

# Music in Hospitals & Care

## Newsletter | Autumn 2026



We have been sharing weekly live music in the intensive care unit at Glangwili Hospital in Carmarthen. Singer and guitarist Gareth Cornfield recently shared a moving moment with a family following the passing of their loved one.

“I was asked by a nurse to play for a gentleman who was unconscious. While I was playing, they closed the doors in the corridor as there was a patient who was nearing the end.

Soon, I was told that I could go to the rest of the unit. As I was moving on, I was stopped by a group of visitors and they asked what I was doing. They were very interested in Music in Hospitals & Care’s work. The young man told me he played guitar so I gave him mine to play. As we talked, I realised that they were the family of the person who had been taken away. They shared that he was being prepared for organ donation.

I went back to his bed area with the family and we talked about their love of music and their late father and husband, who was an AC/DC fan. We talked about their memories with him at gigs, and how they had one booked for this weekend to see an artist for the 25th



time. The son played some songs that he and his father enjoyed playing, and some they had written together.

His wife commented that it should be a horrible time, but we were laughing and reminiscing about her late husband. She said how grateful she was for my input. We only stopped when they were taken away as he was now ready. I consider it an honour to have been able to be of some comfort to them at such a traumatic time.”

Intensive care units are places where families often face some of life’s most difficult moments. Through the power of live music, our musicians bring connection and support when it is needed most.

## Ready for a new challenge?



We know that our supporters enjoy all kinds of challenges, so alongside our regular running events we're excited to offer new ways to support Music in Hospitals & Care.

We've partnered with Discover Adventure, one of the UK's leading providers of fundraising challenges. They offer a wide range of treks, cycles and overseas adventures for all experience levels. Whether you've always wanted to climb a mountain, tackle a long-distance trek or try something completely new, there's an adventure to suit you."

From summits closer to home, such as Snowdon by Night, to treks further afield in destinations like Portugal and Jordan, an exciting challenge awaits.

"A wonderful challenging experience with spectacular views, tough terrain, friendly local crew and an excellent Jordanian guide. A real treat to enter Petra by the back door, a fabulous destination at which to finish the trek."

Alison, who completed Trek to Ancient Petra with Discover Adventure

Taking on a challenge is a fantastic way to achieve a personal goal while making a real difference to others. Whatever the reason, whatever the challenge, we have lots of ways for you to do something incredible for those in hospitals, care settings and in your community.

If you would like to find out more or even have your own idea for a fundraising challenge, contact us to find out how we can support you!



Sue Diamond  
Community and Events Fundraiser  
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# Building partnerships for the future

We wanted to share some recent ways that we're working in partnership to make your support go further:

## Edinburgh Centre for Research on the Experience of Dementia (ECRED)

This large-scale project has brought together researchers, artists, arts organisations and people living with dementia to investigate how participating in arts activities, including music, can create meaningful experiences.

In addition to keynote presentations at dementia and research conferences, the project was featured in the Scottish Parliament Cross-party Group for Culture and Communities annual report. It is hoped it will be used as an example to influence future policy-making around dementia care.



## St James's Place Charitable Foundation

We are delighted to share that we have been awarded a grant of £90,000 from St James's Place Charitable Foundation. A programme of live music in hospices across the UK will take place over the next three years. We were only able to apply thanks to a wonderful supporter who connected us to the foundation, and we are so grateful for their support.

## NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Our interactive Music Jam approach encourages people to participate in a way that is comfortable for them - listening, playing an instrument, singing or simply being present.

Successful monthly Music Jam sessions at Stobhill Hospital have led to the approach being introduced at Leverndale Hospital as part of a new 12 month partnership that will see live music shared in both the adult and older adult wards.

## Northern Care Alliance NHS Trust

Following a pilot at Salford Royal Hospital last year, a 12 month partnership is currently bringing regular live music to six wards, reaching patients in critical care, neuro-rehabilitation, dementia and stroke wards at Rochdale Infirmary, Fairfield General Hospital, Butler Green and Birch Hill Hospitals.



# Thank you for the music

Over the past year we have received incredible support from legacies, funeral collections and gifts in memory of loved ones. Here are just some of the kind messages from supporters sharing what this means to them:

“Remembering my darling music loving husband, who spent many weeks in a windowless room in critical care at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh in 2024. The weekly music was so welcome for both of us, and as a guitarist himself, he particularly enjoyed the young woman who came to sing and play for him.”

“I am remembering my cousin today for her birthday. Music soothed her and that was very valuable to both her and her family.”

“She was very glad to give a benefit to your charity and knew that this would be put to very valuable use in the future.”

“For my grandad who absolutely loved music.”

“My donation today is made in memory of my wonderful and multi-talented friend of more than 45 years.”

Every donation means so much, and we're always touched to see how support for Music in Hospitals & Care brings comfort during difficult times. If you are thinking about leaving a gift in your Will, please get in touch:

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If you would prefer not to receive our newsletter, please get in touch with us to let us know. We value your support and would like to keep you informed of how you can help share the healing power of live music.

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