



For release Monday, October 26th , 2009

MABS CANCER SUPPORT GROUP NEEDS YOU!

Most of us have visited and spent time cheering up a friend who is poorly, relieving some of the boring routine for them if they are in hospital or to make them a drink if they are at home recovering from surgery. It doesn't happen often so we are pleased to be of help.

MABS Cancer Support Group Carers are dedicated Volunteers who make such visits, not just occasionally but daily, to people who are at home, in hospital, going for a routine check up or just needing a cheering voice.

As one MABS Carer says

“No breakfast, no problem because June and I always have a chat over breakfast at the hospital when she's had her blood test.” And the good news? Last week's blood test says June doesn't need any more chemo for the time being.

“We're only a phone call away” is a MABS Volunteer Carer maxim. So when Alf calls to say he's worried about a rash, it is his MABS Carer who calls the doctor and takes him for the appointment. Fortunately it isn't connected with his cancer – and, in his words “that is all under control” – but simply a mild case of shingles which improves almost at once with medication.

Though a friend normally takes Clive for his daily radiotherapy session, it is his Volunteer Carer who takes him along on his weekly update visit to the Radiologist and Oncology appointments. It's a great thrill when the news is good – a tumour reduced by 50% halfway through treatment is certainly a cause for celebration.

MABS Volunteer Carers don't just stop at accompanying and caring for patients in treatment though! Many assist with MABS fund-raising activities too.

This may be through local businesses, newspapers, bars or restaurants who appreciate just how much work MABS Cancer Support Groups do to help cancer patients and their families.

Often, supporters are current and ex cancer patients who want to give something back as a thank you. People like Debbie, who runs a bar and restaurant with her husband and who held her first fundraiser while having chemo after a mastectomy! Debbie is sure that the work she has done for MABS Cancer Support Group has gone a long way to keeping her going through her treatment; it has given her a purpose and she can never see a time when she will give up her fundraising.

And what does the fundraising achieve? It means more beds, chairs and other essential 'home nursing equipment' can be provided for our friends who want to be at home during treatment.

Some of the MABS Volunteer Carers are single; some are widowed; other have partners who support them by doing the housework or cooking; in other words, their bit.

However, all Volunteer Carers have one thing in common – they all need lots of help on a day to day basis to care for our friends undergoing treatment. It has to be said that there are never enough hours in the day for MABS Cancer Support Group Volunteer Carers and their current team of supporters!

If you have been touched by cancer and feel you can do something to help a MABS Volunteer Carer, or can become one yourself, please get in touch. We need you!

If this horrid disease is a stranger to you and your family, but you would like to help those not so fortunate, please get in touch. We need you as well!

MABS Cancer Support Group is Registered Charity number 7261. If you can offer a few hours each week, please call me on 966 856 379 and I will put you in touch with a group near you who would really appreciate your assistance.

MABS Cancer Support Group offers support, kindness and love to cancer patients in the Costa Blanca and Costa del Sol. It was started in 1999 by five ladies who had suffered with breast cancer but had no one to turn to for advice and support. They decided that others should not have to worry like they did about translation between themselves and medical staff, translation of technical information about their cancer, transportation to and from hospital appointments and support for family and friends. The ladies were firmly determined to address all these things, and more, for cancer patients in the future. There are now seven branches of the charity, all with their Volunteer Carers, Volunteer Drivers and Volunteer Supporters, located from Valencia in the north to Marbella in the south. Please come and join us! We need you!

Anyone who has any form of cancer and who finds themselves alone and without support should contact the MABS CANCER SUPPORT GROUP on 965 794 083 or look at www.mabscancersupport.org.

For more information on this Release please contact:

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