

July 2025

Lifestyle and Wellbeing

Personalised Care newsletter from the Fern Centre

The Fern Centre opened five years ago as a result of a fundraising appeal by the Royal Devon Hospitals Charity (known as Over and Above at the time) and the amazing generosity of the local community.

The centre and the services provided continue to be funded through the charity to benefit people living with and beyond cancer in the northern area of the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our next Bingo Night at the Royal North Devon Golf Club in Westward Ho! on Friday 25th July. We have a few spaces left, so book soon to avoid disappointment.

We have some very special events planned for Monday 28^{th} July to celebrate the 5^{th} Anniversary of the centre opening - more details will be released soon!

Our first ever Big Breakfast on Sunday 8th June was a great success, serving over 100 breakfasts in just 2½ hours and raising an amazing £963.50.

The Fern Centre is open from 9.00am until 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. At the centre you will be greeted by one of our lovely volunteers and be offered a hot drink which can be enjoyed in our comfortable open plan seating area.

Best wishes.









Monthly Hubs

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND BEYOND CANCER

If you are unable to make it to the Fern Centre, we hold outreach hubs at Holsworthy and Ilfracombe each month!

Bringing the



closer to you!

Royal Devon Hospitals Charity

Going over and above for your local NHS

please pop in and find out how we can help you!

For more information contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or email rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net University Healthcare

Holsworthy Monthly Hub

2.00pm - 4.00pm Thursday 10th July 2025

Manor Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall North Road, Holsworthy, EX22 6HF

*support*coffee*help*tea*advice*cake*chat*company*











Next Hub: Thursday 14th August 2025 find out how we

For more information

Ilfracombe Monthly Hub

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND BEYOND CANCER

10.00am - 12.00pm Tuesday 1st July 2025

Lantern Centre, 44 High Street Ilfracombe, EX34 90B

*support*coffee*help*tea*advice*cake*chat*company*



South West

10.00am - 11.20am Reiki or Tuning Fork **Taster Sessions**





11.30am - 12.00pm Face/Chair Yoga

please pop in and Next Hub: Tuesday 5th August 2025 find out how we can help you!



For more information contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or email rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net University Healt





What's on

Date	Time	Activity
Tuesday 1 st July	10.00am - 12.00pm	Monthly Ilfracombe Drop-in Hub at the Lantern Centre, Ilfracombe, EX34 9QB.
Tuesday 1 st July	10.30am - 12.30pm	Tapping (Emotional Freedom Technique) with Karen. Booking required.
Wednesday 2 nd July	10.00am and 11.00am	Seated Yoga and Mindfulness with Naomi. Booking required. £3 per session.
Thursday 3 rd July	ТВА	Bra Fitting Clinic with Nicola Jane. Booking required.
Thursday 3 rd July	10.00am - 2.00pm	361 Energy Advice Hub. Drop-in.
Thursday 3 rd July	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Strummin' and Hummin' afternoon with Ian Gracie and Russell Bave. Drop-in.
Friday 4 th July	9.00am - 12.00pm	Macmillan/CAB Financial Advice. Drop-in.
Monday 7 th July	10.00am - 11.30am	Fern Gardening Group (6 of 6). Booking required.
Monday 7 th July	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 8 th July	ТВА	Hospital Chaplaincy at the Fern Centre. Revd. Jonathan Daniel for 1:1 appontments.
Wednesday 9 th July	10.30am - 12.30pm or 2.00pm - 4.00pm	Hand Reflexology with Jo. Booking required.
Thursday 10 th July	ТВА	Wig Fitting Clinic with Natural Image. Booking required.
Thursday 10 th July	ТВА	Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Financial Advice with Peter Mitchell. Drop-in.
Thursday 10 th July	10.00am - 12.00pm	Monthly Holsworthy Drop-in Hub in the Manor Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall, EX22 6HF.
Thursday 10 th July	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Qi Gong with Ali. Booking required.
Friday 11 th July	10.30am - 11.30am	Chakra Dancing with Jackie. Booking required.
Monday 14 th July	11.00am - 1.00pm	Bladder and Kidney Support Group. Drop-in.
Monday 14 th July	No sessions	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Thursday 17 th July	10.00am - 2.00pm	361 Energy Advice Hub. Drop-in.





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Thursday 17 th July	10.00am - 12.00pm	Macrame Workshop with Richard. Booking required.
Thursday 17 th July	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Strummin' and Hummin' afternoon with lan Gracie and Russell Bave. Drop-in.
Friday 18 th July	10.00am - 11.30am	Men's Support Group. Drop-in.
Monday 21 st July	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 22 nd July	11.00am - 1.00pm	Look Good Feel Better: HeadWrappers. Booking required.
Wednesday 23 rd July	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Haematology Support Group. Drop-in.
Thursday 24 th July	ТВА	Wig Fitting Clinic with Natural Image. Booking required.
Thursday 24 th July	9.00am - 12.00pm	Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Financial Advice with Peter Mitchell. Drop-in.
Friday 25 th July	10.30am - 12.00pm	Secondary Breast Support Group. Drop-in.
Friday 25 th July	Doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.00pm	Bingo at the Royal North Devon Golf Club. Booking required.
Monday 28 th July	All day	5th Anniversary Celebration. See posters for full details.
Tuesday 29 th July	10.30am - 12.30pm	Mindfulness for Pain Management with Paul Beard. Booking required.
Thursday 31 st July	ТВА	Wig Fitting Clinic with Natural Image. Booking required.
Thursday 31 st July	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Strummin' and Hummin' afternoon with lan Gracie and Russell Bave. Drop-in.
Friday 1 st August	9.00am - 12.00pm	Macmillan/CAB Financial Advice. Drop-in.
Friday 1 st August	10.30am - 11.30pm	Chakra Dancing with Jackie. Booking required.
Monday 4 th August	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 5 th August	10.00am - 12.00pm	Monthly Ilfracombe Drop-in Hub at the Lantern Centre, Ilfracombe, EX34 9QB.
Wednesday 6 th August	10.00am - 11.30am	Gynae Support Group. Drop-in.
Thursday 7 th August	ТВА	Bra Fitting Clinic with Nicola Jane. Booking required.
Wednesday 13 th August	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Healthy Eating with Emily Watts. Drop-in.
Thursday 14 th August	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Monthly Holsworthy Drop-in Hub in the Manor Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall, EX22 6HF.







Royal North Devon Golf Club Golf Links Road, Westward Ho! EX39 1HD

Friday 25th July

Doors open: 6.30pm Eyes down: 7.00pm

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more details or to book.







on Facebook

Man Down UK is a non-profit Community
Interest Company, dedicated to supporting
men with mental health challenges.

Informal, peer-led talking groups across the UK, providing a safe, judgment-free space for men to share their struggles and connect with others who understand.

Free to attend – nothing to book – just turn up.

Confidential and non-judgmental peer support.

Share or just listen – it's up to you.

No pressure, no obligation.

support@mandown.org

MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

10.00am - 11.30am Friday 18th July 2025

at the



Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information.

Macrame

with Richard



10.00am - 12.00pm Thursday 17th July 2025

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place.



2pm - 4pm
Thursday 3rd July 2025
Thursday 17th July 2025
Thursday 31st July 2025

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information.







Monday 28th July 2025 CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

The Fern Centre is located opposite the Ladywell Unit at North Devon District Hospital.







Support for all affected by

Head & Neck Cancer



Grosvenor Community Church, Old Station Road, Barnstaple, EX32 8PB 2nd Thursday of every month 6.30pm - 8.30pm Just drop in and ask for Jim Turner

Patients, carers and family members all welcome www.theswallows.org.uk or call 01253 428 940







2pm - 4pm

Saturday 8th February

CUI, Convatec & Medicare Plus coming

Saturday 10th May

so far Oakmed & Rapidcare coming

Saturday 9th August

Saturday 8th November

At the Boniface Centre, Crediton, EX17 2AH

SOCIAL EVENT • STOMA COMPANIES • STOMA NURSE • LIGHT REFRESHMENTS • RAFFLE

For more details please contact Janice at

janice234ford@gmail.com or tel 07923975051



COGNITIVE **BEHAVIOURAL THERAPY WORKSHOP**

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HOT FLUSHES. **NIGHT SWEATS, SLEEP & STRESS FOLLOWING THE TREATMENT OF BREAST** CANCER



15TH, 22ND, 29TH SEPTEMBER & 6TH, 13TH 20TH OCTOBER

(ALL SESSIONS NEED TO BE ATTENDED)



10AM - 12PM

(Drinks provided - feel free to bring your own food)



THE FERN CENTRE, NORTH DEVON DISTRICT HOSPITAL, EX314JB

SPACES ARE LIMITED

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION OR BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT

> Breast Care Team: 01271 349115 rduh.breastcare@nhs.net













Wednesday 9th July 2025

10.30am - 12.30pm

or

2.00pm - 4.00pm

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!





THE KAY KENDALL LEUKAEMIA FUND

The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund (KKLF) project offers person-centred support around the following areas:

- · Benefits eligibility checks and help with applications, including Personal Independence Payment (PIP),
- Attendance Allowance (AA) and Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- Debt Advice
- · Charitable grant applications
- Travel and transport schemes e.g. Blue Badge applications/bus pass applications/discount travel schemes/NHS Low Income Scheme
- Housing issues
- Employment advice
- Consumer issues
- · Health e.g. access to services/complaints
- · Referrals and signposting to other support organisations

DROP-IN SESSIONS AT THE FERN CENTRE

Thursday 10th July 2025 - 9am-12pm Thursday 24th July 2025 - 9am-12pm Thursday 14th August 2025 - 9am-12pm

KKLF@citizensadviceplymouth.org.uk citizens 01752 507711







Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon

at the



9.00am - 12.00pm Friday 4th July 2025 Friday 1st August 2025

Macmillan and Citizens Advice are providing a specialist welfare benefit service to anyone diagnosed with cancer or their carers. There will be a drop-in outreach service at the Fern Centre for patients having treatment at North Devon District Hospital.





Thursday 3rd July 2025 • Thursday 17th July 2025 Thursday 7th August 2025 10am - 2pm

Income Max - 361 Energy can check you are receiving all the benefits you are eligible for including Pension Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance, Council Tax Reduction, Housing Benefit, Carers and Attendance Allowance. Energy Comparison - 361 Energy can check you are on the cheapest energy tariff, speak to your energy provider to ensure you are in receipt of all the help they offer to vulnerable customers, check your meter is working correctly and your energy bills are accurate.

Referrals - 361 Energy can check you are on a Social Water and Social Broadband tariff, apply for Household Support Fund, Warm Home Discount, Blue Badge.

Access - 361 Energy can source energy top up vouchers, food bank vouchers, replacement white goods, portable heaters, heated throws.

We don't sell anything – we are a 100% not-for-profit, working to help our North Devon and Torridge community.

> Call us on 01271 599361 or email: info@361energy.org





















Monday 7th July - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Monday 14th July - No sessions

Monday 21st July - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Monday 28th July - No sessions

Monday 4th August - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!

CHAKRA DANCING



It is recommended that you bring your own water bottle for this activity!

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!



2pm - 3pm

Thursday 10th July 2025

No session in August

Qi gong is a system of coordinated body-posture and movement, breathing, and meditation said to be useful for the purposes of health, spirituality, and martial arts training. With roots in Chinese medicine, philosophy, and martial arts, qi gong is traditionally viewed by the Chinese and throughout Asia as a practice to cultivate and balance the mythical life-force qi.

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!



10.00am and 11.00am Wednesday 2nd July 2025

Using simple, profound healing art practices of mindful chair yoga, bioenergetic movement and breath-work, sessions are carefully crafted to enhance mind-body wellness and quality of life in a safe, compassionate space.

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!







Welcome to Daylight!

Hearing the words "you have cancer" affects more than just your physical health. A cancer diagnosis may also impact your mental health and lead to heightened anxiety.

Daylight is your expert guide through worry and anxiety, whenever and wherever you

Engaging and easy-to-use, Daylight teaches proven exercises to help you manage your worry, day or night, at home or in hospital.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



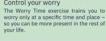
What you'll learn

Daylight was designed by experts to help you control your worry with four proven exercises:



Use the Tense & Release exercise to discover how tensing up your body can actually calm your mind,







Tackle unhelpful thoughts Use the Thought Challenger exercise to identify and reframe thoughts that keep you stuck.



Begin your journey to worrying less:



or scan the QR code below to create your free account



Have questions for us? We're on hand to help you every step of the way. Just email hello@trydaylight.com and we'll be able to help, whether it's a problem with your mobile or with your

Sleepio

Don't let cancer stop you sleeping

Hearingthe words "youhave cancer" affects more than just your physical health, it can affect your ability to sleep as well as usual.

Macmillan has partnered with Big Health to offer free access to Sleepio, a sleep improvement programme to help you overcome sleepless nights brought on by increased worry.



MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Start sleeping better tonight, visit: sleepio.com/macmillan

How does Sleepio work?

a digital programme featuring proven cognitive behavioural techniques.

62% less time awake at night, and have 45% better functioning the next day.

"I no longer think I have a sleep problem. I know what to do on the nights when I wake and can't get back to sleep; I no longer fear sleepless nights" -Alison, Sleepio user



Start sleeping better tonight:



For instant access, visit: sleepio.com/macmillan

or scan the QR code below to create your free account



Have questions for us? We're on hand to help you every step of the way. Just email helio@sleepio.com and we'll be able to help, whether it's a problem with your mobile or with your sleep.

Need help and support with cancer?

The Macmillan Buddy Service

Get support that is right for you

Our free Macmillan Buddy service will match you to a volunteer buddy who understands what you're going through. They'll be a listening ear, ready to talk about how you're feeling and your support needs, or anything else you'd like to talk about. They can also point you to other support available in the local community.

Or, if needed, they might be able to help with some tasks around the home, like putting the washing away or a little cleaning. Support is usually for up to 12 weeks and can sometimes be extended. We'll review how it's going and signpost you on to other suitable support as and when needed.

The Buddy service showed me that Macmillan has got time for me as a person. It made me feel like a person again and not like I am a hassle to others.

Karen, in Essex

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Sign up at macmillan.org.uk/buddies at any time or call 0808 808 00 00 (7 days a week, 8am-8pm).





LKWOR

DEVON'S NHS TALKING THERAPIES SERVICE

FREE Wellbeing Workshops from the NHS

Improving Sleep

- Tuesday 1st July 14:30
- Wednesday 9th July 13:00
- Tuesday 29th July 14:30
- •Thursday 7th August 10:00
- •Wednesday 13th August 09:30
 - •Tuesday 19th August 17:30

You can find more information on the website at www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk or by calling 0300 555 3344 to speak to a member of the team.









breastcancernow.org/movingforward



0345 077 1893



movingforward@breastcancernow.org







We help with the physical effects of cancer treatment.



















Look Good Feel Better run free workshops in the UK, led by expert volunteers from the beauty and wellbeing industry, which give practical advice and support to people living with cancer.

Every workshop offers an invaluable opportunity to talk to others in a similar situation, whilst helping support people with their changing appearance.

People leave our workshops feeling empowered, motivated and less isolated - allowing them to look good, but feel even better.



Doing the workshop changed everything. It gave me confidence to be me again.



Find out more lgfb.co.uk 📵 Call us on 01372 747 500







Clinics to be held on the following dates:

Thursday 19th June 2025 Thursday 26th June 2025

Thursday 10th July 2025 Thursday 24th July 2025

Thursday 31st July 2025

Thursday 14th August 2025 Thursday 21st August 2025 Thursday 11th September 2025 Thursday 18th September 2025 Thursday 9th October 2025 Thursday 16th October 2025 Thursday 20th November 2025 Thursday 27th November 2025 Thursday 11th December 2025

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information or to book your appointment.



BRA FITTING SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE



ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Thursday 5th June 2025

Thursday 3rd July 2025

Thursday 7th August 2025

Thursday 2nd October 2025

Thursday 6th November 2025

Thursday 4th December 2025

Thursday 4th September 2025

CONTACT THE FERN CENTRE ON 01271 311855 / rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net OR YOUR CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST FOR MORE INFORMATION







Cancer wellbeing for everyone

Penny Brohn UK is the cancer health and wellbeing charity. We support any adult with any type of cancer, anywhere in the UK.

Whether you are newly diagnosed, going through cancer treatment, adjusting to life after treatment or living with a terminal diagnosis, we can give you the tools and support you need to live better with cancer and feel more in control of your life.

www.pennybrohn.org.uk





Our amazing Adele has won another award!



This was the 'Managers Overall Award' for the person who has gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Darren (Head of Facilities) came down to present the award on Tuesday 17th June with Sharon .

It was lovely and Adele was so surprised!









MINDFULNESS FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT WITH PAUL BEARD



10.30am - 12.30pm Tuesday 29th July 2025

Amazingly, clinical trials show that regular mindfulness meditation can be as powerful as prescription painkillers, as well as enhancing the body's natural healing systems.

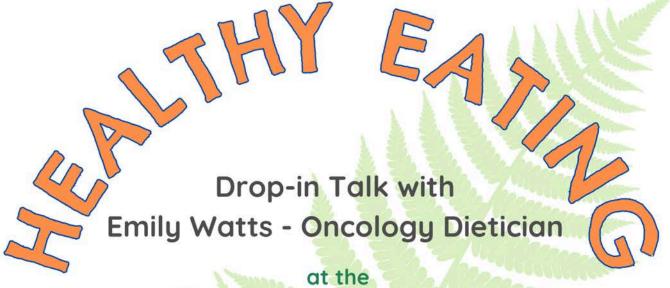
Mindfulness practice can also reduce the anxiety, low mood, depression, irritability, exhaustion and insomnia that arises from chronic pain and illness.

Join Paul for this popular one-off session that will introduce you to the skillful use of mindfulness for effective pain management and resources to go on with.

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!









Cancer Wellbeing Centre

opposite the Ladywell Unit, North Devon District Hospital

2.00pm - 3.00pm

Wednesday 13th August 2025

Please contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information.









LET'S ALL MOVE AGAINST CANCER 5k Your Way

5k Your Way is **a support group** for anyone living with and beyond cancer, their families and friends, and those working in cancer services. We're passionate about community, friendship and fun.

We meet up at designated parkruns on the last Saturday of every month. **Everyone is welcome!** You can walk, jog or run. Try 1k, 2k or 5k. Volunteer, cheer or come for coffee afterwards. **Do it YOUR way.**The best project you'll ever work on is **you**.

8.40am meet for 9.00am start

Saturday 26th July 2025

Rock Park, Barnstaple, EX32 9AQ

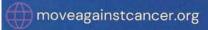
barnstaplegroup@5kyourway.org

Register here: www.moveagainstcancer.org/5kyw-registration/

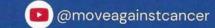
5K YOUR WAY IS PROVIDED BY:



FREE!

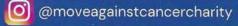






€ @5KYourWayMoveAgainstCancer











We're here to support you

Thank you for reading the Fern Centre monthly Lifestyle and Wellbeing newsletter. If you would like to find out more about the Fern Centre and the support available to patients in North Devon, you can get in touch using the contact details below.

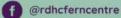
Alternatively, if you're at North Devon District Hospital, please pop in for a cuppa and a chat. The centre is open Monday to Friday from 9am-4.30pm and you'll find us opposite the maternity unit.

The Fern Centre is only here thanks to the incredible fundraising efforts of the local community and the centre continues to be funded by Royal Devon Hospitals Charity (formerly known as Over and Above). If you would like to make a donation to support our work, please scan the QR code. Thank you.













01271 311855



rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net



www.royaldevoncharity.org.uk/fern-centre



