

Barnsley Hospice Profile

Barnsley Hospice is an independent charity situated in a leafy suburb on the edge of Gawber, close to the Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and just one mile away from Junction 37 of the M1.

We work closely with NHS Barnsley and other local health and social care providers. The Charity is headed by a Board of Trustees and a Chief Executive.

In 1994 the Day Hospice opened its doors providing specialist palliative care for 17 patients each weekday. Friday is our 'drop-in day', where booking is not required. That care continues today and the service has developed over the years to include medical and nursing care, physiotherapy, complementary therapies and social work support, together with a huge range of arts, crafts and activities.

Seven years later and after receiving a grant of £862,000 from the National Lottery Charities Board, we were delighted to open Phase II - an eight-bedded Inpatient Unit to accompany our existing Day Hospice. This unit allows us to provide a complete service of Specialist Palliative Care.

In 2005 we opened Phase III of the Hospice – The Apex Rooms. The main purpose of this facility is to provide additional income for patient care by renting space for training and meetings. Much of this activity involves work associated with health and social care.

The Apex Rooms provide the latest high tech facilities for conferences and meetings for businesses as well as health and social care providers. The library has PCs with internet access for those using the conference facilities. This technology is also available for patients and carers wishing to pursue further information with the support and guidance of trained staff and volunteers.

In 2008 Phase IV of the Hospice development saw the Inpatient Unit extended to provide a ten-bedded unit. This was funded by a £600,000 Department of Health grant.

The care given is based on a multi-disciplinary approach from a range of highly trained staff, including medical, nursing, social worker and therapy staff, who provide symptom management whether it be physical, social or spiritual to patients, their families and carers. In addition we provide an out of hour's telephone advice line for professionals.

The medical care is provided by the Consultant and Hospice Practitioners with the Patient Services Manager overseeing all clinical areas.

Support Staff are the back bone of the Hospice and play a crucial role in assisting the smooth running of all departments. They contribute in many different ways ensuring high standards of patient care. Our team of over 340 volunteers plays a vital role in all areas.

The Hospice has an active Fundraising Department who continue to forge links locally, regionally and nationally to ensure that the Hospice is able to maintain and develop services to a high standard. A vital source of income is also maintained through the Hospice Retail Area. The Hospice now has eight shops including a furniture shop all of which are supported by a central warehouse.

We gratefully receive a significant amount of funding from NHS Barnsley, but also rely on the generosity of the public to raise funds.

The Hospice is very much at the heart of the Barnsley community and is a well respected and recognised provider of excellent Palliative Care.