



4 May 2023

### **Ain't no mountain high enough! Winchester care staff hike for city hospice**

Fun and laughter could be heard at one of Wales' highest peaks this weekend as staff at Winchester Hospice and St John's Winchester completed a three hour mountain hike to raise funds for the city's only adult hospice.

Together, the team of 23 climbed around four miles up Pen y Fan - the highest peak in South Wales at 2,907ft above sea level.

Caring for others in their day-to-day roles, the group chose to go above and beyond to support Winchester Hospice's services even further through taking on this fundraising challenge of their own, so far raising over £2,800 for the hospice's charity. As part of their fundraising, the residents and staff of St John's Winchester held a cake and coffee morning which raised a fantastic £218.30.

Since opening its doors in September 2021, Winchester Hospice has cared for nearly 600 patients and relies on thousands of pounds to be raised each year to be able to continue providing palliative and end of life care to those with life limiting illness.

Donna Coombs, clinical matron at Winchester Hospice says: "The challenge was absolutely fantastic - working collaboratively with St John's has been so valuable in bringing our communities together.

"There is so much enthusiasm within our team for supporting both organisations and we really look forward to continue working together in the coming months."

Anne Evans, Admiral Nurse at St John's Winchester says: "Building strong partnerships with other charities is a key element of our work, so we have been so pleased to work closely with Winchester Hospice and take part in this sponsored walk. What a great experience it was."

To support the fundraiser, you can visit <https://bit.ly/3L5ddnG>.

**ENDS**

**Image one:**



Image two:



Image three:



Image four:



Image five:



**Image six:**



**Media contact:**

Winchester Hospice: 01256 313062, [winchester.hospice@hhft.nhs.uk](mailto:winchester.hospice@hhft.nhs.uk)

St John's Winchester: 01962 854226, [Evalynn.wills@stjohnswinchester.co.uk](mailto:Evalynn.wills@stjohnswinchester.co.uk)

**Notes to Editors:**

**About Winchester Hospice**

- Winchester Hospice is the home of the palliative care team, providing compassionate and specialist care for up to 10 inpatients as well as patients in hospitals and in their own homes.
- Burrell House is located on the grounds of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester and has an important legacy in the city.
- Over the years, Burrell House has been used as accommodation for many healthcare providers and is now home to the palliative care team who provide inpatient care, a hub for specialist outpatient services and therapies, and at home patient care within the community.
- Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust owns Winchester Hospice and will continue to support the facility alongside Winchester Hospice Fundraising Charity.

- So far, the hospice charity has raised more than £4.4million through donations, but still needs to raise at least £500,000 each year to help staff to deliver enhanced care and support to patients and their loved ones. To donate, please visit: [winchesterhospice.com](http://winchesterhospice.com).

#### **About Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

- Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides hospital services to a population of approximately 600,000 people in Hampshire and parts of West Berkshire.
- HHFT has around 8,600 staff and a turnover of over £500 million a year.
- HHFT delivers one hospital service across multiple locations including its own hospitals, Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. It also provides outpatient and assessment services from Alton Community Hospital.
- As a Foundation Trust, HHFT is accountable to the local community through a system of local ownership with members and elected governors. Foundation Trusts are free from central government control and can reinvest any surplus to develop clinical services. They are authorised and regulated by NHS Improvement, an independent regulator.

#### **About St John's Winchester**

- St John's Winchester is a charity which provides care and support to older people through its almshouses, Hand in Hand befriending service, dementia service and Homeshare service.
- The charity provides considerable levels of subsidised accommodation and support to around 300 older people with financial, social, physical health, emotional or other needs.
- Their almshouse accommodation, located in the heart of Winchester, is home to around 80 residents who form a friendly and vibrant community.