

Chemotherapy, following a diagnosis of cancer, is available at St Mary's Hospital, Newport on the Isle of Wight. However if radiotherapy is needed, and this is usually the case, then Patients have to travel to either Portsmouth or Southampton.

Imagine this then:

You know someone in this situation, they have probably had to stop working as initially they may have had an operation. Mortgages and bills still have to be paid and

For those in employment, it will be 14 weeks before you can receive any financial help.

By the time they have paid to get to the ferry and paid for parking, return ferry fares etc. They will spend around £40 per day. Most patients travel daily for 6 weeks.

Imagine how this is when you are feeling poorly and worrying about finances.

PATCH was started in 1989 to address these issues. We raise money locally and the swim is our biggest fundraising event. At the outset our aim was to help alleviate

Some of the problems caused by cancer and it's treatments.

We rely on the swimmers to help those who are facing worrying times. So on behalf of those you will help, thank you.

The swim costs us money to organise and your safety is taken care of by our community,so please don 't treat this as a free lark.

Please collect your money and send it in to wherever you picked the forms up from.

Enjoy your swim and thank you for taking part.

Remembering Edgar Bevan, a true gentleman and friend of PATCH