



# Charity Newsletter

Spring 2016

Registered charity no. 1054459

## Contact Us:

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Thank you to VMA Advertising in Headcorn who designed our new logo completely free of charge. It's much appreciated and looks great!

## A new name and a new committee



Welcome to the first edition of our new look newsletter! The Mid Kent Breast Cancer Research Appeal has changed its name to 'Breast Cancer Kent'. With the retirement of founder members Mr and Mrs Jones and their committee in 2013, a new team of Consultants, professionals and volunteers has continued the work of the original charity. Dedicated to raising money to improve the lives of people diagnosed with breast cancer in Kent, the charity funds projects and equipment for all stages of diagnosis, treatment, survivorship and wellbeing. It also assists in funding study days for the professionals working in the breast units. The charity continues to be run by volunteers who give their time and expertise completely free of charge, and so 100% of all donations, however great or small, go to the charity.

## Digital Breast Tomosynthesis (DBT) arrives at Maidstone Breast Clinic



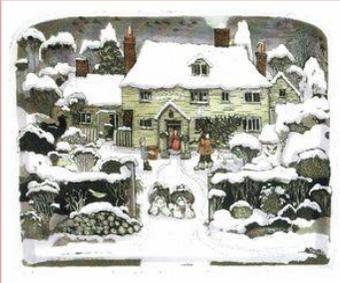
Thanks to the generous donations of many people over the last few years, the charity has been able to afford its biggest acquisition yet.

Digital breast tomosynthesis (or 3-D mammography) has arrived at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust and has been installed in the Maidstone Breast Clinic.

Digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT), otherwise known as 3-D mammography is a newly developed technology that can increase the detection rate of small breast cancers. This new technique has now been investigated in the UK and several European Breast Units. In the Oslo Tomosynthesis Screening Trial, the addition of DBT increased the invasive cancer detection rate by as much as 40% and showed a 15% decrease in false positive readings.

This is great news for the patients who are screened at the unit and is all thanks to those who've supported the charity so generously.

[www.breastcancerkent.org.uk](http://www.breastcancerkent.org.uk)



The artwork for our charity Christmas card this year was kindly donated by Graham Clarke. Sales of the card raised £1,019 for the charity.

### How to give.....

Would you like to make a donation or do you have a great fundraising idea?

Find us on **Virgin Money Giving** and search '**Breast Cancer Kent**' to set up a fundraising page.

Text '**BREA27 £(amount) to 70070**'. For example, to donate £5, text '**BREA27 £5 to 70070**'.

By cheque, payable to 'Breast Cancer Kent' and sent to the address on page 1.

Or via our website at [www.breastcancerkent.org.uk](http://www.breastcancerkent.org.uk) where you can download a Gift Aid form too.

We will try to acknowledge donations were possible, but please be patient as this is done by our volunteer committee members!

**Thank you.**

## Laura's Ball is a great success



September 2015 saw the return of 'Laura's Ball' at Oakwood House, Maidstone. Named after a very dear colleague and charity committee member, Laura Clarke, who worked at the Maidstone Hospital cardiac respiratory department, but who sadly lost her fight against breast cancer in 2014 at the age of just 31. Laura had the idea for a charity ball and in May 2014 took the lead in organising the most amazing evening, raising £5,000 for Breast Cancer Kent.

Laura's family was keen for the ball to go ahead again this year, and her colleagues and friends took up the challenge. The resulting evening was tremendous fun and included a charity auction, with generous prizes donated from local companies. Theatre breaks, holiday villa rentals, dancing lessons and a signed football shirt were among many of the prizes on offer. Guests enjoyed a 3 course meal, a disco, a raffle, a photo studio and entertainment from a singer, all of which raised **£10,000** for the charity! Plans are already afoot for this year's extravaganza. It will be held at Leeds Castle on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016**. To reserve tickets, offer corporate sponsorship, auction prizes or for any other information, please contact Helen Teare on 07736 649524 or e-mail [helen@teare.eu](mailto:helen@teare.eu).

## Best foot forward for Tony's London Marathon run!



Breast Cancer Kent has managed to secure a place in the 2016 Virgin Money London Marathon Charity Ballot. The Marathon takes place on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2016**. Our runner is Tony Ellis. Tony says, "I took up jogging on my own a few years ago to get rid of the dreaded "spread", the longest distance I had ever run was 9 miles and with an occasional dodgy back, the London Marathon is going to be quite a challenge. However, training is going really well now - I'm up to 20+ miles per week."

"Anyone who knows me is aware how I have been personally affected by breast cancer and how fantastic the care at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Breast Unit is." We'd really appreciate your support and sponsorship of Tony's marathon run. If you would like to track his progress and sponsor Tony, please go to: [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/TonyEllis1](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/TonyEllis1)

[www.breastcancerkent.org.uk](http://www.breastcancerkent.org.uk)