HELO!
Welcome to BRIGHTLIGHT!
This newsletter is jam-packed with updates from the last year! Our national study looks at how specialist cancer services for young people makes a difference to your future and wellbeing. Thank you for being a part of it!

THUMBS UP FOR STEPHEN
We are privileged to have worked with Stephen Sutton on a number of projects over the past three years. He provided excellent input and opinion, and will be hugely missed. Stephen’s motto was “life isn’t measured in time, it’s measured in achievements”. This phrase was a testament to the work Stephen did not only for us, but in the extraordinary legacy he has left behind.

WALK OF FAME
We’re pleased to have won a prize award in June 2014! Our poster was about our YAP workshop we held looking at your views on accessing and being involved in research. Be sure to check it out on our website and Twitter. Thank you to our Young Advisory Panel for all their input.

WORLD CUP LEADER
BRIGHTLIGHT is proud to announce we currently have over 800 young people participating in the study – a big thanks to all of you for being a part of this. This makes BRIGHTLIGHT the largest study of young people and cancer care in the world!

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@bR1GhTLiGhT We follow back!
YOUNG ADVISORY PANEL (YAP)

Want to help? Well look no further! Our YAP are game-changers, involved in all stages of how we carry out our research. They help in various ways of designing our study and making it a success! If you want to join our panel, please get in touch! Joining the YAP is a fab opportunity to meet others and to be involved in a variety of tasks to help develop the study. Come and see for yourself at our next workshop! Our contact details are on page 3!

WORKSHOP WONDERS

Eight members of our YAP joined us for a day in London in September last year. Together we explored barriers to young people taking part in research, what research is important to them, and their right to say YES. Check out the photos to the left to see what a great day it was. (Nobody can say no to free sweets!)

DATE IN YOUR DIARY

We are thrilled to be planning our next workshop in London, on 5th September 2014. This workshop will include topics you think are important and what questions you think we should be asking when you’ve reached three years past your diagnosis. We will also be exploring the topics of relationships and body image. If you would like to attend, please contact us to register your interest. We’ll cover all your travel and food costs, and you will also receive a £50 LOVE2SHOP voucher!
EMERGING FINDINGS
We’ve now collected a huge amount of data from over 500 interviews we’ve carried out! Here are some interesting facts about your treatment we’ve found out so far!

8/10 of you had surgery as a form of treatment
9/10 of you felt you were involved in the decision about which treatment to have
8/10 of you rated your team as ‘excellent’ in helping you prepare for treatment side effects
6/10 of you had surgery as a form of treatment
3/10 of you had tried complementary therapies to help with treatment side effects

HOT OFF THE PRESS - HANNAH PARTOS
Hannah is a freelance journalist recovering from leukaemia, aged 24.
We were excited to have our media profile raised after Hannah discussed the BRIGHTLIGHT Study in her article published by the Guardian. The article focussed on the importance of raising awareness of cancer in young people. For updates on more of her articles, follow her on Twitter; @hannahhh - Keep up the brilliant work!

MUSIC TO OUR EARS - ZEENA BEALE
BRIGHTLIGHTER Zeena, music student at Cambridge University impressed us all when she took to BBC Radio 5 Live in an interview with presenter Richard Bacon.
Twenty year old Zeena spoke about her experience of being diagnosed with cancer as a teenager. Zeena also recorded an upcoming video clip with BRIGHTLIGHT about what’s involved in taking part in the study. Whether on the radio waves or in front of a camera, Zeena is one to watch! Check her out on Twitter; @zeenabeale

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Want to share your story in our next newsletter? Are you a member of the YAP or recently entered the study? Wherever you are in your BRIGHTLIGHT journey, send us a summary of your experience for a chance to be in with a £30 Love2Shop voucher for the featured story.