Annex 6b
Holly Fry Maternity testimonies

Holly Fry ▸ MALDON - THE GROUP
Top Contributor · August 2, 2023 ·

Calling all Mums and pregnant ladies who use St Peter's Hospital 💙

Last week I was lucky to birth my beautiful baby boy at St Peter's with the phenomenal team of midwives there! But there are so many who aren't so lucky as it is constantly being closed by the trust for labour and the midwives being pulled over to Broomfield.
We need to save our amazing maternity unit!

Please write into PALS and tell the trust why we need to keep this amazing place open in our community and how every women should have the chance to birth their babies in our local maternity ward in Maldon.

Email is -
mse.public.response@nhs.net

I am forever grateful for our experience last week with Ally, Jess, Sarah RJ, Sophie, Ellie, Abi and the team and we have a beautiful healthy boy delivered with care and love! These women are truly superheros and we need to keep the maternity ward open for all future Mums! 💙

Jan Pike, Andrew Fry and 321 others — 82 comments

Like Comment Send

All comments

Tracy Asher
Lorna Asher
32w Like Reply

Melanie Jane Davies
That's a shame
Like Reply 19h

Debra Payton-Kent
Could not agree more. Can you make it so that I can share please x
Like Reply 19h

Chloe May Smith
I will be forever grateful to the
Like Reply 19h

June Eardley
Had my babies there in the 80s and is still a wonderful maternity facility for The Dengie Maldon. Must not be allowed to close. The Maldon Dengie is getting more and more housing so we can't lose this lovely facility for all our new Mums. X
Like Reply 19h

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Catherine Burnside
I went in there today as I was at the hospital for bloods and my form needed re-writing, I really liked it in there! If I wasn't planning a homebirth I'd definitely want to go to St Peter's! I loved the birth affirmations on the walls.

Like Reply 19h

Sam HS
Harley Cadwell

Like Reply 19h

Zoe Ellen Giller
I had my children there back in 2004 and my mum had me there, staff there were truly amazing for me
This hospital has always been the heart of the town and needs to be kept open for all the future generations

Like Reply 19h

Courtney Ricketts Top Contributor
I had my 3rd in 2019 at Broomfield but I had to stay in the care wasn't great so i asked to be transferred to at peters where I stayed for 5 days and received brilliant care they are so lovely caring and kind and looked after me and my baby and let my mum stay with me the whole time as I was poorly xx

Like Reply 18h Edited

Stephanie Jane
Its a fabulous unit. I wasn't lucky enough to have my little boy there. But every other encounter I have had with this team has been super!

Like Reply 18h

Wendy Marcus
Absolutely 💯 both my grandchildren have been born there xx

Like Reply 18h

Lizzie Jane Long
Congratulations! I was lucky enough to have both of my children at St Peter's.. it's bloody amazing and I hope it never gets shut down ❤️ have just sent an email x

Like Reply 18h Edited

Hayley Robertson
Love St Peter's! I was high risk so I didn't have the luxury or birthing my babies there but I had all my antenatal care there and it was wonderful x

Like Reply 18h

Vicky Cornish Top Contributor
My first was born there, 1989 they looked after us for 8 days back then. I was 23 and fit at the time lol Fast forward to my last 'baby' in 2005 St Johns, being 39 and 2nd breech I had a planned but traumatic c section (baby born flat as they cut into the placenta and then couldn't get a grip on baby, had to use forceps so bruises all over their body and in theatre for 45 mins being tilted this way and that on the table) took back to the ward and then told to pull myself up via the pulley to lift myself further up on the bed, told me I was going home in the morning (I have ms and can take longer to recover at the best of times). Baby came home thankfully but with mrsa.

32w Like Reply

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Dominic Franklin Top contributor
They are brilliant there, they helped my wife and me so much I will never forget the help they gave us.

Like Reply 18h

Debbie Louden
Had both my girls there, my first in 1986 and stayed in for 10 days, then my 2nd in 1988, brilliant maternity hospital, please don't ever close it x

Like Reply 18h

Lisa Cullumbine
I wanted my daughter at St Peter's but unfortunately was unable to but I was supposed to be returning there with my daughter that did not happen either due to St John's mistakes we cannot loose this wonderful facility babies need to be born in Maldon it would be devastating if not we need to keep our heritage

32w Like Reply

Aimée Walker Top Contributor
Whilst I couldn't have either of my girls there, the before and after care from the midwives at St. Peter's is phenomenal. I cannot fault them in anyway. If anyone is contemplating having their babies there, do it!! I can only imagine how wonderful they would be during the birth given how attentive and caring they are both before and after 🥰

Edit to add - I had to have sections with both my girls which is why I couldn't go there!!

Kayleigh Osborne Top contributor
Kerry Clements thought of you when I read this! 😊

Like Reply 17h

Kerry Clements
Kayleigh Osborne thank you! I'll will make sure I do it!!

Jessica Russell Page
I was due to have my little boy there, but phoned on the 21st July whilst having contractions to find out they were closed 😭 went my whole pregnancy believing I was birthing at St Peter's and ended up having to drive all the way to Broomfield- and only JUST making it there in time 😬🙈

32w Like Reply

Kathryn Brennan
I had both my children at St. Johns, both c- sections, but both times came back to St.Peters ..couldn't have asked for better care from the lovely team there. They were patient, kind and supportive. Went above and beyond. Felt truly cared for as St. John's felt so busy and hurried... would be awful to see it shut. Problem is this has rumbled on for many years,as has the new hospital saga. It would be great to see some positive outcomes for the district on this one and soon! Before we get to an even worse situation with lack of infrastructure in Maldon

32w Like Reply

Maxine Wearne
Had my eldest at St. John's before it was shut down, the care I received there was horrific, after giving birth my eldest was taken into nicu, he was in there 7 days, I spoke with the main midwife that was with me the whole way through and she put in an urgent referral for me to be transferred back to St. Peter's and as soon as my son was allowed to be moved they re admitted me to St. Peter's where I spent a few days, the midwifery team were absolutely amazing and i would be gutted if we lost this department, specially as it covers such a big area

32w Like Reply

Sian Hardingham
I got blue lighted to broomfield 60 'mins before my son was born because they were closing the St Peter's for the night 🙈
My lovely midwife came with me even though her shift had finished at St Peter's.
I did send an email for the exact reason- I was gutted to be moved and at such a late stage of labour but I'm going to send another one now you have reminded me
Congratulations! Enjoy that lovely newborn bubble xx

32w **Like** **Reply**

Hayley Darling
Been a few years now since I've been to St Peters but like others was lucky to have both my children there and spend time on the ward before coming home xx they are absolutely wonderful xx

32w **Like** **Reply**

Bethan Simpson
I didn't deliver but had all my antenatal there despite being high risk the girls **Sam Bull** was the best midwife I could ever ask for. I had the chance to go there after delivering my son but in the end wanted to get home to my little girl xxx

32w **Like** **Reply**

Charlotte Hall
This place is absolutely brilliant it would be such a shame for it to close 😔

32w **Like** **Reply**

Lauren Hammond
I had my son at St Peter's and everything was so lovely there. All of the midwives were amazing and the lactaction support was great!

Tara Sanderson
I went here to birth to both my children, 2018 and 2021.
The team are amazing and the after care was so warming and friendly and personal. I love St Peter's. I always recommend them. It Would be a real shame if the maternity unit closed.

Also I went there for all my scans and midwife appointments/checks as for me Broomfield is so far away. X

32w **Like** **Reply**

Charlii Tunstall
They're a lovely team of Midwives there! Unfortunately both my pregnancies were high risk so I was under Broomfield from early on but I did have monitoring 3 times a week which I chose to have at St Peter's, it was so nice seeing familiar faces during a hard time xx

Like **Reply** 16h

Alexandra Moeser
I didn't give birth there but had appointments and postnatal care there and they were all amazing, happy to write in 🙂

Like **Reply** 15h

Danique Lauren Taylor
I had 3 out of 4 there. My first. Started there but ended up in St John's. Maldon is an amazing maternity unit. Its warm and relaxed, the staff were all amazing.

Like **Reply** 15h

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Holly Fry Author
THANK YOU EVERYONE for your comments! I'm going to print this feed and give to St Peter's midwives to show the trust bosses Maldon wants and needs the maternity ward. 💙💙💙

Like Reply 15h Edited

Verity Priest
Holly Fry please do. I had all 3 of mine there in the birthing pool 2008, 2010 & 2017. Most amazing experience and truly fantastic midwives. So kind caring and personable. Couldn't of asked for any better care. Thank you 😊

Like Reply 15h

Reply to Holly Fry...

Leah Marie Coke
Started both my labours with my babies there but then transferred to Broomfield. Had such an amazing experience with both- outstanding care, caring, kind and most importantly they listen to you! ❤️

Like Reply 15h

Zoe Clowser
Had my first 2 children there back in 2011 & 2013 and couldn't fault it, such caring midwives and everything seems so much more relaxed and personal. Was absolutely gutted that it was closed on the day I went into labour with our 3rd baby in 2021 and we had to go to Broomfield.

Like Reply 15h

Dee Skelly
I had my 2nd baby there in 2001- great midwives and support - we stayed for a week as she was jaundiced.
I then had my 4th baby there- a water birth. They were lovely and her tongue tie was picked up immediately.
My 3rd baby was born at colchester- despite me insisting I was in labour my partner got sent home and I had her on my own without even gas and air!
I'm so thankful that our 4th birth was so amazing at St Peter's - my partner was made up as it was on his birthday and he lifted her out of the water and cut her cord. All 9lb 13.5 ounces!

Like Reply 15h

Lizzie Ridley
I went to St Peters after my son was born for a night of aftercare and breastfeeding support, and I cannot fault the attention and care that gave to us both. I was shocked to be the only one in the ward that night, and the midwives were telling me how people just don't hear about the services they offer, which is so so sad because they were all so so lovely!! Without their help I don't know if I would have been able to carry on breastfeeding my son. It would be such a shame if it closed xx

Like Reply 14h

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Sarah Quayle
One of the most important maternity units in Essex, serving such a wide area. Loved by all who use and have used it. St Peters Maternity is valued by everyone in the district, but undervalued by the trust. The best care and support from amazing staff. Closing it regularly when Broomfield need more staff is ridiculous because all the mums in labour across the district and the Dengie end up at Broomfield anyway! They have such a long journey as well. The trust needs to look after and cherish the unit, not undervalue it - Broomfield maternity could learn a thing or two from St Peters! Ps...I was under the care of the late, great Sister Bennett who was brilliant!

Like **Reply** 13h Edited

Jasmine King
I was also lucky enough to have my little boy there, the nicest hospital with the nicest midwives 🤍

Like **Reply** 9h

Donna Marie Alger
Had all 3 of mine there 1st in 87 2nd in 91 3rd in 04 best maternity hospital xx

Like **Reply** 8h Edited

Gemma Louise Kay
Had to go to Broomfield due to high risk, but as soon as I could get out of Broomfield I went to St Peters for a few nights to recoup, it was amazing. Hot chocolate. Sleep, so much care xxx hope it stays open.

Not many mummy's realise they can go there to rest after birth. Xx

Like **Reply** 8h

Becky Cousins
Just had my first at broomfield and it was a horrible experience and not due to me or my baby due to being understaffed and too busy!! We have put in a complaint and mentioned st peters already as this wasn't an option for me at all even after birth. When I went into Labour all hospitals In Essex were closed I was told to drive to addenbrooks or London.

Like **Reply** 7h Edited 😮 2

Quil Ava
It would be such a loss. I had both of my babies there and couldn't recommend it enough. The staff were caring and the environment felt safe and very private. The fact that the population of the maldon district increasing makes it even more ridiculous that they would close it 🤦‍♀️

Like **Reply** 7h

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Chelsea Mead
Had both my children there in 2015 and 2018 and the staff were amazing ❤️ did absolutely everything to make sure I was as comfortable as possible everything was so intimate for me and my babies for the first few days and the care was just second to none would be so upsetting to see St Peter's shut down so other future mums couldn't experience the same. Birthing pool was available both times without me requesting it. Got moved to my own ward due to snoring from other people 🤣 and midwives moving me themselves without me even asking saying I needed to be able rest and sleep, it was just such personal care I'll forever remember my amazing experiences there and would chose St Peter's over and over if I could do it again!

Like Reply 7h Edited

Tanya Byford
Tatum Byford

Like Reply 6h

Jackie Ridgewell
The problem is staffing, there just isn't enough midwives to cover both hospitals.

Like Reply 6h

Caroline A Bowring
All my children were St Peter's babies lovely hospital

Like Reply 5h

Devon Jade Evers 🖐🏿
The amount of house going up round here I can't see how there not funding this hospital to be open for a lot more than just maternity!

Like Reply 4h

Denise Thame
Had my 4 boys there, absolutely brilliant and so relaxed, had my daughter in St John's before it closed and couldn't get out quick enough, so we'll looked after at St Peter's

Like Reply 4h

Jo Davison
I agree! I had the most wonderful birth there 4 years ago. Was so much better than with my other kids... I will be writing ✍️

Like Reply 4h

Muriel Whiting
I have heard St Peter's is closing in September!!!

Like Reply 4h

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Sharon Charge
I had both of my girls in St Peters in the 90,s. The staff were brilliant 👏. Getting to chelmsford hospital is a nightmare especially if you don't have a car. The authorities have spoken about closing St. Peters down for years. Its a lovely hospital. ... See more

Like Reply 3h

Mandy Street
St Peter's is a lovely hospital . I see my grandaughter born there .

Like Reply 3h

Nadine Fannon
Had my son there 48 years ago and they were wonderful.
Be such a shame for it to go especially with all the new housing.

Like Reply 2h

Sarah Jane Dent
I do hope they can continue the unit there, I was lucky enough to have both my children there (now 10 & 8)and had such an amazing experience with both. The team give such good care and we were very well looked after! 💖 xx

Like Reply 1h

Stacey Harvey Top Contributor
I never birthed any of my kids there but I was transferred to there when I had my daughter 15yrs ago and the team there are amazing and care so much for our newborns they are treated like there own kids and the aftercare I got was amazing I was there for 4days and cannot believe how amazing they all was to me x

32w Like Reply
Like Reply 1h

Charley Sheppard
i gave birth to my boy there in october and it was the loveliest experience, i was so sure i was going to have him at broomfield as it was a bigger and "proper" hospital to me but im so glad i went to st peters

Like Reply 56m

Marie Naomi Sewell Sullivan
All three of my babies born in the water pool 2003,2007,2010 - positive birthing experiences it's so much more then just maternity unit will be a huge loss to the community and generations to come

Like Reply 28m

Letitia Wells
We had our 4th in St Peters 2 years ago and felt SO grateful and lucky to those amazing midwives. It also changed my whole after experience and mindset being in such a wonderful environment. Il definitely email in later 🫶

Like Reply 28m

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Fia Southgate
Also send a copy to your local MP, the nationwide shortage of midwives is a problem the government need to solve!

I was at St Peter's in March my poor midwife had to come to me in "early labour" and tell me I couldn't stay as they didn't have enough midwives for the night. He was born less than an hour later (at St. Peters). I felt so sorry for her to be forced to bring that conversation up with me, she knew it wasn't going to go down well!

32w **Like** **Reply**

Nicolle Paddon
I had both my children there and my partner was born there himself. Wonderful hospital xxx

32w **Like** **Reply**

Mercedes Child
I had my daughter at St Peter's in March 2021 - thankfully as she wasn't hanging around and I wouldn't of made it to Broomfield! Unfortunately they had to close as needed to go to Broomfield due to staffing issues so I was discharged at 2am😱 Couldn't fault the care I received there, even though I was only in for 12 hours.

32w **Like** **Reply** Edited

Janice Friend Top Contributor
Had my three kids there, and my daughter had hers there. It will be terrible to lose it.😡😡

32w **Like** **Reply**

Jo Tyler
Libby Cross

32w **Like** **Reply**

Lorraine Forsythe
I have given birth to all 3 of my children here and what a fabulous place and experience for us 💜

32w **Like** **Reply**

Shade Leanne Hilden Top Contributor
This is very sad ! I'm currently nearly 25 weeks pregnant & I'm 19 I plan to birth there & use a pool. & I feel very comfortable & happy with choosing it! I still have to confirm it ! I trust it more then hospitals. I hope they can carry on there amazing love & work 💓

32w **Like** **Reply**

Shade Leanne Hilden Top Contributor
All done let's SAVE ST PETERS

2

32w **Like** **Reply**

Karen Bayfield-Hill
Emilie Maisie Martin

32w **Like** **Reply**

Linda Wisbey
I had my first baby there in 1967. She was deliver by my friends mum who was one of the midwives there, assisted by Sister Austin who delivered my sister in 1949.. My last child was born at the old St. John's & I had an awful time. The cottage hospital at Burnham was closed many years ago, so those mum's had to come to Maldon. Sending them to Broomfield will be a long journey for them.

32w **Like** **Reply**

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Janet Mayes
Linda Wisbey
Sister Austin was there with my mum too. Years later my daughter was born there, but when years later she gave birth at St John's she was left alone far too much. It is a great unit at St Peter's and with all the new homes being built surely there is an even stronger need for it to continue.

32w Like Reply

Linda Wisbey
Janet Mayes I comp!early agree. It's all to do with money & not patient care.

32w Like Reply

Reply to Janet Mayes...

Reply to Linda Wisbey...

Joe Anders Carter
Celine Cottiss

32w Like Reply

Helen Johnson
I had 2 of my children at St. Peter's, I had complications with my second and all the staff that helped was amazing, even one nurse had to jump out the shower and ran in with her hair in a towel. It would be such a shame if it was no longer there.

What annoys me is that they can fund and put in nhs staff in all those new asylum seekers places, i.e. Wethersfield - Braintree but can not fund and support what people actually need.

Shade Leanne Hilden Top Contributor
Holly Fry could you send me the email again please it wasn't delivered 😞

32w Like Reply

Jade Hoy
Holly Fry can you make this shareable please xx

32w Like Reply

El Shelford
Loved going to St Peter's whilst I was pregnant, called when I went into labour and they told me they was unfortunately closed for the evening due to not enough staff, I was gutted! I went to Broomfield & still was well cared for but I was really looking forward to St Peter's. This was in April x

30w Like Reply

Holly Fry Author Top Contributor
Thank you for sharing your stories. The fight to keep it is not over yet! Fill out the consultation surveys and sign the petitions!