



Kerri, Seth, John & Charlie Gallop shaved their heads to show their support as Kerri began her journey

## The day I found out I had breast cancer

The day my youngest son started school is a day I'll never forget. I was so excited about beginning the next stage of my life, and all of the possibilities that come with a few hours of me-time. Instead, it was the day I found out I had breast cancer.

Those first few days were a blur. I was a healthy, 37 year old woman with no family history, how could this be happening? Then I found out that one in nine women will receive the same diagnosis. I was officially engaged in a fight I never imagined I would be involved in, and I was determined to win.

***“A mammogram was the first step in taking charge of my health and getting my life back.”***

Looking back, I was extremely nervous about that mammogram eight months ago. Now I realize that it was the first step in taking charge of my health and getting my life back. I've now had chemotherapy, surgery and radiation and I'm proud to say, “I'm cancer free!”.

I share my story with you in hopes that more lives will be saved through the digital mammography equipment located at the Owen Sound Regional Hospital. It was its improved imaging that literally focused my fight and recovery.

I support SMHF's local goal in raising funds for that essential equipment to help people like me right here in Saugeen Shores. My story may have ended differently without that detection.

Kerri Shrider Gallop, Cancer Survivor

The “Take Kerr of your Tatas” spirit as her baseball and volleyball teams raised over \$11,000 in Kerri's honour and participated in the Pretty in Pink 5K your way Fun Run last fall. Kerri's circle of supportive friends and family is truly inspirational and we join them in celebrating her health victory.

