

Thanks so much for signing up to **The Big Tackle 2023** – our eight-mile walk that starts and finishes at Torquay Rugby Club on Saturday 18 March.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Events play a huge part in how we spread awareness of Rowcroft, but many people are surprised to learn that the entry fee only covers the cost of the event. The fact is, it's the sponsorship money raised by people just like you which goes towards funding patient care.

IF FUNDRAISING ISN'T FOR YOU

We get it, not everyone likes to fundraise – if the act of asking people for money really isn't for you then we do offer the option of making a one-off donation instead (minimum £20 per person). Just make a donation to your fundraising page or on the thebigtackle.org.uk website.



GET STARTED



To find out more visit:

rowcrofthospice.org.uk/fundraising



Light in a time of darkness

James Waring was diagnosed with a brain tumour just weeks after getting married at the age of 38. Over the following three years he lost his speech and use of the right side of his body, needing round-the-clock care from his wife Janie who was also caring for their 20-month-old daughter Harriet.

When the emotional and physical strain of caring for her husband became too much for Janie, Rowcroft nurses stepped in, supporting with James's care and sitting by his bed throughout the night so that Janie could get some rest knowing he was in safe hands.

"It was James' favourite Rowcroft nurse who sat with James the night when he passed away," says Janie. "She held my hand in those final hours and beyond. No one could have timed it better, it was as though it was meant to be."

Your support could help to pay for one of our Hospice at Home nurses to visit a young father like James. At such a frightening and overwhelming time, your support could support a family to come together to concentrate on making those last moments as calm, peaceful and fulfilling as they can be.





£105

could fund an hour of support to a patient from Rowcroft's Hospice at Home team. We understand that it might not be easy to ask your friends and colleagues for money when it looks like you're on a jolly day out! (It's just a total coincidence that fundraising for Rowcroft involves a free pint and watching the rugby.) But explaining to people that you are raising money to support your local hospice to help care for local patients and families like James, Janie and Harriet – now that makes sense.

SET A TARGET

Setting a target is a really effective way of getting this message across.

£400

could provide bereavement support for ten children who have lost a parent.

£845

could pay for five patients to have a Rowcroft community nurse or social worker with them at the point of diagnosis. £1,522

could pay for 48 hours of specialist around the clock care for a patient in our Inpatient Unit

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Technology has made it so easy to fundraise but we can also supply you with a Big Tackle sponsorship form for a more retro option. Visit **www.themaletrail.co**m to download and print the sponsorship form.

Top tip! Get the first person who donates to donate a minimum of £20 as this will encourage others to dig deeper!



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Don't forget to Gift Aid your donations wherever possible! For those who pay UK tax, this can increase their donation by 25%. We can provide you with sponsorship forms or Gift Aid envelopes to help make that donation go even further. Just make sure that everyone fills in their own address details and that the form is completed with clear writing.

SET UP YOUR OWN FUNDRAISING PAGE

Setting up your fundraising page is now easier than ever. Just follow these quick and easy steps if you haven't done so already.

- Visit thebigtackle.org.uk and click on the 'signup' button.
- Fill out your registration and payment details and an account is automatically created for you. A link will be sent to your email address — click this link to view and edit your fundraising page.
- Add your own fundraising target.
- Add a profile picture to your fundraising page so people can easily see who you are.
- Write a personal paragraph (or short story) about what you're doing and why this will really encourage people to sponsor you!
- When you have completed your fundraising page, you will be given a link to your page to share with your friends and family — so that they can make donations.
- Share your Big Tackle page with others and invite friends and family to donate. From your fundraising page, you can easily share your page link with friends on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp and Messenger, and you can email your page link to others.
- Make sure that the first people to sponsor you are the most generous.
- Encourage those who pay UK tax to Gift Aid their donations where possible as this can increase donations by 25%.



• Post regular updates and photos so that everyone can see how you're getting on.

Please remember, if the act of asking people for money really isn't for you, then we offer the option of making a one-off donation instead (minimum £20 per person).



NOW YOU HAVE TO SPREAD THE WORD!

So you have your Big Tackle fundraising 'ask' and you know where to direct people to donate. Now it's time to do the nitty gritty!

WHEN YOU'RE AT WORK

 Send a group email out to all your colleagues to make them aware of your fundraising.

Here is an example:

2 Mention your fundraising activity in the work newsletter and at a staff meeting. Make sure people know HOW to donate via your online platform or using the form. Hi All,

As most of you may or may not know, in March I will be taking part in The Big Tackle event and fundraising for Rowcroft Hospice. (Mention if you have a personal connection – are you doing this in memory of someone?)

Rest assured you are not paying for me to go off and have a day out with my mates! The costs of running the event have been covered by myself and other participants. I am fundraising for Rowcroft Hospice to reach a target of xxxx to pay for xxxx. None of us know if we will ever need Rowcroft's services; just a small £5 donation will help make sure that Rowcroft will continue to be there for us and our families in the future.

Please visit my fundraising page at $\boldsymbol{x}\boldsymbol{x}\boldsymbol{x}\boldsymbol{x}$

Many thanks!

3 If you work for a company, ask your manager or HR department about match funding. Lots of companies are keen to show off their corporate social responsibility and an easy way for your boss to do this is by matching your fundraising efforts with a company donation. It's all good publicity and if you don't ask you don't get!

YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

- 4 Share your online fundraising page through Facebook. Top tip: pick a quiet time to do this like evenings and weekends. You will need to share this more than once but try not to bombard people. If your birthday falls over the fundraising period, ask for a donation instead of buying you a birthday drink! Share when you're nearing milestones, eg: when you're £20 off hitting the £500 mark etc.
- 5 Use WhatsApp and other group messages to spread the word. Create a group chat of people you know are likely to sponsor you. Copy and paste part of the email above and add the link to your Facebook or Just Giving Page. Top tip: tag people in the post who you know are likely to sponsor you.

TEAM MATES AND CLUB MEMBERS

- 6 Do you play sport for a local team or play darts at your local pub? You guessed it we need you to ask them too! Ask the chair/captain if you can spread the word about your fundraising message. Can you share your link in a group chat or post the link in your team or club Facebook group?
- 7 Why not pop a swear box on the bar at your local pub or in your place of work? You'll be surprised how quickly it fills up! Get in touch if you'd like us to issue you with a collection tin.

Don't forget to thank everyone after they donate (and after the event). Share your success and photos with them too.

Thank you for your support and remember our Fundraising Team is only a phone call away on **01803 217450**