

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Green fingered gardeners raise thousands for Hospice

THE floral delights of a Suffolk town has once again proved a massive attraction – and raised £10,000 for St Nicholas Hospice Care.

Dozens of gardens in Oxdown were opened to the public for the annual event.

And with beautiful sunshine beating down on the historic market town, garden lovers of all ages visited in their droves.

Organisers, the Oxdown Open Gardens Committee, said they were delighted with the success of the weekend show, which has now become a popular fixture in the town calendar.

Jean Mercer, chairman of the committee, said: “We had a fantastic two days and we were delighted to raise so much money for the Hospice.

“In the nine years we have been running the event, this is our best total yet and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Oxdown Open Gardens 2009.

“We had people coming from all over Suffolk and the array of gardens on show was something to behold.”

Gardens of all shapes and sizes across the town were thrown open with homeowners charging a small entry fee. A grand raffle was also held with all proceeds going to the Hospice.

- Ends -

Notes to Editor:

- 2009 marks the 25th birthday of St Nicholas Hospice Care. Over 50,000 local people have been supported by the organisation since its inception. There are a number of events on throughout the year to mark this special anniversary year - see www.stnicholashospice.org.uk for details and please get involved.
- St Nicholas Hospice Care is a local charity which looks after people with terminal and life limiting illnesses. This can include cancer, multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease and the advanced stages of heart and lung disease.
- As a registered charity, St Nicholas Hospice Care has to raise £10,000 every day through the generosity of the local community. We need every penny.
- St Nicholas Hospice Care provides care and support throughout West Suffolk and Thetford. This may be at our Hospice site in Bury St Edmunds, or wherever the patient is via support from our Community Hospice Team.

For further media information on the Hospice, please contact Dave Gooderham, Press/PR Officer on 01284 715580 or email dave.gooderham@stnh.org.uk.