

GET INSPIRED

Jackie's story

'I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2010 and underwent chemotherapy and surgery before being sent home to Dumfries to recover for my course of radiotherapy. Home was difficult; I felt isolated and very low. I came across to Maggie's when I returned to Edinburgh for my week of radiotherapy, and I was overcome by how friendly and warm the Centre was. I took part in some of the courses on offer and had sessions with the Centre Head, Andy – they helped a lot.

I wanted to give something back to Maggie's, a place that had supported me, made me feel more positive and less alone. First, I faced my biggest fear – heights – by taking on a sponsored skydive. I set myself a goal to raise £10,000 so went about organising every kind of event and initiative I could think of: casino nights, 'Stars in their Eyes', packing bags in my local supermarkets, zip slides... you name it, I did it.

2014 was a difficult year; not only was I re-diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer, I also had a severe case of whooping cough. I currently have my cough under control, but I'm still living with cancer. Despite this, I was eager to participate in Culture Crawl 2016. So, with the support of my friends by my side, I took on the 10 mile walk and loved every minute of it.'

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Jackie, Maggie's visitor

