

BOLTON HOSPICE NEWS

Autumn | Winter 2024

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www.boltonhospice.org.uk



Bolton Hospice
caring from the heart

CHRISTMAS CARDS & GIFTS...



Bolton Hospice
caring from the heart



TWIN PACK



The greeting inside all card reads:
"With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year"



PRICES FROM
£ 3.00



Our Christmas Cards & Gifts are available in our charity shops, at our Wellbeing Hub gift shop and to buy online at

www.boltonhospice.org.uk/shop

HELLO

A huge THANK YOU for being such a fantastic supporter of Bolton Hospice! Your kindness and generosity have made a world of difference to local families when they need it most.

As you know, the hospice sector faces unprecedented financial challenges. That's why we're working hard to find new ways to raise money while we push for a fairer, sustainable government funding deal.

In this edition, we're delighted to share some wonderful stories of the families we've supported and tell you about all the exciting ways you can get involved this festive season. From our poignant Light up a Life appeal to festive fundraising events like Jingle Bell Jog and Jolly Jumper Day, there's something for everyone.



Your fundraising efforts, gifts in wills, and donations, big or small, make a huge difference.

Thank you again for your continued support. We couldn't do it without you.

Yours sincerely

Judith



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Light Up A Life

Dedicate a light in memory of your loved one

The Light up a Life appeal is an opportunity to remember and celebrate the lives of those who are no longer with us.

When you dedicate a light to your loved one, you'll receive a personalised Light up a Life card and your loved one's name will be printed in the special book of dedication.

You can also make your dedication and upload a photo to the online dedication page at:

www.boltonhospice.light-up-a-life.org.

When you dedicate a light to your loved one, you'll also be helping other local families create lasting memories this festive season, and beyond.

Your loved one's light will shine bright this Christmas as we come together to reflect on and celebrate their life.



Lorraine remembers how the hospice helped during her mums final days.

A year ago we said goodbye to my mum, Glenise. She had been so poorly with her bowel cancer that she was given just a couple of days to live, but we moved her to the hospice where she lived for another 17 days.

Family was everything to Mum, and so it meant everything to us all to be able to spend what precious time we had left with her in such a special place as Bolton Hospice.

We could visit any time of day or night, and so we took turns staying by her side. There wasn't a minute where she wasn't with family, from her being admitted to when she died.



All of the doctors and nurses were fantastic, and Mum's symptoms and pain started to improve within days of being there. She went from not even being able to lift her head up, to sitting up and talking.

One day I even painted her nails – a lasting memory for me, and a moment of normality for mum, who always was very glam.

After she died, we were determined to turn our grief into something positive, so we decided to focus on honoring Mum's memory and supporting the hospice. The Light up a Life appeal is particularly meaningful, as it provides a space for us to remember Mum and connect with others who are remembering their loved ones.

It's a lovely way to remember someone you've lost, and we don't want Mum, the life and soul of any family get-together, to be forgotten.

Find out more about Light up a Life here:
www.boltonhospice.org.uk/LUAL



Light Up A Life SERVICES

Join us for our poignant Light up a Life events at Bolton Hospice and Bolton Parish Church. These special Christmas services are led by John Hall, our Spiritual Care and Bereavement Support Lead. With heartfelt readings, cherished Christmas carols, and a quiet moment of reflection, we come together to light the hospice tree. Each light on the tree shines brightly, symbolizing a personal dedication to a loved one, a beautiful way to honour their memory.

At the hospice, we deeply understand how Christmas, usually a time of joy, family, and celebration, can be incredibly difficult for those facing loss. Our services bring together all of those who have someone missing at their Christmas table this winter, to offer a space of comfort and support, where we share in the spirit of love, and send our thoughts and dedications to those no longer with us.

They are a time to heal, remember, and let the light of their memory shine brightly in our hearts.

Wednesday, 4th December:

Bolton Hospice Outdoor Service, 6:30pm

A heartfelt service under the stars, with cherished carols, special readings from volunteers and nurses, and a touching performance by singer-songwriter Kallea. Keep warm with a hot chocolate or mulled wine as we gather with love and remembrance.

(Please be aware the hospice service is an outdoor event, with no seating available)

Wednesday, 11th December:

Bolton Parish Church Service, 7pm

Come together in the warmth of Bolton's Parish Church. With music from the Bolton Brass Ensemble, piano-accompanied carols, heartfelt readings, and a special performance by local primary school choirs, we take a moment to honour and remember our loved ones.

Dedications must be made by no later than the 13th November to appear in the take home dedication book. Books will be available to collect from the 4th December, either at one of our services, collection from the hospice or if you require delivery please contact us on 01204 663 055 to arrange delivery (£3 postage to be paid separately).

How your donation will help



£32

Could help a family create lasting memories this Christmas surrounded by the ones they love.



£56

Could pay for compassionate care for a patient when they need it most.



£127

Could pay for a visit by our specialist Hospice at Home nurses.



CHERYL'S STORY

Supporter Cheryl talks about how the hospice helped her loving Dad, Dave.



"My dad was a character. Nicknamed Diamond Dave after his favourite lager served in his favourite pub, he was an expert bricklayer, keen snooker player, and above all, he was a generous, loving, and inspirational person.

But in March 2020, my dad was diagnosed with an aggressive form of lung cancer.

His journey was one of the most horrendous things I have ever experienced, but he showed immense courage and bravery, and I couldn't have wished for a better place for him to spend his time when he really needed it.

My dad was admitted to the hospice on several occasions over the course of 3 years. Sometimes for a few days and sometimes a few weeks. Dad was always admitted to room 6 – 'The Hunt Suite', as we affectionately named it – where he always received the most amazing care. Selfless and compassionate, but not without a healthy amount of banter, smiles and jokes.

The hospice really is a home from home, with its spacious rooms, beautiful gardens, and friendly faces. It couldn't be further from what we expected. Bolton Hospice isn't a sad place, it's a peaceful place with so much positivity all around.

Last year, our first Christmas without Dad, we joined the Light up a Life appeal and dedicated a light in his memory, something we all felt was a fitting tribute to the man who could always light up a room with his smile, no matter how poorly he was. **This year will be no different, we'll dedicate Dad's light and feel privileged to be supporting this truly remarkable place."**



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TREK THE SAHARA

Our dedicated supporter Kirsty, takes on the most challenging of terrains in memory of her grandma, Julia.



My Grandma, Julia Pollitt, had always admired the work of Bolton Hospice. When she received her terminal diagnosis she knew she wanted to be cared for there, and so, strong minded as ever, off to Bolton Hospice she went. **I'd always thought of hospice care as just end of life care, but it's so much more than that.** It wasn't just medical services they provided, they really took care of her as a person and us as a family, and allowed us to have real, quality time with my gran in the final stages of her life.

"From still enjoying a G&T – her favourite – in an evening, soaking up some fresh air in the Garden of Tranquillity, or celebrating her and my Grandad's wedding anniversary with a specially prepared 3 course meal – these personal touches and small moments of normality brought our family so much comfort.

After my Grandma died, I said "If it can help give another family the care and support we got, I will do literally anything for the hospice." Apparently I meant that literally, as last year I trekked across the Sahara Desert for them!

I'd already taken part in some different hospice fundraising events and taken on some challenges in the UK, but I knew I had to go harder if I wanted to raise even more money. Trekking across the Sahara definitely ticked the 'hardness' box, and so I thought, "Right, that's decided then!".

Of course, every day we'd cover up to 20km over sand dunes, dried up riverbeds and rocky ravines, but the challenge was so much more than the actual trekking. I'll never forget camping out in the desert, singing along around the campfire, and the delicious Berber food cooked for us by our wonderful guides. I signed up on my own, but ended up meeting the most fantastic group of people, all with their own special reasons for taking part for Bolton Hospice, and we had the absolute experience of a lifetime together.

To anyone thinking about signing up for the October 2025 Sahara Trek, I'd say, "Don't question it, just do it!".

Yes, it's daunting. Yes, it's tough at times. But that's what makes it such a great opportunity to raise much-needed funds for a fantastic cause, and help the hospice continue caring for families like mine."

If you are interested in taking part in our 2025 Sahara Trek and want further information, take a look here



MAKE A LASTING TRIBUTE

TRIBUTE FUNDS

The loss of somebody close is a deeply personal experience and tribute funds are a unique way to make a lasting tribute to a loved one. Personal to you, your online tribute fund can be set up exactly how you want it – a place for family and friends to share memories, anecdotes or stories and spend time reflecting on your loved one.

You can add to your tribute fund at any time – you may choose to celebrate a special day or anniversary by contributing to the fund or fundraise for one of our challenges or events. Your heartfelt gifts, and those of your family and friends, will help us continue to care for local people who need our help.

Find out more about creating a Tribute Fund here



TREE OF LIFE

Representing the beauty of life, enduring strength and eternal peace, our Tree of Life is a beautiful, handcrafted metal sculpture located in the hospice's main reception.

Personalised engraved leaves can be added to the branches creating a stunning and poignant lasting collection of memories and special messages.

Leaves can be dedicated in memory of a loved one, to express thanks, as a gift, to show support to the hospice or simply with your own name or personal message.

Three types of leaf are available:

• Copper: £100 • Silver: £200 • Gold: £350

Once your leaf has been fixed to the tree, we will invite you to visit the hospice and see it in situ. The tree will be fully accessible for you, your friends and family to visit any time.

Discover our Tree of Life



UPCOMING EVENTS

& Dates for your diary



JINGLE BELL JOG

8th December

Run, walk, dance, jog or jingle your way through our family friendly run around Bolton Arena.

WINTER WALKABOUT

Throughout December

Join our Winter Walking Challenge. Keep an eye on our socials for more information.



Light Up A Life

WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER, 6:30PM

Bolton Hospice

(This is an outdoor event, with no seating available)

WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER, 7PM

Bolton Parish Church



Throughout schools in December

Gather your little reindeers to sprinkle some festive sparkle on a sponsored fun run.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

6/7th January

We'll take the hassle out of your Christmas clean up and collect your tree for a suggested donation to the hospice. Bookings opening early December!



JOLLY JUMPER DAY

18th December

Get your workplace, school or club involved!



STRICTLY LEARN TO DANCE

29th March

Now recruiting for dancers to take part in Strictly Learn to Dance 2025! Starting in January 2025, each couple will receive 12 dance lessons, leading up to the Grand Finale!



SAHARA TREK

29th March

Join our brave team of supporters. Battle scorching sand dunes and sleep under the stars as you trek 50km through the Moroccan Sahara.

Scan the QR code for more information on all of our events



PLAYING FOR A REASON

Direct Debit

Set up a Direct Debit online at www.boltonhospicelottery.org.uk, call us on 01204 663 077.

Card

Pay by debit card online at www.boltonhospicelottery.org.uk or call us on 01204 663 077

Please note that we cannot accept credit card payments.

£2 £2 per week per number

★ Weekly top prize of £1,000

£ Win up to £10,000 rollover prize

📅 Draw every Friday

♥ Play in memory

37 guaranteed chances to win every week

1st Prize £1000 every week

Chance to win up to £10,000 rollover prize



The difference our lottery makes

Our weekly lottery raises vital funds to help us continue to provide care and support for local people when they need it most. Every time you play our lottery, you are making a real difference to the lives of people across Bolton and beyond.



PLAYING FOR A REASON

Bolton Hospice

LOTTERY

Play for just
£2
a week!

SUPPORT LOCAL FAMILIES FACING
LIFE-LIMITING ILLNESSES

8

WIN
UP TO
£10,000
ROLLOVER
PRIZE!

3

37
CHANCES TO WIN
EVERY WEEK!

7



Bolton Hospice

carey from the heart

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Sign up today!

www.boltonhospicelottery.org.uk



You must be 18 or over to play or claim a prize. Please see www.boltonhospice.org.uk/play-our-lottery for the full T&Cs