

Newsletter

The Countess of Brecknock Hospice

Providing Palliative Care Throughout the Andover Area

Spring 2011

Twining's staff spend a day at the Hospice

12 Employees from Twinings recently spent a day volunteering at the Hospice. One group spent time with Hospice gardening volunteers Jim Edevane and Jim Hanson clearing the front flower beds and doing some re-planting before going on to weed and tidy up the patio area. The second group spent their time washing down the in-patient balcony, re-planting the flower tubs and generally making the area nicer for patients and visitors. The organisers Chantal Dawson and Mo Macdonald from HR, together with 10 employees from the Saleroom Team in Commodities, felt that as a local company they wanted to support a local charity.



Later on in the afternoon Jeremy Sturges, a Senior Buyer/Blender, together with Pauline Gregory, Caroline Hall and Linda Cooper, who are Saleroom Tea Assistants, gave a tea tasting demonstration to the Day Care patients, staff and volunteers which everyone found extremely interesting.

As an added bonus Twinings made a donation of **£250** towards our funds and left a nice assortment of teas.



Tesco Extra's re-launch supports the Hospice

The Tesco Extra, on River Way, has recently undergone extensive extension work and to celebrate the re-launch of the supermarket Store Manager, Richard Bayliffe, and his team made a **£1,000** donation to The Countess of Brecknock Hospice.

Sarah Redhead, the Hospice Trust Director, was the guest of honour on Monday 21st February and declared the store open for business after cutting a ribbon along side Richard.

Richard said: "My team and I were delighted that Sarah was able to attend our re-launch ceremony. The Countess of Brecknock Hospice is a popular and well thought of local charity close to the hearts of many members of my team, which is why we chose to make the donation. We have always felt that it is important to be involved with the local community and support projects and charities where we can. For us the re-launch donation was an ideal opportunity to do just that.

After receiving the donation, Sarah said: "It is a pleasure to be chosen by Tesco and I would like to thank Richard and the team for thinking of us. The re-launch ceremony was great fun and a good opportunity for me to meet the team. We will use the money towards two new Glideaway Guest Beds, which means that in-patients' relatives can stay overnight."



60 Diamond Years



Ernest and Betty Waters recently celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary with a luncheon party at Esseborne Manor. Many family and friends joined them for this special occasion including Ernest's best man and long time friend David Long, his sister Ruth and Betty's brother George and sister Elsie, all their seniors, making the afternoon very memorable to them both.

Ernest and Betty met when they were both members of the Andover Motorcycle Club, romance blossomed and in 1951 they married at St Michael's and All Angels Church in Knights Enham. They spent most of their married life on their farm at East Anton, where Ernest had a dairy herd and farmed arable crops whilst Betty made jam, cream, bread and cakes as well as keeping the house in order and bringing up their family, Jean, Eunice and Becky (a volunteer at the hospice). They now live a quieter life at Weyhill.

The couple put the longevity of their marriage down to a strong faith in God and still worship at the family church of Christ Church Smannell, where they both served for many years as Church Warden, Sacristan, Fund-raiser and Sidesman. Betty was also a volunteer for both St John Ambulance and Hampshire Association for the Care of

the Blind and set up the Andover Talking Newspaper – she is still reading for them today.

Their children and grandchildren are very proud of their accomplishment and wish them good health and happiness for the future. Ernest and Betty chose not to receive presents but instead asked for donations to three of their favourite charities, one of which was our Hospice who received **£200**.

Their anniversary cake was made and generously given by Kate Lawton, Landlady of the Royal Oak Goodworth Clatford.

A big highlight for Ernest and Betty was receiving a message of congratulations from HRH Queen Elizabeth, a card to be framed and treasured.

Marmalade Festival



Although held in Cumbria, with the main beneficiary being their Hospice at Home Service, this unusual competition is open to anyone in the UK. As Katie Dixon has contacts in Cumbria she thought it would be a good idea to enter some marmalade from our area into the competition with the £5 per entry coming to the Countess of Brecknock Hospice.

The marmalade had a long and eventful journey up to Cumbria. Firstly, the 39 jars were delivered by Katie, who lives in St Mary Bourne, to Forton (just off the A303), where they were picked up and taken to London. The jars spent the night in London before continuing their journey to Cumbria ready for judging on Sunday 13th February. Some very splendid and delicious looking marmalade made the epic trip but sadly the winning marmalade was not one of our entries. Katie hopes to repeat this exercise next year on a larger scale and entry details will be available at the beginning of January 2012.

There were many different categories for the competition and entries from Andover included Thin Cut Seville Oranges, Dark and Chunky, Any Citrus, Peers and Political, Man Made and Inventive.





Joan receives volunteer's award

In February, at the TVBC Offices in Romsey, Councillor Chris Lynn, The Mayor of Test Valley, presented Joan Beal with The Worshipful the Mayor of Test Valley's Special Certificate in recognition of her outstanding voluntary work and dedication.

Joan's voluntary service spans over four decades and has covered the following:

- Care Assistant at The County Hospital, Winchester, for 40 years
- Driver Co-ordinator at The Countess of Brecknock Hospice, Andover, for 20 years
- Governor of Portway Junior School, Andover for 20 years
- We congratulate Joan on her well deserved award

Staff profile – Tanya Penny

Tanya first came to the Hospice as a Reception Volunteer once her youngest son started school as her father had sadly died here in September 2001. After returning to work Tanya continued to volunteer in the Appeals Office during the busy Christmas periods and became a permanent member of staff in September 2010. She works closely with Sarah in the Appeals Office and on major fund raising events. Tanya is married to Mark and they have three children who, like Tanya, are all very sporty, especially their youngest son Ryan who is a budding footballer currently playing for Aldershot Town Under 11.



Day care birthday party



As three day care patients were celebrating their birthdays within a week, with one lady reaching the magnificent age of 90, we thought it was a good excuse for a party.



Following an extra special lunch prepared by the day care staff and volunteers, a splendid birthday cake was presented to the birthday trio.



Irish Band 'Sheeben' came along to entertain the patients and their lively music even tempted one of the patients to 'take to the floor' with our Day Care Leader Susan Turner.



Vera Hughes – Finding Florence

On the 5 November, 2010 at Penton Village Hall some 40 guests enjoyed a superb lunch prepared and served by a hard working and enthusiastic team of hospice volunteers. Lunch was followed by an extremely entertaining and interesting talk given by Vera Hughes of Chester House

Productions entitled "Finding Florence". A fascinating insight of how their stage version of "Florence - The Story of Florence Nightingale" was created from an idea to the finished product.

This very enjoyable event raised **£561**.



Fundraising in Andover



Andover College

The AS High Achiever's tutor group at Andover College Sixth Form, consisting of around 20 students aged 16-18, put on a Christmas Fair on Friday 17th December to raise money for Mind in Andover and the Countess of Brecknock Hospice.

The tutor group had been planning this Fair for two months in their tutorial sessions. Each student was allocated to one of three teams; creative (in charge of producing goods to sell), marketing (responsible for advertising and liaising with the charities) and production (the ones handling the financial side of things as well as planning the layout of the stalls and the overall execution of the Fair on the day). Stuart Barlow,

the Assistant Principal, was particularly impressed with the organisation of the students and the great efforts they had made. Each team excelled themselves both in their preparations and on the day.

The Fair was well attended by students, staff and the general public. Local MP Sir George Young took time to chat to the stallholders as well as trying his luck on the stalls. Final totals have yet to

be announced, but each Charity looks to receive over £30 – a great effort considering that this is the first year the Christmas Fair has been run. The High Achiever's tutor, Harriet Hummerstone, said "I am so proud of each of my tutees. They have been outstanding in every respect. I hope that this can become an annual event, as supporting local charities is so important."



Andover Garden Centre

The annual Christmas Raffle held in conjunction with the Andover Garden Centre once again proved to be popular. Although we did not sell quite as many tickets as last year the raffle still raised the fantastic sum of **£3,652**. This success is due to an excellent combination of the generosity of the

Andover Garden Centre in supplying all the prizes; the support and help of the manager, Gary Cooper, and his enthusiastic staff; volunteer Errol Flowers and his magnificent team of ticket sellers; and last and by no means least, the Garden Centre customers who bought the majority of the tickets.

The tickets filled a huge Christmas sack, with the first ticket being picked by the Garden Centre's Finance Director who happened to arrive at the store just as the draw was taking place. Further tickets were drawn by Father Christmas, Garden Centre staff and customers.





Londis

Shereen Marlow was happy to organise a Christmas raffle at her place of work, Musgrave Retail Partners, Londis Supply. General Manager, Ian Wood, donated three main prizes, a Christmas Hamper, a Case of Wine and a Case of Beer. All the staff enthusiastically took part in the raffle which raised **£200**. Shereen said that they wanted to support a local charity and as cancer was particularly on their minds at the moment the Hospice was an obvious choice.



Simplyhealth

The Customer and Client Reconciliation Department presented **£2,010** to Sarah McGaughey and Sarah Redhead when they visited Hambleton House. This money was raised specifically for the Hospice as one of their team, Helen Tyrrell, is currently undergoing cancer treatment.

This was a phenomenal achievement and the funds are being used for day procedures now being carried out at the Hospice.



Headquarters Land Forces

Headquarters Land Forces (HQ LF) has held a Christmas Hamper Raffle for many years, nominating a local charity to receive money raised from the raffle. Each branch/department within HQ LF is requested to donate hampers and this year there were in excess of 60 hampers. 6288 raffle tickets were sold raising an all time record of **£1,572.20**.

Frances Braid-Smith, the Travel Centre Manager, was the force behind this year's drive to raise money and thought it apt to nominate an Andover charity as the HQ had recently relocated to the area. Frances was ably assisted by Tracy Baldwin who helped co-ordinate the whole occasion and Derek Andrews who produced posters to promote the event and print thousands of tickets.

The raffle was drawn by Major General Mark Poffley.



Newbury Building Society

Charlotte Barham, representing the staff at the Andover branch of the Newbury Building Society, handed the Hospice a cheque for **£450** after a year of fund raising events and competitions which included an Easter raffle, a guess the name of the scary cat competition for Halloween and a Christmas white hamper raffle.

Office Manager, Sandra Smith, said: "We have thoroughly enjoyed raising money for the hospice and are immensely proud of the amount we have managed to raise thanks to the overwhelming support from our customers"



Anton Arms

Loyal customers and staff from the Anton Arms in Salisbury Road raised a further **£3,000** for the Hospice. Landlady Clare Meadowcroft was delighted to receive an updated Certificate of Thanks which showed the total raised by this popular local hostelry now stands at a staggering **£34,538**.



Christmas Cake

Ann Powell, an expert cake maker and decorator, has for the past couple of years kindly donated one of her splendid Christmas Cakes to the Hospice. Ann's artistic design was much admired and we had no problem in selling raffle tickets for her lovely cake.



Fundraising in Andover

Wedding Fayre

Tip Top Balloons and The Quality Hotel joined forces to stage a Wedding Fayre at The Lights at the end of January. In total 99 'brides' visited the fayre to spend time looking round the many stalls exhibiting on the day. As an added extra there was a fashion show not only featuring beautiful dresses for brides and bridesmaids but also formal wear for bridegrooms, ushers and pageboys. All the models were volunteers and looked stunning with their professional make-up and hair styles. Two charities were chosen to benefit from this event, The Hospice and Scotty's Little Soldiers and both charities had a stall in the foyer.



Over **£50** was raised for each charity on the day and a couple of weeks later Dave and Chrissy Stanbridge from Tip Top Balloons and Mark Lazenby from The Quality Hotel presented **£300** to both charities.



Fundraising in the Villages



The Wherwell Proms – What a fantastic event!

The people of Wherwell certainly know how to enjoy an event, and our very own Last Night of the Proms was no exception. What's more, we ended up raising over two thousand pounds for local charities, including the Countess of Brecknock Hospice.

How did it all begin? The previous year when I was visiting a friend in London we went to the 'Proms in the Park' and we were absolutely blown over. As we were leaving I suggested to my friend, Liz "Hey, we could do this in



Wherwell – have a great time as well as raising money for some local good causes". Having her feet more firmly on the ground, Liz's response was a resounding: "Come off it, it will never happen." And from that moment it became a personal challenge. A group of us decided to have a go...

... and the Wherwell Proms was a huge success – due in no small part to the many people who helped with the hard slog of organizing an outside, multi-media event. So many people have asked me to pass on their thanks and their hopes that we will be organizing a similar extravaganza next year.



All the photos and comments of thanks can be seen on <http://proms.wherwell.net>, with special thanks to Andrew, Mike and Robert for the pictures.

Once again I'm truly touched with the effort that everyone put in, and especially thrilled with the thanks we received from our patrons! Help the Aged, Studio Productions, and The White Lion at Wherwell.

I think we really made the Wherwell Proms a unique event – look out Hyde Park!

Richard Rowles, Director,

Fundraising in the Villages



Thruyton

The Thruyton Village Association decided to distribute a few surplus copies of their publication "The Thruyton Appraisal" and asked for donations. The donations they received were divided between two extremely worthwhile local causes; one of which was our hospice. We were pleased to receive **£50**.



St Mary Bourne

Customers at The Coronation Arms raised **£273** by selling paperback and hardback books. Landlady Sue Berry said "My customers have been very generous in donating all their used books and then re-buying different copies. We also have a collection jar on the bar and customers have been putting in their loose change."

Upper Clatford

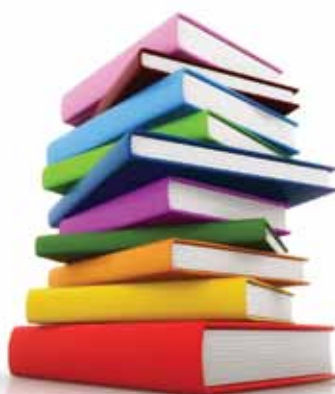
Members of the Crook and Shears Skittles League and friends raised the sum of **£1,100** in memory of Barry Talmage. Barry had, over previous years, raised funds himself for the Hospice.

Carol Talmage and Dave Went (Skittles League Chairman) presented a cheque to Sarah Redhead

Clanville

Peter Hall organised, with the help of family and friends, the twenty-seventh Yetties concert in the Clanville Village Hall, raising **£584**. Sadly this will be the last Clanville concert as the Yetties are retiring in April this year.

Pictured above 3 Yetties and a young fan, Emma Helsdown (aged 13) who is Peter's niece.



Penton

The Penton Players Amateur Dramatic Society donated **£250** from the takings of their recent production of "Penton Muses – A Village Unearthed" The Hospice was chosen as the beneficiary in memory of Trish Conlon who was an active member of the society before she sadly died at the Hospice in May 2010.



Weyhill

The Weyhill Fair quizzers raised **£520** for the Hospice from their regular quiz evenings.



Fundraising in the Villages



Collingbourne – Loyal John Remembered

On Sunday 29th August 2010 Collingbourne Cricket Club held a memorial match for long standing member John Rees who sadly passed away in September 2009

after a long battle against cancer. In his memory many of John's friends and fellow players gathered together at the recreation ground to join Michelle, John's wife, her 2 daughters and John's daughter for an afternoon of cricket fun and competitions. The club were delighted to receive from Michelle a magnificent bench dedicated to John, which is to be installed next to the score box. Michelle also brought John's old bat which every player, member and official signed.

The game itself was an exciting and close one with Tom Edmonds and Ben Nichols top scoring for their respective teams. In the end it was Tim Nichols, one of John's best friends who emerged the victorious captain, aptly scoring the winning runs from the last ball of the game. Post match fun continued afterwards in the Blue Lion where John's cricket bat was presented to Michelle. Funds raised from the match and various activities amounted to **£550** which were donated to John and Michelle's requested charities, Cancer Research UK and the Countess of Brecknock.

St Mary Bourne

The 2010 St Mary Bourne Horticultural Society Show was a very happy and successful event and the committee once again chose to donate **£100** from the proceeds to the Hospice.

Abbotts Ann

Trustee Jane Benson kindly hosted two events at her home in Abbotts Ann; a Bridge Party in September which raised **£400** and a Musical Evening in January which raised **£606.50**. The Hospice was not the only beneficiary of these events as Mrs Benson's local Church, St Mary's, received equal donations.

Picket Piece

Kate Mills raised over **£1,000** from the regular coffee mornings she held during 2010. Kate's events are always well supported by her neighbours, family and friends. Kate did wonder whether she would reach her target last year but in her words "the good Lord provided."

Penton

In less than a year The White Hart has raised over **£712** in its Hospice Collection Box. This sum was recently increased by **£120** when the customers donated towards a special



present for 'regular' Stephen Millen. Stephen had long admired a painting of The White Hart hanging in the pub and after a search the provenance of the painting could not be traced. As no-one had an 'official' claim to the painting it was decided that it could be given to Stephen for his birthday with donations to the Hospice. Stephen was extremely pleased with his gift which now proudly hangs in his Penton Mewsey home.

Fundraising in the Villages



Abbots Ann

In October 2009 after one of their members showed an arpillera (a hand-sewn three dimensional textile picture) she had bought in Peru, Abbots Ann WI embarked on a craft project to depict village life in Abbots Ann. They decided to focus on

the move from the old school building to the new one and donate the wall hanging to Abbots Ann Church of England Primary School when finished.

Images were made of the children in school uniform, processing to the new school holding banners displaying their class logos. Many features of Abbots Ann can be seen including Pillhill Brook, thatched cottages, helicopters flying overhead and the Village Fete is represented along with the WI Tea Tent. By June 2010 the project was complete and in July presented to the School in time for the official opening. It now proudly hangs in the Reception Area.

Many members gave their time and one of these was Sheila Lockhart who sadly lost her battle with cancer shortly before the presentation. In her memory the WI chose to raise money for the Countess of Brecknock Hospice and had notelets printed of the wall hanging. These proved extremely popular and to date 2,000 cards have been sold.

Also Sheila's husband asked if the WI could help in selling some of her beautiful clothes and of course they agreed. The cards and clothes so far have raised **£1,210** for the Hospice and money is still coming in.

Stoke

This Vodka Bottle, held by Senior Staff Nurse Liz Ashurst, may be empty now but not long ago it contained **£241.10** in change. This sum was collected by the White Hart customers bringing the total raised by these exceptionally generous folk to **£8,155.40**.

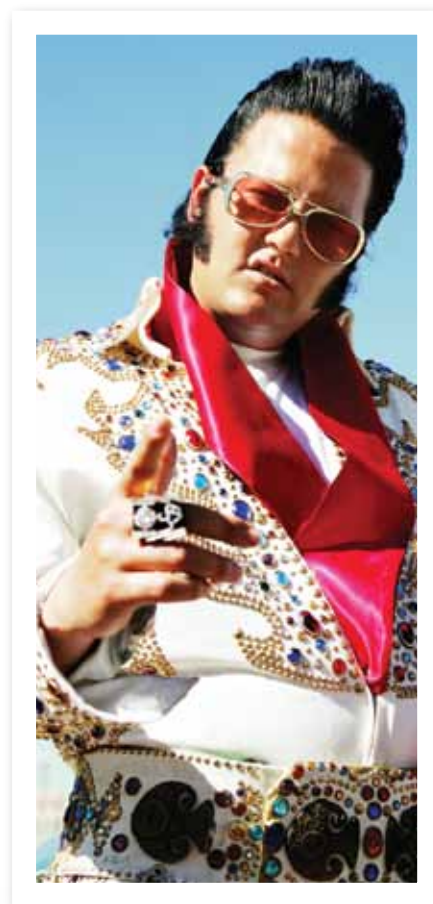


Palestine

Palestine residents Sheila and Greg Smith are no strangers to organising successful events and the Dinner Dance with an Elvis Cabaret held in January was no exception with the profits raised going to our Hospice and Cancer Research UK.

Sheila writes, "The amount raised by our very loyal supporters has exceeded our wildest dreams and has amounted to **£1,285**. We are thrilled to send your charity a cheque for **£645**.

The charities we chose this year are in the forefront of our minds and it seems that cancer is causing so much distress to so many people. We hope that our small contribution will help to make your patients more comfortable."



Taking to the roads



Cycling for Tony and Joan

Jonathan Coombe with the support of his family and friends is cycling from Carlisle to Land's End between 28 May and 5 June 2011 in memory of his parents-in-law, Tony and Joan Marchment, who were both cared

for at The Countess of Brecknock Hospice. Tony and Joan, who lived for many years at Foxcotte Farm in Charlton, were well known within the local community and Joan was a volunteer here at the Hospice for 14 years where she helped in the

day centre, drove patients and was a keen member of the fund raising team. Joan's happy disposition and cheery smile were always a great tonic to patients, staff and her fellow volunteers. We all miss her very much.

Pedal on

Chris Hennen and Clive Bryant are cycling 35.2 miles from Tesco Extra, Andover to the Town Quay, Southampton on Sunday 4 September in memory of Carol Marney, Chris' wife's aunty.

John O'Groats to Land's End

As you can see, these five keen cyclists are preparing to jump on their bikes to raise funds for three worthy charities, one of which is our Hospice.

Newsletter readers might remember Neil Horner from two years ago when he cycled from London to Paris in memory of his Mother-in-Law. Neil is training hard for this somewhat more challenging ride and can often be found at the unearthly hour of 7.00am pedalling for all his worth at Tracie's Spinning Classes at the Andover Leisure Centre.






Paris Marathon

Mark Hyde started running in 2009 and having missed a ballot place for the 2011 London Marathon decided to enter the Paris marathon. Mark is funding the journey and accommodation himself, so every penny he raises goes to the hospice. Mark wrote "Your staff at the Hospice cared for my step-father, Jack Welsman, through his last months. Due to his deteriorating health you were also able to provide facilities for my mother Colleen and Jack to get married at the Hospice. Although he passed away in 1998 I am eternally grateful for the care and hospitality provided by yourselves."

Reading Half Marathon

In 2008 James Tipple ran the Reading Half Marathon for our charity and on Sunday 20 March James is once again taking part in this race. All the sponsorship James raises is coming to the Hospice.

Walking for Joan and Shirley

On Friday 2 April Tori Grigg and Kerry Kew are walking from Andover to Winchester in memory of two very special ladies who both spent their last days at the Hospice. Tori's Nan, Joan Grigg, who died in January and a close family friend of Kerry's, Shirley People.

Tori and Kerry work for Lloyds TSB, Charlton Place and mentioned that the Charity Champions at Lloyds TSB are supporting them with this event. They also hope that they will be able to encourage others to join them on their walk. Tori and Kerry are pictured with some cakes that they baked and took into work, also to raise money for the Hospice. Tori and Kerry were delighted that their cakes won a prize!



2010 Runners

We are very grateful to the following who ran for the Hospice in 2010:

Sarah Cavill who ran the Reading Half Marathon and raised **£250**.

Kevin Cleaver who raised **£440** by running in the Great South Run.

Close friends Julie Hanna and Samantha Petch also took part in Great South Run and together raised **£783**, which was boosted by an extra **£154** from gift aid.



From Rags to Riches



We are delighted to report that our Bag2The Future collections raised **£1,000** over the past 12 months, thanks mainly to the efforts of Glad Tulk who organised the collections for the Hospice. Glad has now moved on from fund raising for our charity,

however we are continuing with the bag collections with our next collection dates scheduled for early May and October this year. If you have unwanted good quality second hand ladies', gent's or children's clothing, as well as bedding, curtains, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags, which you would like to donate to this recycling scheme for the benefit of our charity please bring your bags into the Hospice or give The Appeals Office a call on 01264 359789 and we will be happy to arrange collection. Bag2The Future, a nationally run and internationally diverse Textile Recycling Company, is a free fund raising scheme established in 2001 who work in

partnership with schools and charities to enable them to raise funds from unwanted textiles. The Company has a strong ethical policy and through their Bag2School scheme have paid over £7 million to schools throughout the UK. They also sponsor charities and organisations across the country which support and benefit the local community.

We also still require 'good as new' clothing, books and nice quality bric-a-brac to sell in our small Hospice Shop and would be pleased to accept items brought into the Hospice Reception.

Quick Thank You Round-Up

- Members of The Clarendon Civilian Club for not sending Christmas Cards – **£50**
- Tetricus for holding a Summer Raffle – **£145**
- Anton Lodge for holding a draw – **£328**
- Testway Housing instead of sending Christmas Cards – **£220**
- Enham Team Ministry a collection from one of their Carol Services – **£78.28**
- Ladies attending Fitness League classes held a Christmas raffle – **£60**
- A Christmas Grant from Longparish PCC – **£100**
- Lloyds TSB Sorting Office Keens House signed one Christmas card instead of giving individual cards – **£30**

Message from the editor

I am so grateful that in these difficult times the fund raising for our Hospice never ends and I am only sorry that I cannot personally mention every single fund raiser in the Newsletter. But no matter how small or how large your donation is, it really is appreciated and really does help to 'make a difference'.

The Editor

In a bid to save paper and costs our Hospice Newsletter is now available to read on our website or we can send it to supporters via e-mail. Supporters who would prefer to receive our twice yearly newsletter and accompanying fund raising leaflets by e-mail should contact the Appeals Office on info@countessofbrecknock.co.uk stating that this is their preferred method of receiving information.

No Present Birthdays

A party held on the 8th August was a double birthday celebration for Anne Philp and her daughter Paula. It was Anne's 65th and Paula's 40th and their family and friends contributed the splendid sum of **£800** to mark their special birthdays.

Mother and son, Sheila and Paul Mildenhall, arranged a joint get together with a few friends to celebrate their 65th and 45th birthdays respectively. Their no present request resulted in a lovely donation of **£170** to the hospice.



Please contact the Appeals Office if you would rather not receive further copies of our Hospice Newsletter, or details of future fund raising events and we will ensure that your name and address is removed from our mailing list. Also, if there is an error within your mailing details please let us know so that it can be corrected.

Contact us at: The Appeals Office, The Countess of Brecknock Hospice Trust, War Memorial Community Hospital, Charlton Road, Andover, Hampshire SP10 3LB

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