



# Sophia Pregnancy Loss Support

Newsletter

Issue 1

October 2017

## Welcome!

Sophia Pregnancy Loss Support aims to support anybody who has experienced the tragic loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth and neonatal death. As a charity, we aim to educate others about the heartbreaking experience of losing a baby.

We run a friendly monthly support group where we welcome parents, family members and friends who have been affected by the death of a baby. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month between 6pm and 8pm at Combe House, George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton.

We have been incredibly well supported by our local community who have helped us fundraise money to enable us to continue our vital work. We are incredibly humbled to be surrounded by such supportive individuals and businesses as without them, we would not be able to help those who need support after the loss of a baby.



Our Treasurer, Nicky Rygielski, attended the Rotary Club of Arbury's presentation evening recently. She was presented with a cheque for £385. The money was raised from the Dance x 3 show, their 10th Anniversary show, held at Bedworth Civic Hall on May 19<sup>th</sup> 2017.



Caludon Castle School band, The Reason, have so far raised a whopping £1114 from the release of their charity single 'Always Mine' in April this year. We have been overwhelmed by how seriously the group of 16 and 17 year olds took on the challenge of raising awareness of baby loss. A fantastic achievement. Head over to iTunes to download the Reason's single.



12<sup>th</sup> August 2017 saw 38 runners take part in Mudnificent 7 mud run and obstacle race for Team Sophia. The course pushed our team members to their physical limits, but they battled through with determination and camaraderie to enable them to finish. Team Sophia raised £3560.64; a phenomenal amount of money for our charity!

Thank you to everyone who came to see our stall at Atherstone's Big Day Out on the 17<sup>th</sup> September. We loved talking to you all and hearing the stories of your little ones. We were pleased to attend such a well-run and well attended event to help to raise awareness of this taboo subject!

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Our **next big project** is to make some much needed developments to the baby memorial garden at Oaston Road Cemetery, Nuneaton. This is the gated area to the left hand side of the cemetery with the raised rose beds. Plans for our improvements are well under way for the Remembrance garden and we are eagerly awaiting the landscaper's design plans.

We are also looking for donations of materials and volunteers to make the changes. If you would be able to offer your services, please get in touch. Contact details can be found below.

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We are currently in the process of delivering our new brochures to local health services in Nuneaton, Bedworth and the surrounding areas. It is our aim to educate local healthcare professionals about the support our charity provides as well as to raise awareness of the impact of baby loss on individuals and their families.

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We were incredibly proud to be nominated for two Butterfly Awards this year. These were in the categories of UK Support Organisation for the charity itself, as well as Committed Babyloss Volunteer for our dedicated Treasurer, Nicky Rygielski.

The Butterfly Awards is an inspirational ceremony held to celebrate those people who are dedicated to supporting others who have experienced baby loss. It is a rapidly growing celebration of the strength and courage shown by individuals and groups, who are raising awareness of a topic that is often hidden away.



The ceremony is being held on 14th October. We are excited to go and network with other organisations working to raise awareness.

## THANK YOU!

We have many companies and businesses we are grateful to for their support.

Charity collection boxes have been in the Railway Tavern pub, Weddington Chippy, Weddington House Cantonese Takeaway, as well as Domino's in Central Nuneaton, Tuttle Hill and Bedworth, providing us with vital funds from generous customers.

UPS have kindly donated £142.92 from a cake sale they held recently.

Lloyds bank have made a second match fund contribution of £500.

The Exhall and Sherbourne Avenue Co-op stores have made donations from the sales of 5p bags equalling £901.45.

### Upcoming Events

We will be attending these events. Please come and visit us and show your support!

15th October 2017 - Remembering Our Babies-Baby Loss Awareness Week Service. Coventry Cathedral, 2pm.

NCT Halloween Event. Hoar Park

Bedworth Christmas Lights Switch On. Time TBC

Nuneaton Christmas Light Switch On. Time TBC.

GEH Christmas Service?!

### Contact Information

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