



**Sue Ryder
Thorpe Hall
Hospice**

**PRESS RELEASE - EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE AT 01:00AM WEDNESDAY 4
SEPTEMBER 2019**

“Lovely day” hosted by EACH, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice, introduces young people and their families to adult services

East Anglia’s Children’s Hospices (EACH), Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice hosted a special afternoon for young people, at Arthur Rank Hospice in Shelford Bottom, last week (Wednesday 28 August). The collaborative event was the second in a series of three, designed to introduce young people approaching the age of 18, and their families, to the care and services available to them.

Nine families, who either currently or have previously accessed the care and services of EACH, visited the Hospice. They were welcomed by familiar faces from EACH and were introduced to staff and volunteers from Arthur Rank Hospice and Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice, as they made their way around the afternoon’s activities.

Highlights of the afternoon included accessible sports such as sitting volley ball, boccia and new age kurling organised by [Power2Inspire](#) in the garden, virtual reality headsets provided by [Lifelites](#) in The Sanctuary and Qigong sessions led by Diego from [Cloudhands](#) in the gym. There was also a duck money-box painting station, complementary therapies in Arthur’s Shed with staff and volunteers offering head, foot and hand massage and a sensory space in one of the Day Therapy rooms with space blankets, soothing music and light therapy.



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The Hospice's Bistro laid on one of its famous barbeques, which was enjoyed by the visitors, staff and guests alike. Lucy Brumpton, Young Persons' and Transition Lead, comments:

"Yesterday was a great testament to what can be achieved when we all work together. These families really need our support as they navigate the transition from children to adult hospice services. By teaming up, our three hospices gave these young people - as well as their parents, siblings and carers - the best possible introduction to what is available for them."

Many of the families had been anxious about visiting an adult Hospice before the day, but the feedback afterward was overwhelmingly positive with comments that it had been "so inclusive", "lots of fun", "very relaxing", "well-organised" and that it was wonderful for families to be able to participate in activities all together. One family member added:

"We weren't really all that sure about what to expect from the day, but the activities have been brilliant. It's been lovely: really, really nice. We've had a tour round, so we've seen quite a bit more of the facilities and met lots of the staff and they're all fantastic."

Sara Robins, Director of Clinical Services at Arthur Rank Hospice Charity feels the day really summed up what hospices are trying to achieve:

"What stood out to me, was the atmosphere. There was such a buzz and the whole day was very inclusive. We would like to say a special thank you to Lifelites for hosting our virtual reality experience and Power2Inspire who put on some brilliant and truly accessible games."

The barbeque put on by our brilliant Bistro team at lunchtime was enjoyed not only the families visiting and supporting the day, but also by volunteers, our patients and their visitors, and guests from the local community: people shared tables and chatted to each other about their reasons for being there. Some of the people being cared for on our Inpatient Unit even came around to socialise and enjoy the activities, giving the young people visiting us – and their relatives – a chance to chat to hear



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about the hospice, in more general terms. The afternoon was a great example of what can be achieved to benefit those we care for, when we work together."

Following this event and the one held in May at the EACH Hospice at Milton, there will be third open day for young people in transition, taking place at Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice in Peterborough during the October half term on 23 October, again hosted collaboratively by the three hospices.

Ends

Photos attached

Photos 1-7: Young people and their families enjoyed a special afternoon hosted by Arthur Rank Hospice, EACH and Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice on Wednesday 28 August. This was the second of three events this year, designed to introduce young people approaching the age of 18, and their families, to the care and services available to them.

For further information, please contact:

Dawn Easby, PR & Communications Officer, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

01223 675875 – dawn.easby@arhc.org.uk – 9.30am-7.30pm, Monday-Friday (excluding Wednesdays)

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Notes to Editors:

1/ **Arthur Rank Hospice Charity** (Registered Charity No 1133354) supports people in Cambridgeshire living with a life-limiting illness and those who need end-of-life care. Services are provided free of charge to patients and their families; the aim is to provide the highest quality care, helping them to make every moment count.

The Hospice cares for and supports more than 3600 patients each year across the [Hospice in Cambridge](#), the [Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre](#) in Wisbech and in patients' own homes via the Arthur Rank Community



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Team. The care and support provided by the [Inpatient Unit](#), [Day Therapy](#) and [Hospice at Home](#) teams is practical, holistic and tailored to the individual. Programmes may include psychological support, physiotherapy, complementary therapy, occupational therapy, rehabilitative support, counselling, bereavement and spiritual support. Outpatient services such as medical and pain clinics, as well as our [lymphoedema service](#), are based in the [Bradbury Wellness Centre](#) at the Hospice.

As a charity, the Hospice needs to secure £8.25 million every year to deliver its services free of charge to patients and their loved ones. About half of this currently comes from commissioned income; therefore, the Charity remains hugely grateful to the local community, which contributes the remainder and whose support is critical in helping make every moment count.

The Hospice is always looking for new ways to raise funds so that it can continue to provide and develop its vital services long into the future. For further information, please visit arhc.org.uk

2/ East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH)

"Without EACH I really don't believe we would have made it this far together as a family. They make a really hard time just that little easier to deal with."

- **We care for children and young people with life-threatening conditions** across Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk, **and support their families.**
- **We offer families flexibility and control over where they receive their care and support**, including where their child dies - at home, in hospital or at one of three hospices at Milton (Cambridge), Quidenham (Norfolk) and The Treehouse (Ipswich).
- **Our family-centred approach includes** specialist nursing care, symptom management support, short breaks, wellbeing activities, therapies and counselling, all meeting the individual needs of the child, young person and whole family.
- **We are recognised as leaders in our field**, with a reputation for excellence and commitment to pioneering development and innovation.



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- **We rely on voluntary donations for the majority of our income** and each year need to raise £6.4 million from fundraising and £4.9 million in income from our shops. We also need to complete the £10 million public appeal to develop our services in Norfolk, including our new hospice, the nook.
- **EACH Royal Patron – Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cambridge.**
- **For more information about EACH, including forthcoming events and how you can help raise funds,** visit www.each.org.uk
- **Keep in touch:**
www.each.org.uk ; [www.twitter.com/EACH_hospices](https://twitter.com/EACH_hospices) ; www.facebook.com/EACHhospices
www.instagram.com/eachhospices ; www.linkedin.com/company/eachhospices

3/ Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice

- Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice is the only specialist palliative care inpatient unit in Peterborough.
- We provide expert palliative care and support for people who are living with life-limiting conditions, as well as supporting their families.
- Our multi-disciplinary team includes doctors, nurses, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, complementary therapy, bereavement counsellors, and psychological and spiritual support.
- We also offer a variety of other services, including: day services which helps people living with long term conditions; a Hospice at Home service for people who prefer to receive palliative care at home; family and bereavement support; complementary therapies and spiritual care.
- Our staff and volunteers provide people with the compassion and expert care they need, to help them live the best life they can.
- For more information, please visit: www.sueryder.org/thorpehall