



NEWSLETTER

July 2012 Issue 46

GREAT Midlands Fun Run 2012

The sun shone down on our Great Midlands Fun Runners on Sunday 10th June. The 'Breast Friends Team' consisted of around 135 people...our biggest team to date!

As usual, the atmosphere in Sutton was fantastic as 7000 entrants filled The Parade at the start of the 8.5 mile route and supporters lined the route all the way. Whether walking, jogging or running, every single one of the team did us proud.

Along with members, supporters and their families and friends, the team was made up of hairdressers from Michele Louise Salon in Rectory Road and nurses from Ward 26 at Good Hope. There was also a large team from 'Fit Camp UK' which is based in Tamworth, who ran with and in support of Julie Stubbs, a member of the club who has recently been diagnosed and is having treatment for breast cancer.

Also with a team of 50 plus were 'Team Maria' who took part in memory of the wonderful Maria Simmonite, who sadly lost her brave battle with breast cancer last year. Her husband Adrian, her children Matthew and Olivia and her family and friends all joined together for Breast Friends, with grateful thanks for the help we were able to give to Maria when she needed it.



Team Maria



Members of Breast Friends Committee



Good Hope nurses

Thank you so much to everyone who took part including Nita Hunter and Jo Daly who were on duty at the

'Bottle of Sack' to get a well-earned drink in for everyone at the finish, and Yvonne Kelly who was head cheerleader waving her pink feather boa at strategic points along the route!

We really do hope to see you all again next year...Sunday 2nd June 2013!

Sainsbury's Support Breast Friends

Great news...

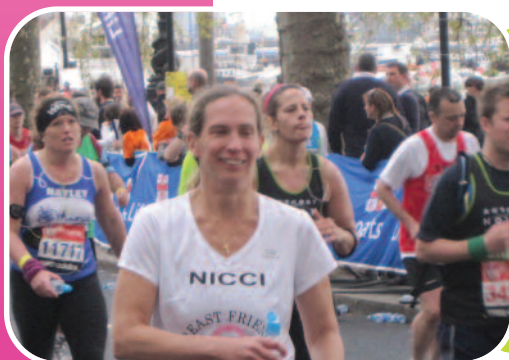
Sainsbury's in Mere Green have chosen Breast Friends as their 'Charity of the Year' and we look forward to working with the staff at the store to do all we

can to try and raise funds and awareness over the next 12 months.

We would like to appeal for volunteers who may be willing to give us a couple of hours to help with collection days and also bag packing and flower wrapping. Perhaps you may have children/grandchildren

who would be able to help us in the school

holidays to do some bag packing. **If you can help, please call Jackie on 0121 378 3037** and give your name and contact details we can let you know when we arrange dates.



Nicci's Marathon Effort!

Well done and a massive thank you to Nicci Patstone. She raised £1,321 in sponsorship for Breast Friends when she completed the London Marathon back in April.

Here she is pictured looking great, about a mile from the finish line...just brilliant!

Don Maclean Honoured

On May 26th, committee members were invited to the Church of Our Lady of the Wayside in Solihull by Breast Friends patron and supporter Don Maclean to attend his investiture as Papal Knight of the Pontifical Equestrian Order of Pope St Sylvester. This is the highest honour that can be given to a layman from the Vatican.

More than 400 people, including fellow comedian Jasper Carrott, attended the service. During the Mass, he was presented with the order's sword by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham, the Most Reverend Bernard Longley.

Press Secretary to the Archdiocese of Birmingham, said: "The award is conferred on men who are actively involved in the life of the Catholic Church, particularly



those who have used their profession to further the Catholic Faith."

Breast Friends would like to offer their sincere congratulations to Don, he has supported our charity for many years and we are very pleased that he has been honoured in this way for the work he does for ours and many other deserving causes.

Remembering Angela

Members of the Land Rover, Solihull work force and the family and friends of Angela Harper, a lovely lady who sadly recently lost her battle with breast cancer, came along to the Oncology Dept. at Good Hope Hospital recently to make a donation of £1000 to Breast Friends.

Angela was treated at Good Hope and her friends and family wanted to thank the staff and the Breast Friends Charity for all the support and help Angela received. This was the second donation made by the Land Rover Charity Committee and was truly very much appreciated.



'Diamonds & Tiaras' Charity Ball

Ladies and Gentlemen... Breast Friends will be hosting our charity ball on Saturday 6th October at the Tower Suite, Drayton Manor.

This promises to be a really fabulous occasion with a 'Diamonds and Tiaras' theme. There will be a reception drink and three course dinner and coffee. Entertainment will be provided by Nigel John's tribute to Sir Elton John, with disco dancing till late.

Please put on your sparkle and bling and join us for some serious 'Crocodile Rock!' **Tickets are £40 each** and there has already been a lot of interest, so please don't be disappointed, reserve your tickets as soon as possible.

Tel Jackie - 0121 378 3037 or Gill - 0121 350 0615

BREAST FRIENDS SUTTON COLDFIELD TRUSTEES REPORT

YEAR END 30TH APRIL 2012

The Breast Friends Charity continues to meet its objectives to provide ongoing direct practical help and emotional support to breast cancer patients and to promote awareness. We work closely with local health professionals who highlight patients in need of our help.

The charity's sub groups continue to offer specific help

Lotus Group – provides help and support to patients whose cancer has returned. the group meets once a month with health professionals present

Pink Orchids- provides help and support to younger women

Pink Peonies- provides Tamworth patients with a meeting point and help and support.

The main group continues to meet most months at Good Hope Hospital

DIARY DATES

Monday 30th July

7.30pm Breast Friends AGM at the Partnership Learning Centre at Good Hope. We hope to see as many of our members as possible, and welcome consultant plastic surgeon Mr Khalil as our guest speaker.

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Friday 14th – Monday 17th September
Warners Weekend

Monday 24th September – General Meeting in the Partnership Learning Centre, Good Hope at 7.30pm. Guest speaker will be from the Lymphoedema Clinic at Whittington.

Saturday 6th October 2012

Breast Friends Diamonds & Tiaras Ball
Featuring Nigel John's Tribute to
Sir Elton John Plus Disco
Reception 7.00p.m. Dinner 7.30p.m.
Tickets £40.00

Wednesday 24th October

'Newlife' Fashion and accessories sale at the Lakeside Suite at Ramada Hotel, 5.30pm to 9.30pm. Tickets £15 each, to include a 2 course supper.

Monday 29th October - General Meeting in the Partnership Learning Centre, Good Hope at 7.30pm. Toms Fashion Bargains

Saturday 17th November – Motown evening at Ramada Hotel with 3 course meal. Tickets £35 each.

Sunday 9th December – Members' Christmas Party at Moor Hall.

Contact Jackie on 0121 378 3037
Gill on 0121 350 0615 for tickets

We provide chemotherapy patients with monthly make-up workshops, where they can learn how to compensate for the loss of eye brows and eye lashes using hospital approved make up. The charity also provides each patient with a supply of the make up used at the workshop to take away.

Members of the committee continue to promote breast awareness by giving talks and our aims and objectives are featured on our web site and on facebook. We continue to send out regular newsletters to our members letting them know about future events and services. Our current newsletter is also accessible through our web-site

Breast Friends continues to offer, free of charge, ongoing practical support. Health professionals refer patients in need of :-

small grants, home help, door to door laundry service, childcare, gardening, the provision of an electrically operated riser/recliner chair, a wheelchair, a mobility scooter, a rented stair lift, a pamper afternoon or make up workshop. We aim to improve the quality of life for breast cancer patients in any way we can particularly the very seriously ill.

Although receipts from fund raising and donations increased by 4.5% over the previous year our outgoing commitments escalated by a massive 21% culminating in the charity needing to use £16,500 of our reserve funds. This figure represents approx 15% of our reserve capital and highlights the need to escalate our fund raising if we are to continue to offer the ongoing practical support we have given to date. The local community has continued to support our charity but unfortunately costs have increased as more breast cancer patients are in need of our help.

Our main aim in the coming year will be to increase our fund raising efforts and hope that the wonderful support from the local community will continue.

Jackie Benzecry, Chairman, Breast Friends, Sutton Coldfield

Thank You Jeannie

Breast Friends would like to thank our good friend Jeannie Jones, who has decided to step down from our committee. Jeannie has been an honorary member of Breast Friends for a good many years and has given a lot of time and support to the group, along with a lot of fundraising. She has also been very successfully running the 'healing clinic' at Good Hope since 2008.

Jeannie and Carol will continue to provide the healing sessions for cancer patients, which have been very beneficial and relaxing for many Breast Friends members who have experienced them. **Sincere thanks to Jeannie for all of her hard work, support and generosity.**



Fairlawns Fashion Show

The recent charity lunch and fashion show held at Fairlawns Hotel in Aldridge, was quite simply a wonderful afternoon. We would like to give our thanks to John Pette and his staff at Fairlawns for making it such a lovely occasion. Our stunning Breast Friends members modelled 'Garden Party' and 'Cocktail Glamour' outfits supplied by the 'New Life Foundation' which

supports disabled children.

Breast Friends raised £1500 from ticket sales and raffle, and New Life raised £2,200 from sales of their clothing, shoes, bags and jewellery on the day. So all in all, a fantastic result for both charities... Well done and thank you to all our gorgeous models and all who came along and so generously supported the event.

Dolly Raises Some Dosh!

Breast Friends recently hosted a fantastic 'Country and Western' themed evening with a Tribute to Dolly Parton at the Ramada 'Ranch', Penns Lane.



Everyone enjoyed dressing up in cowboy hats and boots, even the hotel staff looked the part! 'Dolly' was just amazing, and thanks to our generous guests, we raised £1676 with a little help from Lloyds Bank fund matching scheme. Yeeee haaaww!!!

Breast Friends would like to appeal to members and their friends and families who work at banks or building societies that offer 'fund matching' schemes. Please get in touch, as you may be able to help us to boost the total money we raise at our fund raising events. **Please call Jackie on 0121 378 3037 if you can help.**

Donations

A big thank you to the many supporters who donated and raised much needed funds for Breast Friends

- PAT CHARLTON & PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WARWICKSHIRE
- JOHN BENZECRY
- SANDY DINNES ESSO PETROLEUM COMPANY BIRMINGHAM TERMINAL
- STAFF OF LITTLE SUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL IN LIEU OF GIFTS & CARDS FOR COLLEAGUES AT CHRISTMAS
- LESLEY HILTON IN LIEU OF CHRISTMAS CARDS
- BOBBIE BATTISON
- JENNY SANKEY
- ORION LODGE NO 4993
- ROGER TAYLOR
- OOH LA LA! HAIR BOUTIQUE
- ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC TECHNICAL COLLEGE £674.52
- EILEEN O'CONNOR
- IRIS HEATHERINGTON 80TH BIRTHDAY
- ALEC LAIDLER
- J ALLEN
- J SHARPE
- JANET DIAMOND
- F DUKES GREEN
- ST MARY'S LODGE
- IMO BARBARA TURNER
- IMO SYLVIA ABBOTT
- LANDROVER & FAMILY & FRIENDS IMO ANGELA HARPER
- IMO PAUL DENNIS

FUND RAISERS

- YVONNE BARRACLOUGH POKER NIGHT
- NITA HUNTER'S FUND RAISING DINNER PARTY
- DAN GALLAGHER BIRMINGHAM HALF MARATHON IMO MARIA SIMMONITE
- TREMBLERS II BAND LIVE MUSIC EVENING GARY KING RAISED £1000.00
- ANN & BOB SCOTT BURNS EVENING
- CONCERT PERFORMED BY THE SECOND CITY SOUND CHOIR
- BOLDMERE JUNIOR SCHOOL CAKE SALE STEPHANIE MASSEY & FRIENDS
- RAINBOW GREETINGS
- PARACHUTE JUMP FAMILY & STAFF MOOR HALL HOTEL £1000
- N PATSTONE RAN LONDON MARATHON

Contact

Sue Mills 28 Withy Hill Road
SUTTON COLDFIELD
West Midlands B75 6HS

Tel: 0121 329 3600

e-mail: sue-mills@blueyonder.co.uk

Join our **Facebook Group**

**'Breast Friends Sutton
Coldfield and Tamworth'**



Helpline Numbers:

0121 424 9054

& 0121 442 9490

www.breastfriends.org.uk