



**April 30, 2017**  
**For immediate release**

## **Bellahouston Park transformed into a sea of bubbles to raise money for Scottish hospices**

*Pictures attached – credit: Mark Gibson*

Glasgow's Bellahouston Park was transformed into a sea of frothing foamy fun today when 4500 people took part in the sell-out Bubble Rush to raise money for Scotland's hospices.

Organised by The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice in Glasgow, the 5k course around the park blasted entrants with cannons of coloured foam and bubbles along the route.

Hospice supporters of all ages, from tiny tots to grannies and grandpas, made their way around the course, dressed in tutus, brightly coloured wigs and giant sunglasses and declared it a bubble-tastic success.

The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice organised the event with participants supporting it and the other members of Scotland's Hospices Together, including CHAS, Accord Hospice, Ayrshire Hospice, Highland Hospice, St Andrew's Hospice, St Vincent's Hospice, Ardgowan Hospice, St Columba's Hospice and Strathcarron Hospice.

Susan Campbell from Glasgow took part with her husband Stephen and sons Gregory, 11, and Matthew, nine, in memory of her dad John Downie who died at The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice last year.

"Dad would have had his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on 9 May so taking part in Bubble Rush is a great thing to do to celebrate and remember him – and to raise awareness about the hospice," she said.

"A lot of people don't realise it's a charity kept going by donations – and it's such a worthwhile cause."

She added: “We felt happy about how dad spent those final moments in the hospice. When he left us, he was at peace. Everything that could have been done for him in his last few days was done for him.

“The specialist staff were excellent and knew how to make sure dad was comfortable. The hospice was just amazing.”

Bubble Rush entrants were split up into three waves before making their way around the route. They dived into the coloured foam – dancing, walking and jogging along the way. There were babies in buggies and big groups of families and friends all putting the fun into fundraising.

The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice staged the first ever Bubble Rush in Scotland at Bellahouston Park last year.

“We are absolutely delighted that Bubble Rush has grown into this massive success, it’s a wonderful opportunity to be joining up with the other members of Scottish Hospices Together to fundraise,” said Ashley Thomson, fundraising manager at The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice.

John Brady, head of fundraising at St Andrew’s Hospice in Airdrie and chairman of Scotland’s Hospices Together, said: “It is fantastic that The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice organised this event and I would like to say a huge thank you to them for opening it up to Scotland’s local hospices. “By working together we have been able to allow participants to have a fun day, while raising money for hospice care in local communities all across Scotland.”

The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice is building its new home on a site nearby in Bellahouston Park and doors will open next spring.

The hospice’s £21million Brick by Brick Appeal has now reached £19.6m. To donate £5, text BRICK to 70660 or make a donation online at [www.ppwh.org.uk/donate](http://www.ppwh.org.uk/donate).

**ENDS**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

##### **About The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice**

The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice at Carlton Place, Glasgow, is a charity, founded in 1980.

We provide free person-centred and family-focused palliative care and support to patients and families who are living with a life-limiting or terminal illness.

In day care and on the wards, more than 1200 patients and families are cared for every year.

The hospice depends on the generosity of supporters and the community to raise the £3 million annually in voluntary donations that is required to maintain our invaluable services for the people of Glasgow.

We have outgrown our much-loved hospice building – it no longer meets our requirements or vision for the future of care of patients and their families – and are raising £21 million to build a brand new, purpose-built hospice on a leafy green site in the city’s Bellahouston Park. The foundations go down in 2016 and patients are expected to move in spring 2018.

Our aim is to bring 21<sup>st</sup>-century hospice care to the people of Glasgow, a major step forward in the provision of palliative care services, providing us with the flexibility to develop and improve our services and lower our age limit to 16-year-old patients.

Issued by The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice.

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