

Press Release

20th May 2011

New found friends run together for St Peter & St James Hospice!

On Sunday 15th May, 78 Classic cars took part in the second Forester Run. Starting at the Bluebell Railway, winding through lovely countryside to Bodiam Castle where they stopped for a bite to eat and drink, back through the leafy lanes to the stunning surroundings at St Peter & St James for a well deserved hog roast!

In 2009 the run raised an impressive £2,700.00 for the Hospice, but not content with that Steve Everest, his wife Gill and John Hopkins decided by enlisting the help of their friends in the Austin Healey Club and the TR Register, they could raise more funds, and so the Forester Run 2011 was born!

Open to all marques, 78 Classic cars, ranging from a 1934 Bentley Derby to a rare Messerschmitt bubble car lined up on the front lawn of St Peter & St James for all to see and admire. Penny, one of our patients was thrilled to be offered the chance ride in a 1992 Alpha Romeo Spider from Bodiam Castle back to the Hospice! She said "How wonderful to be given this lovely opportunity, I had a very special time driving with Robin in his wonderful car and would like to thank him so much. Events like these are so important, as they raise money and profile for this wonderful place. I know from personal experience how caring everybody is at the Hospice, nothing is too much trouble and they go out of their way to help you. Every day they have to raise such a lot of money, £5,000, and it's great that they have so many people willing to give to make sure that someone like me gets the support they need, when we need it and without having to worry about the money. Thank you to everybody who took part!"

The organisers have confirmed that approximately £4,400 has been raised, an incredible amount of money! Lots of those taking part had personal experience of St Peter & St James and were pleased to be able to show off their classic car treasures, have a lovely journey through the Sussex countryside and help the Hospice, all at the same time!

The pictures shown are proof that Germany and England are friends with several 1960's Triumph Spitfires taking part as well as the Messerschmitt Tg500 'Tiger' – and it managed to keep up with all the "big boys" it has to be said!!

Also pictured is the impressive line-up at the Hospice and a 1960 Isetta "Bubble " Car which caused great delight wherever it was seen!

The Hospice and the Organisers would like to thank everyone that took part, their sponsors and the Burgess Hill Support Group of St Peter & St James who provided the hungry travellers with food to accompany the Hog Roast.

- ENDS -

For further information: Gill Cronin on 01444 471598

Notes to Editors: About St Peter & St James Hospice & Continuing Care Centre

Our mission as a registered charity is to provide specialist care, love and support for those living with progressive, life limiting illnesses from East and West Sussex. We will endeavour to meet the needs of each patient, their family and friends. We aim to encourage and enable all patients to live their lives to their full potential despite their illnesses.

We care for patients from Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath, Lewes, Uckfield and the surrounding villages. Last year we provided care for more than 400 patients and their families. All of our Hospice services are free of charge and we receive less than 17% of our funding from the Government. This means we have to raise more than £1.8 million every year through fundraising. That's £5,000 every single day.

If you are interested in working or volunteering at St Peter & St James please contact Human Resources on 01444 471598 or visit www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk.

Website: www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk

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Images: For logos and photographs please contact Gill Cronin on 01444 471598 or email gill.cronin@stpeter-stjames.org.uk