

Kim's Calendar Story

Why this calendar? We wanted a fun way to raise money for Cancer Research, and the Mermaid Calendar seemed an excellent idea to achieve this.

Why Cancer Research? I was diagnosed with lung cancer back in October of 2013. This was a scary time, but after speaking to Consultants and the staff dedicated to Cancer patients, I was given the news that what I had was treatable by surgery. In December of that same year, I had an operation to remove an egg-sized tumour, followed by a belt and braces course of Chemotherapy treatment.

My convalescence took a long time, Chemo seriously sucks, but with the encouragement of my husband and family, my friends, and the hospital staff, I'm still annoying people 5 years later. It was a tough ole journey but, God willing, it is over, and I feel as fit as I ever did.

Cancer Research is making breakthroughs every day, and with treatment, more and more cancer patients get to spend precious time with their family. Over 50% of Cancer patients survive, and this number is growing.

We started the Calendars off in 2015 with a Men's Gig Rowers calendar. It was called the Naked Truth. We decided to sign the men up at the Awards Dinner after they had had plenty of celebration cordial. In the true Spirit of Rame, they approached the whole thing with lots of laughter and cajoling, it was such fun. I especially enjoyed kidnapping Chris Bowden, releasing him only after he agreed to do the photo shoot. My jaw ached with laughing so much.

We wanted something different for the ladies.

A group of ladies from Rame were the ideal candidates because every day of the year we can expect to see several of them out swimming, even on stormy days.

So off they went, into the sea – in the October chill - and without wetsuits, to pose for the photos. These fantastic photos were taken by Laura Moyle, and the Calendar design was patiently and painstakingly executed by Jon Puckey, at A2Z printers in Liskeard.

These ladies who swim, work, and model for calendars etc., are known as - The Mermates! – So folks believe me when I say these fishy people do actually exist and if you buy the calendar you will find out who they are.....and who the hero was who saved our waters.

You are supporting Cancer Research, thank you.

Kim Byles