



# The RWT Charity Newsletter

**Making a real difference to the lives of our patients, their families and staff.**

## Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter

The aim of our charity is to make things a little easier for our patients and their families. With the help of our tireless supporters we are able to provide additional resources not usually provided by the NHS.

Here is a quick round up of some of the things our wonderful supporters have been up to!

## Summer 2021

### Dudley college students fundraise for Macmillan Centre at New Cross Hospital

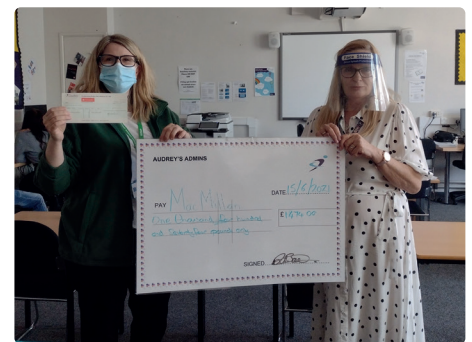
When Kelly Pritchard, Macmillan Centre Manager at New Cross Hospital attended Dudley College recently, she received a very welcome surprise! She had visited to give an information talk to Audrey Bartholomew (lecturer) and the OCR Administration Level 2 group A and B classes. To her delight, they presented her with a cheque for £1,474.00.

Each year the students select a charity to fundraise for. Due to Audrey's and some of the students' personal reasons, they made the decision this year to split the monies raised

between Macmillan and Cancer Research UK.

Audrey said: "The past two years have been difficult due to COVID-19 restrictions. We have been unable to visit other classes due to staying in bubbles and of course lockdowns. So we all came together and sold to family, friends and work colleagues. Yes it was hard, but they achieved what they wanted to do, and gave cheques to both charities for £1,474.00!"

Kelly said: "I am extremely grateful for this kind donation. Everyone worked so hard to come



**Kelly Pritchard and Audrey Bartholomew**

up with inventive ways to raise this money. This generous donation will go towards supporting those with a cancer diagnosis in Wolverhampton and the Black Country and I can't thank them enough."

# Updates from our Neonatal Unit

The charity team were so pleased to hear from Kyra and Javine Evans again recently.

Kyra was born by an emergency C section on March 6th 2015 and due to problems with her lungs was transferred immediately to the Neonatal Unit



Javine with Kyra

at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton for specialist care. She was nearly three weeks old before being well enough to be transferred to a hospital closer to home and was eventually six weeks old before being well enough to go home.

Mum Lisa Evans said at the time: "If it wasn't for the fantastic team at New Cross when she was born, Kyra's story could have been very different."

To mark Kyra's first birthday, her older sister Javine, who was aged 11 at the time raised over £700 in aid of the Trust as a way of saying thank you to the Unit that saved her baby sister by having her hair cut off. She also helped other children by donating her locks to Little Princess Trust; who provide wigs for children that



Javine with Kyra

suffer with hair loss.

Leanne Bood, Fundraising Coordinator for the Trust said: "Kyra is very lucky to have such a special big sister- it was lovely to receive an update from Lisa about how the girls are doing."

## Neo Mattress

A Wolves fanatic and charity fundraiser has raised more than £13,000 for The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Charity.

Jason Guy, who lives in Cannock, decided to raise funds for the Trust's Neonatal department at New Cross Hospital after his baby daughter Olivia was treated there.

We are so grateful for all of the wonderful ways Jason has fundraised for us over the past year, from selling his book 'Tales from the

Tape', to the Three Wise Men following a Star – Steve Bull – from Birmingham Children's Hospital to New Cross Hospital.

During the sale of 'Tales from the Tape' an anonymous supporter made a generous donation of £5,000 via the Steve Bull Foundation. This enabled the NNU to purchase their own specialist Neo Mattress using charitable funds, which would have normally had to be hired for a daily cost.

The Neo Mattress is



The Neo Mattress

specifically designed for neonates that have been compromised and are at high risk of skin breakdown.

Ebuwa Humphreys, Neonatal Matron, said: "We are deeply appreciative of the kindness shown to our department. We give our heartfelt thanks for the generosity shown to us with this wonderful gesture."



# Charity fun day raises more than £2,500 for Trust NNU

A couple have continued to fundraise in memory of their daughter for The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Charity.

Sarah and David Parkes, from Dudley, have been fundraising and donating items to the Neonatal Unit at New Cross Hospital since their daughter, Harper Hope Kennedy, passed away on the ward in 2019.

Harper was diagnosed with Necrotising Enterocolitis (NEC). The signs and symptoms of NEC vary between babies but can include inflammation of the lining of the bowel and damage or death of tissue.

The couple donated beautiful boxes for parents on the Neonatal Unit in February 2020, which was a fantastic surprise for our patients to receive during their stay.

Recently, they held a charity fun day and football match to raise further funds for the

hospital. Harper's Charity Fun Day and Football Match kicked off at the LMRCA Railway Club, where teams Sandwell Athletic and Wolves FC Supporters battled for the trophy. Sandwell Athletic took home the win with a score of 3-0!

To entertain the young attendees of the event, there was a bouncy castle, mascots waving hello at every turn, a sweet marquee and cake sale. And to make sure there were no grumbling bellies, there was a BBQ stand serving up burgers and hot dogs.

Nikki Farrington, Specialist Nurse Bereavement & Family Support, and Dr Richard Heaver from New Cross Hospital and Pamela Harvey from "Becauseoflouis" attended to show support during their event.

Unfortunately the weather was not on their side, but the rain failed to put people off and the event

raised a fantastic £2,630. An additional £180 has since been raised from an auction event and raffle which brought the total to £2,810.00!

Sarah and David hope to use the funds to raise awareness of NEC and are working closely with Nikki Farrington to achieve this.

Nikki said: "I met Sarah and David following the tragic loss of their daughter Harper in November 2019. They are truly wonderful, brave people who I feel honoured to have cared for during this time.

"I felt privileged to be asked to meet their gorgeous son, who was born earlier this year and to also to be asked to be part of their tireless fundraising to support the Neonatal Unit. Thank you Sarah and David for having the strength and kindness to help other parents in memory of your beautiful daughter, Harper."



Photos taken during Harper's Charity Fun Day and Football Match

# Happy Birthday NHS! - More than 1,500 miles cycled to raise funds for Trust Charity

The Wolverhampton Filipino Cyclists Association have completed their second charity bike ride to raise funds in aid of The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Charity in celebration of the NHS' birthday.

The group of cyclists also took part in our fundraising event '72 Miles in July' in 2020, where individuals asked friends and family to sponsor them to cycle, walk or even hop for 72 miles throughout the month of July. Those taking part could complete the miles throughout the month or during one day.

This year the group wanted to take it a step further to celebrate the 73rd Birthday of the NHS. The President of the Filipino community in Wolverhampton, Mr. Marlon Ante, wrote to us to express how pleased they were to be able to raise money once again for our charity and the Trust.



## The Wolverhampton Filipino Cyclists Association at the finish line

In a single day on Sunday, July 18th 2021 members followed the route from Wolverhampton to Birmingham, then on to Tamworth, back to Birmingham, before finishing in Wolverhampton. It took the members 13 hours and 28 minutes to cycle 73.04 miles, an astonishing achievement for them all!

Member John Fungo said: "It went really well and everyone made it back. I'm really proud of the team who kept going to finish the race during the hot weather.

"I want to say a big thank you to Rakky's Catering

Services who provided our food for lunch and for after we finished the cycling event. Their support was one of the key reasons everyone finished the event."

Their JustGiving page has so far raised a fantastic £311.25 including Gift Aid for New Cross Hospital's General Purpose Trust Fund.

Rachel Robinson, Community and Events Fundraiser, said: "I was thrilled when I received contact from the association asking if there was an opportunity to cycle for the NHS's birthday again this year. We're very grateful for their continued support."

## Keep your eyes peeled for more information about our upcoming fundraising days:

- Jeans for Genes Day – Friday, September 17th



- A collaboration with the Macmillan Information Centre for their biggest coffee morning – Saturday, September 25th



- Wear it Pink – Friday, October 22nd



For further information about the charity or how to support it, please contact our team on 01902 694473 or email [rwh-tr.fundraisingteam@nhs.net](mailto:rwh-tr.fundraisingteam@nhs.net)