

'You took the worst possible time of our lives and made it almost beautiful. You gave us moments of true happiness and family. Phil adored his two kids so much. So, for you to put on two celebrations for them, it meant everything to Phil.'

Within two days, you gave Ace a birthday party and made sure Phil was there to see Tiahna get married. And he got to dance with her on her wedding day.

He'd wanted a celebration of life, and in those last days, you gave that to him. And us.'

Deb – wife of Hospice patient, Phil



Together, we care 



Thank you

Phil wanted a celebration of life.
You gave him two.

Phil had a rough time leading up to his stay at Mary Potter Hospice.

His wife, Deb, told us: *"He'd only been diagnosed 12 weeks before and deteriorated very fast. He was in so much pain and distress. I couldn't care for him anymore. I was going under too. And he wanted me to be his wife, not his carer. It was all so terrible."*

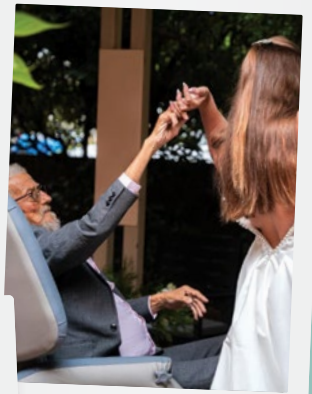
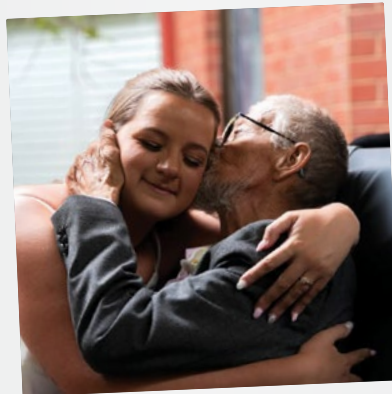
"When we got to the Hospice, the pressure cooker of anxiety and stress we'd been living under, just evaporated. The genuine warmth and kindness of everyone; Phil's room, with fresh flowers and Welcome basket; being offered a hot cup of tea immediately; and staff that couldn't do enough for us."

"A massive weight fell off our shoulders – and I knew I could just be Phil's wife again."

When our Patient Support Coordinator found out that it was son Ace's 33rd birthday, she quickly organised a pizza dinner in the Hospice garden. There were fairy lights, candles, and drinks for everyone. Phil enjoyed his whisky and loved being outside with his family.

Your generosity brought such joy to Phil and his family that evening.
Thank you.





Later, Hospice nurses had a gentle chat with Deb.

"They knew that our daughter Tiahna was getting married to James in under two weeks, and she desperately wanted her dad to be there. I'll always be grateful that those wonderful nurses told us to bring the wedding forward."

Thanks to you – our amazing donors – we started preparing for a wedding within hours. Your kindness meant we could organise buttonhole flowers and a stunning bridal bouquet. You supplied bubbles for the wedding toast and set up the bar. The boys picked up their wedding suits that morning, while Tiahna wore her beautiful wedding dress. Hospice volunteers helped set up the garden with decorations, flowers, chairs and tables. And with great support from Ace, a deeply memorable wedding day came together for Tiahna and James.

Deb said, *"It took everyone as a team to come through so brilliantly. You prepared for the wedding beautifully – no one would have ever thought it took place outside a hospital. The photos looked amazing."*

Phil was so proud and happy at the wedding and managed a very special father & daughter dance with Tiahna (which brought tears to all the Hospice staff who were watching).

Phil slipped into a coma immediately after the wedding. He died two days later.

Deb said, *"We will never forget what Mary Potter made possible for us as a family. We had the saddest and happiest days of our lives made possible through what you did, and I will never be able to repay the memories you gave us."*

Deb's words are for you. You walk beside us every day, making moments and memories that families treasure forever. Thank you for all you do.

Together, we care ❤️

A trip to the Zoo

Barry had supported The Mary Potter Foundation for many years. As his wife Beverley told us, "Little did he know that one day he would be needing your care himself".

When Barry came into the Hospice, he told the nurses how he and Beverley had been members at the Zoo since 2006. It was his favourite place. He missed being able to go there.

When the Hospice team asked us if we could help get Barry to the Zoo one more time, you – our amazing donors – were the reason we could say 'yes'.

Thanks to you, we could arrange access cabs for Barry and his family. And you made sure that we could cover the cost of wonderful Hospice nurse, Ruri, who was so happy to accompany the family and be there for Barry.



Beverley said, *"The kindness and support given to Barry and I was exceptional. It was a warm, sunny afternoon, and with our daughter Sarah, we spent a truly enjoyable hour together in the beautiful Zoo gardens, visiting the new pandas. We cannot thank the Foundation enough for giving us this special experience."*



A small but meaningful new initiative is now underway at Calvary Central Districts Hospital.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and supporters, the Foundation has been able to provide new Oncology Patient Packs for everyone undergoing treatment at the Connery Centre Day Oncology Unit. Every pack is filled with thoughtful and practical essentials to bring a little comfort to patients during their treatment.

Thank you so much for bringing this wonderful initiative to life.



Letter from the heart

As I stood in the crowd at our recent Walk for Love event, I was again reminded of the incredible spirit of our community. Seeing families walking together, teams supporting each other, and so many smiling faces united for such a meaningful cause, was both uplifting and deeply moving.

If you joined us on the Walk, we sincerely thank you. Thank you for braving the weather! Despite a cold, rainy morning, the atmosphere was filled with warmth and connection.

Whether people walked in memory of their loved one, in support of someone currently in care, or simply to make a difference, every step reflected the kindness and generosity that continues to surround The Mary Potter Foundation.

As you read this newsletter and the stories shared, we hope you get a sense of the deep gratitude we have for you – our donors, volunteers and supporters. We can only do what we do because of your generosity.

From our heart to yours, thank you.

Kristen Hardy
Executive Director



The Art of Welcome

We feel very fortunate to have worked with our wonderful graphic designer, Sam, for many years.

She has contributed her creative expertise to a wide range of projects. Her latest work, a vibrant new design for the Hospice entrance, draws on the colours and shapes of nature, creating a warm and welcoming first impression for patients, families and visitors.

"It's so fulfilling being able to contribute to the amazing work the Foundation does for patients and families. I love it. What a wonderful thing to play a part in helping to bring love and warmth to people when they really, really need it."

Click to
donate

Get involved



LIGHTING OF THE LOVING TREE & CAROLS CONCERT

Wednesday 2 December 2026
St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Ticketed event. Invitations will be sent in October. More information will be provided in our November newsletter and on our website marypotter.org.au

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 20 October 2026, 5.30pm
Arkaba Hotel, Fullarton.

Foundation Members and Honorary Life Members are warmly invited to join us at our AGM. **Invitations will be posted.**

CARING HEARTS GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Meetings are held on **2nd Tuesday**
of each month | **10am – 12 noon**
Next meeting is on **Tuesday 11 August 2026**

Open to any family member who has had a loved one die at Calvary SA. To RSVP, please email your name and phone number to reception@marypotter.org.au or phone us directly on **08 8239 0119**. There is no cost to attend.



CALVARY EVENTS Calvary Catholic Mass & Calvary Memorial Service

For further information, please contact Calvary Pastoral Care directly on **8239 9285**

Wednesday 4 November | 12pm Catholic Mass | St Laurence's Catholic Church

Thursday 12 November | 1.30pm Ecumenical Service | Venue to be advised.



**The Mary Potter
Foundation Inc**

Ground Floor, Connery House, rear of Calvary North Adelaide Hospital,
89 Strangways Tce, North Adelaide. PO Box 2003, North Adelaide SA 5006
08 8239 0119 reception@marypotter.org.au marypotter.org.au
Business Hours Monday-Friday 9am to 4pm

Our Mission

With the support of our compassionate community, we nurture meaningful care that embraces respect, comfort and warmth – creating a lasting impact at the end of life.



**ORGANISATIONAL
MEMBER
CODE COMPLIANT**

A member of the Professional
Body for Australian Fundraising



A registered
charity with
the Australian
Charities and
Not-for-profits
Commission
(ACNC)