



**Warrington and Halton  
Teaching Hospitals Charity**  
An NHS Charity

# Impact Report 2024-2025

How your support has helped our patients, families and staff at Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals



*Raising more than money*

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# Welcome

## What a year it has been at Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals Charity!

As Chair it's a pleasure to be able to share our latest Impact Report, which gives us the opportunity to reflect on our continued progress over the past year and shine a spotlight on the fantastic efforts of our supporters, fundraisers and volunteers.

With your help we have been able to fund projects that go beyond what the NHS is able to provide, and every act of generosity has made a vital contribution – enhancing patient care, transforming spaces, funding cutting-edge equipment and supporting staff wellbeing.

This year they have ranged from our Raising Smiles and Intensive Care Unit balcony campaigns to our seasonal appeals and fundraising events, these projects vary in size and scope but they are all fantastic examples of how we can go further to support our hospitals. And as you will see over the following pages, your donations and fundraising achievements have not only made a real difference to our patients, they have also inspired others to get involved.

It's well documented that the wider economic climate continues to be challenging for households and also for charities across the UK, so we're immensely grateful to the many residents and businesses in Warrington and Halton who have remained loyal supporters, as well as those who have come on board for the first time.

We're proud to play an integral role in our communities, and were therefore delighted to receive recognition for this as the Warrington Guardian's Charity of the Year for 2024-25. As we approach our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026 we want to see Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals Charity (WHH Charity) go from strength to strength – and we have big plans to make that happen.

Here's to an exciting year ahead.

*Steve McGuirk*

Chair, Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals Charity





# How you helped

## Facts and figures

So many of you have lent your support to WHH Charity over the past 12 months – and ‘thank you’ hardly feels like enough. Your time, energy and incredible commitment mean the world to us.

Here are just a few of the many wonderful ways you’ve made a difference.

2024-25

27

new projects made possible thanks to donations

£19,000

raised in memory of loved ones

850

Easter eggs were donated to support patients in hospital over Easter period

300

registered WHH Charity members and supporters

£36,000

in charitable trust and foundation grant fundings

£82,000

received in legacy donations





# About us

## A warm welcome to WHH Charity

As the official NHS charity for Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust we don't take our role and responsibilities lightly.

Our charity team are dedicated to supporting projects that benefit our patients, families, volunteers and staff when and where they need it most. That extends to every ward of our hospitals and every service we provide in community settings and online.

Each funding decision we make is overseen by our Charitable Funds Committee, which ensures that every pound we receive is spent responsibly.

WHH Charity has a long heritage in Warrington, Halton and the surrounding areas. Since 1996 we've been there to support people from birth through to end of life – and every day in between.

That includes:

- purchasing state of the art equipment, technology and training
- funding WHH-related research and innovation
- enhancing and transforming hospital environments
- providing additional comforts and experiences for our patients, carers and visitors while they are with us
- supporting the health and wellbeing of our staff

We can only continue doing so thanks to your generosity.

The money you fundraise, the challenges you undertake, the time you donate and the legacies you leave are truly valued and appreciated.

If you would like to lend your support in 2025 and beyond we would love to hear from you, so please do get in touch using the contact details in this report.

You can also learn more about the charity by visiting our [new website](#).

The charity makes a significant contribution to our hospitals and communities in so many ways, but much more can be achieved when we come together.

*#RaisingMoreThanMoney*







# *Our impact*



# Making a difference together:

## Laurence's story

When Laurence Barrow, managing director of Warrington-based Barrow Electrical, was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit with Covid-19 and pneumonia, it was a frightening and isolating time.

But thanks to WHH Charity donations, Laurence received a recordable teddy bear with messages from his wife and daughters – a small but powerful source of comfort during his recovery.

That moment inspired Laurence to give back. Since then the company has been a strong supporter of WHH Charity. Whether it's purchasing recordable story books and colouring books for the Children's Ward, headphones for ICU patients, organising a charity football match or joining Protive Security & Surveillance Ltd at their annual charity golf day, Laurence has been there every step of the way.

Laurence said: "Supporting WHH hasn't just been a charitable act for us, it has transformed us personally and professionally.

"It's brought our team closer, inspired our clients and shows that business can be a real force for good.

"This partnership shows what happens when businesses and charities unite for a common cause. It's not just about giving it's about growing together, making a lasting impact and showing the community what true partnership can achieve."

*Thank you, Laurence, for making a real difference.*

"That thoughtful gift meant the world to me as I felt completely alone without my family by my bedside. After being discharged I wanted to do something more to help. Our business is rooted in the community, so giving back has always been a part of who we are."



# Making Waves on the wards

## Our patients are at the heart of everything we do.

And for the 30,000 children we treat each year, being sick and in hospital can be a particularly unsettling and emotionally challenging experience.

A comforting and engaging environment, with the right equipment and technology to help distract our young patients when they're taken away from their usual routine, is vitally important for supporting their wellbeing and making them feel at ease during their time with us.

Our Making Waves appeal was re-launched in 2023 with the aim of improving facilities within the Children's Ward at Warrington Hospital which the NHS is unable to fund.

And thanks to your generous donations and support from charity partners we have now raised more than £55,000 for this purpose.

### With that money we've been able to:

- transform the ward's soft play area into a bright and inviting space
- create a state-of-the-art sensory room designed for children with complex needs
- purchase interactive activity tables to encourage creativity and social interaction
- introduce gaming carts for bedsides, treatment rooms and waiting areas

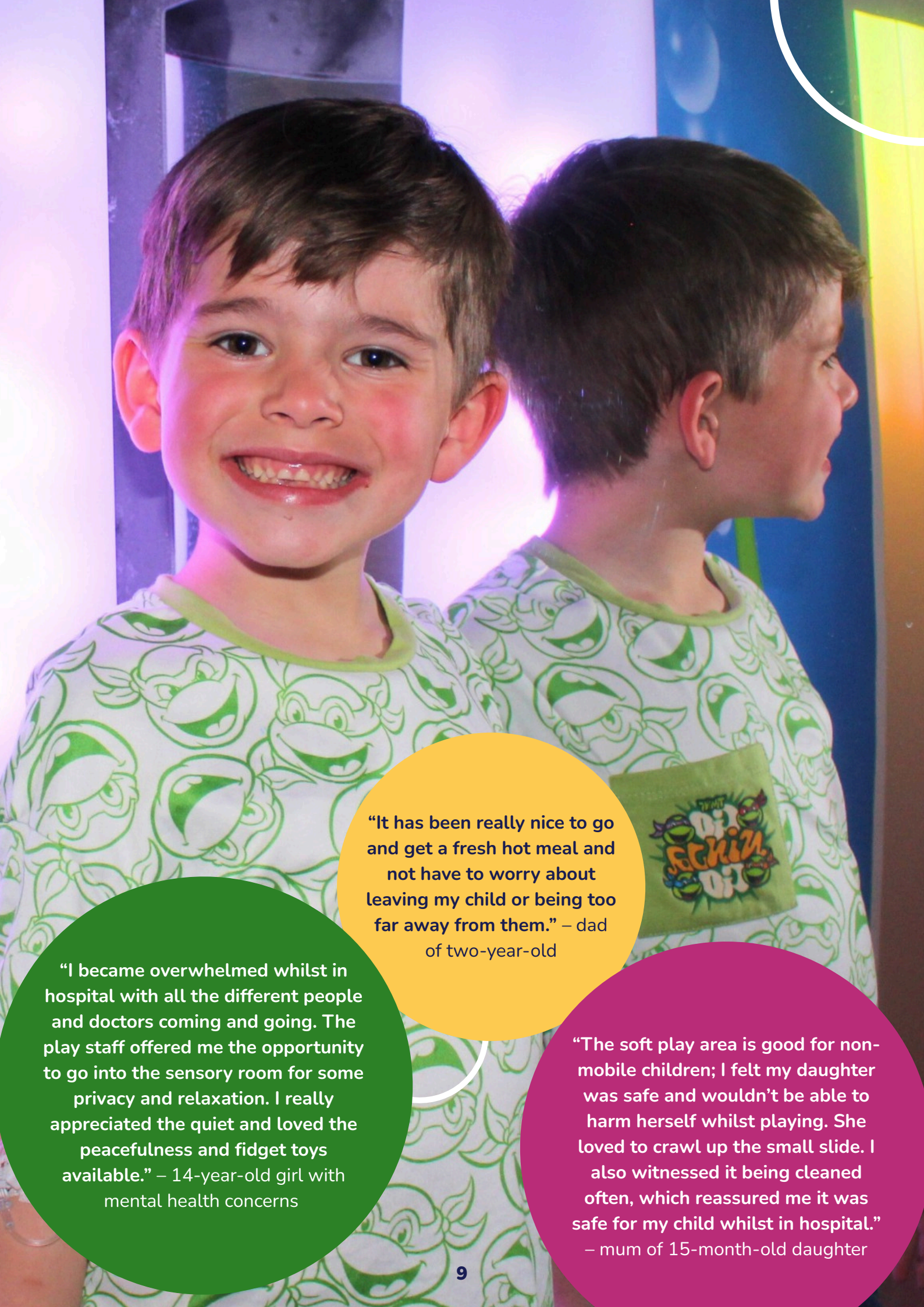
We're also now able to support parents and carers of young patients, including building new accessible and inclusive shower facilities, and working with Sophie's Legacy to provide hot meals in our family room.

*Thank you to everyone who supported our campaign.*

**"I can't believe what a difference this room has made to my child. He loved all the ceiling projectors and fiberoptic lights, and after playing he seemed much brighter in himself." – mum of 18-month-old boy**







"I became overwhelmed whilst in hospital with all the different people and doctors coming and going. The play staff offered me the opportunity to go into the sensory room for some privacy and relaxation. I really appreciated the quiet and loved the peacefulness and fidget toys available." – 14-year-old girl with mental health concerns

"It has been really nice to go and get a fresh hot meal and not have to worry about leaving my child or being too far away from them." – dad of two-year-old

"The soft play area is good for non-mobile children; I felt my daughter was safe and wouldn't be able to harm herself whilst playing. She loved to crawl up the small slide. I also witnessed it being cleaned often, which reassured me it was safe for my child whilst in hospital." – mum of 15-month-old daughter



# Memorial garden opens at Warrington Hospital

A peaceful memorial garden has opened at Warrington Hospital's Radiology Department, honouring much-loved colleagues Janet Guy and Trevor Wain. Janet, who worked in the NHS for 40 years, dreamed of transforming the courtyard outside her office. After her passing in 2021 and Trevor's in 2022, staff rallied to raise £1,000 before launching the Radiology Memorial Garden Appeal.

With community support, including a charity abseil and donations from local partners, £5,000 was raised. The space now features paved paths, benches and personalised plants like 'Janet' tulips and 'Trevor' thistles. Artwork from Warrington and Vale Royal College students adds a personal touch.

The garden provides a tranquil space for reflection and wellbeing, celebrating the lives and legacies of beloved team members.



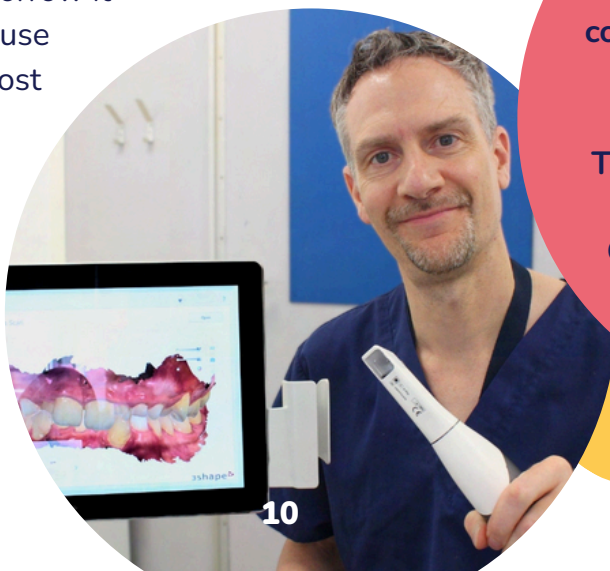
**"The garden is a beautiful tribute to those we've lost and a lasting reminder of how much they meant to us. It has brought people together in such a positive way and is already making a difference to staff wellbeing. We're so grateful to everyone who helped make it a reality."** – Irene Crowder, Radiology Department

# Raising Smiles Appeal brings new dental tech

Thanks to amazing community support and Warrington Hospital's League of Friends, the Orthodontics Department now has two new digital intraoral scanners. These handheld devices replace uncomfortable moulds, making fast, accurate impressions that are kinder for children and anxious patients.

Ian Edwards, Consultant Orthodontist, said: "The scanners have revolutionised how we work in an instant. If we had to start going back to impressions tomorrow it would be like taking away the use of mobile phones overnight. Most importantly it is a great facility for patients."

With scanners at both Halton and Warrington, even more patients can enjoy this advanced care.



**"I had an intra oral scan which was a great experience compared to having moulds of my teeth with the putty. Simple, quick and no mess. This is a great addition to the service provided by the Orthodontics Department."** – Melissa, patient



# Creating a ‘special space’ for intensive care patients

A new garden balcony is set to open at Warrington Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit (ICU), thanks to a generous £140,000 donation from the League of Friends. The balcony will provide critically ill patients – including those unable to leave the unit – with a secure outdoor space to enjoy fresh air and time with loved ones.

**“The garden balcony on ICU will be life-changing for those being cared for on the unit. This special area will mean that we can offer patients and their families the opportunity to take time away from the busy unit and the constant noise. It has been a long-held dream for staff on the unit to create this special space for our patients and we can’t thank our hospital charity and League of Friends enough for their incredibly generous donation that will bring our dream to life.”**

– Ellis Clarke, ICU Matron

The League of Friends’ donation, funded by years of public generosity, also supports refurbishment of the family room. The balcony is expected to open later in 2025.

## New hub to help staff wellbeing

A new chalet-style hub has opened at Warrington Hospital, offering a calm and welcoming space for staff and volunteers to relax, reflect and recharge.

Funded by NHS Charities Together, the Cherry Tree Hub is located in one of the hospital’s courtyards and hosts wellbeing sessions including yoga, mindfulness, bereavement support, and on-site counselling.

Open daily, the hub is already proving to be a valuable space for connection, reflection and care.



**“The Cherry Tree Hub has become an important part of how we support staff wellbeing. It offers a calm, green space for people to access support, join wellbeing sessions and take a break from clinical demands. We’re truly grateful for the impact it’s having.”** – Adam Harrison-Moran at WHH

# Gifts in kind from our communities

Every donation – big or small – makes a significant difference. We are grateful for the unwavering support from our local community, helping us bring comfort to our patients.

## Teddy bears bringing comfort

Oliver Abel's Wish donated more than 400 recordable teddy bears to our Intensive Care Unit. These teddies hold the voice or heartbeat of a loved one, offering families a cherished memory during difficult moments.

## Corporate sponsors raising spirits for young patients

Thanks to our corporate sponsors we created a specially designed activity book filled with engaging puzzles and activities to help put young patients at ease during hospital stays.

## Heart-warming donation from Project Linus UK

Project Linus UK provided beautifully crafted duvet blankets for our youngest patients. These thoughtful donations make a significant impact on the comfort of children during their hospital stay.

## Recordable audiobooks for emotional connection

Local businesses provided recordable audiobooks, helping children feel connected to their families. These audiobooks offer moments of reassurance and comfort during their stay here.

**Supported by:** Protive Security & Surveillance Ltd, Setfords Solicitors, Talking Wills & Trusts, Just Mortgages, DK Building, GForce Communications Ltd, The Transformer.





## Clothing donation enhances patient comfort

Thanks to Shane Wrench and Touchline UK, we received essential clothing items for patients who arrive without personal belongings. This thoughtful donation ensures that patients have the basic necessities to feel comfortable during their stay.

We're also incredibly grateful to the Pyjama Fairies, who brighten up the Children's Ward at Warrington Hospital each year with their colourful pyjama donations – bringing a little extra warmth to our youngest patients.

## Seasonal kindness

Our community's support during the holiday season has been outstanding. With 850 Easter eggs and 1,150 Christmas gifts donated, local families, companies and groups made a huge difference for children and adult patients staying and visiting Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals.

Each donation, no matter the size, helps make a lasting impact on the lives of those we care for.



*Thank you  
for your  
support!*





*A big thank  
you to our  
supporters*



## Walking in memory of Erin

After the heartbreaking loss of his daughter Erin in 2022 at just 21 years old, John McSherry was inspired to give back to the Intensive Care Unit at Warrington Hospital, where she received care following multiple cardiac arrests.



To honour Erin's memory and support the team who looked after her, John organised a charity walk up Mam Tor, raising vital funds and awareness in her name.

**Amount raised:** £2,532

**Beneficiary:** Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

## Snowdon sunrise walk supports hospital dental care

James Cooper and colleagues from the Orthodontics Department took on a sunrise walk up Snowdon in support of the Raising Smiles Appeal.



Despite suffering a leg and ankle fracture, James completed the challenge with the help of his team.

**Amount raised:** £2,930

**Beneficiary:** Orthodontics' Raising Smiles Appeal

## A challenge to help make a difference

Mike Gittins completed the National Three Peaks Challenge, climbing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in 24 hours to support WHH Charity.

Mike covered 23 miles and more than 10,000 feet of ascent in a single day.

**Amount raised:** £385

**Beneficiary:** Making a Difference Appeal



## Golf day raises £9,000 for appeal

ProTive Security & Surveillance Ltd hosted its annual golf day, raising funds for WHH's Making Waves Appeal.

The event brought together golfers, sponsors and supporters for a fantastic day of fundraising.

**Amount raised:** £9,000

**Beneficiary:** Children's Ward Making Waves Appeal



## Abseil challenge backs Halton's cancer and cardiac services

Staff, patients and families abseiled down Warrington Hospital's Postgraduate Centre to raise funds for cancer and cardiac care at Halton, supporting the Macmillan Delamere Centre and Cardiac Rehab services.

**Amount raised:** £5,105

**Beneficiary:** Making a Difference Appeal



## Community fundraiser boosts ICU

Culcheth Village Club held a 16-hour fundraising day led by Warren Bibby, following his life-saving treatment at Warrington's Intensive Care Unit (ICU)



The event included food, live entertainment and a marathon run in Australia by Warren's son, Adam.

**Amount raised:** £13,000

**Beneficiary:** ICU and Macmillan Cancer Support

## A slice of the action

We partnered with Pizza Hut Great Sankey for a 'Raising Dough' promotion, offering £2 pizzas in support of the charity.

The one-day event saw 950 pizzas sold in just six hours.

**Amount raised:** £1,900

**Beneficiary:** Making a Difference Appeal



## Community volunteers dig deep to bring hospital gardens to life

Volunteers from local businesses have helped transform green spaces at Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals. From the Delamere Centre to the Forget Me Not Unit, their time and energy have refreshed these much-loved outdoor areas.

By planting flowers, clearing overgrowth and brightening gardens, volunteers have created calm, welcoming spaces that offer comfort to patients, families and staff all year round.

Among the businesses lending a hand was Office Bridge Group, whose team helped revitalise the Macmillan Delamere Support and Information Centre at Halton.

Mike Astbury Jnr, Director at Office Bridge Group, said: "We had a very rewarding couple of days volunteering in the garden. I hope many people utilise the outdoor space now and make use of the fantastic facilities over at the Delamere Centre which is funded by WHH Charity. Any support and donations can make a huge difference."

The contribution of all our local business volunteers make a real difference for patients, their families and staff at Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals.

**"Corporate volunteering has a powerful impact – not just on our hospitals, but on the people who use them. These teams give their time generously and help us create bright, comforting environments.**

**We're so grateful for their continued support." – Helen Higginson, Head of Fundraising**







# Our latest appeals

*Raising more than money*



At WHH Charity we're proud to fund projects that the NHS is unable to support – projects that make a lasting difference to the people we care for every day. From creating peaceful spaces to funding special projects, our appeals are shaped by the real needs of our patients, families and staff.

# Willow Tree Hub Appeal

## *Transforming care for bereaved families*

We're raising £200,000 to build the Willow Tree Hub – a calm, private space for families experiencing the heartbreak of baby loss. Each family's pregnancy journey is unique, but for those experiencing baby loss or recovering from a traumatic birth it can be overwhelming, particularly in a busy hospital setting.

Families may be told devastating news in rooms where they can hear women in labour and babies' newborn cries. Returning for follow-up care can also be distressing and a reminder of their past experience.

Located just outside Warrington Hospital's Maternity Department, the hub will also be home to a specialist Rainbow Clinic, offering extra care for families navigating a pregnancy after loss. The Rainbow Clinic will provide specialist monitoring and emotional support, helping families feel reassured and cared for every step of the way.

This project relies on the generosity of our community. Every donation, big or small, will go directly towards creating this space for those families needing support.

By donating, fundraising or spreading the word, you can help us make a real difference.

**Visit our  
JustGiving page  
to make a  
donation**






# Ophthalmology Sensory Garden Appeal

## *Creating a meaningful space*

The Ophthalmology Department cares for people of all ages, including patients who may find the clinical setting of a hospital overwhelming. The garden will provide a quiet and therapeutic space filled with sensory sounds, scents and textures – proven to reduce anxiety and enhance wellbeing.

This meaningful project was launched by the Orthoptic Team in memory of their colleague Tracey Parry, who sadly died in July 2023. Tracey worked for Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals for more than 25 years and was well known for her compassion, her sense of humour, and particularly her dedication to helping patients in need of additional support.

The sensory garden will be a lasting tribute to Tracey and will offer a peaceful environment for patients waiting for appointments, families accompanying loved ones and staff needing a moment to reflect and recharge.



**Visit our  
JustGiving page  
to make a  
donation**

# Making a Difference Appeal

## *Help where it's needed most*

This ongoing appeal ensures we can respond flexibly to emerging priorities, helping us deliver excellent care at the heart of the community.

When you donate to WHH Charity your support goes where it is really needed, funding projects that benefit both patients and staff. Whether it's providing meals for parents on the Neonatal Unit, upgrading facilities, supporting cancer patients at the Delamere Centre, or enhancing staff wellbeing, every pound makes a real difference.

**Donate to help  
us continue  
making a  
positive impact**

The incredible work we fund is only possible thanks to the generosity of our donors, the efforts of fundraisers, and the support of our local communities and corporate partners.

**We can't do this without you. Every donation, event, fundraiser or gift in kind helps bring these spaces to life.**

**To get involved, contact our fundraising team on [01925 662666](tel:01925662666), email [whh.charity@nhs.net](mailto:whh.charity@nhs.net) or [visit our website](#).**



# *How to get involved*





There are many ways you can get involved and support WHH Charity. Whether it's taking part in a fundraiser, attending one of our events, volunteering your time or supplying much-needed items, all contributions are gratefully received and appreciated.

## Leave a legacy that lasts

A gift in your will can help future generations of patients and staff at our hospitals. Legacy donations allow us to plan ahead and fund long-term projects that make a lasting impact.

No matter the size, every gift helps us continue to support care that goes above and beyond. After taking care of loved ones, including WHH Charity in your will is a powerful way to make a difference.

[Speak to our fundraising team](#) to find out how you can leave a legacy of kindness.

## Donate the pennies from your payslip

The Microhive initiative lets corporate businesses support our hospital charity through simple, low-cost payroll giving.

If your company has 500 or more employees you can support WHH Charity by asking them to donate the pennies from their payslip.

Microhive allows your employees to contribute the spare change from their monthly salary, making it easier than ever to support your local NHS charity.

By donating just 1p to 99p monthly, staff can make a big difference for our patients and NHS colleagues.

[Sign up with Microhive](#) and support WHH Charity today.







## Raise money your way

Take on a challenge, host your own event, or join one of ours – there's something for everyone.

From skydives to fun runs, coffee mornings to quiz nights, fundraising with WHH Charity is a great way to support your local NHS.

Our team is here to help you turn your ideas into impact, every step of the way.

[Get involved](#) and raise funds for Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals.

## Join the WHH Supporters' Club

Be part of a network that's passionate about local healthcare.

The WHH Supporters' Club is a unique opportunity to bring together individuals, businesses and community groups who want to make a real impact.

By pledging £500 or more, you can help shape future campaigns, access exclusive events and connect with like-minded supporters, with a unique opportunity to enjoy a long-term partnership.

Your commitment supports vital projects that improve care for patients and staff across our hospitals.

[Contact the fundraising team](#) to join today.

**"Supporting WHH Charity means a great deal to us at G-Force. As a business that prides itself on working closely with our local community, it's important for us to give back to a cause right here on our doorstep. Especially one we've supported for some time and seen first-hand the incredible work they do." – G-Force Communications Ltd**



# Financial summary

Over the past 12 months we have worked alongside our community, stakeholders and colleagues on projects to enhance the support we provide for patients and staff at Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals.

During 2024-25, the charity continued to support a wide range of charitable and health-related activities, including purchasing supplementary and complementary equipment or services which may not ordinarily have been provided from NHS sources.

We remain dedicated to working with our teams, partners, volunteers and supporters to ensure we use donations in the best possible way, for the benefit of our communities.

Despite an ongoing difficult fundraising climate, our dedicated supporters and fundraisers helped to raise £243k as detailed in the table below:

## Total income in 2024-25

	2024-25 £000s
Legacies	£82
Donations and fundraising activities*	£331
Income from investments	£39
<b>Total income:</b>	<b>£452</b>

The Corporate Trustee is committed to ensuring that all funds are directed to the purposes identified in the Terms of Reference as soon as possible. Total expenditure in 2024-25 was £280k as per the table below:

## Total expenditure in 2024-25

	2024-25 £000s
Expenditure on charitable funded projects	£134
Expenditure on charitable activities, including support and fundraising costs, and overheads	£146
<b>Total expenditure:</b>	<b>£280</b>

Funds carried forward as at the start of 2025-2026: £609k.

Our final annual report, once audited, will be published on our WHH Charity website and via the Charity Commission.

# Contact us



01925 662666



whh.charity@nhs.net



whhcharity.org.uk

## Stay connected: Follow us on social media



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Warrington and Halton Hospitals Charity

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Make a  
donation, make  
a difference

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals Charity is registered with the Charity Commission (No 1051858). The charity is managed by the Trust's Board of Directors, ensuring accountability and strategic oversight.