



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

# Spring Chick Campaign

## information pack





### We support good life and good death

We support people in Cambridgeshire living with an advanced serious illness or other life-limiting condition and those who need end of life care. We provide free, specialist end-of-life care for over 3,800 patients each year at our Hospice in Cambridge, the Alan Hudson Centre in Wisbech and across the Fens, in patients' own homes.

For more than forty years, the Charity has been there to support the Cambridgeshire community to make every moment count and plans to continue doing so.



Patients' care is completely free of charge to them but it will cost over £14 million this financial year to operate services.

With your help, we need to raise a further £5.9 million (to support £8.1 million contracted services from the NHS) and support people in your community.

Devastating funding cuts will close 9 of our 21 Inpatient Unit beds at our Hospice in Cambridge, and have huge implications for local people.

## ABOUT THE SPRING CHICK CAMPAIGN

Every year, wonderful knitters and crafters create charming chicks with a little chocolate egg tucked inside. These handmade creations bring smiles wherever they go and help raise vital funds to support people receiving end of life care through Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

This year, we're hoping to hatch even more chicks and spread the fun further across our community!

### How it works



Our amazing knitters and crafters get to work, knitting or crocheting as many chicks and friends as they can. Each one is unique and full of personality!



Local businesses, community groups and schools help by donating Crème Eggs or by hosting collection points to gather as many as possible.



Each chick is "rehomed" in return for a minimum donation of £2, with every penny helping to fund specialist care and support for patients and their families.

Our Spring Chick Campaign has become a much-loved part of the year, and it's mirrored in the autumn and winter with our cosy Knitted Pumpkin and Festive Friends campaigns, each one bringing the community together to raise smiles and funds through crafting.

So whether you're a knitter, crafter, chocolate donor, or simply someone who loves a knit with character, your support helps make a real difference to local people when they need it most.

## Donate Crème Eggs

We need hundreds of Crème Eggs to make each knitted chick extra special and help raise vital funds for Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

You can donate Crème Eggs directly, order from our Amazon Wishlist for quick delivery, or host a collection point at a local venue.



We gratefully accept chocolate eggs that are Crème Egg size and nut-free.

## Host our knits

Help our chicks find new homes by hosting a box for people to buy. Each box contains around 25 chicks, which could raise £50 for specialist care.

We'll provide everything: a box of chicks, a collection house, and a QR code for easy donations. Just place it on a counter or share it with friends, family, or community groups.

Perfect spots for egg collection points or selling the chicks include schools, offices, shops, cafés, and libraries.

If you know a good location and would like to set one up, we'd love to hear from you. You can email our Fundraising Team at [cf@arhc.org.uk](mailto:cf@arhc.org.uk).

## Printable Posters

To help spread the word, this pack includes two posters you can print:

- One for Crème Egg collection points
- One for advertising chicks for sale



# Creme Egg Collection Point



in aid of

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

## Spring Chick Campaign

Each Creme egg is worth £2 to your local adult's Hospice.



Registered Charity No 1133354



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

# Spring Chicks



Adopt yours  
before Easter!

Cash preferred,  
or pay online  
reference  
location

£2



Registered Charity  
No 1133354

May contain nuts



Registered with  
FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR

Suitable for 3+

## **Not a Knitter but have time to help?**

We're looking for volunteers to help collect Crème Eggs donated across Cambridgeshire and deliver them to our Hospice in Shelford. You may also help by delivering boxes of ready-to-go chicks to venues across the county, helping them find new homes.

Please send your finished chicks to the address below marking your parcel 'Community Knits'.

**Arthur Rank Hospice Charity  
Cherry Hinton Road, Shelford Bottom  
Cambridge, CB22 3FB**

Alternatively, these can be dropped off at our shops, Hospice site or The Alan Hudson Centre  
For more information, email [cf@arhc.org.uk](mailto:cf@arhc.org.uk) or call 01223 675888

Please complete this cut off slip and enclose in your parcel.

Name:.....

Email:.....

How did you first hear our knit Appeal?

We would love to stay in touch with you to let you know how your donation helps support the patients and their families that we care for.

Please tick this box if you would like to sign up to Arthurs update



Thank you for supporting

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

# Spring Chick Pattern



Date Deadline  
6 weeks before Easter  
Colours: Pastel colours  
Alternative patterns  
welcomed

You will need: Double knitting wool in pastel colours. Size 4 mm needles (old size no. 8). Cotton wool ball/toy stuffing. Black felt/thread for eyes, orange felt for beak. Coloured ribbon.

## Garter Stitch Throughout.

- Cast on 20 stitches.
- Knit 6 rows.
- Increase 1 stitch at each end of the next 9 rows (38 stitches).
- Knit 1 row.
- Cast off 11 stitches at the beginning of the next two rows (16 stitches).
- Knit 10 rows.
- Knit 2 tog 8 times (8 stitches).
- Knit 2 tog 4 times (4 stitches).
- Knit 2 tog twice (2 stitches).

- Fasten off remaining 2 stitches leaving a 12-inch length of wool which is sufficient for the chicks to be sewn up. If you can, please sew up your chicks.
- Stuff the head with toy stuffing. Sew around neck to gather in,
- Tie a thin piece of ribbon around the neck in a bow.
- Sew 2 eyes with fine black wool and sew a small diamond-shaped piece of orange felt for the beak.

We politely ask no buttons or glued on items to be added for safety

Thank you for supporting



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# Knits for all seasons: Pumpkin



You will need: Double knitting wool, 4mm knitting needles, 2 double-pointed needles, a darning needle and toy stuffing.

- Cast on 40 stitches
- Knit 2, Purl 2 - repeat over the whole row as a wide rib.
- Do this for 20 rows.
- Knit 2 together, purl 2 together - repeat over the whole row (20 stitches remain)
- Cut the yarn with 30cm remaining. Thread onto the darning needle, and thread through the remaining stitches.

Date Deadline September 1st  
Colours: Red, Orange, Brown, Cream or Mustard

- Stem: Cast on 3 stitches on the double-pointed needles. Icord 6 rows knit 3 stitches... slide work to the other end of the needle, knit again onto the next needle without turning work. This makes a fairly round, thin stem. Knit 3 together. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining stitch, darn in the yarn tail
- Stitch the stem to the top of the pumpkin (where you have just threaded the stitches and pulled tight. Carefully stitch up the side seam. Stuff with stuffing. Run a running stitch around the bottom of the pumpkin, and pull the yarn to close the bottom.

Pumpkins can be returned without stuffing, but please do not sew up the bottom edge.

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# Knits for all seasons: Stocking



## Winter Stockings

Date Deadline October 31

Colour green, red, gold, white

A variety of colours/designs welcome

You will need: Double knitting wool,  
4mm knitting needles

- Begin at the lower edge of the stocking and using the required colour, cast on 24 stitches. (Note that the cast on edge counts as the first row).
- Purl 1 row.
- Next row: (Knit 1, increase in next stitch) to end - 36 stitches. Beginning with a purl row, stocking stitch 7 rows.
- Shape the top of the foot:
- 1st row: Knit 14, (K2tog) 4 times, knit 14 - 32 stitches.
- 2nd and every following alternate row: Purl.
- 3rd row: Knit 12, (K2tog) 4 times, knit 12 - 28 stitches.
- 5th row: Knit 10, (K2tog) 4 times, knit 10 - 24 stitches.
- Purl 1 row.
- Beginning with a knit row, stocking stitch 12 rows.
- Work the top border. Garter stitch 5 rows.
- Cast off knitwise.
- To make up with right sides together, oversew row ends and then across cast on stitches. Turn right side out.

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We ask no additional items to be added for safety ie buttons

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