



SCARS REPORT FOR YEAR 2017/18

2017 was a very successful year for SCARS in respect of the support offered to our members along with the various activities we held. Perhaps the biggest achievement for our Founder, Tracy White, was the connection made with Macmillan since first starting SCARS in 2014 finally meaning that SCARS would be included as a Support Group on the Macmillan website nationally. Tracy Street of Macmillan has worked closely with Tracy White in respect of cancer support and Tracy White also gave feedback and suggestions on the new cancer support group that has now been set up in Blandford by Macmillan. Tracy Street of Macmillan has also formed a link between SCARS and The Living Tree in Bridport and as a result of this The Living Tree now include details of SCARS on their weekly email to their many members as well as at their Group Meetings.

February 2017 SCARS held a Valentines Day Event at The Hub to raise some funds to help support the running of SCARS and was a huge success. We had a steady stream of people through the doors to enjoy a hot drink and some lovely cakes and bakes as well as a Tombola which appeared to be addictive and people just could not get enough of the tickets for a possible win.

June 2017 SCARS members had a talk by Geoff Heal who is a volunteer for Prostate UK. Geoff gave the group a far better insight into Prostate Cancer and its affects as well as some immensely useful information which was of great interest to everyone to take home and share with their partners and family. Geoff was quite nervous as the SCARS talk was a first for Geoff to a mainly female audience but he certainly did himself proud.

September 2017 was the SCARS Annual Day Out for our members and this year we had a fabulous day out enjoying Sea Train Adventure with Swanage Railway. We took a Damory Coach from The Hub to Poole where we took a Sea Cruise around the Jurassic Coast before arriving at Swanage Pier. We then board the Swanage Railway to Corfe Castle to enjoy a tea and cake and a walk around followed by the return trip back to Swanage where we enjoyed Fish & Chips before returning on the Sea Cruise to Poole and our Damory Coach return to Stalbridge. A great day was had by all and we are so grateful to Damory Coach Company for taking such great care of us on the day. Attached is a Press Release to go with the photo that was taken as Damory Coaches put this into their staff magazine and will be advertising SCARS at their business premises for their staff should they require any support for them or their families.

October 2017 saw SCARS change their main Charity Fundraiser in September to a Brew & Bake event to support Men United for Prostate UK in light of our visit by Geoff Heal. The event was a huge success and raised a healthy sum of £130 for the Charity from the sale of hot drinks and homebakes. SCARS also had a tombola along with a sales table and raised a fabulous £115 for SCARS funds.

December is always a very busy month for everyone with Christmas fast approaching and so many things to do so we do not hold a meeting but of course we celebrate another year of supporting each other by enjoying our SCARS Christmas Meal. Having had such a wonderful evening the previous year the members decided to go to Thyme after Time again as both Margot & Steve Dimmer and their wonderful staff always take great care of us and are fabulous supporters of SCARS.

Whilst at our Christmas meal Tracy White received a wonderful surprise, Thyme after Time Café at one of their Christmas Meal events had asked their customers if they would like to donate to SCARS and

in raising £111. An amazing sum and Tracy White along with the SCARS members cannot thank Margot & Steve and their wonderful customers for their generosity.

We now move into 2018 and as SCARS had now had its third birthday it was decided to upgrade the website (www.scarscancersupport.co.uk) and to also revise the groups marketing information. A new leaflet was designed and printed along with more business cards including the QR code for direct link to the closed and confidential Facebook Group and Website directly. Huge thanks go out to Clare Williamson for undertaking the website free of charge and supporting it on behalf of SCARS free of charge as well as designing and printing the marketing materials at much reduced rates. Discussions also took place on a different format of event for 2018 and the SCARS Craft & Pamper Fayre along with Mediumship Evening event was born. Huge planning was put into the all day and evening event which included 35 tables of craft stalls along with the Pamper area. The date was set for 18th March but the late Winter snow put pay to the event and it was postponed on the morning of the event. The rescheduled date for the Craft & Pamper Fayre is 24th June and we very much look forward to a successful day for everyone. I would like to thank the anonymous person who paid the money to cover the cost of the hire of Stalbridge Village Hall for the day and evening events.

The Mediumship Evening took place on Wednesday 2nd May and it was a roaring successful and so very well attended. 104 tickets were sold and the evening saw some very moving and also some very funny comments coming through for loved ones and everyone had a fantastic time and asking when it will be held again. The total raised for SCARS was a marvellous £604 from both the ticket sales and donations for hot drinks and biscuits in the interval, Tracy White would love to thank Mitch Garlington, Medium for attending and donating his time free of charge as well everyone who attended and supported SCARS you made the event truly amazing.

So that's about it for now as we continue with this year and all that it has brings, Tracy White would like to remind everyone that the SCARS meetings are held on the last Friday of each month from 2 – 4pm (except September as it is the trip and December) and to thank everyone for your continued support of SCARS as nobody should fight cancer alone.....thank you ☺





**Damory steps in to ensure local cancer support group members
enjoy a great day out in Dorset**

Cancer survivors and their families have been enjoying a fun day out in Poole - thanks to support from Damory Coaches.

Stalbridge Cancer & Recovery Support Group (SCARS) arranges an outing each year, to help local people escape the stresses and strains of treatment - and turned to Damory for assistance.

"In an organisation as big as ours, it's hard not to know someone who has been affected - directly or indirectly - by cancer," said Damory area manager Adam Keen. "We thought it only appropriate to support this very worthy cause.

"Our team was only too pleased to pick up members of this self-funding cancer support group and take them on a relaxing trip to sunny Poole. I'm delighted they all had a great day and look forward to providing additional support in the future."

SCARS was founded in 2014 by Tracy White who, having been through the difficulties of cancer diagnosis and treatment, found there was no local support group for those who were going through the same. Tracy's vision was that the group would be an informal and kind place where members would feel relaxed and at peace.

"The service provided by Lee Peters, Private Hire Controller at Damory was nothing short of superb from my initial contact right through to the day of the trip" said Tracy. I cannot thank all the staff from Damory enough for their support now and in the future and would have no hesitation in recommending their 5* service, the coach was immaculate, spotlessly clean and luxurious and we were all very well taken care of and shown so much respect, care and kindness by Gary our driver for the day. SCARS look forward to a long and happy future working alongside Damory.

For more information about Damory and its services, please visit damory.co.uk

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