

## Bra Wars – National Grid Hinckley helps fight breast cancer

22 May 2015

- National Grid employees donate bras to help beat breast cancer
- Former Mis-Teeq singer Alesha Dixon hands over her bra
- Post room swamped by bras of all sizes

National Grid employees have swung into action to donate their bras to help beat breast cancer. They've handed in their underwear as part of the Ladies Fighting Breast Cancer campaign.

Hundreds of the donated bras will be used as "bunting" at Star City, the entertainments complex in Birmingham, on 29 May before being wrapped up and sent abroad to help other women.

The campaign had a celebrity start when Britain's Got Talent judge Alesha Dixon handed in her bra live on-air at the Free Radio Studios in Birmingham. Alesha said: "It's amazing. So many women have bras they don't use, and this is a great cause." A National Grid employee heard the appeal and suggested at work that that it was something to be involved in. An email was sent out urging staff to donate their bras and drop them into a box near the post room. The response was immediate.

The post room soon looked more like a lingerie shop after 154 bras of all sizes were donated. One employee joked: "It was impossible to find my tea cup amongst all the B and C cups!". Staff at National Grid Warwick also joined in the donate-a-bra campaign. Tanya Hutchinson, the National Grid organiser, said: "As always, it's been a tremendous response from employees at National Grid Hinckley.

'Many of our staff have had their lives touched in some way by breast cancer. Every year in the UK 55,000 people are diagnosed with breast cancer and 12,000 die of the disease so it's important that we help educate people about this serious issue.'

National Grid already has a strong partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support. National Grid employees have voted Macmillan as their chosen charity.

The company intends to raise £500,000 for the charity over the next two years. National Grid is also looking to provide 2,500 emergency fuel grants to people who have cancer. Macmillan improves the lives of people affected by cancer by providing practical, medical and financial support.



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Notes for editors

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- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
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Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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