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Newsletter May 2019

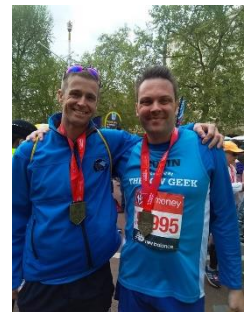
Dear friends,

As many of you will know by now ... Marks latest scan was not such good news and he will be undergoing further treatment in the near future. The charity however should be unaffected so please do continue to contact us in the normal way, for anything we might be able to help with.

We had intended that this year would be slightly quieter for us on the event front... but looking at the amount I have to tell you, I don't think we have quite managed this

Whilst we were in London for the Marathon, the lovely Karen, Mike and Mandy were holding the fort here as the Newchurch Male Voice Choir took to the stage at True Vine Church in Newport on Saturday 27th April, for the wonderful concert they held for us, raising a fantastic £754! Thank you to everyone involved in making this such a success.

Colin Richardson joined Mark at the start line of this year's Virgin Money London Marathon on the 28th April, after securing our one charity spot. This was his first marathon and he trained extremely hard for this and finished in a very respectable 5hrs 18mins, and raising over £3000. It was incredible to have two WBB vests running and two amazing gents who represented our charity perfectly. I could not be prouder. For anyone who would still like to donate on Colin's page, please visit: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ColinRichardson11>



We'd like to also express our sincere thanks to Ryde Co-op Funeral Care as they continue to support us through 2019 as part of their Community Partnership Initiative 'Love Your Neighbourhood'. So far, they have hosted two quizzes at the Dairyman's Daughter and a Hollywood themed afternoon tea at Woods Kitchen! Still to come is another Quiz Night, a Race Night at Newclose, a Black-Tie Ball at Lakeside and more, so please check our dates for your diary for information.



Also on Sunday 28th April was the 'Graham Sprack Memorial Cricket Match' which was held at Northwood Cricket Club. This was arranged by Graham's wife Dianne and his children Katie, William and George. The match between two of Grahams favourite teams 'Havenstreet Old Boys' and the 'IOW Disabled XI' were captained by William and George after observing a minute silence to remember Graham and other members of the team who are sadly no longer here. Donations poured in as spectators enjoyed afternoon tea and an amazing raffle, and raised an incredible £802! Thank you so much to Dianne, Katie, William, George and everyone who helped on the day.

A huge thank you to Trinity Theatre in Cowes for choosing the Wight Brainy Bunch as their benefitting charity for their annual Community Quiz, which was held on Saturday 11th May. Approximately 25 teams competed in the general knowledge quiz hosted by Pete and Tracy (Newclose quizzes), making this a fantastic event.

We are still considering holding a “Mindfulness Walk” along some of the most beautiful pathways on the Island, finishing perhaps with a cream tea or pub lunch. Please let me know if this would be of interest to you.



Our Bereavement Support Group continues on the second Tuesday of the month, at the Wessex Cancer Support Group in Lugley Street, Newport.

As you may know building work has commenced at the Wessex Cancer Support Centre, which may affect our support groups at some stage in the near future. If and when this happens, we will let you know a change of location for the affected time.

On the 30th May our very lovely Mary Haskett is facing her fear of heights and Walking the O2, raising money for us, whilst climbing to the top of the worlds most popular entertainment venue. To support her please visit: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MaryHaskett>

We are delighted to have been selected as part of ‘Charities Together’, who are a group of 6 charities working together to raise money for the local community. Charities Together is made up of: The Wight Brainy Bunch, Lake Craft and Chatter, Veterans Outreach Support, Isle of Wight Youth Trust, Challenge & Adventure and Dream Holidays, with support from Tesco. On 30th August we are presenting ‘Party in the Woods’, a summer concert in the Amphitheatre at Robin Hill. For more information please see ‘Dates for your Diary’.



What an amazingly generous gesture from newlyweds Joy and Keith Butcher, who requested that guests at their wedding blessing ceremony in April, donate to The Wight Brainy Bunch in lieu of wedding gifts. We are truly humbled that Joy and Keith consider our charity worthy of donations from their special day and would like to send our congratulations and very best wishes for the future.

We are very grateful to have been selected as one of the chosen charities to benefit from the entry donations from the Calbourne Car Boot Sales each Friday through the summer. Please pop along if you are able to.

Delighted to have Shanklin Hyde WI ladies raising money for us this year. They have already held their Spring Fair and there will be more events to come.

A huge thank you to Linda and her husband Martin who took part in the IOW Randonnee on the 5th May. This is just one of the challenges Linda is embarking on to celebrate her 50th year! Linda is still to take part in our Tandem Skydive in August, the South Downs 160km off-road cycle ride and finishing with the Boxing Day Swim at Ventnor! Please visit Linda's fundraising page to read her story and show your support: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LindaEdge3>



We have several events that we are hoping to attend this year with our charity stand, including the Festival of Heroes, Woolverton Fair and Jack up the 80's. Please do come and say hello if you are coming to any of these this summer.

Finally, please join us in sending huge congratulations to Martin and his lovely wife Joanne, who got married on the 30th April. We are also sending them our very best wishes as Martin undergoes further surgery this week. We are also sending best wishes to Karen and her husband Mike, as they also face more treatment in the coming weeks. We are thinking of you all.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 25th May- 8th June: Tesco Book Stall

Thank you to Jan, Community Champion at Tesco for arranging a bookstall for us at the front of Tesco for the next two weeks. We have an enormous amount of lovely books, so please do take a look whilst you are shopping and pop a few pennies in the bucket.

Saturday 2nd June: Clay Pigeon Shoot

We are honoured to have been chosen as one of the benefitting charities for this Clay Pigeon Shoot, in memory of Alayna Morris. The event will take place at Bowcombe View Shooting Ground on Sunday 2nd June. £35 per person - Teams of 4 or 5 people or individuals are welcomed. Refreshments and BBQ available **plus** Raffle and Auction! To book your team, please call Bob or Anna on Tel: 07866571010 or 07753814969.

Friday 7th June: Day Lewis Charity Day

Day Lewis Pharmacy at Carisbrooke Health Centre will be holding their Annual Charity Day on Friday 7th June, and have this year chosen to support The Wight Brainsy Bunch. Raffle tickets are already on sale. They will also be collecting donations for homemade biscuits and cakes, so please do pop along and see them. Prizes include: Camp Bestival weekend family tickets; Tapnell family day pass; Blackgang Chine voucher; Free MOT; Valentino restaurant voucher; Ada Meze restaurant voucher; Dinosaur Isle Museum family day pass; The Grange camping pass; 1 month gold pass 1 Leisure Medina/Heights. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to them for choosing to support our charity.

Monday 10th June: Ryde Co-op Funeralcare Quiz Night:

Join Co-op Funeralcare as part of their charity partnership initiative 'Love Your Neighbourhood' for their 3rd Quiz Night at the Dairyman's Daughter. To secure your team, please book a table by calling 01983 539361.- £2 per person to enter. Max 6 per team.

Sunday 30th June: "G and Teatime Secret Garden Party"

We will be dusting off the posh china for our annual Ladies Garden Party. The clue is in the title and as usual it won't be JUST tea served in our teapots! Please pop in for a cuppa or stay for the duration.... You are simply asked to donate whatever you feel your afternoon tea is worth. Please let me know if you are able to join me.



Friday 19th July: Co-op Funeralcare Race Night

Enjoy a night at the races, care of Ryde Co-op Funeralcare. They will be holding a Race Night at Newclose Cricket Ground as part of their ongoing support in 2019. More details to follow on our website and Facebook page, but there will be lots of opportunities to become the owner of a horse, sponsor a race or just have a little flutter on the night. Be sure to put this one in your diary.

Wednesday 7th August: "Charity Skydive 2019"

We will be taking to the skies again in August with our charity skydive. We have almost 30 brave and maybe a little crazy people taking part, and will be keeping our fingers crossed for perfect weather.

Saturday 30th August: Party in the Woods

Charities Together presents 'Party in the Woods', a charity summer concert in the Amphitheatre at Robin Hill. This promises to be a great evening of Island Musicians supporting Island Charities in a great setting. We have Blonde Bombshell headlining, with performances from Greg Barnes, The Rattlesnakes, Lunar, Usual Suspects, 30TEN and Dayita.

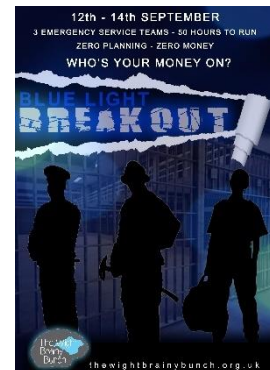
Tickets prices: Standard £8.00/ VIP (Limited - front row) £15.00. For more details 01983 527026

Saturday 7th September: Ryde Co-op Funeralcare Black-Tie Ball

Join Ryde Co-op Funeralcare for their Black-tie Ball in aid of The Wight Brainy Bunch at one of our favourite places, The Lakeside Hotel in Wootton. Enjoy a 3 course meal, Charity Raffle & Auction and dance the night away to Crabbies Disco. Tickets just £38 per person, but you can reserve yours now for a £20 deposit. To book call: 01983 615746 or email: rydefuneral@southerncoops.co.uk

Thursday 12th – Saturday 14th September: “Emergency Service Jail Break”

Support teams from the IOW Police, Ambulance and Fire Service as they make their escape from the Island and go “on the run” over a 50 hour period, competing to get the furthest away without spending money and collecting as much as they can along the way.



Saturday 19th October: “Cantobelle Concert”

We are thrilled that the three lovely ladies of Cantobelle have agreed to perform another charity concert for us. More details to follow.

Sunday 20th October: “Simply Health Great South Run”

Looking for a new challenge this year? Then why not sign up for this year's Great South Run and raise money for The Wight Brainy Bunch? This amazing event is where everything started for us, and we would love you to be part of our awesome team. You still have 5 months to train, so dust off the trainer's, grab yourself a WBB vest and we'll see you at the start line!

Saturday 2nd November: “Snow Ball”

Incredibly, our black-tie ball is sold out. But if you would like to dust off your dickie bow and ball gown, please join us as Ryde Co-op Funeralcare’s Ball on the 7th September at Lakeside. Please see above for details.

Saturday 7th December: “Winter Wonderland Christmas Market”

We cannot wait to return to Ryde Fire Station for our 3rd Wight Brainy Bunch Christmas Market. We will once again offer a wonderful array of seasonal stalls and entertainment to get you in the mood for the Christmas festivities. There will be plenty of festive refreshments available, including traditional BBQ and hog roast, or relax with a mulled wine, luxury hot chocolate, mince pie or sweet treat, while the kids have a bounce in our inflatable snow globe.... Our naughty elves are already busy preparing the “Elf Workshop”, where the little ones can enjoy a range of craft activities, face painting, and of course don’t forget a visit to our wonderful Santa’s Grotto!

Thank you to everyone for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

Kathryn and Mark
Xxx

The Wight Brainy Bunch will continue to offer emotional support and financial assistance to families here on the Island whose lives have been affected by the devastating effects of brain tumours.