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'I'm strong and I'm not going to let this defeat me': Bernie Nolan vows to beat breast cancer

By [Daily Mail Reporter](#)

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Fighter: Bernie Nolan has vowed to beat breast cancer following her diagnosis last week

Singer and actress Bernie Nolan has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

The Dublin-born star, 49, has been told by doctors she faces a mastectomy and chemotherapy after finding out the cancer has already spread to her lymph nodes.

The brave star has vowed to battle the disease, declaring: 'Take one breast, take them both, I don't care... I'm strong and I'm not going to let this defeat me.'

Nolan, one of The Nolan Sisters pop group, went public with her cancer fight in a Sunday newspaper today.

She told the News Of The World: 'Cancer's a scary word but it can b**ger off. I don't care - just get this s**t out of me.

'I'm going to see my daughter grow up and I'll fight it with everything I have.'

Nolan was diagnosed on Monday - just two weeks after she started touring with her Mum's The Word show.

The mother-of-one was with her husband Steve Doneathy when doctors gave the shocking news.

She said: 'I was so shocked. I thought I was invincible. I went to the car with my husband and I completely lost it.

'That was scary. I have a node cancer, not a hormone cancer. This affects 15 per cent of women and is harder to treat. It's

in the lymph node so it's already on the outside of the breast and could spread.'

Nolan admitted it was difficult telling their 10-year-old daughter Erin, who asked her mother if she was going to die.

The singer's battle means she is the third Nolan sister to fight the disease - her siblings Anne and Linda also battled cancer in 2000 and 2006 respectively.



Support: Nolan said her siblings (L-R) Linda, Coleen and Maureen were helping her through her ordeal

But all her sisters, including Maureen and Loose Women presenter Coleen, are being very supportive.

Nolan said: '(Maureen) lost it. She was devastated but my sisters have all been so supportive even though they're climbing the walls with worry. I can't believe I'm putting them through this again.'

Nolan was one of the leading singers in the family group during their heyday in the Seventies and Eighties, but quit to focus on her burgeoning acting career in 1994.

She tasted small screen success as playing Diane Murray in Brookside in the early Noughties, before going on to play Sergeant Sheelagh Murphy in The Bill for three years.

Last year, Nolan rejoined her sisters for a sell-out Nolan Sisters reunion concert tour of the UK.

Earlier this year, Nolan came second place to Darius Campbell in ITV reality show Popstar To Opera Star, which saw her train as a classical singer.



TV star: Nolan played Sergeant Sheelagh Murphy in *The Bill*

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The Nolans, not exactly my favourite, but good luck to you. Be strong and fight. I've been there and I know. You too can be a winner

- dirtdigger, Sleaford, England, 25/4/2010 16:33

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i also have breast cancer and its nodal. It has spread to the lungs unfortunately, but whilst there are children sitting in the same waiting room I dont see how I can complain. Stay strong, you are loved by so many, god bless

- Aaleyah Aderyn, Wales, 25/4/2010 16:27

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I too have breast and lymph cancer which has spread to the lungs. Stay strong and god bless you. xx

- Aaleyah Aderyn, Wales, 25/4/2010 16:24

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Thinking of Bernie and all the Nolan clan at this difficult time. Bernie, your attitude and determination towards the illness is an inspiration to all sufferers out there. All the very best for the future. Keep fighting girl, you'll be in my prayers. xx

- Rachy, Liverpool, 25/4/2010 16:09

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Thinking of you Bernie and all the Nolan clan at this hard time. Your attitude is an inspiration to all sufferers. Keep fighting girl. All the very best xx

- Rachy, Liverpool, 25/4/2010 16:01

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Went to see her in Blood Brothers in Belfast, she was fab, her acting and singing is underrated. I hope she makes a full and speedy recovery and wish her and her family the best.

- Mo, N. Ireland, 25/4/2010 15:38

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