

## Few tables remaining at the Sunflower Ball

Thursday 1 May, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

### CHARITY BALL IN MEMORY OF INSPIRATIONAL TAMMY

The brother of a woman who died after bravely battling an incurable disease is appealing for support to help others suffering from the condition.

Tammy Harrison from Nuneaton died in 2013 aged 35 having suffered from Cystic Fibrosis, an incurable genetic condition which affected many different organs, all of her life.

Her positive attitude to her life and the way she coped with her disease has inspired brother Rob O'Donnell to organise a charity ball in Hinckley to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust which helps research into the disease and provides support for sufferers.

Tammy had a double lung transplant in 2008, married Ian Harrison in 2010 and went onto the kidney transplant list in 2012. A kidney donor was found, but in January 2013 she was diagnosed with endocarditis, a rare and in Tammy's case, an incurable heart infection, meaning the operation could not go ahead. She died in June.

Rob has organised the Sunflower Ball, named after Tammy's favourite flower, which will be held on Saturday June 7th at the Hinckley Island Hotel. He is selling tickets and appealing for support for a charity auction.

Rob, of Lutterworth, said: "Tammy cared deeply about her family and friends, and always had such a positive outlook which lives on and is really inspirational.

"It's made me determined to raise as many funds as I can to help other families in the same situation.

"My aim is to raise at least another £5,000, and ideally £10,000, for the Trust, so please come and join me or help by donating cash or items to raffle or auction."

Cystic Fibrosis is an inherited condition caused by a faulty gene which affects 10,000 people in the UK. Around 1 in 25 of the population carry the gene. The disease causes the body to produce thick mucus, which affects the lungs and digestive system in particular.

Rob has previously raised funds through skydives, completing the National Three Peaks Challenge, and other smaller scale activities.

Tickets for the ball, at 7pm at the Hinckley Island Hotel, cost £45 each. Besides a three-course meal there will be a charity auction, live music and a disco. Lots already donated for the auction include a signed Pele shirt, signed caps and posters from Lewis Hamilton, Jimmy Carr tickets, a signed Trunki and dinner bed and breakfast at Coombe Abbey and Walton Hall hotels.

:: Anyone interested in helping or buying tickets should call Rob on 07770 332076

Tickets are also available at [www.sunflowerball.co.uk](http://www.sunflowerball.co.uk) or @sunflowerball2014 or <https://www.facebook.com/SunflowerBall2014>

### Media:



In memory of Tammy O'Donnell, aged 35. Fell asleep on 3 June 2013.

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