

**Press Release**

9<sup>th</sup> December 2008

**St Peter & St James Bid A Fond Farewell To Ruby Gordon-Wilson**

Trustees, staff and volunteers at St Peter & St James Hospice bade a fond farewell to Ruby Gordon-Wilson of Newick who has retired from her role as a Trustee.

Ruby initially visited the Hospice back in 1977 to attend an open day held by Mrs Susan Dinnage who had the vision for the Hospice whilst sitting in Wivelsfield village church. Ruby and others were invited by Mrs Dinnage to form the Friends of St Peter & St James and Ruby became a founder member in 1978. The Friends have raised hundreds of thousands of pounds towards the Hospice's work over the years.

Ruby became a Trustee 15 years ago and has been actively involved in many areas of the Hospice's work sitting on various sub-committees including Fundraising, Clinical Governance and Shops. Her contribution has helped to build the Hospice into it's current stature. Ruby said: "When I first came to the Hospice back in the 1970s I was struck by just how happy, peaceful and calm a place it is and that is still true today."

In her professional career Ruby was a dental practitioner in Brighton and a Magistrate in Brighton and Hove until she retired in 1998. She will be sorely missed as a Trustee but will continue to volunteer by sorting goods donated for the Hospice's 3 shops in Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath and Lewes and by helping at fundraising events.

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