

Newsletter



TARPORLEY
WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TRUST
Registered Charity Number: 700336



Reflecting on a busy year for TWMH Trust

36th Annual General Meeting

In her first AGM as Chair of the Trustees, Helena Harding had the pleasure of welcoming many of our new partners to Tarpорley Hospital on 23rd October 2024. The evening was an opportunity to celebrate the huge progress the Trust has made over the past few years and to share with the community the new partnerships we have formed to fund health and wellbeing initiatives around the local area.



Following feedback at our 2023 AGM, we were delighted to share the launch of The Poppy Club in partnership with Eternity Care Services Ltd (ECS). The club, which is being subsidised by our Charity, offers fun, care and companionship for its members and some much needed respite for carers. More information about this and our other partner services can be found later in this newsletter.

We were also joined by the Countess of Chester Hospital team, who outlined current services and their future plans to develop the Tarpорley facility further as an outpatient and community care hub.

Many thanks to all who attended and we wish all our partners, new and old, much success in developing health and wellbeing services in our community.

The Big Listening Event

We are here to enhance local health and social care services at every stage of life, going above and beyond what the NHS provides. During the year, we awarded a number of grants to organisations we felt could help us achieve our charitable aims. But we know we need to do more.

In our recent community survey - The Big Listening Event - we asked where you felt you would benefit most from enhanced health and wellbeing services. Some clear themes emerged, including better mental health support, health screenings and additional support for carers.

Your feedback about local health and wellbeing needs is important to us and will help shape our future plans and fundraising priorities. Thank you for your input and we look forward to sharing further details with you over the coming months.

You can follow our latest news on our website, twmh.org.uk, or on our Facebook page at facebook.com/TWMHospital.

The TWMH Trustees

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Thanks to our supporters

Grants and community partners

This year we committed over £123,000 in grant funding, helping other charities deliver projects to enhance our physical and mental health and wellbeing.

- **Cardiac Risk in the Young** - free heart screening for young people aged 14-35
- **The Poppy Club** - a subsidised day care service for elderly members of our community
- **Tarporley Victoria Junior Football Club** - equipment and coaching courses to support neurodiverse children
- **Kelsall Wellbeing Hub** - art classes for people with dementia and their carers; young people's mental health workshops; community mural leading to sensory garden
- **Changing Lives Together** - buddying and befriending service, reducing loneliness and isolation
- **Deaf & Sensory Network** - monthly support group for adults living with tinnitus
- **End of Life Partnership** - courses empowering people to care with confidence and compassion at end of life
- **OPAL** - support for unpaid carers and the person with dementia for whom they care
- **Disability Positive** - new social activity group for adults with disabilities



We are very grateful to Nicola Cerven and Follies of Tarporley who fundraised for the free heart screenings held at Tarporley Hospital. Thank you all for your hard work.

Later this year, we are also looking forward to supporting the **Whitegate Station Community Group** whose "SEN Friday" project gives local school children an opportunity to build confidence and develop independent life skills.



The Poppy Club

The Poppy Club, run by Eternity Care Services, is a friendly and welcoming group, bringing companionship and respite to your local community.

The club meets at Tarporley War Memorial Hospital on Thursdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm. Each session includes a hot 2-course lunch and activities tailored to individual interests - from arts and crafts to quizzes, celebrations and much more!

For more information or to book, please contact ECS directly on 01829 458288 or email thepoppyclub@eternitycareservices.co.uk



New social activities for disabled people

Coming soon to Tarporley

We are proud to be supporting Disability Positive, offering community activities for people aged 18+ from January 2025.

If you would like to be a member of a group that meets regularly for a range of fun activities, all chosen by its members, Disability Positive would like to hear from you.

For more information, contact mel@disabilitypositive.org





Spotlight on: Gil in the community

Award-winning Gil

Many of you will be familiar with Gil Martin, who represents the Trust in our local community and whose work recently won him a national award.

Gil was recognised for his community integration work with the Making Space carers' charity. He is passionate about ensuring that unpaid carers are looked after and their needs are met, especially in rural communities. Well done to Gil - everyone at the Trust is proud of you.

In his work for the Trust, Gil has forged links with many organisations and charities in the local area whose focus on mental and physical wellbeing matches our own. He has also helped to maintain the Trust's evolving purpose and profile amongst local businesses and community groups.

Meet the team



Harry Picken
Trustee

Appointed August 2024

Living locally, I am excited to have this opportunity to support my community and ensure Tarporley Hospital thrives as a rural hub for all our growing healthcare needs.

As the founder and CEO of Wave Marketing, I am passionate about innovation and driving transformation and growth. I also serve as Director at Ginger and Pickles, a Cheshire-based café and bakery.

I am looking forward to using my strategic insights and marketing and digital skills to support the Trust as it seeks further opportunities to enhance the health and wellbeing of our community, at every stage of life.

Dementia-Friendly Tarporley

In partnership with the Purple Angels Dementia Charity and Tarporley Independent Traders, Gil is currently spearheading the Dementia-Friendly Tarporley initiative. Approximately 85 businesses have now signed up to implement dementia-friendly practices, raise awareness and provide support to those living with dementia.

Alongside this, TWMH Trust continues to support Purple Angels' music project, which provides people living with dementia with free MP3 players loaded with their favourite songs.

Port Men In Sheds

Gil's links with Port Men In Sheds has seen welcome improvements to Tarporley Hospital's garden and patio area. The Men in Sheds charity aims to promote inclusion and relieve social isolation or loneliness for people impacted by retirement, unemployment, bereavement, old age, caring responsibilities, disability or ill health. Their members have refurbished our commemorative benches and built new planters for the benefit of patients who are relearning movement and balance through gardening.



Karen Edge
Trustee

Appointed October 2024

I am thrilled to join TWMH Trust as a local resident with family also in the area.

I have an extensive career in finance and am currently the Director of Finance at the Countess of Chester Hospital with a long NHS service record but also previous experience working in the private and third sectors.

I am keen to use my knowledge and skills to further the contribution and value Tarporley Hospital can provide to the local population.

The Vintage Charity Shop



The shop has been raising funds for TWMH Trust for almost 10 years now and we are extremely grateful to the community for their continuing support. We would also like to say a huge “thank you” to all the loyal volunteers who give their time and ideas so generously each week. Together with the shop’s talented manager, Nikki, they have created some impressive displays over the years, especially at Christmas time.

A visit to the shop has been described as a nostalgic walk back in time, and the team prides itself on being a social hub for the local community and the many visitors from far and wide. All stock is kindly donated and of high quality, with something for everyone’s pocket. Offering all things vintage: homeware, antiques, collectables, lighting, pictures and furniture.

Christmas cards by Toots Design

Thank you to the very talented Lorna Gibson, who has been supporting Tarporley Hospital through her Christmas card sales for a number of years now.

These beautiful cards are available through the Toots Design website (tootsdesign.co.uk) and can also be purchased locally at Tarporley Post Office and Okells Garden Centre. 50p per pack is donated to TWMH Trust. Thank you, Lorna.



Open

Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 4.30pm

Find us at

105 High Street, Tarporley, CW6 OAR

Get in touch

07922 588399

thevintagecharityshop@twmh.org.uk

Just a reminder that the charity shop team will be taking a little break after Christmas to restock and recharge. Opening on Saturdays only in January, from 10am to 3pm.

Thank you for all your support during 2024 and we look forward to your next visit.



Thank you to all our supporters

We are extremely grateful for all the support we continue to receive from our local community, including those who choose to donate or fundraise on our behalf, volunteer their time or help to raise awareness. We even have an impressive Christmas tree to welcome visitors, which was kindly donated by Tarporley 41 Club. **Thank you all.**

As we move increasingly towards funding health and wellbeing initiatives in our local area, the Trustees are proposing to begin actively fundraising. A brief Christmas appeal will be followed in the New Year by additional fundraising activities.

We have already committed to some funding in 2025, including The Poppy Club and CRY (a further weekend of cardiac screening for those in the 14-35 age range will take place in July 2025). We will continue to look for other opportunities to fund local initiatives and to develop the Tarporley Hospital facilities.