

Press Release

29th April 2009

Marathon Runners Pound The Streets For St Peter & St James

Ten heroic runners took to the streets of London in glorious sunshine on Sunday to take part in the Flora London Marathon and raise more than £25,000 for St Peter & St James Hospice in North Chailey.

The Hospice's runners were Jim Marsh (3 hours, 54 minutes), Sarah Payne (4 hours, 45 minutes), Joel French (4 hours, 47 minutes), Mary Smith, Martin Cooper, Stephen Lord (5 hours 46 minutes), Lee Parker (5 hours, 12 minutes), Anthony Shaw, Ian Sutton (4 hours 51 minutes) and David Peel (4 hours, 37 minutes).

Jim, a milkman from Burgess Hill, was taking part in his third Marathon for St Peter & St James and was surprised to overtake a giant Lucozade bottle at 11 miles. Mary had her sites set on beating slightly more glamorous runners ahead of her and was delighted to overtake Katie Price and Peter Andre, and Lee finished just behind a 12 foot nurse in a bright pink outfit! Sarah, a paediatric physiotherapist from Haywards Heath, who was running in memory of a close friend who was cared for by St Peter & St James said: "I was overwhelmed by the number of people cheering along the route and have never been around so many people all pulling in the same direction."

Gill Cronin, Head of Fundraising at St Peter & St James said: "It was a real pleasure to be at the finish line amongst so many people raising money for so many wonderful causes. We're very proud of all of our runners who did so well particularly in the heat. The Marathon is not just about the day itself but also about months of training and preparation. It's a really big commitment and we're very grateful that our runners chose to run for the Hospice. Between them they have raised more than £25,000 which is enough to run our Hospice services for a week."

If you are interested in applying for one of the Hospice's five Golden Bond places in the 2010 London Marathon and can raise at least £3,000 in sponsorship please contact Karen Lambert on 01444 471598 or email karen.lambert@stpeter-stjames.org.uk. If you are interested in working or volunteering at St Peter & St James please contact Human Resources or the Volunteer Services Co-ordinator on 01444 471598 or visit www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk.

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Photograph attached: Sarah Payne & Jim Marsh with their finisher's medals

For further information: Karen Lambert or 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 just 15% of our funding from the Government. This means we have to raise more than £1.3 million every year through fundraising. That's £3,600 every single day.

Website: www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk

Email: fundraising@stpeter-stjames.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1056114

Images: For logos and photographs please contact Karen Lambert on 01444 471598 or email karen.lambert@stpeter-stjames.org.uk