

Beyond Cancer News

ISSUE 2 WINTER 2012

Welcome to the annual issue of Beyond Cancer News. Inside this issue you will find out what we have been up to in our second year.



A Listening Ear and a Hand to Hold

We have a great deal to be proud of this year and are thankful that through your donations we have been able to:

- Provide a listening ear to women during their stages of cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Provide a holding hand for women attending hospital appointments
- Offer support to people at different stages of their recovery
- Provide support to those who have been affected by the diagnosis of a family member

With your help, we hope to continue providing this support.

Fundraising Fashion Show

In March, Pat Case and Isola Blair joined other women in the Haven Breast Cancer Support Blossom Fundraising Fashion Show. Cheered on by over 200 guests which included family and friends, both women had the opportunity to be pampered and dressed in a range of high street and designer fashion outfits.

Commenting on the experience Pat and Isola said:

"The event was a fantastic opportunity to be with so many brave and wonderful women who had been on the same journey as ourselves and to also say thank you to The Haven for their valuable support".



Pat Case and Isola Blair

Charity Status

After months of hard work Beyond Cancer was awarded Charitable Status in May 2012 by the Charity Commission. This major achievement marked the next stage of the charity's work.

Becoming a registered charity will enable the organisation to go from strength to strength and continue its positive work.

Special Wishes Programme

The launch of the **Special Wishes Programme** has been a great achievement for the Charity and is having a very positive impact. Nominated by family and friends, wishes have so far been granted to 20 women. Specific funds and donations raised have provided a range of wishes including a laptop to help a mother create memories for her children during her last stages of cancer, gifts of flowers and much more. Due to this, we have received many positive comments from those nominated.

"Thank you Beyond Cancer. No words can express how much this gift means to me and my family"

"The flowers came at the right time as I was feeling very low after a day of treatment"

"I didn't want to throw my flowers away as they made me feel very special knowing how much people cared"

For more information about the **Beyond Cancer Special Wishes Programme**

please visit our website:
www.beyoncancer.org.uk



Annual Charity Ball

Young people from Abbey Grange Academy "Soul Band" and RJC Youth Dance helped Beyond Cancer to celebrate its 2nd Annual Charity Ball at The Marriott Hotel, Leeds. This talented group of young people brought to life the Ball message "Celebrating Young People". Showcasing their talent, RJC Youth Dance performed an opening piece which kept the audience hypnotised. Playing throughout the evening, music from Abbey Grange Academy "Soul Band" got people on their feet dancing and singing to their renditions of new and old familiar songs.



Abbey Grange Soul Academy



RJC Youth Dance

The event was attended by 230 people from diverse communities across the country, many of whom came back to celebrate and enjoy the event for a second year. The Charity was also able to maintain its commitment to extending special invites to 10 men and women who have had a cancer diagnosis, as part of their recovery journey.

The Teenage Cancer Trust was nominated as the main beneficiaries from the proceeds of the event. Keynote speaker Sue Morgan (Teenage Cancer Trust Nurse Consultant) delivered a thought provoking, light-hearted yet powerful speech on the work of Teenage Cancer Trust and the brave and interesting young people and their families she has met during her many years as a nurse. She went on to thank everyone present for their attendance and support, highlighting the positive impact donations have on young people and their families.

The Ball raised in excess of £3,400 and Beyond Cancer was humbled by the level of responses and support received from local businesses and individuals who donated their time and raffle prizes, regardless of the pressures of the current financial climate. Our third Charity Fundraising Ball will take place on 25th May 2013. For further information, please visit us at www.beyondcancer.org.uk

Charities who benefited from the proceeds included:

- RJC Youth Dance towards continuation of their health and wellbeing workshops with other young people
- African Caribbean Leukaemia Trust (ACLT)
- Black Health Initiative (BHI) for their work around Prostate Cancer
- The Haven Breast Cancer Care



Beneficiaries During 2012



Young Performers from RJC Youth Dance and Abbey Grange Soul Academy with Helen Bowen from Teenage Cancer Trust

*"Thank you so much for your donation of **£1,000** raised at the Beyond Cancer Charity ball in 2012. Your generous donation will go towards our specialist Teenage Cancer Units in Leeds. This will ensure that we can continue to provide specialist care and support for young people in Yorkshire with cancer."*

- ❖ **The Haven - £500** towards continuing to provide an outstanding quality of service and care, to help transform the lives of anyone in and around Yorkshire trying to cope with the impact of breast cancer.
- ❖ **Black Health Initiative - £500** towards development of their work around prostate cancer awareness.
- ❖ **The African Caribbean Leukaemia Trust (ACLT) - £500** towards their campaign helped to raise awareness and recruit new potential bone marrow donors and blood donors
- ❖ **RJC Dance - £150** for their work around dance with other young people to improve health and wellbeing.

2nd Year Anniversary Celebrations

On 2nd November 2012 Beyond Cancer celebrated its 2nd Anniversary and also marked the end of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the start of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. The event hosted at the Chapel Allerton Squash & Tennis Club was attended by a diverse group of 70 people of both genders and various ages, highlighting that cancer has no boundaries.

To mark the occasion everyone was treated to cocktails and cake. The evening included a light hearted yet informative quiz that tested everyone's knowledge about the charity, types of cancer and related facts. We received great feedback which included the following comments:

" I found out lots of facts I did not know about"

"I realised that lots of my knowledge was built on myths and hear say. I now know that there are lots of places I could go to find out facts for myself"



Beyond Cancer Board Members

Farewell & Welcome

Beyond Cancer said farewell to original Board Members Vicky Johnson and Sharon May. We thank them for their hard work, sharing their skills, commitment to cancer awareness and the development of Beyond Cancer. Their ongoing support is greatly acknowledged and we wish them all the best for the future.

We also welcomed Pat Saunders, who is already making a positive impact to the work of Beyond Cancer with her communication skills, shown in the development of our new website.

Remembering Primrose James aka "Prim" aka "Sister P"

Members of the Beyond Cancer Board would like to recognise the contribution that Prim has made to the fight against breast cancer. Diagnosed during the same year (2010) as members of the Board, she provided a listening ear, encouragement and laughter to many of us during our lowest times. This was mutually returned when she too needed the same support.

In recognition of her unconditional support and fight, Prim was always on Beyond Cancer Charity Ball specially invited guest list. Sharing her great skills as a "DJ" she showed her support to the cause by playing at our 1st anniversary celebration in October 2011. We are humbled by Prim's fight and all that she did to bring the discussion about breast cancer out into the open.

She will be greatly missed by us all.

Sunrise: 12th December 1962– Sunset: 25th December 2012



Photo courtesy of Ty Lawrence

Website

The Beyond Cancer Charity website was launched on 2nd December 2012 and will be used to keep you up to date with our fundraising activities and how we use the money raised.

Please visit us at www.beyondcancer.org.uk

Contact Us



beyondcancer@hotmail.co.uk



Beyond Cancer
P.O. Box 463
Leeds
LS17 1HQ



07549 705 457



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