



The Wight Brainy Bunch  
112 High Park Road  
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## Newsletter August 2017

Dear all,

Apologies for our newsletter being slightly late and not quite making it into July. It was a busy month for us.... We started with a vintage tea party; we were then lucky enough to be involved in the West Wight Tennis Tournament where we were their chosen charity in return for providing a buffet for 120 hungry tennis players at Westover House; Ryde slide came next which saw one of our lovely lady's being thrown down Ryde's Union Street on an inflatable slide just 10 months following surgery ... luckily, she had her homemade Wight Brainy Bunch helmet on! July also saw the "I Love Wight" Brading food market nominate us as their charity and donated their gate takings to us... And finally, another of our lovely lady's "Trina" threw a party last weekend and very kindly shook a few of our collecting tins and the very generous party goers have so far raised in excess of £100.



We were very pleased to welcome Professor Geoff Pilkington to our group on the 25<sup>th</sup> July and would like to thank everyone who came along, and hope you found it beneficial. We will certainly invite him back informally for coffee and cake! We also hope to invite other guests along who's services we believe will be of interest to you, including IOW Rehabilitation, The Independent living Centre and The Bay Holistic Therapies, among others in the coming months. But for now, our group will return to normal with the next meeting being on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm**.

Mark and myself have been fortunate enough to get to know 7-year-old Sophie Gully and her family. Not only are they one of the families The Wight Brainy Bunch have been able to support, but Jake (Sophie's dad), was also part of our Great South Run Team last year, himself raising funds for us. We are now following their journey as they have recently travelled to Jacksonville, Florida where Sophie will undergo Proton Beam Therapy and would like to send them all our very best wishes for the coming weeks. If you would like to also follow Sophie on her journey, you can do this through their Facebook page "Sophie's Fund".



On a sadder note, we were very upset to hear that our friend and support group member, Reg, is currently spending time at The Earl Mountbatten Hospice. Whilst his mobility may be suffering, his sense of humour and his immense love of desserts is still very much shining through, and I am sure you will join us in sending both Reg and Joan all our love and best wishes and to let them know we are thinking of them.

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August: Everest 13** – This will be a spectacle of an event arranged by Ryde Fire Station on Western Gardens in Ryde. Ryde Fire Fighters will endeavour to climb the equivalent of 13 Mount Everest's in 24 hours, clocking up over 71 miles. In aid of The Wight Brainy Bunch and Ryde Station's Charity Fund who help local families in their time of need.

**Email: [info@thewightbrainybunch.org.uk](mailto:info@thewightbrainybunch.org.uk) - Tel No: 07850255984**  
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**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August: Wight Brainy Bunch Skydive** – 17 crazy humans will be thrown out of a plane in the skies above Sandown Airport for our little charity, including Mandy and Nickie, both who have undergone surgery to have brain tumours removed. Two very brave ladies! If you would like to come along, we will be jumping in the morning and would welcome any encouragement you can give.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September: Fun Day at Rookley Village Hall** - This event in aid of The Wight Brainy Bunch has very kindly been organised by Karen Connolly to celebrate her 1 year anniversary since surgery. There will be bouncy castles, adult sumo suits, games, burger van, face painting and lots more. Thank you, Karen.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Nettlestone Primary School Road & Trail (RAT) Race** – This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Nettlestone Primary School have kindly involved us in their fun run. This is a 5 mile or 5km course around Nettlestone and Seaview. Perfect for beginners who would like to follow the “couch to 5k” challenge; either to kick start a fitness regime or purely to be presented with a very lovely medal for taking part. <http://www.nhs.uk/LiveWell/c25k/Pages/couch-to-5k.aspx>

**Saturday 21st October: Monster Mash Masquerade Ball** – **SOLD OUT**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Great South Run** – We will once again be taking a team to Southsea to participate in the world’s leading 10 mile road event, taking in all the iconic sights of Portsmouth Dockyard, HMS Victory and the Spinnaker Tower. Please feel free to support us either by running with us, joining us as a spectator or watching on tv.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November: Quiz Night at Newclose** – Many thanks to Tracy Asher for arranging this night to test your knowledge. Teams of 4. £2 per person. Lots of prizes to be won. More details to follow.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Market** – This will be our final event of 2017 and our first Christmas Market. This will be held at Ryde Fire Station from 10am-4pm. Entertainment throughout the day. Mulled wine, mince pies and plenty of festive treats. More details to follow

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December: Support Group** – Due to the small issue of the Christmas celebrations, we have decided to move our December support group forward by a week and would like to invite yourself (+ a guest) for a Christmas dinner as an early present from us! More details to follow.

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The Wight Brainy Bunch will continue to support families here on the Island whose lives have been affected by the devastating effects of brain tumours; Smile4Wessex (The Wessex Neurological Centre) who provide acute and specialist care to a population of approximately 3 million people from the Isle of Wight and across the South Coast, not only for brain tumours but conditions such as stroke, brain haemorrhage, motor neurone disease and dementia; The Brain Tumour Charity, to fund much needed research, aid early diagnosis and improve care and quality of life for all those living with a brain tumour and The Fire-fighters Charity, who rely hugely on donations to run their three centres in Devon, Cumbria and West Sussex, where they offer rehabilitation, recuperation and support to both serving and retired fire fighters and their families in times of need.

We look forward to seeing you very soon.

Kathryn and Mark

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