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Newsletter October '22

Dear friends,

The months seem to be flying by and it is fast approaching the end of the year. The charity has become rather busy again and I can only apologise if I haven't been in touch quite as much as I'd have liked.

We are disappointed to learn that Newclose will be closing its doors with immediate effect and we will be looking for a new home for our monthly support group. Once we have confirmed a new venue we will share this with you.

As always, we are replacing our December Support Group with a wonderful festive Christmas Dinner at The Reef, Sandown. We'd like to invite you to attend as our guests. Please contact us to book your place. We will require pre-orders and the menu can be found at the end of this letter.

What an amazing day we had on the 30th July at Warrior Festival 2022. Thanks to all our sponsors who generously supported the event; Spyder UK Ltd and Ben for sorting the stage and sound, Sandown Airport EGHN and all their staff for providing our venue, security and facilities for the second year; HSS Hire, AMP Hire Ltd, Biffa Waste Services and Island Roads for all their support; to our compere Stan and everyone who generously donated raffle prizes and of course to all the wonderful music lovers and Warrior Festival supporters for attending this event. Extra special thanks to all the incredible Island bands, who selflessly gave up their time to be part of this second Warrior Festival. LASTLY to Toby Sleight ... We can never begin to thank you enough for all the time and effort you put into this... We feel incredibly grateful and honoured to be your chosen charity and excited for 2023!

A huge thank you to our 22 crazy jumpers who took to the skies above the IOW on the 10th August to jumper out of a perfectly good plane from 10,000ft raising funds for brain tumour families across the Island.

A huge thank you to Helen and Kristian Long for organising another hugely successful Isle of Wight Gin Festival on the 24/25th September. We know how much work goes into hosting these events and we are truly grateful that you chose to support us as your benefitting charity once again. Thank you also to all the distillers, stallholders and local businesses who so generously donated prizes for the bumper raffle in aid of The Wight Brainy Bunch. Extra special thanks to Annie Smith (Raffle Queen) and her A team of helpers, who looked after the raffle all weekend, raising an incredible £1312.00 for our little charity.

Thank you also to everyone who chose to wear a Wight Brainy Bunch vest and join us on the start line of the 2022 Great South Run ... It is humbling that each year we have so many amazing individuals who choose to represent our little charity for this special event and we are so proud to be part of it. A huge thank you to Gemma, Zoe, Rachel, Kelly, Caitlin, Rob and Mark

Tracy and Pete put another great Wight Brainy Bunch Quiz together on Friday 21st October raising a brilliant £289.50. Sadly this was the last quiz for the time being as Newclose closes its doors for the winter.

We are delighted to be the chosen charity for the Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra's forthcoming season of concerts at Medina Theatre where they will be joined by guest soloists. Tickets available here: <https://bookings.1leisure.co.uk/stellar2/centreStageBooking.php?#/55/55>

Massive thanks to Gordy (Gordy's Wood) for his recent charity donation of £1000. Anyone who follows Gordy's page will know how much he has supported us over the years, making regular donations to us and other local charities from each of his snowie sales. Gordy is only attending two events this Christmas and we are thrilled that one of them is our Christmas Market on Saturday 3rd December at Ryde Fire Station, so please be sure to come along and get your personalised snowman.

As many of you know, Ryde Co-op are running the most amazing bookstall in aid of The Wight Brainy Bunch, which has already raised in excess of £2300 since the beginning of this year! But their customers are love it so much, they quickly run low on books! So if you have any books in good condition that you would like to donate, we would love you to drop them in to Co-op to keep their stocks topped up. This has been a huge success so far, so please let's keep it going.

We're excited to have been selected once again as Southern Co-op Carisbrooke High Street's charity partner for the next year and look forward to working with them.

We'd like to send a special thank you to Jane Carpenter for gifting us this amazing donation of Lego in memory of her beloved son James, who sadly passed away in September. We know these gifts will be gratefully received and be of great benefit to some of WBB families.

Finally, our heartfelt condolences to everyone who has recently lost a loved one to this devastating disease. Sending love and strength especially to Jane, Nicky and Wayne, Steven and Kerry and all their families at this difficult time. Xxx

Dates for your diary 2022/23:

Saturday 12th November: Diamonds & Ice Black Tie Ball

SOLD OUT. Returning to Gurnard Pines for this year's Black-tie Diamonds & Ice Masquerade Ball. Join us for a sparkling drinks reception, two course meal and live music from the brilliant 'Strand-party band'. This event is almost sold out, so don't delay if you want to join us on this special evening. Tickets just £40 per person.

Saturday 19th November: IOW Symphony Orchestra Concert

The first of the Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra concerts supporting The Wight Brainy Bunch is being held on Saturday 19th November at Medina Theatre. We will be attending with a bucket collection in the interval. Tickets; Adults £16 / Under 18's £7. Box Office Tel; 01983 823884

Thursday 1st December: WBB Christmas Dinner

Join us for a traditional Christmas Dinner at The Reef, Sandown. This is our little Christmas gift to you and will take place instead of our December Support Group meeting.

Saturday 3rd December: Christmas Market

We invite you once again to step into Christmas, with an array of seasonal stalls, traditional refreshments and festive entertainment... Join us for a mulled wine and mince pie or choose those last minute special gifts... our Winter Wonderland has something for everyone!

Saturday 21st January 2023: IOW Symphony Orchestra Concert

The Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra 2023 season, supporting The Wight Brainy Bunch. Box Office Tel; 01983 823884

March through March:

Join us as March through March returns for 2023! Set yourself a challenge to march across the Island, walking the approximate equivalent of: A) Point to point (25 miles /40.2km) B) Round the Island (70 miles / 112.6km) C) Challenge yourself (100 miles / 160.9km). To register or more information, please email: info@thewightbrainybunch.org.uk. So, dust off the walking boots, get the whole family active and run, jog skip or just 'March through March'.

Date to be confirmed: Charity Race Night

We hope to return in 2023 with another charity race night. More details to follow.

Saturday 18th March: IOW Symphony Orchestra Concert

The Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra 2023 season, supporting The Wight Brainy Bunch. Box Office Tel; 01983 823884

Saturday 13th May: IOW Symphony Orchestra Concert

The Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra 2023 season, supporting The Wight Brainy Bunch. Box Office Tel; 01983 823884

Saturday 1st July: IOW Symphony Orchestra Concert

The Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra 2023 season, supporting The Wight Brainy Bunch. Box Office Tel; 01983 823884

Saturday 15th July: Warrior Festival

We are excited to be hosting the 3rd Warrior Festival on the 15th July 2023. This family-friendly festival invites everyone to enjoy a fun-filled day with an array of food options, bars and live music local bands. Tickets just £20 per person. Under 12's go free. Overnight camping available. More details to follow.

Saturday 29th July: IOW Symphony Orchestra Concert at Havenstreet Steam Railway

The Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra 2023 season, supporting The Wight Brainy Bunch.

Date to be confirmed: Charity Skydive

We will be taking to the skies once again in August 2023 for our annual Charity Skydive. So if this is on your bucket list, there is no better way to see the Isle of Wight. Email; info@thewightbrainybunch.org.uk

Sunday 15th October: Great South Run

On Sunday 15th October, we will be lining up on Clarence Esplanade at the start of the 2023 Great South Run. This event is where everything first started and really important to us, so if you would like to join our Wight Brainy Bunch team, please email: info@thewightbrainybunch.org.uk

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

We hope to see you all soon.

Kat & Mark.xx

The Wight Brainy Bunch continues 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.

G.F.O - Gluten Free Option

G.F - Gluten Free

V - Vegetarian

VG - Vegan



Christmas Menu 2022

Starters

Roasted Pepper, Tomato and Rice Soup (G.F.O/V)

Homemade soup served with homemade Focaccia.

Smoked Salmon (G.F)

Buckwheat Blinis and a lemon and dill cream.

Potted Pulled Pork

Christmas spiced shredded pork, caramelised apple cider chutney, homemade crostini.

Butternut Squash and Sage Puff Pastry Parcel (VG)

Rocket, orange and pickled onion salad with balsamic reduction.

Mains

Roast Turkey (G.F)

Traditional turkey served with all the traditional trimmings.

Slow Roasted Beef Brisket

Butternut squash purée, rosemary and spinach mash, poppy seed and onion tuile, red wine and mushroom jus and fresh vegetables.

Baked Cod Loin (G.F)

Baked cod loin on a braised squid, chorizo, potato and smoked paprika stew. Topped with an olive crumb.

Vegan Nut Roast (VG)

Roast Potatoes, parsnip purée, seasonal vegetables and a cranberry velouté.

Desserts

Blackcurrant Trio (G.F)

Blackcurrant purée, toasted marshmallow and blackcurrant sorbet, vanilla meringue and blackcurrant jelly.

Christmas Pudding

Chantilly cream and brandy snap crumb.

Chocolate Fondant (G.F)

Served with honeycomb ice cream.

White Chocolate Smartie Cake

Raspberry ripple and popping candy ice cream.