

Celebrating our past
Building for the future



Friendliness is
catchword at
Dr. Kershaw's
homely hospice

'Tears, and lots of laughter'

by SHARINA BERRY

There is a warm, friendly atmosphere at Dr Kershaw's Hospice, where staff and volunteers work together to provide a caring and comfortable environment for patients and their families. The hospice is a place where tears and laughter go hand in hand, as people share their experiences and support each other through difficult times.



The Official Opening of
Dr Kershaw's Hospice
Rayton - Oldham
11th June 1992
By
Her Royal Highness
The Princess Royal



Hospice opens

Kershaw's Hospice
Friendship



GREAT BOOST for Extending Care At



Special-nurses boost
for Kershaw Hospice



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Celebrating our past and building for the future

2019 has been a special year for Dr Kershaw's Hospice. As we celebrate our 30th anniversary, work has also begun on our ambitious redevelopment project to modernise facilities and improve patient experience.



There have been many landmark moments in the history of Dr Kershaw's, from the initial Oldham Appeal in 1988 to the official opening by Princess Anne in June 1992, right through to the launch of our Hospice at Home service in 2016 and Kershaw's Caring Hands in 2018.

This special edition Friendship takes a look at some of these key moments as we take a trip down memory lane with staff and volunteers.

We also look to the future with the completion of our £3.5m redevelopment project in 2020.

Over the years Dr Kershaw's Hospice has undergone several changes, however, as the building continued to age it became apparent that another refurbishment wouldn't be enough to provide the facilities we need to keep delivering our outstanding end of life care.

Discussions and plans for the Hospice redevelopment began just over two years ago, with planning permission being granted by Oldham Council on 27th November 2018.

The plans, designed by architects Nicol Thomas, include full modernisation of the Hospice with the addition of eight separate modern ensuite rooms, two double bedrooms and a family room, all of which have been designed with patient comfort and privacy in mind. Each of the rooms will have a view of the newly landscaped gardens.

Thanks to a legacy left by Hospice supporter, Alice Barrass, the gardens will also be transformed with full landscaping to include wheelchair access and seating areas so that families

and patients can enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the grounds. There will also be a beautiful natural wooded area with a woodland walk.

Additional plans include a new roof fitted with solar panels, a new heating installation to help reduce the Hospice's significant energy bills, a new electrical system and an extension of the car park creating more space for staff and visitors.

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the people of Oldham and surrounding areas for your unwavering support to the Hospice, our patients and their loved ones we are privilege to care for. Whether you have supported us financially, by raising money through an event, leaving a gift in a will, supporting one of our many charity shops, or even supporting us through your workplace – every penny you've raised has helped towards the £3.5 million we need to find every year to keep our services running.

Not only has your support made a positive impact on someone's life, it has enabled our team of dedicated staff to support and care for patients and their loved ones through the most difficult of times. I would like to share with you some words from a relative of a patient we looked after on our Inpatient Unit:

"Dad was treated with such kindness and respect and everyone was so caring. As a family we were frightened and unsure – you wrapped your arms around us all, thank you so much."



Your support made that happen, so on behalf of every patient we have looked after this year and all those important to them, thank you.

Joanne Sloan
Chief Executive

Information about the launch of our redevelopment capital appeal and how you can support the Hospice will be shared in the coming months on our social media sites, in the press and on our website.

Website: www.drkh.org.uk

Twitter: @KershawsHospice

Facebook: [Facebook.com/drkershawshospice](https://www.facebook.com/drkershawshospice)

Instagram: [drkershawshospice](https://www.instagram.com/drkershawshospice)



A trip down memory lane with Hospice staff

A lot has changed over the years the Hospice since Carole England first worked here over 36 years ago.

Back in 1983 at Dr Kershaw's Cottage Hospital, Carole worked as an Auxiliary Nurse, providing respite care to patients. She later returned in 1991 after the success of Dr Hira's Oldham Hospice Appeal saw the opening of Dr Kershaw's Hospice.

Now, aged 71, Carole looks back on 27 years of working at the Hospice, what has changed, and why she loves working here.

Carole has taken on many roles during her nursing career, starting at Boots chemist when she left school. Working at Royal Oldham Hospital for 10 years as a Nursing Auxiliary, she has also worked as a Marie Curie Night Sitter in the late 90's. In her latest role of Healthcare Assistant here at the Hospice, Carole loves going the extra mile for patients and their families.

Carole even won an award many years ago for going the extra mile in her job, she said: "I remember being picked up in a Rolls Royce as I was taken to an award ceremony."



Carole used to love working in Day Hospice, renamed earlier this year as the Well-Being Centre. Hosting, hosting parties and shows. Carole also enjoyed taking patients on day trips.

What is Carole's favourite thing about working at the Hospice?

"The people." Carole said: "Patients are always so grateful for everything that we do to care for them. It's just part of our job, and they're always so thankful. The staff become your friends too and I've made some great friends over the years. I do miss them when I'm not in work or I haven't seen them for a while."

As Dr Kershaw's embarks on their ambitious £3.5m Inpatient Unit new build, Carole reflects on the changes to the Hospice: "From extensions to refurbishments, there have been a lot of changes to the Hospice and all the changes are for the better to benefit our patients."



Day trips, bike rides and 25 years of patient care

Pauline Brierley has been working in nursing for over 30 years, spending 25 years working at Dr Kershaw's. Most of her time has been spent looking after patients in the Day Hospice, recently renamed the Well-Being Centre.

Pauline has many fond memories, recalling day trips organised for patients. She particularly remembers a trip to Chester Zoo. Pauline was so busy organising people into groups and making sure they were okay that she didn't notice when everyone disappeared. She later found them in the pub enjoying a drink!

Pauline also remembers some stand out moments from the Day Hospice. In 2012, to coincide with the Olympics, the team organised a virtual bike ride from the Hospice to Blackpool using a specially adapted bike borrowed from a local company. Patients of all abilities were able to take part either using their hands or legs to cycle. This led to a fundraising appeal, which meant the Hospice was able to buy its own bike.

Over the years Pauline has also seen many physical changes to the Day Hospice, with the addition of more office space and an arts and craft room. Patient services have also been enhanced, to include physiotherapy and the Lymphoedema and Lipoedema Support Group.

Pauline said: "Dr Kershaw's is a family. We've always had a strong team which comes from our caring and compassionate community.

"Hospice care isn't all about being ill. The emphasis is on having a sense of fun and helping people to live and enjoy the best quality of life possible."

Pauline's interest in palliative care came from her early experiences at Stepping Hill Hospital after working on a very busy ward. She now works as our Spiritual Care and Bereavement Support Nurse, supporting patients and families with their spiritual needs, whether religious or non-religious, helping to find meaning, hope and comfort at whatever part of the journey they are on.

Meet the Team Julie Hague, Ward Sister



Describe your role at Dr Kershaw's Hospice?

I am one of two Ward Sisters at the Hospice managing the day to day work of the nursing team in the Inpatient Unit. My role is really varied and no two days are the same. I have a daily handover with the clinical team where we discuss the individual care needs of each patient. This can include anything from pain management to physiotherapy. It's my job to cascade this information to the team to make sure our patients get the right care.

I also support the Hospice at Home team from time to time. I love doing this. I'm always in awe of relatives who are caring for loved ones at home. I feel privileged to be part of this care which allows patients to stay at home in their last few weeks of life.

How long have you worked at Dr Kershaw's Hospice?

I've worked at Dr Kershaw's for 28 years. I joined the Hospice as a staff nurse in 1991, initially working nights. I worked in this role for 14 years before being promoted to Ward Sister.

Why did you choose to work at Dr Kershaw's Hospice?

Before coming to Dr Kershaw's I worked as a staff nurse on a children's ward. I've had a passion for palliative care since being a student nurse. I think this is because I wanted to make life better for people in the last few weeks of their life.

I have my own personal experiences of looking after family. I nursed my mum at home when she had cancer. I also looked after my dad who had Motor Neurone Disease.



What's been your most memorable moment at Dr Kershaw's?

There are so many memorable moments which makes it hard to pick just one. I've been involved in arranging lots of different things over the years for patients, from christenings to weddings, including the first gay wedding in Oldham which took place in the conservatory. I remember another occasion when we brought Christmas forward for two patients. It was around September time and we decorated the conservatory and got presents for everyone.

Another time we had two young boys staying with their mum who was a patient in the Hospice. They had to sleep top to toe in the conservatory as there wasn't anywhere else to stay. This was the catalyst for the creation of a family room at the Hospice.

Things have come a long way in palliative care over the years, particularly in relation to pain management and drug treatment for patients. One thing that hasn't changed though is the ethos - providing the highest standards of palliative care for patients.

What's your favourite part about the job?

Caring for patients and providing a gold standard of care.

What do you like to do in your own time?

I care for three of my grandchildren who live with me full time. I also have two dogs and a pony to look after. My family is bit like the Durrells! I wouldn't have it any other way though as I like being busy and being around people.

What's your biggest achievement?

Being a mum, grandma and a ward sister for 28 years! I am very proud to work in a Hospice.

A trip down memory lane with Volunteers



30 years of flowers, fundraising and friendship

Betty Chesworth, 83, and Margaret Sydal, 81, have been volunteering at Dr Kershaw's Hospice for over 30 years. Margaret used to collect funds to make the dream of an Oldham Hospice a reality and Betty decided to volunteer in her spare time when her son Richard headed off to university.

The pair were among the first to get stuck into their volunteering roles as they set about helping the Hospice in any way they could.

Every Wednesday morning for three decades, Betty and Margaret have taken on a variety of tasks; washing the dishes, emptying and washing vases to replenish them with fresh flowers, folding bags, setting up tables for lunch, and greeting visitors with tea and toast, to name a few. They were also known for their gardening projects, craft work with patients and running stalls at fundraising events.

Nowadays, Betty and Margaret can often be found arranging flowers to be placed in the Hospice, brightening up the wards and corridors for patients, visitors, volunteers, nurses and staff.

Betty said: "It's been a pleasure to watch the Hospice grow into what it is today. We love volunteering here, everyone is always so friendly, we're so lucky to have such a lovely community."

Both widowed in recent years, Betty told how the pair often lean on each other in hard times: "My Trevor passed away back in 2017 and Margaret's husband Ronnie in 2018. It's been nice to be able to get out of the house and go for walks together, it stops you getting fed up."

"All four of us used to go out on a Wednesday night to the pub, Margaret and I still sometimes go out together of an evening."

Margaret, who started volunteering at the Hospice as her son Craig used to play the organ at fundraisers, said: "Volunteering has given us a purpose, making sure we get out and do something, keeps us busy."

Whether it's arranging flowers, setting tables or making tea and toast, with a total of 60 years volunteering under their belts we're certainly proud of everything they have done for Dr Kershaw's and continue to do.

From Day Hospice to reception - a volunteer of many talents!

So far Joan Howe has volunteered a fabulous 28 years of her time to Dr Kershaw's!

Joan was inspired to take up volunteering after one of her close friends died of cancer. Around the same time, she also saw an appeal from Dr Kershaw's in the Oldham Chronicle. For nine years she worked one day a week in the Day Hospice, helping patients with everything from craft activities to gardening and days out.

"When Dr Kershaw's first opened, the Day Hopice consisted of just one room," Joan recalls. Over the years she has seen it expand, with the addition of a conservatory, and more recently with the expansion of Café K which now opens Mondays to Thursdays providing breakfast and lunch for patients, visitors, volunteers and staff.

As well as helping in the Day Hospice, Joan was also part of the first fundraising committee set up after the Hospice opened its doors in 1989. She continues to help with events to this day, volunteering at our Christmas and Summer fairs.

Since 2000, Joan has volunteered on reception, welcoming patients and families, taking calls and dealing with general administrative tasks.

When asked why she volunteers, Joan said: "It's a special place. Everyone is so caring and sympathetic. It's been a privilege to see the Hospice grow and change from where it began as a small cottage hospital.

The visitors are so appreciative. I always make time for people and it's good to see friendly faces.

I also enjoy the companionship and keeping up with everyone. I've made lots of friends over the years."

In her spare time, Joan enjoys painting. She has also contributed to the 2020 Hospice calendar, with her amazing picture of Tandle Hill Park which features on the September page!



An 'Absolutely Fabulous' volunteer!



Jean Fleet has been working tirelessly for the Hospice with her fundraising and volunteering activities since 1988 when Dr Hira's vision for a local Hospice first became reality.

Jean has supported the Hospice in many ways over the years, from helping with the initial Oldham Appeal to her many fundraising activities, including line dancing in the Hospice grounds and dressing up as Patsy from Absolutely Fabulous for a fundraising event at the Oldham Savoy.

Now 79, Jean continues to support Dr Kershaw's by running the cake stall at our fairs, as well as looking after all donated goods which are brought to the Hospice. She is queen of the store cupboard, making sure everything is sorted and categorised ready for our annual events.

When Jean turned 60 she asked for donations to Dr Kershaw's instead of gifts. Shortly after Jean's donation

the Hospice was burgled and the money she raised ended up paying for the first security camera at Dr Kershaw's.

Jean has a personal connection to the Hospice. Her dad was one of the first patients to be offered a place in the Day Hospice in 1989 after being diagnosed with cancer. He later passed away in the inpatient unit in 1991. In 1995, Jean's brother also passed away at the Hospice, later followed by her sister in 2009.

Jean has also had cancer, having been diagnosed with breast cancer in 1992. She currently attends the weekly Lymphoedema and Lipoedema Support Group where she finds support from others with the same condition.

When asked why she continues to volunteer, Jean said: "The excellence of the nursing team is something special. The Hospice is always progressing and that's why I volunteer my time. It offers so much more than just end of life care. Some people don't have families, so the support they get is invaluable.

"I've seen many changes over the years, but for me one thing remains the same - the dedication, care and compassion from staff and volunteers."

Dr. Kershaw's Hospital opened

Dr. John Kershaw (1840 - 1909) bequeathed his entire estate for the establishment of a local hospital which opened its doors in 1931.



IVF

World's first IVF baby, Louise Brown, was born at Royal Oldham Hospital after almost a decade of revolutionary research at Dr Kershaw's Hospital.



Princess Anne officially opens the Inpatient Unit

On 11th June 1992, Dr Kershaw's was officially opened by Princess Anne.



David Ford first produces paintings for the Hospice calendar

He continued to do this for sixteen years until he died in 2015.



New logo and first shop opened in Shaw

Dr Kershaw's launches its new torch light logo and opens the first of its charity shops.

Dr. Kershaw's Hospice



Hospice lottery raises first million

The Hospice lottery team celebrates raising its first million with past winners.



Homeless Friendly Pledge

Dr Kershaw's is the first Hospice to sign the Homeless Friendly Pledge recognising organisations who treat the homeless with dignity and compassion.



30th anniversary

Dr Kershaw's Hospice celebrates 30 years of care.



1931

1978

Oldham Hospice Appeal launched

The Oldham Hospice Appeal was launched led by Dr Naru Hira.



Dr Kershaw's extended to include a 8-bed Inpatient Unit

In March 1991 Dr Kershaw's Hospice becomes fully operational with the opening of an 8-bed Inpatient Unit.



1992

1994

First ambulance purchased

Dr Kershaw's bought its first ambulance to transport patients to and from Day Hospice.



Hospice Lottery launched

Dr Kershaw's Hospice lottery launched, 'A Chance to Win, A Way to Care.'



2003

24 hour telephone advice line launched

A 24/7 service offering specialist nursing advice to patients, carers and relatives.



2011

25th anniversary

HRH The Duchess of Gloucester unveils a commemorative stone at the Hospice to celebrate Dr Kershaw's 25th Anniversary.



2014

Hospice at Home launched

A new service providing hospice standard care to Oldham residents allowing them to remain at home during their final days. The service supported 147 patients and families during its first year.



2016

2018

Kershaw's Caring Hands launched

A new domiciliary care service enabling patients to leave hospital and be cared for in their own homes.



Car park extension

Car park is extended offering more space for staff, volunteers and visitors.



Day Hospice relaunched as Well-Being Centre

Day Hospice is relaunched as the Well-Being Centre, providing an enhanced timetable of activities tailored to patients' individual needs.



Hospice at Home nominated for Nursing Times Award

Our Hospice at Home team headed to London for the Nursing Times Awards after being nominated for "Nursing in the Community".



1983

Dr Kershaw's Hospital building officially handed over

Organisers of the Oldham Hospice Appeal officially took possession of the building and renamed it Dr Kershaw's Hospice.



1988

1989

Dr Kershaw's Hospice officially opens

The Hospice opens its doors in September 1989 offering 10 places in the Day Hospice.



Well-Being patients get arty for 2020 calendar!

Well-Being Centre patients Barbara, Gill, Ian, Donna, Marlene, Maureen, and volunteer, Joan, have teamed up with four local artists to get creative for our 2020 Hospice calendar to paint a selection of Oldham landscapes.

Oldham landmarks have appeared in the Hospice calendar since 2001 when local artist, David Ford, first began painting for Dr Kershaw's. He continued to do this until he died in 2015. Since then many other local artists have supported the Hospice, and this year they have been joined by some of our patients who attend weekly art classes in the Well-Being Centre.

Art therapy at the Hospice has a long history, beginning back in 1990 when John Whyman MBE, developed a guideline system to make art accessible for everyone in the community. John volunteered for many years at nursing homes and hospices in Rochdale and Oldham, including Dr Kershaw's where he taught patients how to paint using his template technique.



Ian

Originally from Chorley, Ian, 59, joined the army in 1977 where he worked for 18 years as an armoury storeman.

After leaving the army, Ian went to live in Chadderton with his brother and he has remained in Oldham ever since.

For 19 years, Ian has been married to Carol. He has two grown up sons from his first marriage, two stepsons and seven grandchildren.

Ian has a terminal lung disease which was diagnosed five years ago. He started coming to the Well-Being Centre in December 2018 after a recommendation from his specialist.

His passion for art first began in 2006 when he joined Springhead art group. He particularly enjoys painting landscapes.

When asked about the Well-Being Centre, Ian said: "I love the atmosphere. The nurses and people are excellent and I look forward to Wednesdays. I get enjoyment from painting and I also feel that it gives me something spiritual."



Donna

Donna, 39, lives in Derker with her Mum and Dad. She has lived in Oldham all her life.

With a passion for arts and crafts from a young age, she enjoys cross stitching, jigsaws and puzzle books.

Diagnosed with a brain tumour at 13 years old, Donna has been coming to the Well-Being Centre one day a week for over four years.

Donna said: "I love it and I love the people. The staff are kind and generous. I used to be scared about going out of the house, but coming to the Well-Being Centre has given me confidence. The bacon butties from the café are also great!"



Marlene

Marlene is 74 and has been a permanent Oldham resident since 1982. She was born in Rochdale and lived in Oldham as a child before moving away to Garstang with her then husband to manage the club house at a caravan park.

Marlene returned to Oldham 37 years ago. She has two grown up daughters and family and friends living in the local area. As a younger woman, Marlene had a passion for dancing and was part of a dance troupe for many years appearing in local parades and events.

Until attending the Well-Being Centre, Marlene had never painted before. Marlene has end stage Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and started coming to the centre every Tuesday after her daughter's recommendation. Marlene said: "I find painting relaxing and enjoy the opportunity to socialise and talk to other people."



John died in 2016, but his legacy continues today with volunteer painter, Terry Davies, taking up the mantle. John's daughter, Carole Cooney, kindly gave us permission to use John's paintings of the Hospice on the front of our 2020 calendar.

Carole said: "I was delighted to be contacted by Dr Kershaw's. It's lovely to know that my dad's legacy is continuing with his guidelines still being used today. My dad knew how much art could help people and he wanted to make it accessible to everyone. He developed a simple painting technique which focussed on ability rather than inability."

Terry added: "When patients start to paint it focuses their attention. In doing this they find time and space, and it's then that real quality of life is appreciated, connecting with colour and form, light and space. Patients appreciate and enjoy these moments of peace and beauty, and as a bonus, produce some beautiful paintings."



Maureen

Maureen, 67, was born and bred in Oldham. Maureen is now retired, but has had a varied career working as a police officer, quality controller for Marks & Spencer, and then as a care assistant for children's homes and adult care services.

In her spare time, Maureen likes walking and gardening. She started coming to the Well-Being Centre about two years ago after being diagnosed with stomach cancer. Before this Maureen was also diagnosed with skin cancer in 1998 and breast cancer in 2010.

Maureen enjoyed art at school, but haven't done any drawing or painting since then. When asked what she enjoys about the Well-Being Centre, Maureen said: "Friendship - you know you're not on your own and can get support. Coming to the Centre brightens up my week and I look forward to seeing everyone."



Gill

Gill is 62 years old and has lived in Oldham all her life. Gill worked as a teacher at Greenacres Primary School for over 35 years before retiring.

Married to Steve, they have been together for over thirty years, finally tying the knot in 2012 at Chadderton Town Hall.

Gill was diagnosed with a terminal brain tumour in March 2018 and has been attending the Well-Being Centre for over twelve months.

Since then, her passion for painting has grown and she now frames all her art work, displaying it around her home, or gifting it to family and friends. Gill has a particular passion for LS Lowry paintings.

When asked what she enjoys most about the Well-Being Centre, Gill said: "I enjoy the peace and quiet and the chance to talk to people. I find painting relaxing and look forward to coming each week."



Barbara

Barbara is 81 and has lived in Oldham for over sixty years. Barbara has attended the Well-Being Centre at Dr Kershaw's for over seven years.

She became aware of the Centre when she was an inpatient at the Hospice for two weeks in 2012 after being diagnosed with secondary stage cancer of the spine.

When Barbara turned 80 she sold some of her paintings to raise funds for Dr Kershaw's.

Having never painted before coming to the Well-Being sessions, Barbara said: "I enjoy the satisfaction of painting and the chance to help other people by talking to one another."

The Hospice calendar is available at our retail shops and can also be bought online via Dr Kershaw's website.



30K for 30 years of patient care!

Oldham resident, Billy Foxcroft, recently ran 30K in celebration of 30 years of care at Dr Kershaw's.



Billy is a well-known face at the Hospice in his role as an Ambulance Care Assistant at North West Ambulance Service, transporting patients to and from Dr Kershaw's.

Billy mentioned in passing to staff that he was thinking of running 10K to raise funds for patient care at the Hospice. After chatting with our Community Fundraiser, Lillie Winterbottom, he was persuaded to run not one, but three 10Ks, to coincide with the Hospice's 30 year anniversary!

2019 has been a momentous year for Billy. As well as completing his epic fundraising challenge by running the Manchester 10K in May, the Oldham 10K in June and the City of Manchester 10K in July, he also celebrated his 50th Birthday with a trip to New York, proposing to his fiancée, Lynn, at the top of the Empire State Building!

Billy's fiancée, Lynn, also has a connection to Dr Kershaw's as her late husband, Tony, sadly passed away at the Hospice in April 2013 after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Lynn and Billy are old acquaintances. They lost touch over the years but were recently reunited through a mutual friend, becoming an item just over twelve months ago.

Lynn said: "Dr Kershaw's were amazing with Tony and I will always be grateful for the care he received. Before being admitted to the Inpatient Unit, Tony also spent some time in the Day Hospice. He enjoyed coming to the Hospice as he was able to talk to people in similar circumstances."

When asked what inspired him to raise funds for Dr Kershaw's, Billy said: "It's such a good cause and I wanted to show my appreciation. I was also inspired by my fiancée, Lynn, who always talks so warmly about the care Tony received whilst in the Hospice."

"It's 30 years since I first did any running when I took part in the Oldham 10K. At first I was just going to do one race, but then Lillie encouraged me to push myself further so I thought why not do three? The timing seemed perfect to coincide with Dr Kershaw's 30th anniversary, as well as my 50th."

Not only did Billy improve his running skills, but he also raised an amazing £792 for patient care at Dr Kershaw's.

Well done Billy and congratulations to you and Lynn on your engagement!

Keira receives Diana Award for fundraising efforts



Our fantastic fundraiser, Keira Arnold, has been recognised with the highest accolade a young person can achieve for social action or humanitarian efforts - The Diana Award.

Keira visited the House of Lords back in July with mum, Stacey, and grandma, Julie, to receive the prestigious award. She received the support of local MP, Debbie Abrahams, who said: "Extremely proud of Keira for her fantastic work fundraising. Congratulations on your Diana Award, it is so well deserved".

Since she started her fundraising journey with a postcard appeal in 2016, Keira has taken part in sponsored events and designing goods for sale, including dreamcatchers and poem bookmarks.

11-year-old Keira has raised over £20,000 for Dr Kershaw's Hospice in memory of her dad, Stephen, who died at the Hospice when she was just four years old.

She set up 'Keira's Wishes', a fund to help pay for the last wishes of patients at the Hospice, and has since honoured countless wishes including a patient's last trip to the seaside to dip her toes in the water. Keira engages with the local community and uses Facebook to help promote her cause.

Vernon Cressey, Chair of Trustees at Dr Kershaw's Hospice, said: "Keira set up her special fund, 'Keira's Wishes', to pay for the last wishes of patients, and is determined to help and find time for others. Keira is unassuming, never asks for recognition, a real asset to her school, our town and certainly our hospice."

We are so very grateful to Keira for her constant efforts and support which she so willingly gives, supported by her loving family and friends. Well done Keira - you really are a star and we are so proud and delighted that you have received The Diana Award."

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Strictly Kershaw's

Friday 22nd November
The Queen Elizabeth Hall, Oldham

Champagne Reception at 6.30pm,
Seated at 7pm
Carriages at Midnight

Watch as nine members of our local community compete to win our coveted glitter ball trophy and be crowned the winner of Strictly Kershaw's 2019!

Tickets £40
Includes a 2 course meal & champagne reception
Dress code: Black Tie
Tickets available on request

IDTA Member of the International Dance Teachers Association
Partnering Dance Partners:
• Royal Dance Centre
• R. Rowland Dance School
• M.U. Dance School

Dr Kershaw's Hospice
Charity Number: 118834

Tickets Available From:
0161 624 9984
fundraising@drkh.org.uk
www.drkh.org.uk/events

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Dr Kershaw's 2019
CHRISTMAS MARKETS
VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTTO!

Sunday 8th December, 12pm - 4pm
St Anne's Rugby Club, Higginshaw Road, Oldham, OL1 1BJ

A FUN-FILLED FESTIVE FAMILY DAY!

- * Christmas Market Stalls
- * Santa's Grotto
- * Crafts & Gifts
- * Food & Refreshments
- * Dr. Kershaw's Bear Factory

ENTRY FEE
Adult - £1
Children - FREE!

Call 0161 624 9984 for more information.
Email: fundraising@drkh.org.uk www.drkh.org.uk

Dr Kershaw's Hospice

Light Up a Life

Dr Kershaw's Hospice
Turf Lane, Royton, Oldham OL2 6EU

1st December, 7pm

To make a dedication visit drkh.org.uk/events/light-life
Or call 0161 624 9984

Dr Kershaw's

Christmas Concert

18TH DECEMBER 2019

Come along for a spectacular evening of Christmas carols, songs and music.

Oldham Parish Church
Rock Street
Oldham
OL1 3UH

For tickets visit the Hospice reception or our charity shops
Adult - £7
Concessions - £5
Family - £18
(2 adults, 2 children)

Dr Kershaw's becomes first hospice to sign Homeless-Friendly pledge

Terminally ill people who are homeless will be able to receive end of life care after Dr Kershaw's became the first UK hospice to pledge to care for rough sleepers.

As part of our promise to become Homeless-Friendly, Dr Kershaw's will examine its policies and procedures to make sure we cater for those of no fixed abode. This includes tracking down relatives of homeless people in our care.

After signing the pledge, we formed a partnership with Royton Medical Centre to ensure that seriously ill patients experiencing the heartache of homelessness, can be cared for at the Hospice.

"The average life-expectancy of a rough sleeper is just 47 years-of-age and those living on our streets or in temporary accommodation experience dangerous health problems such as heart and respiratory illness" said Dr Zahid Chauhan, founder of the Homeless-Friendly charity.

"We can now ensure that people's end of life treatment is compassionate - especially as compassion may have been something they have been sorely lacking from others in society during their lives."

The number of homeless people dying on the streets has risen by a quarter in the last five years. One of the reasons rough sleepers fail to get medical care is that many believe they can't register with a GP due to their lack of address.

As part of the programme, staff at Dr Kershaw's have received training to deal with people experiencing homelessness, which even includes examining whether, after a lifetime of sleeping rough, service users might feel better without a bed.

Adele Doherty, Clinical Matron, said: "At Dr Kershaw's Hospice we are committed to addressing inequalities in end of life care. This is an exciting opportunity to work in partnership with Dr. Chauhan and Royton Medical Practice.

"Having signed the Homeless-Friendly Pledge, this enables us to be fully engaged with helping to meet the needs of homeless people for palliative and end of life care.

"Staff at the Hospice are involved in bespoke training, facilitated by Gail Sutcliffe, Homeless-Friendly Coordinator. Ultimately, we are delighted to be able to be the first Hospice nationally that is recognised as Homeless-Friendly."

Dr Chauhan concluded: "I am delighted so many surgeries, hospitals, out-of-hours services, charities, local authorities, businesses and now hospices are coming on board. I hope Dr Kershaw's example will spur on others offering end of life care to become Homeless-Friendly too."



Dr Kershaw's bids fond farewell to longest serving nurse

In July, we said a fond farewell to our longest serving member of the nursing team, Kay O'Neill, who worked at the Hospice for over 29 years.

Whilst at Dr Kershaw's, Kay, who was already a qualified SEN nurse,

trained to become a Registered Nurse. Over the years she took on more responsibility working her way up to become Ward Manager, before eventually reducing her hours and moving to the Well-Being Centre until her retirement.

Alongside her professional skills, Kay had a range of other talents which were put to good use in the Hospice. She could often be found in the Well-Being Centre doing a manicure or two for patients. She was also a bit of an

amateur actress, taking part in the Hospice Christmas panto on numerous occasions, appearing as a ballerina, policeman and a Roly Poly dancer to name but a few.

Kay and her husband, Eamonn, are huge Elvis fans and she has been known to don an Elvis outfit from time to time to raise funds for the Hospice. Recently, Kay persuaded her husband to part with some of his beloved Elvis memorabilia which she donated to Dr Kershaw's. The items were auctioned on eBay and raised a fabulous £4K for patient care.

Adele Doherty, Clinical Matron, added: "I have known Kay for three years. Kay was a dedicated and well respected member of the Kershaw's team. Her professionalism and experience will be sorely missed."

On behalf of everyone at Dr Kershaw's we wish Kay all the best in her retirement.



LOTTERY NEWS

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Autumn Draw, helping to raise a fabulous £11,944.50!

Your contributions and support never ceases to amaze us! Congratulations to the lucky prize winners. As Christmas fast approaches why not take part in our final draw of 2019 which takes place on 20th December. With a wonderful £2,250 worth of cash prizes, one of them could drop through your door just in time for the festive period! If you haven't received tickets and would like some please get in touch.

If you are not in our weekly lottery draw and would like to be in with a chance of winning our weekly jackpot prize of £1,000 or one of five runner up prizes of £50, just give our friendly lottery team a call. You have to be in it to win it!

Get in Touch

Lottery Team Contact Details

Tel: 0161 624 9213

E-mail: lottery@drkh.org.uk

Website: www.drkh.org.uk/lottery



Our Lottery Canvassers love being out and about meeting members of our community, updating you with what's happening at the Hospice and recruiting new members to our weekly lottery draw.

By joining our lottery you will be helping us to grow our regular income, therefore, enabling us to continue to offer much needed services and support to our community. So if you see them out and about, please give them a warm welcome!

With huge support from all areas of our community you have helped us to reach 13,534 weekly members! If you would like to be part of our lottery and help us to reach a magical 14,000 members and be in with the chance of winning our weekly top prize of £1,000 for just £1 a week, please get in touch.

Scratch Cards

Please note that the last date of sale on our Hospice scratch cards has now been extended to 31.03.21



As some of the larger cash prizes have not yet been won, we feel it is only fair to our supporters to continue selling our scratch cards for a further 18 months past the period of 30.09.19 which was initially stated as the last date of sale. This will also enable us to raise much needed funds for Dr Kershaw's Hospice.

So if you are wondering what to buy for that Christmas stocking filler or table gift for your Christmas guests, at just £1 each, our Hospice scratch cards could be just the thing! Every card you buy will help support the work of Dr. Kershaw's Hospice and will make a difference to our patients and their families. Simply scratch the panels and match three amounts to win! Our scratch cards are on sale via our Hospice reception in Royton and all our Hospice shops, as well as via our Christmas brochure and at fundraising events throughout the year. They are a fantastic way of supporting your local Hospice whilst providing friends, family or yourself with the opportunity of instantly winning a cash prize. Give us a call to find out more.



CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Why not dress your Christmas table or decorate your tree with a cracker that will make a difference! Dr.

Kershaw's Christmas Crackers contain 12 crackers per box, along with a toy, joke and hat. In addition, each box also contains 3 lottery scratch cards! Which guest or family member around your table is going to pull a winning cracker? Choose from either Silver Snowflakes or Gold Reindeers depending on your colour scheme for just £7.99 a box, with all proceeds going to Dr. Kershaw's Hospice. Look online or see our Christmas Brochure for more details.

LOTTERY GIFT VOUCHERS - IDEAL FOR THAT CHRISTMAS GIFT!



Looking to buy a Christmas gift for the person that has everything, or maybe a Secret Santa? Why not buy them a gift that keeps on giving! Dr Kershaw's Lottery Gift Vouchers start from as little as £10 and are available for all occasions. Our weekly jackpot prize is £1,000, with five runner up prizes of £50. The first draw for 2019 Christmas vouchers will take place on Friday 27th December 2019. Order online or give us a call to order your gift voucher and wallet.

Shops Directory

Oldham Hospice Shop

Unit 10 Albion Street,
Oldham, OL1 3BB
Tel: 0161 628 2343

Mon – Sat, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Lees Hospice Shop

99 High Street, Lees,
Oldham, OL4 4LY
Tel: 0161 628 7100

Mon – Fri, 10am – 4pm
Sat, 10am – 3pm

Shaw Hospice Shop

50-52 Market Street, Shaw,
Oldham, OL2 8NH
Tel: 01706 290973

Mon – Sat, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Royton Hospice Shop

Unit 14 Market Square, Royton,
Oldham, OL2 5QD
Tel: 0161 652 8707

Mon – Fri, 9.30am – 4.30pm
Sat, 9.30am – 1pm

For all large pieces of furniture and large electrical item donations please contact Charlie at Big White Charity Van who will sell the items on our behalf. Please remember to mention Dr Kershaw's Hospice.

Big White Charity Van

Unit 14, Pennant St Industrial Estate, Oldham, OL1 3NP
Tel: 0161 222 0808 or 07944063884

News from the Board

Redevelopment Project – It has been a very exciting few months for the Board and Executive Team with details of the new redevelopment being finalised and work commencing on site to begin the first stage of our project as we start work on the new extension. Patients were transferred to the temporary modular unit in early September and, as I write, the old Inpatient Unit is being removed to make way for the new build. Many congratulations and thanks to Adele Doherty and her clinical team for ensuring that the patient move took place so effectively and smoothly.

Over the past two years, Dr. Paul Cook took the lead in progressing the project and, without his drive and input, we would not be at this stage of development. Paul saved the Hospice a huge amount of money during the planning stages. Our very grateful appreciation is extended to Paul for his commitment, enthusiasm and time. Moving forward, the project will be coordinated by the Executive Team and an Internal Project Team is now in place with Joanne Sloan and Lyndsey Donbavand being the Team Coordinators.

Annual Accounts and Report 2018/19 – These documents will shortly be available on our website – interesting reading as they provide detailed information about the numerous initiatives which were implemented and progressed during last year by the Board and our Executive Team.

Trustee Retirements – Paul Vincent and Alan Moran have recently stood down as Trustees. Paul has given 26 years of service, being legal adviser to the former Governing Council and then a Trustee of the Board. Alan has given 16 years' service as a member of the Governing Council and a Trustee of the Board. We thank both Alan and Paul for the services rendered over so many years and for their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment through so many changes and developments.

Farewell from Myself – I have been a member of the former Governing Council and a Trustee for 20 years and for the past 5 years I have served as Chair of the Board. I am standing down from the Board and a new Chair will shortly be appointed. It has been a privilege and I am very proud to have been a part of the wonderful and caring work of the Hospice over the years. A huge thank you to all those who have helped me in any way at all and enabled me to have been able to fulfil the various roles I have undertaken. It would not have been possible without such support and encouragement. I wish the Hospice, its Trustees, staff, volunteers and supporters well for the future and I am sure that after a short break I will be back as an Ambassador and volunteer.

Finally, on behalf of the Board may I thank all our staff, volunteers, friends and supporters for the support and commitment given to the Hospice, our patients and their relatives which is vital to the continuing success of the Hospice and the provision of services to the community of Oldham. As you read this issue thoughts no doubt will be on Christmas and next year's activities so I offer you all early best wishes for Christmas and the forthcoming New Year.

Vernon Cressey – Chair of Board of Trustees

Contact Details

Main switchboard for general enquiries, patient information, volunteering, Friends of the Hospice:

Tel: 0161 624 2727

Fax: 0161 628 0181

Well-Being Centre: 0161 785 5625

Macmillan Nurses: 0161 778 5918

24 Hour Advice Line: 0161 785 5635

Fundraising Office: 0161 624 9984
fundraising@drkh.org.uk

Lottery Office: 0161 624 9213
lottery@drkh.org.uk

Dr Kershaw's Hospice

Turf Lane, Royton, Oldham, OL2 6EU

Email: info@drkh.org.uk

Website: www.drkh.org.uk

Facebook: /drkershawshospice

Twitter: @kershawshospice

Instagram: drkershawshospice