



the early birth association

Early Birth Association Newsletter – Spring 2016

AGM

Our AGM is nearly upon us, we are holding this important event on Wednesday 15th June at 8pm in the Seminar Room on TMBU, RSCH. Please pop the date in your diary, we would love to see you there. To keep the Early Birth Association going we need good attendance to our AGM to satisfy the Charities Commission.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

A HUGE, HUGE thank you to all of our supporters over the six months. There are too many individuals to mention but so many of you have been busy running marathons, organising office dress down days, dances, cake sales, sponsored walks as well as making wonderful items for the units such as cot toppers, memory bags and knitted blankets.



The incredible amount that you have all helped to raise has been put to very good use purchasing a whole host of items from vital life saving equipment including portable incubators and oscillators to new mattresses for the parents accommodation, pillows and toiletry packs.

OUR FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Huge congratulations to all of our runners who completed the Brighton Marathon in April. Helen Hauduc, Andrew Short, Dominic Mott, Jon Rangecroft and our very own Storm Trooper - Mike Melville-Reed all ran on our behalf. You were all completely AMAZING.

A massive well done to our Brighton Half Marathon runners too who took on the challenge back in February; Kate Dowse, Amy Newton, Vicki King, Andi Roberts, Cheree Rounce, Emily Wiles, Mike Melville-Reed, Stacey Day, Rich Neale, Aaron Godsmark, Georgia Pilfold, Mark Pilfold, Helen Johncock, Tracy Burton, Willem Goosen, Andrew Short, Rob Hitchcock, Hayley Light, Mark Elwood, Aurélie Martin, Lucy O'Connell, Kirsty Marshall, Michelle Bates and Rebecca Smart.



Together these guys raised a PHENOMENAL total of £8300!!!

THE 2016 MINI MILE

The crazy weather didn't deter our team of Mini Mile runners on Saturday 16th April. An amazing team of 9 children ran for us, including 2 TMBU graduates! It was all of the children's first experience of running the Mini Mile race and they thoroughly enjoyed taking part. It was fantastic to see them putting so much effort into their run and they raised a phenomenal total of over £1500 for the charity.



If anyone is feeling inspired and would like to run the Brighton Half, Full Marathon or children whom would like to take part in the Mini Mile on our behalf next year, please let us know.



TILLY'S SUNFLOWERS

In memory of beautiful Tilly Roberts, family friend, Amber Pardoe is selling sunflowers kits to remember Tilly, as well as raising funds for the EBA with the proceeds.

After being born almost 16 weeks early and weighing just 360 grams, Tilly spent 143 days in hospital, in both the Trevor Mann Baby Unit in Brighton and the Special Care Baby Unit in Haywards Heath, before finally going home on 20th June 2014. She spent 6.5 months at home before she picked up a respiratory bug in January 2015. Following a series of further viruses and serious complications, she didn't recover and Tilly sadly passed away on 1st November 2015

If anyone is interested in purchasing a Sunflower Kit, costing £2 each, please contact Amber at Greenscene's Potting Shed:

www.facebook.com/Greenscenes-Potting-Shed-165542040486761

PUSH FOR PREMS - SUNDAY 17th JULY 2016

The Push for Premis team of organisers put on this wonderful event every year, come rain (last year) or shine (this year hopefully!) Push for Premis is a really fun day & a great way of showing your appreciation for all those who worked so hard to look after our children, whilst also raising awareness to help other families. The walk starts at 11am from The Royal Sussex County Hospital to Hove Lagoon (approximately 4 miles) where everyone meets for a picnic lunch and balloons are released in memory of the little ones who sadly didn't make it. Friends and family are very welcome to join too. This year the funds raised will be split 50/50 between The Early Birth Association and Ronald Macdonald House. Please take a look at their JustGiving page for more details: www.justgiving.com/pushforprems2016

CHRISTMAS PARTY - SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER

Our annual party will again be held at The Ralli Hall, Denmark Villas, Hove 2pm - 4.30pm. There will be snacks and refreshments, music, an entertainer for the children and of course a special visit from the man in the big red suit!

We are already sourcing prizes for the raffle – if you would like to donate a prize, or know a company who might, we are more than happy to accept!

CATHERINE COOKSON CHARITABLE TRUST

Our treasurer, Wayne managed to secure a grant of £60,000 YES!!!! £60,000 from the above trust, with the help of board member, David Hawkins. The trustees carefully select charitable causes to benefit directly from royalties relating to the work of the famous writer, the late Dame Catherine Cookson. We feel so extremely fortunate to have received this

fantastic amount of money which has been used to fund the purchase of the portable incubators.

EASYFUNDRAISING

You could be raising a free donation for The Early Birth Association just from shopping online!

There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, the Trainline and Sainsbury's – and it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's really simple, all you have to do is:

1. Join - Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/earlybirth/> and sign up for free.
2. Shop - Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first, pick the retailer you want and start shopping.
3. Raise - After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and The Early Birth Association will be so grateful for your donations. Friends and Family can sign up to.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Please keep us updated with any relevant news, fundraising stories or updates, we love hearing from you all. You can contact us via our website: www.earlybirth.co.uk or via email: info@earlybirth.co.uk

You can also get in touch via our Facebook page – The Early Birth Association.

AND FINALLY ...

As a committee we would like to offer our endless thanks to and appreciation of, Elaine, our Chairperson. She is so organised and gives so much to the EBA. She is simply amazing.

Officers of the Committee

Chairperson	Elaine Rowe (Trustee)
Vice-Chairperson	Heidi Crawford
Treasurer	Wayne Lawrence (Trustee)
Secretary	Laura Scott

Committee Members

Margaret Hatley (Trustee)
Andy Salvage
Melanie Edgar
Helen Wright
Michelle Miles
Lee Burlton

TMBU Representatives

Dr Ryan Watkins
Julie Nalletamby

PRH Representative

Sue Robinson