

Dear Cindy,

This month's newsletter is written with great delight and gratitude.

In the last 22+ years, death rates have halved, so women newly diagnosed with breast cancer have a better than 93% chance of being alive in 5 years' time, and if the cancer was screen detected, that chance goes up to 98%.

Breast cancer remains the most common cancer in women and patients participating in good quality cancer trials, on average, do better in responding to treatment, yet only a minority have this opportunity.

We are in this position, thanks to advances made by breast cancer research – and that is what the Breast Cancer Research Trust is all about.

The Breast Cancer Research Trust's annual appeal ran throughout the month of May, coinciding with International Clinical Trial's Day (held on the 20th to acknowledge the achievements that result from clinical research).

Because of the generosity of people like you, we were able to raise a total of over **\$12,000** during our annual appeal. We are so grateful for the tangible difference you make in the lives of those affected by breast cancer.

On behalf of the Breast Cancer Research Trust team and each person that has been affected by breast cancer - **THANK YOU!** 



Best wishes,

Cindy Jacobs
Manager: FUNdraising, Marketing & Events



Volunteers at Chartwell Mall during our Annual Appeal bucket collection.



2023 Golf Cup International Qualifying
Tournament held by BMW Coombes Johnston.



Kaz - Design Brand Web hosted a breakfast.

## Feeling Inspired?

Our annual appeal month may have come and gone but you can still join our circle of gaining knowledge and saving lives. Host however, whatever and whenever suits you!

Get in touch with us at <a href="mailto:Admin@breastcancerresearch.org.nz">Admin@breastcancerresearch.org.nz</a> to host your own FUNdraising event like a BrEaST Friends Brunch, a Boobie Book Club or a corporate raffle where you can

ask your company to be a **BOSOM** buddy and match the contribution, the possibilities are endless.



## **Happy Birthday!**

The Op Shop for Breast Cancer celebrated its first birthday in style as guests and volunteers got together for a shared meal.

Manager, Sharyn Cawood said the shop was a whole package being somewhere people could donate their pre-loved good quality items to somewhere others could go to find their treasure.

The Op Shop for Breast Cancer provides a vital revenue stream for the Breast Cancer Research Trust, and we look forward to serving our community for many more years to come.

### **Clinical Trials Procedure**

Clinical trials are an essential part of our health care system and are necessary to find out if new treatments are more effective than those currently accepted as the best available standard of care. All new breast cancer treatments must be thoroughly tested through the clinical trials process before they are made widely available to many people.

The guiding document for the conduct of a clinical trial is called a protocol. Clinical trial protocols are written by experienced doctors, and a team of experts in breast cancer treatment, research and clinical trial coordination. The clinical trial protocol outlines the reason for doing a trial, who may participate, and the treatments and tests involved. The protocol must

be approved by an independent panel of scientists, medical professional and consumers, called an Ethics Committee.

The progress of a clinical trial and the safety of clinical trial participants is carefully reviewed and monitored by an independent Data and Safety Monitoring Committee, and by the Ethics Committee who approved the clinical trial.

Before joining a clinical trial, potential participants must understand why the trial is being carried out, the potential risks and benefits, and what taking part involves. A written patient information sheet explaining the trial and participation is also provided. The doctor and the potential participant must be satisfied that all information about the clinical trial is understood by the participant, before a consent form is signed by both parties.

If you would like to participate in a breast cancer clinical trial, you can ask your treating surgeon or oncologist if there are any clinical trials available for your type of breast cancer.

For information about breast cancer trials currently being carried out in the Waikato visit our website at <a href="www.breastcancerresearch.org.nz">www.breastcancerresearch.org.nz</a> or for information about breast cancer trials currently being carried out in New Zealand, visit the Australia New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry website at <a href="www.anzctr.org.au">www.anzctr.org.au</a> or on the Breast Cancer Trials website at <a href="www.breastcancertrials.org.au/current-clinical-trials">www.breastcancertrials.org.au/current-clinical-trials</a>

# Thank you to our amazing volunteers!

While others work their way towards being different, our volunteers strive towards making a difference and their passion and commitment showed at our bucket shake held at the Chartwell Shopping Centre in Hamilton from the 15th to the 19th of May.

Volunteers are essential to the work that we do. We cannot do it without them, and we would not want to do it without them.

Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers!



#### A moving letter from one of our volunteers:

Dear Cindy,

When you first asked if I would like to help with the fundraising for Breast Cancer Research Trust, I was nervous. Not because I couldn't do it, but because I wondered what memories would be triggered for me.

It turned out that I was silently reminded that getting out to do things with and for others is a necessary aspect of my healing, as is writing about my experiences.

So, I would like to Thank you too, for asking me. I was reminded that I have something to offer other women through my own experiences and therefore I have a responsibility to share the knowledge and stories gained through a difficult life changing journey with breast cancer.

It is true that a woman does not go into this fight and come out the same person they were going in, but for those of us fortunate enough to come out the other end, we come out with a wisdom and strength we didn't have before.

We come out with scars, battle wounds I call them, but we come out when so many don't. If I am still in Waikato for next year's fundraiser please feel free to call on me to help again.

Kind Regards Kim Frost.

Interested in becoming a volunteer for Breast Cancer Research Trust?

CLICK HERE!

## The Road To Finding A Breast Cancer Cure

Woman Magazine recently published an article on 'The Road to finding a breast cancer cure', featuring the Breast Cancer Research Trust's co-founder and Research Nurse, Jenni Scarlet.

Jenni's passion, commitment and heart for breast cancer and everyone it touches is astounding and we take this opportunity to recognise and share our appreciation for her worth, not just as a colleague but also as a human being.

CLICK HERE to read the full article.





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