



HospiceCare
NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND
Caring for Life!

Summer
2018

HospiceCare **HAPPENINGS**

HospiceCare North Northumberland - *Here for you*

**Saying 'goodbye'
to our son**
A Mum's story

**The Story of
Hazel Marsden
House, Berwick**

**10 Myth Busting
Funeral Facts**

**Are you a
Carer?**
We can
support you

Read about our Admiral Nurse

Ways YOU can make a difference today

It couldn't be easier!

1. Donate today - help us to continue to deliver our clinical services to local people and their families living with a life-limiting illness. You can either make a one-off donation or become a Regular Donor.

2. Support our fundraising events - register with our monthly email service to ensure you don't miss out on what's happening. Our events are always fun and sometimes exclusive to HospiceCare.

3. Volunteer your time - it's rewarding and you only work hours to suit you.

4. Having a celebration? Why not ask your guests to make a donation to HospiceCare in lieu of gifts.

5. Leave a gift in your Will

6. Hold an event in aid of HospiceCare. This could be a coffee morning in your kitchen at home, or something bigger in your community.

7. Spread the word - tell everyone about us, this is often the most powerful way to promote our services.

Call Julie Frost on **01665 606 515** for more information.

As an independent charity, our income is not supported by national charities such as Macmillan and Marie Curie.

Your donation to **HospiceCare** stays with **HospiceCare**, supporting people in your local community living with a life-limiting illness.

How to contact us...

Telephone us: Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 4.30pm: **01665 606 515** *You can also leave a message on our answer machine outside of these hours and someone will call you back.*

Visit us:

Alnwick Day Centre

Castleside House, 40 Narrowgate, Alnwick NE66 1JQ

Berwick Day Centre

Hazel Marsden House, Violet Terrace, Berwick TD15 1LU

Berwick Charity Shop - Wear&Care - Tel: 01289 332 290

Hazel Marsden House, Violet Terrace, Berwick TD15 1LU

Wooler Charity Shop - Wear&Care - Tel: 01668 281 114

31 High Street, Wooler NE71 6BU

General Email: enquiries@hospicecare-nn.org.uk

Nurses' Email: nursingteam@hospicecare-nn.org.uk

Website: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk



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Index:

- 3 Chairman's Welcome
- 4/5 Saying Goodbye to our Son – A Mother's Story
- 6 Our Community Superstars & Our Peer to Peer Drop Ins
- 7 Our Hospice at Home and Carer Respite
- 8 The Act of Giving - The story of Hazel Marsden House, Berwick
- 9 Our Talks Programme & Our Bereavement Support Service
- 10 Our Charity Shops - Latest News
- 11 News from our Fundraising Team
- 12 Our Admiral Nurse
- 13 10 Myth-busting Funeral Facts & Trust Thank You
- 14/15 Judi's Story

**Last year our nursing team delivered
9,000 hours of Hospice at Home.**



WELCOME & HELLO

Welcome to the latest edition of HospiceCare Happenings

It's been my privilege to have been a HospiceCare trustee for almost ten years now, most recently as Chairman.

Working with my fellow trustees, our staff and volunteers is incredibly rewarding. To see the unique quality of care and compassion delivered in all of our programmes with such professional expertise is quite astonishing and I feel proud to be just a small part of our team helping provide that specialism to our rural community in North Northumberland.

Last year our team delivered a record number of hours of Hospice at Home care, carer respite and bereavement support – a quite unique quality of service vital in our community. This edition of Happenings outlines some of what we do – as you will read, we're at the service of our community 24/7 and this year to continue to provide our care programmes we need to raise around £660,000

Our summer fundraising events are in full swing, we continue to receive support from trusts and legacies, and we plan to add another shop later this year. But it is to individuals and companies that we look for regular donations, large or small, to help us guarantee our continuing services.

Clinical Catchment Area



If you are already a regular donor, thank you for helping us make a difference - your help is much appreciated. If you are not, would you consider helping us? On page 2 you can see how.

Please will you help us to help others in any way you can?

Thank you very much indeed for your consideration.

John Swanson - Chairman

We have a small but dedicated and loyal group of **volunteers** who **save us over £170,000** every year in the time they donate to **HospiceCare**.

Our Son, Phil – A Mother's Story...

In 2012 our son Phil who was then 28 years old was enjoying living and working in Wellington New Zealand. In June he began to have niggling abdominal pain which was thought to be appendicitis. He was admitted to hospital for routine surgery which proved more complex than planned. Following the surgery we received a phone call our family will never forget at 1am with the devastating news that they had found cancer in the appendix



Phil with his mum and dad

and Phil was being rushed back to surgery to have part of his bowel removed. This was the beginning of a very challenging and difficult five and half year journey.

Six weeks after the surgery Phil returned to the UK to face a course of chemotherapy which was brutal and Phil was very ill due to the awful side effects. Less than 3 months later Phil began to get abdominal pain which became increasingly worse. By September 2013 Phil was seriously ill and a Scan showed there was a possibility that Phil's abdominal cavity wall could also be cancerous. We were all terrified, it was an incredibly anxious time. Thankfully the surgeon was able to remove the cancer which was in 3 places in his abdomen. However, when Phil's tests came back we were told that in one of the places they hadn't removed all of the cancer. This was devastating news and once again, Phil went through a course of chemotherapy. We continued to hope it would be the end of this horrific disease in Phil's body.

In October 2014 Phil began to get discomfort in his left side, following a Scan and laparoscopy in January 2015 more cancer was discovered. Eventually he had very complex surgery in Basingstoke to remove part of the lining of his abdomen along with part of his liver, diaphragm and bowel. He then went through another course of chemo. At the end of Summer 2016 further Scans showed tumours in Phil's lungs. This came as a huge emotional shock for Phil and us. Surgeons in the North deemed it inoperable and he was offered no curative treatment. It was really hard to hear that Phil was being deemed terminal for the first time.

In December 2016 following a second medical opinion, Phil had more major surgery at The Royal Brompton Hospital in London, but soon after another Scan showed that his cancer had returned to both lungs. This time Phil decided he didn't want any more chemotherapy. He had been through so much and felt he couldn't face it again. At the end of August 2017 Phil's surgical team decided they could no longer offer any surgery and offered Phil a room in the palliative care unit at North Tyneside. Phil was in palliative care for 7 weeks and it was during this time that I first contacted [HospiceCare](#).

Phil wanted to get out of palliative care and be looked after at home and we desperately wanted him home too though we were very daunted by it. So we took the scary step to bring Phil home in [mid-November 2017](#) knowing that we couldn't manage without a lot of help. Nina, one of the [HospiceCare nurses](#), came to visit to see how they could help. From day one [HospiceCare](#) provided night sitters as it was the nights that we found most difficult, as the years of stress were taking their toll and we were exhausted. This was a huge support to us all. The pain Phil was having was very difficult to control due to the complexity of his condition and sadly he deteriorated quite quickly. By [December](#) Phil was being nursed in bed, so [HospiceCare](#) stepped in to take care of his personal care each morning, with one of the nurses, Sue, Debbie or Nina and a carer coming in every day. Absolutely nothing was too much trouble for them, they were so kind, gentle, caring, supportive, thoughtful, professional and patient. They respected Phil's dignity and were in no hurry to leave until they were satisfied they had done everything Phil needed. The nurses could give Phil extra pain medication, antinausea drugs and sedation by injection to help him relax, and often stayed with us until they knew his pain had settled. Phil himself said on many occasions that the [HospiceCare nurses](#) were amazing. He felt very safe and well cared for. They were also a huge support to us as a family, especially me, as I was carrying the most responsibility administering so many controlled drugs and trying to keep on top of the awful pain Phil suffered. It's difficult to put into words the extent of the stress on a journey like this but the [HospiceCare team](#) really were a huge part of the scaffolding that held us together with their support at an extremely difficult time.

Through all of the five and a half years that Phil battled cancer he was incredible. So many people would tell him and us that he was such an inspiration. He, along with ourselves, was a committed Christian and his faith and the faith and prayers of so many others carried us through. Phil never let cancer defeat him, he had such resilience to bounce back after each set back, devastating news or major surgery. He was kind, caring, thoughtful, fun loving, joyful and had a wonderful smile. He was always very thankful for everything others did for him and even in his most difficult times had time for others to ask how they were. He has inspired, encouraged and prayed for so many others through his own difficult journey. Phil was a precious son, we are heartbroken, we miss him terribly and always will but we're thankful for the close time we have had with him through these years, thankful that we were able to have Phil at home with his family around him for those last weeks and so thankful that he is no longer suffering.

We're also extremely grateful to [HospiceCare](#) for the wonderful work that they do and the incredible support they gave us and are still giving us through bereavement support. We really missed them when they weren't coming into our home after so many weeks of seeing some of them each day. We really can't praise them enough and hope that the support they receive from our community and beyond will increase in the years to come so that they can continue to offer this amazing service and be there for families like ours when they need it. *Margaret Logan*

Our Bereavement Support is free of charge and we don't need to have known your loved one.

Our Community Superstars...

In just the last 12 months our fantastic local community have raised nearly **£100,000** for HospiceCare. So for all those of you who: baked cakes, ran marathons, walked, held coffee mornings, donated, cycled, organised an event and so much more... we couldn't



These local ladies have raised over £37,000 since 2007

manage without your support and it really does make a huge difference - thank you. If you would like to organise a fundraiser for HospiceCare, please give us a call, we can help you every step of the way.

Claire Price - Supporter Care Co-ordinator
01665 606 515 or email: cprice@hospicecare-nn.org.uk



Claire Price

Our Weekly Peer to Peer Drop-Ins

We offer Drop-Ins at Berwick every Monday morning and at Alnwick every Wednesday morning, both from 10am-1pm. Our Drop-Ins give an opportunity for social peer support in a warm, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. They are run by HospiceCare volunteers, who are able to meet and greet visitors, ensure endless cups of tea, coffee and biscuits are available as well as share HospiceCare information. Our Drop-Ins are available for patients, their families and carers. Individual appointments can be arranged to speak to a member of the Nursing team for emotional support, guidance or advice, by calling the Nursing team directly: **01665 606 515**.



Veronica Powell

Veronica Powell a new attendee of the Monday Drop-In is pictured here enjoying her morning at Hazel Marsden House and guess what, as it was Royal Wedding week, wedding chat was on the agenda - see wedding dresses in background!

Veronica said "so glad to have found this HospiceCare support group. I have recently had breast cancer and a breast re-construction. The support has helped me and enriched my life. Thank you HospiceCare, this it is something we all need. The ladies and gents are wonderful, we laughed and talked and I will continue to come to the group." *Veronica* - May 2018

Berwick: Mondays 10am-1pm. Hazel Marsden House, Violet Terrace, Berwick TD15 1LU

Alnwick: Wednesday 10am-1pm. Castleside House, 40 Narrowgate, Alnwick NE66 1JQ

One-to-one appointments: HospiceCare Nursing Team: 01665 606 515

Website: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk

Our Hospice at Home & Carer Respite Support Service.

Did you know... You can access our Hospice at Home care and support by self-referral

Our Hospice at Home Service provides care and support for those who wish to be looked after in their own home rather than in hospital. It's delivered 365 days a year, day or night, planned or in a crisis situation. We provide a team of skilled and experienced Nursing Assistants who can work flexibly day or night to fit in with your needs. We can facilitate a rapid discharge from hospital to your home.

Our Carer Respite Service can help you at any stage of your loved one's illness, even if you have had no previous contact with us. We can offer you emotional support, advice and guidance, as well as complementary therapies such as massage. We don't need to know the person you are caring for.

We care for adults who have life-limiting illnesses such as: Cancer, Parkinson's Disease, Motor Neurone Disease, Heart & Lung Disease, Heart Failure and Advanced Dementia. All our services are **FREE** of charge and you don't need a GP referral. Simply call us directly to speak to one of our Nursing Team or to request one of our Hospice at Home information brochures.

It costs **£25 per hour** to deliver our Hospice at Home care and support. Last year we cared for **94 patients** of which **86 patients** were new referrals.



To contact our Nursing Team please call: T: 01665 606 515
or email: nursingteam@hospicecare-nn.org.uk

Visit our website: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk

You do not need a GP referral and all our services are free of charge.

We need to raise £660,000 this year with just a £40,000 contribution from the NHS. The rest we have to find from Donations, Fundraising & Legacies.

The Act of Giving

The Story of Hazel Marsden House, Berwick...

(Hazel Marsden House, Violet Terrace, Berwick, TD15 1LU)

Hazel Marsden was an Occupational Therapist at Berwick Infirmary in the 80s and a real character of a lady. She was an active member of a group at Berwick Infirmary called 'Hobi', which organised trips out locally for the elderly people in the area. She pioneered the idea of running holidays for elderly people to the Lake District, often folk who had no family around. Chris Foreman, one of the founders of HospiceCare North Northumberland, volunteered with this.

Chris, together with a district nurse at the time in Wooler, also knew Hazel. The seed for the Day Hospice came after Chris and the district nurse attended an Oncology club meeting where a Macmillan nurse spoke of the benefits of day hospice provision for palliative care patients. A few days later the district nurse called Chris to discuss how they could get a day hospice off the ground for the people of North Northumberland. They thought Hazel would be very interested to hear of the plans and so they helped co-ordinate the 1st meeting with Hazel. An accountant and solicitor were also present to discuss the idea of a day hospice.

Hazel pledged £1,000 to support the idea of the day hospice - other local health professionals and lay people were invited to come on board to help progress the plans. Hazel said at that point she would make a substantial donation if they could get their plans off the ground. During the summer and autumn of 1994 - 4 Public Consultation meetings were held - 1st at Wooler - with Chris and the district nurse presenting to the local communities what was available at that current time and what the future could look like with the addition of a day hospice - they were very well received and attended, particularly in Wooler.

A district nurse from Hexham was appointed as the Day Hospice Manager in May 1995. In October 1995 in Shilbottle and Berwick, the first patients were seen in rented accommodation. In 2002 Hazel left an amazing legacy of £200,000 - which was used to purchase the Seaman's mission building in Violet Terrace, Berwick. In 2003 Hazel Marsden House opened its doors for day patients to receive care and support , which continues today.



For more information about leaving a Legacy to HospiceCare please visit our website: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk or call Julie Frost: 01665 606 515

We love to talk...

Over the last 18 months we have embarked on a campaign to encourage local community groups, such as the WI, Rotary, Probus and Inner Wheel groups, to invite us to one of their meetings to deliver a [HospiceCare](#) Talk. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to share who we are, what we do and how we meet our costs, to a wider audience.



Julie Frost

We've got off to a flying start having already delivered 28 Talks across North Northumberland. The positive feedback we have received so far has been tremendous. We are often told that 'we have filled in lots of gaps' in understanding exactly what clinical care we can provide and how we work with other Healthcare providers.

If you are part of a community group, please would you invite us to one of your future meetings, to come and talk to you about [HospiceCare](#). We guarantee you will be surprised! We can tailor our Talks to suit the time you have available - even if it's 10 minutes - we'll go with that and we can happily take bookings for this year and 2019. Please get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

Julie Frost: Marketing & Communications Officer

Last year
£41,189 was
raised from
our Regular
Donors

Our Bereavement Support Service

This is delivered by a team of Bereavement Support Volunteers who are specially trained and very skilled in offering a Bereavement Listening ear. They have a deep understanding and knowledge of the pain, anger and confusion caused by grief and the death of a loved one. Our Bereavement Support Service is free of charge, a GP referral is not required and we don't need to have known or cared for your loved one.



Maxine Shell

If you think we might be able to help, please give me a call Tel: 01665 606 515. We can usually arrange for an immediate appointment and be there exactly when you need us. *Maxine Shell* - Bereavement Support Co-ordinator

"Just being able to talk to someone was a great help for me, someone who could empathise with my situation. You were all just amazing before mum died and after. I can't thank the Hospice enough." Claire

Our **Bereavement Support** service received **53 new referrals** last year and is currently supporting around **47 clients every month.**

Our Charity Shops

wear&care

The [Berwick](#) shop has proved a success and has already raised more than £110,000 in sales revenue since it opened in August 2015. It is not only the money raised that is important, it is the opportunity to raise the profile of the Hospice in the local community and also to provide volunteering opportunities.



In the second half of 2017 an opportunity arose to open a second shop in [Wooler](#). We decided to go for it, and the results in the first few months have far exceeded our expectations. Interest in the shop has been phenomenal, demonstrated not only in the level of sales but also the amount of donated goods and the number of volunteers who have come forward. Without these two things, the sales are not possible. Having seen how busy the shop was in the Winter months, we look forward with some anticipation, and possibly a little bit of apprehension, to what might happen in the busiest Summer months!

Joyce Fairbairn, who joined us as Retail Manager in late 2016, has done excellent work in developing [Berwick](#), and getting [Wooler](#) up and running. Penny Bailey, a former volunteer, has recently joined as Assistant Manager in order to support Joyce across both locations.

Hot on the heels of [Wooler](#), another new shop opportunity has presented itself in [Amble](#). This is also exciting because [Amble](#) was the first place we looked at for a shop, nearly four years ago. At that time it fell through at the last minute, but ever since we have been waiting for another opportunity. It looks like Joyce and the team will have another very busy year ahead. [Please get in touch with us if you are interested in becoming a Shop volunteer or have any items you would like to donate to us.](#)

Thank you. [David Atkinson](#) - Operations Manager

You can contact us directly by calling Wooler Shop: T: 01668 281 114 or Berwick Shop: T: 01289 332 290. Full details visit: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk



Joyce Fairbairn
Retail Manager



Sue Fletcher & Yve Johnston
Joint Assistant Retail Managers - Amble



Penny Bailey
Assistant Retail Manager - Berwick

'Hello' from the Fundraising Team...

The past 12 months have again been very busy for us, culminating in a Grand Dinner Auction held in March at Alnwick Castle, that raised nearly **£45,000** for the Hospice.

Our Fundraising Team calendar is packed full of exciting events such as our hugely popular Open Gardens as well



as Shakesperian Comedies in the garden! Although we have a core of well established events, we are always looking for new opportunities, whether brand new initiatives or ways to develop existing activities to try and keep things fresh. Last year we were offered the chance to take over the organisation of the Druridge Bay 10K Run from 2018. It is a very

popular event that has been built up over 10 years, and we are privileged to become the official custodians.



Rebecca Taylor & Emma Arthur



We also want to develop our relationships with local businesses, the extent of which can range from businesses joining our "250 Club" to sponsor one or more nights of Hospice at Home care, to adopting the Hospice as their Charity of the Year. This usually involves staff organising their own fundraising activities or participating in events such as the Great North Run. We are always open to new ideas, so if you have any thoughts about different ways to raise money for the Hospice please talk to one of the team. See you soon.

Rebecca & Emma Community & Events Fundraisers



47% of our income is generated from Fundraising Events and Donations

For all the latest fundraising news please visit our website: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk or call us directly on: 01665 606 515

First Admiral Nurse for North Northumberland



Admiral Nurses are specialist dementia nurses who work with and support families and carers of people with dementia. HospiceCare North Northumberland are delighted to announce that due to exciting developments in partnership with Dementia UK, we have been able to recruit an Admiral Nurse to provide end of life/ specialist palliative care to the people of North Northumberland living with a diagnosis of Dementia.

Our Admiral Nurse, **Betty Lucas**, has been appointed initially for a two year period. During that time we will be working in partnership with Dementia UK through Practice Development, Clinical Supervision, and Continuing Professional Development, to maintain excellent standards and specialist skills in dementia care, as well as being an integral member of our Hospice team providing palliative and end of life care.

Betty's role as Admiral Nurse also involves continuing the further development of the Hospice's Dementia and End of Life Programme, a project which is currently being delivered into Care Homes across North Northumberland. We are absolutely delighted that we are now able to have an **Admiral Nurse as part of our clinical team – the very first in North Northumberland**. Please get in touch with us if you would like to access the support of our Admiral Nurse, or would like further information.



Betty Lucas

Sue Gilbertson - Clinical Manager



Sue Gilbertson

Did you know... we provide care and support for those people who wish to be cared for in their own home rather than in hospital. Last year we cared for 94 patients of which 86 were new referrals. Our Hospice at Home is tailored to suit the needs of the individual. You can self-refer, simply call our Nursing Team directly: Telephone: 01665 606 515

Last year our Carer Respite Service delivered **500 hours** of day care support and **2,800 hours** of overnight care and support.

10 myth-busting funeral facts

1. There is no legal obligation to use a funeral director. You can take charge of some, or all, of the funeral arrangements yourself.
2. You don't have to use a traditional black hearse. It can be any vehicle, even a family estate car.
3. You don't have to have a traditional wooden coffin. The options are endless: willow, bamboo, cardboard, a shroud or you can even make or decorate the coffin yourself!
4. The body can stay at home. If this feels right for you, this is absolutely possible.
5. The body does not have to be embalmed or sutured. These highly invasive procedures are not necessary. The body can be left in its natural state.
6. Many independent-looking funeral directors are not independent. This is important work. Make sure you know who you're employing.
7. The body is rarely kept at the funeral director's high street shop. Many funeral directors operate large 'hub' mortuaries, often located many miles from the high street branches they serve. Ask where the body will be cared for.
8. Funerals don't have to be expensive. Shop around or ask a friend to do so on your behalf. Make sure you're not sold products or services you don't want or need.
9. Euphemisms aren't helpful. If you're not sure what the funeral director is trying to tell you, ask them to clarify what they're saying.
10. Funeral directors don't know best. Families do. A good funeral director will support a family to have the funeral that's right for them.



Source: *Hospice UK/Dying Matters* - June 2016

Income from Trusts and Foundations 2017/2018

Thank you so much

• Albert Hunt Trust • The Alnwick Lions (Inc Bookshop) • Alnwick Rotary • Amble Town Council
• The Barbour Foundation • The Caron Keating Foundation • Catherine Cookson Trust • Community Foundation: Carr-Ellison Charitable Trust • Community Foundation: Northern Angel Fund for Berwick
• David & Ruth Lewis Family Charitable Trust • Freemasons of Northumberland • Garfield Weston Foundation • George & Margaret Trotter Charitable Trust • Grace Trust • The Hadrian Trust • Hedley Denton Charitable Trust • The Henfrey Trust • The Hospital of God at Greatham • The Hugonin Family Trust • Institute of our Lady of Mercy • J H Burn Charity Trusts • JGW Patterson Foundation • The Joicey Trust • The Joseph Strong Frazer Trust • The Kelly Charitable Trust • Lynn Foundation • The Masonic Charitable Foundation • Mirianog Trust • North East Promenaders Against Cancer • Order of Women Freemason's Lodge • The P F Charitable Trust • Persula Foundation • R W Mann Trust • Rothley Trust
• The Roy & Pixie Baker Charitable Trust • Seahouses & District Cancer Care • Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust • Souter Charitable Trust • Stella Symons Charitable Trust • The Sylvia & Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust • Thomas J Horne Memorial Trust • The Truemark Trust • Trustees of the Alchemy Foundation
• W A Handley • William Leech Charity • The William Webster Charitable Trust

Judi's Story...

"Nothing fully prepares you for the imminent death of someone you love."

Many moons ago, I trained as a nurse at the RVI and have on a voluntary basis nursed in a residential hospice in the south of England. I have been involved with end-of-life care many times, but nothing fully prepares you for the imminent death of someone you love.

Just two years ago my very dear mother-in-law Pam was diagnosed with a terminal illness and only a short time to live.

She was a very independent 91 year old who lived on her own in Beadnell, and was totally in command of her faculties as well as everyone else's. As soon as we were given this news, I knew we were going to need support from the Hospice to be able to look after Pam at home in the way she very much wanted. Specifically, the family would need help at night times so that we would have the mental and physical stamina to cope with Pam's day-time care and enjoy the precious time we had left.



Pam with her beloved dog, Roo

The very mention of the word Hospice worried other family members who had no idea at all or any experience of end-of-life issues. I phoned the Hospice in Alnwick and explained our situation. Although we did not want them immediately, I was sure we should in a few days' time. Nina, a Hospice nurse, came to meet Pam at home. This visit was to get to know her, to talk to her about what she was feeling and how she would prefer to be treated. Nina was also there to ask the family how we were coping and what help we needed.

By now Social Services had provided a hospital bed for Pam's living room and everything else she would need. She was very much where she wanted to be and we were confident with the help from the Hospice we would manage together. Only three days later it was apparent that HospiceCare was now needed and I phoned Sue at Alnwick to confirm our request for support that same night. Help was immediate and Linda, another nurse from the Hospice, was with us by early evening.

Last year **£17,536** was kindly donated
in memory of loved ones.

Exhausted already, we could now find time to eat together and hopefully sleep while still being close to Pam, confident she was in capable hands. Linda looked after all Pam's needs including her medication, while we were still closely involved in all decisions. We did manage that good night's sleep, and took over as the nurse left the following morning. The situation was repeated that next evening. In the early hours of the morning Pam died, peacefully, surrounded by her family and with Ruby, her ever-faithful terrier on the bed, exactly the way Pam had wanted. None of this would have been possible without the wonderful support from the Hospice.



A younger Pam
with husband John

What happened next is rather blurred but so important. While we grieved together Linda quietly, gently and very discreetly looked after all those things which have to happen including making us all that much-needed cup of tea. She made sure we were all coping OK and then left.

Words cannot fully describe how much this support meant to us, and still does. [HospiceCare](#) support in the home is so important. It is invaluable and for it to continue, we need all need to dig deep and donate what we can. Every penny counts." *Judi* - March 2018

If you would like to make a donation to [HospiceCare](#), please either use the form provided with this magazine or visit our website: www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read our Hospice Happenings and I hope it has given you some insight and understanding as to how the Hospice can make a difference to people and their families at such a difficult time in their lives.

My time spent nursing with the Hospice, over the past 11 years, has meant that I have had the honour and privilege to meet amazing people who fill you with admiration and leave you with inspiration. Not only people like Phil and his family, but our volunteers who give their time freely and those people who raise and donate the much needed funds to allow the Hospice to continue delivering its services.

[HospiceCare](#) North Northumberland belongs to the local communities, is supported by the local communities and is here to serve the local communities. So feel free to contact us anytime on [01665 606 515](tel:01665606515) or email us at nursingteam@hospicecare-nn.org.uk



Sue Gilbertson



HospiceCare

NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND

Caring for Life!

Leaving a Legacy in your Will

"It was a legacy of life, hope, enjoyment"

Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte



Castleside House | 40 Narrowgate | Alnwick | Northumberland | NE66 1JQ

t: **01665 606 515** e: enquiries@hospicecare-nn.org.uk

www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk

Charity Number 1103635