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With Thanks to Speen Supporters Group

As many of you may know, the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home has been marking its 20th anniversary during 2005 and celebrating "20 Years of Caring". This is a year in which we have paused to look back, but also taken the opportunity to think clearly about our future. Although many things have changed over the last two decades, we are also proud that the values and beliefs that inspired the foundation of our Hospice at Home service are still as strong today.

Moira Rennie, our President and wife of our first patient, Iain, after whom our organisation is named has written:

"Sometimes I find it difficult to believe that nearly twenty years have passed since lain came home from hospital to spend the last weeks of his illness with his family and friends. The five nurses who supported us as a family—Iain, myself and our two young boys—were quite remarkable. Together with our Doctor and District Nurse they helped me to fulfil my overwhelming need to protect Iain and make it possible for the boys to have their Dad at home. I remember those nurses not only as wonderfully caring individuals but also as highly trained professionals.

Over the years, many people who have had contact with the Iain Rennie service have quietly told me that their experiences were the same as mine. They speak to me of compassion, dedication, commitment and professionalism. This is how I know that the organisation which bears Iain's name has held true to the values which mattered in 1985 to both Iain and me and continues to extend a warm and caring hand to all those who need help today.

Whilst our values have remained the same, much else has changed over 20 years. The professionalism of the nurses has been underpinned by sound administration and imaginative fundraising delivered by dedicated staff and an army of volunteers. The charity is led strongly by a Board of Trustees with vision and skill. The service has grown steadily over the years and expects to care for over 800 patients in 2005 and now employs more than 40 nurses. We remain committed to offering the same practical, hands-on care provided on a 24 hour oncall basis to all those who need our help in the Chilterns area. We expect that the need for the service will continue to grow in the years ahead."

Of course, none of this would be possible without the warm and generous support from the communities that the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home serves. With less that 16% of our income coming from the NHS we are more dependent than ever on fundraising, donations and legacies. So the long-term and committed support we have received from Speen Supporters Group is hugely appreciated and greatly valued. Everyone at the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home joins me in sending our sincere thanks for all that you do for us, and for the other hospices in our area, in raising much-needed funds.

Thank you all once again. Robert Breakwell Appeals Director



South Bucks Day Hospice

and Lymphoedema Clinic

Fundraising Director: Avril Berry Edie Pusey House 9a Amersham Road -High Wycombe Bucks HP13 6PN

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Email. sbhospice@globalnet.co.uk Web. www.sbhospice.org.uk

The South Bucks Day Hospice is our nearest (geographically speaking) hospice charity.

We are lucky to have on our committee our recently retired chairman, Christine Oliver, who is our SSG representative for the South Bucks Day Hospice. As one who worked there as a volunteer for over three years, she enthused about how wonderful it is and the fantastic work that is done for the patients.

I, too, did a few spells of volunteering and loved the atmosphere. It is a home from home where patients can simply relax and be themselves, enjoying each others company, the advice and help from the staff and the therapies such as manual lymphatic drainage and aromatherapy. Christine and I have also enjoyed a number of the fundraising events and many of the patients have joined us at the Summer Garden Party, the Cockney Music Hall event and a Burns Night Supper.

The South Bucks Day Hospice celebrated their 10th anniversary last year with an Autumn Ball, organised by their energetic and inspiring Fundraising Director, Avril Berry: a huge success contributing more towards the costs of day care for those with long-term or terminal illness.



Speen
Supporters'
Group
(raising funds for
local hospice
charities)

Five Years On . . .

We have now been up and running for over 5 years although most of the fund-raising dates from this time four years ago and the occasion was marked by our first supper. We are delighted to welcome back representatives from the 5 charities we support and to date we are proud to announce that we have donated £16,500. We were hoping to pay tribute to Clare and Geoff Smith for their tremendous input to the fortnightly quiz, alas they could not be with us. Due to other commitments they have now retired. During the four years as main organisers the sum raised is well over £2000. I gather that regular quiz teams are still meeting and the next meeting will

If you have any fund-raising schemes that you think could help the cause, please do let us know. We thank you for your support and hope you enjoy the evening.

be on 9th February at the Gate in

Bryants Bottom.

Future dates for your diaries:
Ladies lunch at Hampden Village Hall—
Friday 5th May from 12 noon
Speen Black and White Ball Saturday
9th September Willotts Farm from
7.30pm

Contact address: 12 Glynswood High Wycombe Bucks. HP13 5QL Phone: 01494 459267



Community Fundraising: Joanna Mitchell Helen & Douglas House, 14a Magdalen Road, Oxford OX4 1RZ.

Tel: 01865 794749 www.helenanddouglas.org.uk

One charity, one way forward

Like Helen House, Douglas House is now up and running. Between them, they care for children and young adults aged 0-40.

Each has a different architectural style and décor. Each has different things to enjoy (from Lego and cuddly toys at Helen House to a bar and juke box at Douglas House!) Yet both have the same approach to care, the same wish to support the whole family and to enable the children and young adults to live life to the fullest during their time with us.

How much does it all cost?

In any one year, Helen & Douglas House looks after around 300 children, young adults and families. With one-to-one care, it costs roughly £3 million to run both houses, 95% of which comes from voluntary contributions, so every donation really does count.

At the end of the day, it's that one-to-one care that's worth more than all the buildings, facilities and equipment put together, and that care is where the focus of future fundraising is going to be.

The Fundraising Team

David Pastor Joanna Mitchell David Cryer Hilary Burr

Hilary Burr
Lizzie Pickering
Kate Day
Kemi Somefun

Head of Fundraising & PR Community Fundraising Manager Retail Manager Voluntary Services Manager Events Team Events Team

Fundraising Co-ordinator

Respite care End of life care Family support Education

Fundraising Manager: Roger Sharp 20 Kings Road, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 3BD Tel-01442 878181 Email: fundraising@stfrancis.org.uk (Registered Charity Number: 280825)

The Hospice of St. Francis 27 Shrublands Road, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 3HX Tel: 01442 862960



Exciting things are happening in Berkhamstead! In their 25th anniversary year the Hospice of St Francis has finally started building its brand new Hospice. It has taken many years to get the necessary planning permission for its new site and now everyone is madly fund-raising. The site at Shootersway, Berkhamsted will provide sufficient space to double the number of patients needing care and support areas for their families. The spacious building is housed in beautifully landscaped gardens and all the inpatient rooms have access to one of these tranquil areas.

The hospice catchment area stretches over three counties as far afield as St Albans, Whipsnade right over to Aston Clinton and High Wycombe (including Speen) for patients needing in-patient services. About 14% of the patients at St Francis are from Bucks.

The aim of the Hospice is to bring peace, comfort and dignity to patients and families facing the crisis of serious illness.

One of the patients attending the Day Hospice stated recently

"It is about teaching you to live rather than die. A complete eye-opener to me—I thought a hospice was a place to die"

Fundraising and Appeals: Sue Cato

Manor House, Bierton Road, Aylesbury Bucks HP20 1EG Tel: 01296 429975 Email: info@ffih.nildram.co.uk (Registered Charriy No 802733)



The Friends of Florence Nightingale House

Florence Nightingale House costing £1.7 million each year

Florence Nightingale House admitted its first patient on 16th October 1989. Since that time there have been over 3,500 patient admissions to the hospice staying on average around 8 or 9 days each.

The Specialist Care Services based at Florence Nightingale House can offer care for patients wherever they happen to be. This could be at home, staying with a relative, in hospital, or nursing home. We have even nursed patients in prison – they do not need to be admitted to access our care and support.

The Friends of Florence Nightingale House support the hospice by providing funding for the Day Hospice, Lymphoedema Clinic, Paediatric Respite Team, Volunteer and Bereavement Services. The Friends Fundraising Team by running events, bazaars etc, Retail outlets and Hospice Lottery Partnership, along with village groups and not forgetting relatives making donations in memory of a loved one, all go towards providing a much needed £400,000 each year.

We greatly appreciate the support of the local village groups and in particular Speen Supporters Group. Thank you for continuing to support our work in the local community.

Jackie Chambers, Business Manager, May 2005