

PRESS RELEASE

St Peter & St James Hospice will open its new 'Furniture & Home' shop at 11 Eastgate Street, Lewes on Thursday 15th July at 11 a.m. The Hospice is delighted that one of its Patrons, Dame Vera Lynn DBE, will be opening the new shop which is situated to the side of Waitrose with its main entrance opposite Laura Ashley with parking available in the nearby East Gate Street NCP.

This really is not just any charity shop! With 2,000 square feet of retail space featuring good quality old, modern, country and retro second hand furniture displays, electrical items, including white goods and lamps, a brilliant book corner, picture gallery, special sections for vinyl records and collectables, this will surely be a 'must' to visit for all Lewes shoppers.

Therese Wilson, Head of Retail for the Hospice, said "We have wanted to open a large furniture store for a long time as our original shop opposite the Crown Court in the High Street, whilst very successful, is just too small to include anything more than a chair or small table in the window each week."

This new shop will complement the existing Lewes St Peter & St James Charity Shop which will continue to focus on quality fashions, accessories, glass, china and collectables. After the official opening, Dame Vera Lynn will be signing copies of her latest CD which reached No 1 in the charts and visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy some of her original tracks recorded in Nashville, Tennessee 33 years ago!

The opening will be rounded off with the launch of the **Hospice's new Vintage China Hire Service** with tea and cake served using genuine vintage bone china from the collection. This service offers everything from tea cups and saucers to cake stands and wine glasses to hire for that special event, from as little as £1 per head!

Colin Burgess, Chief Executive of St Peter & St James added, "The opening of this, our fifth shop, is very exciting and will help us to raise more, much needed funds to support the Hospice. We hope that people will come from far and wide to take advantage of the broad range of good quality furniture and items for the home that we have to offer."

The Hospice is hoping to appoint a full time shop manager in due course and will be seeking Volunteer sales personnel.

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For further information: Therese Wilson 01444 470205 or Gill Cronin 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 20% 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.

Website: www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk
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