

Each month, one of our small charity members is celebrated for all the hard work they do for their beneficiaries as well as being an engaged FSI member. The March Member of the Month is Macmillan Cancer Support Jersey– congratulations to Pam and team!

Name of organisation: Macmillan Cancer Support Jersey

What is your charity's mission? Macmillan Jersey aims to help people live well and take back control of their lives through their experiences with cancer.



How do you achieve this? Macmillan Cancer Support Jersey is a cancer charity designed to support anyone touched by cancer. We also want to make sure that those supporting cancer patients get the support they need too. We provide support in a variety of forms;

Practical: When you have had a cancer diagnosis it can have an impact on you physically, emotionally, socially and financially. At The Oasis we can help you and your loved ones find the information and support that is right for you, with our free and confidential services.

Emotional: However cancer is affecting you, we are here to listen, and you can be honest with how you're feeling, without any time constraints. At The Oasis we have quiet rooms with boxes of tissues to hand and we will always make you a nice cup of tea.

Wellbeing: If you or a loved one is touched by cancer, it's important to make time for yourself, which you can do at The Oasis, through the range of complementary therapies and relaxation classes we offer.

Group: We hold regular coffee mornings, afternoon teas and support groups at The Oasis where people can get together in an informal environment and share experiences and support.

What are your successes to date? We have been supporting anyone affected by cancer in Jersey for 30 years and last year saw us have a record year in fundraising. We host a cycle challenge every 2 years and raised over £110,000 from 29 cyclists who rode the Pyrenees for us in 2016. This event was by far the largest fundraiser to date. Our service is growing exponentially and last year we supported over 3500 people affected by cancer. We are recognised for our expertise in everything we do – from providing cancer support to fundraising to being a voice in Jersey when it comes to raising awareness of cancer. We launched our wellbeing service in 2015 and this has been wonderfully received by our service users. Complementary therapies equated to 26.4% of people who accessed our service in 2016.

We understand collaboration is the only way we can help improve the lives of everyone affected by cancer. Through communications with our cancer support team we have forged relationships with other cancer charities in Jersey. At Macmillan Jersey want to have a joined up approach to cancer care for the community and will continue to strive forward and develop new collaborations.

What challenges do you face as a small charity? We are located in Jersey and have a limited population of approximately 102,700. There are over 300 charities registered in Jersey, so a lot of competition in a small 9 x 5 mile island. We have no states funding and are solely reliant on donations. Currently the statistics are that 1 in 3 people will develop cancer but by 2020 this will be nearer to 1 in



2. The increase is mainly because people are living longer. Due to improved treatments many more people will live beyond cancer and our service aims to meet the growing demand and changing needs. It can be a challenge to get people to come through the front door for a variety of reasons; fear of the unknown, not sure what help is needed, unsure if we can help, overwhelmed by everything to the worried well. We continue to promote our services to the community and developing an outreach programme to ensure we are looking at all ways for people to access our services.

What is your relationship with the FSI? I personally am studying for the Diploma in Fundraising and I hope that this qualification will arm me with the tools to help sustain our charity for the future and provide new and innovative ways of working. The relationship with the FSI is in its infancy but has been all positive from day one. I was introduced to the FSI through a peer who had been on a couple, one day courses and raved about the quality of training provided. Having been on 3 training days I would echo her thoughts. The trainers are engaging and inclusive but you get out what you put into the training. I am really excited about working with the FSI and am keen to see how we can work together to bring them to Jersey so that the wider third sector community in Jersey can benefit from their expertise.

What does winning member of the month mean to you? We are totally delighted. Our shared commitment to what we do inspires us to do our best. Our passion inspires people in Jersey to get involved, to change the lives of everyone living with cancer. Working with the FSI is a real pleasure. The team are always on hand to answer questions and support us. I am looking forward to attending the next training session with the FSI in London.