

The Mail's Take Five Minutes campaign aims to save Katherine Sinfield's life



FINALLY ... Katherine Sinfield is all smiles as she is allowed home from hospital following 51 days of receiving treatment for cancer.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Teenager charged with making indecent photos

A TEENAGER was expected to attend court today charged with making indecent images of children.

Myles Dartford, 19, of Arden Road, Barton under Needwood, was due to appear at Burton Magistrates' Court.

Dartford has not yet entered a plea. He is charged with possessing 25 indecent images of children – of level 1, making 574 indecent images of children at level 1, and making seven indecent images of children at level 2.

All images are alleged to have been made in Burton, between October 8 and December 20.

Alleged shoplifters in court for store theft

TWO men were due to appear in court today charged with stealing more than £700 worth of equipment from a Burton store.

Andrew Dunsmore, 33 of Soberton Road, and Damien Edwards, 29, of Tarrant Gardens, both Hampshire, were expected to appear at Burton Magistrates' Court.

It is alleged they stole £775 worth of electrical equipment from Currys on October 11. They have not yet entered any pleas.

Trial set for man, 20, accused of breach

A 20-YEAR-OLD man will stand trial after denying breaching the terms of a suspended sentence.

Nathan Ashmore, of Rangemore Street, Burton, appeared at Burton Magistrates' Court yesterday to deny the breach.

It is alleged that he failed to report for unpaid work on July 5 and for supervision on July 10.

Ashmore, who was not represented, denied the breach, telling magistrates he had been working those days.

He will return to court on October 21 for the trial and answers unconditional bail.

Licensing discussions held on Aldi store

LICENSING bosses in South Derbyshire will meet to discuss applications next week.

South Derbyshire District Council's licensing and appeals sub-committee will meet at 10am in the council chamber in Swadlincote on Wednesday, August 21.

Items up for discussion include an application from the Amalfie Whites Bar and Restaurant in Melbourne.

Decisions will also be made on applications from Doves Garages, in Melbourne and an Aldi store in Hilton.

Katherine allowed home is best birthday present

by Rob Smyth
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BIRTHDAY wishes have certainly come true for Burton leukaemia sufferer Katherine Sinfield.

The reception class teacher, who is the face of the Mail's Take Five Minutes campaign, was discharged from hospital on Tuesday – her 33rd birthday.

After more than seven weeks of intensive treatment at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, Katherine, from Balfour Street, was given the green light to leave.

But as Katherine explains, this is just the closure of the first chapter of what could be a very long book.

She said: "I was thrilled to get the news that I could go home – I had my doubts whether this day would ever arrive.

"I've got my list of follow-up clinic dates in Birmingham – the first of which is Thursday – and I will have daily visits from specialist nurses to change my dressings and check my Hickman line.

"The results of these clinic visits will determine what happens next. Remember, the eventual aim is for me to undergo a bone marrow transplant.

"While home, I will be taking loads of tablets and medicines including anti-cancer drugs, and I will have to carry an emergency medical card in case I feel ill at any time. I am still immensely prone to infection so I am limited to what I can do, where I can go and who I can see."

Since the Mail launched its Take Five Minutes campaign, Katherine has been calling on readers to give blood and sign up to the bone marrow register.

She added: "This hasn't been a campaign about me just to help me, this is a

'I was thrilled to get the news that I could go home – I had my doubts whether this day would ever arrive'

Katherine Sinfield

campaign to raise awareness and help anybody who finds themselves in a similar position.

"You simply do not realise, until you are told you need a transplant or that you need three or four bags of blood and platelets in a day, how vital these services are to thousands of patients.

"I've learned a lot about leukaemia while being a patient for 51 days and I cannot emphasise enough how vital the services are from charities such as Cure Leukaemia and the Anthony Nolan Trust."

A bone marrow transplant is the only cure for Katherine and so the search has begun to find her a match.

More information about the NHS British Bone Marrow Registry, for people aged between 18 and 49 years old, is available by calling 0300 123 2323.

The other method is through the Anthony Nolan Trust, for people aged 16 to 30, by visiting www.anthonolan.org



Katherine's Diary

THE reception class teacher from Burton, who is battling against leukaemia, has described in her own words daily life on the hospital ward she has been confined to in her fight against the disease.

Katherine Sinfield, of Balfour Street, has needed daily doses of antibiotics, fungal drips and blood transfusions after being diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukaemia in April.

She has remained in hospital, in Birmingham, for the last seven weeks after doctors said her only hope of survival was to receive a bone marrow transplant.

In June, the Mail launched its Take Five Minutes campaign in a bid to locate a suitable donor, not just for Katherine, but for anyone in her position. Here, Katherine describes life on the ward and her daily battle

against cancer and against her increasing boredom of being confined to the ward. For more information on how to become a bone marrow donor, call the National Blood Service Donor helpline on 0300 123 2323.

Tuesday, August 13

Good news, apart from being my birthday, today I was also allowed home.

Before you pull the party-poppers, the reality is that it was gone 9pm before I

managed to set foot out of the ward and so not getting home to Burton until 10.20pm meant my cards and presents have remained unopened.

My leaving presents from the hospital included a bag of dressings to give to the district nurses for my back and a bag of new nozzles, clamps and cleaning fluid for my Hickman Line which remains in place.

The pharmacy team equipped me with endless things.

I don't travel light.

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