 10k family sponsored walk, starting and finishing at Dorothy House, to raise funds for patient care. Find out more at www.walkingonthebrightside.co.uk

24 April

Tea dance

Bloomfield Hall, Dorothy House. Tickets £5 to include tea and homemade cake. Numbers are limited, so please call Yvonne in fundraising on 01225 721480 to book your place



25 April

Grand farewell concert

for Canon Christopher Brown, Rector of Trowbridge, 1998-2009, Trowbridge Civic Hall, 7.30pm. With the Cardiff Arms Park Male Voice Choir and guest soloist Rhiannon Lambert. Tickets £7.50, children £1, from Trowbridge TIC, HB Pitts, St Andrew's Christian Bookshop or from 01225 776370; 50 per cent of proceeds to Dorothy House

26 April

Flora London Marathon

– don't forget to sponsor our dedicated runners

1 & 2 May

Sing for Life

– an all singing and dancing weekend in Bath over the early spring bank holiday, featuring everything from glorious gospel to classical choral. Tickets from Bath Festivals Box office on 01225 463362

1 May

Dotty Lotty

– the first draw in our fortnightly lottery – your chance to win up to £250. To apply for your Dotty Lotty tickets, call fundraising on 01225 721480 – applications close on 10 April

6 June

Dorothy House Summer Fete

– yes, it's back, with dozens of stalls, games, lunches and teas, and fun for all the family. Our fabulous fete will be held in the grounds of Dorothy House, from 2-5pm. Plenty of parking available



6 June

Wiltshire & Bath Organists' Association

annual recital, 7pm, St Andrew's Church, Chippenham. Admission £5 on the door, in aid of Dorothy House

25 June

Open gardens

and lunch at Badminton House. Contact Phillippa Watson on 01225 721480 for more details or to book your place

18 July

Driving Dotty

– sponsor a dot for Dorothy House on an ambulance being driven 10,000 miles to Ulaanbaatar, as part of The Mongol Rally 2009. For more details, call Yvonne on 01225 721480

23 July

Mixed golf classic

at Kingdown Golf Club, Box. Tickets £47 per couple to include dinner (6.30pm). To book, or for more details, contact Shirley Palfrey on 01249 714264

4 September

Tea dance

Bloomfield Hall, Dorothy House. Tickets £5 to include tea and homemade cake. Numbers are limited, so please call Yvonne in fundraising on 01225 721480 to book

12 September

Dorothy House Midnight Walk

– an eight-kilometre circular walk, starting from the hospice. Open to women aged 16 and over. Go to www.dorothyhouse.co.uk for more details and to download an entry form

13 September

Chippenham Half Marathon

with proceeds going to Dorothy House. To register and for full details, visit the website at www.chippenhamhalfmarathon.co.uk