

30th Anniversary



SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

- Homecare for all the family
- Francis House hits the high street
- Carole's fundraising passion

A growing family

Francis House Family Trust
Registered Charity Number 328659



WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY



When Francis House opened in 1991 it was the only children's hospice to the West of the Pennines and North of Birmingham.

As other hospices opened our catchment area reduced in size; however the last two years has seen a reduction in service in many of the children's hospices and statutory services and as a consequence young people and their families are travelling significant distances once again to use our services.

Francis House has adapted and developed care in order to give the best possible support to the families struggling to keep their sick children safe.

One of the ways in which we have done this is through the development of our Homecare team, now led by Alison, who you can see on the front cover. As we recruit more nurses we will endeavour to expand the team to give more home support and our aim is to eventually be able to offer support in providing

end of life care in the young person's home if that is what the family choose.

Our eagerness to achieve this is hampered by the national shortage of Registered Nurses - something that limits health care in this country in so many ways - but to have additional nurses on the team also means increasing our income. We are so grateful to all of our loyal and committed followers who have helped us to keep Francis House operating over the last two years. To us you are all "FRONTLINE WORKERS".

It has been a great sadness that we have not been able to hold our open days during the pandemic and so we are really pleased to announce that our first open day post COVID will take place on Saturday 5th November 2022.

We hope to see as many of you as possible, so please book the date in your diary.

In our Articles of Association it says that we are funded for the purpose of “caring for children and young people with a life limiting illness and the support of their families” but Francis House is so much more and affects the community in so

many ways, as the common cause of supporting families in the worst possible situations brings out the best of everyone associated with the charity. The opportunity to give selflessly in order to relieve suffering, show acts of love to people you might never meet, and enjoy activities with diverse groups of people, all make the world a better place.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Francis House Children's Hospice,
390 Parrswood Road,
Didsbury, Manchester, M20 5NA

Hospice tel: 0161 434 4118
Fundraising tel: 0161 443 2200

**Thank you for your
continued support and
please keep our families in
your thoughts and prayers.
We look forward to seeing
you in November.**

David



HOMECARE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Alison Pyle, Homecare Coordinator

The Homecare team are the first team from Francis House that families meet.

Following acceptance of a referral to the hospice, the homecare team go to meet a family at home. The first visit can often be quite difficult as the family are coming to terms with the fact that their child has a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

Alison Pyle, Homecare Coordinator explains: "Once the family has been accepted by Francis House it is a time of mixed emotions, they have to acknowledge their child's condition, but they also need support.

"We'll do a home visit, talk to the family about their needs, tell them about all the ways that we can support them at Francis House and invite them to come and look around the hospice when they are ready."

The whole family can benefit from a home care visit, the parents get the opportunity to have a break, and the children can engage in a fun activity with a familiar face.

Visits can take place between respite stays, during hospital admissions or when the family are in a time of crisis. The homecare team of nurses and carers can offer support and provide the same level of care that they provide in Francis House.

Homecare is a big help to parents Sam and Aaron. Their daughter Tehyah, 11, suffered a series of mini-strokes aged three-and-a-half and requires round the clock care.

Dad Aaron says: “When Tehyah first came home after being in hospital, she was given just two weeks to live. The homecare team came to see us and sit with Tehyah and talk with us, helping us through a very traumatic time.”

Tehyah has three other siblings and homecare has continued to help the family during times of crisis as well as enabling them to do everyday tasks like shopping, attend doctor’s appointments or simply going out of the house for a few hours while Tehyah is being cared for.

Sam says: “You can’t leave her with someone who doesn’t know how to do her meds, or oxygen, or suction, so the homecare team as well as doing nice things with her can do the medical side as well.

“If we didn’t have the homecare support from Francis House life would be a lot more stressful and difficult. To just do everyday things would be a lot more challenging. It’s hard enough as it is with the help, without the help I don’t know how we would cope.”

Francis House are recruiting nurses to join the team. To find out more and apply visit francishouse.org.uk/who-we-are/employment-opportunities/



Tehyah at home with mum Sam and dad Aaron

BUSINESS AS USUAL

Selling everything from clothing, shoes, books, toys, toiletries, textiles and bric-a-brac, the new Francis House charity shop is now open in Withington.

Shop manager Jason Connor and his team of ten volunteers, couldn't wait to get back to work after the shutters were pulled down at the old Burnage store more than two years ago.

Local contractors Chapel Green Contracts, W & G Services and Optimum Electrical, voluntarily carried out the alterations to the former toy store free of charge, creating a bright and welcoming shop in the vibrant community of Wilmslow Road.

We are grateful to the volunteers, contractors and everyone who helped set up the shop and we look forward to welcoming you through the doors.



Where to find us

470 Wilmslow Road, Withington,
M20 3BG. Contact Jason on
0161 434 4479

Opening times

10.00 am - 4.00 pm
Tuesday to Saturday

Donations

We welcome donations (excluding electrical goods, furniture, and safety goods) during shop opening hours. Parking and unloading are available at the back of the shop on Gledhill Street.

**Read more about the
opening of our shop [online](https://www.francishouse.org.uk).**



SUPPORT US

Boutique Lunch

Join us on Friday 16th September at Gusto, Cheadle Hulme for our Boutique Lunch with a fabulous fashion show hosted by Flair Boutique UK. Showcasing everyday styles and partywear to suit all, tickets are just £35.00pp and include a glass of fizz on arrival, two-course lunch and a goodie bag!

Contact Lucy on
lucy.thompson@franchishouse.org.uk
or call 07841530248

franchishouse.org.uk/boutique-lunch



Charity Golf Week

Organiser John Andrew invites you to join this popular Charity Golf Week at Almerimar, Spain, taking place 24th Sept – 1st October. Enjoy 7 nights Bed and Breakfast in a Deluxe Room at Hotel AR Golf plus

4 rounds of golf consisting of 3 separate 9 holes at the host location of the Spanish Seniors Open.

To find out more, visit
franchishouse.org.uk/charity-golf-week



Open Day

We look forward to welcoming you through the doors of Francis House for our Autumn public open day. Members of the care team will take you on a tour behind the scenes of our fantastic facilities, where you'll get to see and hear about the care we provide to the children and their families thanks to your support. Refreshments are available and no appointment is necessary.

Join us on **Saturday 5th November** from **10am until 4pm** (subject to Covid restrictions) at Francis House Children's Hospice, 390 Parrswood Road, Didsbury M20 5NA.

Call 0161 443 2200 or visit
franchishouse.org.uk/open-days



30 ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL FEATURE



Carole puts the passion into fundraising

Carole Geary has been a volunteer fundraiser for Francis House for more than 25 years.

Former HR manager for Marks & Spencer, Carole took early retirement and was introduced to Francis House in the mid-1990s.

She joined a committee, led by Judy Bailey, organising sell-out summer concerts at Arley Hall and Tatton Park, greatly raising the profile of the hospice throughout the North West.

In 2001, Carole, Judy and Millie Llewellyn, published a book 'Posh Nosh' which invited almost 100 celebrities to put together a collection of their favourite recipes.

After calling up Raymond Blanc, Carole took Sister Aloysius, Sister Austin, and Father Tom Mulheran to meet the world-famous chef at his Manchester restaurant. Raymond agreed to promote the book and write the foreword and the venture went on to raise a lot of money.

Inspired by Sister Aloysius, Carole from Alderley Edge, began to organise her own fundraising events, using her skills to help spread the word of her beloved Francis House.

Countless Ladies Lunches, Carol Concerts, Fashion Shows, Christmas Balls and even a VIP Train Journey filled a packed calendar of events. Carole's infectious enthusiasm for fundraising combined with the support of her family, friends, and a voluntary committee of women from Alderley Edge and Prestbury, has seen her contribute to raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for Francis House.

"We need to give Francis House our support," says Carole. "We are so fortunate to have these facilities and so many of my friends and family have bought into it, it is part of our life and a real privilege to be involved."

Carole says volunteering her time is 'addictive' and she spends immeasurable hours on the telephone talking to venues and businesses, always keen to give her guests a memorable fundraising experience.

"I've found that with a lot of the support that I get from businesses, once you've got a nice rapport with them, they just want to do more. We've got this wonderful contact now with Rolex and it raises so much money. People like the fact that I have followers that I can go to, not just to come to the event but to provide prizes, as well as their time," she says.

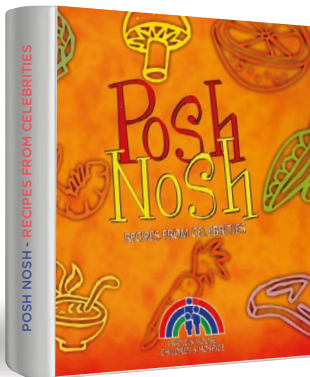
Carole is keen for the public to know the difference that Francis House makes to the lives of hundreds of children and families from the local community.

"It's our hospice in our area and I want people to know that. Everyone can show their support by giving their time or buying a ticket, they can give a raffle prize or anything to help generate some income that I can then pass over to the hospice.

"I feel just as passionate about Francis House now as I did 25 years ago. I can't wait for things to get back into full swing after COVID because it put the brakes on everything.

"I don't feel guilty about asking for things to support Francis House. It empowers me, and once people are on board my passion becomes their passion."

For ideas and advice on fundraising for Francis House visit francishouse.org.uk/fundraising-ideas



STEPtember



Make September
your **STEPtember**



Take part in **STEPtember** during our thirtieth anniversary year and commit to walking 10,000 steps every day for the whole month of September.

Each day you step out will represent each year that Francis House has stepped up to help local families.

Hundreds of local families are navigating the most challenging of paths.

The STEPS they take every day are difficult and demanding. Our care team walk with these families, helping them on their journey and creating special memories along the way.

MAKE EVERY STEP COUNT

Walk at your own pace
in your own time

Complete 10,000 steps
every day of September

Collect sponsorship
to motivate you in your challenge

Raise more than £50
to be entered into a prize draw!



SIGN UP

Tickets for **STEPtember** are £5 and include a fundraising pack containing a wall chart, sponsor form with helpful tips and a Francis House t-shirt.

www.francishouse.org.uk/september
Find out more call Kate on
0161 443 2200



Scan the code
using your
mobile camera
to Register



MEMORY LIGHTS

You are invited to sponsor a light on the Christmas Tree at Francis House in memory of your loved ones. Their names will be entered in the Book of Memories which will be on view in the Francis House reception during the Christmas period.

We will send you a memory card (or cards) printed with the names of those you wish to be remembered.

.....

.....

.....

Contact details

Name of sponsor.....

Address

..... Postcode.....

Telephone..... I enclose a donation of £

Gift Aid Declaration

giftaid it

I wish Gift Aid to apply to the enclosed donation and all donations I make in the future or have made in the last 4 years. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and /or Capital Gains Tax in that tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature..... Date.....

THANK YOU

Please return the form with your donation (cheques made payable to Francis House)

To: Francis House Children's Hospice, 390 Parrswood Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 5NA

To make sure your loved ones are entered in the Book of Memories please return your request by 30th November 2022.

You can sponsor a light online or choose to dedicate a light on our interactive Virtual Memory Lights Tree by visiting francishouse.org.uk/virtual-memory-lights

Registered Charity No. 328659

BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER



When Mike McCool turned 80, he decided he didn't need any birthday presents but wanted to celebrate by way of a fundraising dance at St Kentigern's Club in Fallowfield.

The dance was also in celebration of family birthdays missed during Covid - his daughter Clare's 50th and granddaughter Beth's 16th.

The event raised more than £2,000 and here are Mike's top tips for putting on a successful fundraiser!

Mike

McCool



✓ **Plan ahead.** Start 6 months before and send out a "Save-the-date" with details of Francis House.

✓ **Use a family birthday** as a great reason to get together meet up with extended family and long-lost friends.

✓ **Invite as many people** as early as possible and by different means including by post, letter, email and most importantly by social media Facebook etc.

✓ **Core people.** Make sure your core people are available and not on holiday, at a wedding or a first communion weekend!

✓ **Sell tickets** for the event, even at modest prices. Our tickets were £5 for 2 people.

✓ **On-line donations.** In this cashless society - this is essential. We raised about 50% from on-line donations.

✓ **Obtain raffle prizes** from local businesses, overnight stays meal vouchers etc.

We had so much fun at the event and in all the preparations. Good luck!

Donate at [francishouse.org.uk/donate](https://www.francishouse.org.uk/donate)
Scan QR code to donate →



I want to help the families of Francis House

Here is my gift of:

☐ £10 ☐ £30 ☐ £50 ☐ other £

I enclose a cheque made payable to **Francis House Family Trust**

Title.....First NameLast Name

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone Number..... Email Address.....

Gift Aid

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 donated

giftaid it

I would like Francis House Family Trust to treat as Gift Aid Donations

☐ This donation

☐ All donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years

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.

Signature.....Date.....

Keep in Touch

Your support is vital and we look forward to keeping in touch with you by post, sharing our news, activities and appeals.

Would you like to receive our supporter emails too?

☐ Yes, I am happy to hear
from you by email.

Email Address.....

If you do not wish to receive information by post, or wish to change how we get in touch, please contact rachael.taylor@francishouse.org.uk or call 0161 443 2200.

THANK YOU

Please return this form with your donation to:

Francis House Family Trust, Francis House Children's Hospice,
390 Parrswood Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 5NA

To donate online go to www.francishouse.org.uk/donate or call 0161 443 2200

Registered Charity No. 328659

MAKE A REGULAR DONATION

To continue to provide our services we need to raise 4.7 million pounds per year to keep Francis House and Lodge operating.

Become a regular giver and make an ongoing difference to the lives of the families that we support. By completing this form, your regular donation will enable us to plan for future needs. If you are a UK taxpayer, please also sign and return the Gift Aid Declaration.

STANDING ORDER

The Manager

Bank/BSoc Address

.....

Account Name

Account Number

Sort Code

Please pay: Francis House Family Trust

Yorkshire Bank, 45-50 Market Street

Manchester M1 1PW

Account Number 68170373

Sort Code 05-05-73

The sum of £

Commencing on

and thereafter on each succeeding

Ending on

Name

Address

.....

Signature

Date

Please return to Carole Fletcher, Francis House
Children's Hospice, 390 Parrswood Road,
Didsbury, Manchester M20 5NA
Registered Charity No. 328659

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Name of Charity

Details of Donor: Title

Forename(s)

Surname

Address

.....

Postcode

Email

I wish the charity to treat: (please tick as appropriate)

☐ The enclosed donation of £

☐ All donations I make in the future or
have made in the past 4 years

I am a UK tax payer 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.

Please let us know if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
-
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your
income and or capital gains

Signed

Date

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Francis House is a lifeline to more than 550 families from across the North West. When life is short it needs to be of the highest quality and that's what Francis House does best.



Tesco Stockport
Book table

£1,035



Oldham Bronchomania
Born Survivor

£1,500



Cynthia Evans 80th
Birthday celebrations

£637



Hobbycraft Stockport
and Altrincham
**Jubilee art and
craft supplies**



Weightmans LLP
Great Manchester
Run team
£1,475



Peter McGrath
and Mike Nolan's
Iron Man
Over £8,000

EVENTS 2022

STEPtember	Throughout September
Norway Trek 2022	2nd - 10th September
Charity Golf Week Almerimar	24th September - 1st October
Francis House Boutique Lunch with Flair Boutique UK	16th September
Open Day at Francis House	5th November
Festival of Christmas Trees	October - December
The Stars Come Out for Francis House at Oldham Coliseum	6th October
The Greatest Francis House Christmas Ball	2nd December 7pm
Memory Lights Service at East Didsbury Methodist Church	14th December 7pm
EVENTS 2023	
Winter Wander	Throughout January 2023
The 60s Stars Come Out for Francis House at Stockport Plaza	18th April 2023
TCS London Marathon 2023	23rd April 2023
Great Manchester Run 2023	21st May 2023
Francis House presents Justin Moorhouse and Friends at Stockport Plaza	Date to be announced

To find out the latest information or to take part in any of these events contact the fundraising team on 0161 443 2200 or email fundraising@francishouse.org.uk or visit www.francishouse.org.uk/get-involved/events

STOP PRESS!

We are thrilled to announce our new comedy event for 2023, 'Francis House presents Justin Moorhouse and Friends'. We can't wait to share the date and more details about this fundraising event very soon!

Mailing List

If you no longer wish to receive a copy of the newsletter through the post, please call the fundraising office on 0161 443 2200 or email rachael.taylor@francishouse.org.uk and ask to be removed. Visit our website to subscribe to our monthly supporter newsletter via email and view our newsletters online www.francishouse.org.uk/news/newsletters/



@FrancisHouseCH



FrancisHouseChildrensHospice



www.francishouse.org.uk