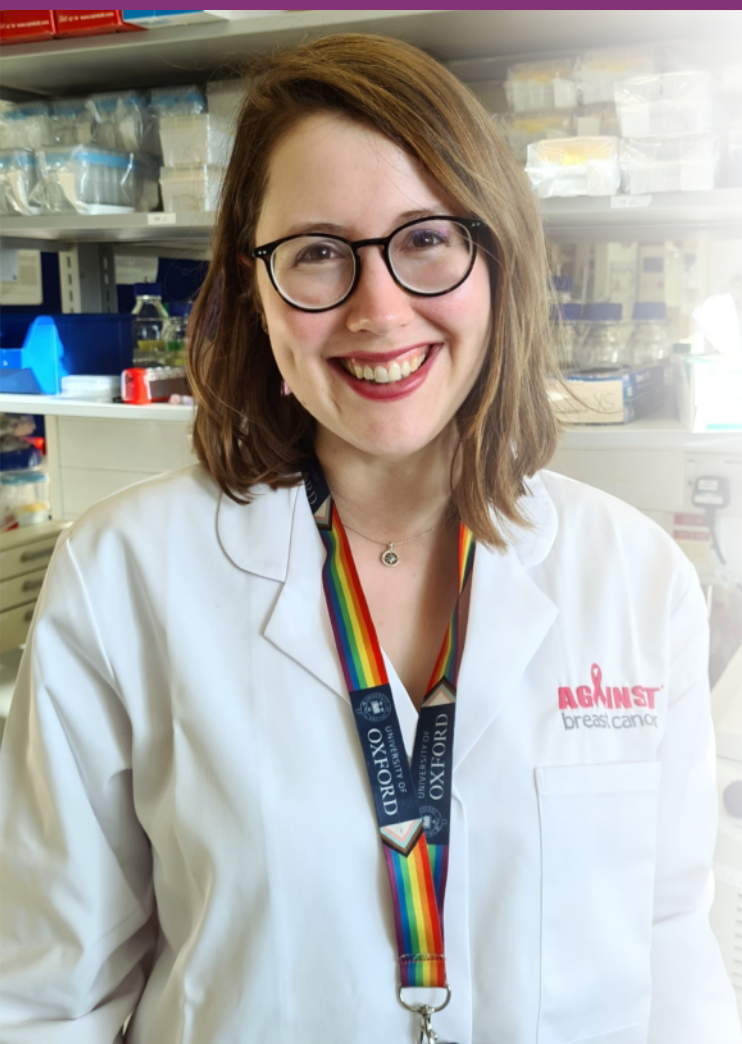


# together

Autumn 2025



## Award Winning Researchers

**AGAINST**  
breast cancer

# Change *starts* with a *will*.

A gift in your will could help create a future free from breast cancer



We've partnered with leading estate planner, Octopus Legacy, so you can write or update your will for free today.

Claim your free will by:

Scan the QR code

Or call 020 4525 3605 and  
quote Against Breast Cancer



# Welcome

to the latest edition of **together**

**Thanks to the incredible support we continue to receive, this year we have seen headline grabbing news from our research team at the University of Southampton.**

Professor Skipp and his team working on our 5-year ABC Discover project successfully created a blood test capable of accurately detecting the 12 most common forms of cancer in the UK. Described as 'game-changing' by Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Wes Streeting, the new test is currently being evaluated by the NHS and should provide them with a valuable new tool in the fight against breast cancer.

Please take time to read our research news, many of the team have received awards or been recognised for their dedication and determination to create a future free from breast cancer. We are sure you will join us in congratulating each of them for their achievements and for their tireless efforts.

Research breakthroughs are only possible because we receive the support of many generous people. We are always looking for and listening to ideas that would enable as many people as possible to join our community. In this edition you can learn about our new recycling schemes, new events and also how you can take advantage of our will writing service.

As a special thank you for your support, we have a special offer for your Christmas cards, do read on...!



**Against Breast Cancer, Leathem House,  
13 Napier Court, Barton Lane, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 3YT**

Against Breast Cancer is a registered charity in England and Wales. Registered Charity No. 1121258

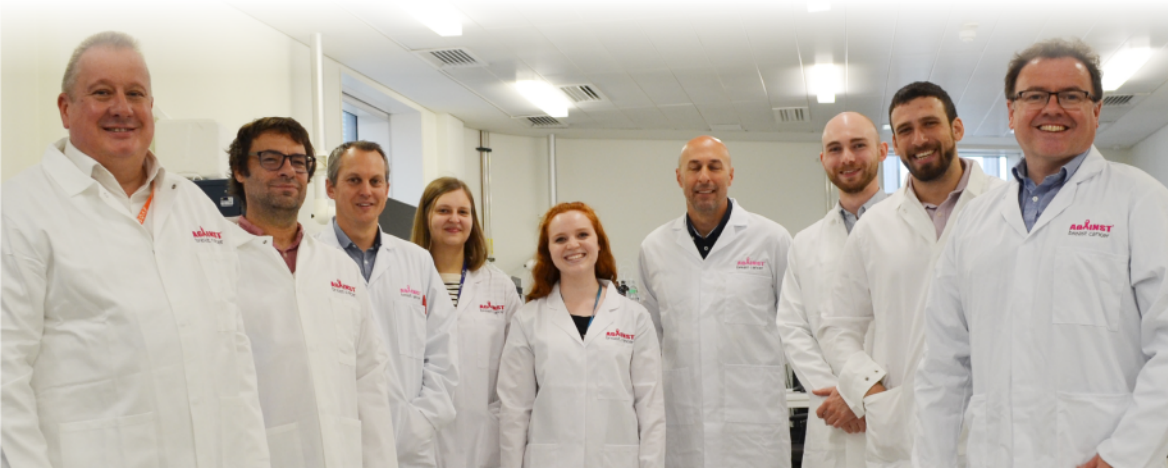


# Research Update

**Against Breast Cancer funded research continues to make progress across our three research themes of Prevention, Earlier Detection and better Treatments for breast cancer.**

Our long-term research programs at the University of Southampton and Oriel College, Oxford continue to produce impactful results in vital areas of breast cancer research.

The ABC Discover program at Southampton, led by Professor Paul Skipp, enters a new 5-year period with further funding and development of miONCO-Dx - the 12-cancer early detection test – with a focus on evaluating miONCO for the detection of secondary breast cancer at an early stage. ABC Discover will also use cutting edge techniques, including genomics (DNA/RNA), proteomics (proteins) and metabolomics (metabolites) to identify new biomarkers for breast cancer to tailor the best treatments for individual patients. ABC Discover will use the ABC DietCompLyf biobank, a valuable resource collected from over 3,300 breast cancer patients, to help understand the links between diet and lifestyle and secondary breast cancer risk. ABC Discover project is also using 'immunopeptidomics' for the development of personalized breast cancer vaccines.





The 10-year ABC Therapeutic Antibody Program led by Dr Charlie Birts, Professor Max Crispin and Professor Steve Beers, tackles all three of our research themes with a focus on developing novel therapies, including those that boost immune responses to cancer (immunotherapies). The Southampton team are using antibody engineering techniques to improve existing antibody therapies and have revealed links between obesity and resistance to breast cancer therapies to aid selection of the most effective treatments for different patients.

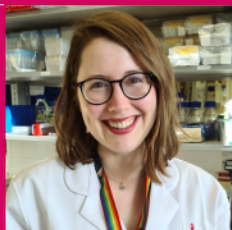
Professor Simon Lord and Dr Lina Hacker, our Research Fellows at Oriel College, University of Oxford, have continued to be productive in breast cancer research. Professor Lord, building on ABC funded work, has just secured additional funding from the National Institute for Health & Care Research (NIHR) to study the relationship between insulin levels and treatment response in hormone receptor positive breast cancer. Dr Hacker has been prolific this year, publishing numerous papers and presenting at conferences describing her photoacoustic imaging work for breast cancer detection.

# AWARD WINNING

## Against Breast Cancer researchers!



Professor Max Crispin



Dr Lina Hacker



Grace Hayes



Anna Liese

**Professor Max Crispin** from the ABC team at the University of Southampton was recognized among the world's most influential researchers on the Clarivate 2024 Highly Cited List!

**Dr Lina Hacker**, Junior Research Fellow at Oriel, received a 2024 Award for Excellence from the University of Oxford Oncology Department. Additionally, Lina was selected as Fellow by the German newspaper "Die Zeit" for their "Zia – Visible Women in Science Program".

**Grace Hayes**, ABC-funded PhD student at Southampton, received first prize for her talk at a GSK sponsored Early Career Researchers conference, whilst Anna-Liese received the Faculty of Medicine's best Research Technician award at the University of Southampton.

In other research news, the Against Breast Cancer community recently gathered for a training event, where volunteers, staff and supporters heard about the latest breakthroughs in breast cancer research. The day, kindly hosted by Sophos, featured video messages from researchers funded by Against Breast Cancer, each sharing exciting progress towards earlier detection and more effective treatments for breast cancer.

# October is **Breast Cancer** Awareness Month

## We have lots of ways you can bring your community together this month

### Shopping sustainably

Where every item of clothing has a story. Each purchase from our charity eBay store reduces waste and extends the life of your clothing. By making a sustainable choice that makes a difference. 100% of profits fund life-saving breast cancer research.

### Fundraising in your community

If you prefer the pub to the pitch, take a look at our "Pubs in Pink" initiative. It's where we invite pubs to go Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness month and beyond.

Whether you want to do it at home, your school, college or town square, your event can be whatever you want it to be, and we'll support you every step of the way.

If you are looking to fundraise through your workplace, we would love to hear from you. There are lots of ways to get involved with your colleagues.

### You don't need a crowd to fund

Fundraising events are not for everyone. You can show your support by making an online donation or becoming a regular giver using our website. It is both simple and secure.

Perhaps you just want to show your support by wearing a pink ribbon pin badge. Get yours exclusively through our online shop.

However you choose to show your support, the funds you raise will support research into secondary spread, the main cause of breast cancer related deaths.

## Jos and Alison Wheeler release charity single

Fantastic supporter Jos McClaren has recently teamed up with former Beautiful South singer, Alison Wheeler, to record their cover of Sixpence None The Richer's smash hit, Kiss Me.

All proceeds from the single will be donated to Against Breast Cancer.

Scan the QR code at the foot of the page to head to Bandcamp from 3 October to download your copy.

You can read about Jos's journey with secondary spread cancer on our website.

## Inspired by the Lionesses this Summer?

Are you involved with a sports team of any kind? Check out our "Play it Pink" campaign. Host a fundraiser for Against Breast Cancer and your club keeps half the funds raised.

We have teamed up with former England men's football captain, David Platt and his grassroots football kit supplier, Golazzo to bring you the "Keep it up for breast cancer campaign". Endorsed by Wales International, Josie Longhurst.

### Take on the challenge of 10 keep ups.

Post your videos / photographs on social media with **#keepitup4BC**, tagging: **Against Breast Cancer & Golazzo**.

Not only will you be helping to raise vital awareness. Each individual post enters your football club into a draw to win 10 new footballs.



Josie Longhurst in action for Vancouver Rise FC



Visit our website



Head to Bandcamp



# The Rise of the Marathon Majors

**Last year 11,000 runners from around the world completed the Abbott World Marathon Majors. Each of them finished six incredible marathons; London, Chicago, Tokyo, Boston, Berlin and New York to claim the coveted Six Star Finisher Medal.**

We have been helping as many of our supporters as possible to reach this goal by increasing our allocation of entries at these prestigious events.

Along with places for the ever popular London Marathon, we have a team of 20 taking part in Berlin later this year, and we recently secured places for the Sydney and Tokyo marathons.

We recognise the Abbott Marathon Majors represent an incredible opportunity for the charity to raise vital funds for our life-saving research into secondary spread, the main cause of breast cancer related deaths.







Nicolas Raj completed the Abbots World Major Marathons in 2024, running all 6 events for Against Breast Cancer said:

*"It has taken me ten years to complete the six world major marathons, but I have enjoyed every minute. I am especially proud to have been able to run each one for ABC to support their vital work. I feel part of something special when I pull on the ABC vest"*

Interest is increasing year on year and with the addition of new events to the series, demand for places shows no sign of slowing down.

The next likely addition is the Cape Town Marathon which will take place in May 2026. We have reserved places on the proviso that they are awarded the honour of becoming the newest member of the Abbot Marathon Major family.

The Abbot Marathon Majors present an incredible challenge for runners. By running for Against Breast Cancer they are sharing their journey with friends and family raising the profile of the charity around the world. We support all our runners with every step they take and are proud that so many of them return year after year.

Sarah recently achieved her dream whilst supporting a cause she truly believes in:

*"Running the London marathon in honour of my family and friends with breast cancer, and as someone with high risk myself, was transformative for me"*

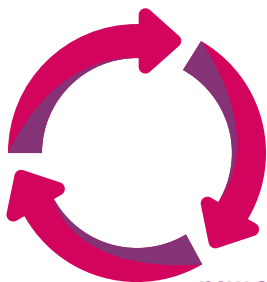
## Do you think you have what it takes to run a Major Marathon?

We have guaranteed entries for many fantastic events taking place in some wonderful locations across the UK and beyond and now is the perfect time to start thinking about your goals, for 2026 and beyond.

You can find out more information by scanning the QR code or clicking [here](#).







# Recycling

At Against Breast Cancer, we are always exploring new and innovative ways to raise vital funds for our research.

## Jewellery

We accept all types of jewellery - gold, silver, costume jewellery - even if it's broken or damaged. We work with a trusted auctioneer who sells on our behalf commission free, so 100% of the proceeds come directly to Against Breast Cancer.

## Foreign Currency

Whether it's coins or notes, we can turn your spare foreign currency into donations. Just post it to us and we'll take care of the rest!

## Stamps

We collect used and foreign stamps. And thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers, all donations are carefully sorted and packaged for collection by our recycling partner who make a generous donation for each box we fill.

## Toner Cartridges

We partner with a recycling company that specialises in recycling original ink and toner cartridges. Visit our website to find out if we can send you a collection box. We receive profits from your donation.

## Donation Bags

If you receive one of our donation bags through your letterbox, simply fill it with any unwanted clothing, including paired shoes and handbags, and place it somewhere clearly visible from the road on your designated collection day. The collection date is printed on the envelope that comes with the donation bag. Collections take place two working days after delivery. By donating instead of discarding your clothing you will be helping to protect the environment as you support vital breast cancer research.

Please follow this link to find out more about all the recycling initiatives we currently offer to our supporters.



Visit our website



Visit our eBay shop

# Bra Bank Champions

No one can deny the last five years have been tough, but amongst our network of bra bank holders, few have had it as tough as Bernie and the women of Soroptimist International (SI) in Southport. SI is a global volunteer movement, with a mission to transform the lives and status of women and girls.

SI ladies held their annual fundraising concert at All Saints Church in November. The event was less well attended than in previous years. But as time passed, the number of bra donations began to increase from venues across Southport. From beauty salons to bars, yoga studios to the local cinema, bags of bras began turning up in the most unusual places.

Some donations come from friends, many from strangers - one even came from a Dalek! Bernie has been handed bags of bras in the unlikeliest of places (pubs are popular). She's even getting used to finding bags waiting for her on her seat at church.

It was our pleasure to join an online chat with the members of SI in Southport to thank and tell them more about the life saving research their incredible fundraising was supports. We pass on our sincere thanks to the people of Southport for supporting the ladies of Soroptimist International so well. For her part, Bernie feels by getting involved, bra recycling has helped her to feel she has become part of the community she moved to five years ago.

We look forward to hearing of the ladies' plans to expand their recycling which includes working with local schools and colleges. They are even launching roving bra banks in time for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.



## Bras

For the past 14 years, our bra recycling scheme has become one of the most popular ways to support a great cause. It's not just a brilliant way to raise funds - it also helps reduce waste. Every bra you kindly donate is sold abroad for reuse, and for every tonne collected, our recycling partner donates £700 to fund our life saving research.

You can post your bras directly to us or drop them off at one of our lovely bra banks. To find your nearest bra bank, check out the bra bank locator map on our recycling page.

# Christmas Cards

**AGAINST**  
breast cancer

Visit our online shop to see our wide range of Christmas cards and gifts



**i** Cards come in packs of ten including envelopes and are made from fully FSC certified materials.

**Featuring a mix of traditional, humorous and unique pink ribbon cards, all profits support breast cancer research.**

Enjoy discounts on our range of Christmas card bundles and take advantage of our 3 for 2 offers.

To see our full range of cards and gifts, visit our online shop at:  
[shop.againstbreastcancer.org.uk](http://shop.againstbreastcancer.org.uk)  
or scan the QR code:



**Visit our shop to get yours today**

Whilst visiting our shop, don't forget to check out our festive pink ribbon baubles too!