

Annual Review **2025/26**



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Message from the Chairman

Jim Thompson



Each year, when I sit down to consider what to include in the ‘Message from the Chair’, I reflect on all that the hospice has achieved over the past year. I am always overwhelmed by the quality of care and support provided and the number of patients and families supported. Through 2025-26, 3,773 patients received support from St David’s Hospice Care. This is such a long way from our first year of operation in 1979, caring for six patients.

My thanks to all the dedicated staff and volunteers who collectively make all of this happen.

Throughout the annual review each year there are quotes from patients and family members about the support they have received, across all of the services offered by St David’s Hospice Care. The quotes are heartfelt and wholly positive and just a small sample of the feedback we receive each year.

I stand proud as Chairman of this wonderful hospice which really does make a positive difference to patients and families at the most challenging of times.

My thanks to all of the supporters. This includes the generous support from The Welsh Government and Local Health Boards as well as our corporate sponsors,

support groups and individual supporters (and everyone else between), thank you.

Collectively, all of our supporters help to raise a significant amount of money each year in order to continue to provide vital hospice care.

“Hospice care is not about dying; it is about living – living to the fullest in the time that is left”

And finally, my thanks to the Board of Trustees for their support over the last year and the years prior to that. They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to ensure the strategic direction of the hospice remains on track. Their dedication is noteworthy and I am very grateful to them.



Our Mission Statement

To provide and continue to develop a free and comprehensive specialist palliative care service of excellence throughout the unitary authorities of Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen and within certain areas of South and Mid Powys, for people, their families and carers, facing a progressive life-threatening illness which is no longer curable.

This service recognises the needs of the whole person and is given in co-operation with other agencies. Furthermore, we aim to provide an educational resource using the special expertise and skills of St David's Hospice Care.



Message from the Chief Executive

Emma Saysell

Welcome to our 2025-2026 Annual Review. Like all Hospices in the UK, we are facing difficult, challenging times. Our funding remains reliant on all the people in our local community who are so generous and supportive of our vital care. We would not be here without them.

We were very grateful to Welsh Government who, once again, allocated additional funding at the end of the financial year and we look forward to working together in the future to establish a solid, stable funding arrangement for Welsh Hospices in the coming months. I would also like to thank Aneurin Bevan University Health Board and Powys Teaching Health Board for all their financial support and our positive collaborative working relationship.

The staff and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure we can provide the very best palliative and end of life care to everyone who needs our support. I am immensely proud to be part of such an amazing team. A priority for us is to learn and develop, as a Hospice, reflecting on achievements and where we can improve our care.

Last Summer we were delighted to work with ITV Wales in the production of a documentary 'The Hospice: Caring to the End', a Wales This Week Special, which was aired in October 2025. The programme offered an insight into our work and gave an opportunity to open a window into some of the services we provide. The programme featured some of our Day Hospice care, our in-patients and patients in the community, it was truly moving and illuminating. The energy, care and interaction is rarely captivated for a wide audience to experience. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took part and, in particular, to Hannah, Gareth and Rob who produced such a mesmerising programme which won a Royal Television Society (RTS) Cymru Wales Award for News and Current Affairs in April 2026.

My thanks also to everyone who contributed to this year's Annual Review – I think it is so interesting to hear more from the staff and volunteers in their various roles across the organisation. We all, collectively, make St David's Hospice Care the place it is.

I feel deeply honoured to work with such wonderful people, each one of you making your unique contribution to the success of the Hospice.

Thank you to everyone who ensures we can continue to provide our care, we are sincerely grateful.

“

As a family we are so grateful to St David's. Dad wanted to die at home and we achieved that for him. I know, without a doubt, we could not have had him at home without St David's. Thank you to all the nurses who supported us.

”

Feedback from a patient's family



“There ought to be a place like St. Christopher’s Hospice here in Gwent.”

Student Nurses, Symposium on the Care of Dying Patients, 1977.

Our Charity Shops

St David's Hospice Care's network of more than 35 charity shops across South East Wales continues to play a vital role in supporting the hospice's nursing and support services. Every donated item and every purchase helps to fund compassionate care for patients and their families, while also promoting sustainable shopping within local communities. From clothing and furniture to books, toys and vintage finds, the shops are much more than retail spaces – they are places where generosity is transformed into vital hospice care.

Our sincere thanks to James Davies of RDP Law for all his support and expertise regarding all retail legal matters.



How We Started

In 1979, Heulwen Egerton, a nurse tutor at Newport's Royal Gwent Hospital set up the Gwent Hospice Project Group. The group was made up of like-minded individuals who were concerned at the lack of palliative care available to the people of Gwent. In its first year of operation, St David's cared for six patients.

Services available from St David's Hospice Care:

- Clinical Nurse Specialists in Palliative Care, attached to designated GP practices
- Hospice at Home service - 24-hour nursing care at home
- Day Hospice
- Family support
- Social workers
- Welfare rights advisors
- Complementary therapies
- Unicorn Service - support for children
- Complementary therapy out-reach clinics
- 15-bed in-patient unit
- Carers groups
- Education service
- 24-hour on-call service
- Support for care homes
- Bereavement care
- Spiritual care
- Patient choir

This is What We Do

St David's Hospice Care is committed to providing bespoke, individual 'free' care for all our patients and their families. We work alongside patients and hope to support them at the most difficult times of their lives.

Our aim is to ensure patients have choice about the care they receive, where they receive it and ensure it's the most appropriate care for them and their family.

St David's Hospice Care has been providing community-based hospice care for people with cancer or other life-threatening illnesses, and their families, since 1979. Care is provided to people living within Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, Torfaen and within certain areas of South and Mid Powys. In 2017 we opened a brand new, purpose built 15-bedded in-patient hospice, but most of our care is in the community, in patients own homes.

The need for St David's Hospice Care's services continues to increase year on year and last year 3,773 patients and families were cared for by St David's. Last year more than 36,385 hours of care were provided by St David's 'Hospice at Home' service, 44% of whom had a non-cancer diagnosis. The service enables patients to remain in their own homes if that is their choice. 92% of patients who received Hospice at Home care were able to die at home, or usual place of residence.

St David's Hospice Care wishes to provide our patients with real choice about where they receive their care and their place of death and, across the whole service, 69% of patients were able to die in their usual place of residence (home or care home) if that was their choice.

Last year, 386 families were referred to the Unicorn Service, which enables children to receive additional support at what is probably one of the most difficult times of their lives. St David's Hospice Care is aware that it is vitally important for children to receive appropriate bereavement support. This service is therefore not restricted to children of St David's patients, but referrals can also be made for children who may have experienced the sudden death of a close relative.

Naturally the cost of providing such high levels of care does have financial implications for the charity. In order to raise much needed funds St David's Hospice Care has 35 trading charity shops, a weekly lottery, and organises many fundraising events throughout the year.

St David's Hospice Care is indebted to the local community for their on-going support and is sincerely grateful for any financial contributions towards the work of the Charity.

Looking to the Future

The principal objective of the Hospice is to relieve sickness and pain among persons who are suffering from any chronic or life-threatening illness in England and Wales. The Hospice currently confines its work to Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, Torfaen and in South & Mid Powys.

The Hospice provides a specialist, multi-professional palliative care service in community, Day Hospice and in-patient settings.

The main focus of our work is to provide 24-hour supportive palliative nursing care in patients’ own homes via our Clinical Nurse Specialists, Hospice at Home team, our In-Patient Unit, our Day Hospices and to provide support through our Family Support Team.

The Strategic Plan for the Hospice for 2024-2029 has the following aims to meet the above objectives:



Our People

President
The Lord Lieutenant of Gwent,
Brigadier Robert Aitken CBE

Vice Presidents
Mr R Noble, OBE DL OStJ
Mr Malgwyn Davies OBE CStJ

Our Trustees
Mr Jim Thompson (Chair)
Mrs Margaret Van de Weyer (Vice Chair)
Mr Robert Tovey (Treasurer)
Mrs Judith Child
Dr Chris Gaffney
Mr Michael Hine
Dr John Holland
Dame Rosemary Butler DBE
Mr Jeremy Felvus
Dr Robert Bracchi
Reverend Elaine Hills
Mr Robin Hall
Mr Donald Waters

Ambassadors
Baron Tuhig of Islwyn and Glansychan

Patrons
Sian Lloyd
Dr Rick O’Shea
Adam Jones

1

Extend our care to diverse communities - particularly those who may not access palliative and end of life care services, but also to include those non-cancer patients who may feel the Hospice is unable to offer them care and support

To do this we will:

- Continue our work with representatives and leaders of under-represented groups who would benefit from palliative and end of life care to make St David’s Hospice Care a service for everybody
- Build on the work we have already started, welcoming and accessing our seven priority groups
- Identify and care for patients who may need additional support
- Talk more about death and dying in our communities, dispelling myths about hospice care and what we do

3

Our dedicated staff and volunteers are the backbone of our hospice. We want to look at current and future workforce to ensure we have people who can deliver our goals

To do this we will:

- Talk to our staff and volunteers to understand their priorities and challenges
- Identify areas that need modernization and will improve efficiency, for example, whole organisation clinical notes system
- Identify new ways of working and identify new roles to support clinical innovation, promote work-life balance and recognise individuals who work for us

5

To ensure income generation and NHS income matches growth in activity and operational costs

To do this we will:

- Be transparent with Welsh Government and the NHS as to impact, reach and value of hospice care
- Develop relationships with Local Authorities with regards to our social care provision and children’s services
- Maximise income from our retail department
- Deliver new fundraising initiatives focusing on community fundraising and targeted events

2

Strengthen our collaboration with partners and together share learning and expertise to widen access to hospice care

To do this we will:

- Ensure we are involved in shaping palliative and end of life care for our community
- Further develop our education and training plan to extend our reach and share knowledge and expertise
- Engage further with our colleagues in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary care to ensure every patient who needs our support is referred to our service

4

To further invest in our hospice services that support people in their choices at the end of their lives, particularly focussing on our Hospice at Home service

To do this we will:

- Offer patients equal access to services, where possible, irrespective of geography
- Offer increased flexibility of our care to include more support during the day time
- Explore expanding our Hospice at Home team coverage at night
- Maximise the utilisation of beds in our in-patient hospice
- Support families who are caring for loved ones with palliative and end of life care needs, focussing on individual patient choice and wishes

“We could not have coped over the final week without this amazing service”

Husband of patient, July 2025

Meet the Staff



Danni Smith
Reception

How did you get into your role and come to work for St David's Hospice Care?

I applied for a position in the café - in fact, after moving back from London where I had been working for several years.

During my interview I was offered a position on reception due to my previous experience working at The Royal Opera House.

What's a typical day like?

On Outpatient reception every day is different. Apart from answering the phones and admin support etc across the departments, we welcome all visitors and try to put them at ease.

What do you wish people knew about hospice care?

People say it must be hard working in a hospice. The truth is, it can be emotionally challenging at times but overall, there is an overwhelming appreciation to enjoy every day. Laughter can often be heard amongst patients, family and staff.

How does it feel to work for the hospice?

I feel grateful and grounded.

What makes St David's Hospice Care so special?

When loved ones call or come in just to say how much St David's Hospice Care has helped them through a very difficult time and all for free.

Some quick-fire questions...

Proudest moment:

Besides my children, it would be when I was touring around Japan with the Broadway Musical Company.

Go-to biscuit:

Chocolate Hobnob.

If I had one Superpower, it would be:

Teleportation. I love my kids but...

What do you wish people knew about hospice care?

The fantastic service provided, all free. The many different services provided. How it all works.

How does it feel to work for the hospice?

It is very rewarding and humbling.

What makes St David's Hospice Care so special?

The staff.

Quick-fire Questions

Proudest moment: Promotion to Senior Operations Manager

Go to biscuit: Chocolate digestive (plain)

Superpower: Enthusiasm

perfect opportunity for me. I said I had just retired and was not going back to work. Mel persisted saying St David's were looking to re-start day hospice and needed a driver, following COVID, and would I be interested. After only 5 months of being retired, my wife was fed up of me and said he will do it!

What's a typical day like?

In at around 08.10, organising patients for transport, ensure menu choices are in to Paul (Chef), collect patients, PAT testing where required, help in the kitchen, supporting nursing staff, maintain vehicles, take patients home, talk about their day, feedback and finish.

Steve Chant
Driver for Day Hospice

How did you get into your role and come to work for St David's Hospice Care?

I had retired from Royal Mail having served for 44 years, I was sat on my decking enjoying the sunshine at our holiday home. My phone rang and it was Mel Jones, she said she has the



Meet the Staff



Mel Jones
Hospice at home nurse

How did you get into your role and come to work for St David's Hospice Care?

I first became involved with St David's as my mother-in-law was the manager of the Day Hospice when it was in Cambrian House and I used to pop in in the afternoons and have tea and cake with my son when he was little.

I started on the bank in October 1995 and was then offered a contract working 1 night a week. I was working in the Royal Gwent at the time and finished there in 2008. Working on for St David's meant that I could be flexible working days or nights.

What's a typical shift like?

A typical night for me starts by telephoning the family to introduce myself and inform them that I will be coming at 11pm for the night.

On my arrival, I chat to the patient, if able, and family. I familiarise myself with the District Nursing notes and St David's notes. If the patient has a syringe driver, I check this is infusing. I am usually in the same room as the patient, or close by, to observe if anything is required.

I give regular mouthcare overnight and pressure relief as able and apply barrier creams as prescribed to areas at risk. I provide personal care and toileting needs. I observe the patient for any signs of pain, agitation or if they have audible secretions, I am able to administer injections to help alleviate those symptoms.

I reassure family I will inform them of any changes overnight, however, quite often, if the patient is very poorly, families are awake and up with me.

I handover to the family in the morning and inform District Nurses if I have given any injections overnight. I also email the patients Clinical Nurse Specialist and the office.

What do you wish people knew about hospice care?

That it is a free service and that family/friends can be cared for in their own homes as well as the in-patient unit.

How does it feel to work for the hospice?

I feel privileged to be part of such an amazing organisation enabling families to care for their loved ones at home and at such a difficult time. I am lucky to have experienced many aspects of St David's as I have worked in Day Hospice, the In-Patient Unit and community Hospice at Home as well as partaking in charity events and volunteering.

What makes St David's Hospice Care so special?

St David's provides a specialist service enabling patients to receive dignified and compassionate care.

Some quick-fire questions...

Proudest moment:

Being present at 3 of my grandchildren's births

Go-to biscuit: Rich Tea

Meet the Staff



James Emerton
Finance

How did you get into your role and come to work for St David's Hospice Care?

My first role after qualifying as an accountant with local firm Kilsby and Williams was at Vision 21, a Cardiff charity that provides work-based training for adults with learning disabilities. It was there that I discovered how rewarding it was to work in the charity sector. So when an opportunity came up at St David's Hospice Care, I jumped at the chance.

What's a typical day like?

There probably isn't a typical day! At different times of the year I might be working on budgets, monitoring our financial performance or preparing for the annual audit. More recently I've also become involved in analysing our clinical outcomes and performance, which has given me a much greater appreciation of the incredible care our clinical teams provide.

What do you wish people knew about hospice care?

I think many people underestimate the amount of planning, coordination and teamwork that goes into making sure every patient receives the right care, at the right time, from the right person and in the right place.

Oh, and of course the accountant's answer – how important it is to always Gift Aid your donations!

How does it feel to work for the hospice?

Lots of people in my profession spend their careers helping businesses grow or improving

profits. It's nice to finish each day knowing that my work helps support patients and families when they need us most.

What makes St David's Hospice Care so special?

It's the countless little stories about staff and volunteers going the extra mile to make care personal for each individual patient. Those moments really show what makes St David's Hospice Care so special.

Quick-fire Questions

Proudest moment: Nothing will come close to the birth of my daughter.

Go to biscuit: For dunking, a dark chocolate digestive. For everyday biscuit duties, you can't beat a custard cream.

Superpower: I enjoy gardening but unfortunately, I'm much better at buying plants than keeping them alive! So having Isabela's powers from Encanto to make flowers bloom would come in very handy.

Meet our Volunteers

Oli Broome (Left) Volunteer

What volunteer job do you do?

I volunteer by supporting the hospice's fundraising activities as well as within the Hospice Gardens. My volunteering role involves helping at events, engaging with supporters, raising awareness of the services that the hospice provides to patients and their families.

Why do you choose to volunteer at St David's Hospice Care?

I chose to volunteer at St David's Hospice Care because my Dad is the Director of Fundraising! I've since learned of the invaluable support it provides to people facing life-limiting illnesses and their loved ones. Being able to contribute, even in a small way, to such an important cause is incredibly rewarding. The people you meet at the Hospice are inspiring together with environment of the building and gardens.

What's your background?

I started volunteering helping when I was very young.

I'm now a student in Bassaleg School studying for my GCSE's. Throughout my volunteering I have enjoyed working with people and seeing the events being successful.

Seeing so many people having fun in such a variety of ways and now being able to appreciate that the funds are spent on patient care in so many ways makes me realise what a worthwhile charity St David's really is.

Recently, my Great Grandmother was cared for by St David's Hospice at Home Nurses and although I knew this service existed I saw the difference it made to my family in what was a very difficult time for them all especially my Nan & Mum.

What do volunteers bring to the charity?

Volunteers bring time, energy, skills, and compassion. They help extend the reach of the charity, support fundraising efforts, create positive experiences for supporters, and play a vital role in ensuring resources can be directed towards patient care and family support.



Dan Phillips (Right) Volunteer

What volunteer job do you do?

- Helping set up and pack down events
- Gardening around the hospice
- Tidying around the depot/helping with donations
- During events, I do a variety of different roles and tasks such as running shops, providing teas and coffees, marshalling and manning food stations

Why do you choose to volunteer at St David's Hospice Care?

I give my time to help the hospice and for the goodness of the patients. I know there are a lot of hard workers at St Davids Hospice Care and I like being a part of that.

What's your background?

I'm still in school so help out in the evenings, weekends and school holidays. I started volunteering as my good friend Oli Broome was already helping out due to his family connection. Once I started, I found I really enjoyed it and could see the

difference the Hospice makes to peoples lives. I would encourage all supporters to get involved in some way, there is something for everyone.

What do volunteers bring to the charity?

I think by helping and volunteering for the hospice, it provides an extra pair of hands at events which really makes a difference on the day.

Events can be extremely busy so the more people that help out the better.



Meet our Volunteers



Philip Pugh Volunteer

My name is Philip Pugh, I am 76 years old and am a retired Accountant and Magistrate. I have been involved with fundraising for St Davids Hospice Care for over 20 years and taken part in many activities such as the half marathon, fun runs, Kolor Dash and the annual car rally.

Probably my favourite experience was playing the part of Santa Claus at various Christmas events, it was such a pleasure to see the looks on the children's faces when they met Santa and told him what they wanted for Christmas.

My involvement with St Davids started with the realisation that approximately 60% of its revenue is dependent on fund raising. I knew what an important job the hospice did but learnt that, without fundraising, it could not continue with its important role in the community. I have been involved ever since and as well as making a contribution, I am doing something which is both rewarding and enjoyable.

St David's small fundraising team do a fantastic job in organising so many different events and I'm hoping that I will be able to help them for many years to come.



Sue Murphy Volunteer

When I first moved to Newport, from Liverpool, I met some mums who had children the same age as my own... Jackie Lewis and Gill Shaw. We became really good friends. As our children grew up and went their separate ways, we continued to be best friends.

Unfortunately, when Jackie's son Steve became ill with terminal cancer,

St David's looked after him. Steve passed away aged 31 in 2011. St David's after care was amazing, including bereavement counselling for Jackie and her family.

As a thank you to St David's Jackie arranged a fancy-dress sponsored walk, which all Steve's family and friends took part in. This raised £4,000 so Jackie set up Steve Lewis Fundraising page on Facebook. We subsequently set up a group to carry on fundraising in Steve's memory. The fundraising included more walks, music nights, coffee mornings, quiz nights to name just a few.

Unfortunately, Jackie then became ill herself, eventually becoming an in-patient at St David's, until she passed away. We have continued to fundraise, in both Steve and Jackie's name and to date we have raised

£91,000. We are now known as Bluebellies Support Group, (blue is colour for stomach cancer which Steve suffered from and Belles as we are group of ladies) though we cannot change name on Facebook, as Jackie herself set it up!

We have had, and continue to have, so much support from so many people, we couldn't do this without their help. We really appreciate everyone who has helped in anyway with our fundraising journey as we aim to achieve our £100,000 target!

We have also helped out at various events St David's Hospice has hosted themselves.

We are very lucky to have St David's Hospice in our community.

Meet our Retail Shop Volunteers



Gary Monmouth Shop Volunteer

What volunteer job do you do for the Hospice?

I'm from Newport but now live in Pontypool. I volunteer in the Monmouth shop as it is close to my daughters school. I volunteer between 09.00-14.00 each day, five days a week. I started work in the shop about 3 months before the flood.

Why did you choose to volunteer at St David's Hospice Care?

St David's Hospice Care helped my Mum so much, it will be four years this year since she passed away. St David's really helped to take the burden off my Dad with home care and support. I didn't want to volunteer anywhere else; it had to be St David's.

What's your background?

I'm a single Dad raising my 15-year-old daughter. My daughter will stay on in school and study animal care, she loves animals and I would have a farm at home if she had her way!

What do you think volunteers bring to the charity?

Personally, volunteering has helped me so much. I went through a phase of depression and anxiety but volunteering brought me out of myself. I've met new people and talk to more people, I never did anything like that before. I really enjoy the work and I feel more confident in myself.



Karen Crickhowell Shop Volunteer

What volunteer job do you do for the Hospice?

I work in the Crickhowell shop and have covered all aspects of the work including, sorting, steaming and the till. I currently work on the till. I also help with window dressing and have worked here for 12 years. I thoroughly enjoy working alongside fellow volunteers and also our manager Sonia.

Why did you choose to volunteer at St David's Hospice Care?

I chose to work for St David's because they supported my family when my husband was ill. Our dedicated nurse was Gwen. I initially worked in Panteg hospital, then at St Joseph's helping with administrative tasks. I then moved to the shop in Crickhowell.

What's your background?

I worked in primary education for 37 years. Initially as a class teacher and then for 17 years as a headteacher. Following early retirement I worked in Cambodia on a UNICEF education project before returning to the UK to start my retirement.

What do you think volunteers bring to the charity?

I think volunteers bring energy and enthusiasm to the charity as well as a host of skills from their previous roles. [We have a wonderful volunteer at Crickhowell who is an expert in window dressing] They all bring a great deal of local knowledge and the ability to interact with our customers.

A Day in the Life of...

Tracey Chadd CNS

I have worked as a Clinical Nurse Specialist for St David's Hospice Care for 16 years.

Following the death of my mother, my passion for the provision of holistic, person centred, palliative care began.

I joined St David's Hospice Care on a training development post within the community sector following 10 years of working as a District Nurse in Bristol. I have had the privilege to work with Primary Care community teams, Clinical Nurse Specialists,

Hospice at Home nurses, Family Support team and Inpatient hospice, and have developed my knowledge and understanding of palliative care through both clinical practice and professional development through attending University courses to achieve an MSc in Palliative Care and Independent Prescribing.

I am very grateful to be supported by the St David's Management Team to develop my knowledge and practical skills and to have subsequently progressed to Team Manager of the Monmouthshire Team working with dedicated team of nurses.

My role involves providing individualised palliative care and support for each of my patients, liaising with their families, carers, colleagues within St David's Hospice Care and members of the Primary and Secondary care teams. I support nursing staff, providing on call cover when required and helping patients and their families throughout their palliative care journey providing psychological support and holistic, individualised symptom management.

My new role as an Independent Prescriber enables me to use my new prescribing skills to ensure patient's symptoms are effectively and efficiently assessed so that correct medication can be safely prescribed and provided for optimum symptom control, in a timely manner.

My role is not without challenges but working with such an inspiring and dedicated team, I am proud of the service, support and care we provide for all of our patients and enabling them to receive specialised care in their preferred place of care.

"Everyone we met from St David's treated us with compassion, dignity and respect and we can't thank them enough. They helped us cope through the most difficult times"

**Family of patient,
November 2025**



A Day in the Life of...

Abigail Hughes Community Fundraiser

I joined St David's Hospice Care just over 3 years ago, in March 2023 and work as the Community Fundraiser.

My role entails predominantly working with our incredible community fundraisers – it still amazes me every day the kindness, dedication and consideration that means we can continue to do the vital work we do.

The time put into organising fundraisers, the creative ideas, and the genuine generosity is so inspiring; we have an amazing community who really are at the heart of the Hospice. We've had wing walks, skydives, 500-mile bike rides, music festivals, quizzes, wedding fundraisers – you name it! We are also very fortunate to have several Support Groups who work tirelessly throughout the year to raise funds and awareness.

With our community supporters, I act as their main point of contact, stewarding and advising throughout their fundraising journey—offering guidance, motivation, resources, and practical support. Some fundraisers have an idea of what they'd like to do but aren't sure where to start, while others have it mostly planned out and simply need resources and encouragement! So, my day can typically start with checking and responding to emails, answering new enquiries and phone calls, and checking in with upcoming fundraisers.

However, every day is different which makes the job exciting! I also get out in the community providing awareness talks, visits and stalls with local groups, schools and events.



Another part of my role is also attending the community events being held – giving a speech about the charity and being on hand to provide any help.

One of my favourite parts of the job is our cheque presentations. Getting to write the final total on one of our giant cheques, turns months of hard work into something tangible – a moment where they can see exactly what all their effort has achieved.

Fundraisers do so much in their own time, so being able to recognise that commitment, highlight the difference their fundraising will make, and share in the pride they rightly feel is a real privilege. Every fundraiser is a Hospice Hero, and it's wonderful to have the opportunity to celebrate that.

Throughout the year, there's also community campaigns and events, such as The Big Welsh Brew in March and Jolly Jumper Day in December. These involve a lot behind-the-scenes, from putting together campaign packs and resources to planning launches, creating promotional content and more. St David's Hospice Care is such a special place – both in the care our teams provide and in the incredible support we receive from those around us. It's so rewarding to be able to work with our fundraisers, and it really shows how much the Hospice means to so many people.

New Memorial Garden at Blackett Avenue

A memorial garden was proposed to be developed around a sweet chestnut tree within the hospice grounds. A place of solace, accessible for all, for either individual, quiet reflection or supportive group sessions.

The tree, photographed in March 2025, has a preservation order so the proposed garden needed to be gentle on the land and not disturb the tree in any way.

We received generous financial support from The National Lottery (People and Places) and The Moondance Foundation to fully fund the memorial garden and work began in May 2025.



Before



The official opening of the garden was held in June 2026 when the garden was fully completed and looked established and abundant.



Fundraising Heroes

As you may know my dad Tom Curran has stage 4 cancer. He was diagnosed in April 2024.

Since then St David's Hospice have been providing my dad care and a nurse called Jayne has been coming to the house to check on my dad and make sure that he is as comfortable as possible. Jayne is so lovely and kind and we are grateful for all that is done at St David's at the hospice and in the community.

I would love to raise money for this fantastic cause for all that they have done and continue to do for my dad. I have recently taken up running which is something that I am enjoying and have even convinced some of my dad's friends to do with me and I am hoping they will join me on the August 27th 2025 for Cwmbran's Kolor Dash. All are welcome!

Hospice care offers reassurance of round-the-clock expert care, in a friendly, welcoming environment for those who are living through a life limiting illness.

From managing someone's pain, to looking after their emotional, spiritual and social needs, hospice care supports the whole person, helping them to live their life to the full.

Update

Tom peacefully went on his next adventure at 03:45 on 08/08/2025

So proud of his strength, bravery and constant love to Seren, Ffion, Griff and I. Tom loved checking this page and seeing the donations and found comfort knowing how many people thought so highly of our family and for that we are very grateful. St David's provided love

and care to the very end and for that I will be eternally grateful.

Love Jayne, Mel and Paula

Rest in peace now Tom. So special and so loved - ALWAYS.

£15,043

Raised by 508 supporters



One family's journey

Mum was diagnosed with lung cancer on 3rd June and I was absolutely devastated. My Father passed away on 17th April with Parkinson's and dementia. I was hoping to have more time with Mum to do the nicer things in life that she had been unable to do whilst my Father was in hospital and then in a care home.

The diagnosis came as a shock but, my Mum, as always, took things in her stride and felt that it would be a better way to go than my Father. The very first day of my summer holidays we met Anne on 14th July and she immediately made Mum feel comfortable and supported. She sorted Mum's pain medication straight away and telephoned me to

let me know when the prescriptions would be ready. Anne brought Molly to meet us both – and for one so young, Mum thought Molly was amazing with both care and compassion in 'spades' as she would have said. We saw Mr Shaw the Oncologist who thought Mum could have had a year, but it was not to be, a mere 3 short weeks and Mum passed away at home.

I am entirely convinced it was the care, compassion and all-around support that Mum received at home that gave her the confidence to stay at home to the very end – and she had said about going into the Hospice. For Mum's sake, this was probably the best way that it could have happened as she was probably only in the hospital bed about 30 hours at most and had a view of her beloved village centre.

I cannot and never will be able to thank Molly, Anne – Katie (who sat

with Mum on Tuesday evening), Leanne and Sandra – They were all superb!

It is now my mission to support you as a charity in any way that I can, thank you.

Claire Thomas



You Said, We Did!

Changes implemented through 2025/26 that patients have asked for in the In-Patient Unit:

More food choice

We have a new catering company on board so we can offer patients a more extensive menu with lots more choice (for breakfast, lunch, and tea) and more availability of alternative foods

More seating for visitors

More seating has been provided for the comfort of visitors. We also sought grant funding to refresh some aspects of the bedrooms.

Room sensors

Sensors have now been fitted to a further 5 bedrooms which means all the bedrooms now have active rooms sensors. This action was undertaken following feedback from staff

Activities for patients

Amongst other activities ... Pet therapy is a regular feature at the hospice. Finn the therapy dog is a very well-behaved chocolate lab who is a frequent visitor to the In-Patient Hospice and Day Hospice (along with owner Steve). We also have a few visits every year from Peanuts the pony and a few other furry friends.

More outdoor spaces

Our gardener designed a beautiful memorial garden which offered both private and communal spaces to sit, reflect and remember loved ones – We secured grant funding to cover all of the costs of the garden.

Cwtch bed

Our nurses fundraised for a Cwtch bed to enhance the experience for patients and their loved ones whilst in the in-patient hospice. A Cwtch bed is a large care bed designed to allow family members to comfortably lie with or hold a patient, enabling close physical contact. The bed has been so well received by patients and their families, a second bed has been purchased.

In-Patient Brochure

We re-designed our in-patient brochure so it contains all the information that patients have told us would be helpful to know such as what facilities and amenities are in each bedroom, what to bring, visiting, pets, the care they can expect and food choices.

Foot care

Patients told us they would like to be offered foot care – We brought in a podiatrist to train our staff so foot care could be offered to patients when required.

Running for St David's Hospice Care



Total Raised
£21,756

The London Marathon:

We had 4 charity places for the London Marathon and were fortunate enough to have 4 runners use their own ballot places to raise funds in support of us. All of the London Marathon Gold Bond places exceeded their fundraising targets of £1,500, and all runners together raised an amazing £21,756 (including Gift Aid).



Total Raised
£15,047

The City of Newport Half Marathon:

We had 68 runners taking part and raising funds in support of St David's Hospice Care. Sponsorship raised for St David's Hospice Care from the Newport Half Marathon 2026 came to £15,047.

Night Shift Appeal

The Night Shift Appeal over Winter raised £35,116.90 before Gift Aid.



40

75

Sign up
online
today!

Our Lottery

We continue to promote and recruit new members for our lottery. We experienced a drop in players from the same time last year from 5119 to 5050. Despite new players signing up the cancellations still outweigh them.

However, seasonal raffles still perform well with Christmas generally being the most successful.

6

8

33

24



Community Fundraising



1. Holiday Inn, Newport 2025 & 2026

Throughout 2025, the team at Holiday Inn – The Coldra, Newport organised a series of fantastic fundraising events, including cake sales, a sponsored 10k walk and a sold-out fundraising dinner featuring live music, a two-course meal and raffle. Together, raising more than £8,000. The team's support continues into 2026, with an exciting calendar of fundraising events to build on this outstanding total.

2. Netball Tournament Fundraiser – April 2025

Long-standing supporter Emily has been raising funds for St David's Hospice Care for many years through a variety of fundraisers, contributing more than £10,000. April 2025, saw the return of Emily's annual Netball Tournament, which continues to grow in popularity each year. Over 25 teams came together for a day of competitive sport and community spirit, raising over £900 through entries and sponsorship.

3. Mount Snowdon Climb November 2025

On 7 November 2025, Simon and Matt took on the challenge of climbing Mount Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) for the first time to raise funds for St David's Hospice Care. Despite limited training, they set off at 5:30am, ascending to the summit, 1,085 metres (3,560 feet) above sea level and successfully completed the challenge in just over 5 hours raising an impressive £2,300.

4. Support Group Fundraising – 2025 & 2026

Throughout the year, our dedicated Support Groups organised a variety of events that raise vital funds, awareness and bring our communities together. Some highlights included the return of Caerleon Support Group's Magic Garden in September 2025, transforming Caerleon Memorial Garden with enchanting displays and crafts. In October, Caerphilly Support Group welcomed supporters to their BTM Brass Band Night at St Martin's Church. Sunflower Support Group hosted a festive Christmas Fayre featuring stalls and a visit from Santa. In March 2026, Bluebelle Support Group held a

sold-out Easter Quiz Night and raffle, while Cwmbran Support Group hosted a Big Welsh Brew complete with an impressive selection of homemade cakes.

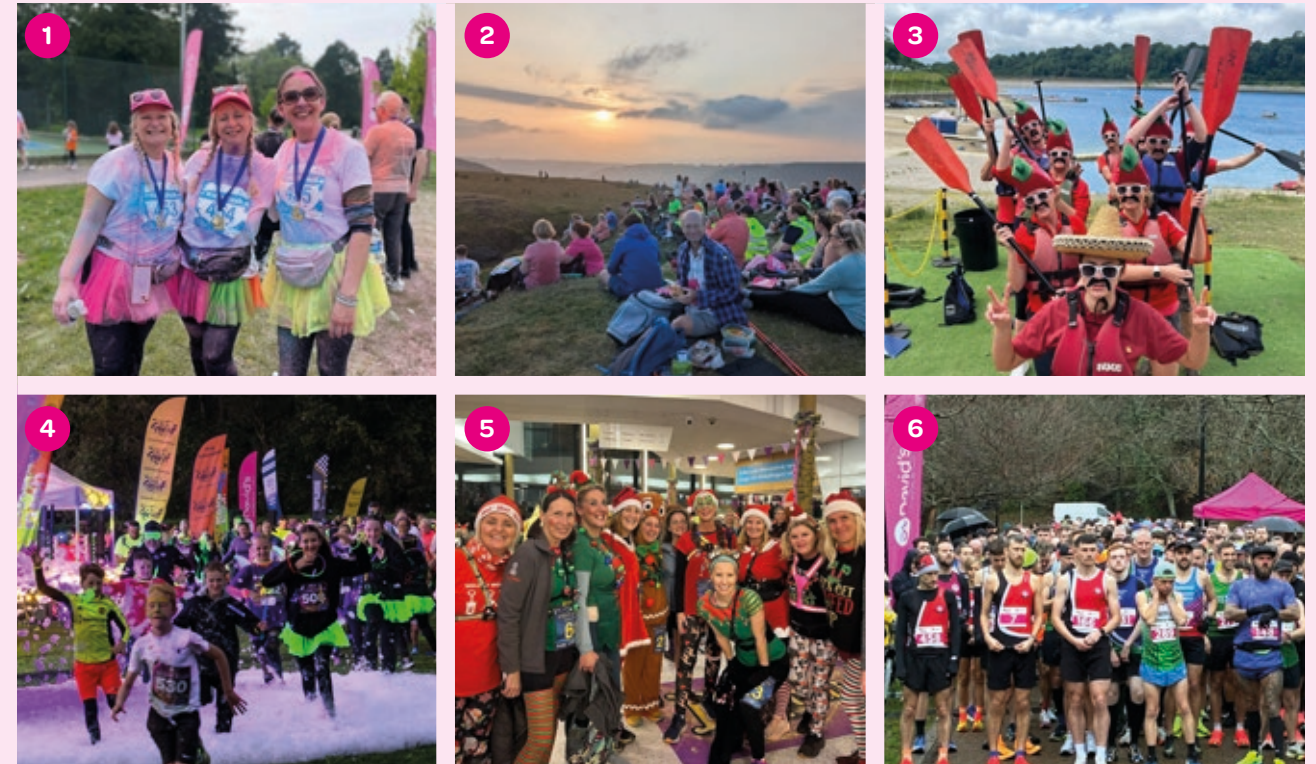
5. Stationary Bike Ride January 2026

Supporter Ian began 2026 with an extraordinary personal challenge, completing an eight-hour stationary bike ride. After months of dedicated training and preparation, Ian cycled an impressive 101.9 miles in a single day, raising £1,674 for St David's Hospice Care. Ian's determination and commitment helped make the fundraiser a great success!

6. Monmouth MOT Fundraising – March 2026

In March 2026, Monmouth MOT Centre hosted a hugely successful Family Fun Day in aid of St David's Hospice Care. Held at the centre, the event featured a full-day spinathon, live entertainment, a prize-filled raffle, delicious food and so much more. Thanks to the generosity of everyone involved, the event raised an outstanding £18,607 to support the Hospice.

Our Fundraising Events



1. Kolor Dash Newport April 2025

Our first Kolor Dash event of the year took place on 26th April 2025, the event was once again sponsored by National Grid. 2025 saw record breaking numbers with over 1200 people taking part. The warm up was provided by Cara Gates from Bannatyne Health Club. The event was once again a huge success.

2. Summer solstice Charity Walk June 2025

One of the oldest festivals in the UK, the Summer Solstice is celebrated on the longest day to mark the end of Spring and the beginning of Summer. This was the first time we have ever held a summer solstice walk, and it was a truly spectacular evening, the weather was warm and the sunset was magical. Over 250 people took part in the event, music was provided in way of bagpipes at the summit by The Welsh Wedding Bagpiper – Matthew Bartlett.

3. The Return of The Dragon Boat Race June 2025

2025 saw the return of the Dragon Boat Race, starting off with 12 teams. The Hospice team, including Fundraising, CNSs and volunteers came together and won most sponsorship raised on the day (we did however, also win the wooden spoon).

4. Glow Dash Newport October 2025

2025 saw our first event Glow Dash, a spin on our Kolor Dash, focusing more on lights rather than paint. Interestingly, the event brought in a completely different group of people. Seeing over 500 people take part in our inaugural event was pleasing.

5. Festive 5 – Sparkle in the City December 2025

The start of Christmas in our eyes every year, truly the most cheerful and fun filled evening. Lots of smiling participants coming along to support

the charity, while keeping fit. Once again over 500 participants, which was fantastic. We had a new start point, which worked much better with more room which then in turn created more atmosphere.

6. Pontypool 10k Home Run February 2026

Even the cold and damp conditions of the 2026 Pontypool 10k Home run, did not dampen the spirits of the runners taking part. The event started off with the main event of 10k with over 500 participants taking part, slowly followed by the 2k family run. Lots of determined runners took part in the 10k, many of them using this as a training run for the half marathon, taking place 2 weeks later

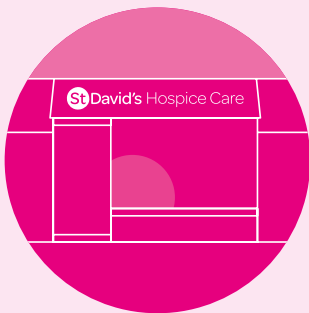
A big thank you to everyone who takes part in all the fundraising events to help raise vital funding for the Hospice. We could not do what we do without the support of our event participants, the sponsors and the volunteers and staff, thank you.

How We are Funded

All our care is provided **free of charge**. However it costs over **£16,000** every single day to provide that care.

The Hospice receives funding from the NHS and The Welsh Government to support our work. The Hospice augments this public funding with donations from the general public, legacies and grants from trusts.

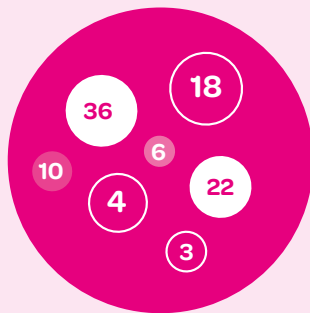
In addition the Hospice operates three core fundraising activities:



Running a network of charity shops



Organising fundraising events



Operating a lottery

How Funds Can be Spent



Will provide a patient with a relaxing complementary therapy session.



Can provide a bereaved relative with much needed support from our Bereavement Team.



Pays for a Clinical Nurse Specialist to visit a patient and their family twice a week to help stabilise their symptoms.



Funds a patient's visit to our Day Hospice providing a friendly and comfortable place to meet and gain support from others.



Provides one night of Hospice at Home care allowing relatives to have a peaceful night's sleep.



Pays for one night's care in our In-Patient Hospice when patients need it most.



Pays for a syringe driver to help manage symptoms in a comfortable way.

Clinical Statistics



On average, **82%** of patients died in their preferred place (2024/25 **83%**)



On average, **85%** of patients were cared for in their preferred place (2024/25 **85%**)



Out of Hours – **2,399** calls were made out of hours (2024/25 **1,516**)

Education

End of Life Training Courses are held in June and October each year. The training is offered to healthcare professionals working within the local health authority and residential care homes. Subject matter includes:

- Future Care Planning
- Subcutaneous End of Life Drugs Used in Palliative Care
- Communications skills
- Recognising the signs and symptoms of the dying patient
- Social work and pre-bereavement supporting Palliative Care
- Bereavement Support
- Communication and support for a child/young adult facing a significant death
- Anxiety, breathlessness and fatigue management
- Complementary therapies at the End of Life

In 2025, 39 Registered Nurses and 38 Healthcare Support Workers signed up to attend the training held by St David's Hospice Care.

Some feedback from the training:

- Excellent topics covered with lots of useful information to use in the future
- The training helped me think about how to handle patients who are at the end of life and how to assist the family
- I feel these sessions have given me a lot of information to think about and will help me to feel more confident in practice
- Good balance of practical and theory. Excellent!

Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS)

3,773 patients helped this year (2024/25 **3,736**)

2,200 new referrals (2024/25 **2,234**)

14,883 patient visits (2024/25 **13,966**)

Hospice at Home Service

36,385 hours of Hospice at Home care (2024/25 **39,512**)

Family Support Team

875 Bereavement Team sessions (2024/25 **649**)

386 families referred to Unicorn, the children's bereavement service (2024/25 **375**)

In Patient Unit

325 Admissions (2024/25 **302**)

12 Days/nights average length of stay (2024/25 **10** days/nights)

65.6% Average bed occupancy (2024/25 **69%**)

Student Placements

11 Nursing Students (placements ranging from 1 day up to 3 months)

8 Paramedic Students (1-week placements)

Annual Review Finance

This Annual Review which includes summarised financial statements comprises extracts from the Trustees’ Report, a Statement of Financial Activities and a Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2026 but it is not the full statutory financial statements. This Annual Review has not been externally scrutinised and may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Hospice.

The full financial statements from which the summarised financial statements were derived were approved by the Trustees on 30 July 2026 and were subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission.

Our auditor has issued an unmodified report on the full financial statements and on the consistency of the Trustees’ Report with those financial statements.

Copies of the full financial statements, including the Trustees’ Report and the Auditor’s Report, may be obtained from the Hospice’s website or the Charity Commission’s website.

Statement of Financial Activities 2025/26

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £000	Restricted funds 2026 £000	Total funds 2026 £000	Unrestricted funds 2025 £000	Restricted funds 2025 £000	Total funds 2025 £000
Income						
Donations and legacies	1,913	170	2,083	1,341	67	1,408
Charitable activities	3,184	572	3,756	2,764	731	3,495
Other trading activities	4,053	80	4,133	4,105	58	4,163
Investments	195	-	195	212	-	212
Other	17	-	17	1	-	1
Total income	9,362	822	10,184	8,423	856	9,279
Expenditure						
Raising funds	3,770	79	3,849	3,626	58	3,684
Charitable activities	5,260	683	5,943	4,869	774	5,643
Total expenditure	9,030	762	9,792	8,495	832	9,327
Net income before gains / (losses) on investments	332	60	392	(72)	24	(48)
Net gains / (losses) on investments	274	-	274	(30)	-	(30)
Net income / (expenditure)	606	60	666	(102)	24	(78)
Transfers between funds	74	(74)	-	2	(2)	-
Net movement in funds	680	(14)	666	(100)	22	(78)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	16,666	71	16,737	16,766	49	16,815
Total funds carried forward	17,346	57	17,403	16,666	71	16,737

“It is a very vulnerable time for both patient and family. You are putting someone you love in the trust of a stranger overnight. The nurses we had were calm, caring, professional and supportive from the start ”

Daughter of a patient, July 2025

Balance Sheet 2025/26

	Group 2026 £000	Group 2025 £000	Charity 2026 £000	Charity 2025 £000
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	8,401	8,280	8,537	8,417
Investments	4,982	2,823	4,982	2,823
	13,383	11,103	13,519	11,240
Current assets				
Stock and work in progress	163	222	-	-
Debtors	1,399	1,714	1,552	1,931
Cash at bank and in hand	3,239	4,293	3,239	4,283
	4,801	6,229	4,791	6,214
Liabilities				
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	732	595	722	580
Net current assets	4,069	5,634	4,069	5,634
Total assets less current liabilities	17,452	16,737	17,588	16,874
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	49	-	49	-
Total net assets:	17,403	16,737	17,539	16,874
The funds of the charity				
Restricted income funds	57	71	57	71
Unrestricted income funds	17,346	16,666	17,482	16,803
Total charity funds	17,403	16,737	17,539	16,874



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Bringing care home

