

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Macmillan Cancer Support is very grateful that the organisers of the Jedburgh Half Marathon have invited us to be one of the two charities showcased on their website.

Macmillan Cancer Support has been associated with the Jedburgh Half Marathon over the past years and we have received many thousands of pounds which we have used on projects in the Borders.

The MRI Appeal which was the main focus of our fundraising through 2004, 2005 and 2006 has now reached the £2m target and with the MRI/CT Unit at the Borders General Hospital fully operational alongside the Borders Macmillan Centre we can all take great pride in the achievement. Macmillan continues to look at ways in which we can help people in the Borders who are affected by cancer and through the CancerVoices project we are able to identify the services needed. (CancerVoices is a UK-wide group of 2,000 people who tell us of their experiences and the needs of people who have cancer.)

The new Cancer Information and Support Service at the BGH, led by Kirsty Wallace, the Macmillan Information and Support Manager, is an example of the development of services and our support for Kirsty's post and the other 18 Macmillan Health Professionals working in the Borders continues. Also our commitment to helping people with financial benefits advice and patient grants remains very important, and during 2006 we gave over £32,000 in grants to people in the Borders.

Macmillan's Patient Grants were one of our founder's wishes when the charity started in 1911. Douglas Macmillan wanted to help people with the financial hardship that comes with an illness.

This was from a Macmillan Outreach worker

I went to see XXX at home at the beginning of this week and she was 'over the moon' that she had received a grant from Macmillan so swiftly. She said that she would now be able to heat the water to have hot baths more often, and that would ease her condition and certainly reduce her anxiety about the fuel bill. The grant has already made a positive difference to her life and she wanted me to pass on her grateful thanks to you.

and this from a lady with cancer

I write with regard to your grant ... Like a lot of women (I imagine) the shock of diagnosis and the trauma of subsequent treatments renders almost all everyday matters ... as supremely unimportant ... Actually asking for help, especially financial help has been, up to now, impossible. I can't really describe how impressed I was to discover that your organisation have put into place mechanisms that cover EVERY aspect of life [even] those that we don't know we need until we discover we do.

With people from the Borders continuing to use our national services like the CancerLine and the website we are continuing to provide services people want – although we must never be complacent either in providing more services or in fundraising to pay for them.

We would welcome your help and if you would like to run for Macmillan Cancer Support I would be delighted to hear from you. If you think you could raise £30 or more for us I would be pleased to send you a Team Macmillan t-shirt or running vest.

Please contact me for more information by calling 01899 229059 or email me on dgrout@macmillan.org.uk.

I hope you can help us to make a difference to people affected by cancer. I look forward to hearing from you.



David Grout
Area Fundraising Manager
South Scotland