

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

# MACMILLAN WHERE YOU LIVE

Midhurst Area • Autumn 2008

## Christmas with Macmillan in Chichester and Midhurst

We hope you will be able to join us for two very special Macmillan events this Christmas.

Thursday, 4 December sees the lighting up of the Macmillan Tree of Hope at St Mary's Church, Easebourne. Each year, we invite you to make a donation and dedication to remember someone who cannot be with you at Christmas. The names of those remembered

are entered into our Book of Love and displayed at the following year's service and by appointment in the Midhurst office all year round. The service begins at 6.30pm and includes music from local schools, followed by the switching on of the lights and mince pies and mulled wine in the refectory.

On Saturday, 6 December, the Macmillan Christmas concert takes place again in Chichester Cathedral, with music by the renowned Neath Male Voice Choir and soprano Elizabeth Traill. This seasonal concert of words and music features festive music, carols and celebrity readings. Those of you who came to our 2006 concert will remember performances by celebrities including Geraldine James, Rupert Penry-Jones and Sally Taylor and this year's line up promises similarly well known names from world of stage and screen. Tickets are priced at £15 and £30. A limited number of £50 seats include a champagne reception before the concert begins at 7.45pm.

Both events support the Macmillan palliative care service based in



Carols at the Cathedral



Midhurst Tree Of Hope

Midhurst, which provides care at home for cancer patients, their families and carers. Macmillan has pledged to raise £3 million to support the service over five years.

To order tickets for the concert or to remember a loved one through our Tree of Hope, please use the forms supplied with this newsletter or contact the Midhurst fundraising office.

# Volunteers needed for our shops

If you have a few hours to spare and enjoy good company, varied work, meeting new people and raising money for a great cause, why not volunteer in one of our two Macmillan charity shops?



Shops Manager, Dawn Conway (left), with some of our Midhurst shop volunteers

Our outlets in Midhurst and Grayshott always need willing and able volunteers to help with a variety of tasks. These include unpacking, sorting and pricing goods, ironing or mending quality clothing, assisting and serving customers, helping with window displays and making sure the shops are attractive, pleasant places for customers to visit and pick up a bargain.

Dawn Conway, Macmillan's Shops Manager, would be delighted to hear from anyone with just a few hours or a day or two a week to spare. Dawn said: "Our shops cannot operate without the many dedicated

volunteers who work in them and we are proud of all of them. So why not join us and give a few hours a week to help us make a difference to the lives of people living with cancer." Dawn can be contacted on 01730 816065.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Kirby Phethean, who set up our Midhurst shop 19 years ago and managed it as a volunteer until May when she retired. Kirby has been an inspiration to all volunteers and we would like to thank her for all she has done for Macmillan and wish her a very happy retirement with friends and family.

## Macmillan's holistic approach

Two million people – nearly double the previous estimate of 1.2 million – are now living with, and after, cancer according to new research released by Macmillan Cancer Support.

The new figures place even greater importance on the many services provided by Macmillan, including more than 200 information centres across the UK, which aim to promote a more holistic approach to the care for cancer patients and their loved ones.

One such service is the Mustard Tree, a partnership project with Plymouth Hospitals Trust, which began in 2005 and sees around 800 people per month on a drop in basis. In just one year, it helped cancer patients to claim over £1 million of benefits and has been described as 'a wonderful oasis in a desert.' The success of the Mustard Tree has been recognised

by Nationwide, which has supported Macmillan for 15 years. Staff at its recent AGM voted to provide an additional £250,000 which will be split between the Mustard Tree and another cancer information support centre in County Durham. These centres will be staffed by a full time information officer and will provide consultation and alternative therapy rooms.

In Portsmouth, a similar service continues to see great support from the local community, not just in donations, but in the time they volunteer. Benefits Advisor, Anita Muff said: 'Volunteers are vital to the smooth running of the centre. We are



Artist's Impression of the Mustard Tree as it will look following extension of the existing facilities, due for completion September 2009.

always looking for people to assist with all sorts of activities, such as those who meet and greet our visitors, through to more specialised skill sets, such as providing initial advice about the type of financial support that may be available.'

If you are interested in finding out more about Macmillan's centres, visit [www.macmillan.org.uk/get\\_support](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/get_support)

# Macmillan Christmas Concert

Chichester Cathedral, Saturday 6 December 2008 7.45pm

## Ticket application form

I would like to buy\*:

..... tickets @ £50 each to include a champagne reception at 6.15pm and best reserved seats for the concert

..... tickets @ £30 each for the concert (reserved seating)

..... tickets @ £15 each for the concert (unreserved seating)

\*please complete as applicable

I enclose a cheque made payable to Macmillan Cancer Support for £ .....

Please send this form with your payment to:

Macmillan Cancer Support  
1-2 Peachey House  
Bepton Road, Midhurst  
West Sussex GU29 9LU

marking the front of your envelope "Christmas Concert".

By enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of your tickets, you will help save our postage costs. Thank you.

Name .....

Address .....

Postcode .....

Daytime telephone .....

(if we sell out of tickets at the price you have specified, we will call you on this number to suggest an alternative)

## Prescription charges – a tax on illness

A survey for Macmillan has found that nearly half of all cancer patients in England are being forced to cut back on basic needs such as food or heating, in order to pay for their prescriptions. Nearly one in ten cancer patients under the age of 55 who do qualify for charges are unable to pay.

The results come over a year after the Government promised to review the prescription charges system in England, which currently only gives exemptions to people under 60 if their condition appears on a list drawn up in 1968. Since that time, the shift from inpatient to outpatient care and higher survival rates mean that cancer patients are increasingly liable for prescription charges, often for long periods of time.

In 2006, the Department of Health announced a review, the outcome of which is still

awaited. However it has subsequently announced that any solution must be cost neutral. Elsewhere in the UK, action has already been taken. In Wales, prescription charges were abolished from April 2007. Scotland is reducing charges for prescriptions and pre-payment certificates yearly and these are set to be abolished by 2011. Last year, Northern Ireland committed to a review as a result of Macmillan's campaigning and announced a price freeze on charges in April 2008.

Macmillan started campaigning on prescription charges in 2005 and is keen to make sure the message continues to be heard in order to bring about change. Anyone who is interested in lending their voice to the Macmillan campaign can do so by visiting [www.macmillan.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/campaigns)



**We are pleased to report that since this article was written, the Prime Minister has announced that prescription charges for cancer patients in England will be scrapped in 2009. Our thanks to everyone who helped us achieve this fantastic result and we hope that the Government implements this quickly and clearly.**

# What's on in West Sussex

19 October 2008

## Nellie's Walk

### Nyewood area

A choice of two walks (6 or 11 miles) in beautiful countryside, starting at 8am and 10am. Booking essential. Contact Les New on 01730 821257

20, 28 October,  
14, 17 November,  
1, 12 December 2008

## Film Nights

### Various locations

An evening of cinema in Pulborough, Rudgwick and Billingshurst. Films start at 7pm, for more information, contact Billingshurst Support Group on 01403 782105 or 784427.

8 and 22 November 2008

## Village Crafts

Visit our stall at craft fairs in Chiddingfold and Steyning, from 10am to 4.30pm. For more information, contact Billingshurst Support Group on 01403 782105 or 784427

15 November 2008

## Midhurst and Petworth street collections

### Midhurst and Petworth

If you have an hour or two to help raise funds in Midhurst and Petworth, we would love to hear from you. Volunteers needed during the day from 9am. Contact the fundraising office on 01730 816065

4 December 2008

## Macmillan Tree of Hope

### St Mary's Church, Easebourne

Macmillan's annual service and lighting up ceremony to remember those who cannot be with us this Christmas. The evening starts at 6.30pm. Please call 01730 816065 to make a donation and dedication

6 December 2008

## Macmillan Christmas Concert

### Chichester Cathedral

A seasonal evening of readings and music with the Neath Male Voice Choir, soloist and celebrity readers. The evening starts at 7.45pm. Tickets cost £15, £30 and £50 and are available from the Midhurst fundraising office or shop.

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## Hello to our new Sussex fundraising team!

Across East and West Sussex, Macmillan's fundraisers are working hard to raise as much money as possible for people affected by cancer. New faces include Mandy Kendall, Fundraising Manager based in the



Our Sussex fundraising team in Hove

Midhurst office and Dawn Conway, Shops Manager, also based in Midhurst. A new Fundraising Support Assistant is soon to be appointed for Midhurst, to take over from Karen Lang, who sadly left us in June. An enormous thank you must go to Karen for her many years of hard work and support for Macmillan – she will be very much missed by our supporters in Midhurst. In our Hove office, Tristram Jones and Jane Eaton are our Fundraising Managers, ably supported by Laura Palmer, Fundraising Support Assistant. The Sussex team looks forward to helping you with any enquiries or advice on your fundraising events and activities. Mandy and



Mandy, our Midhurst based Fundraising Manager

Dawn can be contacted in Midhurst on 01730 816065; Jane, Laura and Tris in Hove on 01273 746601.

Macmillan Cancer Support, Midhurst and West Sussex Fundraising Office, 1-2 Peachey House, Bpton Road, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9LU Tel 01730 816065 Fax 01730 817727 [www.macmillan.org.uk/westsussex](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/westsussex)

Macmillan Cancer Support, Sussex Fundraising Office, c/o Natwest, 103 Church Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 2BF Tel: 01273 746601 Fax: 01273 729251 [www.macmillan.org.uk/eastsussex](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/eastsussex)

Macmillan CancerLine 0808 808 2020

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