# Press Release | 27 March 2024

**Angel Avice knits teddy companions for hospital children**

**A nimble-fingered knitter had her longed-for wish come true after she and her care home friends were able to deliver 20 hand-crafted teddy bear companions to children in hospital.**

Avice, and her friends from Hickathrift House Care Home in Wisbech have been busy knitting teddy bears and other goodies including scarves and baby hats for more than 15 years.

On 14 March they got the chance to visit Rudham Ward at The QEH to personally deliver some of their lovingly crafted gifts to children and staff.

Avice said: “After all these years, and potentially thousands teddies, I've been able to see children’s little faces when they get one of them. It was so nice, thank you all. It made me feel special that all of them came to say thank you. I can’t wait for them to receive my next batch”.

Special thanks go to staff at Hickathrift House – for organising the visit to make Avice’s wish come true.

Kat Colangelo, Head of Activities at Hickathrift House, said: "This has been such a privilege to organise for Avice. She is always working so hard on these teddies and to help her drop them off in person has been an absolute pleasure".

Claire Burrell, Play Specialist at The QEH, said: “We are so grateful to Avice and her friends. Children at the hospital will be so grateful for these. It’s something so simple but it means so much and holds so many memories for the children. It’s very thoughtful and very kind.”

**Ends.**

**Notes to editors;**

**About Hickathrift House**

Hickathrift House Care Home is run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK’s largest care providers, which is committed to delivering high-quality care across its care homes and hospitals. Hickathrift House provides residential care, dementia care and respite stays.

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