

# THE EBA NEWSLETTER

- JANUARY 2022 -

LOTS OF NEWS TO KICK START THE NEW YEAR!



## Tickets are on sale now! Midsummer Night's Dream Ball

We are so excited to announce tickets are on sale for our collaborative charity fundraiser gala, with Ronald McDonald House Charities U.K

You can expect a seasonal three-course dinner, live entertainment and alluring lots in our live auction with all funds made being split evenly between the two charities.

Both charities help ease the traumatic journey for parents of premature and sick babies, The EBA raises funds for life-saving equipment, practical items to make the parents' and babies time in the hospital more comfortable as well as funding vital research.

RMHC UK provides free 'home away from home' accommodation for as long as the parents need it so they can stay close to their baby in hospital and receive the comfort and support they need.

You can book single tickets at £75 per person or a full table of 10.  
Tickets available at: <https://midsummernight.eventbrite.co.uk>

If you are interested in one of our sponsorship packages, for more details please contact: [abigail.sainty@uk.mcd.com](mailto:abigail.sainty@uk.mcd.com)

We hope to see you there!

## CHRISTMAS ON THE UNITS!



Now that Christmas is over we are able to share what our EBA elves were up to!

Our committee members Michelle, Heidi, Jenni, Marie, and Eleanor kindly organised, bought, wrapped, and delivered 40 baby stockings, 40 mum gifts, 40 dad gifts and enough presents for all the siblings

We also had committee member Charlotte's Dad helping with the wrapping, which was one mean feat!

The gifts were well received on the units. Bethany-Rose Odell, Mummy of baby Louie, currently on PRH SCBU described receiving their gifts.

Bethany-Rose said,

"It honestly made our day! And it meant SO much! The EBA couldn't have done enough and made me feel happy on a day that I was dreading to be honest. So from the bottom of my heart, thank you. You make a massive difference."

We also arranged Christmas gifts for the staff across the TMBU and SCBU, with committee member Julie organising and putting together 138 gift bags!

Rachel Beston from the TMBU and one of our committee nurses said:

"On behalf of everyone can I just thank you so much for the amazing gifts you bought the staff. Everyone was so touched and I heard over and over that nobody was expecting a treat and how lovely it was to receive them so thank you all".

We'd also like to share a special thank you to Kate Wilson for supplying and writing all the gift tags for the staff gifts and to Rishma and Paul for their fundraising for the stockings again this year. We are truly very grateful.

Thank you also to everyone who has made donations to The EBA to enable us to buy these gifts for the families and staff and to all who helped spread Christmas cheer

## The Round Table Santa's Sleigh Collection, Burgess Hill



Our elves and reindeer, were also busy fundraising with Santa in the lead up to Christmas.

A fantastic £464.28 was collected with lots of fun being had on the day!



## A huge thank you to Brighton & Hove Soiree Rotary Club!

In December 2021, we were delighted to hear that our bid to the Brighton & Hove Soiree Rotary Club for funding vCreate was successful.

The Rotary Club grant of £2250 allows us to fund a further 6 months of VCreate to support local families with babies needing the specialist care provided in the TMBU.

vCreate is a tool that allows families to stay connected, allowing families to see photos and video clips of their child when they cannot be there with them.

This has been priceless with the restricted visiting access due to Covid-19.

Brighton and Hove Soiree Rotary Club Member, Brenda Griffiths, who sponsored the bid on behalf of the EBA said

" The Trevor Mann Baby Unit has been held in high regard by past and present members of the Soiree Rotary Club, some of whom have seen at first hand the essential specialist care offered to families. In these particularly challenging times of the Pandemic, we are pleased to be able to help parents stay connected with their babies at such a crucial time".

Thank you so much to Brenda and the members of the Rotary Club for supporting our bid and helping to fund this essential service for families.

# Thank you to the wonderful Caravan and Motorhome Club!



to



for a £500 donation!



We would like to give a huge thank you to the Caravan and Motorhome Club in East Grinstead for donating £500 to The EBA, which is the amount they would have normally spent on Christmas cards and postage.

We were nominated by one of their staff members, Matt Morgan, whose son Finlay was treated in TMBU.

Matt says:

"Our son Finlay was born at 32 weeks after what was meant to be a routine scan discovered complications that meant he needed to be delivered as soon as possible.

Finlay spent 10 days in TMBU with 7 of those in the neonatal ICU on a ventilator while his lungs became strong enough to breathe independently and to recover from his pneumothoraxes.

He was then transferred to SCBU at PRH for another 3 weeks to gain weight, strengthen up and learn to feed normally rather than through a nasogastric tube.

Not only do the EBA raise money for vital life-saving equipment on the units they also make it just that little bit more comfortable for parents by supplying tea, coffee and biscuits and also the opportunity to talk about their experiences.

We're forever grateful to the staff both at TMBU and SCBU for looking after Finlay. He's now 8 months old and doing well. "

Thank you so much to Matt for nominating us, and for all the staff who voted for our charity. This donation will help us to continue our work to make a positive difference to the baby units.



If you are a past or current parent with babies in NICU and feel that you need support, please reach out to us.

You can drop us an email at [info@earlybirth.co.uk](mailto:info@earlybirth.co.uk) or send us a direct message via our Facebook Page.