





Hospice Care - 01384 443 010 | Fundraising - 01384 377 778 | Lottery - 01384 860 011 Trading & Recycling Centre - 01384 671 149 | Telephone Information Line - 01384 445 417 Bereavement Information Hub - 01384 443 010



Thank you for taking the time to read your latest issue of 'Hospice News'; it is full of great ways in which you can take part in events to raise vital funds for the hospice.

Mary Stevens Hospice provides specialist palliative care for persons aged 18 and over who have a life limiting illness. Care is provided both from our Day Services Team who offer targeted programmes of care helping people to better understand and manage their disease and from our In Patient Unit Team who look after patients and their families 24 hours a day from a 10 bedded unit.

The hospice also offers complementary therapies to patients and carers, offers spiritual care, provides support from our own social worker and physiotherapy team. Bereavement support is provided to families and loved ones for up to 12 months after a patient has died; we also support carers to have a break by providing a free sitting service in patients homes.

Our goal is to help people to live well and to maintain their quality of life.

People are often surprised to learn that not only is all this care free to the patients and families that need it, but that the hospice must raise over £3.5 million pounds every year towards the running costs of the hospice. The hospice receives just 17% of its running costs from its commissioners.

The hospice fundraising team have been busy planning lots of fun ways for you to help us keep doing what we do. Don't miss **Santa**Jog, it is a fun way for families and friends to start the festive period whilst raising money for vital patient care. There is also our annual **Light up a Life** events, creating a poignant time to reflect and remember your loved ones.

Our job is to be there for patients, their families and carers, when they need us, now and in the future.

Our future is built on your support.

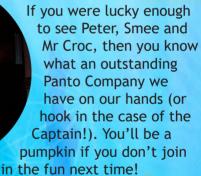
Claire Towns - Matron and CEO



Panto is back... Oh yes it is!

We have 43,000 reasons to say thank you to all who supported our Peter Pan Panto in February 2023!

Peter Pan not only flew
(quite literally) into The
Stourbridge Town Hall
Theatre, but helped us continue
to care for our community when they
need us, by raising over



Our support comes in all shapes, sizes and tastes!

Introducing...
"MARY'S EMBRACE"

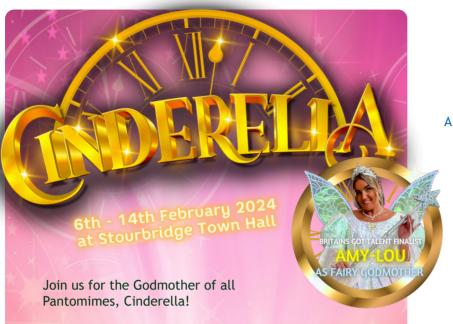
A blonde beer with a combination of new world hops and a light malt base, in a wonderfully refreshing beer with a long lasting sweet finish.

Brewed and labelled exclusively to raise funds for The Mary Stevens Hospice by local brewery Green Duck Beer Co.

This exciting partnership will see us create a limited number of gift packs, just in time for Christmas!

To order yours visit: greenduckbrewery.co.uk





Starring Britain's Got Talent Finalist, Amy-

Baron Hardup!

Lou, as the fabulous Fairy Godmother and Coronation

Street's Bruce Jones, aka Les Battersby, as

for her right to party!

of her trusted sidekick, Buttons (Will Phipps)

and a magical Fairy Godmother (Amy-Lou) to help make

It is the night of the Royal Ball and with only one Prince

Charming to go around, Cinderella needs all the help

But fear not, there is a new Fairy Godmother in town,

giving out shoes that really could change a girl's life, she'll have you reaching for your golden buzzer!

The Mary Stevens Hospice Pantomime Company goes from strength to strength and continues to pull in the

crowds and raise significant funds to support patient and family care at the hospice. We would like to thank

all those who perform, sponsor, help out backstage, volunteer front of house or purchase a ticket, you really help us to make a difference to the lives of those

who rely on our care...see you February 2024!

all her dreams come true.

she can get!

If ever there was a story to be told, it is the one of how good overcomes evil as Cinderella fights

With a midnight curfew of an evil stepmother (Wally Wombat) and the ugliest stepsisters this side of Dudley Castle, Cinders relies on the friendship

A word from our CEO Peter Pan Mary's Embrace

Cinderella Contents Come and say hello

Hayley's Story

Leave a legacy

Christmas fundraising events

Fundraising focus

Lottery

Make a Will Month

What is the Hospice actually like?

Light up a Life

Treecycle

Lottery Big Draw

Forms to return

Tickets are selling fast - to get yours today go to: boroughhalls.co.uk/msh-cinderella or call the Hospice on 01384 377 778

Sponsored by:



Come and say hello!

@marystevenshospice



@MSHospice





@marystevenshospice @The Mary Stevens Hospice

Hayley's Story

"My Dad, Mel, was born in Halesowen but spent

most of his adult life in Stourbridge. He was a proper Black Country bloke, well known in the area, especially in the Unicorn in Wollaston, a Batham's Brewery Pub, where he had lots of friends. My Dad had many loves, one them being "The Villa".

of them being "The Villa".

We were season ticket holders and

shared so many happy times including a trip to Barcelona to watch Lionel Messi play. Whilst in Spain, Dad tried to grasp the language but got mixed up, greeting everyone with "Hellola" and I can still hear him now answering the phone to me in this way or him saying "Chin up mate, it'll soon be Christmas" My Dad was super-daft!

When he became ill at the end of July 2022, the consultant said, "you have an 85% chance of dying from this illness in the next 12 months". As I drove home, I asked him "Dad, do you understand what he said?" and he replied, "Yes, I have a 15% chance of living" he always saw the good in everything. A short time later he was admitted to hospital and eventually became so poorly that the staff started to mention hospice care to me. I was adamant that I didn't want him moved, until a friend whose Mom had been cared for by the hospice said "you must

move him."

The day he arrived at the hospice, I parked my

car and looked at the autumn leaves on the trees. I remember him having his lunch on a proper plate, with a proper knife and fork, and his own salt & pepper pot! I don't know what I expected, but this felt like home.

but this felt like nome.

Dad and my dog, Ruby, were so close, he'd missed her during his stay in the hospital. I couldn't believe it when I was told she could visit him at the hospice too! Those first cuddles when they were reunited did them

both the world of good, they really loved each other. I just can't put into words the care and support I received from the hospice nurses, they allowed me to be 'Mel's Daughter' again, as they provided the care, allowing me to spend my time just loving him. We were a family again.

I was asked if there was anything I wanted to do, anything that would create a lasting memory. As Dad was determined to see out the festive season but was so poorly, I asked if we could bring forward Christmas Day. So. on 29th October we decorated his room and lit twinkly lights. The nursing staff gave him a Christmas jumper to wear and they stood around his bed to sing 'Merry Christmas' to him. The next day was to be Christmas Day. We had Christmas dinner with all the trimmings courtesy of the hospice Chef, Jean, and the nurses turned up (some of them on their day off) dressed in Christmas outfits. Although he was getting weaker, he had enjoyed what he truly believed was Christmas Day, he had reached his goal. A few days later, (on my Dad's 29th December) he passed away, with me and Ruby by his side. It was 3rd November.

As the months have gone by since I lost my Dad, I have been determined to fundraise for the hospice, to raise funds to match what someone else raised for us, so that as a family we could have the dignified care we needed. On 29th October this year I am holding a fundraising Quiz night. It will be 'Melmas Eve', and we will all be taking part wearing our Christmas Jumpers."

Hayley continues to be supported



amazing story of Kindness

The Mary Stevens Hospice.

best life possible for as long as possible. They believe

The compassionate care we give is not unique to our community, but for local families there is no other care like it, and we need your help to ensure it continues.

A legacy is a gift you leave to our charity in your Will. It can be money, property, belongings, or a percentage of your estate, your legacy is completely personal to you.

We appreciate that your Will is made in confidence, but we need to talk to you about the impact leaving a legacy to The Mary Stevens Hospice has on the future of our services. We rely on at least 20% of our annual funding to reach us from legacies, gifts that sustain our services. To put it bluntly, without the gifts our incredible donors leave us in their Wills, we could not support the ever-growing need for specialist end of life care.

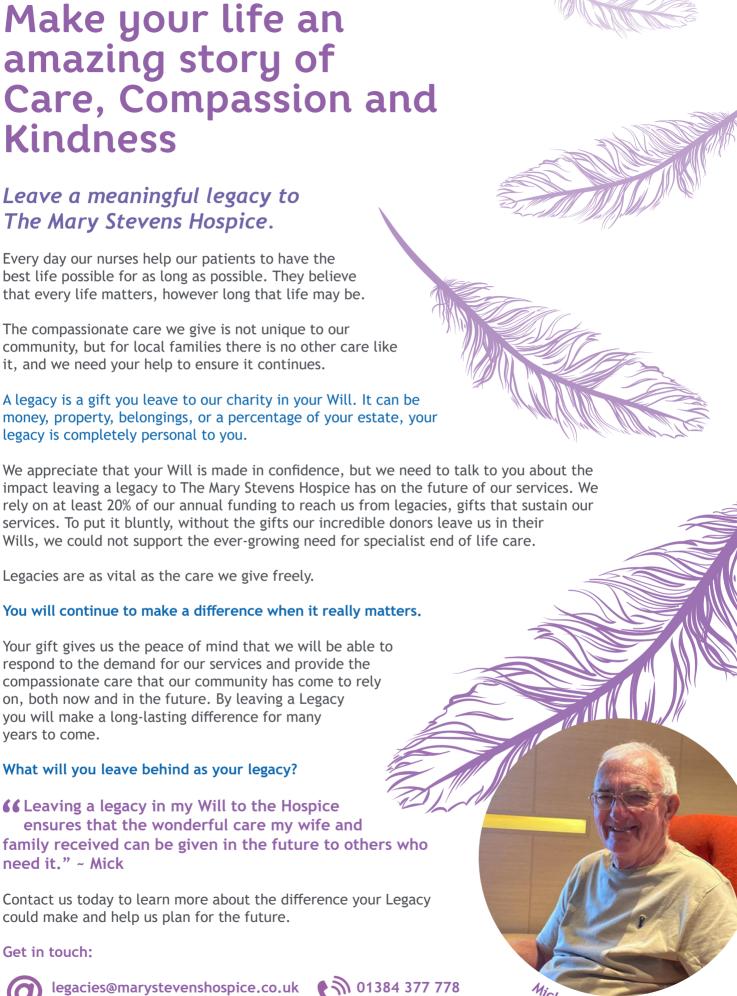
Your gift gives us the peace of mind that we will be able to respond to the demand for our services and provide the compassionate care that our community has come to rely on, both now and in the future. By leaving a Legacy you will make a long-lasting difference for many vears to come.

ensures that the wonderful care my wife and family received can be given in the future to others who need it." ~ Mick

could make and help us plan for the future.









ROYAL ASCOT Ladies Day





After the success of Royal Ascot 2023, we are doing it all again next year! You are guaranteed a day full of fabulous fashion and high stakes, mixing with Royalty and racegoers as you cheer on your favourite to win!

Royal Ascot Ladies Day takes place on Thursday 20 June 2024. The day will see us get up bright and early to make our way down from Stourbridge to Royal Ascot, with a light breakfast and fizz to toast the start of an unforgettable day. An afternoon tea box with a cheeky cocktail will be served on-route. An unforgettable day for just £169.00pp includes entry to the prestigious Queen Anne Enclosure where you can find your trackside spot in good time to welcome the Royal Parade and watch the racing for the afternoon.

With singing around the Bandstand completing your Ascot experience, you will be in fine voice all the way home to Stourbridge.

To book, scan the QR code in the top right hand corner or contact the Fundraising Office on 01384 377778. A non-refundable deposit of £75pp will secure your spot with the balance being payable by 1st May 2024.





Mary Stevens Hospice

CTe

You could win up to £1,000 every week and make a difference to the lives of local people who rely on our vital care.



Win up to £10,000 in our weekly rollover

49 prizes every week

playing our weekly lottery supports our services every day

Automatic entry into our super draws!

£1,000 weekly jackpot



We are delighted to announce that the partnership between Mary Stevens Hospice Lottery & Stourbridge Football Club will continue this forthcoming season, 2023 - 2024!

When you visit their website, not only will you be able to buy tickets to a game, but you will be able to follow the link to purchase a weekly hospice lottery ticket, supporting both teams at the same time!

Together, we are making a difference to our community.

www.stourbridgefc.com



You can now pop into one of our Hospice shops and buy a ticket at the till!

Volunteers from our Sedgley Shop, Janet and Keith, said: "It was wonderful to learn we had sold a winning ticket to one of our lucky customers!"

Tickets for the weekly draw are available at the following Hospice shops:

Blackheath Brierley Hill Furniture Depot Sedgley Cradley Heath Dudley

Kinver Stourbridge HS Stourbridge VP Wollaston Wombourne Wordsley Green





£4,200 - Rollover!

Mr Glaze was delighted to be our latest Rollover Winner and plans to treat his grandchildren to a special family holiday!

By becoming a regular player like Mr Glaze, you too could be in with a chance of winning big! Complete and return the form below or sign up via our website at: www.marystevenshospice.co.uk/lottery

What would you spend your winnings on?

MR JOHN GLAZE FOUR THOUSAND, THO HUND

We asked some of

Ruth, DSU Sister

"It would go towards my motorhome fund!"

Jackie, Volunteer receptionist

"I would spend my winnings on a dream holiday!



"I'd treat my friends and family to a fabulous Christmas!"

The Mary S	Stevens	Hospice	Lottery	Direct	Debit	Form
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Title:					
Name:					
Address:					
Postcode:		D.O.B:			
Telephone no:					
Email:					
Signature:					
Choose how much you would like to pay:					
One chance per week:	Two chances	s per week:			
○ £52 every 52 weeks	○ £104 every 5	52 weeks			
○ £26 every 26 weeks	○ £52 every 26	6 weeks			
○ £13 every 13 weeks	£13 every 13 weeks				
○ £5 every month	○ £10 every m	nonth			
Payment date: Sth of each month	20th of each	month			
Instructions to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit					

MARY STEVENS HOSPICE LOTTERY LTD, 221 Hagley Road, DY8 2JR

Account holder name Account number Bank sort code



- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit MARY STEVENS HOSPICE LOTTERY LTD will notify
 you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request MARY STEVENS HOSPICE LOT-TERY LTD to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by MARY STEVENS HOSPICE LOTTERY LTD or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society. If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when MARY STEVENS HOSPICE LOTTERY LTD asks you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

Make a Will Month

November 1st 2023 - November 30th 2023

If you've been planning on writing your will but just keep putting it off, why not take advantage of our very special Make a Will Month, supported by our local trusted partners?

Throughout the month of November, writing or updating your Will, costs £90 for a single Will or £150 for a double Will. Not only is this fantastic value, but 50% of the fee will be donated back to The Mary Stevens Hospice to support the care of our patients.

You can choose one of our professional Will writers to meet with and be assured that they will talk you through the process, answer all your questions and make sure you are happy with the final wishes you have made.

In just 3 simple steps, you can write your Will and support your local hospice at the same time:

- 1. To register, call the fundraising office on 01384 377 778, or register online (use the QR code below) to take part in our Make a Will Month.
- 2. Your chosen hospice partner will contact you to make an appointment
- 3. You can rest easy knowing you have put your affairs in order.

Meet our Make a Will Month partners:



"It's our privilege to be a part of Make A Will Month once again with Mary Stevens Hospice.

Having an up-to-date Will is so important to ensure that any family members and loved ones are cared for in the way that we would choose, in the event of a person's passing, and anything we can do to make this accessible for people is something we are keen to support.

To know that this initiative is also ensuring that the Hospice can continue its vital work for families in the Black Country makes it all the more important that we involve ourselves in all the ways we can!"

Five offices based in Stourbridge, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Dudley, and Edgbaston



"I'm delighted to once again be able to support Mary Stevens Hospice for their upcoming Make a

The hospice does an amazing job within the Community not just for their patients but also in supporting affected families too.

If you die without a Will, it can cause all sorts of problems for your loved ones, so if you don't have a will, take advantage of Wills month and 50% my fee will go to this fantastic charity.

I give friendly, professional and plain English advice, offer home visits or online consultations including in the evening or weekend and if urgent can prepare your documents in under 2 hours.

Office in Wollaston and offering home visits





"We are proud to support Mary Stevens Hospice Make a Will Month for November following successful participation in the scheme back in May. We have participated in the scheme for many years, and this May was the

busiest and most successful to date.

We are looking forward to welcoming even more clients to our offices in November. Whether you are looking for a Will review or a first time Will, we are more than happy to discuss your options with you.'

Offices in Stourbridge

There is no obligation to leave a gift to The Mary Stevens Hospice. However, last year, 20% of our funding was received from gifts in Wills which helps us to continue to care for our patients, both now and in the future.

The gift you give could last a lifetime

For more information or to sign up today:





legacies@marystevenshospice.co.uk



www.marystevenshospice.co.uk

What is The Mary Stevens Hospice actually like?

We strive to achieve our vision of providing a safe, compassionate environment, with our highly-skilled staff taking the time to listen, advise and create personalised holistic programmes of care.

We want to be able to dispel common myths that surround Hospice care, so we spoke with our Ward Manager, Andrew, who answered some common questions that we are asked about our care and what a Hospice is actually like...

"What does the hospice do other than care for people with cancer who are dying?"

"Well, the hospice cares for a great many people but not all have a diagnosis of cancer or are dying. We care for people who need our specialist care and in the past we've cared for those who have motor neurone disease (MND), multiple sclerosis (MS), heart or kidney failure, as well as others who have become frail due to underlying conditions, including following a stroke. At Mary Stevens Hospice we care for people who are admitted for symptom control or for end of life care as well as seeing individuals in our Day Services Centre where we run a number of out-patient clinics and therapy sessions."

"How is the hospice funded?"

"We receive approximately 17% from the government which comes to us from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) but we rely on the kindness and generosity of others too. There are those who play our lottery or shop in our charity shops throughout the Borough. Those who fundraise or donate in memory of a loved one, regular givers and local businesses who are always on hand to support us. We are also extremely grateful to those who remember the hospice in their Will. We couldn't do the fabulous work we do without the support of our compassionate community."

"What is Mary Stevens Hospice actually like?"

"Our In Patient Unit has ten single rooms, the majority with en-suite facilities, although we're hoping that a refurbishment will mean that en-suites are added to the remaining rooms. We're planning to create a flat so families can stop over and to also have a larger nurse's office and staff room. Our Day Services Centre offers care to a great many people and seeks to respond to their needs as quickly as possible.

We know that people think hospices are dark, gloomy and sad places, but whilst we care for people who are poorly and whose family and friends are finding it difficult, Mary Stevens Hospice is a bright, positive and at times a really happy place to work. So, if you've never been inside a hospice and would like to come and have a look around for yourself, please let us know."

"Living is precious, and is perhaps best appreciated when we live with the end in mind" - Dr Kathryn Mannix



Light up a Life

A special way to remember...

Christmas is a special time of the year for so many of us, a time to create new memories with people we love, but also a time to reflect and remember loved ones who will live on in our hearts forever. 'Light up a Life' isn't just for families who have lost loved ones at the hospice but is for anyone who would like to remember the special people they have lost and to celebrate their lives. It is an incredibly personal service, where thousands of lights on the tree will be switched on during the evening.

Each light represents a family member or friend and helps support our vital care because of the generous donations made by those who share our values of care, compassion and kindness. Both services will include an evening of music, readings, reflection, and remembrance. It is our pleasure to be holding two Light up a Life ceremonies this year and we do hope that you will be able to join us. Details of both of these ceremonies are as follows:

Saturday 18th November - 5pm

Under the Tree of Light in the grounds of the Hospice The Mary Stevens Hospice, 221 Hagley Road, Oldswinford, DY8 2JR (Please note that there is no parking on site except limited disabled parking)

Tuesday 21st November - 7pm

St Mary's Church, Rectory Road, Oldswinford, DY8 2HA Afterwards we will return to the Hospice to spend some time reflecting and remembering under the Tree of Light

"The tree symbolises remembrance of those lost but also hope for the future. The hospice holds a very large part of our hearts, and we will not forget the help and support given to us" - Cathy



Dedicate a light to a loved one and support your local Hospice

We do hope that you choose to remember someone special with us this year. It is only thanks to the kindness and generosity of people like you that local families can receive the care and support that they need. By remembering those who you miss you will also light up the lives of others, ensuring we can continue to look after our community throughout the festive season, including Christmas day and during the rest of the year.

You do not have to attend one of the services to make your dedication as the name of your loved one can on request, be added to our Book of Remembrance.

Please complete and return the form on the back of this newsletter to make your donation today. You can also make your dedication online or by calling the fundraising office on 01384 377 778 or visiting our website: www.marystevenshospice.co.uk/event/light-up-a-life

'Light up a Life' Keepsakes 2023

Our remembrance 'Light up a Life' keepsakes can be ordered using the form below and can be collected from one of the services, alternatively, please choose one of our postage options. The Book of Remembrance will be posted out to you once the lights are switched off on 12th night, 5th January 2024.



Item:	Order	Price per item	Postage per item	Total
Light up a Life badge	1	£2.00	£1.75	2.00
Heart badge		£2.00	£1.75	
Tree badge	1	£2.00	£1.75	2.00
Christmas Tree badge		£2.00	£1.75	
Candles		£10.00	£4.99	
Book of Remembrance		£5.00	£1.75	
				Total to pay:
Name:				lotal to pay.
Name: Address:				4.00
		Email:		
Address:			ee digit code:	
Address: Contact telephone:	n the (please tick) (ee digit code:) Tuesday service	

Alternatively, please make cheques payable to Mary Stevens Hospice. Please return this form to the Fundraising Department, in the envelope provided.

reecyale 6th - 9th Januaru 2024

We're branching out into even more postcodes!

Our annual Treecycle campaign will be back in January 2024 to collect and recycle your real Christmas tree. This year we are excited to share that we will be collecting from even more areas of The Black Country!

Our friendly team of elves will collect your tree from outside your property and treecycle it, solving that age old question of 'what are we going to do with this now?!' Not only will we take the hassle out of disposing of

your Christmas tree, your donations really do make a difference and help us protect the future of our end of life care.

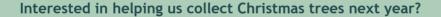
66The Elves have been! Just got home from work and the tree has been collected. Thank you Mary Stevens, such a great scheme for a worthy cause!" ~ Julie

66Mine was collected this morning Fantastic service as usual" ~ Pippa

66 Collected mine this morning...just like Santa! It was here then gone and I never heard a thing. Thank you." ~ Wendy

We recommend signing up today (don't wait for the pine needles to start shedding!) as demand will be high. Please don't forget to tick the Gift Aid box, it'll boost your donation to us by 25% at no extra cost to you.

"While, at first, it was rather daunting driving a van around some seriously narrow, one-way backstreets, with plenty of 'We've driven past it' and 'Can we fit through here?' moments, it has been a really positive and rewarding experience. Meeting lots of lovely people along the way, it's great to be able to help towards raising a significant amount of money for such a worthy cause. - Katherine, Treecycle Volunteer 2023



We're looking for drivers and driver's mates who can spare the time to volunteer and help us collect Christmas trees in early January 2024.

> Call 01384 377 778 or email 'info@mshfundraising.co.uk' if you would like to join us as a Treecycle volunteer next year.

> > teams

welcome!

Treecyale















ghtupa

suggested £10 minimum donation for each light that you Department, in the envelope provided. Kindly enclose a would like to sponsor on the Tree of Light. Please fill in this form and return it to the Fundraising

Address:	Name:

Contact Number:

Email:

in our Book of Remembrance (please tick) Do you wish for the name of your loved one/s to be included

Yes

In Memory Of:

I enclose a donation for the amount of: £

Long card no

Expiry Date

Three digit code

Alternatively, please make cheques payable to Mary Stevens Hospice

an extra 25p from HM Revenue and Customs for every £1 donation go further. that you donate, at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax payer, please tick the declaration box to help us make your 'Gift Aid' means that Mary Stevens Hospice can claim back

Yes, I would like to Gift Aid my donation

No, I am not a UK tax payer

the past year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference. Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in I am a UK taxpayer and understand if I pay less income Tax/Capital

Santa Jog

Please fill in this form and return it to the Fundraising Department, in the envelope provided

Name:

Address:

Contact Number:

Email:

Lead name on your Santa Jog booking:

Early bird prices per adult, child and dog are as follows: like to book on our Santa Jog) (In the white box underneath, please indicate how many spaces you woula



I would like to make an additional donation of towards to work of the Hospice

Hospice. If you would like your pack and sponsor form posted to you, please We will contact you when your event pack is ready to collect from the elephone the Fundraising Office on 01384 377 778 to arrange this

l enclose: £

Long card no

Three digit code

Expiry Date

Department, in the envelope provided. Please fill in this form and return it to the Fundraising

DY3, DY4, DY5, DY6, DY7, DY8, DY9, DY10, DY11, WV5 postcodes in early January 2024: B62, B63, B64, DY1, DY2 We will be collecting Christmas Trees from the following

Address (we will collect your tree from this address):

Contact Number:

Email:

are dependent on the size of your tree and are as follows: The suggested minimum donations for our Treecycle this year

01384 377 778 or email 'info@mshfundraising.co.uk Over 8ft - please contact the Fundraising Office on 6ft - 8ft - suggested minimum donation of £16 Up to 6ft - suggested minimum donation of £14

I enclose a donation for the amount of:

Long card no

Expiry Date

Three digit code

Alternatively, please make cheques payable to Mary Stevens Hospice

that you donate, at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax an extra 25p from HM Revenue and Customs for every £1 payer, please tick the declaration box to help us make your donation go further. 'Gift Aid' means that Mary Stevens Hospice can claim back

Yes, I would like to Gift Aid my donation

No, I am not a UK tax payer

the past year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference. Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in I am a UK taxpayer and understand if I pay less income Tax/Capital