



# Volunteer Newsletter



## Smiles on Four Paws

We're excited to welcome some very special new volunteers to Derian House – our Pets As Therapy (PAT) dogs!

Following the retirement of our much-loved therapy dog Shuna, Ted the Labradoodle, Cliff the Terrier, and Buddy the Gun Dog have joined the team to bring joy and comfort to children and families at the hospice.

The dogs provide regular visits, offering emotional and social support with their calming presence. Young people like Leo, 24, love the chance to stroke the dogs' soft fur and enjoy their company: "It means a lot to me when Ted comes in," Leo said. "He's lovely and cute!"

Our Therapy dogs take part in everything from garden strolls to music sessions, always happy to be fussed over. Their calm, gentle nature makes them perfect companions for the children.

A big thank you to our new PAT volunteers and their owners (Jo, Kat & Andy) for helping us bring smiles and comfort to the hospice!

## Volunteer Reminders

Just a quick reminder to all volunteers to please let Fran know if you have any changes to your home address, contact details, or next of kin information. It's important we keep our records up to date.



Also, if you've been issued with a uniform, please make sure to wear it during your shift. This helps visitors, customers, and colleagues easily identify you as one of our valued volunteers.

Thank You

## Tallulah Sends Her Love from Ireland!

We were thrilled to receive an update from one of our former PAT dog volunteers, Tallulah, who relocated to Ireland earlier this year.

Her owner shared: "We've had a busy few months settling in and have nearly survived six weeks without a working kitchen! I just saw the news about the new therapy dogs and I'm so pleased. I hope they're enjoying their visits as much as we did."

Tallulah hasn't hung up her therapy harness just yet, she's now visiting a local primary school and has also started occasional visits to a residential care home, where she's proving just as popular.

With a beautiful beach just ten minutes from their new home, Tallulah is enjoying plenty of fresh air and new adventures.

"We miss you and all our Chorley friends, but we're making new ones here," her owner said.

Thank you to Tallulah and family – you'll always be part of the Derian House family!





# Derian Documentary Coming to Amazon Prime

The Little Things, a powerful documentary filmed at Derian House, will be available to stream on Amazon Prime in the UK and US from Friday 22 August 2025.

Created by bereaved dad Paul Woodward and director Thomas Elliott Griffiths, the film offers a moving insight into life at Derian House, celebrating the love and care provided to children and families. Inspired by Paul's son Kalel, the documentary aims to break down misconceptions about children's hospices.

Supported by BAFTA-winner Steve Pemberton and praised by UK Film Review as "the most moving documentary I have seen in years," The Little Things has already gained national attention.

Watch the trailer here



## Corporate Volunteers Make a Big Impact!

Over the past few weeks, we've been blown away by the energy and enthusiasm of our corporate volunteer groups - they've truly gone above and beyond!

From getting the hospice grounds looking beautiful in preparation for our Open Gardens, to clearing the woodland area ready for our brand-new Forest School, their support has made a huge difference.

A special shoutout goes to the 25 amazing students from Parklands High School, who gave up their morning to clean our fleet vehicles and tidy leaves in the play area - all while braving the pouring rain! Their positive attitude and team spirit were inspiring.

We're so grateful for every group who has stepped in to lend a hand. Their hard work and willingness to get stuck in helps us keep Derian House a wonderful place for children and families.



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