

PRESS RELEASE

Solihull Heart Support Group in Europe

Mike and Tricia Lines, the Chair and Vice-Chair of Solihull Heart Support Group were delighted to be asked by The British Heart Foundation to represent English and Welsh Heart Support Groups at the European Heart Network's Patients Seminar in Brussels on October 22nd and 23rd. We accompanied Dr. Val Billingham of BHF and gave a presentation on the work of Solihull Heart Support Group, how it was set-up nearly 20 years ago and the work we do to support cardiac patients in Solihull. The European Heart Network has 30 members in 24 countries consisting of National Heart Foundations and Associations committed to the prevention of cardio-vascular disease in Europe.

It was a very full programme including presentations by the EHN Director & the Policy Officer, the Secretary General of the European Public Health Alliance, Mrs Prettner from the European Commission, Dr Val Billingham from BHF, The German Heart Foundation and the Spanish Heart Foundation. Also present were representatives from Sweden , the Republic of Ireland and the Netherlands. There was a very interesting update from & discussion on EU Policy relating to items particularly concerning cardio-vascular disease. It was very reassuring to see how seriously it is treated in Europe.

We made a number of very useful contacts and hope to host a representative from the Republic of Ireland in Solihull next year to show how our meetings and exercise classes are run.

This introduction into Europe was a great start to our 20th Birthday Celebrations in 2015

Further details if required available from:

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