



Sands

Stillbirth & neonatal death charity



Issue no 4 February 2011

Hello and welcome to our fourth newsletter for the Northamptonshire Sands Group

In this issue

- Baby Blanket Donation
- May Service
- Projects and news
- Thank you's
- Fund Raising
- Birth Announcements
- Knitters required
- Additional support meetings



Helpline no:
07907 836050

MONTHLY MEETING VENUE:

The last Wednesday of month at
The Marriott Hotel, Eagle Drive,
Northampton NN4 7HW from
7.30pm-9.30pm

Website:
www.northamptonshiresands.org



Northamptonshire Sands
Forum:

www.northamptonshiresands.org



Christmas Tree Service

We would like to say a big thank you to all of you have come to our Christmas Tree Service.

Little did we think years ago when 12 of us stood in the babies section of Kingsthorpe cemetery singing carols and trying to shelter from the rain that 10 years on we would have over 250 of you, our friends come to join us to remember our much wanted babies. We know how much it means to you when you put your ornament on the tree in memory of your little ones.

We also raised £316.31 from the retiring collection.

Thank you all.

Baby Blanket Donation for our Memory Boxes

As you will have seen in our last newsletter the Ladies Group at Towcester Road Methodist Church have chosen us their charity for the year. They very kindly invited us to their Carol Service in December and during the service they presented us with 90 knitted blankets for our memory boxes. (see picture)



This is wonderful and we would like to say a very big thank you to all of the knitters.

Additional Support Meetings

As usual these meetings will also be held at the Marriott Hotel from 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Fathers support evenings —these are relaxed informal gatherings of fathers whose babies have died, where they can exchange experiences and feelings with other men, in confidence, in an empathic and low key environment:

Tuesday 15th February 2011

Tuesday 21st June 2011

Tuesday 11th October 2011

Family and Friends evenings — these meetings will allow grandparents, family and friends to share their feelings of grief on the death of the much wanted baby and their concerns for the grieving parents, who they see are hurting

Tuesday 8th March 2011

Tuesday 21st June 2011

Tuesday 8th November 2011



May Annual Service

This will be at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Abington park, Northampton at 3pm on 22nd May 2011.

At this service we will remember your babies and light candles in their memory.

Refreshments will be served following the service.

All welcome.

Upgrading the bereavement rooms -

Northampton - We understand that the refurbishment programme on labour ward is due to start in April. We are hoping to meet with the Hospital Management shortly to discuss which elements of the refurbishment of the Snowdrop room will come from Hospital funds thereby enabling us to proceed accordingly. As you know we have been attempting to get this organised for some time now and would like to push things along.

Kettering - We are also hopeful that we will be having a further meeting with the Hospital Management shortly to enable us to hopefully progress this refurbishment as soon as possible.

NEWS ARTICLE

The tragic intrauterine death and subsequent stillbirth of Amanda Holden and her husband Chris Hughes baby at 28 weeks will have been a strong reminder to those of you who have had a similar experience. Her friends and family have sent twitter messages of comfort but can their closest friends really understand the nature of the grief that now engulfs this devastated couple. Even in our enlightened age there is still so much ignorance about what it really means to have a miscarriage let alone a stillborn child. Amanda also had a late miscarriage, she said 'last years was the bleakest period of my life, I have such a charmed and lovely life I never imagined that I would miscarry my baby'. Of course she is right, you don't, because of the tremendous advances that have been made in obstetrics people are lulled into thinking doctors are gods and nothing can go wrong. Yet the womb will always be a mysterious and perilous place, no matter how skilful and attentive the medical care.

This is the death of someone who never had the chance to take a step, but who is nevertheless mourned in the purest of griefs.

(extract from Bel Mooney's article in the Daily Mail)

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with great pleasure that we announce the safe arrival of 2 precious babies -

Caitlin, a little girl for Spike and Sarah Ryall, a sister for baby Charlie, always remembered never forgotten

Dexter, a little boy for Sarah and Patrick Coyle, a brother for big sister Pippa and to 2 angel babies, always remembered never forgotten.

If you would like your a birth announcement to appear in our newsletter please either call us or use the contact form on the website



If you have any items that you would like to appear in the next newsletter please contact us at mail@northamptonshiresands.org



KNITTERS /SEAMSTRESSES ARE STILL REQUIRED

Are you able to knit/sew —no fancy stitches required. We would like to be able to add to the memory boxes by way of shawls or angel pockets. If you know of anyone who would be interested in knitting/sewing these items for us please go to our website- News & Newsletters- where you will find patterns and more information. Thank you

FUND RAISING & DONATIONS

Special thanks to the following for their very kind donations:

Jackie & Tom Wearing in memory of Kyle George Wearing

Mrs Stilgoe in memory of Samuel Abbott

Deloitte LLP in memory of Samuel Abbott

Jo & Dan in memory of Matthew

Val Marlow & Family in memory of Lawrie Tew

We would also like to thank the following for giving their support to Northamptonshire Sands:

Jamie Garner who raised £357 by running in the Northampton 10k Run

Argos Stores for providing us with a Christmas Tree

Howdens Joinery who donated £500

Monday Morning Walkers Club who donated £100

Sue & David Reader who raised £100 selling knitted toys

Diane Bennett and Martin Mayes' mother for knitting baby blankets and angel pockets for our memory boxes

££££££££££

Raise funds by Shopping On Line

See further details on the website - www.easyfundraising.org.uk/northamptonshiresands and northamptonshiresands.easysearch.org.uk.

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW WE HAVE RAISED £54.80 !!!!!

£22.45 from using the search engine and £32.35 on purchases made.