

Your St Giles

Autumn 2026

News and updates
from your local hospice

**“I know I may
need to rely on
St Giles to be
there for me
and my family.”**

Gemma,
St Giles supporter and daughter of the late Lesley

Read more of Gemma's
story on **page 4**



Welcome to Your St Giles

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Welcome

A very warm welcome to our latest edition of Your St Giles.

There's lots to celebrate and reflect on since our Spring edition.

In May, we brought together individuals, businesses and funders who've helped transform our hospice and the care we're able to provide to our patients and their families at the most difficult of times.

Bringing our supporters together to celebrate what we've achieved through our recent improvement projects, made possible by the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) funding and other generous donors, was a moment we'd been looking forward to.

It was a wonderful reminder of what we can achieve together, and of why your support matters so much.

We were incredibly proud to showcase our newly improved spaces, including an overnight family stay space, a dedicated quiet room, a spa bathroom with sensory technology and mood lighting, and a

new family lounge with a children's area. (Read more about how these facilities benefitted late patient, Rebecca, and her family on pages 8-9).

We are genuinely grateful for capital funding that enabled us to improve our buildings and facilities but it's your ongoing generosity that keeps our doors open and our services running.

We pride ourselves on providing incredible care, and now we're creating an incredible facility to match. On the next page, you can read about our 'next chapter' - including our wider modernisation programme for our Inpatient Unit and how you can help us realise our vision for our Whittington site, so we can continue providing the best possible care and reach more people in our community.

Elinor

With thanks and best wishes,
Chief Executive Officer



Our next chapter

As well as reflecting on what we've achieved together, we want to share some exciting opportunities for the year ahead.

At St Giles, our vision is a world where everyone receives the best end of life care – but we can't do what we do without you.

We spend close to £10 million a year providing our specialist services, and with hospices across the UK facing significant funding challenges, we need your support more than ever before.

Whilst one-off investment has been very welcome, it's critical that we continue to work with the Government

to secure long-term reform, ensuring hospice care is there for everyone who needs it, whoever and wherever they are.

Right now, it's your ongoing generosity that keeps our doors open and our services running.

In April, we launched our strategy for 2026-30. It sets out our ambitious plans and captures our passion for reaching more people through four strategic objectives – to **reach** more people in our communities, to **build** diverse and profitable income streams, to **pioneer** the way hospice care is delivered and to create a culture in which our people can **thrive**.



Nurses **Leia, Kirsty, Amy, and Donna**

What's on the horizon?

Alongside modernising our Inpatient Unit, we are expanding community-based care through a rapid response service and virtual ward, helping more people to avoid hospital stays, enable quicker discharges from hospital, and for people to be cared for, and die in, their preferred place.

Over the coming months, you'll hear more about how we'll be asking our community to support our plans. In the meantime, we still need you to help us to reach more people locally, where and when they need us most.

We're here for you, because you're here for us. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Gemma's Story

Why our family is continuing to support St Giles Hospice

For Gemma and her family, St Giles has been a source of support through some of life's most challenging moments for over a decade.

We first became part of Gemma's family story when her mum was diagnosed with cancer in 2016 and was admitted to our Inpatient Unit.

Sadly, Gemma's mum died in early 2017. But St Giles would continue to play an important role in Gemma's life when, just 18 months later, Gemma received her own breast cancer diagnosis.

"St Giles is a huge part of my life. Whilst I'm well, I want to continue raising money for them, but there are times when I'm receiving more active treatment and I know I may need to rely on services like St Giles to be there for me and my family."

Gemma said: *"Because of my recent experience with the hospice and their services, they were the first people I thought to reach out to for support."*

A few years later, Gemma received a secondary diagnosis and is now living with stage 4 cancer.

Gemma with her late mum, Lesley



Earlier this year, Gemma's 9-year-old son Angelo decided to fundraise for the hospice by taking part in our football Keepy-Up Challenge. She said:

"I love that Angelo continues to support St Giles and understands how important they are to us as a family. He is very keen to get involved and fundraise so that other families can continue benefiting from the services in the way that we did."

For Gemma, seeing Angelo support the hospice feels particularly meaningful.

"Mum would be super pleased to see what we're doing to support St Giles. I know that she is somewhere looking down on us. Mum never got to meet Angelo, but she was so excited about his arrival. In her final weeks, we spent a lot of time talking about him and the future."

"For me, it's a bit of a full-circle moment that he himself now understands the importance of the hospice and the role it plays in our family."

It's thanks to you, our wonderful community, that we're able to be there for families like Gemma's.



Thank you to our wonderful community

Every day we are inspired by the kindness and generosity of our community.

We're delighted to share just a few of the many inspiring fundraising stories from our supporters. While we can't feature everyone who continues to support St Giles, we want everyone to know how grateful we are for your kindness and support.

From all of us at #TeamStGiles, thank you for being part of our community and helping us continue to be there for people when they need us most.

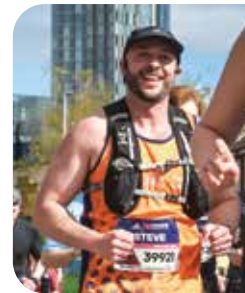


Atherstone Friends Group

A huge thank you to the Atherstone Friends Group. Since forming in 1990, this dedicated community group has raised more than **£50,000** through a variety of fundraising activities and events including quiz nights, coffee mornings, concerts and more.

Greene King

A special thanks to Greene King for their support over the past 12 months. Through sponsorship of our Light up a Life and Light the Night events, they have contributed more than **£15,000** to help fund vital hospice care. The team has also donated a new quiet shelter for patients and families to benefit from at our Whittington site.



Stephen Maxfield

A special thanks to Stephen, who raised more than **£2,000** by taking on the Manchester Marathon earlier this year. Stephen ran in memory of his mum, who we cared for before she died in 2018. Thank you, Stephen, for your incredible support.

Roseanne McCaffery

A huge thank you to Roseanne for organising a 1920s-themed charity ball, held on what would have been her son Michael's 40th birthday.

Michael was cared for by us before he died, aged 35. The evening helped raise over **£7,000** for St Giles, thanks to everyone's generosity.



Inspired to get involved?

Whether you have an idea for a fundraiser or want to support St Giles in another way, we'd love to hear from you! To find out more visit: www.stgileshospice.com/support-us

Rebecca's Story

“The team took her into their hearts, and that gave us real comfort – knowing she was so well looked after.”

When Rebecca and her family needed support most, St Giles was there for them.

Rebecca, wife to David, and mum to Issy and Jacob, was diagnosed with lung cancer in May 2021. Throughout her illness, she faced every challenge with remarkable determination, finding strength and comfort in one of her greatest passions – running.

Sadly, Rebecca died at St Giles in February this year, surrounded by the care and support that meant so much to her and her family.

David said:

“St Giles gave us the time and space we needed as a family while Rebecca was still with us. The team took her into their hearts, and that gave us real comfort – knowing she was so well looked after.”

“Having access to the family lounge on the Inpatient Unit was so important to us, it gave us a quiet comfortable space to be a family during such a difficult time.”

David and friends at our recent Light the Night event



“Rebecca was a little different – she was always active. Even while she was on the Inpatient Unit, she wanted to be up and about, getting her steps in right up until the week before she died. Rebecca ran after chemotherapy sessions, after infusions, and through some of the toughest periods of her treatment.

“She would pace up and down the corridors, drawing physical and mental strength from staying active and inspiring family and friends to do the same. The team adapted to her wishes so well. They embraced her for who she was and really took her into their hearts.”

Following the heartbreak of Rebecca's death, and inspired by her love for running, the family have chosen to honour her memory by launching an ambitious fundraising challenge.

The family launched the Run4Rebecca challenge on what would have been Rebecca's 52nd birthday. The challenge celebrates the 2,395 miles Rebecca ran between her diagnosis and the point she was no longer able to run. Their aim is now to encourage 2,395 people to run, jog or walk 5k and donate £25, or whatever they can, to charities that meant the most to Rebecca, including St Giles.

Rebecca, David and their two children.



David with his late wife, Rebecca.



David, talking about Run4Rebecca with St Giles nurse



David said:

“Being active and running were incredibly important to Rebecca. It wasn't just something she did, it became integral to who she was and part of our family life. Our daughter Issy is even running the London marathon next year in aid of St Giles.”

“We're hoping to honour Rebecca by turning those miles into helping others and perhaps inspire people to get out, exercise and experience the benefits that running and being active brought to Rebecca throughout her life.”

You can follow the challenge on Instagram: [@run4rebecca](https://www.instagram.com/run4rebecca)

Geoff's story

Volunteering at St Giles

Geoff Lloyd was first introduced to St Giles while navigating one of the most difficult periods of his life.

Following the death of his wife, Chris, in July 2014, Geoff was provided with support including information about our Bereavement Help Points.

After attending a few sessions, Geoff discovered an opportunity to volunteer in the hospice gardens.

In 2015, Geoff trained as a Bereavement Help Point volunteer. Nine years later, he is still supporting people who are navigating grief.

Geoff said: *"It helps me to support others who have been through similar experiences to my own. I enjoy being with people and helping them through difficult times."*

Last April, Geoff experienced another heartbreaking loss when his partner also died from cancer. Despite this, he continues to volunteer, drawing on his own experiences to support others.

Reflecting on his journey, Geoff says that coming to St Giles as a bereaved person helped him move forward with his life while still holding onto precious memories of those he has loved and lost.



Geoff, in the hospice gardens.

Geoff continued: *"I'm so grateful for St Giles being there for me and supporting me. It has helped me turn my life around and be able to support others too."*

Today, Geoff's dedication can be seen both in the hospice gardens and at the Bereavement Help Point at our Sutton site, where his support and understanding continue to make a difference to so many people.

Want to volunteer with us? Visit: www.stgileshospice.com/volunteer

Maggie and Amanda's story

Find friendship through volunteering

Maggie Nicholls and Amanda Rudd first met while volunteering at one of our stores in Lichfield. What began as an opportunity to support St Giles soon grew into a lasting friendship.

After developing a serious spinal condition that affected her mobility, Amanda made the difficult decision to leave her full-time job. Amanda said: *"I felt completely lost when I left my job as an Activities Coordinator. One day I walked into the St Giles shop in Lichfield, and I got talking to someone about volunteering."*

It was there, when Amanda started her volunteering role, that she met Maggie, and the pair became close friends.

Alongside their volunteering roles, Maggie and Amanda also support St Giles through various fundraising activities, helping to raise vital funds for local people, and their loved ones, living with a terminal illness.

For Amanda, one of the greatest rewards of volunteering has been the connections she has made. Amanda continued:

"The best thing about volunteering is helping others, and the wonderful friendships I have made, especially with Maggie."

Maggie and Amanda's story is a wonderful reminder that volunteering not only makes a difference in your local community but can also give you the opportunity to meet new people.

If you've ever thought about volunteering, why not join St Giles Hospice and become part of our supportive volunteering team who make a wonderful difference?

For more information visit www.stgileshospice.com/volunteer

Maggie and Amanda during volunteers week at St Giles



A tree of love and memories

Dedicate a leaf to someone special

Our beautiful Memory Tree takes pride of place in the reception area at our hospice in Whittington. It's a source of comfort and a place of remembrance for many.

The tree is made up of 450 brass leaves that can be engraved with the name of a loved one. For a suggested minimum donation of £120, or a £10 regular gift over 12 months, your leaf will be displayed on our Memory Tree for a year.

At the end of this period, you can either renew your leaf, or we'll send you your leaf in a special keepsake box.

For more information visit:
www.stgileshospice.com/memorytree



Jenny's story

Supporting bereaved parents

St Giles has launched a support group for parents who have lost adult children, offering a welcoming and supportive environment for people to connect with others who have shared similar experiences.

Jenny Lilly's daughter, Vicki, died four years ago at just 37 years old. Throughout her grief, Jenny found there was very little support available specifically for adults who had lost adult children.

Jenny said: *"After Vicki died, I felt very angry and lost in the world. Over time, I realised there must be other people feeling the same way, but there weren't many places where we could come together and talk about our experiences."*

The group represents an important opportunity for others to find the

support Jenny struggled to access. Jenny supported in setting up the group who meet on the first Monday of every month, 2-4pm, at our site in Sutton Coldfield.

Ali Callear, our Family & Community Support Services Lead explained: "This group is a response to the changing demographic of our patients and the needs of those closest to them. We know that grief doesn't end after a loved one dies, and neither does our support. We are so grateful to Jenny and her support in helping us set up this group."



Jenny with her late daughter, Vicki



To find out more and register your interest in attending the group, please email:
community.development@stgileshospice.com

cycle St Giles

25

miles

50

miles

100

miles

Sunday 27th September 2026 | Whittington

Whether you ride in memory, for fun, or to challenge yourself – every pedal and every pound helps fund vital care for local people, and their loved ones, living with a terminal illness.

Secure your place at the start line today!

www.stgileshospice.com/cyclestgiles



Get involved!

Join **#TeamStGiles** and fundraise your own way!

Upcoming events:



27th Sept

Cycle
Autumn



13th Nov

Winter
Gala



Nov / Dec

Light up
a Life



11th Dec

Jolly
Jumper Day



Dec

Rudolph
Rally



24th Jan

Winter
Raffle*

Other ways to support:



Corporate fundraising

Partner with us through fundraising, volunteering, or charity of the year support.



Leave a gift in your will

A gift in your will can help St Giles care for local people for years to come.



Take on a challenge

Choose from treks, skydives, mud runs and more.



Host a coffee morning

Raise a cuppa and make a difference!



Play our weekly lottery!*

Join for just £1 a week with fabulous prizes to be won.

18+

*18+ GB only please gamble responsibly
www.gambleaware.org

St Giles Hospice (Promotions) Limited T/A St Giles Hospice Lottery is licensed and regulated in Great Britain by the Gambling Commission under account number 4914. Responsible Person(s): Helen Curran, William McLoughlin and Elinor Eustace. Our full Lottery Terms and Conditions are available on our website. St Giles Hospice Lottery is a wholly owned subsidiary of St Giles Hospice and all profits go to St Giles Hospice (Registered Charity No. 509014).

Keep up to date with all of our events at
www.stgileshospice.com/support-us

We're here for you...

Whether you're living with a terminal illness, or your loved one is nearing the end of their life, we're here for you.

Our advice and support line is available 24/7 on **0300 330 9410**.



HCAs **Wendy, Annette and Sam**

...because you're here for us

We spend close to £10 million a year providing our specialist services. With less than a quarter of this funded by the Government, we rely heavily on donations and income generation from the local community to continue our vital care.

If you can, please consider donating today. Your support will help us continue to be here for our patients, and their loved ones, living with a terminal illness.

It takes a community to make a hospice. Thank you so much for your support.

Ways to support:



Donate online:

www.stgileshospice.com/yourstgiles



Donate by phone:

01543 432538

We're available weekdays, 9am - 5pm



Donate by post:

**Your St Giles, St Giles Hospice,
Fisherwick Road, Whittington,
Lichfield WS14 9LH**

Please do not send cash in the post.
Please make cheques payable to St Giles Hospice.



Why not give a monthly gift to help support local people living with a terminal illness?

Visit: www.stgileshospice.com/regulargiving