

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Midnight Walkers Flash Round Truro**

**September 29<sup>th</sup> 2008**

Decked in flashing bunny ears and holding glow sticks, 230 women joined together in a very different girl's night out on Saturday night (September 27<sup>th</sup>) to support Cornwall Hospice Care.

Wearing their limited edition Midnight Walk T-shirts plus anything else that glowed or flashed, ladies from across Cornwall took to the streets of the county's capital on the stroke of midnight.

Supported by over 50 volunteers, the ladies, wearing a range of outfits, valiantly tramped the streets of Truro on a 12km, or 15km Midnight Madness, route throughout the early hours, to raise in the region of £43,000.

Events Officer Clare Bray said: "The women of Cornwall have proved themselves to be innovative, and up for a challenge! The amount raised from this ladies only event is fantastic, and will go a long way towards the £11 a minute it currently costs to provide hospice care across the county.

"It was a great evening from start to finish! The weather behaved itself, the atmosphere was electric and we can't thank everyone enough who has been involved in making this event a huge success," she added.

This was the second time the charity had held its Ladies Only Midnight Walk Event – last year saw just under 200 women complete the challenge and raise in excess of £30,000.

Cornwall Hospice Care was established as a single charity in April 2006 following the merger of the two hospice charities, Mount Edgcumbe in St. Austell and St. Julia's in Hayle. It costs £5.3 million annually to run its services – equivalent to £11 a minute – and almost 85 pence in every £1 has to be raised through voluntary income.

Specialist Palliative Care is the term used to describe the specialist care and support the clinical team provides to people with life limiting illnesses by alleviating pain and distressing symptoms. The staff also provides practical, emotional and spiritual support to patients and their loved ones – it is a truly holistic approach to care.

- More than 500 patients receive this specialist care at the two hospices every year as in-patients
- Around 2000 plus out patient appointments for specialist treatments are provided annually
- Every year thousands of families and carers receive practical, spiritual and bereavement support

**End.**

**For Further Information:** Contact Clare Bray, Events Officer, on 01726 67012/66869

**Background**