

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2025



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.

Raised an amazing
£5,614

This year, the event saw our family of charities once again come together to create another successful Golf Day, raising an incredible £5,614 for NHS services across Somerset. 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. We received some amazing raffle prizes donated from our very own Breeze Café, Berry's Coaches, HippyChick, Thatcher's Cider, Costa Coffee in 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 fellow colleague of Somerset Foundation Trust 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 group of 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, as well as helping us set up.

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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.



Scan the QR code
TO DONATE ONLINE

OUR INCREDIBLE Charity of the Year Partnerships

We have been incredibly fortunate to be chosen by not one, but two local businesses as their Charity of the Year.

Over the past year, both *Porter Dodson* and *The Old Barn Club* have gone above and beyond to raise vital funds for Yeovil Hospital.

Porter Dodson threw themselves into a year of creative fundraising, taking on challenges and hosting events such as the Puxton Park Mud Master, a summer picnic, quiz nights, and delicious bake sales. Their dedication raised an impressive **£982.89** for our cause.

The Old Barn Club in Yeovil made a huge impact with their *Barn Fest* music festival, which brought the community together and raised a phenomenal **£5,000** in support of our work.

We are truly grateful for the generosity, energy, and commitment shown by both organisations. Their efforts not



only raised essential funds but also strengthened the bond between Yeovil Hospital and our local community.

If you are part of a group or company looking to make a difference through a Charity of the Year partnership, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us at YeovilHospitalCharity@SomersetFT.nhs.uk or phone **01935 383020** to find out how we can work together.

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 to 68 – took on the 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 YeovilHospitalCharity@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!



Some of the projects we have funded, THANKS TO YOU

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 visiting Yeovil Hospital. Recently we have purchased:



A brand-new **Electrocardiogram (ECG) machine** for one of our wards. Omi Budii interactive unit for our Dementia patients, which provides sensory stimulation, whilst improving general wellbeing, emotional stability, sense of belonging and increased physical energy.

A **Croyde foldaway bed** for our Palliative care team and Ward 8A, to be used by relatives who wish to stay with their loved ones receiving end of life care.



Not one, but **two Paxman scalp cooling machines** for our Cancer Unit, which are used by our cancer patients to help minimise hair loss during chemotherapy treatment.



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



NFU Mutual

Incredible Support from NFU Mutual Ilminster for our Maple Unit

We are thrilled and deeply grateful to announce that we have once again been nominated by the NFU Mutual Ilminster branch to receive a generous donation from NFU Mutual's Agency Giving Fund. This year, the branch has gifted us an incredible **£7,899**, which will go directly towards supporting our Maple Unit—a dedicated breast cancer unit providing essential care and support for patients and their families.



This marks the second consecutive year that NFU Mutual Ilminster has chosen to support our work, bringing their total contribution to a remarkable **£14,408**. Their continued generosity is a testament to the strong community spirit that drives their team.

Both generous donations have been made in honour of one of their own staff members who has bravely faced breast cancer. We are humbled by this tribute and proud that the Maple Unit can play a role in supporting individuals and families during such challenging times.

On behalf of everyone at the Maple Unit, thank you to NFU Mutual Ilminster for their unwavering support and heartfelt generosity. Your contributions make a real difference.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

NATIONWIDE

As part of their ongoing fundraising efforts for our Dementia and Delirium team, the wonderful staff at Nationwide's Yeovil branch have secured an incredible £9,300 grant from the Nationwide Colleague Grant Programme, which supports charities and community projects.



This generous funding will help our team continue to provide person-centred care for patients living with dementia or experiencing delirium. It will fund live, interactive music sessions on the wards with professional musicians, as well as provide digital radios and personal DVD players.

Music can have a huge impact on a patient's wellbeing – sparking memories, offering stimulation, and creating moments of joy – all of which can greatly enhance their hospital experience.

TEA ON THE Green

On Sunday 6th July, the beautiful setting of St John's Church in Yeovil came alive with music for our first Tea on the Green event.

Organised by the lovely **Trisha Perry**, this wonderful afternoon featured a line-up of talented singers and musicians performing popular pieces from shows, operas, and operettas. The atmosphere was filled with joy, community spirit, and a shared purpose.

Thanks to Trisha's dedication and hard work – and the incredible generosity of everyone who attended – the event **raised an amazing £1,750** for Cancer Services at Yeovil Hospital. This funding will go directly towards supporting patients and enhancing the care we provide.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to our fantastic team of volunteers, whose help on the day was invaluable in making everything run smoothly.

From the uplifting music to the delicious tea and cake, *Tea on the Green* was a truly memorable celebration of community spirit, all in support of a cause close to so many hearts.



Cycle 42

International Cycle 42 for Cancer is Back – Bigger and Better Than Ever!



Join us on Sunday 14th September for our much-loved International Cycle 42 for Cancer event, raising vital funds for Cancer Services across Somerset.

Choose from three beautiful cycling routes through the stunning Somerset Levels:

- **The Debutante** – 22 miles
- **The Classic** – 42 miles
- **The Tour** – 62 miles

Prefer running? You're in luck – we're also hosting a Marathon and Half Marathon, so there's something for everyone.

Sign up online via our website: www.yeovilhospitalcharity.org.uk/?event=international-cycle-42-for-cancer-2025

Every mile helps support cancer care in our local community. Let's go the distance together.

Fire walk

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



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Gifts in Wills your gift for future generations

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

Leaving a legacy gift is easier than you think and you don't need to choose between the hospital and your loved ones. It's a unique opportunity to make a lasting difference and help local people at a time when they need it the most. You don't have to leave us a fortune and whatever you do decide to give will be used right here in Yeovil Hospital.

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 **James.Kirton@SomersetFT.nhs.uk**

PLEASE DONATE GIVE A GIFT TODAY

I am over 16 and my address details are.

Title
First Name
Last Name
Address
Postcode
Telephone
Email

If your donation is in memory of someone please tell us

Their Name
Your relationship with them

We like to keep our supporters up to date with news and ways to get involved. If you would rather not receive this information by post, please tick here. ☐

If you would like us to contact you by email, you need to opt-in by ticking the box below. I am happy to be contacted by email ☐

Signature
Date

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One off gift

☐ £10 ☐ £25 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ Other amount _____

To the following fund/department:

☐ Where it is most needed
☐ Cancer Services ☐ The Children's Ward
☐ Other £ _____

☐ I enclose a cheque payable to Yeovil Hospital Charity
Please debit my Visa/CAF/Maestro/Mastercard
(Circle as appropriate)

Cardholder's name

Card number:

Start date: / Expiry date: /

3 Digit security code:

Signature
Date

Make a Gift Aid declaration

Boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In Order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below ☐

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ and any donations I make in the future, or have made in the past 4 years to Yeovil Hospital Charity

Signature: Date:

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I will notify Yeovil Hospital Charity if I want to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address or I no longer pay sufficient Income Tax and/or Capital Gains tax.

If you would like to make a regular gift via direct debit, please tick this box and we will send you further information on how to sign up ☐