

# How Boo's putting on a show to aid hospice

**B**oo Hewerdine will be headlining the Cambridge Folk Club's 10th annual charity gig in support of East Anglia's Children's Hospices (Each) later this month, *writes Adrian Peel*.

Joining him for what should be a wonderful evening's entertainment on Bank Holiday Monday, May 29, are acclaimed Texan musician and occasional collaborator Darden Smith and Cambridge-based newcomer Emily Mae Winters.

The venue is The Golden Hind pub on Milton Road and the event has once again been organised by Robin Mansfield, chair of Cambridge Folk Club.

Long-term aficionados of the Cambridge music scene will certainly know the name Boo Hewerdine, a London-born singer-songwriter who moved to Cambridge while still a child.

Recognised as one of the country's finest songwriting talents, the 56-year-old Ivor Novello Award-nominee will be joined on stage by the band that featured on his latest album (his favourite out of all the albums he's made), *Swimming in Mercury*, which was released to critical acclaim late last month. Mark Ellis is on bass, Chris Pepper plays the drums and Chris Bradbury is on guitar and keyboards.

The well-travelled Hewerdine, who also plays in a duo called State of the Union with American guitarist and Cambridge resident Brooks Williams, spoke to the *Cambridge Independent* while on his way to Liverpool to perform at the Philharmonic Hall.

"Robin first just asked me to play," he said. "We have done it every year for six or seven years, although I couldn't do it one year. I think this might be the ninth time I will have done it.

"We've raised quite a lot of

Boo Hewerdine has been supporting Each for about seven years

wmoney over the years and each time we try to bring along a special guest, so we've got Darden Smith who's my friend from Texas. He's a fantastic singer-songwriter and we do workshops together. We've also had Chris Difford from Squeeze, Kim Richey and Eddi Reader we had one year. That was really memorable – we did it in a church on Victoria Road."

Hewerdine is less familiar with Emily Mae Winters. "It's really interesting because I had never

come across her before," he said, "but where I was playing last night, in Birmingham, she had just played, and the guy running the gig said she was fantastic so I'm looking forward to hearing her."

Robin explained how he first got the idea to stage the event: "I saw an item on the BBC's *Look East* in 2006. They were making redundancies at the hospice and we had a bit of a health scare with my youngest son.

"It was serious but it wasn't

terminal, and it made me think that if my son Daniel had needed help, they were cutting back as a hospice and it must be awful for the parents and children there.

"On my 60th birthday, as I know lots of local bands, I got Lightning Jack to play at my party and, instead of having presents, I made a collection for Each because this affected me so much.

"Lightning Jack said we should make it an annual event, so the very first concert started in 2007. We had Boo Hewerdine, Lightning

Jack and a local singer called Dave Jenkins – and we made £954.50. That set the ball rolling, and it's brought in more than £12,000 in 10 years."

■ A Concert for East Anglia's Children's Hospices takes place on Monday, May 29, at 7.45pm at The Golden Hind on Milton Road.

■ Tickets are £12. For more information, call 07910 710179 or visit [cambridgefolkclub.co.uk](http://cambridgefolkclub.co.uk).

■ To find out more about Each go to [each.org.uk](http://each.org.uk).

# Helping families when it matters most

**Gemma Gardner**  
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More than a dozen families, who have a child with a life-limiting illness, are receiving practical support with day-to-day tasks thanks to a special service from East Anglia's Children's Hospices (Each).

Help at Home is currently supporting families in Suffolk and east Essex but with the support of the *Cambridge Independent*, the charity is aiming to launch the service at its base in Milton.

The valuable tasks carried out by volunteers can make a real

difference to families. These simple tasks can include doing the ironing or washing the dishes.

The charity has trained 26 volunteers and 14 of those have been matched with families supported by the charity's Treehouse Hospice in Ipswich.

Hugh Fenton-Anwyll, Each volunteer manager, said: "Each Help at Home continues to develop well in Suffolk and east Essex.

"We've had some great feedback from families who've benefited from a volunteer, and likewise our volunteers are enjoying helping out. We really hope to see this success replicated once the service is up and running in

Cambridgeshire and west Essex."

In just the past month, the charity has paired seven volunteers with families as well receiving 15 enquiries from people interested in becoming a volunteer.

Seven of those volunteers have already undergone training. In January and February 15 volunteers were trained.

The charity's Help at Home volunteers have given more than 150 hours to families so far. And some 53 per cent of activities carried out by volunteers in the first six months of the service were housework-related, 30 per cent involved playing with siblings and 17 per cent involved something else

such as present wrapping

The *Cambridge Independent* launched an appeal earlier this year to raise the £87,000 needed to launch the Help at Home service in Cambridgeshire.

■ How to donate: visit [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/EACHHelpAtHome](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/EACHHelpAtHome) or drop off cash or cheques – made payable to Each – at the charity's Milton office at 42 High Street.

■ Why not set yourself a challenge and get your family, friends and colleagues to sponsor you? And remember to let us know what you are doing. Email [gemma.gardner@](mailto:gemma.gardner@iliffmedia.co.uk)

[iliffmedia.co.uk](http://iliffmedia.co.uk) and we'll help with some publicity for your event.

**Each Help at Home Appeal**  
Practical support for families

**each** Cambridge Independent

East Anglia's Children's Hospices



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There are plenty of ways to take part in the fundraising for Each

## Get thinking on Thursday and help support vital hospice work

### ► MILTON

Communities across the region are being urged to help East Anglia's Children's Hospices (Each) by organising and participating in various novel fundraising activities.

The charity – whose head office is in Milton, where one of its three hospices is based – will be shouting about its work during Children's Hospice Week, which starts on Monday (May 22), and is encouraging

supporters to do the same. Every day of the national awareness week is themed this year to ensure companies, schools, individuals and groups can 'Make Each Day Count'.

Rustle up some tasty treats on Munching Monday, try your luck on Tombola Tuesday, enjoy the great outdoors on Walking Wednesday, use your head on Thinking Thursday and then go wild on Fancy Dress Friday.

Each cares for 368 children and young people with a life-

threatening condition across Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex, and supports 459 family members.

Graham Butland, Each chief executive, said: "Children's Hospice Week is an opportunity to shine a light on the number and complex needs of children and young people with life-threatening conditions as well as the range of services that support them."

■ Visit [each.org.uk/childrens-hospice-week](http://each.org.uk/childrens-hospice-week) for more.

Trumpington Meadows Primary School. The event is to gauge interest in starting a new Scout group in Trumpington. If it proves successful, the Scouts hope to start a Beaver colony and Cub pack, with a Scout troop following soon afterwards.

### ► WEST WICKHAM

**Plant sale:** There will be expert advice, flowers, shrubs, vegetables and herbs at the village hall on Saturday (May 20), 10.30am-noon.

**Annual parish council meeting:** This will take place in the village hall on Monday, May 22 at 7.30pm, followed at 8.15pm by the annual

parish meeting. At the last council meeting the following matters were discussed:

**Neighbourhood plan:** Mark Deas, of Cams ACRE, and Ulrike Maccariello (Hastoe) presented the results of the housing needs survey for West Wickham, a full report of which will be posted on the website. It showed that there was a possible need for nine houses for people living in or connected to West Wickham, and 66 per cent of respondents were agreeable to some affordable housing being built. Some respondents raised concerns on overdevelopment and lack of facilities.

**Finance:** The chairman said the budget was on target and he expected there would be a surplus,

which would be unallocated reserve, after £500 was set aside for playground maintenance.

**Maintenance:** The clerk will order two yellow grit bins, one for next to the bungalows on the open ground in Streetly End and one to be sited outside Ivy Todd Farm at the West Wickham T-junction.

**Banners:** Following complaints about a Daisy Chain Pre-school banner outside the village hall, Cllr Licence spoke to Sue Harrow, who told her that Ofsted required the school to be advertised. It was agreed the banner should be up only during school time.

**Dog fouling:** It was agreed that another piece would go in the *Village Voice* about dogs fouling.

*Margaret Johnson*



Mark Wishart was raising money by running the Milton Keynes marathon, which finished at football club MK Dons' Stadium mk

## Giving Greg a chance to live: Mark's marathon effort to fund cancer care

### ► CAMBRIDGE

A recruitment consultant's marathon challenge has raised more than £800 to help one of his close friends get cancer treatment abroad.

Mark Wishart ran the Milton Keynes marathon on May 1, his first full marathon in 18 years. He was inspired to take on the 26.2 miles to help musician Greg Gilbert, who plays in indie band Delays.

Greg was recently diagnosed with stage four bowel cancer, which has also spread to his lungs.

A national campaign was launched to help raise the money needed for the 39-year-old to go abroad for potentially life-saving treatment not currently available on the NHS.

Mark, who works for Pure in Cambridge and lives in St Ives, completed the marathon in 3hrs 22mins.

"I was really pleased with my time, especially considering an injury meant I'd lost out on a lot of training time in the weeks leading up to the day," Mark said.

"Most importantly, I'm delighted to have been able to raise money for a cause which is so close to my heart. I've known Greg for 16 years. He's an incredibly talented guy and the news of his illness was a huge shock.

"He has two young girls and, having two children myself, this really resonated with me."

■ To donate, visit [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/marathon4Greg](http://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/marathon4Greg).

Ricky Allan, managing director of the Cambridge Independent



### Mick George Grassroots Football Club: Witchford Colts

Chairman Nigel Smith described Witchford Colts earning the Grassroots Football Club of the Year award as rewarding for everyone involved at the club. It was founded in 2002, and not just content with what happens on the pitch, it has also tried to benefit the community off it as well.

Each year it raises money for a different charity through an end-of-year fundraiser. This season they raised funds for East Anglia's Children's Hospices (Each), while last year the beneficiary was Prostate Cancer UK.

And when the club heard of the life-changing injuries suffered by ex-Soham Town Rangers player Joey Abbs and Shaun Whiter in a hit and run crash in Newmarket last July, Witchford Colts staged a match to raise money for the pair.

Nigel said: "It's rewarding for everybody involved with Witchford Colts, from the four-year-old lad or girl who starts in the academy through to every coach involved, to parent helpers to everybody that has an association with Witchford.

"This award is rewarding for everybody involved with the club to be able to say we've done something for the community as well as ourselves. "I think it's saying to the children that there's more to just turning up on the pitch.

"Any one of those players in the future could be in need of that care, that treatment, and if we're just giving our bit back as a club, that's what it's all about. "We're a small grassroots club - we just want to be able to give something back to everyone in the areas as best we can."


