

# SUSSEX MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE

## The Final Push for a Cancer Support Centre for Sussex – only £500k to go!

Macmillan are thrilled to announce that £3.2 million has now been raised towards the target of £3.7m.



### Build and Service Developments

Martin Hickey of Jerrum Faulks Construction, Project Leader for the centre, says 'Work on the build has been making steady progress over the last 8 months and the good weather has helped make headway. We have a fantastic team on board and the morale is extremely good, even hosting our own World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Site.'

Geoff Brown, Macmillan's Service Implementation Manager for the centre, added: 'The site has been cleared and the foundations have been built. The construction is expected to be complete and the building ready to open to the public in September 2015.'



In addition to continuing to develop wide-ranging services including specialist cancer information and advice, welfare benefits advice, counselling services, complementary therapies, physical activity support, practical support, dietary advice and self help and support groups, over the last few months service users, health professionals and representatives of organisations offering body image support have met to map out current sources of Body Image support in Sussex. They discussed what the gaps in services and information are and what this means for the Body Image services that should be developed at the Sussex Macmillan Cancer Support Centre. Over the next twelve months work will take place to follow up on the discussions and develop a range of services to provide Body Image support. This will include:

- *Hair and wig support*
- *Make up and beauty advice and guidance*
- *Skin, nail and personal hygiene advice and guidance*
- *Clothing, underwear and swimwear information and advice*
- *Emotional support with the impact of Body Image issues*
- *Fitness activities and advice*
- *A range of complementary therapies*

Please contact [gbrown@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:gbrown@macmillan.org.uk) if you would like either electronic or printed copies of the East or West Sussex "Questions about Cancer" leaflets.



## Supporting the Appeal

Geoff Stonebanks, Chair of the Driftwood Fundraising Committee, who raised over £10K for the appeal this summer, commented 'Initially I started to raise money for the new Macmillan cancer centre through charging for private visits to my own garden and organising a raffle of artist-donated work each year. I finally persuaded the TV gardener, Christine Walkden, to become patron of a new garden trail I conceived and organise each year. The Macmillan Coastal Garden Trail has gone from strength to strength. We had 9 gardens in 2012, 20 in 2013 and an amazing 31 in 2014. Over the last 4 years the Driftwood Fundraising Group that I chair has raised £23,178 for the appeal.'



We would be grateful to hear from anyone interested in opening up their own garden in 2015. Please contact Geoff on [01323 899296](tel:01323899296) and check out the trail web site at [www.macmillangardentrail.co.uk](http://www.macmillangardentrail.co.uk)

## Corporate Partners Supporting our Appeal

Macmillan have been delighted by the spirit of the business community in and around Brighton and are of course keen to work with more businesses to increase the profile of the build and services to follow. Our huge thanks go to the below - just a few of the companies we are working with who are directly fundraising for the centre.

**Southern Water** continue to support the centre with their fundraising. They are a fantastic example of how local companies can directly affect local causes and improve the lives of vulnerable people within the community. Kevin Buck MBE, charities Manager of Southern Water, explained 'The new Macmillan Cancer Support Centre being built in Brighton will be at the heart of the Southern Water operational area and will significantly improve the lives of people affected by cancer locally. Our staff are engaged in a range of fundraising activities including the World Biggest Coffee Morning and in December we are hosting our annual charity ball for over 400 guests at the Millennium, Effingham Park where Macmillan will be one of three beneficiaries on the night.'



Having been chosen as the charity of the year for the second year by **Rocket Marketing Group** of Brighton we are thrilled that they have so far raised an amazing £3,478 through staff fundraising. Our thanks go to the young and vibrant team.

**Mayo Wynne Baxter Solicitors** will soon be approaching their second year of fundraising for the centre and we've been bowled over by the enthusiasm, creativity and vigour of their staff. From the entire Board of Directors taking part in the Ice Bucket Challenge - in suits - to self organised 100 mile bike rides, half marathons, cake sales, dress down days, car boot sales and much more. They have raised almost £5,000 towards the centre build with plenty of plans in the pipeline for 2015.



**The Trevor Sorbie Salon** in Brighton has been extraordinarily generous and creative in fundraising solely for the centre. Through client evenings, in house promotions and coffee mornings they have raised nearly £1,000 towards the build with plans to do more.

Our **World's Biggest Coffee Morning** in September saw hundreds of local businesses host their own coffee mornings in aid of the centre. Our huge thanks go to the Theatre Royal Brighton, Small Batch Coffee, Scoop And Crumb, Man Bites Dog PR, Athena Networking Groups, American Express Brighton, Dental Health Spa, myhotel, Bagelman, and Mishon Mackay Estate Agents to name but a few. The Brighton Wheel even turned green for us on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September! Not only have these companies raised vital pounds, but the awareness they raise for us is invaluable.



### **Our Truly Wonderful Committees**

Across the county, the continued enthusiasm and determination of the Macmillan fundraising groups and committees is vital to bringing the centre to life and we'd like to say a huge thank you to all those who have tirelessly held events throughout the year. Beryl Moffat, Chair of the Brighton and Hove Committee, says 'The Committee has been raising money for the Sussex Centre for the past 5 years. Monies have been raised through a range of different activities including collections, lunches at top class restaurants, private parties, fashion shows, and race nights. We are committed to seeing the completion of the build and are looking forward to visiting the site in the new year, to see for our own eyes the difference these funds have made.' Special thanks must also go to the fantastic ladies of the Uckfield Committee who this year alone have raised over £35,000, to the Mid-Sussex committee, based in Haywards Heath, who have already raised over £25,000 in 2014, and indeed to Hastings' fantastic 'Poppy Club' (Chair, Doreen Upwood pictured above, left) who at their 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' alone raised more than £2,500 towards the centre appeal.



### **Local Media Coverage and What's Coming Up**

We've been delighted to be on the building site throughout the development and to have been joined by the **Argus** and **Latest TV**. A very big thank you from the Macmillan in Sussex team to the local media, who continue to help promote our work and offer us free advertising where possible.

We're very excited to have announced the 4<sup>th</sup> **Splash of Green Ball** to be held in celebration of the completion of the build on June 27<sup>th</sup> 2015. Hosted at The Grand Hotel in Brighton, this gala dinner will be green, glitzy and gorgeous and all made possible by long standing supporter Della Lamden who now sits as Chair of the Sussex Macmillan Cancer Support Centre's Service User Group. [www.splashofgreen.info](http://www.splashofgreen.info)

### **And Finally...**

It's impossible for us to list all the wonderful supporters and volunteers who have made the build possible thus far, but Macmillan would like to take this the opportunity to thank the incredibly energetic and generous committees, groups, clubs, companies and individuals across Sussex for the endless fundraising and awareness raising they continue to do to support the appeal. In particular, we would like to express our continued huge thanks and gratitude to the Fundraising Committees of Sussex who have now collectively raised £728,420 towards the costs of the centre, more than £140,000 in 2014 alone!

For more information around the [Sussex Macmillan Cancer Support Centre](http://www.sussexmacmillan.org.uk) and ways in which you can support and donate please click on the above link or contact Sussex Fundraising Manager Sarah Coxhill [scoxhill@macmillan.org.uk](mailto:scoxhill@macmillan.org.uk)