You can support your Hospice by playing our Christmas Draw
Tickets may accompany this newsletter or are available from the Lottery Team on 01432 851 000

St Michael’s Hospice
Celebrating 35 years of the best possible care

Photo: Healthcare Assistant Tina MacKlin dancing with Doreen Summerfield
Reflections on 35 years of care by Dr Richard Miller

As a medical student, I spent six months helping to care for people with advanced life-limiting conditions, such as leukaemia and Hodgkin’s lymphoma. Being so involved with patients and their families left a lasting impression on me.

Subsequently, I went into general practice in Hereford and soon became aware of my limitations when caring for people at the end of their lives. I became interested in the holistic approach to end of life care provided by the hospice movement.

I spent time in several hospices. Each one welcomed me with that special atmosphere of loving care that is so familiar to all who have visited St Michael’s. I soon became convinced that Herefordshire needed a hospice of its own.

The catalyst for St Michael’s came when I met Freda Pearce 40 years ago in July 1979. She and her ladies’ committee had already raised a remarkable £90,000 for a body scanner in Cheltenham.

Together we shared the ambition to establish a hospice in Herefordshire. A new committee was formed and set about the daunting task of planning and raising funds. In spite of the obstacles, the faith of the committee never wavered from creating a fully equipped hospice.

One late summer’s day architect Nigel Dees, quantity surveyor Brian Adams and I met the sisters at Bartestree Convent. We ended the afternoon admiring the fantastic view and instinctively knew we had found the perfect location.

In spite of a phenomenal local response, we were yet to reach the target of £750,000. However, using his charm and political skills, Dr Jeff Kramer arranged an interest-free loan from the Regional Health Authority. Also, at the last minute, we received a donation for £50,000 from the King of Saudi Arabia. Building work proceeded on schedule, and St Michael’s opened its doors to patients on 31st October 1984.

Freda never lived to see the difference St Michael’s made to people’s lives. However, she would have been overwhelmed by how her inspiration helped establish one of the most highly regarded hospices in the world.

The positive impact the Hospice has had on the community, and the support it receives, is a tribute to everyone involved. St Michael’s has helped raise the standard of care locally, nationally and internationally through sharing its expertise.

I’m immensely proud of the care St Michael’s continues to provide and grateful to all who give their time and support to making our Hospice a place like no other. Being involved with St Michael’s has been an enormous privilege and proved to be a real blessing in my life; my faith in human nature soars every time I visit.

Young people’s outreach project Muheza

Eleri, Henry, Lauren, Sarah, Morgan, Libby and Izzy spent 11 days sharing their experiences of losing a loved one with young people supported by a Hospice in Tanzania.

During the visit, the team from Hereford organised a trip for almost 100 young people to spend a day enjoying fun and friendship on the African coast.

Morgan Price said, ‘It’s been a life-changing experience. Seeing young people who have lost parents and have been diagnosed with HIV enjoying life has taught me it’s OK to be happy.’

To find out more about the trip or to view a film about the project call Chris Smart on 01432 852631.

The Forget Me Not summer

Forget Me Nots shaped from steel and glazed in blue and yellow, have been on display in various locations around Herefordshire, helping raise over £27,000 for St Michael’s.

People have taken them to their heart and remembered loved ones by collectively buying around 1,500 of the flowers. Custom-made by the British Ironwork Centre they have fascinated passers-by at the Cock of Tupsley in Hereford, and visitors to Hellens Garden Festival, both venues where the flowers have been on display, along with St Michael’s.

It’s not too late to buy your Forget Me Not. Visit the St Michael’s Hospice website for more details.
St Michael’s Hospice Flower Festival

Visitors flocked to St Michael’s Flower Festival to experience the fragrant and visual beauty created by dozens of arrangers. The event, which raised over £60,000, bedecked the interior at Lyde Arundel with vibrant displays, all created under the theme of Transformation and Peace.

Monty Don, who opened the Festival, said he was ‘profoundly impressed’ by what he’d seen.

The event’s success was thanks in no small part to the dedication of its four principal organisers, Carola Kean, Jacqueline Flack, Joan Davies and Stephen Rabbitts.

Supporting your Hospice

St Michael’s Hospice provides all its care free of charge to patients, their families and carers. This care is made possible by supporters taking part in fundraising events, playing our lottery, shopping at our retail outlets, making charitable donations and leaving gifts in their wills.

Keep in touch

If you do not already have this newsletter sent directly to your home, and would like to keep in touch with all the latest developments, appeals and ways you can support St Michael’s, call the Fundraising Team on 01432 851 000 or sign up online at st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Postcards from Life

This Autumn, 200 miniature masterpieces created by some of the finest artists in our region will go under the hammer.

Postcards from Life returns from a year’s break with a wide range of artwork which could be yours for as little as £5.

Thanks to our friends at Brightwells you will be able to browse and bid for each item online for a fortnight from Monday, 28th October.

Then, for the final three days of the auction, from 8th November, everyone’s invited to the Bishop’s Palace in the centre of Hereford to view the art in person.

All the artists are producing the work for Postcards from Life free of charge, with many submitting multiple items.

The last Postcards from Life, in 2017, raised more than £12,000 and saw almost 2,500 bids placed, with Heidi Venamore’s Rubus I fetching the highest bid of £300.

A further 12 lots attracted bids in excess of £100. Bidders hailed from as far afield as Australia.

Monte Carlo or Bust

John Collins, Andrew Buchanan, Colin Watts and Keith Ratcliffe were inspired by the Hospice Angels to enter their 52-plate Volvo V70 banger with over 200,000 miles on the clock in the 2019 Monte Carlo or Bust Rally.

Covering all expenses themselves, the quartet from Pontrilas raised over £14,000 by offering supporters the chance to sign or place advertisements on the car. The money has been shared by St Michael’s Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support.

The team previously helped raise around £50,000 for St Michael’s with a series of community fundraising events held at Ewyas Harold Village Hall.

Monty Don with the Flower Festival Team

John Collins, Andrew Buchanan, Colin Watts and Keith Ratcliffe

St Michael’s Hospice
(incorporating the Freda Pearce Foundation)
Registered charity number 511179
St Michael’s Hospice, Bartestree,
Hereford HR1 4HA
tel: 01432 851 000
e-mail: info@smhospicehereford.org

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Pedalling their way to success

A group of parents, each with their own special connection to St Michael’s, spent two days in the saddle during a fundraiser spanning almost 150 miles.

The ten-strong party travelled from Bromyard to Minehead in Somerset, reaching the coastal town in time to watch their children play for Bromyard FC Under 11s in a junior football tournament.

The two-day cycle adventure raised almost £8,000 – far greater than the initial £2,000 target – which was split between St Michael’s and the Birmingham Children’s Hospital Charity.

For the group, it was an emotional journey but one which made the saddle-sore and aching muscles all worth it.

‘It was a real privilege to be helping St Michael’s by doing this,’ said one of the cyclists, Jenna Bayliss.

‘My mum has bowel cancer and the Hospice has helped me a lot, particularly around aspects such as how I talk to my children about what’s going on. That’s been so helpful.’

Some of the close-knit group visited St Michael’s to present the money raised to Paddy Nugent, the Hospice’s Community Fundraising Manager.

‘My sister-in-law, Louise Beale, came to St Michael’s and died last May,’ said Sue Roberts, another group member. ‘The care they gave her was amazing. While she was here, I was able to stay each night with her two girls in a house which is especially provided for relatives of patients staying at the Hospice.

‘The care provided to Louise, and the support given to the whole family when she was at St Michael’s and since then, has been amazing. It’s a very special place.’

Jono Simpson is well aware of the quality of care provided to families at St Michael’s as both his mum and dad died there.

‘Losing dad in 2011 was the worst day of my life. Mum came here in 2015 and initially returned home but then went downhill and was re-admitted. The care for both parents was outstanding and whenever you mention St Michael’s, people are very happy to dig deep and donate.’

After completing the cycle trip, the group cheered their young charges on to a fifth-placed finish in the annual tournament which attracts teams from around the country.

The cycling group was made up of Jenna, Sue, Jono, Kev Weaver, Lauren Weaver, Jono Simpson, and Sue Roberts.

They also raised money for the Birmingham Children’s Hospital charity as two of the Under 11s players have received specialist treatment at the Hospital.

Mobile Information Point

Since arriving at St Michael’s Hospice, the Mobile Information Point has been reaching the heart of local communities.

From doctor’s surgeries to country music festivals, village fêtes to art exhibitions, a team of volunteers has been using the specially designed vehicle to raise awareness of the Hospice services available to people living with a terminal illness.

If you would like the Mobile Information Point to visit your community, please call Michelle Havard on 01432 852 621.
Browse our wide and wonderful range of pre-loved goods and books, then treat yourself to something tasty from our locally sourced menu.

Visit us and taste the difference.
Menu includes baked potatoes, quiches, hot and cold hand-sliced sandwiches and home-made soups with speciality bread.

Unit 6-8 Station Yard
Worcester Road
Leominster HR6 8TN
(next to St Michael’s Hospice Home and Living Store)

NEW
77-83 Whitecross Road
Hereford HR4 0DQ
(next to St Michael’s Hospice Home and Living Store)

For details about all 19 Hospice Retail Shops visit:
st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/shops/
Volunteers
The time you give is priceless

Malcolm Dark: Volunteer engineer, helping to keep St Michael’s Hospice on the road.
With a fleet of vehicles used by nursing staff to visit patients at home, and for the fundraising team to raise vital funds, there is a lot of maintenance needed to keep our cars on the road.
Malcolm, who has worked as an engineer for most of his life, volunteers one day a week to make sure Hospice staff have access to well-maintained vehicles.
‘I enjoy helping out at the Hospice. I spend the morning checking all the vehicle tyres, lights, oil and water to ensure they are all safe to drive. I spend the rest of the day doing other jobs around the Hospice building. It’s rewarding being part of such a great team dedicated to caring for families at a time when they need it most.’

Paul Rogers gives a few hours each week as a Homemaker.
Paul said, ‘It’s very different to how you might expect a Hospice to be. Everyone is friendly and welcoming. Part of our role involves chatting to patients’ relatives, helping them feel at ease. Sometimes it can be something as simple as making them a cup of tea or having the time to talk.’

Lorna O’Donnell worked in retail for 30 years and after retiring began volunteering for a few hours each week for St Michael’s retail.
Lorna said ‘Volunteering here lets me continue to use my skills. I love the fact that what I do means something. We’re all a big team having fun together. The role gives structure to my week, and I have met lots of supportive friends. It’s a wonderful place.’

Lilah Harris is studying Health and Social Care at Hereford and Ludlow College and is looking forward to a career in nursing.
Lilah said, ‘I love the caring side of being at St Michael’s and enjoy looking out for people who need support.’ Being a Homemaker is proving to be excellent work experience and spending a few hours a week at St Michael’s leaves me feeling good inside.’

Everyone who has had their day brightened by Malcom, Paul, Lorna, Lilah and all of St Michael’s other wonderful volunteers would like to pass on a massive thank you to them for caring to make a difference.

Giving a few hours of your time means we can provide the best possible care for families at a time when they need it most.
To start making a difference call 01432 851 000
It’s often comforting to know friends and family are there for you.

Imagine what it’s like, therefore, to receive dozens of goodwill messages from people you’ve never met.

Postman Simon Hissey was faced with this scenario in June after a photo of him taking part in the Race for Life fundraiser at Hereford Racecourse was posted on the St Michael’s Hospice Facebook page.

Simon completed the 10K run for St Michael’s with his two-year-old son Arthur on his back. It was their way of remembering Clarice, Arthur’s mum and Simon’s wife, who died at the Hospice just a few months earlier.

‘I was looking for something to repay St Michael’s for the care they provided,’ said Simon.

‘I heard the Race for Life was allowing men for the first time and I wanted a challenge so I put my name down for the 10K and decided to run it with Arthur, who weighs 45lb, on my back.

‘It was a great experience and I received so much support from people around the course. It was tough but such a good feeling to cross that finish line.’

The photo showing the father and son was ‘Liked’ almost 1,000 times with well over 100 comments from members of the public congratulating the pair.

‘Reading those comments was quite emotional,’ added Simon. ‘It helped a lot knowing there was so much support out there, both from people I know and those I’d never met.

‘I raised £1,000 for St Michael’s Hospice through JustGiving by taking part in the event, with about a quarter of that coming in following the Facebook post.’

Clarice was 37 when she died just before Christmas last year having contracted cancer of the duodenum.

The couple married at Hereford Town Hall last summer, just a month after her diagnosis.

‘Our wedding day was wonderful,’ said Simon. ‘Clarice was just stunning.’

As Clarice’s illness progressed she was admitted to St Michael’s, a place where Simon said she felt happy.

‘It gave her peace of mind. She felt so comfortable at the Hospice. 24-hour care was on hand and everyone there was amazing. Nothing was too much trouble.

‘St Michael’s has also done a great deal for both me and Arthur. He enjoyed playing there and he made friends with the wonderful Homemakers on the Inpatient Wing who would play with him and offer him biscuits.’

The community as a whole has shown a great deal of warmth towards the father and son, for which Simon is very grateful.

‘People have just been so kind and generous. For instance, the nursery Arthur attends – Lollipops in Hereford - were so understanding towards us. They’ve just been great.’

If you would like help setting up an online fundraising page for your next challenge for St Michael’s, contact our Community Fundraising Team on 01432 852 641 or email events@smhospicehereford.org
St Michael’s Hospice United

A girls’ football team has chosen to support St Michael’s in a show of solidarity with a teammate whose dad died at the Hospice.

Ross Juniors Under 12s Colts are sporting shirts bearing the logo of St Michael’s this season after hearing how much 10-year-old team member Layla Watkins had been helped by the Hospice.

Layla’s dad, Andrew Watkins, died on 1st June.

He was an avid Liverpool fan who attended a game at Anfield with a St Michael’s Hospice nurse and his other daughter, Evie, back in April. He died just 15 minutes after the Reds lifted the Champions League trophy by beating Tottenham.

‘The girls just wanted to do something to show their support for Layla,’ said Andrew’s mum, and Layla’s grandmother, Sue Watkins.

‘My husband, Charlie Watkins, also died at St Michael’s just seven weeks after Andrew.

‘The dedication, love and support given by everyone at St Michael’s was mindblowing.

‘I’ll always be indebted to them. They are such special people.’

Hospice supporters Brenda and George Corfield, who are relatives of the Colts’ manager Kevin Evans, supported the sponsorship to tie in with their 50th wedding anniversary.

‘We were very touched when we heard that Ross Juniors Under 12s Colts will be wearing shirts bearing the logo of St Michael’s,’ said St Michael’s CEO Mike Keel.

‘For those so young to be so thoughtful is profoundly moving and we are very grateful to them and to everyone at the club for their generosity.

‘We wish them every success for this season and beyond.’

More care in more places

St Michael’s Hospice vision is for more people in our community to have access to palliative care.

More people than ever are benefitting from our services – but not all of them come under the care of St Michael’s.

The St Michael’s Education Team passes on its expertise to health and social care professionals by providing outreach training to care homes, agencies and other care providers. The Team also maintains strong links with the 2gether NHS Foundation Trust.

A purpose-built education centre at St Michael’s can accommodate large groups. This state of the art suite of rooms can also be rented out as training and conference facilities.

For more information, contact the Team on 01432 851 000

The Education Team l-r: Debbie Smithers, Ken Perry, Jean Fisher and Debbie Emmett

Layla Watkins being lifted by team mates with Brenda and George Corfield
A successful social group allowing those who have been bereaved to spend time in each other’s company has expanded to several locations across Herefordshire.

‘Friends’ began life as Weekend Friends, which continues to meet each month at Wyevale Garden Centre on Kings Acre Road in Hereford.  

It is run by St Michael’s with similar groups having been set-up by the Hospice over the summer in Kington, Bromyard, Leominster and Ross-on-Wye, with another planned for Ledbury in the near future.

‘Friends are small groups which are supported by Hospice staff,’ said Sarah Jenkins, Bereavement Services Development Officer at St Michael’s. “They offer people the opportunity to meet others in similar circumstances in an informal setting, allowing them to share experiences and make new friends over coffee.

‘The groups are free to attend and you don’t have to book.’

More information on the groups, including specific meeting locations, times and dates, can be found by visiting st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/friends or by calling Sarah on 01432 851 000.

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**Motoring ahead**

Our volunteer drivers are on the road to being even safer behind the wheel thanks to a visit from a road safety charity.

Kath Watts and Stella Boyd-Carpenter, who are observers with Herefordshire Advanced Drivers, spent a morning with Hospice volunteers.

“We covered several aspects of driving, including good information gathering and identification of hazards, to tips on how to save fuel,” said Kath.

The Hospice’s Volunteer Co-ordinator, Benjamin Pardoe, said he was grateful to Kath and Stella for visiting. “Their advice was invaluable and I know those attending got a huge amount out of the session.”

To find out more about volunteering for your Hospice, call Benjamin on 01432 851 000 or email bpardoe@smhospicehereford.org

For more information about Herefordshire Advanced Drivers, call 01432 840835.
Events to look forward to in 2020

Our summer of events may have finished, but we’re already looking forward to seeing you early in 2020 for one of our most popular days in the calendar.

The New Year signals a new location for our Big Spring Walk.

Join us on Sunday, 22nd March 2020 for a choice of four circular routes to the west of Hereford, all setting off from the city’s Rowing Club on the banks of the River Wye.

Each of the 2.5K, 5.5K, 12.5K and 17.5K walks will allow you to experience the beauty of a Sunday meander through this green and pleasant land we call home.

Open to all ages and abilities, walkers will be entertained on their return to the Rowing Club by a performance from the Paws for Thought Dog Display Team.

The Big Spring Walk remains free to enter in advance with sponsorship encouraged for all taking part. Book online at st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Talking of new locations, RUN Hereford’s new home at the Livestock Market was a runaway success this summer with hundreds completing improved Half Marathon, 10K and 5K routes.

The Half Marathon was won by Phillip Matthews in a time of one hour, 11 minutes, with Charlie Jones (33 mins, 44 secs) winning the 10K and Matthew Brunnock taking first place in the 5K in a time of 18 mins, 7 secs.

All ages left their mark on Hereford’s Bishop’s Meadow - and each other - during our most colourful Paint Runner and Foam Zone yet.

Seven paint stations blasted children (and adults who should know better) throughout the 5K course which finished with a foam party hosted by DJ Roddy Hankins.

Also partying were a number of six-a-side football teams who tasted success during the Sue Parry Football Tournament, held at Hereford Leisure Centre.

This year, for the first time, the day featured a women’s competition, plus an Invitational and Social category, and Junior events from Under 8s to Under 17s.

On 20th September, over 600 women lit up the night sky during our 35th Anniversary Venus Midnight Walk. With eyes sparkling and glitter in their hair, they dazzled Hereford with a flowing river of pink. Now with 5, 10 and 15k routes, Hereford’s biggest remembrance party helped turn our Coral year Pink.

For information about forthcoming St Michael’s Hospice Events, including how to book tickets, visit st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/events

RUN Hereford
A spooktacular time awaits in Ba-ha-ha-ha-testree this Halloween. Visit St Michael’s on Thursday, 31st October for our Torch-lit Pumpkin Walk.

The gentle stroll through the Hospice grounds and surrounding orchards is the perfect way to enjoy Halloween - without the fright of a night’s trick or treating.

Then, just before Christmas we’ll be joined by a very special visitor; Santa himself. This year’s Grotto and Winter Lights will be held at St Michael’s from 5-8th and 12-14th December.

Start in the Workshop Café before venturing outside to view the mesmerising Winter Lights. Little ones can explore the Naughty Elf Garden, sleigh store, reindeer stables and gingerbread village before entering the Wandering Oaken’s Trading Post. They will then have the chance to meet Santa himself and receive a gift. Santa might be on his own in the Grotto but on Sunday, 15th December you won’t be able to move for them as our Santa Run hits Hereford’s High Town.

Choose from a 2.5k or 5k route and make a dash for St Michael’s this Christmas.

For details on all events visit: st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

‘Not So Scary Halloween’ in Santa’s RUN up to Christmas

Online Auction

To mark 35 years of St Michael’s, a celebratory auction will take place towards the end of this year.

Featuring a wide variety of lots generously donated by our community, the auction will be hosted through the Brightwells website, running from 25th November to 9th December.

Lots include a week in a holiday home in Spain, a BMW for a week, Nushi designer bags made from tyre inner tubes, and a pair of tickets for this Christmas’s Cinderella pantomime at Hereford Courtyard.

Full details, once confirmed, will be posted on St Michael’s Hospice website.

St Michael’s Hospice invites you to dedicate a light and attend one of 18 special events.

By illuminating and celebrating the life of your loved one, you can also help St Michael’s care for local families.

For more information, please call the Family Support Team on 01432 851 000.

* Thursday 28th November - 5.30pm
St Michael’s Hospice, Bartestree
Sunday 1st December - 2.30pm
Lyde Arundel, Lyde, Herefordshire
Sunday 1st December - 4.00pm
St Michael & All Angels Church, Kingstone
Sunday 1st December - 6.30pm
St Francis Roman Catholic Church, Ross
Sunday 1st December - 6.30pm
St Michael & All Angels Church, Ledbury
Sunday 1st December - 6.30pm
St Michael’s Church, Brimfield
Wednesday 4th December - 7.00pm
St Francis Xavier Church, Hereford
Wednesday 4th December - 7.30pm
St Peter & St Paul’s Church, Weobley
Thursday 5th December - 6.00pm
Café Morso, Colwall
Sunday 8th December - 11.15am
St Mary the Virgin Church, Marden
Sunday 8th December - 3.30pm
Steiner School, Much Dewchurch
Sunday 8th December - 4.00pm
Methodist Church, Bromyard
Sunday 8th December - 4.00pm
St Andrew’s Church, Hampton Bishop
Sunday 8th December - 5.00pm
St Mary’s Church, Kington
Sunday 8th December - 5.00pm
Leominster Methodist Church
Sunday 8th December - 6.30pm
St Mary the Virgin Church, Burghill
Thursday 12th December - 6.30pm
St Mary’s Church, Hay-on-Wye
Sunday 15th December - 5.30pm
Hereford Cathedral

* Please note this is an outdoor event
Compassionate Communities

Supported by the Education Team at St Michael’s Hospice, Compassionate Communities (or Co Co’s for short) volunteers are helping people in need with small acts of kindness.

Fownhope is one of the communities currently involved. As well as making a real difference to people’s lives by offering home visits, each month volunteers and companions meet up for a social get-together.

The idea behind the Compassionate Communities project is to help alleviate loneliness, provide a listening ear, organise social occasions and offer people support in their own home.

Brigid Oaten, who receives regular visits from Shelagh Donnelly, said, ‘I love Shelagh’s visits. We have become friends, and because we discovered we have so much in common, we have lots to talk about. ‘Shelagh’s visits also mean my husband gets a chance for some respite, which is very beneficial.’

Co Co’s Co-ordinator and retired Nurse Sarah Coomer understands the importance of people receiving regular visits. ‘It quickly helps identify emerging health issues and improves the feeling of well-being for the client and what’s interesting is to see and hear how much enjoyment the volunteers get out of it.’

If you would like to find out more about Compassionate Communities, call Sarah Jenkins at St Michael’s Hospice on 01432 851 000.

Hospice gardens: A peaceful retreat

Heart of England in Bloom judges Nicola Clarke and Joe Hayden spent the UK’s hottest ever July day visiting St Michael’s Hospice.

The Heart of England judges met the Hereford in Bloom Team at St Michael’s Hospice gardens.

Before beginning their judging tour of Hereford, they were shown the delights of the Hospice grounds by three of our hard-working and dedicated gardening volunteers.

The Hospice gardens are a peaceful retreat offering views over some of Herefordshire’s most spectacular countryside.

On the Eastern fringe is the Summerhouse, a new multi-use venue kindly donated and erected by Herefordshire-based Powell & Co. It will be used as a work area for patients and their loved ones to carry out past-times such as carpentry.

Nearby is the Angel Tree, part of an award-winning garden which shows St Michael’s as a place of sanctuary.

There’s the Labyrinth, a contemplative work of art where the single, circular path leads to the centre, and a garden arbour featuring Ginkgo leaves forged by members of the public.

If you would like to join our band of gardening volunteers, contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator Ben Pardoe on 01432 851 000 or email bpardoe@smhospicehereford.org
Our Open Gardens season blossomed again this summer, raising almost £35K. More than 6,000 people attended the various gardens and estates during what has been one of our most varied programmes. We were delighted that communities rallied round to help our Hospice.

Nowhere was this more evident than in Weobley where the gates of 17 gardens were opened to the public during a memorable two days in early June which raised over £5,100, with just over £4,000 coming to St Michael’s and the rest given towards the maintenance of the fabric of Weobley Parish Church.

‘There was a real buzz about the village that weekend and it was so heartening to know that this was supporting St Michael’s as well as the Parish Church,’ said Wendy Hereford, one of the team which organised the event. Communities also turned out in force in Aylestone Hill and Kimbolton.

The support of the Hellens Garden Festival continues to be instrumental in our Open Gardens season with a very generous donation to St Michael’s of £12,000. Other highlights included a first trip to Seabournes between Hereford and Ross-on-Wye, and return trips to the ever-popular Hergest Croft Gardens, Bryan’s Ground, Homme House, Traherne Close in Lugwardine, and Shobdon Court.

If your community would like to ‘Open Gardens’ for St Michael’s call the Community Fundraising Team on 01432 851 000 for more details.

Some of the Weobley residents who opened their gardens

Badge celebrates Hereford FC and St Michael’s Hospice

While Hereford FC supporters are pinning their hopes on a successful season, fan Doug Marshall has produced a memento which can be fondly remembered whatever the result.

His badge, featuring the logos of St Michael’s Hospice and Hereford FC, has been on sale at the ground on matchdays for £4.

Doug has kindly donated £1 to St Michael’s from each badge he sells, collecting hundreds of pounds since the season began at the beginning of August.

Last season, Doug donated £2,000 from his badge sales to the Hereford FC Academy, taking the total he has donated to that group to £4,000.
31st October 2019 will mark St Michael’s 35th Anniversary and we are asking supporters to help us continue to care for families living with a terminal illness by coming up with a fundraising idea that involves the number ‘35’.

You could bake 35 cakes, run 35 miles in a day, month or year, swim 35 times, or make the world a better place with 35 random acts of kindness.

Getting involved is simple. Just call the Community Fundraising Team on 01432 851 000 to get started.

Diagnosed with incurable cancer, Bob Purvis began writing a book about his extraordinary life. To help fill his final chapter with excitement, Bob contacted Tiger Helicopters and began the challenge of obtaining his private pilot licence. To add a fundraising twist, Bob flew his helicopter at 35 hundred feet above St Michael’s in Bartestree.

Rachel Palmer’s My 35 ‘Bags of rubbish’ for St Michael’s has cleaned up an area of the upper River Wye and raised over £570. Rachel said, ’I think my friends and family donated because they liked the combination of helping a much-loved charity and cleaning up a beautiful part of the country which is affected by the accumulation of litter from the nearby road.’

Will Power

‘Being able to help people live well at the end of life in comfort and with dignity is a privilege. I think it’s the most wonderful job I could ever do.’

Leaving a gift in your will to St Michael’s will mean more patients have the chance to be nursed by people like Natasha, Sarah and Jessica. If you would like to talk about leaving a gift in your will, please call Ruth Denison on: 01432 852 634.
Are you living with a terminal illness, or caring for someone who is?

Our free advice and support line is here to help

We understand that it can be a difficult time, and that’s why we’re here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

This phone number is a single point of access allowing you to speak confidentially to members of our clinical team who can provide advice and information on subjects like accessing services and controlling symptoms.

St Michael’s Hospice  
Caring to make a difference

Call
01432 852 080
24 hours a day, 7 days a week
This Christmas give a gift from the heart

Fill in the form below, and we will deliver a special Lottery gift pack

Your details
Title  Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / other
First name
Surname
Address
Postcode
Telephone
Email

Recipient details (Players must be 16 or over)
Title  Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / other
First name
Surname
Address
Postcode
Telephone
Email

Choose the length of Lottery membership gift: **52 weeks £52** - **26 weeks £26** - **13 weeks £13**
I wish to purchase  weeks Lottery membership and enclose payment of  .
I would like the gift returned to me  or sent directly  to the recipient by: date 
with the following message:

Payment by card or cheque

Please make cheques payable to St Michael’s Hospice and post to: Lottery, St Michael’s Hospice, Bartestree, Hereford HR1 4HA

Card details: I wish to pay by: Mastercard  Visa  
Card number:  Issue No.  Expiry date:  /  Card security no:  
Name on card:  Signature:  

If you would like to purchase Lottery gift membership over the phone or find out more about playing St Michael’s Hospice Lottery, please call Helen on: 01432 852 602

Data Protection We value your support and promise to respect your privacy. The data we hold is managed in accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998). We will not share your details with any third parties.