

# Waverley Care and Pleasance celebrate their 25 year partnership on the Fringe



Artistes from Pleasance helped celebrate the partnership on Calton Hill

Waverley Care and Pleasance held a fabulous photo call today with 25 yellow space hoppers – one for every year of their charity partnership which has raised almost £400,000 for the Edinburgh-based charity.

As well as raising funds the charity's volunteers have spent many hours at the venue raising awareness of HIV and Hepatitis C.



Susan Calman is appearing at Pleasance and although a little apprehensive in case of any injury right in the middle of her Fringe run, she got right into Space Hopping by the end of the photo call!









This year Waverley Care's bucket shakers are back at the Pleasance throughout August and the charity will also benefit from two shows at the venue. On **Tuesday 16 August, the annual Tartan Ribbon Comedy Benefit** returns with stellar line-up, including Stuart Goldsmith, Mark Watson, Russell Howard, James Acaster, Lucy Porter, Adam Kay, Rachel Parris and Larry Dean, with all proceeds going to Waverley Care.

Grant Sugden, Chief Executive of Waverley Care, said: "From the very first year that we began collecting, the staff at the Pleasance took us to their hearts and we now feel very much part of the Pleasance family. The generosity of Pleasance audiences has helped us raise a staggering sum of money, allowing us to make a positive difference to the lives of people living with HIV and Hepatitis C. The opportunity to chat to people in the Courtyard about our work is also helping to raise awareness and challenge some of the stigma that still surrounds HIV and Hepatitis C. We continue to be immensely thankful for this unique and special partnership."

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Throughout the Fringe, the charity will also be benefitting from text donations at Eurobeat, the irreverent, sequin-soaked tribute to Eurovision.

Anthony Alderson, Director of the Pleasance Theatre Trust, said: "25 years working together, our partnership with Waverley Care has stood the test of time. The smallest ideas can over time produce great results and two charities working together like this is proof of that. The generosity of our audiences and those hugely committed volunteers make this so positive."

