



# Together we are Willowbrook

Your local hospice newsletter

Specialist Care for the  
people of St Helens  
and Knowsley

Registered Charity No. 1020240

Spring/Summer  
2023



**Ladies' Committee**

**Fashion show sparkles**

**Supporter story with love**

**Café refurbishment**

**Volunteer stories**

**MOONLIGHT  
WALK 2023**

See back page  
for details



Call the Fundraising Office on **01744 453798**  
or e-mail [events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk](mailto:events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk)



[www.willowbrook.org.uk](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk)



# Willowbrook: constantly evolving as we head into our 26th year

Our 26th year will see changes at the hospice to the quality of the accommodation we provide to local people with life-limiting illnesses – and it's all thanks to you, our supporters.

**In July 2022, Willowbrook Hospice reached the age of 25 since its founding in 1997.**

This seems like only a few weeks ago but surprisingly, as the nights have again become lighter, we find ourselves moving towards commemorating 26 years of Willowbrook.

Alongside thanks for the financial support we receive from the NHS, our thanks must also go to you – our incredible residents of St Helens and Knowsley for enabling us to start our hospice improvements. This programme of works will make the hospice an outstanding building and fit for the future.

In January, we commenced converting what was a three-bedded room into a spacious, specialist single room. This work will be finished in May, enabling us to provide individual and dignified care for people including those who are no longer mobile. We will then upgrade the remaining rooms so that every patient can enjoy the same comfortable facilities and enjoy our beautiful gardens via new patio doors. Finally, our leaking roof has been repaired so we can now create additional peaceful, reflective spaces for patients and their families and friends to enjoy.

By the end of 2023, we will have a fully refurbished hospice that allows every patient to receive the best care, once again delivered in the best building we can provide.

*Pictured right are: Dr Paula Powell, Alun Owen and Lynda Finney.*

These works have only been possible due to your ongoing donations, lottery membership and from your support of our retail shops across St Helens and Knowsley, for which we thank you.

We hope you enjoy reading this latest edition of our newsletter and thank you for your support. Willowbrook is an amazing community and please accept our thanks for everything you do for the hospice.

**Lynda, Paula and Alun**

The Executive Management Team at Willowbrook

**Lynda Finney** – Clinical Director

**Dr Paula Powell** – Medical Director

**Alun Owen** – Corporate Director



## Fundraising Team bolstered by 3 new additions

**In October 2022, we welcomed three new members of staff to the Fundraising Team!**

**Suzanne Davies**, Fundraising Manager, **Vikki Atherton**, Events Facilitator and **Tracey Leung-Fullerton**, Digital Marketing Fundraiser joined Pam Williams (Fundraising Co-ordinator) Bev Neilson (Events Facilitator), and Emily Jarvis (Fundraising Administrator).

The new additions to the team have already provided much needed support as their arrival came at the right time to help with the Christmas events. We have already planned some fantastic fundraising events and challenges for the year ahead – see page 8 for our What's On Guide.

Tracey has been updating our website and social media and has been let loose with the launch of our TikTok account! Scan our QR code to view and follow our social media.



*Pictured above: Tracey, Suzanne and Vikki.*

# We have a Super Power, our Super Power is Love



“Incredible People” “Extra Special” “Extraordinary what they do” “Above and Beyond” is how Neil Moffatt describes the team at Willowbrook, here in his own words is Neil’s story.

Neil Moffatt (left)  
with Jonathan.

Nobody would have put me and Jonathan together, on paper we were an odd match. Jonathan, a Vicar and myself, a non-believer, were together for 18 beautiful years. We had a magical life, we were very sociable, and lived life to the full. Our life was full of love and shared common values that enhanced our relationship and enriched others around us.

We went to Costa Rica in April 2022 for my delayed 50th birthday celebration and new life adventure. We had an incredible holiday, when we returned, Jonathan felt unwell. This was when our world changed. It took a few months before he was diagnosed with cancer, and in September 2022, we were told Jonathan had sepsis, and was hospitalised. We were advised to make some decisions as the cancer would be taking over very fast.

We couldn’t make sense of it all, but, as we always did, we talked about it and decided we wouldn’t let this take over our life. We had a Can Do/ Will Do mindset, and we continued to laugh, make memories and because of this, nothing changed. Our love still remained strong.

We moved into our forever home, and I cared for him myself with support from the Nurse Specialist, Carol King, until November 2022, when his safety

was compromised. He was very poorly, so Jonathan decided it was time for the Hospice, his request was that he would only go to Willowbrook, a charity he had chosen to support for many years before his diagnosis.

We were admitted to Willowbrook on the one condition – that I was to move in with him, and be with him 24/7. The staff didn’t hesitate in agreeing to this, they pulled out all the stops and put two beds together for us, I brought in some home comforts to make the room smell and feel familiar.

The entire team supported us so incredibly well, from housekeeping, to the chef, to the clinical team. Nothing was too much trouble for them. Being a same-sex couple made no difference to them, it did not affect their day to day work. It demonstrated the continuous evolution of the way they carry out their specialist care, they adapted the service to suit us; and our family/friends, without risking their duty to Jonathan.

Drs Kamilla and Kate were so wonderful, they looked after us both so well, and made sure I was cared for as well as Jonathan, they explained things as and when needed and kept the stimulation in his room low, with music playing (and even joining in with the

meditative chants we would listen to).

Jonathan died eight nights after he arrived, and what some people might assume would be a frightening experience, wasn’t. It was very unusually beautiful and only made possible because of the amazing team at Willowbrook, for taking all our requests.

After eight days, I walked out of the hospice on my own, with mixed feelings of sadness, loneliness and thoughts about how blown away I was with the team who I had become so close to.

We have a Superpower; Our Superpower is Love. This was our motto from the beginning through to the very end of our life journey together, and it is with my gratitude that Willowbrook allowed us to face this experience the way that we did.

Together with family and friends, Neil raised almost **£5,000** in Jonathan’s memory by climbing Scafell Pike. This was an emotional journey for everyone involved, but a trek they really wanted to do to thank Willowbrook for all that they did for them both, to provide a calm and serene place for them to just BE.



## Make a one-off donation to Willowbrook Hospice

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS when completing this form.



### Your details

Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other

Name

Address

Postcode

Email address

I enclose a one-off donation of **£5**  **£10**  **£20**  **£50**  Other

Please make cheques payable to ‘Willowbrook Hospice’ or debit my card below:

Card no.

Expiry date  Security no.

Name on card

### Gift Aid will make your donation even bigger at no cost to you!

**Gift Aid declaration:** I want to Gift Aid any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Willowbrook Hospice. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

**Return this form to:** Fundraising Office, Willowbrook – The Living Well, Borough Road, St Helens WA10 3RN

**Donate £2 now by texting HELPWILLOWBROOK to 70085 – to donate more, go to [willowbrook.org.uk](http://willowbrook.org.uk)**



# Holistic support for patients

Over the last few months, we have been able to grow and develop our Holistic Support Services. Please read on to see what we are doing and have to offer.

## Helping patients live well at all times

**Our Holistic Support Services forms a vital part of our outreach team.**

Through working extensively with the specialist team, our Holistic Support Assistants have built, learned, and developed an incredible range of skills and abilities all designed to help patients to live well and improve their quality of life whilst at home. Depending on availability and capacity, this can be done at the home of the patient. Ideally, the service should be only for those unable to come to the hospice or those that are too unwell to attend hospice services.

Services can include: gentle/basic therapeutic touch, relaxation, basic breathlessness/anxiety management techniques, supporting patients with

access to our virtual Outreach Services and through the use of virtual reality (see below for more details).

Sessions are for eight weeks and is a way of growing our patients' confidence in accessing other services by making virtual connections through our *Outreach Virtual Programme*.

Outreach services has also recently introduced a new **Young Person's Drop-in** (for Willowbrook patients under the age of 50 and those with children of school age).

Drop-in sessions are every other Tuesday 10-11am and include breakfast. The aim is to provide informal peer support and advice – if needed – regarding wills, solicitors, symptom management and any other support that is required, including signposting links to Child Bereavement UK.

## Celebration of life/ legacy work

These beautiful items were recently created at the hospice with the support of the holistic support assistants and our lovely volunteer, **Sue Kirkham**.

As you can imagine these legacy items can be very special things that bring lots of comfort for families.



## Virtual Reality Sessions – for 'our people'

**Recent scientific research demonstrates that virtual reality can be used therapeutically to support improvements in personal wellbeing.**

### What is it?

Virtual reality (VR) therapy can help wellbeing by placing you – the user – in a believable world which simulates realistic or otherwise impossible situations. By encountering these digital simulations, you can experience mind-opening scenarios to give your mind a refreshing break - or at

least momentarily preoccupy it with non-stress-causing stimuli.

Using virtual reality, you may choose to transport yourself to a beach, the mountains, or the middle of the forest as you spend time unwinding. VR also allows you to rest in locations that are very hard or impossible to get to in the real world. Such places may include underwater environments that can induce relaxation.

Over the last few months, we have been using virtual reality with our patients and staff as part of our Outreach Services. So far this has shown on average a 52.8% reduction in pain and a 77.2% reduction in anxiety levels of participants accessing the VR.



## Guided relaxation resources available

Did you know that we have a selection of guided relaxation journeys free to listen to on our website? Themes include: forest,

beach, meadow, clouds and many more. Why not scan the QR code shown above with your smartphone or tablet and take a moment to relax yourself? Alternatively, please visit [willowbrook.org.uk/guided-relaxation/](http://willowbrook.org.uk/guided-relaxation/)



### Want to know more?

For further information please contact the Outreach Team on **0151 430 8736** or send an email to: [KellyD@willowbrookhospice.org.uk](mailto:KellyD@willowbrookhospice.org.uk)

# Win £1000 every week!



Willowbrook Hospice  
**LOTTERY**

Just  
**£1**  
to play!

The lottery is a regular source of income to run our hospice services which deliver exceptional care for Willowbrook's patients and families. Over the past 25 years our lottery has raised over £12m and we have given away over £3.6m in prizes to our wonderful members. So why not become a member and give your support to Willowbrook and maybe get something in return? If you are already a lottery member, why not take out another number and double your chances of winning, or you could pass this form to a family member or friend to join?



45

Joining the lottery costs just **£1 per week** and is a great way to show your support for local people with life-limiting illnesses... **Simply, fill in the form in below and return it, visit [www.willowbrook.org.uk](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk) or scan QR code above.**

## Hospice Lottery Entry Form

I wish to become a member of the Willowbrook Hospice Lottery and I am over the age of 18.

Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other  (please tick)

Name

Address

Postcode

Contact number

Email

I confirm I am 18 years old or older

How did you hear about the Lottery? (please tick)

Newsletter  Website  Facebook/Twitter  Press

Willowbrook shop (please state which store)

Business (please state)

Other (please state)

I wish to join the Hospice Lottery and agree to make my payment via direct debit.

You may cancel your membership at any time.

Signed

Date

Please return this form to:

Fundraising Team, Willowbrook – The Living Well, Borough Road, St Helens, WA10 3RN

Registered with The Gambling Commission. Lottery promoted by Willowbrook Hospice Trading Company Ltd. All proceeds donated by Deed of Covenant to Willowbrook Hospice which is a Registered Charity No. 1020240. Promoter: Alun Owen, Willowbrook Hospice, Portico Lane, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 2QT.

Terms and conditions are available on the hospice website [www.willowbrook.org.uk](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk)

Please gamble responsibly, for more information visit [www.begambleaware.org](http://www.begambleaware.org)

Marketing declaration:

We would like to keep in touch with you about future events and campaigns. If you would prefer to not be contacted please tick this box.

You can opt out of this or change your contact preferences at any time by calling us on 01744 453798 or email [lottery@willowbrookhospice.org.uk](mailto:lottery@willowbrookhospice.org.uk) • To read our data privacy policy please visit [www.willowbrook.org.uk/keeping-your-information-safe](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk/keeping-your-information-safe) • If you no longer wish to hear from Willowbrook Hospice at all, please call us on 01744 453798 or email [lottery@willowbrookhospice.org.uk](mailto:lottery@willowbrookhospice.org.uk)

## DIRECT DEBIT INFORMATION



Name and full postal address of your bank or building society.

To: The Manager Bank/building society

Address

Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/building society account number

Branch sort code

Service user number

2 9 1 2 8 9

Reference

W B H L O T 0 0

Instruction to your bank or building society:

Please pay Willowbrook Hospice Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with Willowbrook Hospice and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Every four weeks £4  Quarterly £13

Half Yearly £26  Annually £52

**The Direct Debit Guarantee:** This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits. If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit, Willowbrook Hospice will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request Willowbrook Hospice to collect payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of request. If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by Willowbrook Hospice or your bank or building society you are entitled to a full and immediate refund to the amount paid from your bank or building society. If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when Willowbrook Hospice asks you to. You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please notify us.

# Ladies' Committee Luncheon

In 1993, when Willowbrook Hospice was still known by its original name of "St Helens & Knowsley Hospice", the Ladies' Committee arranged the first Ladies' Lunch, organised by Rita Plunkett who acted as Toast Master on the day. This initial lunch was held at Logwood Mill Hotel, Whiston and continued to be held there for the following few years.

In 1996, by kind permission of Lord Derby, Patron of the Hospice, the lunch was held at Knowsley Hall where it has been held on an annual basis ever since. Approximately 120 ladies attend each year.

In the early days, the Committee catered for the lunch themselves, preparing salads and vegetables! St Helens College supplied the salmon and each Committee Member was allocated a task, including laundering the tablecloths! The decorative flowers for the table settings were donated by different Committee Members, as was the food – a very different situation from today as Knowsley Hall now has it's own catering company and provides the delicious lunches every year to much acclaim.

Over the years, between 1993 and 2023, there has been a lunch every year, apart from during the Covid pandemic. Distinguished speakers include Loyd Grossman, Roger Johnson, Lady Dodd and Dame Lorna Muirhead, former Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside and now a Patron of Willowbrook Hospice. The current Chairman of the Committee is Joan Reakes and she



*The Ladies' Committee at Knowsley Hall.*

acknowledges the hard work of her predecessors, Enid Oakes and Ann Snowling.

Great support is given from companies in St Helens and Knowsley with generous gifts of money and raffle prizes.

In addition to the Ladies Lunch, the Committee arranges a yearly Afternoon Tea at Houghwood Golf Club and coffee mornings at Whitakers Garden Centre – all of which have been extremely successful.

Over the years, this wonderful group of fundraisers has not only arranged all the events and enjoyed doing so, but to date has raised almost half a million pounds for Willowbrook Hospice. Such an incredible achievement, we are so grateful!

## Fashion show sparkles with style!

We were proud to showcase the sustainable fashion we offer in our shops at our fashion show which took place in March. What a night it was!

Our models, most of whom had never done this sort of thing before, were all fantastic. Some were our outreach patients, others were staff and volunteers. We think they were all so brave to strut their stuff on the catwalk for our charity!



Our proud headline sponsors, **Jessie & Co** showed off their spring range and **Girl in the Mirror**, **Linsey Read** pulled together an incredible 24 outfits using clothing and accessories from our shops.

We want to thank everyone that came along and made the night such a success helping us to raise over **£3,500!**



# Volunteering and me

Willowbrook simply couldn't function without the vital support our volunteers provide. Here we celebrate three more heroes....

## Viv Gillon: thirty years of outstanding service!

Some of you might know Viv, as she has been part of Willowbrook Hospice as a volunteer for 30 years! She was one of the original supporters who fundraised at the very beginning of the community's quest to build a local hospice. Viv is 84 years old and passionate about community involvement. Based in Rainford, she also spotted an opportunity on the high street in the village to have the very first Willowbrook Hospice charity shop.

Being a mum of five didn't stop Viv from organising a number of events over the years, from afternoon teas, garden parties, flower arranging groups and linking in with the local church.

She has many happy memories of her time volunteering, one of which being the very first afternoon tea at Corpus Christi Church centre. The place was full to the



brim with locals. She said it had a lovely community spirit whereby everyone wanted to help one another from different groups and clubs.

Sadly for us, since the pandemic hit, and owing to health-related problems, Viv has stepped down from her volunteering roles to enjoy a quieter life with her husband Arthur and their family.

Viv was presented with her Long Service Award from Ian Turnbull, Volunteer Engagement Manager, to acknowledge all the work she has done for Willowbrook Hospice.

We would like to Thank Viv for all the time she has given to Willowbrook Hospice, without supporters like Viv, there would have not been a Willowbrook Hospice!

## Linda's story...

Linda Thwaite has been volunteering for Willowbrook for 10 years, and in the past year has taken on the role as a Compassionate Neighbour. Linda tells us about her volunteer journey.

"After I retired from my admin role at St Helens Hospital, I looked after my Grandchildren until they started school.



My daughter-in-law was diagnosed with bowel cancer and was in Willowbrook Hospice. It was after this happened that encouraged me to give back by doing some volunteering. I started with helping in the HR Office, then on the reception desk, and supported any events but then the pandemic hit.

However, when the opportunity for volunteering as a Compassionate Neighbour came up, I put myself forward for it, and started in 2022. I give around four hours of my time each week to a local lady who is 90-years-old, her husband is poorly and requires a lot of support and they have no family nearby to help. She has lost her confidence to leave the house, so together we run her errands and I take her to her appointments. She has told me she would be really lost without this service.

I enjoy this role, I like that I am helping her and giving her a sense of purpose. We have days where she just wants someone to sit and talk to and other days where we go out locally."

## Kath Hull: Volunteering for Willowbrook "saved me"

Kath Hull has been at Willowbrook Four Acre Shop for nearly 10 years. Kath told us: "I was actually one of the shop's first volunteers and proud to say I am still volunteering now! My husband passed away eleven-and-a-half years ago in Willowbrook



Hospice. When the shop opened, I applied so I could give something back to them; it was the best thing I could have done. The staff and our manageress have become my friends. Volunteering here, well what can I say? I love it; it saved me."

# Volunteers needed! We may have a role for you...

Without our fabulous volunteers we wouldn't be able to provide our outstanding care.

Our volunteers support us across the whole organisation: in the hospice, The Living Well, our charity shops and Donation Warehouse. Whatever their skills and abilities, they are all helping to make a difference to our patients and we are always seeking volunteers in the following roles...

- drivers • catering • warehouse • admin • fundraising
- wellbeing services • housekeeping • shops • laundry
- maintenance • events • reception • day therapy
- ward clerk • fundraising office • gardening



We always need more help, particularly in our shops. If you think you can spare some time, even just a couple of hours a week, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Ian or Nicola at our Volunteer Team on **01744 453798**, visit [www.willowbrook.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk/volunteer)

or scan the QR code above with your smartphone or tablet to find out more.

We'd love to hear from you!



# What's On at Willowbrook



Please visit [www.willowbrook.org.uk/events](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk/events) for further information, tickets and announcements.

## June 2023

Friday 16th

### Summer Quiz Night

at The Living Well Café, 7pm start  
£12.50 per person. Drink on arrival and food included, plus licenced bar. Call **01744 646826** to book or call into the café.

Friday 23rd

### Comedy Night

at Percival Suites, Ruskin Sports Village, 7pm  
£12 per person. A night of laughter with MC Peter Edge. Over 18s only!

Saturday 24th

### The Colour Run

Victoria Park, St. Helens  
12noon – 2pm

Tickets: Adults £10, Child £5, Family £20 (Adult + 2 Children – under 16s).

## July 2023

Saturday 8th

### Fur on the Field (S)

at Gamble Hall Field,  
12noon – 3pm  
Dog show, games, stalls and family fun. Free entry.

Sunday 9th

### Sunrise at Snowdon

Trek to the summit of Snowdon in time for the sun to break the horizon, £30 deposit, raise a minimum of £90 sponsorship.

Thursday 13th

### Afternoon Tea

at The Living Well, 2pm – 4pm  
£12 per person.

Saturday 15th

### Car Boot Sale

at The Living Well, 9am – 12.30pm  
£10 per car.

Saturday 22nd

### Summer Open Gardens

at Willowbrook Hospice, Portico Lane, 10am – 4pm

Saturday 22nd

### Wingwalk for Willowbrook

at Leeds East Airport  
£100 deposit and a minimum of £599 sponsorship to be raised.

## September 2023

Saturday 2nd

### Moonlight Walk

at Ruskin Drive Sports Village, 7pm  
Registration opens at 5pm for 7pm start. Entry £15 per Adult\* and £5 per Child (under 16s). 5k route.

\*£10 per Adult for the first 50 to sign up via our website using the exclusive code **EARLY23** – please see back page advert for full details.

Saturday 23rd

### Autumn Open Gardens

at Willowbrook Hospice, Portico Lane, 10am – 4pm

## October 2023

Saturday 21st

### Live at the Town Hall – Choir and Brass Band Event

at St. Helens Town Hall, Victoria Square, St Helens  
Tickets: Adults £15, Child £5 (under 16s).

Saturday 21st

### Wingwalk for Willowbrook

at Leeds East Airport  
£100 deposit and a minimum of £599 sponsorship to be raised.

Saturday 28th

### Strictly Glitter Ball

at the Totally Wicked Stadium  
Tickets available shortly – further information to follow, visit the Willowbrook website or Facebook page to find out more!

## Regular Events

### Willowbrook Pop-Up £1 Shop

Every Tuesday  
at The Living Well Marquee,  
10am-3pm

Clothes, children's goods and bric-a-brac – everything £1!

### Yoga with Yoga Steve

Every Tuesday  
at The Living Well,  
5.45-6.45pm

£6 per class. New members welcome.

### Walk for Wellness with Standing Tall Foundation

Every Wednesday  
Meet at The Living Well,  
1pm – 2.30pm

A social guided walk using varied local routes.

### Book Club

2nd Wednesday of every  
month  
at The Living Well, 2pm

New members welcome, free to join.

All events are subject to change of location, time or cancellation. (S) = Supporter Event

Willowbrook – The Living Well, Borough Road, St Helens, WA10 3RN • [events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk](mailto:events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk)

Please visit [www.willowbrook.org.uk](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk) for details about our events and how to support us.





## Monthly Giving Form Please use BLOCK CAPITALS when completing this form.

A monthly regular donation could help us to care for our patients today, and plan for the patients of tomorrow.

### Donor details

Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other

Name  Date of birth

Address

Postcode

Email address

Telephone (daytime)  Mobile no.

## Gift Aid will make your donation even bigger – at no cost to you!

**Gift Aid declaration:** I want to Gift Aid any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Willowbrook Hospice. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed

Date

**Return this form to:** Fundraising Office, Willowbrook – The Living Well, Borough Road, St Helens WA10 3RN

For more information please call the Fundraising Team on **01744 453798** or send an email to **events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk**

**Marketing declaration:** We would like to keep in touch with you about future events and campaigns. If you would prefer to not be contacted please tick this box.

You can opt out of this or change your contact preferences at any time by calling us on 01744 453798 or email **events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk** • To read our data privacy policy please visit [www.willowbrookhospice.org.uk/keeping-your-information-safe](http://www.willowbrookhospice.org.uk/keeping-your-information-safe) • If you no longer wish to hear from Willowbrook Hospice at all, please call us on 01744 453798 or email **events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk**

### Standing order instructions to your bank

Your bank

Branch address

Account name

Sort code    Account no.

Please pay: WILLOWBROOK HOSPICE, NATWEST BANK, 5 ORMSKIRK STREET, ST HELENS WA10 1DR

Sort code  6 0 7 0 0 8 Account no.  3 2 4 7 9 2 3 9

Amount £5  £10  £15  £20  Other

First payment date:

and thereafter (please tick one) Monthly  Annually

# Charity fundraisers that suited us to a tee!

We are honoured to have a number of organisations and groups who nominated Willowbrook as their chosen Charity of the Year 2022.

### MERSEY VALLEY GOLF CLUB

Mike Cooke, Mersey Valley Golf & Country Club's Captain for 2022 chose Willowbrook as their Charity of the Year. They made an incredible donation of **£5,101** which was collected throughout the past year. The money was raised through various events, fines (for landing in the bunker!), bucket collections and raffles. We are really thankful to everyone who supported Mike, and even more delighted to hear that the donation raised was the most amount raised for a Club Captain's charity in the history of Mersey Valley.



### GRANGE PARK

Last year Mike Gange chose Willowbrook Hospice as his charity of choice to raise funds for us during his year of captaincy at Grange Park Golf Club. He has managed to raise an incredible **£10,000!** Well done, Mike, and thank you to everyone involved who helped him achieve this amount of money for the hospice. This will make a huge difference to the work we do.



### SOUTH LANCS AREA GOLF SOCIETY

Thank you to Steve, captain of South Lincs Area Golf Society, pictured right, for choosing us as his charity of choice during his year of Captaincy. He managed to raise **£3,000** with support of the society. This is an amazing amount!

### CORPORATE FUNDRAISING

This year, we welcome two new businesses who have chosen Willowbrook Hospice as their Charity of the Year, **Wain Homes** and **Flamco**. We are looking forward to seeing the wonderful ways they will be supporting us in their fundraising and sharing this with you in our next newsletter. Corporate Fundraising is a great way to get involved with our charity; becoming a Charity of the Year partner is a great way to engage staff with their local community. If you work for a business that might be interested in becoming a Corporate Fundraiser, please contact the Fundraising Team by email **events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk**



# Café gets a fresh refurb

In January, we spent some time refreshing the Living Well Shop and making alterations to the Living Well Café – we extended the food preparation area so we now have a larger space to offer a wider selection of food for our customers.

We also installed a structure to bring the outside, inside! The Garden Room allows

more seating outside of the café, in all weather conditions.

Every penny of profit that the café makes goes straight to patient care and through making these improvements, we aim to raise even more money to fund our vital services. Please come and see what we have done and support local people with life-limiting illnesses.



## Furniture appeal – we need your unloved items!

We are short on furniture to sell in our shops. If you are updating your home, please consider donating any unwanted furniture to us. We can also collect large items of furniture from you – absolutely free!

Please scan the QR code or visit our website [www.willowbrook.org.uk](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk) to book. Our collection stores are always able to help, please give them a call:

**St Mary's 01744 417069 • Sutton 01744 413112 • Prescot 0151 541 7806**



## ebay / Vinted

Our eBay and Vinted online shops are updated regularly with some fantastic bargain. Please follow the links below.

[www.ebay.co.uk/str/willowbrookhospicetradingco](http://www.ebay.co.uk/str/willowbrookhospicetradingco)

[willowbrook.org.uk/vinted](http://willowbrook.org.uk/vinted)

### Willowbrook Hospice Shops

#### SUTTON SHOP & DONATION WAREHOUSE

Sutton Road, St Helens, WA9 3DZ

Monday to Saturday – 9:30am-3:30pm

☎ 01744 413112

#### PRESCOT SUPERSTORE

Prescot Shopping Centre, Eccleston Street, Prescot, L34 5GA

Monday to Saturday – 10am-4pm

☎ 0151 541 7806

#### THE LIVING WELL

Borough Road, St Helens, Merseyside, WA10 3RN

Monday to Saturday – 10am-4pm

☎ 01744 453798

#### ST MARY'S ARCADE

St Mary's Arcade, Unit 19-20, Church Street, St Helens, WA10 1AR

Monday to Saturday – 10am-4pm

☎ 01744 417069

#### RAINHILL

9 Dane Court, Weaver Avenue, Rainhill, Prescot, L35 4LU

Monday to Saturday – 9am-4pm

☎ 0151 426 9940

#### RAINFORD

16a Church Road, Rainford, St Helens, WA11 8HE

Monday to Saturday – 10am-4pm

☎ 01744 886829

#### STOCKBRIDGE VILLAGE

12 The Croft, Stockbridge Village, Knowsley, L28 1NR

Monday to Saturday – 9am-4pm

☎ 0151 480 9796

#### FOUR ACRE

Unit 8, Four Acre Lane Shopping Centre, St Helens, WA9 4BZ

Monday to Saturday – 9am-4pm

☎ 01744 814121

#### BILLINGE

216-218 Main Street, Billinge, WN5 7PE

Monday to Saturday – 10am-4pm

☎ 01744 893782

**DO YOU HAVE A RETAIL QUERY?** – Please call your nearest shop or you can email us by sending a message to [shops@wbhtrading.co.uk](mailto:shops@wbhtrading.co.uk)

# Fundraising round-up

Since our last newsletter we have had so many to thank for their fundraising efforts. Sadly there are always more than we have room to mention but here are just a selection of our fundraising heroes. Don't forget to tell us about your amazing fundraising efforts by sending an email to [events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk](mailto:events@willowbrookhospice.org.uk)

## OCTOBER 2022

We had a number of runners who ran for Willowbrook: **Jane Ball** from the St Helens Star took part in the Manchester half marathon and raised **£160**. **David, Rebecca** and **Neil** all completed the Dublin Marathon and raised over **£2,000**.

Local firm, **Accord Legal Services Ltd** kindly donated **£960**, following their pledge to make donations to Willowbrook to clients who make a will. Thank you so much!



Thank you to **Newton-le-Willows Gardening Association** for their very kind donation of **£572**.

Huge thanks to **Communications Plus Ltd** based in Rainford for their incredible donation. They hosted a charity golf day and raised a magnificent **£3,000** for our hospice.



## NOVEMBER 2022

Thank you to Sam and Anthony from **NGF Europe** who surprised us with a donation of **£185** and a pot of their delicious honey which they have made from the beehives on their site in Lea Green.

We paid a visit to **St Helens Chamber of Commerce** to receive two cheques for Willowbrook Hospice. The Chamber of Commerce made a donation following the Business Awards, and completion of staff surveys with a promise to donate once they had been returned which resulted in a cheque for **£1,886!**



**Katheryn White**, a member of staff of the Chamber of Commerce, and brother-in-law **Lee Turner** organised a charity bike ride 'The Whitey 100', in memory of her late husband Stephen White, which raised **£552**. Willowbrook Hospice is a charity close to her family's heart.

Members of staff from **Balfour Beatty** based in Newton-le-Willows took part in the Tough Mudder challenge and raised a fantastic **£1,195** for Willowbrook Hospice!



Our Willowbrook Champion, Luke Grounds, met up with **Team Kooga Storm** to receive an incredible cheque for just over **£4,000!** Anthony Swift was looked after for by Willowbrook Hospice, and to thank us for what we did, his friends set themselves a challenge of a series of events to raise funds so that we can continue to provide care for patients in the local community.



## DECEMBER 2022

Huge well done to **Alex** who decided to walk half a million steps in November to raise just under **£1,000** for Willowbrook Hospice.



Huge thanks to Andy Carr from **Burtonwood Community Centre** for once again choosing Willowbrook Hospice as one of their nominated charities to benefit from their annual BeerFest. It was the second time BeerFest has supported Willowbrook and we were delighted to receive a donation of **£1,600**.



A massive thank you to **Glen Dimplex** for selling items in their staff shop and raised **£500** for Willowbrook.



**The Cottages and Residents of Crow Lane East Christmas Lights** organised their annual lights display and together, they raised **£3,974!** This incredible effort was made possible through generous donations made by the local community – thank you so much!

## JANUARY 2023

A huge thank you and pat on the back to **Kevin Briers**. In August he stopped at the scene of an overturned tanker on the East Lancs and was part of a community effort to rescue the driver of the vehicle. In recognition of his bravery Kevin was awarded **£100** from his employers **NSG Pilkington** and chose to donate the money to Willowbrook. The hospice cared for Kevin's grandfather, and he wanted to make sure the money went towards the work we do.



Thank you to **Graham Roberts** for raising a fantastic donation of **£600** which was raised through friends of Stuart Fowles. Stuart, known as 'Pod' to many, sadly lost his life to Covid in October 2020.

## FEBRUARY 2023

Special thanks to everyone who made a donation in the wishing well at **Whitakers Garden Centre** in Prescot. Every penny has been counted, **£530** (and hopefully many wishes made!) was donated to Willowbrook.

We were so thrilled to hear that **Eccleston Lane Ends Primary School** arranged a Break the Rules Day and raised just under **£600** for Willowbrook Hospice. We took Brookie Bear to meet the children as a little treat to show our appreciation!

## MARCH 2023

A huge thank you and Happy 70th Birthday to **Andrew Collier**. Andrew asked for guests of his recent birthday party for donations to Willowbrook instead of gifts. This was in memory of his childhood and family friend, John. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped raise over **£1,700**.



Well done to **Paul Killella** for doing a skydive for Willowbrook Hospice, raising **£600** in the process. How fantastic, thank you so much Paul, and thank you to everyone who donated.

**Raffle prize appeal:** We are seeking donations from businesses for raffle prizes for our fundraising events. Donors will be thanked in our marketing for the events, including on our website and to our social media audience of 15,000+ followers. Please contact us!

SPONSORED BY



**STEVE CAUNCE LTD**

ENVIRONMENTAL & INDUSTRIAL DRAINAGE SPECIALISTS

**EARLY BIRD OFFER - USE CODE **EARLY23****  
**FIRST 50 TO SIGN UP - £10.00 PER ADULT!!**

# MOONLIGHT WALK 2023

Ruskin Sports Village, Ruskin Dr.  
Denton's Green, St Helens  
WA10 6RP

Saturday 2nd September 2023  
**LIGHTS • MUSIC • DANCING**  
**DJ • PERFORMERS**

**Adults £15.00**  
**Under 16s £5.00**

REGISTRATION OPENS - 5:00PM  
WALK STARTS - 7:00PM



**Willowbrook**  
**Hospice** *Every Contact Counts*

**Come & Join In!**  
Moonlight Memory Party,  
on the grounds of  
Ruskin Sports Village!

To register please  
scan the QR code or visit  
[www.willowbrook.org.uk](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk)



Artwork Proudly Designed By

