



Could it be YOU?



The Medway Hospital Charity has teamed up with *make a smile* lottery to offer supporters an exciting opportunity to support our patients and staff.

It's a win-win for everyone. For just £1 per week, you'll have the chance of winning the £1,000 top prize, plus up to £25,000 in a weekly rollover, all while supporting your local hospital charity.

We are so thankful that in our first three months, more than 250 people have signed up by monthly direct debit to become regular lottery players. In addition, 60 supporters have chosen to buy single lottery tickets to support our work.

Donna Law, Charity and Fundraising Manager, said: "Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to make a smile lottery in support of The Medway Hospital Charity. The lottery is a great way of giving

a regular donation to The Medway Hospital, while having the opportunity to win a cash prize.

"We've already had a number of £10 winners and we're looking forward to you winning the larger prizes!"



The *make a smile* lottery team is contacting potential supporters by phone.

However, if you would like to sign up online, please scan the QR code or go to **www.medwayhospitalcharity.org.uk/lottery** for more information.

How we're spending your donations...

During the pandemic our hospital charity received donations and grants to specifically support the wellbeing of our staff. We have put this money to good use by creating a staff gym and courtyard to help improve the mental and physical wellbeing of everyone who works at Medway Maritime Hospital.

The Medway Fitness Hub

We are delighted to report that more than 1,000 fitness-conscious staff are now members of The Medway Fitness Hub.

The £290,000 project was made possible thanks to funding from Medway NHS Foundation Trust, The Medway Hospital Charity and NHS Charities Together, plus additional contributions from Unison, and the Medway Labour and Co-operative Group.

Richard Scarth, Director of Impact and Membership, NHS Charities Together, said: "The Medway Hospital Charity used more than £154,000 of grant money from NHS Charities Together to part-fund this wonderful facility.

"Our donors have been keen to support staff throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and I am sure they will be proud that The Medway Fitness Hub will support their mental and physical wellbeing for many years to come."

The Medway Fitness Hub forms part of Medway NHS Foundation Trust's Your Wellbeing programme to support staff mental health and wellbeing.

It was officially opened in the autumn by Olympic Rower, Sara Parfett, from Rochester.



Olympic Rower Sara Parfett officially opened The Medway Fitness Hub by cutting a ribbon across the gym's entrance. Other guests included the Trust's Chair Jo Palmer, Chief Executive Dr George Findlay, and Richard Scarth, Director of Impact and Membership at NHS Charities Together, the project's biggest donor.

A quiet haven for our staff

A paving-slabbed, weed-filled garden has undergone a wonderful transformation to become a haven of tranquillity for our staff and we can't wait for the warmer spring weather to arrive so they can enjoy it more fully again!

The staff courtyard (near lift two in Brown Zone, level one) is intended to be a mindful space, to improve mental and physical wellbeing and is tucked away from the hustle and bustle of hospital life.

The project was jointly funded by the Medway Hospital Charity and NHS Charities Together, with donations of patio furniture from the Medway Sunlight Rotary Club.

Donna Law, Charity and Fundraising Manager, said: "On behalf of our staff, I would like to say a massive thank you to our donors, NHS Charities Together and the Medway Sunlight Rotary Club for their support on this project.

"The staff courtyard is a lovely, welcoming space with a picnic bench, patio furniture, reclining deckchairs and flower pots. The feedback we have received from staff has been overwhelmingly positive and we know they enjoy using this facility."



Reflect, remember and relax

We're pleased to announce that we're creating a new reflection garden in the courtyard area outside the Coffee House (Level 1 Purple Zone).

Funded by The Medway Hospital Charity, The Medway League of Friends, and the Trust, the project will see contractors Drakemoor removing the existing decking and creating a raised paved area with planters and seating along with a timber pagoda and water feature.

Planters will also be installed to separate the garden from the outside seating area and there will be a new doorway to access the garden from the Level 1 corridor.

Award-winning garden and landscape designer Jo Jemison has agreed to oversee the planting. Jo won a Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Silver Gilt Medal and a Best in Category award for a Metamorphosis Show Garden at BBC Gardeners' World Live 2014 for her first show garden..

The project started in February and, once open, the garden will provide staff, patients and visitors with a quiet and beautiful space to reflect, remember and relax.

Get in touch



Whether you're interested in fundraising, wish to support the charity or simply find out more about what we do, we'd love to hear from you!

Donna and Cheryl
The Medway Hospital Charity

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Easter fundraising

Easter Fair

We are delighted to be hosting a mini Easter Fair on Friday 1 April at Medway Maritime Hospital between 11am and 2pm.

Staff, patients, visitors and friends are invited to attend our first face-to-face fundraising event since the pandemic.

There will be lots of stalls including an Easter raffle, knitting, cakes, refreshments and gifts.

The fair is taking place outside the hospital's Post Graduate Centre and all proceeds will be used to enhance facilities at our hospital.

For more information please call **01634 825398** or email medwayft.charity@nhs.net



Easter Knitting

Thank you to our wonderful knitters for creating such beautiful Easter gifts for us. Throughout March, our Voluntary Services team will be selling our Easter goodies in the hospital's main reception. However, if you can sell a basket of our Easter goodies in your work place, please contact the charity team on medwayft.charity@nhs.net or **01634 825398** to can arrange this.

Grand Raffle

Raffle tickets, priced £1 each, are available from the Charity and Fundraising Team. We have a great selection of prizes including vouchers and hampers and the first prize is an iPad!

Please contact the team on medwayft.charity@nhs.net to secure yours. The draw takes place on Friday 1 April 2022.

£1
per ticket

Upcoming Events

Ultra Challenges

We've teamed up with Ultra Challenges to offer you the opportunity to test yourself physically, while also raising money for The Medway Hospital Charity.



On 9 April, you can take part in the Easter 50 Challenge; on 14 April, the Jurassic Coast Challenge; On 22 May, the Saxon Shore Half Marathon, on 28 May the London to Brighton Challenge and on 9 July, the Peak District Challenge.

For more details, please go to www.medwayhospitalcharity.org.uk/events

Skydiving

Charity skydives take place throughout the year. If you'd like to raise money for the Medway Hospital Charity, please go to www.medwayhospitalcharity.org.uk/event/skydive for more details.



NHS Big Tea

Help us celebrate the NHS' birthday on 5 July 2022 by taking part in our NHS BIG TEA party. Please contact the charity team on **01634 825398** or email medwayft.charity@nhs.net for more information.



Rainbow Day

Thank you to all the schools who took part in last year's Rainbow 'own clothes' day. Together you raised more than £7,000 to support the work of The Medway Hospital Charity. If you'd like to take part in the event on 8 July 2022, please contact the charity team on **01634 825398** or email medwayft.charity@nhs.net for more information.



Bake-off competition

with special guest judge Jane Beedle!

We are excited to announce that Great British Bake Off favourite Jane Beedle will be the guest judge at our Easter Bake Off competition.

The 2016 runner-up will also be bringing along a cake for us to sell on the day. Yum!

The competition will help raise money for The Medway Hospital Charity as all Easter-inspired bakes will be sold during our Easter Fair being held on the same day (1 April).

Cheryl Jones, Fundraising Officer, said: "Whether you are baking cute bunny biscuits, mini egg inspired chocolate brownies or whipping up an Easter themed cake, we can't wait to see all your eggcellent creations! It doesn't need to be complex nor do you need to be an expert in baking, just have fun and be as creative as you can."

This Easter Bake Off will coincide with our Easter Fair taking place on Friday 1 April from 11am to 2pm. We will pick our favourite Easter bake at the start of the fair and they will win a special prize!

Entries for the Bake Off competition should be delivered to the charity team on the day of the Fair, before 11am. Judging will take place at 11.30am by our guest judge.

Details about the Easter Fair and Bake Off can be found our website www.medwayhospitalcharity.org.uk



Special guest judge, GBBO's Jane Beedle!

We couldn't have done it without you!



We would like to say a huge thank you to the members of **Walderslade Village Library Knit and Natter group** for their incredible donation of £700 to the Galton Day Unit at Medway Maritime Hospital. The knitting group has been supporting our cancer unit for more than a year and we're extremely grateful for their continued support.

Eight-year-old William Mobey wanted to 'do something nice' for the NHS staff during the pandemic, and has made five separate pizza deliveries to our hospital.

Our staff have been truly appreciative of his family's generosity and Fundraising Officer Cheryl Jones said: "On behalf of everyone at the Trust, I'd like to thank William for his support during the pandemic. He really is a remarkable young man and his family should be very proud of him."



The **Kentish Players** were delighted to present our Galton Day Unit with a cheque for £250 today from the sale of their charity calendar. The group has chosen to support the Unit for 2022 and this is the first of their fundraising activities.

To buy the calendar or find out more about their show, *Calendar Girls - The Musical*, this summer, visit www.kentishplayers.com

THANK YOU!

To our amazing contractors, **Staxson Electrical Services**, for making a donation to cover the cost of 500 gifts for adult in-patients on Christmas Day, thank you!

Our heartfelt thanks also go to **everyone who donated a present** for our young patients and to our charity's supporters who purchased an incredible 270 gifts from our festive Amazon Wishlist at Christmas. These gifts totalled an incredible £2,500.

We are also incredibly grateful to **Amazon** itself, who also supported gifts for patients with a grant of £2,500 via NHS Charities Together.

To make a donation and to support the work of The Medway Hospital Charity, please go to www.medwayhospitalcharity.org.uk/donate