



*Celebrating
our wonderful
supporters*

Covid -19: Special Edition



Welcome to our charity's first newsletter which celebrates and thanks our wonderful supporters. Read about some of the inspirational fundraising stories including dinosaur walks, static cycles and head shaves!

There are so many people to thank but a heart felt thanks goes to you all including:

- Watts Farms
- BNP Paribas, Tunbridge Wells
- Hollick Family Foundation
- Neighbourly Community Fund
- John Lewis at Home, Tunbridge Wells
- League of Friends (Tunbridge Wells)
- Children's Salon
- Pickering Cancer Drop-in Centre
- The Hygiene Bank
- The Mall, Maidstone
- Making a Difference to Maidstone

Please do get in touch and share your fundraising updates with us.

Best wishes

*Laura Kennedy,
Fundraising Manager*

Ways you can support us

- Shop via Amazon 'Smile' – Generate donations by choosing Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Charitable Fund
- Make an affordable monthly donation via [Justgiving.com/mtwnhscharitablefund](https://www.justgiving.com/mtwnhscharitablefund)
- Nominate us to be the charity of the year for your company, school or group
- Turn your daily exercise into a challenge
- Text LOVEMYNHS to 70085 and donate £5 (plus one standard message rate)



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Meet Olliesaurus

Olliesaurus, the fundraising dinosaur, has been making his mark around the village of East Malling, bringing smiles and joy to anyone who spots him. To raise sponsorship 11-year old Ollie Rutt walked 10 miles in 30 days dressed in an inflatable dinosaur costume to raise sponsorship. Every Thursday Ollie has also been wearing his dinosaur costume to make a roar of noise as part of 'Clap for Carers.' Ollie has raised an impressive roar-some £1,015 so far.



Eka Rai's non-stop 24-hour cycle

Squadron Sergeant Major Eka Rai, based at Invicta Park Barracks in Maidstone, raised an incredible £3,808 by completing a 24 hour non-stop static bike ride in his living room.

Eka, who served on the frontline in Iraq and Afghanistan, wanted to help our staff as they serve on the medical frontline during the pandemic.

Eka said: "It has been an unforgettable experience, considering I am only a Sunday mountain biker who rides for fun. I am so pleased and privileged to have been able to play a part in supporting my local acute trust."



The impact of donations

The charity is dedicated to enhancing the staff, patient and carer experience across the Trust.

One of our key areas of focus is supporting staff health and wellbeing and current projects include supporting staff 'wobble rooms' which provide staff with a quiet space to sit if they feel they need to take a moment. Furniture including rocking chairs and sofas have already been purchased via generous donations.



Mass head shave

In April Invicta Cricket Coaching united cricket clubs across Kent with a mass head shave which has raised over £6,000 to date. Members of various cricket clubs gathered together live on social media for the shave and shared their post-shave pictures. The loss of hair was certainly made up for in donations!



Caroline May's 'reverse 999 campaign'

Caroline's fundraiser in support of Tunbridge Wells Hospital's Intensive Care Unit has raised more than £18,000 thanks to her 'reverse 999' campaign where donors are encouraged to donate £9.99. Caroline's

young son, Arthur, has been an inpatient on Hedgehog ward several times and the team at Tunbridge Wells Hospital saved his life in December 2019. Messages of support have flowed in via Caroline's fundraising page including:

"The NHS angels at Pembury saved our daughter's life from viral myocarditis"

"Wishing all the best to the Pembury ICU team and all NHS workers. You are doing a terrific job"

You can still donate via: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tunbridgewellsicu

Bake, donate, nominate

A charitable bake is the best type of cake! Not only do you end up with a tasty treat to enjoy but you will be helping to support the charity.

Simply bake a sweet treat, donate via justgiving.com/fundraising/mtwbakeoff share a picture of your creation on social media and nominate five others to do the same. The submissions we have seen have blown us away so please continue to send us your creations.

