

Our Charity Story

Emergency Department Appeal

We launched a £2m Emergency Department Appeal to expand clinical spaces, fund new state-of-the-art equipment and enhance the waiting areas within the department.



Charity Raised £12m

A record-breaking year for our charity after we raised an incredible £12m thanks to our amazing supporters and the generous donation from the Osborne family

Dame Denise Lewis

Athlete and sports presenter Dame Denise Lewis joined us as one of our fantastic charity Patrons



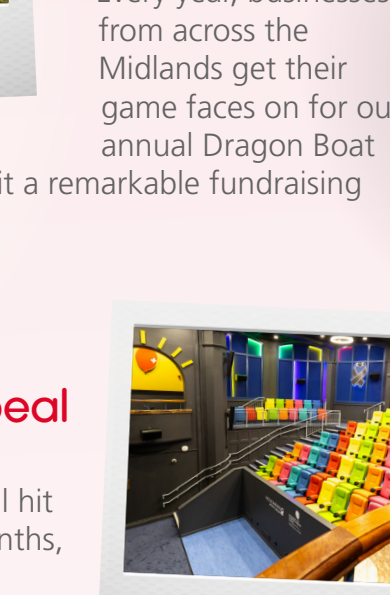
MediCinema Opened

Our MediCinema – the largest in the UK – officially opened its doors in March with the help of very special guests, Mickey and Minnie Mouse and our brilliant patients



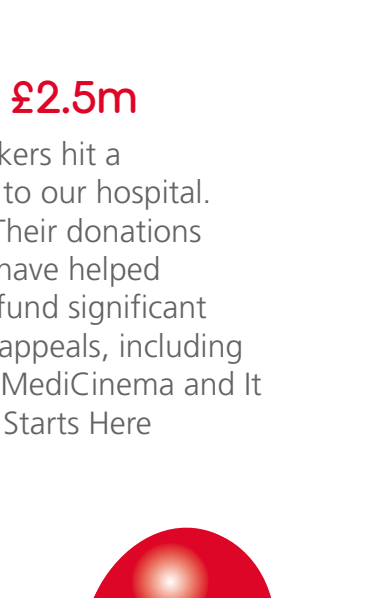
Legacy Gift From Handa Leonard Brown

A generous gift of £20,000 from Handa Leonard Brown helped improve Asthma diagnoses at our hospital by helping fund necessary research into care and treatments



Ozzy Osbourne's Final Gig

Our hospital was one of three beneficiaries for Black Sabbath's seminal Back to the Beginning concert at Villa Park highlighting our hospital on a global stage



Dragon Boat Race Hits £1m

Every year, businesses from across the Midlands get their game faces on for our annual Dragon Boat Race. In 2025, they hit a remarkable fundraising total of £1m



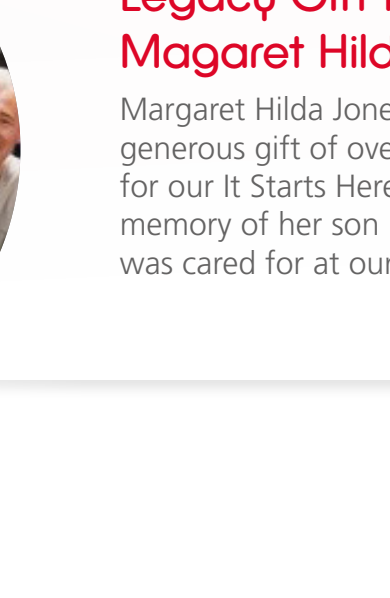
MediCinema Appeal

Our £1m appeal to bring a MediCinema to our hospital hit its target after just four months, providing our sick kids with meaningful respite from the wards and a chance to spend quality time with their families



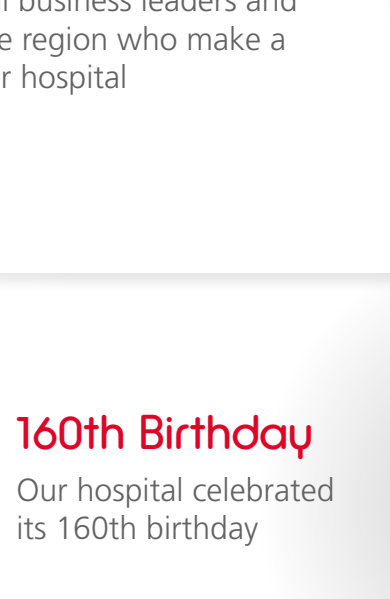
iMRI Appeal Closed

Thanks to your generous support, we hit the £1.5m target on our iMRI Appeal in record time, helping to bring intraoperative MRI technology to our hospital for the very first time



£1m Research Fund

We committed to investing £1m every year to support high-quality research into children's health and diseases, as well as mental health

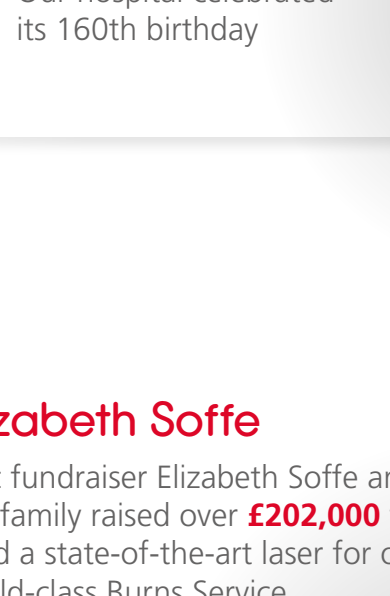


Emma Willis

TV and radio presenter Emma Willis joined us as one of our brilliant charity Patrons

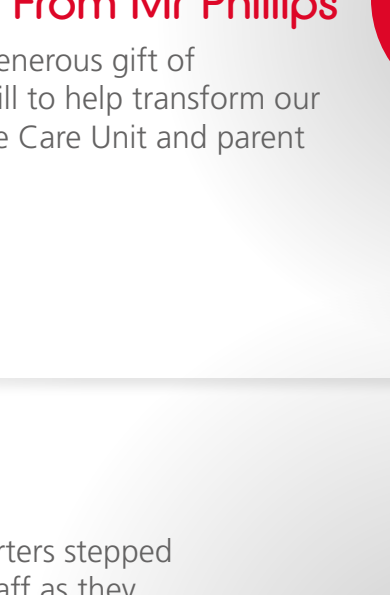
Legacy Gift From Margaret Hilda Jones

Margaret Hilda Jones left a generous gift of over £539,200 for our It Starts Here Appeal, in memory of her son Dean who was cared for at our hospital



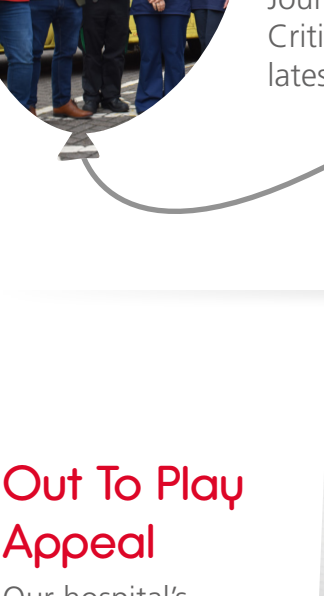
Changemakers Launched

We officially announced our Changemakers, a group of influential business leaders and companies across the region who make a lasting impact on our hospital



Changemakers Hit £2.5m

In November, our Changemakers hit a milestone of £2.5m donated to our hospital. Their donations have helped fund significant appeals, including MediCinema and It Starts Here



160th Birthday

Our hospital celebrated its 160th birthday



Charity Raised £10m

Following an inspiring year of fundraising, our charity raised a total of £10m thanks to our brilliant supporters

Elizabeth Sofke

Epic fundraiser Elizabeth Sofke and her family raised over £202,000 to fund a state-of-the-art laser for our world-class Burns Service



Ben Founder

The founder and CEO of Gymshark was appointed as our first-ever charity Patron

Mr Phillips Gift

Mr Phillips left a generous gift of £113,000 in his will to help transform our Paediatric Intensive Care Unit and parent accommodation

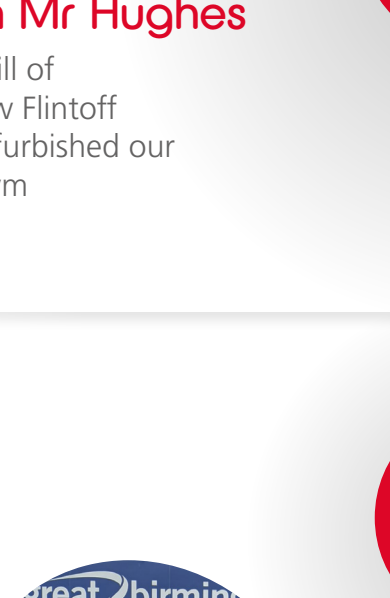


Fight For All The Feels

A £1.6m fundraising appeal was launched to deliver a new youth mental health model of care, delivered by peer support workers

Critical Journeys Appeal

Target reached for our £2m Critical Journeys Appeal, which kitted out four Critical Care Ambulances with the latest, life-saving medical equipment



Royal Dahl Windows

HRH The Duchess of Cornwall unveiled our stunning Royal Dahl Window installation, designed by Sir Quentin Blake

Out To Play Appeal

Our hospital's outdoor playground was refurbished following our Out To Play Appeal, which raised £230,000



Waterfall House Opened

Home to our state-of-the-art Children's Cancer Centre and the UK's first paediatric Rare Diseases Centre, Waterfall House was a possible thanks to our Children's Cancer Centre Appeal and Star Appeal

Magnolia House

Entirely charitably funded, Magnolia House, the first bereavement centre of its kind in the UK, opened following a £1m appeal



Dragon Boat Race

Our first-ever Dragon Boat Race took place at Birmingham's Mailbox raising more than £128,000

Star Appeal Closure

Target reached for our £3.65m Star Appeal, which funded the UK's first Rare Diseases Centre for children

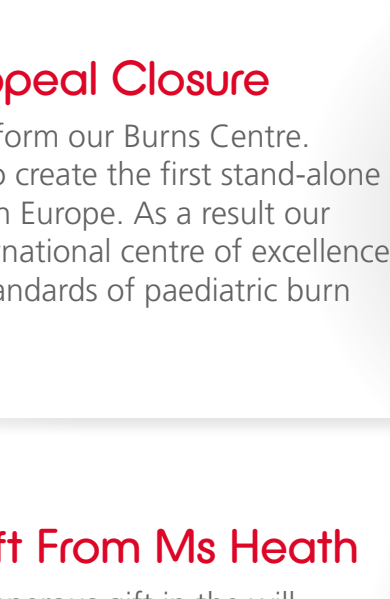


The Big Hoot

Our Big Hoot art trail took to the streets of Birmingham in the summer of 2015. It featured 89 owl sculptures and 122 owl statues, which were placed in schools across the region. The sculptures raised over £530,000 when the big owls went under the hammer at auction

Children's Cancer Centre Appeal Closure

Target reached for our £4m Children's Cancer Centre Appeal. It took two and a half years to raise the money, with over 4,350 individuals supporting the appeal



The Sensory Garden

Our appeal to raise £71,000 for a sensory garden located in the hospital's main outpatients area reached its target. The garden provides a relaxing, yet stimulating environment for children with learning disabilities

Great Birmingham Run

Our most successful Great Birmingham Run event saw over 1,200 runners took part in the race for #TeamBCH, raising an incredible £245,000



Heart Appeal Raised

Our Heart Appeal raised over £2m to help build a specialist hybrid cardiac operating theatre, helping to dramatically increase our cardiac surgery capacity and save even more little lives

Legacy Gift From Ms Doris Rone-Clarke

A generous gift in the will of Ms Doris Rone-Clarke allowed us to build our new Respiratory and Cystic Fibrosis Unit, bringing together our hospital's respiratory services to improve patient experience

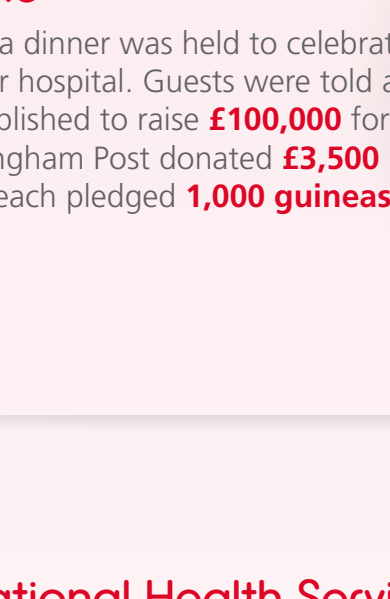


Walk For Harry

Over 10,000 walkers took part in Walk for Harry, created in memory of Harry Moseley who tirelessly raised funds for charity while battling brain cancer. The event raised over a brilliant £150,000

Burns Centre Appeal Closure

£3m was raised to transform our Burns Centre. The appeal allowed us to create the first stand-alone paediatric burns unit in Europe. As a result our hospital became an international centre of excellence capable of raising the standards of paediatric burn care on a global scale



New Playground

Local company Goodyear Dunlop donated £52,000 to build a new playground. The money was raised through employee fundraising, company matched funding and public events

Legacy Gift From Ms Heath

We received a generous gift in the will of Marjorie Denton Heath, helping to fund our Burns and Neonatal Unit which opened in 2008



Kidney Kids Appeal Closure

Generous donations to our £1.5m appeal helped create a brand-new, purpose-built unit for our renal patients. These patients also had a hand in the design of the new space

Get Us Home Appeal

By the 1990s, a larger hospital was needed for our patients. Soon after, our £5m Get Us Home Appeal was launched. The move back from Ladywood to the original site on Steelhouse Lane took place in 1998

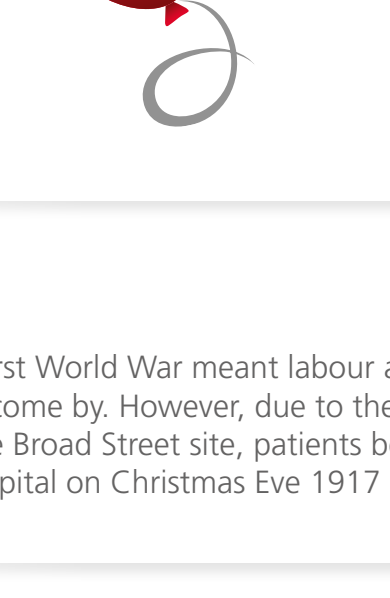


Royal Opening

Her Majesty the Queen officially opened the Diana, Princess of Wales Children's Hospital on 30 October 1998. This remains the official name of our hospital to this day

Research Fund

On 2 January 1962 a dinner was held to celebrate the centenary of our hospital. Guests were told a fund had been established to raise £100,000 for research. The Birmingham Post donated £3,500 and 10 other firms each pledged 1,000 guineas

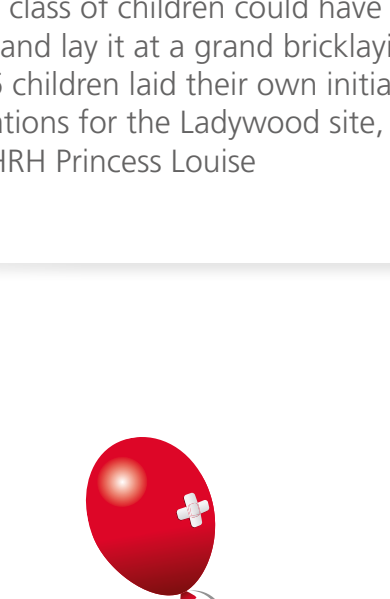


Heart Beat

A sell-out benefit concert was staged at the NEC, organised by Bev Bevan. Heart Beat 86 included performances from George Harrison and UB40, and was hosted by Jasper Carrott

National Health Service

The launch of the NHS signals the end of the voluntary hospital era and the start of a brand new chapter for our hospital

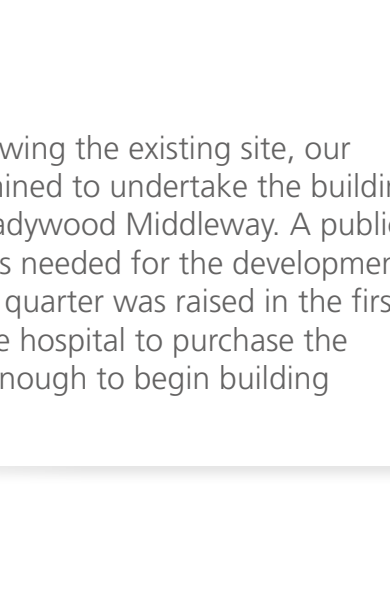


Friends Of BCH

A group of supporters know as The Friends of BCH held a garden party for the centenary to raise money to help update our physiotherapy gym

The Children's Hospital League of Friends

Further Brick League fundraisers took place in 1923-24 as part of a grand 'lay it at a grand Outpatients Department, which opened in 1925. Following this, the initiative evolved to become the Children's Hospital League of Friends to continue fundraising efforts which went on to equip the Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Departments, furnish accommodation for parents, upgrade the baby wards, fund nurse training and refurbish the Nurses' Home

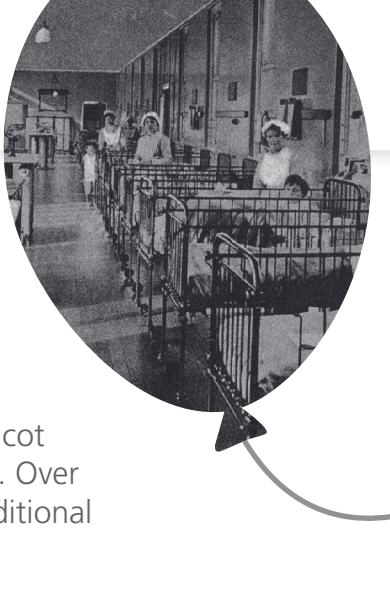


War

With the outbreak of the Second World War, our hospital had to set aside two thirds of its beds for casualties, paid for by the Government helping to reduce its debt to almost nothing

Ladywood

Implications from the First World War meant labour and materials were hard to come by. However, due to the lease coming to an end at the Broad Street site, patients began to arrive at the new hospital on Christmas Eve 1917



Voluntary Hospitals

Lack of funds, exacerbated by increasing costs of equipment and maintenance, and the need for new laboratories, theatres and other specialist departments resulted in the hospital opening a fee-paying ward. This change went hand-in-hand with better conditions and medical advances. No longer was the hospital solely a charitable institution

The Birmingham Brick League

For one guinea, a child or a class of children could have their initials engraved on a brick and lay it at a grand bricklaying ceremony in July 1913. 476 children laid their own initial bricks as part of the foundations for the Ladywood site, the first brick being placed by HRH Princess Louise



A Lift In Donations

Following the death of King Edward VII, the Birmingham Mail started a memorial fund to pay for a statue, with any leftover money going to the hospital. Just under £30,000 was donated. The remaining money required for the new build was raised through concerts, bazaars, gifts and the Hospital Brick League

New Hospital

In 1907, due to overcrowding the existing site, our governors were determined to undertake the building of a new hospital on Ladywood Middleway. A public appeal for £90,000 was needed for the development to happen. Less than a quarter was raised in the first year, which enabled the hospital to purchase the freehold site, but not enough to begin building

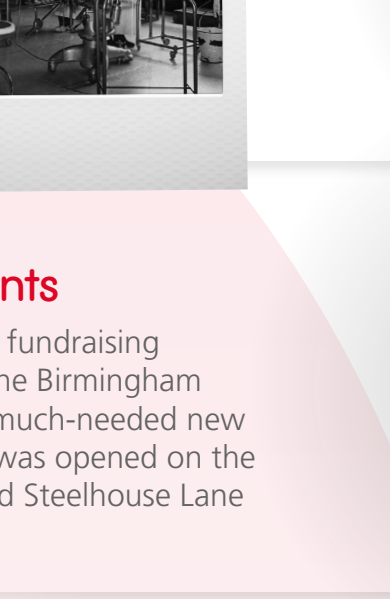


Financial Struggles

A public-wide feeling the hospital was rich saw a drop in donations. However a positive relationship with Aston Villa Football Club (a relationship which may not be generally aware that a young child and the hospital and the team donated another cot

Endowments

The endowment of cots began in 1890 when an anonymous gift of £1,000 was received to purchase a cot for cases of chronic disease. Over the next 14 years, eight additional cots were gifted

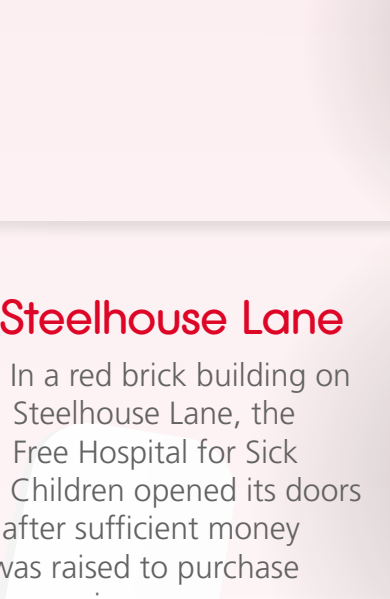


Birmingham Daily Post

On July 6 1889 an article was posted in the local newspaper, the Birmingham Daily Post, to help raise funds to keep our hospital going. It read: 'It may not be generally aware that a sum of £4,000 is needed yearly to carry on the Children's Hospital in its present state of usefulness and efficiency'

Sunday School Fund

The hospital set up its own specific fund, the Sunday School Fund, to help with the everyday running of the hospital



Charity Expands Reach

Canvassing of large and small firms led to 'penny-a-week' contributions to support the work of the hospital. By 1891, the amount collected amounted to £10,867, which was to be divided between the hospitals in Birmingham

A New Fund

The Ladies' Committee sets up the Hospital Sanitarian Fund to provide clothes and other necessities for discharged patients. The fund led to the establishment of a convalescent home at Arrowfield Top



Raising Funds

Like other hospitals at the time, it was supported by subscriptions, donations and legacies. Whilst heavily financed by the rich, for the first time workers also paid a weekly contribution towards its running

Steelhouse Lane

In a red brick building on Steelhouse Lane, the Free Hospital for Sick Children opened its doors after sufficient money was raised to purchase the premises



Donor And Volunteer Support

Voluntary donations came in quickly from local tradespeople and manufacturers to kit out the hospital with everything from cots, tables and chairs to brooms, mops, crockery, toys, and other medical instruments. A Ladies' Committee was also set up to inspect the hospital and help entertain the children staying there

A New Outpatients

Following successful local fundraising and a gift of £620 from the Birmingham Hospital Sunday Fund, a much-needed new Outpatients Department was opened on the corner of Upper Priory and Steelhouse Lane

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