

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012

## **Press Release**

### **Going the extra mile for the 'min'**

The Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases Charitable Fund (RNHRD CF) would like to take the opportunity to thank all those who took part in the Bath Half Marathon 2012 and raised funds for the hospital.

Along with those who ran the 13.1 miles, the RNHRD CF would like to say a huge thank you to our sponsors, Homelets of Bath Limited, who supported the team on the day and sponsored the running vests.

Caroline Arundell of Homelets of Bath said, 'our sponsorship represents our continued support for the Bath Half Marathon, as well as everything that the RNHRD is aspiring to achieve.'

RNHRD CF purchased 50 golden bond places this year and we were delighted with the uptake of places, particularly from The University of Bath, who entered a large team consisting of students, friends and colleagues. We exceeded our target fundraising figure, raising £11,200 with more expected over the next month.

BT also entered a team of six runners who raised £2,000 towards this target. The BT running team was organised by Dave Bishop, who works at their Bath office, and they decided to run for the RNHRD CF as a way of supporting the hospital for all the help and support they give to people locally as well as throughout the UK.

Dave said, 'we wanted to support such a well deserving charity as they are Bath based and help people of all ages and backgrounds.'

The 2012 RNHRD marathon teams' sponsorship money will go towards the hospital's 'Refresh' appeal. The appeal needs to raise £250,000, which is to support an approved programme of refurbishment throughout the hospital. This includes those areas requiring modernisation, new equipment or a decorative face-lift. The first

stage of 'Refresh' is for the outpatients department; its present appearance does not reflect the excellent quality of care provided by the hospital's clinical services nor does it present the forward looking, high quality patient care image which the RNHRD wishes to project.

Niall Bowen, Chair of Charitable Funds said, 'we are delighted to have received support from well-known local businesses such as Homelets and also BT. With their help we have exceeded last year's fundraising total.'

For further information please contact [fundraising@rnhrd.nhs.uk](mailto:fundraising@rnhrd.nhs.uk) or 01225 465941

## **ENDS**

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## **Notes for Editors:**

- The RNHRD NHS FT is a national specialist rehabilitation and rheumatology hospital based in Bath. Offering services to adults, children and young people, the trust has expertise in general and complex:
- Rheumatological and musculoskeletal conditions
- Neurological rehabilitation
- Chronic pain management
- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/ME
- Hillier Garden Centre
- [www.rnhrd.nhs.uk](http://www.rnhrd.nhs.uk)