

SPEENHELPING HOSPICES

Grainne Suter



The Hospice funds got a great boost this Autumn and SHH is so grateful to all those who made this happen. Particular mention goes to Johnny Thirkell, as all the proceeds from this very successful night were donated to the Hospice Fund. 'Blown It' made £1,000, so many thanks to Johnny and his colleague Ian Donaghy for their kindness and generosity.

We were very uncertain about running the car boot sale but, like all charities, we have to experiment and seek new ways of fundraising. I am very pleased to tell you that the weather held, the plans worked to perfection, the sellers turned up and lots and lots of buyers. We made over £900 profit - it's amazing what you can do with the contents of your attic!



The Bridge and Afternoon Tea event was held in Judy Keen's barn. This is a beautiful setting and it looked even better on a glorious Autumn afternoon. "This afternoon tea is as good as they serve at The Ritz" was a comment from a happy bridge player. Perfect finger sandwiches, scones and cream, meringues and eclairs were served to all and we were delighted with the very positive feedback and the £700 that we added to the Hospices Fund.



The Christmas Market was an amazing success. We were so pleased to be back in the village for this event and the Chapel Hall was the perfect setting. Thank you so much to everyone who came along and helped to raise a very healthy profit of £2,800. Many thanks to Dennis Cook Gardening Services and estate agents Michael Graham for sponsoring our advertising, and to Jacqui Laing for the design and preparation of all the artwork. Hildreth's very kindly donated wonderful gifts for the garden hamper. Mother Christmas's Grotto was magical, and we are very grateful to Amanda Dobbs for her creativity and hard work assembling it. Mother Christmas - Cerri Syner, and elves Gracie Stickings and Susan Gregory - charmed the little ones as they took messages for Father Christmas. Judy Keen's sausage rolls are now the talk of the village! Thank you to the stall holders for their support and participation again this year.



7th December is the lighting of the Christmas tree on the playing fields and SHH has been asked by the Playing Fields Committee to provide the refreshments in the Village Hall afterwards. Come along, sing some carols then join us for mulled wine and mince pies. All donations to Speen Helping Hospices.