

AUTUMN/WINTER NEWSLETTER 2025



**Somerset
NHS Charity**

Golf Day 2025



Friday 16th May brought not only some glorious weather, but another successful Charity Golf Day, held at the Cricket St. Thomas Golf Club.

This year, the event saw our family of charities once again come together to create another successful Golf Day, raising an incredible £5,614. The weather certainly understood the assignment, as it was clear skies and sunshine all day, with highs of 21 degrees!

We had some superb sponsorship from Godwin Business Services, the main sponsor of the event, and Porter Dodson, who sponsored a hole. There were some amazing raffle prizes donated from our very own Breeze Café, Berry's Coaches, Hippyckick, Thatcher's, Costa Coffee – Chard, Yeovil Town Football Club, Claire Norris, among many others, and we are immensely grateful for their support.

There was a fantastic turnout of 17 teams of four players, all taking part in the Texas Scramble competition, with no handicap, and optional mini competitions of Longest Drive at the 5th hole, Nearest to Pin at the

13th hole, and Beat Nick at the 16th hole. The 9th hole hosted a half-way house, hydrating our players with bottles of Medium and English Berry cider, generously donated by Heritage Cider.

The teams witnessed some incredible golfing, and the defending champion team, led by Musgrove Park Hospital's Dan Barnes, retained their winning title, once again coming in 1st place. And if that wasn't enough, Dan also won the Longest Drive competition! In 2nd place came Anthony Gough's team, and 3rd place Dr Richard Clarkson's team. The winner of the Nearest the Pin competition was Gary Clasby.

We also cannot forget to thank our wonderful volunteers, who gave up their valuable time and helped to make the event such a success by running the half-way house, the raffle, managing the competitions, and helping us set up.

DEAR SUPPORTERS

Welcome to the Summer 2025 edition of our Newsletter. Thank you to all who have supported us in your exceptional ways by donating, fundraising, and getting 2025 off to a marvellous start; including those ongoing fundraisers who are doing wonderful work at this moment.



2025 has seen an incredible start in support from our donors and fundraisers, and I would like to extend my personal thanks to those of you who have participated in any capacity, and to those who have any upcoming events across the summer.

I look forward to seeing and hearing about your achievements over the coming year, and greatly appreciate every penny donated in your efforts to make a difference for our patients.

With my best wishes and sincerest thanks.

Graham Hughes
Non-Executive Director and Chair of Charity



Silent Disco

**Raised an
amazing
£1,700**

In May this year, we saw not only another collaboration between our family of charities, but also our first ever Charity Silent Disco!

Held at The Loft Lounge & Bar in Street, the event was filled with oldies but goodies from the 80's, 90's, and 00's. The magic of a silent disco is that it allows attendees to enjoy music without having to shout over the volume, just to hold a conversation, and it can be respectful to the neighbours – however, the caveat to that is everybody can hear you singing your heart out, including any questionable notes and pitches! But this didn't stop the party goers from belting out the tunes they know and love whilst dancing the night away, equipped with glitter, glow sticks and flashing glasses.

We had a great turnout on the night, with people of all ages and music tastes, and even had the honour of hosting a 50th birthday party! You could observe a sea of green, blue, and red lights, as the attendees switched between each era of music, and the lights of their headphones changing to match. The sound of mis-match sing-alongs was a testimony to the DJ and his choice of songs, with The Spice Girls' 'Wannabe' in an acapella mash-up of ABBA's 'Dancing Queen' and Paul Simon's 'You Can Call Me Al', becoming the remix we never knew we needed.

We'd like to thank everyone who attended the event and helped make the disco such a success. Together we raised an amazing £1,700 for our NHS services across Somerset.



Abseil Challenge 2025

On Sunday 29th June, the skies above Yeovil Hospital were filled with excitement, nerves, and an overwhelming sense of community as 27 courageous individuals – aged between 13 and 68 – took on the thrilling 112ft abseil challenge from the roof of the hospital.

This year's abseil was more than just a physical challenge; it was a powerful display of courage and camaraderie. Many participants battled personal fears to take part, but with support from each other, bonds were formed, and goals were conquered. Their bravery turned a moment of fear into a memory of triumph.

Thanks to their incredible efforts, the event raised a staggering **£8,469.75** – a sum that will go a long way in supporting patients across Yeovil Hospital, Musgrove Park, and local community health services. These funds will directly benefit a wide range of departments, including dementia care, dental surgeries, children's ward, maternity, stoma care, and intensive care units.

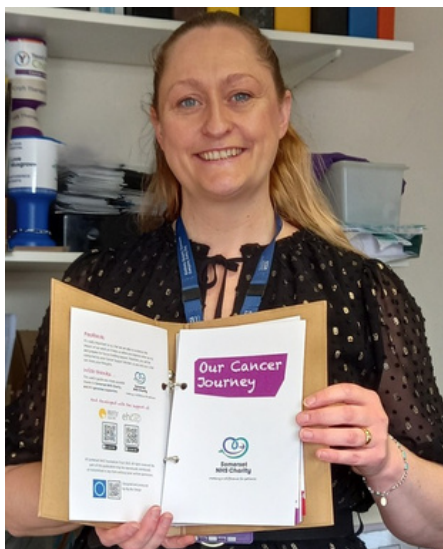
We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved – from the fearless fundraisers to the dedicated volunteers who gave up their time to ensure the event ran seamlessly. A special shoutout also goes to **Devon Adventure** for their continued partnership and expert guidance in making this unforgettable experience possible.

Next year's abseil is already in the diary – it will be taking place on Sunday 5th July! If you're feeling inspired and want to be among the first to take on the challenge, register your interest now by emailing SomersetNHSCharity@SomersetFT.nhs.uk. Whether you're conquering a fear or just looking for an exhilarating way to support a great cause, we'd love to have you on board!

It can often go unnoticed how your wonderful donations make a difference for our patients, so in this newsletter, we wanted to show you the impact you are directly having to improve the care and experiences of those across Somerset...



Pool Car - Has allowed chemotherapy clinics to be extended to the wider community, particularly the Bridgwater and Williton Community Hospitals, bringing treatment closer to patient homes.



A Kids Cancer Journal for children whose parents have been diagnosed with cancer. Plus much, much more.



Volunteer Polos - Allows our wonderful volunteers to be easily visible and discernible to any visitors to the hospital.

Music Therapy - This is a Trust-wide music programme with live music sessions on the wards and the community hospitals. It offers a wide range of benefits for both mental and physical well-being. It can help reduce stress, anxiety and depression, and promote physical rehabilitation.



The difference it makes to our patients has been amazing. The team of musicians work with our patients, enabling them to get involved and tailoring it to their needs.



IPads for the Learning Disabilities Speech and Language Therapy Team

We are proud to support the Learning Disabilities Speech and Language Therapy Team by funding eight iPads, protective cases, and communication software. This donation has greatly enhanced their ability to help adults with learning disabilities, many of whom rely on Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC).

With access to these tools, the team can assess each person's communication potential, trial AAC apps, and guide clients and carers before investing in costly devices. While specialist services exist, many clients don't meet the criteria, leaving local SLT teams responsible but previously under-resourced.

These iPads will transform support and improve the lives of people with learning disabilities in Somerset.

We rely on the generosity of people to help develop and fund services across the Trust for all our Community Hospitals, and a large part of this comes from legacies or gifts people leave us in their Will, for which we are incredibly grateful.

We have received some incredible legacies with most recently £10,000 for Holford Ward to help landscape a garden and provide new activities. Over £313,000 was received in 2024 which helps to fund equipment and projects across the Trust.

Gifts in Wills can make a real difference to patients and for generations to come.

If you would like more information about leaving a gift in your Will, please contact Zoe.Steer@SomersetFT.nhs.uk

Gifts in Wills
your gift
for future
generations



WHAT'S COMING UP?

SHOWTIME COLLECTIVE
PRESENTS

SHOWTIME ENCORE

An evening of Musical Theatre to raise money
for Mental Health Services across Somerset

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2025

MERRITT CENTRE
SHERBORNE GIRLS, BRADFORD ROAD, SHERBORNE, DT9 3QN

DOORS OPEN 7PM | SHOW STARTS 7.30PM

TICKETS £15
AVAILABLE FROM
www.trybooking.com/uk/EYCT or
Scan the QR code



@SHOWTIMECOLLECTIVE01 @SHOWTIMECOLLECTIVE EMAIL: SHOWTIMECOLLECTIVE01@GMAIL.COM

SHOWTIME ENCORE

Musical theatre lovers — this one's for you!

Join Showtime Collective for an unforgettable evening of show-stopping tunes, incredible guest performances, and a brilliant local cast — all while supporting Mental Health services across Somerset.

Grab your ticket for Showtime Encore for just £15!

Tickets available from:
www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/86599



FIREWALK

CAN YOU TAKE THE HEAT?

Wednesday 19th November 2025

Yeovil Rugby Club
Church Lane, Yeovil BA22 9TR

Registration fee £25
Minimum sponsorship £75

Arrival - 6pm | Training - 6.30pm | Walk - 7.30pm

To register or find out more information, contact the Fundraising team on
SomersetNHSCharity@SomersetFT.nhs.uk or 01823 344437
www.somersetnhscharity.org.uk/?event=charity-firewalk
Registration is required in advance - a training session is held beforehand

FIREWALK

Feel the heat – The Charity Firewalk is back!

The legendary Charity Firewalk returns on Wednesday 19th November at Yeovil Rugby Club, and we're inviting you to take on the ultimate challenge!

Are you ready to face the flames, conquer your fears and make a difference for patients? Step barefoot across red-hot embers in support of Yeovil Hospital Charity.

Sign up today for just £25! Places are limited – don't miss out!

www.yeovilhospitalcharity.org.uk/?event=charity-firewalk



Ways to donate to Somerset NHS Charity

Online

You can donate via our website using a credit or debit card
www.SomersetNHSCharity.org.uk/donate or by scanning the QR code.

Post

Send us a cheque, made payable to Somerset NHS Foundation Trust Charitable Funds' to Somerset NHS Charity, Fundraising office, Old Building, Musgrove Park, Taunton, TA1 5DA

Give us a call

We can take card donations over the phone, and can also help you any other queries you might have.

Our office is open Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm, however feel free to leave a message at any time and we will get back to you.

The number to call is 01823 344437

Become a regular giver

One of the best ways to support Somerset NHS Charity is to give a regular gift via direct debit. You can find more information, including our online direct debit form on the website.

www.SomersetNHSCharity.org.uk/donation

If you would like more information about leaving a gift in your will to Somerset NHS Charity and would like one of our Legacy Leaflets, please give our Head of Fundraising a call on 01823 343974.

