

Why is Tree of Light special?

“As the nights draw in and winter approaches, it’s a welcome time of the year to have an event that unites everyone in celebration of a life lived.”

Christmas is a special time of year for families and friends, but for many people who have lost someone close, it can be a time of sadness. We understand this and are here to help.

Many people find comfort in attending our Tree of Light service, an annual event which provides a sensitive and meaningful way for friends and family to gather together to remember and celebrate the lives of loved ones who won’t be with you this Christmas.

Fiona Lee’s mum June died at St Catherine’s in May 2008 and her family attended our Tree of Light service that same year.

“In 2008 we were invited, in honour of Mum, to turn on the lights at the Tree of Light Service by St Catherine’s. This service was important to us as a family as it gave us an opportunity to remember the passing of a loved one at this special time of year.”

The simple service includes carols and readings and perhaps most importantly, an opportunity to pause, reflect and remember the life of someone who cannot be with us at this time of year.

“Tree of Light provided a positive focus as we approached a time that can be very difficult to deal with. We felt able to draw strength and comfort from the presence of others at the service who may have shared similar experiences. The service offered hope, and the sense that there is light ahead and the possibility of moving forward.”

Maybe like Fiona, you have someone special to remember this coming winter? If so, please join us at this year’s service. Everyone is welcome, regardless of whether the loss is recent, some time ago, or if the person being remembered was cared for St Catherine’s or elsewhere.

Remembering a loved one

Many people find that sponsoring a light on our tree and making a dedication is also a positive way to remember a loved one or friend. All names sponsored will be entered into our Book of Remembrance which will be displayed at the main service at K2 Leisure Centre in Crawley, and then kept on display at the hospice.

In recognition of your donation, you will receive confirmation that your light will be shining on our tree. You will also receive a “star” decoration on which to write a dedication. You might like to hang this at home or place it on the special trees before the main service at K2. If you are attending an alternative service, we will be pleased to hang the decoration on your behalf, and then display this at the hospice.

During the service in Crawley the Tree of Light will be lit in honour of all those being remembered - the lights symbolic reminders of lives to be cherished and of lasting memories. After the service the Tree of Light will shine out into the night outside the hospice until twelfth night.

Fiona said, *“It felt very symbolic to hang a dedication on the tree. It brought together the entire family from young to old, a generation of memories. And for me, it helped somehow to channel my thoughts and draw strength for the year ahead”.*

“St Catherine’s couldn’t have done any more for our family than they did. I’ll be remembering Mum this time around by making a dedication and supporting St Catherine’s with a donation. Perhaps you could too?”

To attend, simply complete the RSVP slip, indicating which service you would like to join and return it to us by 20th November 2009.

The main Tree of Light service will be held from 4pm on 6th December at K2 Leisure Centre in Crawley. Additional smaller services will be held at:

Our Lady & St Peter’s Church, East Grinstead at 4pm on 6th December

St Bartholomew’s Church, Horley at 5pm on 6th December

Trinity URC (with St Mary’s C of E Church), Billingshurst at 5pm on 6th December

St Mary’s Church, Oxted at 4pm on 6th December

St Phillip’s Church (with St Mark’s, Reigate Methodist and St Mary’s Churches), Reigate at 5pm on 6th December

Redhill URC, Redhill at 6pm on 6th December

St Paul’s Church (with Dorking Churches Together), Dorking at 6pm on 6th December

Trafalgar Road Baptist Church (with Holy Trinity), Horsham at 6pm on 6th December

Christ Church URC (with Trinity URC, Ifield), Pound Hill at 6.30pm on 6th December

St Mark’s Church, Horsham at 6.30pm on 6th December

St John’s Church, Felbridge at 6.30pm on 13th December

We look forward to seeing you and your family.

Sponsor a Light

Please complete in block capitals:

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss) Full name
Address

Postcode
Telephone number
Email address

Donation Amount

I wish to sponsor light(s). I enclose a donation of £

I enclose a cheque made payable to St Catherine’s Hospice for £

or please debit my credit/debit card for

Tick appropriate card: Visa Mastercard CAF card Debit Card

Name on card

Card Number

Valid from / Expiry Date /

Issue No. (Switch/Maestro only) Security Code (3 digit number on back of card)

I would like to sponsor a light(s) in the name of: *(block capitals please)*

Forename:

Surname:

Please enclose additional names and details on a separate sheet if required.

Please indicate here how many star decorations you wish to receive.

Data Protection

We would like to mail you occasionally with information about our services and fundraising activities in addition to Tree of Light. If you do not wish to receive such mail, tick here

Please turn over

Gift Aid

giftaid it

Make your gift worth more

If you are a UK taxpayer, ticking the Gift Aid box means that for every £1 we can claim an additional 28p from HM Revenue and Customs and it costs you nothing!

Please just read and sign the statement below:

I am a UK taxpayer and I would like St Catherine's Hospice to treat all donations I have made for the six years prior to this year and all donations I may make in future as gift aid donations, until I notify them otherwise.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Following the reduction in basic rate tax to 20p in the pound and the Government's provision of transitional relief for charities, we need to advise you that:

- St Catherine's Hospice will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 you gave up to 5th April 2008
- St Catherine's Hospice will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give on or after 6th April 2008
- The Government will pay to St Catherine's Hospice an additional 3p for every £1 you give between 6th April 2008 and 5th April 2011. This transitional relief does not affect your personal tax position.

Please let us know if you change your address or no longer pay income tax.

Tree of Light Service RSVP

I/We will be attending the Tree of Light service at K2 on Sunday 6th December 2009 from 4pm.

I/We will be attending the service at: _____

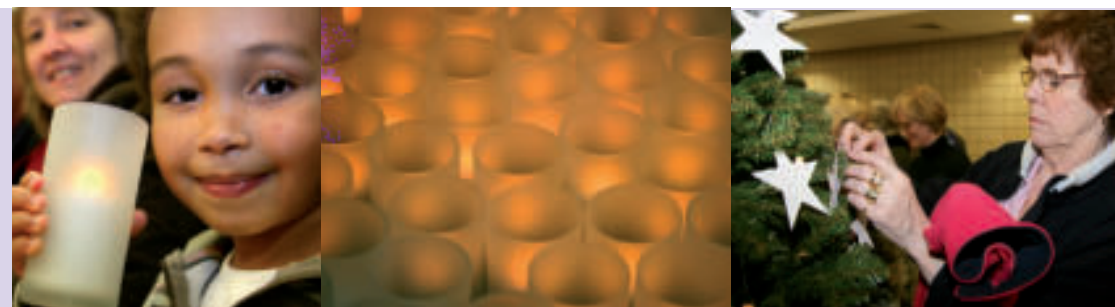
Number of people who will be attending your chosen service

or

I/We are unable to attend any of the services.

To allow us time to prepare the Books of Remembrance and plan refreshments, please return this form by 20th November to:

Fundraising - Tree of Light
St Catherine's Hospice
Malthouse Road
Crawley
RH10 6BH



Tree of Light Service at K2

- 4pm Music on arrival and opportunity to hang star decorations
- 4.30pm Service begins including carols, readings, time for reflection and lighting of the Tree of Light
- 5.30pm Service ends followed by refreshments, the opportunity to read the Books of Remembrance and to speak to our bereavement team

For more information on the service, please visit our website www.stch.org.uk

St Catherine's Hospice

St Catherine's Hospice is a charity dedicated to providing specialised end of life care and support to local people, their families, friends and carers.

For over 25 years we have been providing high quality hospice care, free of charge, to people living in Crawley, Horsham, Mid-Sussex and East Surrey. Hospice care is based on the belief that each person is more than their illness, and each of us has unique physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs. St Catherine's responds to the needs of each individual. We are committed to relieving pain and anxiety, and to helping people achieve the best possible quality of life.

St Catherine's critically relies on voluntary donations and legacies. Our care is only made possible thanks to the generosity of supporters and volunteers. Each year we need to raise more than £4.7million of voluntary income to fund our work.

www.stch.org.uk

St Catherine's Hospice
Malthouse Road, Crawley
West Sussex RH10 6BH

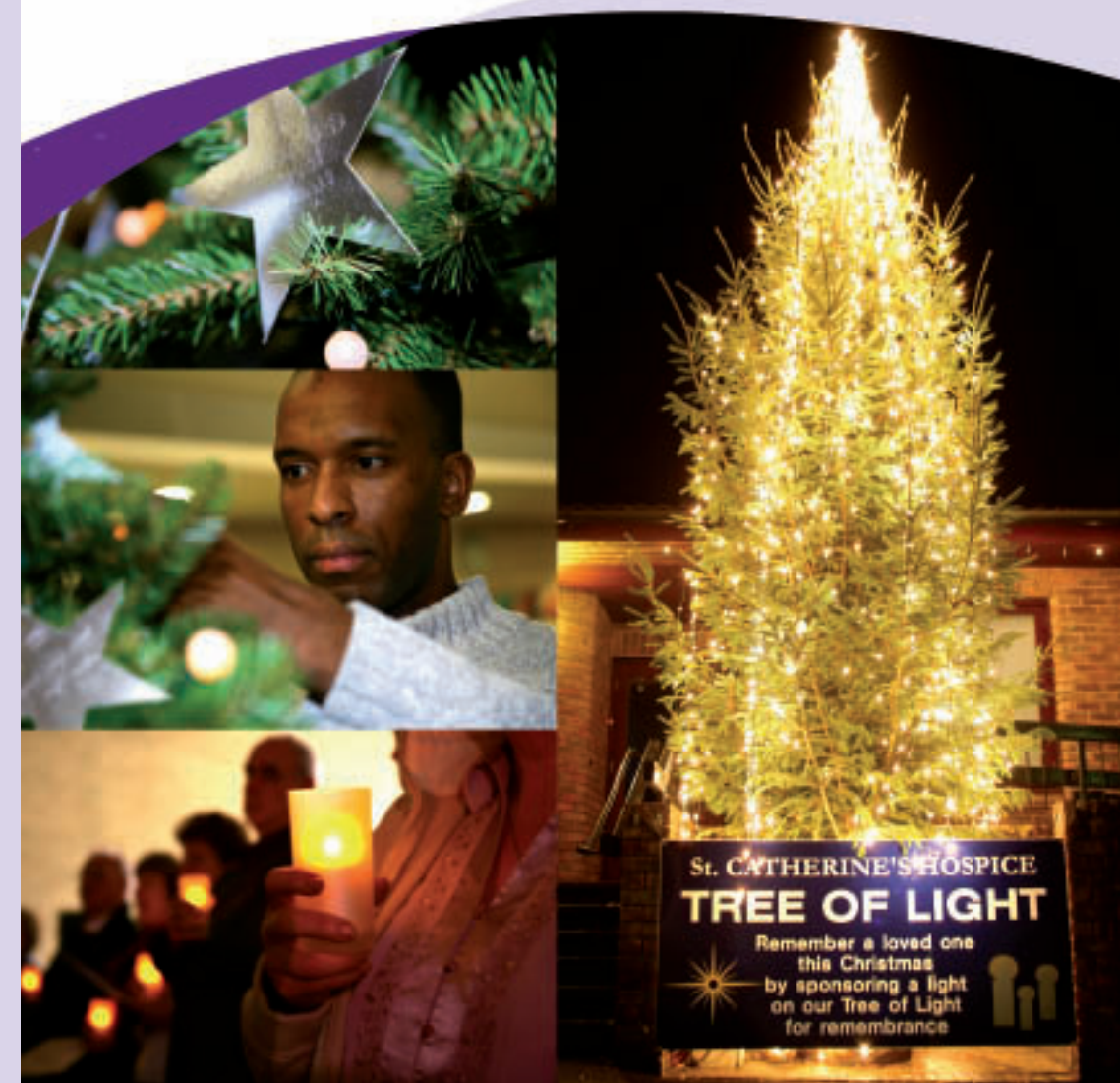
Tel: 01293 447333
Fax: 01293 611977

Registered charity no. 281362 and
as a company in England no. 1525404



Remember a loved one this Christmas with St Catherine's Hospice Tree of Light

Sunday 6th December 2009



Care
Compassion
Understanding