



PIAM BROWN NEWS



Welcome to the Fourth Piam Brown 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.



Easter on the ward

Huge thanks to all those generous schools and companies who donated Easter eggs and craft sets for our young patients and their siblings. The ward was awash with chocolate and the most delightful craft activities which were so gratefully received.

Grateful thanks go to **Hannah's Appeal, Orchard Juniors, Sainsbury's Hedge End, Skandia, the Herridge family's local church**, their school and colleagues at **Zurich, Woodlands Nursery, Willenius Wilhelmsen Logistics (WWL)** and **The Roebuck Inn**.



The Easter party



here on the ward was enjoyed by many families, decorating Easter biscuits with our friends from John Lewis and having their fancy hats judged for super prizes.

The raffle made £1640 the proceeds of which were split between PB and the Wessex Cancer Trust children's fund.



Recent outings and events

It has been a busy six months, with Dream Night hosted by **Marwell Wildlife** and the annual **Fire Engine Trip** organised with Wessex Cancer Trust and **Paultons Park**. We want to say a special thanks to The Fire Service Preservation Group for transporting our families in their amazing vintage fire engines and also to the Romsey Old Cadets for their dancing in the rain!



Circus Starr once again enthralled our younger children, one of our families commenting "Both boys sat with their mouths agape and clapped like loonies."



The Dave Wellman Cancer Trust hosted their annual **Mad Hatter's Tea Party** on board the Princess Caroline ship. The catering was delicious and the entertainment exceptional. A fabulous day out

for our families to relax and see Southampton from the water.



We managed to squeeze in two great days out with **Thomas the Tank Engine**, in both spring and summer. Special thanks to the wonderful people at the **Watercress line** for their generosity and flexibility.



Sophie's Appeal sponsored an evening at the Mayflower Theatre to see **Dirty Dancing**, which was a fabulous show with astonishing choreography and really clever computer generated imagery.

One of the year's highlights must be **Escape to Popham Airfield**, hosted by **Starlight**.

This annual event really is a treat, giving the youngsters the opportunity to fly in a helicopter and a small plane, ride in fast cars and on huge motorbikes and much more.





Teenagers weekend

Every year the PB staff take our teenagers on a weekend of fun away from ward life to **Avon Tyrell Activity Centre** in the New Forest.



Trips and holidays

We are generously supported by so many organisations offering holiday homes and trips for our young people. This summer there have been several organised trips.



The Caring Cancer Trust (CCT) is a small charity based on the Isle of Wight who offer several confidence boosting holidays for our teenagers each year. This year CCT have organised a skiing trip, a dinghy sailing trip and a summer alpine adventure for our young people.

CCT are about to embark on new holiday set in Jersey, offering creative workshops in a lovely environment such as photography, music, drumming and animation as well as lots of fun and friendship. ***Please do let Rachel know if you are interested in this creative holiday.***



Sail4Cancer offer sailing and river boat trips to our young people. Here is PB patient Joe S with a group

about to be waved off by Sir Ben Ainslie for a day's sail around the Solent.



The Ellen McArthur Cancer Trust provide fantastic opportunities for young patients over 8 years old to sail and stay on a yacht, developing their independence skills and confidence.

Our supporters

Every donation makes a huge difference on our ward, no matter how big or small. Grateful thanks go to all our contributors.



Cooper Vision have chosen Piam Brown Ward as their charity for 2 years. The first year of fundraising generated a staggering £12,963 for Piam Brown Ward through a number of events and activities. We are very grateful for all their support.



Almost 11 years after the passing away of her daughter Karina, **Rosemary Locock** presented £1325.00

to the ward (and the same amount to the Kingfisher ward in Dorchester). The donation was from the proceeds of her book telling the story of her daughter's fight against cancer and how Rosemary coped with her loss.

Karina Glynn (21.5.86) RIP 1.6.03

Bitterne Park School presented a cheque for £6185.05 raised by staff, students and families. A group of staff took part in the Great South Run while students held cake sales and other events. Your donation is most gratefully received.

The Ride Against Cancer team have done it again and raised a fabulous £11,231.51 from their cycle challenge 2013. The team cycled the Southern Uplands Way which ran from Portpatrick on the west coast to Dunbar on the east coast. Total distance was in the region of 250 miles, climbing over 28000ft, what a challenge! The 2014 challenge in September will take on the dreaded Sam Helen Trail. Thank you so much to Stephen and the team for your ongoing support.



HMS Daring support PB from all around the world, no matter where they are posted. Petty Officer Squance visited the ward looking crisp in his uniform and presented a cheque for £1,700 on behalf of the Warrant Officers and Senior Ratings Mess. He took away with him a fabulous poster of the children enjoying themselves both on and off the ward to help the team on board know how valuable their contributions are. Huge thanks for your donations.



The Whiteley Rotary Club competed in a Dragon Race in support of our ward and presented a cheque for £1000.

Our projects

Alderholt Sports and Social Club

have organised many events, including a challenging walk from Durdle Door to Bournemouth Pier and a family fun day and beer festival.



The walk alone raised more than £4,000 as the hardy bunch started in near darkness, negotiated sharp rises and falls, fought through aching limbs and jaded enthusiasm. However the rapturous applause lifted all spirits and the group completed their challenge with arms linked overcome with emotion. **Thank you all so much for your contribution.**

'U Support' have provided a pair of tickets for every Saints home match for the 2013-14 season and will be able to do so again for the 2014-15 season. We also have access to Pompey tickets through the season. Football fans have delighted in attending the matches and continue to be exceptionally grateful to 'U Support' for their generosity.

The directors at **Paulton's Park** continue to support our families by contributing to projects and giving tickets through the year for families to enjoy when health and treatment allow.



As many of you will know our major project for this year is the play room and school room refurbishment, scheduled to start in October.

This project is costing in excess of £40,000. We apologise in advance for the temporary disruption it will cause to families on the ward and visitors.



We are all very excited about the prospect of a bright play room and an inviting area for teenagers to use. Look out for details of our Grand Opening!

Hair today... gone tomorrow

While they go through chemotherapy treatment, seeing a young person losing their hair is a very emotive time. We have been inspired to share the stories of some friends and family who have recently shaved their heads to support those on the ward.



Aduma Massari says: ***“When one of our family friends was suddenly diagnosed with lymphoma, I wanted to do something to help. I felt supporting this unit was the most direct way to make a real difference. In July I had my hair shaved in Weydon School hall, and so far have raised £2,946.”***

Molly Hedger comments: ***“My brother was treated on Piam Brown ward twice. Firstly for stage four neuroblastoma, and recently he has completed a year of chemotherapy for osteosarcoma for which he had to lose his left leg and pelvis.***

During his most recent treatment, I was shocked that, when speaking to some teenage girls, they told me that the trauma of losing their hair from the chemo was greater than being told they had cancer! I thought they all looked stunningly beautiful without their hair, but could understand why having wigs made for them was very important. I have always wanted long hair



Joshua Whitby-Lear says: ***“When I was born I was rushed to theatre for a life saving operation on my heart. I stayed in the Ocean ward and luckily Mum could stay with me. My uncle was also looked after in the Piam Brown ward at Southampton Hospital when he was diagnosed with leukaemia. Sadly he passed away before I had the chance to meet him. I wanted to do something to show my appreciation, so I shaved my head!”***

Joshua is splitting the money between the Ocean ward and Piam Brown ward. So far he has raised £1,167.





Dates for the diary

Thurs 4 Sept	Lion King at The Mayflower Sponsored by WWL	Thurs 18 Dec	Marwell Christmas Experience Sponsored by WWL
Fri 24 Oct	Wicked at The Mayflower Sponsored by Lucy's Days Out	Thurs 18 Dec	The Snow Queen at The Nuffield Sponsored by Darren King Memorial Fund
Tues 28 Oct	Halloween Party sponsored by John Lewis Partnership	Fri 19th Dec	Cinderella at The Mayflower Sponsored by Sophie's Appeal
Sun 30 Nov	Santa Run with New Forest Dub Club	Tues 30 Dec	Cinderella at The Mayflower Sponsored by Lucy's Days Out
Fri 5 Dec	PB Teenagers Christmas Outing		
Sun 14 Dec	PB Children's Christmas Party at Concorde Club		

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.co.uk
We are keen to enable equal access to trips, so please give us your ideas.

Please ensure that you have given permission to be contacted for events.

Email Rachel on rachel.funnell@uhs.nhs.uk

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