

Welcome

The progress of About Face's Butterfly Appeal is encouraging.

In this issue: The Motor Sports Dinner – a high-octane event and very successful in raising funds and introducing the charity to new supporters.

Plus: The Sahara Trek was completed by 7 magnificent fund raisers. Catch up with the story on page 3. Watch out for further events in the pipeline.



Motor Sports Dinner – a £15,000 winner for the Butterfly Appeal

Some two hundred Formula 1 Racing enthusiasts gathered at the DeVere Royal Bath Hotel in March for a motor sporting night to remember. John Watson, five times Grand Prix winner captured the interest of his audience with his recollections of a Grand Prix racing career, comments on the present day Formula 1 and some thoughts on prospective champions.

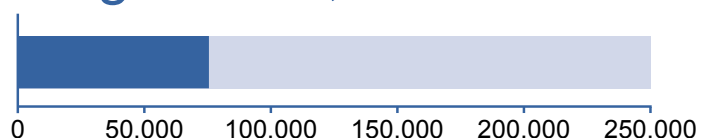
Much information on Formula 1 racing arose from his discourse with another star of the evening, Butterfly Appeal Patron Louise Goodman, ITV Formula 1 presenter. Apart from her face-to-face interview with John Watson, she regaled us with stories of life in the pit lane.

The evening included a raffle and charity auction, the event raising some **£15000** for the Appeal. A huge thanks to John Watson and Louise Goodman for making the evening a memorable occasion. Our appreciation and special mention to Michael LeFort and Ian Catley who organised the event. Thanks to all who attended or helped on the night, including regular 'Butterfly' volunteer Liz Vivian (more of the event on page 2).



Ian Catley, Louise Goodman and John Watson enjoy the evening.

Target £250,000



The About Face web site www.about-face.info has new features... why not visit?

At the time of going to press the amount raised so far is **£70,345**

The Trustees are grateful for the generosity of the donations received.

All have been acknowledged personally.

To donate to the new Butterfly Appeal please send a cheque payable to: 'The Butterfly Appeal' – Appeal Office, 44 Constitution Hill Road, Poole BH14 0QD Telephone 01202 733300

Getting there... fundraising round-up

Hi to all you wonderful supporters of the Butterfly Appeal! In our Winter newsletter, I was able to share news of our progress following the Butterfly Appeal's launch in late September of 2005. I am happy to report that fund-raising is moving apace and, as you will have seen by the figure on the front of this newsletter, as we go to press, we are around the **£70,345** mark due to the innovation, effort and plain old generosity of those who are as keen as we to open the About Face Centre in Poole.

The Sahara Trek report on the facing page concentrates on the trek itself, but what about the fund-raising? Our Magnificent Seven over-achieved here as well. Anna and Karen worked hard on their pharmaceutical connections at the hospital, but also trod the boards with the collecting buckets and persuaded family, friends and work colleagues to support them. James, a London based photographer, used many of his connections to complete his fund-raising picture. Simon, whose on-line recruitment company is called thebigchoice.com gave his suppliers little choice and successfully smashed his target! Annamaria not only lost her hair in the process (something I can relate to), but had to swim for it, indeed pier-to-pier on April 15th to raise her money. Angus pulled on all strings at Cable and Wireless, whilst dad, Dr David Graham, came top of the fund-raising pile, by encouraging patients at his Hamworthy surgery to cough up! We are proud of them all! When you consider that the Sahara Trek idea was a twinkle in our eye at the Appeal launch, it has been a tremendous success. Just look again at the photo on the opposite page of our wonderful team atop Morocco's highest dune. They appear on the top of the world – and we applaud all they have achieved.

Meyrick Park Golf Club collected **over £500** in memory of Stuart "Brucie" Thomas (pictured) himself a committed About Face supporter. Stuart's family invited friends at his funeral to make donations to the Butterfly Appeal. The **£1,200** received is a handsome tribute to Stuart's life. Meyrick Park will continue to support us throughout 2006, including organising a Golf Day.

Octa Lodge collected a magnificent **£750**, and contributions from a number of organisations have been gratefully received, including **Poole Adult Learning, Wallisdown Ladies Group, Bournemouth PO Veterans, the Elizabeth Sequence Dance Club and Christchurch Lions Club.**

Companies and their staff supporting the Appeal included **European Home Retail**, who organised a raffle, quiz, breakfast and dress-down day, **Regency Mortgage Corporation, Tabard Estates Ltd, Grosvenor Carpets, Parkstone Auto Trimming and Tatnam Wools** (this is the fourth donation for the Appeal from John and Sylvia at Tatnam). We also received very welcome matching donations from the **Alliance & Leicester Building Society and the Diageo Foundation** – linked to Delm and Frances Burden's target busting barn dance.

Individual donations during this Spring period number over 50; thank you to each person for your kindness – I write to every individual or group that supports us financially. The

largest individual donation to date is from a delightful lady from Poole who has most generously offered the Butterfly Appeal 100% of the proceeds of a maturing TESSA – the total of which was well **over £10,000!** The Trustees and I are most grateful for every demonstration of support. What we are most encouraged by is the number of tax-paying individuals who remember to tick the "Gift Aid" box – this enables the Butterfly Appeal to reclaim tax, adding 28% to the value of each person's donation at no cost whatsoever to the donor.... "Gift Aid" makes such a difference!

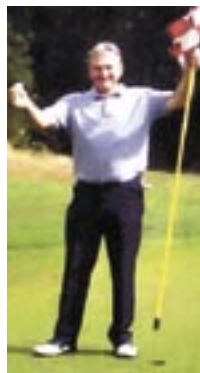
Our Motor Sport Dinner in March was somewhat of a watershed in our fund-raising programme. Not only did nearly 200 people attend the black tie event, but also enthusiastically took part in our raffle, special draw for a magnificent Breitling wristwatch, and keenly contested motor sport auction. Top price paid for a racing car drive at Silverstone, donated by **Harriplan**, was **£3,000**, whilst **£500** was paid for an Indy car rear wing, signed by Indianapolis winner, Rick Mears. A similar bid brought the hammer down on an opportunity to test drive and write a Jeremy Clarkson style article on a sports car, courtesy of our media partner the **Daily Echo**. All in all, **£15,600** was raised after costs towards our £250,000 target.

Butterfly Appeal Motor Sport Dinner Auction Results

Harrods Chocolate Dog donated by Mr Ron Saunders	£250.00
Thrupton Supercar Experience donated by Tiff Needell	£1,000.00
Daily Echo Test Drive courtesy of Chris Adamson, Motoring Editor	£500.00
European Aviation Ltd 747 Flight Simulator	£400.00
Top Cats Silverstone TVR Circuit Drive donated by Harriplan Ltd	£3,000.00
Tully Crook Modern Art Print donated by Mr & Mrs Frank Smith	£400.00
BTCC Day at Thrupton with SEAT Sport UK	£500.00
Penske Indy Car rear wing signed by Rick Mears donated by Penske Cars	£500.00
Breitling watch re-donated by Mr Ian Burch (after already raising £1360)	£1,500.00
Renault Team Shirt donated by Pat Symonds of the Renault F1 team	£1,500.00
Jaguar Day at Thrupton donated by Paul Collins of Westover Jaguar	£450.00

Events You Have Run

Perry's Restaurant, Weymouth's finest, held a prestigious wine tasting evening and supper raising **£666**, whilst India motor cycle trip bound Nick Beech's daughters **Rachel and Sarah** denied themselves birthday presents to raise **£130** towards their dad's total. **Ferndown Leisure Centre** invited people to try a new sport, charging £1 for the Appeal at their



'In for a pound' day. **Haven Leisure Club**, owned by FJB Hotels exchanged plastic gaming chips for real money for us.

The Flora London Marathon

Three hard charging runners made it to the start-line of the FLM on Sunday April 23. **Julie Sawden**, working mum of two, **Rachel Palmer** and **Darren Locke**, who lost five and a half stones in order to make the line, represented us on the World stage on London's streets. Our thanks to them for training, fund-raising and delivering! Their ability to get on to the news pages was evident. We thank our media partner the Daily Echo and Advertiser for their brilliant support of the Appeal which has been demonstrated so regularly and measurably. They have played a big part in the life of the Butterfly.

Standing Orders to the Butterfly Appeal

Thanks most sincerely for a wonderful response to our Appeal to readers of our newsletter to commit to a standing order to the Butterfly Appeal inserted in our Winter newsletter. You are month by month making the most fundamental difference and as each has been gift aided – need I say more? 28% on top of any donation is a huge

chunk of free money! If you would like to consider this tax effective, affordable and consistent way to make the Centre happen, please complete the standing order instruction inserted with this newsletter.

Why not?

Finally, have you thought about how you could make a lasting difference to support people who have head and neck cancer? Here are three ways

- Leave something to the Butterfly Appeal for About Face in your will – some money or property.
- Donate money, shares or valuables, such as a vintage car or jewellery.
- Offer to cover event venue costs, such as the costs for a fund-raising dinner or ball, or other expenses helping us



to be 'risk-free' when we propose a potentially lucrative fund-raising opportunity. Our recent motor sport dinner proved very successful, but this was not risk-free as the trustees had to put their faith in your fund-raising team not to let them down. Please speak to me in complete confidence about any of the above.

Good wishes, Ian – 01202 733300/07917 400933

Sahara Trekkers Fly the Flag

Seven supporters of The Butterfly Appeal jointly raised over **£14,000** by sponsorship, completing an 87 mile trek in the Moroccan Desert. The intrepid band included Poole G.P. David Graham, son Angus, step-son James Rudland and friend Simon Andrews, Poole Hospital sisters Anna Schwaiz and Karen Vavrecka and dental nurse Annamaria Bicheno.

They were accompanied by Berber guides and a camel caravan for their bags. They trekked for up to seven hours a day in temperatures as high as 50C over stony plateau, sand dunes and salt pan terrain – an arduous journey. Evenings were uncomfortably very cold, contrasting with hot days.

Congratulations and well done to the magnificent seven. More detailed news of this event in the next issue.



Poole Harbour Voyage on a summer's evening.



All are welcome to join us aboard the "Maid of the Lakelands". The Brownsea Island Ferries cruise will depart from Poole Quay at 7.15pm on Thursday 22 June 2006.

There will be a licensed bar, entertainment and a fish and chip supper will be provided. The cruise will be timed to be in the best position to see Poole's glorious fireworks display.

Tickets are £20 in advance (includes supper*). Please make your cheque payable to About Face, and a stamped addressed envelope would help to keep our costs down. Please send to: **About Face, 70 Lincoln Road, Parkstone, Poole BH12 2HU.**

*Kindly state your preference for fish, sausages or vegetarian for your supper.

In view of the proposed About Face Centre to incorporate facilities for trainee surgeons, a contribution from About Face trustee Christine Brienne, who visited a hospital in Sri Lanka, should be of especial interest to our readers. She writes:-

A day in the life of an ex-trainee

Early morning in the central hills of Sri Lanka. En route to the local hospital, a twenty minute walk along paddy-fields, groves of coconut trees, and typical houses. The sky is intensely blue as the morning haze lifts up over the mountain tops. As I take in all the peace and beauty around, Dr Sabesan (or Sabes for friends and family) walks ahead of me in deep concentration. He is the recently appointed Maxillo-Facial Consultant Surgeon in Badulla General Hospital, after five years of training and working under the supervision of Mr Ilankovan at Poole Hospital.



In less than an hour, Sabes is due to operate on his first patient of the day – a broken jaw. This will be followed by four or five other facial trauma operations – a car accident, fallen tree, misplaced gunshot . . . the cancer cases and cleft palates are scheduled for the following week.

It is my first experience in an operating theatre. I feel both privileged and slightly apprehensive. The narrow corridor leading to the working rooms is crowded with anxious patients and their families. Most of them come from a poor background, many working in tea plantations around Badulla.

The operating environment is basic by Western standards and the surgical instruments appear to be old and somehow overused – quite a challenge for state-of-the-art operations usually required in face and mouth microsurgery!

There is activity in the three other operating rooms where surgeons are performing general surgery. I am told the air conditioning has broken down today, which is not ideal at this latitude!

Dr Sabesan, surrounded by his team of junior doctors, is now starting his third facial operation of the day. The silence in the room is broken only by the usual requests for

scissors, scalpel and other relevant objects. It is a delicate affair, multiple fractures in the cheekbone, one very close to the right eye. I witness some advanced trans-conjunctival incisions where precision and skills are paramount. Sabes is undoubtedly a master of his art, like a conductor leading an orchestra on a complicated piece of music – even though his assistant has not put the lights at the right angle, the helping doctor hasn't got enough hands, and the cell phone rings at the most crucial time in the performance.

Despite the unusualness of it all, I am in awe. Even more so when, at the end of a long day, we go and visit the wards. I try not to think that the only break I had in the day consisted of a quick cup of plain Ceylon tea and a biscuit. As Sabes checks on his patients one by one, I embrace the ward with spontaneous compassion. It is so crowded that, in some cases, two patients share one single bed and families who attend to their needs sleep on the floor nearby. Yet I feel welcomed by their smiles and resilience.

It is dark by the time we leave the hospital and eventually enjoy a 'kotthu rotti', a type of local dish at a nearby café.

"Are all your days like that?" I ask.

"Oh, that was an easy day" replies Dr Sabesan.

Back in the UK, and rich from my experience abroad, I look with renewed interest at what About Face is trying to achieve – setting up a residential centre in Poole to help trainee surgeons acquire high levels of expertise and perfect new techniques under the guidance of Mr Ilankovan and his colleagues – a place where patients and carers alike will receive the necessary information at pre and post-surgical stages as well as creating a supportive network – and where public awareness in mouth cancer prevention will be raised. Most of all, I realise the impact such illnesses or similar traumas can have on people's lives and how important it is to give them a chance to live and interact with others with respect and dignity.

Christine Brienne

Butterfly Appeal Supporters



Bournemouth stockbrokers **Farley and Thompson** kindly paid for the postage on over 1000 mail shots sent to local businesses by the Butterfly Appeal team.

Furthermore, Colin Chalkly-Maber, one of the firm's partners, will be taking a sponsored motor cycle ride in India in October in support of the Appeal. By a poignant coincidence, Colin's great uncle died of cancer of the throat.

www.justgiving.com/motorcycle-india

We send our best wishes to...

Delm Burden and Michael LeFort, both of whom have recently undergone further surgery at Poole General Hospital.