

# Memories inspire Swaffham girl (13)

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FOND memories of her late grandfather prompted a 13-year-old girl to help Swaffham and Litcham Home Hospice Support when she became a teenager.

Lauren Gilding knew of the help that her granddad Bob Storey received from the home hospice group after he was diagnosed with multiple myeloma cancer in September, 1999.

And when she recently celebrated her 13th birthday, she asked for donations for the home hospice instead of presents.

Her request realised a total of 100.80 and last week she dropped in at the hospice's headquarters in Brocks Road on Swaffham's EcoTech Business Park to handover the proceeds.

Lauren, who lives in Dereham, used to stay with her grandparents at their home, Green Borders in North Pickenham Road, Swaffham, during the summer school holidays and developed close ties with Mr Storey. "I miss him loads – and particularly when he wasn't there for my 13th birthday," she said.

Her nan, Jan Storey, who has now moved to Dereham, said the hospice volunteers gave "huge support" after Mr Storey was diagnosed with cancer until he died in Swaffham Community Hospital on October 7, 2000.

They visited him at home each week and he attended Friday day care sessions, run by the hospice, at the Sporle Road hospital.

Hospice group coordinator Debbie Harfield praised Lauren's fundraising prowess, and said it was a kind gesture and welcome support.

The hospice group is currently appealing for new volunteers to join its pool of 25 because it is extending the area it covers and offering more services.

Mrs Harfield said training sessions would start in the New Year. anyone interested could contact her on 01760 722937 to find out more.