

Leukaemia Busters

NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2006

Welcome to our new-look newsletter – the new format means you’ll get a copy every quarter so you can stay right up to date with what’s going on at Leukaemia Busters.

The revamp goes wider than just the newsletter – there have been some major organisational changes too. Our founders are now able to devote all their time to research, while fundraising and governance issues are looked after by a new Chief Operating Officer’s team.

In this first year as Chair, I have been overwhelmed by the goodwill and generosity of people and by how much goes on in our name – almost every week throughout the summer there’s been an event happening somewhere that’s benefited us. This is so important – we keep our overheads right down by having a really small fundraising staff, so we rely on people like you to go out and make things happen! And happen they do – just look through the pages here and you’ll see all sorts going on, and there’s so much more that we don’t have space to cover. The report on the Purbeck Odyssey doesn’t do justice to the brave souls who tramped round

in the pouring rain or to the pair who ran thirty miles in just over 4 hours and were barely puffed!

There is one tiny thing you can do for us today – please fill in the form on the back of this newsletter and send it back to us. That way we will know you’re still out there and we can make sure we send you details of the things you might be interested in. If you want to get involved then let us know – we desperately need volunteers to support all aspects of our work.

Good luck to all of you embarking on endeavours on our behalf: as I write I know there are two of you completing a walk across the Pyrenees, someone tending their blisters from trekking the Inca Trail, runners in training for the Great South Run and a group getting on their bikes from Lands End to John O’Groats. Sponsor them or be inspired by them, but do join them in supporting our Forever Forward campaign.



Steve Christie
Chair of Trustees



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Reg. Charity No. 1010957

LETTER FROM THE LAB

Many of you will recall the successes we had started to achieve in clinical trials with patients just a few years ago, before our work was interrupted by major changes brought in by the European Union Clinical Trial Directive. Many of you signed our petition at the time calling for allowances to be made to charitably funded work like our own. We're very pleased to report that finally after a lot of hard work and careful planning we are beginning to overcome the various obstacles that were created by the new European legislation and we are about to embark on a new research programme, taking the findings from our previous work and combining these with new ideas in search of the next generation of targeted drugs for leukaemia treatment.

As part of our scientific strategy we have teamed up with leading laboratories in Siena, Milan, L'Aquila and Verona and together we have started the process of developing innovative new antibody-based drugs to treat patients with relapsed or otherwise incurable forms of leukaemia and lymphoma. The project is funded by Leukaemia Busters for two years and we expect new drugs to emerge from this collaboration that will be further developed and tested for safety and effectiveness in subsequent clinical trials.

The Simon Flavell Leukaemia Research Unit at Southampton General Hospital has done us great service over the years and provided the base from which our previous research and clinical trial work was spearheaded. It is fourteen years since the Simon Flavell lab was first commissioned and it is now in need of refurbishment and re-equipping in

order to effectively support an exciting programme of newly planned research work. The start of the refurbishment is imminent thanks to the generosity of many people but in particular to The Conway Seymour Leukaemia Fund and State Securities who have both donated large sums towards this project. Some months ago we also launched the "Forever Forward Campaign" dedicated specifically to helping us raise the money needed for the refurbishment and re-equipping. You can make your direct contribution via our website www.justgiving.com/ffcampaign and help us in moving ahead to the next step in our important work that will ultimately benefit patients.

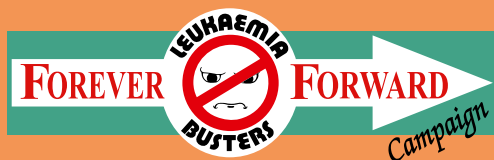
When you read Annabelle's story in this newsletter you will understand how important this work is to the hundreds of children like her who suffer every day not only from the impact of leukaemia itself, but also from the side effects of the drugs currently used in its treatment. Even though current chemotherapy is successful in curing three quarters of children with the commonest type of leukaemia, there are still a quarter who cannot be cured. Even the lucky ones who survive their ordeal will have to endure years of chemotherapy which can have unpleasant and lasting effects on the young body. That is why we are committed to developing new treatments that will offer a safer, gentler and yet more effective approach and thus make an important contribution to putting an end to this terrible disease once and for all.



Drs David & Sopsamorn (Bee) Flavell
Scientific Directors

FOREVER FORWARD

The Forever Forward campaign, launched with The Echo this summer, aims to raise £500,000 to refurbish and re-equip the Simon Flavell Leukaemia Research Unit at Southampton General Hospital. New research projects conducted here will harness the power of the patients' own immune system and work in conjunction with our antibody-based treatments: a double whammy which kills leukaemia cells dead.



www.justgiving.com/ffcampaign



PURBECK ODYSSEY 2006

276 walkers of all ages turned out in June to take part in a series of walks along part of Dorset's breathtaking coastline and, despite the inclement weather, everyone had a fantastic day.

Annabelle Beaumont, currently in remission from leukaemia, marshalled her Army of 40 walkers along the 7 mile Whale walk and enjoyed a return journey on one of the Swanage Railway's magnificent steam engines. Read her story on page 5.

Meanwhile Pete Roper from Shaftesbury set a new record of 4 hours and 20 minutes for the 'One Step Beyond' walk, running the entire 30 mile route with his friend Adrian Walford!

UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most comfortable way to do all your Christmas shopping in one place while making a difference to other peoples' lives, come to the Rockbourne Fair. We are delighted that once again we are a chosen charity of the Fair, to be held at Salisbury Racecourse from 18th–20 October. With 85 stalls in warm and dry surroundings, free car parking, a crèche, restaurant and bar, this annual event has raised over £88,000 for Leukaemia Busters as well as helping many other local charities.

In the pipeline...
get all romantic at Leukaemia Busters' Valentine Ball next February and go batty for a celebrity Cricket Challenge in May.

MATTY'S MAZE

Matty (Matthew Jon Crabtree) was diagnosed with A.L.L. on 13th June 2005. Tragically, he later contracted chickenpox, which remained undiagnosed until it was too late and he died aged just 11 years on the 20th July 2005 .

Matty was a fun loving, very active boy and loved his animals; horses, dogs, snakes, guinea pigs and a pot bellied pig. He was not a boy for sitting on a bench, so a maze was chosen as his memorial. The maze was opened with Matty's classmates at Waverton County Primary School on 20th July 2006.

Matty's parents, David and Julie, walked in aid of Leukaemia Busters "so that in the future it may be possible to avoid the chemotherapy treatment that makes all the children so ill and made Matthew's immune system unable to fight the chickenpox virus."



MARWELL FUN RUN

George Lewis and his friend Lucy took part in the Marwell Fun Run to raise money in memory of their friend Tabitha who suffered from Leukaemia and sadly passed away earlier this year.

EVENTS ROUND-UP

Both Dave Owen and Richard Shelton ran the Flora London Marathon in aid of Leukaemia Busters, raising £2,887 in total between them.



The sun shone for Hampshire Motocross Club's 10th annual charity motocross event at Old Alresford in July. Since 1997 this event has raised a staggering £114,000 in aid of Leukaemia Busters and it looks like the amount raised from this year's event will beat last year's fantastic total of £20,974.



State Securities, the Southampton-based asset finance company, chose Leukaemia Busters to benefit from their 25th anniversary celebrations and raised £45,000 from events throughout the year.



Nikki and Will Rysdale completed their challenge of walking the Inca Trail in June and have beaten their original target of raising £2,000 in aid of Leukaemia Busters.

Long time Leukaemia Busters supporter Brian Bright from Alton, Hampshire passed away in January this year. He and his wife Ann raised thousands for the charity through their popular Fantasy Formula One events and Golf Days. Brian will be sadly missed by the Leukaemia Busters team. Our condolences go to his family and our thanks to his mourners for their generous gifts to Leukaemia Busters in memoriam of Brian's life.





ANNABELLE'S STORY

Five year old Annabelle Beaumont was rushed into hospital with suspected appendicitis in October 2002. However after tests Annabelle was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL). Annabelle's parents, Jane and Mark Beaumont were 'completely shocked' when they heard the news.

Annabelle underwent two years of intensive treatment at the Piam Brown Ward at Southampton General Hospital. It was a very difficult time for all the family and her mum, Jane, found the harsh side effects of the treatment particularly upsetting. 'It was awful seeing Annabelle gain weight due to the steroid treatment and watching her lose her lovely hair'.

Annabelle was a fighter and responded extremely well to the treatment, which she completed in December 2004. Almost immediately she began

to support the work of Leukaemia Busters, raising money to help other children with the same condition, not all of whom experience the same success with conventional treatment. Annabelle and her family took part in the Purbeck Odyssey in 2005 and raised over £1,000 for research into more effective, targeted therapies for ALL.

This year Annabelle's family, friends and teachers from Knightwood Primary School, joined forces as 'Annabelle's Army' and took part in the 2006 Purbeck Odyssey. The fundraising efforts of Annabelle's Army have been tireless and their campaign of cake sales, football competitions and parties have so far raised over £3,000 this year. What a fantastic achievement!!!

Annabelle's parents, Jane and Mark, have been overwhelmed by the support they have received from friends and family during such a very difficult time and would like to especially thank the Mellors, Sharland, Shurville, Ives and Boyes families.

GET INVOLVED!



People all over the place are getting involved for Leukaemia Busters: walking across the Pyrenees, giving up smoking, jumping out of planes, running marathons, cycling the length of the UK, selling teddy bears, making badges, busking, playing golf. Lots of them have their own webpage so you can see what they're up to and sponsor them on www.justgiving.com/leukaemiabusters/raisemoney.

If you like the idea of really getting your pulse racing, why not try a parachute jump or whitewater rafting? We can arrange them for you any time of the year, and if you gather enough sponsorship, you can actually take part in one of these exhilarating events for free! Visit www.skylineevents.co.uk for more information or take the plunge and call us on 023 8063 6607 to book a place. Tracey Robertson did her first jump in April: "I found it so amazing and so surreal! I am desperate to do another jump and urge anyone who is an adrenalin junkie to do it – well worth it!" It certainly was – not only did Tracey have a great time but she raised over £500 for Leukaemia Busters.



Did you know that an estimated 90 million old mobile phones are hiding unused in drawers and cupboards across the UK. Where's yours? Fish it out – it's worth a fiver! Call us for a prepaid envelope, send off your old mobile and not only will we receive a donation but you'll

know it's been safely recycled: saving lives and saving the planet at the same time! Same deal applies to old printer cartridges too – call us on 023 8063 6607.



Having a clear out? Any ebay seller can now donate all or a proportion of their final sale price from an

ebay sale. Please visit www.missionfish.org.uk for more information about how the programme works and how you can get involved. Or, if the whole internet selling idea is a bit much, we can do it for you. Call us on 023 8063 6607 to find out more.



Say it with flowers – Charity Flowers are the UK's only flowers by post service where all the profits are donated to charitable causes. With a beautiful range of bouquets, chocolates and gifts to cater for all tastes and pockets and FIFTEEN PERCENT of the retail price going to Leukaemia Busters, what more excuse is needed to treat a friend or loved

one? Call the Charity Flowers Hotline on 08705 300 or visit www.charityflowers.co.uk, quoting the code LB.



Do you shop online? We have teamed up with easyfundraising – a shopping directory listing over 150

of the UK's best known retailers – and when you buy through them we will receive a contribution of up to 15% of every purchase. ToysRUs, Tesco, Woolworths, HMV, Comet, M&S, PC World, John Lewis, The AA, Grattan, Harrods and Amazon are just some of the brands taking part, and they offer all their usual on-line discounts plus extra offers for easyfundraising customers, so you save while we gain. Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/leukaemiabusters



Three ways to get free money from the government! Payroll giving

has always been a tax effective way to give money to charity and until the end of this year businesses with less than 500 employees can get a one off grant of between £300 and £500 just for setting up a payroll giving scheme – a process which takes hardly any time and costs nothing at all. What's more, the Home Office will match, pound for pound, the first £10 of each employee's monthly donations for a period of up to 6 months. If you're a higher rate taxpayer that means that every £20 we get costs you just £6! If you are interested in finding out more, go to www.payrollgivinggrants.org.uk or call us on 023 8063 6607.

Do you have any free time? Would you like to use your skills to help Leukaemia Busters? Without volunteers we would not be able to achieve as much as we do, and without more volunteers we can't do as much as we want to. Wherever you are located, whatever your skills and interests and however much or little time you can spare, the Leukaemia Busters fundraising team has a role for you.



Thank you to Ordnance Survey for the design and print of this newsletter.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Want to Learn More? Please send me details about:

- Tax effective ways of giving
- Volunteering
- Fundraising ideas
- Mobile phone recycling
- ebay
- Charity flowers
- Purbeck Odyssey 2007
- Valentines Ball
- Rockbourne Fair
- Hampshire Cricket Challenge
- Parachute jumping/white water rafting



Want to wear it? I would like to show my support for Leukaemia Busters with a:

- 'Bust it' wrist band (£1 + 50p p&p)
- Leather key fob (£3 + 50p p&p)
- T-shirt (size small/medium/large/extra large) (£8 + £1.50 p&p)

Please indicate how many of each you require and complete your payment details overleaf.

Able to give? Please fill in the form on the reverse.



Please fold here



Leukaemia Busters
 Southampton General Hospital
 SOUTHAMPTON
 SO16 6YD



Reg. Charity No. 1010957

My details

Title Forename Surname

Address

Postcode

Phone

Email

Become a friend of Leukaemia Busters

Please pay Leukaemia Busters £10 each month

Or my preferred amount of £ each month until further notice, and debit

Bank account number

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Bank sort code - -

Starting on (please allow 1 month from today)

Signed Date / /

To Manager (Bank name and address)

Postcode

Make a donation/pay for merchandise

I wish to donate/pay £

I enclose a cheque/postal order made payable to Leukaemia Busters

Please debit my MasterCard/Visa/CAF Charity Card

Name on card

Card Number:

Expiry Date: /

Signed Date / /

Give by Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, under the Government's Gift Aid scheme, Leukaemia Busters can reclaim the tax you have already paid on your gift. This means that your donation can increase in value by nearly a third at no extra cost to you.

Please tick the box below if you would like Leukaemia Busters to reclaim the tax on your gift.

Please treat this donation, all donations I have made since 6 April 2000, and all future donations I make to Leukaemia Busters as Gift Aid donations.

Signed Date / /

It doesn't matter what rate of tax you pay as long as you pay an amount of income or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations in that financial year. Please remember to inform us of any changes in your tax status.

If you prefer to give your payment details direct to one of our staff, please call on 023 8063 6607.

Please return this form to:

Leukaemia Busters, Southampton General Hospital, SOUTHAMPTON, SO16 6YD.

Thank you for your support! Together we can help make leukaemia a disease of the past.

I understand that Leukaemia Busters will hold and use data provided by me for administration purposes, to keep me informed of its activities and for occasional fundraising appeals. We will never make your details available to anyone else. If you prefer us not to contact you in the future, please tick this box.