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## Newsletter August 2018

Dear friends,

Firstly, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Graham Gibbon, Yvonne and Suzanne who so kindly choose The Wight Brainy Bunch to benefit in memory of Anne. I know Graham and his family were completely overwhelmed with the amount raised and would like me to pass on their sincere thanks to everyone who so generously donated.

We seem to be saying this a lot lately, but it's been a busy three months and the charity seems to be growing at an incredible rate, particularly our monthly support group.

In addition to this, we've held a few of our own events and attended a few held by other people and these have also kept us busy.

Our ladies afternoon tea party was another success, despite the rain .... Although, this didn't seem to dampen anyone's day and we raised a brilliant £525.

We were this year's chosen charity for the "Shide to Spyglass" race on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. We are told this is just a "fun run", but this didn't stop Mark going all out on one of the hottest days of the year and arriving first at the Spyglass!



"For One Night Only" has kept all the ladies talking for a while!

Our Michael Bubl  and Tom Jones tributes were amazing, but the lads from Ryde Fire Station really set the room alight! The event raised £2600 for the Wight Brainy Bunch, with the firefighters raising a further £200 for the Firefighters Charity.

In July was Mandy's "New-2-You" Sale. Everyone enjoyed trying to find a bargain and of course, a cuppa and a cake! We are so grateful to Mandy and all her helpers for arranging this and raising £447 at Newport Congregational Church.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> July, Sandra Webb soared to dizzy heights over Sandown Airport as she completed a tandem skydive in aid of the Wight Brainy Bunch. Sandra was joined by her daughter Isabelle and son as they jumped from 10,000ft in memory of Simon Webb, father to her three children, who sadly lost his fight with a brain tumour on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017.



We are very grateful to APS produce (Wight Salads) who have adopted us as their charity this year, and are currently holding a series of cake sales and recently promoted us on their stand at the Garlic Festival with their friendly "Hippo" mascot sporting one of our charity T-shirts.



We would like to congratulate Colin Richardson, as he was recently selected by us for the charity place we have been awarded in the 2019 Virgin Money London Marathon. We received many wonderful applications and we feel that Colin is the perfect candidate to represent our little charity and we are thrilled that he has accepted this offer. Please support him on his marathon journey. <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ColinRichardson11>

August saw another 14 crazy humans taking part in a tandem skydive for the second year. We took to the skies under the expert instruction of "Skydive IOW", experiencing amazing views of the Island before jumping from 10,000ft, landing back at Sandown Airport. Whilst we don't yet have a total for this event, we estimate it will be in excess of £3500, which is incredible and we thank everyone involved in helping to raise this.

We would like to send all our best wishes to Alan Duffield and his lovely wife Carol who this month celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary! We hope you had a wonderful day and huge CONGRATULATIONS to you both.

A few weeks ago, we were able to give the go ahead to a slightly larger project than we usually undertake. The project was able to proceed sooner than planned due to the generous help of WightAid, who so kindly choose us for one of their grants. This enabled us to convert a window into French doors for one of our lovely families, allowing them wheelchair access to take their daughter into their back garden for the first time in years. Additionally, we were able to have a ramp installed for easy access to the garden and a power pack to be fitted to the wheelchair to make it easier to facilitate trips out of the house.



Finally, on a much sadder note, we are deeply saddened to have to pass on the news that we have lost three wonderful friends, whom we have met through our charity; To Julien, Abi, Ruth and Karen who sadly lost Melody on the 10<sup>th</sup> June; Dianne, Katie, William and George who lost Graham on the 15<sup>th</sup> June; and to Chris, Emma and Louise who said goodbye to David on the 5<sup>th</sup> August. We'd like to take this opportunity to offer you all, and of course your families, our sincerest of condolences and I know we will be joined by everyone from the support group who had the pleasure of meeting you all.

It has been an absolute privilege to have been given the chance to get to know you all, albeit under the saddest of circumstances and to go on part of this journey with you, and we are truly devastated for you all.

We are also honoured that you feel The Wight Brainy Bunch worthy of benefitting in their memory. This must be an incredibly hard decision to make at such an enormously difficult time, so please accept our heartfelt gratitude for choosing us. As you all know, our support doesn't end, we will continue to be in contact and of course you are always most welcome at the support group anytime.

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

#### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September: "IOW Gin Festival"**

We are thrilled to have been invited once again to be involved in the IOW gin Festival! This year's festival has had a change of venue and is now being held at Ryde Castle. We will be there with our very "GIN" related raffle with profits of this going to our little charity. Please join us 12pm-6pm.

#### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October: "General Knowledge Quiz"**

This will be the second quiz Tracy and Pete have held for The Wight Brainsy Bunch at Newclose Cricket Ground. It was a fantastic night last year so please get your team entered early to avoid disappointment. On a personal note, this is also our wedding anniversary so please come along and celebrate with us! Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Just £2 per person to enter. To book your team, please call 01983 527957 or email: [tracy71pete57@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tracy71pete57@hotmail.co.uk)

#### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October: "Wight Diamonds Marching Band Charity Concert"**

The wonderful Wight Diamonds Marching Band are holding a "Flights of Fancy" Charity Concert in aid of the Wight Brainsy Bunch at Cowes Trinity Theatre. Tickets are just £6 each and can be purchased in advance by calling us on 07850255984 or emailing Wight Diamonds on [wymb15@gmail.com](mailto:wymb15@gmail.com). There will be a raffle and interval serving ice-cream and a licensed bar. Tickets are also available on the door, on the evening, with plenty of parking on Cowes Parade. Concert starts at 7pm.

#### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October: "Great South Run"**

This will be our 4<sup>th</sup> Year of taking part in this race and where our fundraising journey started, so we always consider this event close to our hearts. We already have our usual culprits' kindly volunteering to run this gruelling 10-mile course through Southsea and Portsmouth in October, but we also have some first timers and there is still time to sign up if you would like to join us. A huge thank you to IOW Computer Geek for continuing to sponsor our running vests for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

#### **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: "Race Night"**

Join us for a night at the races, kindly organised by Kate Webb, at Northwood Cricket Club. 8 runners / 8 races .... Sponsor a race NOW for £5 (perfect for businesses to advertise) ... or become a race horse owner for £2 per horse... prizes if you own the winning horse... or of course come along on the night and place your bets and enjoy a great night of fun entertainment raising money for The Wight Brainsy Bunch! First race 8pm!

#### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December: "A Wight (Brainsy Bunch) Christmas Market"**

This date is now confirmed for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Market. We already have many wonderful festive stands confirmed and will endeavour to make this even better than last year! Once again this will take place at Ryde Fire Station from 10am-4pm with the turning on of Ryde Fire's Christmas Lights as we close. Please join us for a glass of mulled wine whilst enjoying some amazing entertainment from Cantobelle and Wight Diamonds Marching Band. Please keep an eye on our website (Forthcoming Events) and the Events tab on our Facebook page for more details.

#### **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December: "Support Group Christmas Meal"**

We would like to invite all our support group members (plus one guest), to our Wight Brainsy Bunch Christmas Meal. Due to Christmas again falling on the day of our usual support group, this will be cancelled, but as last year, we will host a Christmas Dinner a week earlier. The venue is yet to be arranged, but we hope to once again return to The Reef in Sandown. Please do let me know if you are interested in attending, as this will need to be booked in advance. More details to follow once confirmed.

#### **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December: December Support Group**

There will be no official support group in December, due to it unfortunately falling on Christmas Day. However, we will be hosting a Christmas Dinner for support group members a week earlier, on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December (see above).

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December: "Graham Sprack Memorial Go-Kart Race"**

Put your turkey on hold, as this is definitely a date for the diary. This event is being reborn after 20 years, in memory of dear Graham. Taking place in Havenstreet, the original Go-Kart Race was created by Graham and his friends and took place annual on Christmas Day morning for many years. Dianne, along with Grahams friends are hoping to recreate this tradition, for one year only, to bring this back to Havenstreet as a charity event to benefit our charity, along with Mountbatten. All karts must be homemade (with brakes) and you will need to be in a team of two. More details to follow.

We are so lucky to have such a wonderful community, who continue to support us and believe the Wight Brainsy Bunch is as necessary as we do, and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

Best wishes

Kathryn and Mark  
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The Wight Brainsy 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 and 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.

*All proceeds will be going to the WIGHT BRAINSY BUNCH*

**A+ QUIZ NIGHT**

*Where?* Newclose Cricket Club

*When?* Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October  
Door open at 7pm  
Start at 7:30pm

*Come along and test your knowledge!*  
(Or lack of it??)

**Teams of 4.. £2 Per Person**

Teams must be booked. call: 01983 527957  
Or Email: [tracy71pete57@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tracy71pete57@hotmail.co.uk)

*Raffle to be held on the night*

**WIGHT DIAMONDS  
MARCHING BAND  
FLIGHTS OF FANCY  
CHARITY CONCERT**

**19:00**

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
TRINITY THEATRE COWES**

50% OF TICKET SALES DONATED TO THE WIGHT BRAINSY BUNCH

To Book: Call 07850255984 OR Email: [wdbmb15@gmail.com](mailto:wdbmb15@gmail.com)  
Tickets £6 per person - Also Available on the Door

**RACE NIGHT**

**NORTHWOOD CRICKET CLUB**

20:00HRS

3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

ALL PROFITS WILL BE DONATED TO THE WIGHT BRAINSY BUNCH TO SUPPORT ISLE OF WIGHT FAMILIES AFFECTED BY BRAIN TUMOURS.