



Press Release
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CANCER SURVIVOR SETS UP NEW ONLINE SUPPORT NETWORK

www.cancerbuddiesnetwork.org

Just launched, Cancer Buddies Network is a brand new online support network for anyone affected by cancer. This is the first website of its kind whose sole purpose is dedicated to putting people directly in touch with each other from the comfort of their own homes via a simple, safe and easy to use database and search engine.

Statistics show that 1 in 3 people will get cancer at some point in their lives and each of these people will have relatives, friends and carers who can all benefit enormously from the support of others living through the same experience as themselves. Cancer Buddies Network (CBN) offers a free personalised service where members can log on and meet others on a one-to-one basis for the purpose of support and friendship through what may be one of the most traumatic periods of their lives. The website has a search function which enables members to search for others under criteria such as type of cancer, diagnosis date, age range, geographical location and whether they are a friend, relative, carer or the person affected..

Cancer Buddies Network has been spearheaded by social entrepreneur, Jan Rutter, who experienced cancer five years ago. She says: “One of the things I found more helpful than anything else was being able to talk to other people who were going through the same thing as me. My family and friends were wonderful and I couldn’t have done it without them, but there is nothing like having someone to talk to who knows how you feel because they’ve been there.” When she looked into finding a website of this magnitude to facilitate meeting others in her position, she was disappointed to find that there wasn’t anything like this already in existence on the internet, and so the idea was born.

Professor Ian Smith MD FRCP FRCPE, Professor of Cancer Medicine from The Royal Marsden Hospital says “As an oncologist I see patients and their families who are frightened and worried about the impact that cancer will have on their lives and how it will affect them. From my personal experience I have learnt that patients cope better when they are able to talk about what they are going through and share their experiences with someone who understands and this is why I wholeheartedly support CBN, an exciting new concept in cancer websites. “

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Notes to Editors:

Cancer Buddies Network is supported by Macmillan Cancer Support and Millennium Grants UnLtd.

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The idea for Cancer Buddies Network was born at the end of 2003. Since this time a network of friends and family have been working behind the scenes to obtain grants to facilitate the development of the website, doing research, getting information and advice and determining how we can best help as many people as possible to make contact with each other around the world.