

DRAFT

## Press Release

### Tournament nets funds for hospital charity

A charity netball tournament has raised more than £900 for local dementia care.

The tournament was organised by Fylde Netball League, and held at Stanley Park, Blackpool, in April. Members of the organisation have decided to donate the money raised – a total of £911 – to Blue Skies Hospitals Fund's Peace of Mind dementia appeal.

The £30,000 appeal is being run by Blue Skies, the charity for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and aims to enhance the care given to all patients living with dementia who are being treated by the Trust. In particular, it will help create a dementia-friendly garden at Clifton Hospital.



The tournament money was raised through an entry fee, a raffle, a shoot-out competition and the sale of Blue Skies badges throughout the event.

Tournament secretary Vivian Fisher said: "We had a good turnout of around 22 teams taking part on the day, and a lot of them helped to provide raffle prizes from meal vouchers to a Blackpool FC shirt.

"We're very pleased with how well the event went and even the weather held out for us!"

Fylde Netball League holds two tournaments a year, with the April event held in memory of the founder of Blackpool Netball Club, Lynn Brown.

Vivian added: “Lynn worked hard to get youngsters involved in the sport and we feel that by holding the Lynn Brown Tournament every year we can remember her and honour her legacy.”

Vivian was joined by Umpiring Secretary Pauline Sampson to hand over the money to Blue Skies Hospitals Fund, at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

Deputy Head of Fundraising, Rebecca Ferguson, said: “Thank you to everyone involved in the Fylde Netball League for this very generous donation.

“This is the second time in as many years the League has chosen to support Blue Skies, with last year’s proceeds going towards the Neonatal Unit at the hospital.

“This money will go a long way in helping us to enhance the care our Trust offers to patients who are living with dementia, and we can’t thank all those involved enough.”

Fylde Netball League will present winners with their trophies during a presentation evening on 30<sup>th</sup> September. Anyone wishing to get involved with the organisation and take part in events should visit [www.fyldenetball.co.uk](http://www.fyldenetball.co.uk).

**ENDS**

**CAPTION: Fylde Netball Tournament Secretary Vivian Fisher, left, and Umpiring Secretary Pauline Sampson, right, visit the dementia corridor at Blackpool Victoria Hospital to present the money raised at the Lynn Brown Tournament to Blue Skies Hospitals Fund’s Hazel Preston.**

For further information about this Press Release, please call Rebecca Ferguson, Deputy Head of Fundraising, on 01253 957903 or email [rebecca.ferguson@bfwh.nhs.uk](mailto:rebecca.ferguson@bfwh.nhs.uk).

**Find us on:**

[www.bfwh.nhs.uk/blueskieshospitalsfund](http://www.bfwh.nhs.uk/blueskieshospitalsfund)

[www.twitter.com/BlueSkiesFund](https://www.twitter.com/BlueSkiesFund)

[www.facebook.com/BlueSkiesHospitalsFund](https://www.facebook.com/BlueSkiesHospitalsFund)