

11<sup>th</sup> August 2009

**New Renault Minibus For St Peter & St James Hospice**

St Peter & St James Hospice & Continuing Care Centre, North Chailey held a special ceremony to celebrate its new Renault Master minibus. The minibus was funded thanks to a generous grant of £43,299 from The Trust of Valerie Emily Munday.

The celebration included a ceremonial handover of the keys from Dean Orgill, Chair of The Trust of Valerie Emily Munday, to Colin Burgess, Chief Executive of St Peter & St James. They were joined by Day Hospice patients, volunteers and staff.

Margaret Scully, Day Hospice Manager, is thrilled and said 'The new minibus will be of great benefit to our patients, many of whom are over 65 and have mobility issues. The Day Hospice means the world to them'. The Trust of Valerie Emily Munday has also very generously supported the Day Hospice in the past.

Dinnages of Haywards Heath, the local Renault dealership, which has a long-standing relationship with the Hospice, were selected to provide the Renault Master minibus and to oversee its conversion including the installation of a tail-lift for wheelchair users. Dinnages Managing Director Daniel Broyd said: "St Peter & St James makes a huge difference to people suffering with life-limiting illnesses and their families. We were delighted to supply the minibus and do what we could to support the Hospice which provides such a valuable service to the people of Haywards Heath and around."

Colin Burgess said: 'We are very grateful to The Trust of Valerie Emily Munday for funding the minibus and also to Dinnages for their donation and help in sourcing the vehicle. This support means a lot and will make a real difference for our patients and their families.'

The dealership on Wivelsfield Road also handed over a £4,000 cheque, equivalent to the cost of one day's running costs for the Hospice.

**- ENDS -**

**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 £1.4 million every year through fundraising. That's £4,000 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](http://www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk).

**Website:** [www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk](http://www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk)

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