



The Mayor announces his charity for the year

The Cancer Support Centre, Lindridge Road, Sutton Coldfield is the charity chosen by the Mayor, Councillor David Pears, for his year in office.

The Cancer Support Centre located in rural Sutton Coldfield is a place of sanctuary and support for adults whose lives are affected by cancer. The charity works alongside the local health service, hospices and other cancer charities to provide support, information and complimentary therapies free of charge for people with cancer at every stage of the cancer journey and support for their families.

The charity does not receive any funding from agencies and rely almost entirely on fundraising from events and activities. It means a great deal to the team at the Cancer Support Centre to obtain such a profile raising role in Sutton Coldfield via the Mayor's Charity and hope to help more people as a result. They are honoured to be the first charity to be recognised in this way, by the Mayor, in our new civic year. Alison Burgess, the Chair of Trustees at the Cancer Support Centre commented;

"We are delighted to have been chosen as the Mayor's Charity of the Year. It is a reflection of the great work our volunteers, staff and therapists do every day. I hope it enables us to reach out to and help more people whose lives are affected by cancer in the Sutton Coldfield area. Not many people are aware of the work we do so it will give us the recognition we need."

The Charity, founded by Mavis Cunningham has grown from strength to strength since 1999 when a fortnightly relaxation evening and support group was developed. Mavis, a nurse, involved extensively with a local breast cancer charity, had been aware for many years of the need for a centre to support cancer patients in the Midlands. Her vision was to create a place where an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity would be created for those affected by cancer. In 2010 that dream became a reality, when the Cancer Support Centre moved to the centre at Lindridge Road to share premises with St Giles Supportive Care.

The Mayor, Councillor David Pears remarked; "Since my first engagement and first ever visit to the Centre for the summer party, I was impressed with the service and facilities on offer from The Cancer Support Centre. So many lives are affected by cancer and to have a centre like this in our local area is a real benefit. The Centre is such a relaxing and beautiful place to be and I felt that to support the centre for people going through difficult times and promote the work they do would be a worthwhile cause for my year in office."

The Mayor's charity ball will be the main fundraiser for the Cancer Support Centre and will take place in early 2018 with lots of awareness raising taking place via the Mayor's countless visits and meetings throughout the year.

Pat Brighton, Head of Fundraising and Events stated;



“I was so thrilled when I received the phone call to say the Cancer Support Centre had been chosen as the Mayors charity, it will make such a difference to us and our fundraising. We are a self-funding charity and rely on our volunteers and supporters to raise funds to enable us to continue to give sanctuary and support to any adult in the local community that has been diagnosed with cancer. We are looking forward to working with the Mayor and his team very much, so thank you .

For further information contact Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council on 0121 663 1765 or email admin@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk



(L-R) Pat Brighton, Head of Fundraising and Events, Cllr D Pears, Mayor of the Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield & Alison Burgess, Chair of Trustees at the Cancer Support Centre.