Taking the plunge

Thanks to Suzanne Willis and Lisa O’Connor from Marks and Spencer, Doncaster, who took the plunge and did a sky dive for our hospice appeal.

The money is still rolling in through sponsorship. As soon as we know how much they’ve raised, we’ll let you know here!

Youngsters hit the high notes

Youngsters from a Balby primary school hit the high notes to officially launch Doncaster Hospice’s Christmas Tree.

The annual Christmas Tree blessing took place outside St John’s Hospice, together with The Salvation Army.

Mel Hewitt, Hospice Community Fundraiser, said: “The event was wonderful and enjoyed by all who attended. The pupils from Balby Central Primary School did a marvellous job and have put all of the hospice staff and day care patients in the Christmas spirit.”

Thank you... to Doncaster based staff who helped the hospice raise a further £100 from the sale of Christmas raffle tickets last week.

A further big thank you to staff who attended the recent hospice appeal fashion show. The event raised an amazing £734!
Singer launches CD to boost hospice appeal coffers

A professional singer, who used to tread the boards with the stars of the 1940s and 1950s, has released a CD to raise money for Doncaster’s Hospice Appeal.

Tony Leyton, of Edenthorpe, decided to compile the CD in memory of his late wife Elaine, who he says ‘was his inspiration.’

Tony, who used to perform in popular summer seasons around the UK including at the Winter Gardens Pavilion in Blackpool, Eastbourne, Skegness and Bournemouth, has shared the stage with showbiz legends including Reg Dixon, Danny La Rue, Ken Platt, Ronnie Ronalde, Tessie O’Shea and many more.

Tony, who describes himself as an ‘old fashioned crooner,’ has compiled the CD, called For The Love Of Elaine, covering hits from stars including Bing Crosby, Dickie Valentine, Donald Peers and Michael Holland. It is now on sale from the hospice at £10 per copy.

Tony said: “All I have ever wanted to do is entertain and the songs on the CD are the ones Elaine always loved to hear me sing. Every penny from the sale of the CDs is going to the hospice appeal.”

Mel Hewitt, Hospice Community Fundraiser, added: “As soon as I heard Tony’s CD I was charmed by his lovely voice and the uplifting songs he has chosen for this very special album.”

To buy a copy please contact St John’s Hospice on 01302 793891 or call into the reception.

For more information of how to donate visit: www.rdash.nhs.uk\hospiceappeal

Follow us on: @stjohnsappeal  StJohns Appeal
Our event was held for 200 volunteers who help out in our full range of diverse services.

RDaSH Chairman Lawson Pater said: “Our volunteers make a huge difference to patients, staff and members of the public. They unselfishly give up their own free time in a wide variety of ways – gardening, taxiing patients, serving in the tea rooms, and working on hospital reception areas – the list goes on and on.

“Every single minute they volunteer is really appreciated by everyone involved with the Trust. This event is our way of saying a big thank you and showing them their daily acts of kindness don’t go unnoticed.”

Mr Pater also presented the RDaSH Volunteer of the Year Award, which went this year to Rotherham’s Young Onset Dementia Team Volunteers, a charitable group who plan and carry out social events in the community, visit vulnerable people at home, provide carer support, and have raised over £10,000 in the past year alone.

Runners up were a team of drivers who use their own vehicles to take patients to and from day-care and appointments at St John’s Hospice. As well as providing these journeys for patients, who might not otherwise be able to access services, they offer them companionship and friendship at what can often be a very difficult time.

Finally, there was a special commendation for Gill Stanley, a volunteer and mentor at Doncaster rehabilitation centre New Beginnings, who is described by her colleagues as a “breath of fresh air” and a “true inspiration who always goes the extra mile to support others”.

Mr Pater added: “We were delighted with the high number of entries we received for our annual volunteering award this year; it’s a tough job to select just one overall winner.

“We hope this event goes some way to showing each and every one of our volunteers how grateful we are for their efforts – they are all winners to us!
Christmas message from Lawson Pater, Chairman, and Chris Bain, Chief Executive

Dear colleagues

It’s just a few days until Christmas and as we head towards the end of this calendar year, we both wanted to say a huge thank you to all members of our team across RDaSH for the hard work, effort and care you have delivered during the last 12 months.

2014 has been another year of change for the Trust and we are aware that many staff members have been involved in service changes and actions that will have impacted on their roles within the organisation. We are working very hard to support you all through these changes and also to ensure that our service users, patients and carers receive the best care and support that we can offer. Colleagues who work in support and corporate services have faced challenges too and have needed to adapt their work to support changes in frontline service delivery.

We also understand that the demands placed on all staff are increasing due to times of unprecedented demand for NHS care. Our local commissioners are working with us to try to address these increases and to help agree changes to pathways that will assist with meeting these needs. In the meantime, thank you for all you are doing to keep our services functioning and going the extra mile to deliver for those who need our support.

This year, we were named in the top 100 NHS employers and I hope this is a reflection of the supportive culture we have tried to develop across and throughout the organisation. There is always more we can do and we both promise to ensure that these efforts are maintained in the coming year.

We both would like to wish all colleagues and your families, on behalf of the Board of Directors and Council of Governors, a very happy and peaceful Christmas and we look forward to continuing to work with you in 2015.

Lawson and Chris

Little Mia Stafford (3) who attends The Warren Nursery was the winner of a nursery competition to design the Trust’s Christmas card.

Mia is pictured with Chairman Lawson Pater and Chief Executive Chris Bain.
Sew & Sew
We have an onsite sewing room for work for wards and departments, ordering/altering staff uniforms. We also provide this service to external customers. From curtain making/alterations, soft furnishings, embroidery, to garment repairs and alternations, why not contact them today for more information or a quote on 01302 796009.

The Laundry
The Tickhill Road Laundry offers a personal laundry washing and ironing service. Staff can drop their dirty laundry at work and collect it the next working day, clean and folded. Visit the laundry website for details and prices: http://www.thelaundryservice.org.uk/index.php

Contact the laundry for information on the laundry delivery service. It’s only £7 for a bag of 30 items, including local collection and delivery. Contact the team on 01302 796014.

Print Services
Based at Walnut Lodge at St Catherine’s, our in-house print service prides itself on quality and a quick turnaround. If you need any printing for business cards, invitations, flyers, greeting cards, calendars or catalogues, contact the team for a quote. We will price match any orders. If you require design services please contact the RDaSH Communications Department on 01302 798053.

Trust Catering
Visit one of our three retail catering outlets on the Balby site.
The Food and Drink Café is based on the Tickhill Road Hospital (TRH) site and serves hot and cold freshly produced meals and snacks. The Coffee Shop is based in the main entrance of TRH and serves a range of beverages and sandwiches. Or why not visit the Victorian Tea Room in St Catherine’s House for a speciality coffee and a slice of cake? While you are there you could pop into the Walled Garden Centre and take a browse in the gift shop and garden centre.

Warren Nursery
The Warren Nursery is a well-established, award winning 89 place nursery, which is open Monday to Friday between 7.30am to 5.30pm. We cater for children from four months to four years in two purpose-built buildings.

Our aim is to provide a safe, caring and nurturing environment for our children and strive to deliver an outstanding service to parents.

We offer affordable quality childcare with highly experienced staff, all qualified to a minimum of level 3. We also have an early years professional.

The Hutch
The Hutch play scheme is a 40-place holiday play scheme, operating during Doncaster school holidays, from 7.30am to 5.30pm.

We cater for up to 40 children aged from four years (in full-time education) to 12 years, in a newly refurbished building.

We offer affordable quality childcare with our dedicated team of play leaders and assistants, boasting a wide range of skills to help devise activities to entertain our children - from arts and crafts and sport, to cookery and days out - all in the care of qualified and caring staff.

For more information about the Warren Nursery and the Hutch Playsheme visit: www.thewarrennursery.org