

Press Release

16th May 2011

They shook their hips, raised money for St Peter & St James Hospice & hopefully got Lindfield into the Guinness Book of World Records!

Three hundred spandex-clad people gathered on Saturday 14th May 2011 at precisely 12 noon on Lindfield Common for a one-hour choreographed dance party. They weren't auditioning for the latest reality TV show or rehearsing for a talent show, this was a get-together of dance enthusiasts and supporters raising funds for St Peter & St James Hospice while trying to enter the record books!

The class, taken by Esther Featherstone, consisted of music and dance moves based on salsa, merengue, cumbia, reggaeton and other international music styles and forms.

An hour and 300 hot and exhausted people later, the final total was announced as a massive **£2030.00!**

Esther wrote on her Facebook page: "Well done, well done, well done to EVERYONE who took part in the Zumba challenge on Saturday. You are all AWESOME! Thank you all so much for taking part and a HUGE thank you to Lindfield Arts Festival for hosting it. Thank you to ALL the volunteers, without you I couldn't have done it!"

Hayley Bradbury, Marketing and Events Fundraiser for St Peter & St James said "This was absolutely amazing! Esther worked so hard to publicise this wonderful event and we would like to thank her on behalf of all our patients', their families and friends for having the vision and enthusiasm to make it all work!"

Zumba Fitness, which boasts more than a million people who "Like" it on Facebook, is a dance fitness program created by dancer and choreographer Alberto "Beto" Perez in Colombia during the 1990s. The program combines international music with dance in an effort to make exercise fun. Zumba classes are offered in more than 110,000 locations in over 125 countries.

- ENDS -

For further information: Gill Cronin on 01444 471598

Notes to Editors: About St Peter & St James Hospice & Continuing Care Centre

Our mission as a registered charity is to provide specialist care, love and support for those living with progressive, life limiting illnesses from East and West Sussex. We will endeavour to meet the needs of each patient, their family and friends. We aim to encourage and enable all patients to live their lives to their full potential despite their illnesses.

We care for patients from Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath, Lewes, Uckfield and the surrounding villages. Last year we provided care for more than 400 patients and their families. All of our Hospice services are free of charge and we receive less than 17% of our funding from the Government. This means we have to raise more than £1.8 million every year through fundraising. That's £5,000 every single day.

If you are interested in working or volunteering at St Peter & St James please contact Human Resources on 01444 471598 or visit www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk.



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Images: For logos and photographs please contact Gill Cronin on 01444 471598 or email gill.cronin@stpeter-stjames.org.uk