

# Piam Brown News

Welcome to the Piam Brown Ward newsletter where we try to share our gratitude to those who support our families as well as letting you know what is happening on the ward.

## Dates for the Diary

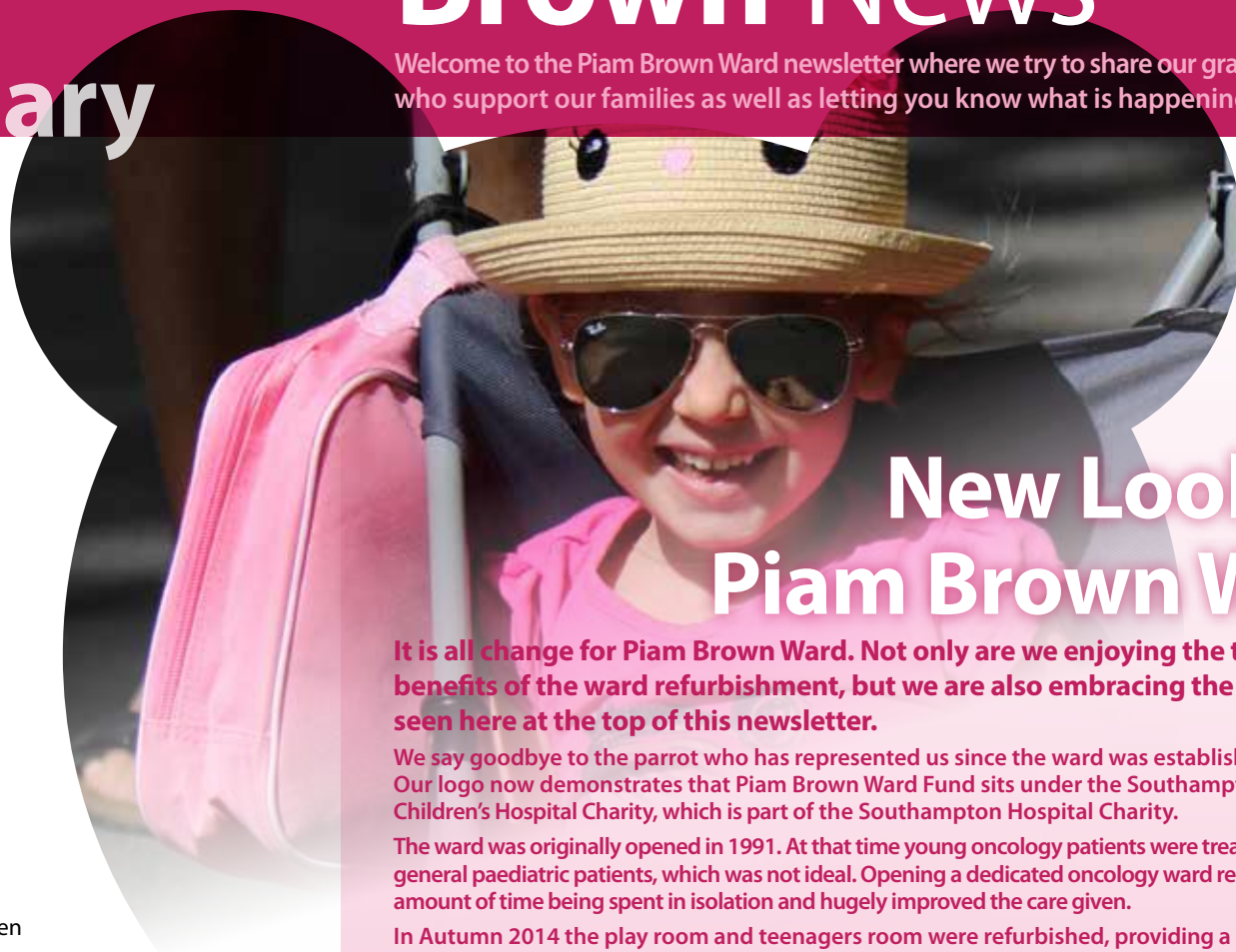
CCT Adventure Trip	Sun 16 – Thursday 20 April
A Day Out with Thomas	Friday 14 - Sunday 23 April
Fire Engine trip and Raffle	Saturday 29 April
Circus Starr	Wednesday 24 May
CCT Creative and Surfing	Sunday 28 May – Saturday 3 June
Sister Act at The Mayflower	Friday 16 June
Island Adventure	Sunday 18 June
Party on the Water	Sunday July 2
Grease at The Mayflower	Friday 7 July
Popham Flying Day	Wednesday 9 August
Avon Tyrrell Weekend	Friday 18 – Sunday 20 August
EMCT Sailing Trip	Monday 28 Aug – Friday 1 Sept
Flash Dance at The Mayflower	Friday 8 September

Do email me if you are interested in any of these trips. Priority will be given to those currently on treatment.

### Email Contact

Have we got your email address? Please email with any thoughts about the newsletter or ideas for events in your area to [rachel.funnell@uhs.nhs.uk](mailto:rachel.funnell@uhs.nhs.uk) We are keen to enable equal access to trips, so please give us your ideas.

If you feel you are missing out on trips, please email me and ensure that you have given permission to be contacted for events, email Rachel on [rachel.funnell@uhs.nhs.uk](mailto:rachel.funnell@uhs.nhs.uk)



## New Look for Piam Brown Ward

**It is all change for Piam Brown Ward. Not only are we enjoying the tremendous benefits of the ward refurbishment, but we are also embracing the new logo as seen here at the top of this newsletter.**

We say goodbye to the parrot who has represented us since the ward was established in 1991. Our logo now demonstrates that Piam Brown Ward Fund sits under the Southampton Children's Hospital Charity, which is part of the Southampton Hospital Charity.

The ward was originally opened in 1991. At that time young oncology patients were treated alongside general paediatric patients, which was not ideal. Opening a dedicated oncology ward reduced the amount of time being spent in isolation and hugely improved the care given.

In Autumn 2014 the play room and teenagers room were refurbished, providing a modern, bright and cheerful environment for our young patients to enjoy. This refurbishment highlighted just how tired the ward itself had become.

The ward was relocated to G2 after Easter 2016. We spent six months in our temporary environment while the ward underwent major structural and environmental improvements.

In October 2016 we returned to the ward with great anticipation. The relief of moving into the single bays, each with en-suite facilities and drop down parent beds was clear to see. All the facilities are a great improvement and the environment much more pleasant for parents and families.

# Refurbishment of the Ward



**Piam Brown Ward was first opened twenty five years ago on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1991 by Her Royal Highness The Duchess of York. Apart from the play room and the teenagers room, which were refurbished in November 2014, very little had changed since 1991.**

While the care provided by our dedicated team is first class, the ward

itself faced some significant maintenance issues which could not be managed without closing the ward.

The Trust embraced this as an opportunity to refurbish the whole ward and make it once again fit for purpose. We are all thrilled with the new working environment which offers up-to-date facilities and better privacy for our patients and their families. Those who remember the four bedded bay will be delighted to learn that this no longer exists. We now have 8 single en suite bays and 2 large double en suite bays on the ward, improved access to the day ward, a parent's lounge and kitchen along with the children's play room and the teenagers room.

In November 2016 the newly refurbished ward was officially opened by Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cornwall. She spent time on the ward and was delightful with the children before joining the official reception. Families and supporters were invited to an opening party

when they had the opportunity to see the newly refurbished environment.

It was a special pleasure to see Jenny and Ronan who were both treated on the ward in its early days, now healthy grown ups sharing distant memories of the ward at the opening party



*"The new ward gave Phoebe the privacy and comfort she needed. The individual rooms allowed us to have more of Phoebe's toys and personal belongings which made her feel happier and more settled."* The Pennels Family

*"The new Piam Brown Ward really has made a difference to staying in hospital – knowing you'll have your own room, ensuite and the all important parent bed is just one less thing to worry about and a well equipped kitchen means you can cook a 'proper' meal! It's these little things that make a big difference."* The Warner Family



New magnetic wall games



## Funding the Refurbishment

The charity was approached by the Cubitt family, whose daughter Summer was treated on the ward, with the opportunity to work together to enhance the ward refurbishment that was already taking place.

Collaboratively this resulted in a further **£550,000** project added to the development which has drastically transformed the experience of our young patients and their families. We are extremely grateful to the Cubitts for helping us make this a reality.

In addition, our dedicated Piam Brown Ward supporters have contributed to an amazing extent and we would like to thank all of you whilst making special mention of the following:



**Lasting Love for Lizzie  
for £28,000**

**Port Regis School  
for £67,000**

**Superior Seals for £41,000**



*"Just wanted to say how amazing the new Piam Brown Ward is. It provides a contemporary and happy place for the children and helps bring the ward into line with the high expectations and professionalism already in place with the super medical staff."*

The Horgan Family

*"The newly refurbished ward had been open for a matter of days when Albie was first diagnosed. It was a frightening time for us all but being welcomed on to a clean, well equipped ward made a big difference to us a family. Albie's older sister was able to visit and enjoy the beautiful playground, making the whole experience less daunting for her. The parents kitchen and lounge gave us an area to chat to other oncology parents, or our own family members away from the bedside whilst preparing a much needed cup of tea or bite to eat. We feel lucky that Albie has been able to undergo treatment in such modern surroundings and are very grateful for all the fundraising efforts."* The Hammond Family

# Christmas

Many individuals, families and organisations donate gifts to PB for Christmas. Thank you so much to everyone who donated. To mention a few:

**VW Santa Run** have supported Piam Brown Ward for four years now and each year the event gets bigger and bigger! This year 92 vehicles met at Beaulieu Motor Museum laden with gifts. After being waved off by Lord Montague himself, they travelled in convoy to Southampton Children's Hospital to present the gifts for the children. Initially this event supported just Piam Brown Ward, but has grown to such an extent that gifts are given to the children in all the children's wards.



**Teddy 20** is a local charity to support children with

cancer. In loving memory of Ted, Teddy 20 have generously donated Christmas presents every year since 2011. Their fabulous gifts bring such joy to children receiving treatment on the ward, it really is tremendously moving for the families to know that unknown people are thinking of them and what they are going through.



**TEDDY 20**  
Supporting Children with Cancer

Our annual Piam Brown Ward Children's Christmas party is generously hosted by **The Concorde Club** at Eastleigh. Very special thanks to Jamie and his team for all they do for us. The fun filled afternoon was coordinated by our own Claire Pickett, with special thanks to Ian our DJ, Mimics face painters, the magician and of course Father Christmas. The food was generously provided by the **Co-op Bitterne, The Concorde Club** and **Dominos Pizza**. Food and entertainment were enjoyed by all the children who seemed exhausted by the end.



**Darren King Memorial Fund** sponsored our teens Christmas outing to Frankie and Benny's for supper, followed by Ten Pin Bowling for their entertainment.



**Marwell Zoo** and **Paulton's Park** Christmas Grottos got us all in the festive mood as Christmas fast approached. Seasonal festivities were enjoyed by so many of us as Father Christmas handed lots of Christmas presents to our youngsters and siblings after spending time in the beautifully decorated grottos!



Rapunzel was the annual pantomime performed at **Otterbourne Village Hall**. Local families were able to enjoy the excellent amateur dramatics and fun filled frolics of this village production.

# Events

Here on the ward we try to embrace significant days as much as we can. This spring we decorated the play room with hearts and made valentine day crafts. We provided the sweetest fillings for our pancakes on Pancake day and continue to embrace Foodie Fridays with the play team.

**Mad Hatters Tea Party** is an annual event run by the amazing **Malc Drew** for families in the Portsmouth area. Every year Malc's event seems to get bigger and better! This year the special star guest was **Stacey Solomon** of X Factor and I'm a Celebrity. She was delightful with the families showing genuine interest in their experiences. There was so much going on with dancing and games, costume characters and monster trucks, animals and party food. What a great day, **thank you Malc**.



Since our return to the refurbished Piam Brown Ward, we have been able to reinstate the very popular Pamper Night and Film and Pizza Night. Pamper Night is sponsored by **Sophie's Appeal** and provides qualified therapists to come and treat the parents with a little "me time" once a month on a Friday. Film and Pizza Night is again held



monthly where the families can enjoy a new release DVD and huge Pizza's donated by **Dominos**.

We have enjoyed several theatre trips recently, including **Fantastic Mr Fox** at The Nuffield. This was a fabulous show thoroughly enjoyed by seven families. Here is Henley and family at **The Nuffield**.



The **Mayflower Theatre** presented **Robin Hood** as their Christmas Pantomime. We offered two performances sponsored by **Sophie's Appeal** and **Lucy's Days Out** as well as the Piam Brown Ward fund. This was hugely



popular and a great, fun, highly colourful trip out.



**Billy Elliott** was performed at The Mayflower Theatre. We were able to offer two dates for our families, one sponsored by the **Joe Glover Trust** with the second by the Piam Brown Ward fund. It was a fabulous show full of energy, but a little risky with it's language!



# Regular Sponsors

Lucy's Days Out was an amazing charity set up ten years ago to achieve Lucy's wish, to give special times to families living with serious illnesses. It has now been drawn to a close after what would have been Lucy's 18th birthday; we send our most grateful thanks for all their support over the years. Lucy's Day's Out has provided much needed escape and family time away from the ward for so many families. Just some of the many kind messages we received are:

*"Thanks to Lucy's Days Out for helping us make lasting, magical memories on days out we could enjoy as a family. It was especially nice to meet Lucy's mum Julie who often attended the trips with us, a truly special thing I'll treasure. It made us feel close to Lucy, like she was there. Beautiful Lucy. Thank you!"*



*"Thank you so much Julie and the Lucy's Days Out team! You made such a difference to our family during very difficult times."*

*You brought happiness to us all and lovely memories were made that shall remain with us forever. Lucy's legacy and your generosity made our lives better."*



We continue to be generously supported by some amazing charities including the Joe Glover Trust, Sophie's Appeal, Hannah's Holiday Homes, U Support and several Rotary Clubs from our local area.

We are able to offer our post treatment patients a variety of confidence building holidays through the support and generosity of the Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust and the Caring Cancer Trust



# Our Supporters

It is truly astonishing how much support we receive from extended family, friends, colleagues and the general public. Huge thanks go to the all the families who have been selling wristbands to everyone they know and to everyone who has donated. We would also like to acknowledge our thanks to:



**Coopervision** have chosen to support PB as their charity of the year for the last four years. The fabulous team hold an all department charity

day cake sales, sweet days, dress down days and other fundraising activities each month through the year. They proudly presented this amazing cheque for **£15,000**. We are all so grateful for their support. Over the four years Coopervision have donated an astonishing total of **£42,004**. The team have now selected a different charity to support and we wish them all the very best for their future fundraising.

**Basepoint Southampton** chose Piam Brown Ward as their charity of the year for 2016. They were able to match fund community fundraising up to a value of **£10,000**. We were extremely grateful to receive this donation, as were the fundraisers who were match funded!



Colleagues at **Comminis** held dress down days, other fun events, and even Bush Tucker Trials to raise funds for the charity having been inspired by the support given to Miah's whole family from the ward.



**Marcia Cutler** was inspired by one of our young patients to do some fundraising. As a keen photographer, Marcia created a calendar which she sold in memory of her friend Garry, also PB patient Freya's uncle. Priority Printing produced the calendar for a fantastic price, recognising the cause as they produce our newsletters!



Local **Co-Operative** businesses have long been supportive of PB, One local Co-Op store raised **£600** in support of Will's family, their regular customers.

**HMS Daring** has supported PB for some years now. When the crew were on leave from the ship Petty Officer Vince came to visit PB and presented a cheque for **£500**.



**Hubert Nicolle** ran the Guernsey Marathon in August in memory of his daughter Aggie. He raised **£4,330**, a big well done!

Ken and his fellow members of **Swaythling Working Mens Club** have raised **£1,559** through a charity fun day and sponsor a hair and eyebrow shave of president Peter King – how very brave! Thank you all. This enabled us to purchase a reclining chair for the ward.

Each year Nick Khaira from **Unique Plumbing Services** organises a charity golf day. This year Nick and his colleagues have raised a fantastic **£2,914** – congratulations!

John Harlow of **Bitterne Park Golf Society** kindly donated an amazing cheque for **£2,600** at their Christmas meal. This is a fabulous amount to have raised through the year.

**Wellywalk** have regularly donated craft packs to us here at PB but this year was different! I accepted a very generous **£2,000** cheque to support teenagers outings this year. Sister Act and Flash Dance have now been booked for our teenagers to look forward to. Thank you so much for your generous donation in memory of Sophie, a legacy to support teenagers for the next five years.

# Hugo Cordle Runs the London Marathon

Ten years ago his little brother Freddie completed his treatment for leukaemia on Piam Brown Ward and the family feel strongly that the ward saved his life. To mark his gratitude ten years on, Hugo has taken on the challenge to run the London Marathon. Please do visit his Just Giving page if you would like to support him.



[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Hugo-Cordle-LondonMarathon2017](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Hugo-Cordle-LondonMarathon2017)

# Hair We Go!

**Sandra Gard**, after being inspired by her friend Lorraine who had spent some time on Piam Brown, decided to complete a sponsored head shave! **£2,185** was raised from the event, along with various toys and gifts for the children. Thank you so much. We hope you are enjoying your new hairstyle!



**Lauren Clarke** is another brave supporter! She too took on a new look in aid of Piam Brown when she had her long hair cut off, with the hair being donated to little Princess Trust, raising over **£1,000**.



**Jade Kerley** also went for the chop! The room full of nervous and excited people as Jade prepared for her new look. She raised an amazing **£1,100** for PB and the same for Little Princesses Trust where she also donated her hair. Jade is now getting used to a shorter new style. Thank you!