

MACMILLAN WHERE YOU LIVE

Shropshire and Staffordshire • Spring 2009

New information officer for Macmillan in Stoke

We are delighted to welcome Linda Hough, Information Officer, onto the Macmillan Team in Staffordshire. Linda is based at the Lymes Cancer Information and Support Centre in Stoke on Trent.

Linda provides help regarding grants and benefits available to cancer patients as well as information regarding their diagnoses and treatments, together with emotional support.

With 8 years as a Medical Secretary in Oncology, Linda has a vast wealth of knowledge to draw on. She also has a BSC Hons in health and social

care from the Open University which she has taken over the past 6 years whilst working full time, and has just enrolled for a diploma in psychotherapeutics at Derby University prior to starting her masters degree in counselling in September.

Linda said;

'I wanted to be a part of Macmillan Cancer Support as it is the "Gold Standard" when it comes to providing patients with information – just the right amount at the right time.'

Linda is looking forward to working with colleague Shirley Taporek to develop the Lymes, and to reach more people who receive a cancer diagnosis. She's also looking forward to getting involved in local Macmillan events.

Outside of work Linda is a very busy lady. She enjoys walking her dog, gardening, pilates, art and crafts and has recently taken up Le Roc dancing



Linda Hough

with her husband and joined a ladies choir!

Our teams of Macmillan Professionals in Staffordshire and Shropshire make a huge difference to the lives of local people. By 2010 we want to be able to reach every single person who is diagnosed with cancer. Through our services, we aim to be there for them at every stage of their cancer journey, no matter who they are, what part of the country they live in, or what type of cancer they have.



Shirley and Linda at The Lymes



Margery James

Great news for volunteering in Shropshire and Staffordshire!

Here in the Shropshire and Staffordshire fundraising team, we have a lot to be excited about. We were delighted to hear that Margery James, Chair of the Oswestry Committee, was awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours list, for her services to Macmillan, spanning over 30 years.

Margery says she was originally coaxed into joining her local fundraising committee by a friend in 1976, maintaining that she 'didn't want to get too involved.' Three years later, Margery became the committee's chairperson and has never looked back!

Her team have collectively raised over £310,000 for Macmillan to date.

'Everyone is thrilled that I

was picked for my MBE,' comments an overjoyed Margery. 'I even received a letter from my local MP inviting me for lunch at Westminster when I'm in London for the ceremony.'

Shropshire's County Chair, Jill Eade, echoes the thoughts of all at Macmillan when she says; 'I'm delighted that Margery has received this recognition, after many years of support for Macmillan.'

On your marks

Now that the days are getting longer there are few excuses for not getting out in the fresh air and taking part in some of Macmillan's marvellous events. Whether it's a walk, bike ride, a run or something a little more unusual, this year we've made it even easier for you to find out more.

There's something for everyone no matter how fit you are or where you live, from moonlight walks across the Malverns or the Camel trail, cycling through Warwickshire or Dorset, to pounding the streets of Bristol or Birmingham, taking to the water in a coracle in Shropshire or even swimming from Padstow to Rock. You could even walk across England on the 290 mile Macmillan Way!

If you have younger members of your family at school, or if you or your friends are teachers, we know that the Macmillan Big Sports Day will really grab your interest. New for 2009, it's easy to join in. You could simply hold

your school sports day as usual, but ask every pupil to bring in a suggested £1 donation. How about a sponsored teacher's race? All children love to see their teacher's letting their hair down. You could make it a little more interesting and have a three-legged, fancy dress race or even an obstacle race complete with Macmillan space hoppers and sacks!

Visit www.macmillan.org.uk/Get_Involved and click on any of the event types or 'In your area' to find out more. If you'd like to register for the Big Sports Day, all the info you need is at www.macmillan.org.uk/bigsportsday or you can call 0845 601 1716.



Building our team – could you be a part of it?

As our new fundraising team takes shape, following some staff changes in 2008, we're looking forward to including more volunteers in our work, to help us to provide great support to all of our supporters, and to reach new audiences.

We have a range of roles available, and would love to hear from anyone who may be interested in getting involved. From collections co-ordinators to office administration assistants, to Macmillan representatives to speakers, we're keen to build our team, and to

build our capacity to raise both profile and income for Macmillan. Fundraising managers Anne-Marie Davies (Staffordshire) and Sara Thomas (Shropshire), are looking forward to supporting our valued volunteers across the area, and to welcoming

the contributions of new volunteers. We asked Jill Eade, Shropshire County Chair, to sum up what she enjoys about volunteering with Macmillan. 'It's fun meeting new people,' she replied, 'and feeling part of a team working with a very worthwhile organisation, to help people who are living with cancer.'

For further information about volunteering opportunities within the Shropshire and Staffordshire fundraising team, please contact Sally Rimmer, Area fundraising



Jill Eade

manager, on 01743 452084 or srimmer@macmillan.org.uk

Dive in and lend a hand

At the end of 2008, Macmillan made a splash on TV and radio, in newspapers, magazines, in your high street and online, with a campaign to raise awareness of our services and the support we offer. Many of you got involved in different ways, from putting up Macmillan posters in your local doctor's surgeries and libraries to allowing us to share your story with journalists. Huge thanks to everyone who took part in this massive joint effort, but what did we achieve?

More than 40 million people across the UK saw a Macmillan advert, and nearly 160,000 people visited our website. The campaign prompted over 7,000 people to give us a call – 69% of whom had never contacted us before. Put simply, it meant that thousands of lives were changed and many more people are now aware of the vital support we provide.

Before this campaign, we were reaching 1 in 3 people living with

cancer; we now reach 1 in 2. By the end of 2010, our ambition is to reach and improve the lives of everybody living with cancer. It's a tall order, but with your continued hard work and support we can do it!

So as 2010 approaches, how about getting more involved? You could volunteer with your local fundraising office. The opportunities are endless and don't necessarily require a long term commitment. Alternatively, why



not share your story with us, so that we can ask more journalists to write articles? This always makes a major impact on the number of people we reach and it's not as daunting as it may initially sound!

To lend a hand volunteering, call your local fundraising office, or phone Nicki in the regional communications team to tell your story on 01264 343807.

What's on

Friday 17 April & Saturday 18 April 2009

Dress for Less

Wrekin College in Shropshire is about to host a fashion frenzy! At this exciting event, somebody's hand-me-down maybe your hidden fashion gem for 2009. Friday evening will be tickets only, so make sure you're at the front of the queue. There will also be a champagne and canapé reception to make the evening one to remember. On Saturday 18th, the doors will be open for everyone to come and find the fashion bargains of the year. To find out more call the Shropshire fundraising office on 01743 452080.

Saturday 9 May 2009

Moulin Rouge Ball

Netley Hall, Dorrington will be transformed into a scene from the infamous Moulin Rouge. It will be a magical night of absinthe cocktails and burlesque, with a 3 course dinner and a charity auction! If you fancy a glamorous evening please call the Shropshire Fundraising Office on 01743 452080.



The Coracle Championship 2008

Friday 19 June 2009

Macmillan Coracle Relay World Championship 2009

Pengwern Boat Club, Shrewsbury

Enter a team or come along on the day and support this unique World Championship event. Refreshments and entertainment provided. First race at 4.30pm. To register a team of four, discuss corporate sponsorship opportunities or find out more, contact 01743 452080 or email sthomas@macmillan.org.uk

Sunday 26 April
12.30pm for 1.00pm

St Georges Day Luncheon

Enjoy a sociable afternoon with the Market Drayton Macmillan Cancer Support Committee at Cheswardine Hall, there will be a two course meal followed by cheese and biscuits. Tickets can be obtained from Sue Harrison on 01630 655678.

Tuesday 7 April

Bridge Drive at Sandon Hall

10am for 10.30 start £12.50 per player to include lunch. For further details please contact Keith Burton 01785 714386 or the Staffordshire fundraising office 01785 816892

Staffordshire Luncheon Club

The Staffordshire Luncheon Club meets at the Moathouse, Acton Trussell, and this regular event includes a two course lunch followed by a guest speaker. New members are very welcome: tickets are £18 for members, £23 for non-members, with a £10 joining fee. Forthcoming dates include June 29th, and October 19th. To find out more please contact the Staffordshire fundraising office on 01785 816892 or email bsmith@macmillan.org.uk

Plant a Bluebell in memory of a loved one at the National Memorial Arboretum

Purchase an English Bluebell bulb in memory of your loved one for a suggested donation of £5 per bulb, and in return you will receive a certificate. The bulb will then be planted in the Merchant Navy Wood at the National Memorial and will provide a sea of blue each spring. Our aim is to purchase at least 1000 bulbs ready for planting in September 2009 so that the carpet will appear for the first time in Spring 2010. If you would like to purchase a bluebell bulb please contact the Staffordshire fundraising office on 01785 816892 or email bsmith@macmillan.org.uk

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

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Macmillan CancerLine 0808 808 2020

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