



Your Hearts and Minds **NHS**

Make a Difference

Charity newsletter issue no 2



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Registered charity no: 1055641

Sandall Park 10am to 2pm

Santa Dash

& Christmas market

Sunday 6 Dec



Santa Dash

starting at 11am

£10 Adult ticket

Includes Santa suit and finisher's medal.

£3.50 Child ticket

Includes Reindeer antlers and finisher's medal.



Register for the Santa Dash:

www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/santa-dash



Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead.



Santa Dash, sponsored by:

ison harrison
solicitors



Your Hearts
and **Minds**

Your donations... *Make a Difference!*

The festive event will raise funds for Your Hearts and Minds, the charity that supports St John's Hospice in Balby and is leading an appeal to build a new hydrotherapy pool for people with learning disabilities in Doncaster.



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR



Jenny Baynham
Fundraising Manager

Welcome to the second edition of Your Hearts and Minds Make a Difference.

Since launching our first newsletter, we've been delighted to share the incredible difference your support continues to make for our charity.

This newsletter is your opportunity to stay connected with the people, projects and communities that benefit from your generosity.

In this edition, you'll read about the latest developments in our fundraising campaigns, the impact of specialist services we support, and the many inspiring ways our supporters are helping us go above and beyond NHS funding.

From supporting end of life care to transforming vital community facilities, every donation is helping to improve lives across our local communities.

Whether you're a donor, fundraiser, volunteer, partner or supporter, thank you for being part of our charity family. Together, we're creating opportunities, enhancing care and making a lasting difference for patients, service users and their loved ones.

Why we need your support

Your Hearts and Minds is the charity supporting people across Rotherham, Doncaster and North Lincolnshire.

Every pound raised helps to fund care, projects, education, research and equipment that go beyond what the NHS can provide.

Thanks to...
the generosity of our supporters, we can enhance services, improve patient experiences and provide additional comfort and support to people when they need it most.

Our current funding priorities

Supporting end of life care

We are committed to helping our staff deliver the highest standard of end-of-life care and support, from diagnosis through to bereavement. This care extends not only to patients, but also to their families and loved ones, both within our inpatient settings and throughout the wider community.

Your Hearts and Minds contributes more than

£680,000 each year towards the running costs of St John's Hospice in Doncaster.

For over 34 years, the hospice has provided specialist palliative care and compassionate support to local people facing life-limiting illnesses, helping them and their families navigate some of life's most challenging moments with dignity, comfort and care.





THERAPY POOL APPEAL

Transforming our Therapy Pool

Our current fundraising total stands at **£91,400** towards the £250,000 total required for our Therapy Pool Appeal, which aims to replace the much-loved, but very old therapy pool at the Diamond Therapeutic and Activity Centre.

£91,400

The pool provides essential therapy and wellbeing support for adults with learning disabilities, physical and neurological conditions, communication disorders and complex health needs.

The new fully accessible facility will:

- Support more people at each session
- Enhance sensory and therapeutic experiences
- Improve comfort, accessibility and safety
- Expand access to hydrotherapy for the wider community

Together, we can create a modern facility that will benefit local people for many years to come.

Please give us your support and donate today.



**Your Hearts
and Minds**

Diamond Activity and Therapeutic Services



JustGiving

Please support our Therapy Pool Appeal

How Your Hearts and Minds is helping our communities...

Community grants make a difference

In April 2025, a total of £75,000 in grant funding from our general Your Hearts and Minds fund was distributed to 30 voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations, who have been working in collaboration with RDaSH colleagues to deliver a range of projects across Rotherham, Doncaster and North Lincolnshire.

The funded projects were designed to support individuals and communities who may not otherwise access or benefit from mainstream services, ensuring that resources reached those with the greatest need.

All projects were aligned with the charity's 5 key strategic missions:



Over the past 12 months, progress has been monitored to assess delivery, outcomes, and the overall impact within local communities and we'd like to share how this funding has made a real difference...

Your donations... *Make a Difference!*

Link:



Donating to our charity is a positive way to leave a lasting legacy, far beyond your lifetime to ensure we continue to help change the future for local people.

Visit: www.yourheartsandminds.org.uk



Email: rdash.your-hearts-and-minds@nhs.net

Follow us on:



@yourheartsandminds

Our Togetherness Choir celebrated its 10th anniversary

After 10 years raising their own funds, North Lincolnshire's singing group for people with dementia and their families and carers was awarded a £1,300 community grant.

The grant has enabled the Togetherness Choir to continue providing a safe, supporting and welcoming environment for over 40 attendees per session, including people with young onset dementia and their families and carers.

The choir meets for 32 sessions each year, combining singing, personalised music activities, and social opportunities that reduce isolation and promote wellbeing.

Funding has allowed the team to focus on delivering the group, rather than continual fundraising, while also supporting activities such as themed Dementia Action Week sessions and personalised music resources that encourage communication, reminiscence and connection.

Here's some feedback from a choir member:

"When I first started attending with mum, I found it was one of the few activities that gave us quality time together, when she was in the throes of Alzheimer's. Mum smiled, laughed and sang, she loves singing!

"The group has such a close community feel, and everyone is always welcome. Mum and myself got so

much from our Tuesday singing nights and I will always be grateful for such precious times.

"Although mum is now unable to attend, I still enjoy attending, everyone is lovely, supportive and welcoming a family. I now bring a friend who has recently been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. He really enjoys meeting other members and singing.

"Thank you for the privilege of being involved in such a special group of people who give time and energy to help others."



Members of the Togetherness Choir are pictured.

Wellbeing Walks in Rotherham

The 'Wellbeing Walk and Talk' initiative, funded by Your Hearts and Minds and Rotherham Community Trust helped reduce isolation and improve mental health by providing accessible local walks with transport.

Routes were carefully planned for all abilities, under 5k, limited inclines, barrier-free and led by qualified walk leaders. Walks included Elsecar via the Needles Eye and Fox House circular routes.

Feedback from a group member:

"Walking in a group has provided a new social connection which has led to my meeting some lovely like-minded people and new friends. I have discovered new walks in places I would never have gone before."



Latest community news round up

Thank you to everyone who continues to support us by taking part in our events or organising your own fundraising activities. We are continually touched by the incredible kindness, generosity and community spirit shown by local people and organisations.

Your support makes a real difference, and we are truly grateful.

Tickhill runners pound the pavements

A fantastic community effort saw participants run a combined total of 480 kilometres (298 miles) during Tickhill Running and Athletic club's 24-hour Scooby-Doo-athon 2026, raising £1,000.

In total, runners completed an impressive 95 circuits, demonstrating outstanding commitment, energy and community spirit throughout the event which was in aid of our hospice.

The Scooby-Doo-athon not only brought the community together for a fun and engaging challenge but also highlighted the powerful impact of collective effort in supporting hospice services.

St John's Hospice Fundraiser Maureen Harwood said: "We'd like to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who took part, volunteered or supported the day. Their invaluable support made the event such a success."



Members of Tickhill Running and Athletic Club are pictured.

Dedicated fundraiser celebrates 10 Years of support for St John's Hospice

A dedicated supporter of St John's Hospice has celebrated 10 years of fundraising by raising a further £900, bringing his incredible total to more than £12,000.

Roger Smith, from Bentley, began fundraising for the hospice in 2016 after his partner of 10 years, Cheryl, received care there during her final days.

Reflecting on his motivation for fundraising, Roger said: "The care and compassion Cheryl received at St John's was incredible. I'll always

be grateful to the whole team for the kindness and support they showed Cheryl and me during such a difficult time."

Over the past decade, Roger has raised a remarkable £12,102 through sponsored swims, garden parties, Northern Soul nights, raffles, tombolas and many other fundraising activities.

To mark his 10th fundraising anniversary, Roger hosted another of his popular garden parties, complete with a Northern Soul soundtrack. Friends, family and supporters joined him for the celebration, helping to raise a further £900 for St John's Hospice.

Roger said: "I'd like to thank all the local businesses that have supported my fundraising over the years, as well as the DJs who give their time and everyone who attends my events. I really appreciate all the support and helping make these occasions so enjoyable."

Tracey Gaughan, fundraiser for St John's Hospice, said: "Roger has been a fantastic supporter of St John's Hospice for the past 10 years. His dedication, generosity and enthusiasm have helped raise an amazing amount for the hospice, and we're incredibly grateful for everything he does."



Roger Smith is pictured with friends and supporters after presenting a £900 cheque to St John's Hospice Fundraiser Tracey Gaughan, marking 10 years of fundraising support for the hospice.

Latest community news round up

Village fete gives us a £1,100 funding boost

A much-loved village fete that has been bringing the community together for more than 30 years has raised £1,100 for our charity.

The annual Hooton Pagnell Village Fete, held on Sunday 5 July, attracts thousands of visitors to the picturesque historic village each year.

Thanks to the generosity of those who bought raffle tickets, this year's event donated £1,100 each to St John's Hospice in Doncaster and the Prince of Wales Hospice in Pontefract, helping to fund specialist care and support for patients and their families.

The fete's popular raffle has supported a wide range of local charities over the years, making a lasting difference to good causes across the region.

Chris Collins-McKeown from the Hooton Pagnell Village Fete Committee said: "We're delighted to have been able to support the work of local hospices this year, and I'd like to thank everyone who gave their time, donated raffle prizes or supported the event. Without their generosity, this wouldn't be possible.

"We begin planning the fete in early spring, and an enormous amount of hard work goes into making it such a success.

"Every year we're overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of everyone involved, as well as the fantastic support we receive from the thousands of visitors who come along on the day."

Jenny Baynham, Fundraising Manager said: "We're incredibly grateful to everyone involved with Hooton Pagnell Village Fete for choosing to support St John's Hospice.

"Thank you to the organisers, volunteers and everyone who took part for making this year's fete such a success."



(From left to right) Frieda Dehrmann, Chris Collins-McKeown, Jeff Atkinson and Justine King are pictured helping out on the charity raffle staff at the Hooton Pagnell Fete.

Latest community news round up

**ROCK
CHOIR**

strikes a chord for St John's Hospice

Members of Rock Choir South Yorkshire have raised an incredible £850 for us.

The award-winning contemporary choir, which has groups in Doncaster, Barnsley and Sheffield, is well known for its commitment to supporting charities and giving back to the communities it serves.

The donation was raised through a fun-filled Strictly Come Dancing sweepstake, with choir members contributing £10 to take part. Together, they raised £2,836, which was shared between three local hospices. Additional funds were collected through donations for coffee and cake at choir rehearsals, helping to increase the total even further.

Kate Threlfall, Rock Choir Leader for South Yorkshire, said: "Supporting local charities is at the heart of what Rock Choir is all about. Our members are incredibly generous, and I'm so proud of everyone who took part in the fundraising activities.

"We're delighted to be able to support St John's Hospice and the vital care it provides across Doncaster."

Fundraiser Maureen Harwood said: "We are incredibly grateful to Rock Choir for their support. Not only have they raised valuable funds for the hospice, but they've also helped raise awareness of our services and the difference they make to Doncaster patients and families."



Rock Choir South Yorkshire members are pictured presenting their £850 donation at St John's Hospice.

Thanks for supporting our summer raffle

Together, you helped raise an amazing £2,130 for our hospice.

Every pound raised will help us continue providing compassionate care and support to local patients and their families when they need it most.

Congratulations once again to all of our prize winners, and thank you to everyone who donated prizes, sold tickets, and took part.

A special thank you to Parkhurst and Co. Styling Opticians for kindly donating our fantastic first prize and congratulations to Keely (pictured) for being the lucky winner.



Latest community news round up

Line dancers step out

Big hearted community line dancers have donated £1,200 to St John's Hospice after raising funds through their weekly dance classes.

The dancers attend classes in Carcroft and Kirk Sandall led by instructor Carol Farrington. Members pay a £3 weekly subscription, and

once the running costs of the classes are covered, the remaining funds are donated to charity. At least £600 every month is donated to charity from the 3 classes (2 at Kirk Sandall and 1 class at Carcroft).

Carol said: "We're a friendly mutually supportive bunch who enjoy our weekly line dancing sessions, which are great for mind, body and soul.

"One of our original members is now well into her nineties, and there's a real sense of friendship and

community among our dancers." Each month, individuals at Kirk Sandall take turns to choose a charity to support. At Carcroft charities, chosen by the dancers, are drawn from a hat.

Carol added: "Over the years we've donated more than £23,000 to local and national charities, so we're delighted our weekly classes continue to make a difference.

"We're pleased to be supporting the amazing work of St John's Hospice."



Line dancers are pictured.

Hospice patient raises £775 with heartfelt singathon

Hospice patient Graham Vincent, 75, from Bentley, has raised an incredible £775 after exceeding his original fundraising target of £400 to £500.

Graham organised a special singathon in the hospice's Day Therapy Unit on 29 July as part of his final day on the 12-week programme. Inspired by the support he received from staff and fellow patients, Graham wanted to give something back.

"The Day Therapy Unit is a fabulous place," said Graham. "The staff are fantastic and make everyone feel so welcome."

After learning the hospice needs to raise more than £680,000 each year to continue providing specialist



Graham Vincent (front left) is pictured with staff and patients in the Day Therapy Unit at St John's Hospice.

care and support, Graham combined his love of music with fundraising to help local patients and families.

Maureen Harwood, Hospice Fundraiser, said: "We're incredibly grateful to Graham for organising the singathon and choosing to support our hospice. To exceed his fundraising target is a fantastic achievement, and we're so thankful to everyone who sponsored him."

Hospice Hike is a great success



Our first-ever Hospice Hike has raised more than £1,750 for hospice care, thanks to the efforts of 10 dedicated walkers.

The 14.1-mile sponsored walk took place on Saturday 15 August, starting and finishing in the picturesque village of Sprotbrough, Doncaster.

The walkers followed a scenic route through Sprotbrough Flash Nature Reserve, Melton Wood, Barnburgh, Adwick Washlands RSPB reserve, Bolton-on-Dearne, the Trans Pennine Trail, Harlington, Denaby Ings and past Conisbrough Viaduct before returning along the River Don.

The team showed fantastic camaraderie throughout the challenge, supporting and encouraging each other along the way. Their shared experience has inspired some members the group to continue supporting St John's Hospice and explore more fundraising challenges in the future.

St John's Hospice Events Co-ordinator Richard Smith, who led the walk, said: "We're incredibly grateful to our 10 fantastic walkers who took on the Hospice Hike and helped raise more than £1,500.

"It was brilliant to see the team's spirit and determination throughout the challenge, and we're delighted that they're already keen to do more fundraising for the hospice."

He added: "A huge thank you to everyone who took part and supported the event, along with a special thank you to Barnburgh Ladies' Choir, who gave our fundraising an extra £250 boost!"

He added: "Thanks to the success of this year's Hike, we aim to make this an annual event in our fundraising calendar."

Summer Coffee Morning success

A huge thank you to all our amazing bakers, stall holders, helpers, volunteers, staff and everyone who came along to support our Summer Coffee Morning in June. We couldn't do it without you.

Thanks to your generosity and effort, we raised a fantastic £1,773!

We'd also like to extend our thanks to the team from Nationwide who gave their time to volunteer with us at the event. They were fantastic in helping to run the tombola and generously matched funds raised from the game.

The team from Nationwide are pictured.



Thank you for your support at the RDaSH Community Fun Day!

A huge thank you to everyone supported us at the RDaSH Community Fun Day in July! We had a fantastic day meeting so many wonderful people and sharing information about our charity.

We're incredibly grateful to everyone who supported us by taking part in our tombola, purchasing raffle tickets, and joining in with our bottle games. Your generosity and enthusiasm help us continue making a difference for the communities we serve.

Thank you for helping to make the day such a success!



The Hospice Fundraising Team are pictured at the Fun Day.

Fitness challenge boosts hospice funds

Dedicated gym members in Doncaster have raised an impressive £1,373 for St John's Hospice after taking part in a gruelling fitness challenge.

The four-hour Erg-a-thon at Everyday Athlete Club on Cherry Lane brought together 24 teams, with participants pushing themselves through a marathon on a variety of fitness machines, including the skier, rowing machine, exercise bike and echo bike.

The challenge tested strength, stamina and determination, with every metre covered helping to raise vital funds.

St John's Hospice Palliative Care Nursing Assistant, Sam Purdy, who took part in the event said: "This was an incredible team effort, and I'm so proud of everyone who took part.

"Around 60 people joined us on the day, and there was such a fantastic sense of support throughout. When participants started to tire, others stepped in to encourage them.

"My daughter Emily and her friend Aria kindly helped by collecting donations, and we were absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity people showed, both on the day and through our JustGiving page. We never imagined we would raise so much money."

Jenny Baynham, Hospice Fundraising Manager said: "We're incredibly grateful to Sam, Kyle and Row from Everyday Athlete Club and everyone who took part for organising this fantastic challenge.

"Raising such an amazing amount is a wonderful achievement and shows the incredible support we receive from our local community."



Erg-a-thon participants from Everyday Athlete Club are pictured.

Latest community news round up

Making a difference one quiz at a time

Our sell-out Quiz Night on Friday 22 May raised an incredible £664!

Special thanks to our fantastic quiz master Rob for keeping us thoroughly entertained, and to everyone at Doncaster Town Fields Sports Club for providing such a wonderful venue and delicious food.

Meanwhile, a quiz night at The Bull & Lobster in Bawtry organised by Kay Hull and Jed Wright raised £150,

Kay and Jed organised the event to say thank you for the care and compassion shown to their loved ones, Sue Keates and Audrey Atherton, during 2025.

Thanks to everyone involved for supporting the event.



Jed Wright (left) and Kay Hull are pictured at the hospice.

St John's Hospice's longest-serving volunteer has once again stepped out for her annual sponsored walk, raising £320.

Elizabeth Taylor (72), from Armthorpe, completed the three-mile walk on 3 September, retracing the route she first walked more than 35 years ago as part of the campaign to help build St John's Hospice.

Setting off from the Mansion House in Doncaster city centre, Elizabeth followed the historic route along Priors Place, Cleveland Street and Balby Road before finishing at St John's Information and Support Centre on Weston Road.

Elizabeth first completed the walk as a member of the Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust (DCDT), which led the fundraising campaign to establish the hospice. The campaign raised more than £2 million over 7 years, helping St John's Hospice open its doors in 1992.

Elizabeth said: "I've never forgotten the incredible support the people of Doncaster gave to make the hospice a reality, and that's why I enjoy doing this walk every year.

"It's my way of giving something back to a place that means so much to so many people."

As well as being St John's Hospice's longest-serving volunteer, Elizabeth has dedicated countless hours to supporting fundraising events and activities over the years, helping the charity continue its vital work.

incredibly grateful that she continues to champion the hospice through her annual walk.

"It's a pleasure to accompany her on the route every year!"



Elizabeth Taylor (third from right) is pictured being welcomed back to the hospice by friends and colleagues.



Runners raise
an amazing
£4,353

A team of incredible supporters raised a fantastic £4,353 for our charity after taking on the Great North Run on Sunday 13 September.

On one of the warmest Great North Run days in recent years, our dedicated supporters joined more than 60,000 runners on the iconic route from Newcastle to South Shields, taking on the 13.1-mile challenge and showing tremendous determination, crossing the finish line with smiles, pride and a shared commitment to making a difference for local patients and families.

Fundraiser Maureen Harwood said: "The fundraising total reflects not only the commitment of those who took part, but also the generosity of everyone who donated, cheered from the sidelines and supported the team along the way.

"From all of us, thank you for helping to turn every mile into meaningful support for local people. Together, you've made this year's Great North Run a tremendous success!"



Thank you to local businesses and organisations for the wonderful support...

The generous support of local businesses plays a vital role in enabling our charitable work and we're very grateful that so many companies are already on board for our cause.

VINCI Facilities volunteers make a difference

Employees from leading facilities management company VINCI Facilities have helped transform the outdoor spaces at St John's Hospice, enhancing an important area for patients and their families through a dedicated volunteering initiative.

A team of volunteers visited us as part of the company's Stand Out Make a Difference (SOMAD) Day, a programme that gives staff paid time to support their local communities.

The project held special meaning for VINCI Facilities volunteer Sam Johnston, who was inspired to take part after his mum received care at the hospice in February 2024, just before his 20th birthday.

Sam said: "The hospice became a place of comfort at the most difficult time for my family.

"The garden played a huge role in improving my mum's wellbeing, even for a short while. Being able to give something back to a place that means so much to us, and to support the incredible staff who care for people when they need it most, means everything."

During the day, volunteers worked together to revitalise the hospice's garden and surrounding outdoor areas,

spaces that offer patients and their loved ones a chance to rest, reflect, and spend precious time together in a peaceful environment.

The project was made possible thanks to generous support from local VINCI Facilities partners, including Lyndhurst Cooling and Heating Services, A Cumberlidge Ltd, and Johnson's Facilities. Donations of plants, materials, and fencing helped maximise the transformation and ensure a lasting impact.

St John's Hospice Fundraising Co-ordinator Neil Firbank said: "We're incredibly grateful to VINCI Construction UK and everyone who volunteered their time to support us.

"Our outdoor spaces have been funded by our charity and are so important to the people we care for. They provide a quiet place for families to be together, reflect, and find a moment of peace.

"This collaborative effort highlights the powerful role of community partnerships in supporting local healthcare services and enhancing environments that bring comfort to patients and families during incredibly challenging times."

He added: "The care and dedication shown in improving our garden will be felt by so many, and we can't thank everyone involved enough for their kindness and generosity."



VINCI Facilities volunteers and partners are pictured at the Hospice.

Pacy and Wheatley Team takes on Tough Mudder to raise funds in memory of colleague

A team from a Doncaster construction company tackled a gruelling Tough Mudder challenge and raised £1,074 for St John's Hospice in memory of a much-loved colleague and friend.

The 11-strong team from Pacy and Wheatley Construction Ltd took part in the Skipton Tough Mudder at Broughton Hall on Saturday 25 July to support the hospice that cared for Katie Higgins during her final days, before she died aged just 35.

Sarah Holmes, who took part in the event, said: "We'd originally arranged to do this as a team-building event, but decided to dedicate it to the memory of our brave colleague and friend, Katie."

"She faced her illness with incredible courage, strength and dignity. Her positivity and resilience inspired everyone around her, even during the most difficult times."

"We were fundraising for St John's Hospice to thank them for the compassionate care, comfort and support they gave Katie and her loved ones."

"Their kindness made an immeasurable difference, and this is our way of giving something back so they can continue supporting other families."

"By taking on this challenge, we hoped to honour Katie's memory and celebrate her strength. Every donation, no matter the size, helps to support the incredible work they do and means so much to all of us."

Maureen Harwood, Hospice Fundraiser at St John's Hospice, said: "We're incredibly grateful to Sarah and everyone at Pacy and Wheatley Construction for choosing to support St John's Hospice in memory of Katie."

"Taking on Tough Mudder is no small challenge, and it's a wonderful way to honour her life while helping ensure we can continue providing compassionate care and support other patients and their families now and in the future."



Members of the Pacy and Wheatley Construction Tough Mudders Team are pictured.

Klass are supporting Hospice Care Week

Klass chooses St John's Hospice for national Hospice Care Week fundraiser

Klass Ladieswear at Lakeside Village, Doncaster, has chosen St John's Hospice as its nominated local hospice for a special fundraising

campaign taking place during Hospice Care Week 2026.

The nationwide initiative will run across 44 Klass stores throughout the UK, helping to raise both funds and awareness for hospice care. While Hospice Care Week takes place from 5 to 11 October, Klass will extend its in-store campaign until 18 October 2026 to maximise support for local hospices.

At the Lakeside Village store, customers are invited to take part in an in-store raffle, with a £250 Klass gift voucher up for grabs. Raffle tickets cost £2 each, and 100% of the proceeds raised will be donated to St John's Hospice.

The campaign is being promoted extensively in stores, shop windows and through Klass's loyalty card membership, helping to highlight the vital care and support provided by St John's Hospice to patients and families across our local community.

We're incredibly grateful to Klass for choosing to support St John's Hospice. Partnerships like this not only generate much-needed funds but also help raise awareness of the care our teams provide every day.

If you're out and about shopping, please pop in and give them your support.

RD^{ASH} AWARDS

Thank you to our RDaSH Staff Award sponsors

We are delighted that so many local companies and RDaSH suppliers have come forward to sponsor our RDaSH Staff Awards 2026.

The awards night is a special event that recognises and celebrates the outstanding achievements of staff and volunteers across our Trust. This annual celebration highlights the dedication, compassion and hard work that makes a real difference to patient care every day.

This year's event take place on Friday 20 November at Doncaster Racecourse providing the perfect setting for what once again promises to be a memorable evening.

The event is made possible by the generosity of the following sponsors:



New Free Wills Month to support St John's Hospice

People across Doncaster are being invited to make or update their Will this December while supporting local hospice care through a new Free Wills Month initiative.



The scheme is being launched in partnership with local solicitors Ison Harrison, offering eligible participants the opportunity to have a professionally drafted Will prepared in exchange for a donation to St John's Hospice.

The initiative aims to help local people put their affairs in order while making a lasting difference to patients and families who rely on specialist hospice services.

Appointments will be available on a first come, first served basis, with a limited number of spaces expected to be available. Individuals can register their interest and reserve an appointment ahead of December by contacting the solicitor directly.

During an initial appointment in December, a solicitor will take instructions for the Will, explain the donation process and answer any questions. Participants will be encouraged to make a donation to St John's Hospice.

Once the Will has been prepared and approved, a follow-up appointment will be arranged to sign and finalise the document. The only cost payable directly to the solicitors is £12.50 plus VAT per person to cover the cost of mandatory identity checks.

Jenny Baynham, Fundraising Manager, said: "Making a Will is one of the most important things we can do to protect the people we care about. Through this initiative, local people can gain peace of mind knowing their affairs are in order while also helping us continue to provide outstanding care and support for patients and families across our communities.

"We are incredibly grateful to Ison Harrison for partnering with us on this initiative. Every donation received will help us to ensure we continue to support local patients and families when they need us most."

While there is no obligation to leave a gift in a Will to the charity, supporters may wish to consider doing so after providing for loved ones. Gifts in Wills play a vital role in helping local hospices and healthcare charities plan for the future and continue supporting generations to come.

Interest is expected to be high, and people are encouraged to register as early as possible to secure an appointment.

Register your interest

To reserve an appointment or find out more, please contact: Ison Harrison Solicitors

☎ 01226 337845

✉ Charlie.Forrest@isonharrison.co.uk

Appointments will be offered on a first come, first served basis and early registration is encouraged.

The Free Wills Month initiative is expected to be aimed initially at those aged 55 and over, although this may be reviewed depending on demand.

#FreeWillsMonth2026



Christmas Coffee Morning

Raising money for Your Hearts and Minds
and St John's Hospice



Monday 30th November



09:30am – 13:00pm



The Wellbean Café
Tickhill Road Hospital

**Everyone
Welcome!**

Festive Treats & Activities



Christmas Cakes & Festive Bakes



Homemade Sweet Treats



Christmas Raffle



Tombola



Friendly Conversation



Festive Fundraising Activities

*Bring your friends, family and colleagues along
and enjoy some festive cheer while supporting local causes.*

Hosted by the Doncaster Learning Disability Team

Raising funds for:



**Your Hearts
and Minds**



**St John's
Hospice**

Part of Your Hearts and Minds Charity



**THERAPY POOL
APPEAL**

Diamond Activity and Therapeutic Services

Registered Charity Number: 1055641



Your Hearts and Minds **NHS**

What's coming up...



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Registered charity no: 1055641



How you can get involved in our charity fundraising

It may only be autumn, but we're already focusing our efforts on the festive season. There are plenty of opportunities coming up to get involved, have fun, and make a real difference for local people who rely on our services.

Whether you're looking to volunteer, attend with friends and family, or even organise your own fundraiser, we'd love to have you involved. Together, we can ensure that local people continue to receive the care and support they need when it matters most.

Please take a look at our upcoming events and find out how you can be part of something special.

Every step taken, ticket purchased and pound raised helps make a difference **thank you** *for your continued support.*

Christmas Raffle launched in October!

Our Christmas Raffle returns with fantastic prizes including £350 Love2shop vouchers, a Haden 12-litre air fryer oven and a luxury M&S hamper basket. Tickets cost just £1 each or £10 per book, with winners drawn on 9 December.

Last year's raffle raised an amazing £4,000, so please help us to make this year another success.



Christmas Coffee Mornings Friday 27 November

Get into the festive spirit at our Christmas Coffee Morning on Friday 27 November, from 10am to 1pm at St John's Information Centre.

Join us for a cuppa, delicious homemade bakes, festive stalls, games, and plenty of Christmas cheer.

Join us at our fourth Light up a Life event Wednesday 2 December

We're inviting local people to come together in remembrance at our fourth annual Light up a Life Ceremony on Wednesday 2 December.



The special fundraising event takes place at Alder Grove Church, Balby, from 6pm, with carols, readings and musical performances for an evening of reflection and remembrance.

Light up a Life is a nationwide hospice campaign, giving families and friends the opportunity to remember and celebrate loved ones no longer with us.

The event is open to everyone, whether or not their loved one received care from St John's Hospice, and has become a meaningful Christmas tradition for many local families. Those wishing to dedicate a light can make a donation in memory of a loved one. Each light will shine on the Hospice's Tree of Lights throughout the festive season.

Everyone sponsoring a light will receive a special decoration to personalise and place on the Tree of Lights during the ceremony, plus a second decoration to take home.

Refreshments and hot snacks from Flourish Enterprises will be available to purchase before and after the service.

To find out more or register for the event, scan the QR code:
Or visit: <https://yourheartsandminds.org.uk/light-up-a-life>



Festive afternoon tea and St Catherine's House tour Friday 4 December...

Treat yourself or a loved one to an early festive celebration at our special Afternoon Tea and House Tour on 4 December, from 1pm to 4pm, at the beautiful St Catherine's House, Woodfield Park, Doncaster.



Join us for the Sandall Park Santa Dash this Sunday 6 December

We're delighted to be the charity partner for this year's Sandall Park Santa Dash, taking place on Sunday 6 December.

This much-loved community event will help us continue supporting the specialist care provided at St John's Hospice in Balby, while also raising vital funds for our Hydrotherapy Pool Appeal.

Neil Firbank, Fundraising Co-ordinator for Your Hearts and Minds, said: "We're delighted to be partnering with Friends of Sandall Park for this year's Santa Dash.

"For nearly 20 years, the event has brought local families together to enjoy festive fun while supporting good causes, and we're incredibly grateful to have been chosen as the charity partner for the first time."

Entry costs £10 for adults and includes a Santa suit and medal. Children aged 5 and over can take part for £3.50 and will receive a medal and a pair of reindeer antlers.



Santa Dash sponsors Dayne Bailey-Mayfield and Charlie Forrest of Ison Harrison Solicitors, pictured with Hospice Fundraiser Maureen Harwood.



Friends of Sandall Park Chair Brian Greathead (left) is pictured with Your Hearts and Minds Fundraising Co-ordinator Neil Firbank (right) at Sandall Park.

The event is also dog-friendly, with up to two dogs per person welcome if kept on a short lead.

Festivities begin at 10am, with Christmas stalls, refreshments and Santa's Grotto provided by Friends of Sandall Park, before the Santa Dash sets off at 11am.

Brian Greathead, Chair of Friends of Sandall Park, said: "The Santa Dash has become a really special part of the Sandall Park calendar.

"This year we're delighted to be supporting Your Hearts and Minds and helping to fund both the vital work of St John's Hospice and the Hydrotherapy Pool Appeal.

"We'd love to see families, friends and even their four-legged companions joining us for a fantastic festive day while supporting causes that make a real difference to local people."

Neil added: "We're incredibly grateful to Ison Harrison Solicitors for sponsoring our first Santa Dash. Their generosity means that every pound raised by participants will go directly towards the work we do through Your Hearts and Minds, supporting local people and families when they need us most."

To book your place, visit Santa Dash registration or email: rdash.your-hearts-and-minds@nhs.net

We'd love to see you there helping us make a difference while enjoying a fun-filled festive morning with family and friends.

Christmas Concert at Doncaster Minster Saturday 12 December

We're delighted the Doncaster Wheatsheaf Singers will once again hold their annual Christmas Concert in aid of St John's Hospice at Doncaster Minster on Saturday 12 December at 7pm, joined by the Hatfield and Askern Colliery Band.

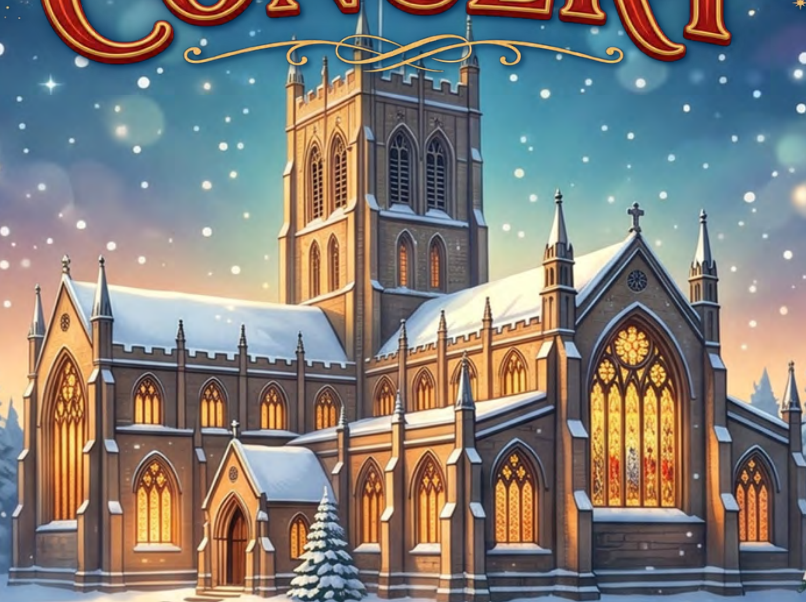
Last year's concert raised an incredible £2,086.

The event is made possible thanks to the continued support of Co-op Retail, Co-op Membership and the team at Doncaster Minster.

Tickets are £10 and available in advance from St John's Information Centre or Co-op Funeralcare, 89-90 Spring Gardens, Doncaster.

If you'd like more information about supporting Your Hearts and Minds, please email: rdash.your-hearts-and-minds@nhs.net, or give us a call on 07760 401089.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT



**Saturday 12 December
2026 at 7pm**

At Doncaster Minster

The Minster Church of St. George Doncaster DN1 1RD

Featuring

**Doncaster Wheatsheaf Singers and
The Hatfield and Askern Colliery Band**

All tickets £10 each

including complimentary festive refreshments

Tickets available in advance from:

St John's Information and Support Centre
Weston Road, Balby, Doncaster DN4 8JS



Membership
Food
Funeralcare

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