

Our impact on local people



Ben Hardman from Warrington, an IT officer with Riverside Housing, was 22 when he was diagnosed with cancer. 'I was finding it hard to breathe and was prescribed antibiotics, but when I didn't get any better I was sent for an X-ray, and that showed shadows on my lungs. I was seen in Warrington Hospital and told that I had cancer.'

Ben was diagnosed with testicular cancer, which had spread to his lower back and lungs. He was immediately referred to Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology where he underwent three months of chemotherapy treatment. 'I was told the cancer was too advanced for surgery to be an option. I started the chemotherapy straight away and soon noticed my breathing improved. I responded well to treatment and, after three months, I was well enough to undergo surgery.'

Ben is now in good health, back at work, and has regular CT scans to monitor his condition. Just six months after his treatment finished, Ben did a bungee jump to raise funds for Cancer Research UK and then went on to raise further funds with his colleagues at work. 'I know that I benefitted from Cancer Research UK-funded work that has gone on in the past, so I just want to give something back.'

Many thousands of lives in the UK could be saved every year if cancer was diagnosed earlier. It's important to go and see the doctor as soon as you're aware of any persistent symptom that's unusual for you. It may not be cancer, but it's vital to get it checked as the earlier the disease is diagnosed, the more likely treatment will be successful.

It's cancer. You're bound to have questions...

Visit our CancerHelp UK website www.cancerhelp.org.uk or call our team of specialist nurses on freephone 0808 800 4040 (lines open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm).

Be part of it

There are many different ways that you can support our life-saving work in Liverpool. If you'd like to join us, please get in touch.

Email liverpoolcentre@cancer.org.uk or call our fundraising hotline 08701 60 20 40



Tony is a volunteer in our Huyton shop



Julie, Anita and Pauline are volunteers in Liverpool



Jane from Kirkby runs Race for Life



Bernie is a fundraiser from Wirral



Chris is a researcher in Liverpool



Seema is Operational Director of Liverpool Cancer Trials Unit

Fighting cancer in Merseyside & Cheshire



Together we will beat cancer



Making a difference in Merseyside

Every week, more than 200 people in Merseyside and Cheshire* are told they have cancer. But thanks to years of our groundbreaking research, more people are beating the disease than ever before.

We currently spend more than £2 million each year in Liverpool on our life-saving work. In 2009, Liverpool became part of new UK-wide network of centres of excellence in cancer. The **Liverpool Cancer Research UK Centre**¹ brings together scientists, doctors and nurses to boost research in key areas that will most benefit cancer patients in Merseyside, Cheshire and beyond.



An important focus of the Centre is tackling cancer in low income communities. Staff work with local people to raise awareness of symptoms and highlight ways they can reduce their risk.

To ensure that Liverpool remains at the forefront of cancer research well into the future, the Centre will also play a major role in training the next generation of cancer scientists, doctors and surgeons.

* Merseyside and Cheshire Cancer Network.

¹ The Centre is a partnership between Cancer Research UK, the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, Clatterbridge Centre of Oncology NHS Trust, the University of Liverpool, Liverpool City Council, and the Merseyside and Cheshire Cancer Network.

World-class researchers



Liverpool is host to many world-class scientists and doctors, working together to beat cancer. Understanding how cancer develops is crucial to save more lives from the disease. **Professor Francis Barr**, **Dr Ulrike Gruneberg** and other scientists in the city are studying key processes that go on in our cells to build our knowledge in this vital area.

Improving treatments

Researchers in Liverpool are leading the way in developing improved treatments for pancreatic, head and neck cancers, leukaemia and lymphoma, and other forms of the disease.



The city has the largest research group in the UK focusing on pancreatic cancer, led by international expert and surgeon **Professor John Neoptolemos**. This type of cancer is particularly difficult to treat and we urgently need to find new ways of improving survival. Research by the team has already brought about important changes in the way the disease is treated worldwide.

Some of the UK's leading experts in head and neck cancer are based in Liverpool. **Mr Richard Shaw** and his team are exploring ways to improve treatment for this type of cancer. They're investigating if giving patients high pressure oxygen therapy can prevent jaw damage after radiotherapy.

Helping cancer patients

Clinical trials are vital for testing new cancer treatments and ways to prevent or detect the disease. Cancer Research UK plays a unique and pivotal role in cancer clinical trials in the UK and over 30,000 volunteers take part in the trials that we support.

Liverpool is a hub for early-stage trials testing the latest cancer treatments. A major goal in Liverpool is to develop new, more effective treatments that are tailored to each person's cancer. Because of the close collaboration between scientists and doctors in the city, discoveries made in the lab can benefit cancer patients as quickly as possible.

For over a decade, we have funded the trials unit near the Royal Liverpool University Hospital. Researchers at the unit co-ordinate large-scale cancer trials involving people from across the UK. One important trial, run by **Professor Andrew Pettitt**, aims to improve the treatment for a certain type of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in people over 60. Trials like these lead to advances that can improve the lives of cancer patients in Merseyside, Cheshire and throughout the world.

