



TORBAY HOSPITAL

League of Friends

Helping to care...

Autumn 2010

The Newsletter of Torbay Hospital League of Friends

Sainsburys befriend Torbay's League of Friends

Following tough competition, Torbay's League of Friends are delighted to inform you that we have been successful in our bid to be chosen as Charity of the Year by Sainsbury's superstore in Torquay.

Earlier this year Sainsbury's 'Local Charity' scheme invited both employees and customers to select a local charity to support.

Nominations were taken in the store at The Willows and from these staff through their Colleague Council selected three charities



Lynne Hookings, LoF Chair, Paula Vasco-Knight, Torbay Hospital CEO, Paula & Kiri from Sainsburys Colleague Council, are shown equipment donated by the LoF by Mel Baston, Oncology Centre Nurse Manager

that they felt addressed local needs. The three charities were then invited to present a 'pitch' to the Colleague Council who made the final decision that the Bay's League of Friends would receive their backing for the year.

The Torbay Hospital League of Friends was set up in 1954 to provide amenities and services to support Torbay Hospital, and over the years it has become one of the leading Leagues in the country. Over the last eighteen months the hospital has received gifts of well over £3 million from the League, and these have helped to advance the clinical techniques available locally to treat South Devon patients. This includes the £1.5 million donation last autumn which enabled the hospital to purchase the da Vinci robot – the most advanced surgical robot in the world. The robot has helped to further advance the care that Torbay Hospital offers, and

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The Chairman's Report

My goodness – where have the last six months gone – since the AGM last April – when I was extremely honoured to become Chairman of the THLOF.

The time has flown by and I would like to tell you of some of the very exciting things that are now happening and of which we can all be proud. The first job I had was to give a presentation to Sainsbury's Torquay about the work of THLOF – this being a bid to persuade them to adopt us as their nominated charity for the forthcoming year. Three charities had been short listed and asked to present and it was a nerve racking few days wait until the telephone call that confirmed that we had indeed been chosen

This was great news but we quickly had to get a programme of events going in order that we are able to raise funds for the League via joint activity with Sainsbury's. To date we have had three car boot sales and a bag pack – with another bag pack due on Sat 30th October which has a Halloween theme ! There will also be another at Christmas – on Sat 18th December. In October Sainsbury's staff are undertaking a gruelling 200 mile cycle ride from Leatherhead to Torquay and all the sponsorship money will come to the LOF. The biggest event however will be on Sat 20th November when we are having a Santa Saunter through Torquay – from outside the Town Hall at Castle Circus to the bottom end of Fleet Walk. It will start at 3.00pm and we would like to see hundreds of Santas having a jolly saunter through the Town. Sainsbury's will be waiting at the end with refreshments and I really do want to see all of you taking part – having fun and

helping us to raise much needed money for the LOF. It is for all ages, it is NOT a race, and the more santas - the merrier. The Christmas carnival will then follow on after our Saunter.

The next piece of good news is that we have now formed a JUNIOR LEAGUE. These are a group of young people from the Girls and Boys Grammar Schools who will arrange events for our younger members.

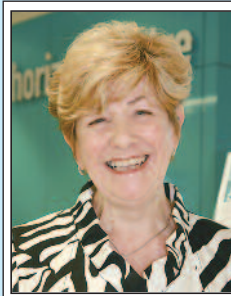
They are very enthusiastic and are already playing an important part on our Executive and General committees – so I certainly wish them well and I know you will too.

Whilst I was Vice Chairman, I had been planning the return of our much-loved Garden Party – well with the fantastic support of all the volunteers, the Hospital Estates team and Bay View restaurant; we were able to plan

a lovely event. The weather was kind to us and the Palace Hotel was a beautiful location. It was so successful that we will be holding another one – again at the Palace Hotel in 2011.

OK – all this fund raising so what are we spending the money on ? Well the very latest news is the purchase of Digital Mammography equipment for the Breast Care Unit. The equipment, which will also include a mobile unit will cost approx. £800,000 – and will be vital in helping the early detection of Breast Cancer – and the earlier such things are found – the more successfully they can be treated.

You will see from our website – THLOF.co.uk the list of gifts we are continuously making and in reading that most impressive list you can see why we always require funds. Over the last year we have been able to return 99p in every £1 to



Lynne Hookings
Chairman

the charity funds and this is something to be highly proud of – not many other charities can boast this.

As always, we could never achieve these successes without the support of all our volunteers and if you ever feel that you have some time on your hands – do get in touch – there are all sorts of ways you could help and its not just the organisation that is valuable – it is the people who actually get these jobs done.

So – from selling raffle tickets, Christmas cards, helping in our coffee shop, becoming committee members, even just supporting our events – you are all great 'Friends' of the

League and I thank you all.

If you have the opportunity – do please refer to our website THLOF.co.uk for all the up to date news of what will be happening. The website has been greatly enhanced over the last few months and we are all very grateful to our webmaster – yes another volunteer – Geoff Evitts - for his excellent work. In the meantime, have a healthy, happy and warm Autumn and Winter and I look forward to hearing from you soon,

All good wishes,

Lynne Hookings, Chairman, THLOF

Sainsburys befriend Torbay's League of Friends *Continued*

benefits several hundred patients year. Patients undergoing robot-assisted surgery experience less pain and discomfort caused by the surgery, less scarring, and make a quicker recovery.

Lynne Hookings, Chairman of Torbay's League of Friends, said: "This is absolutely wonderful news. Torbay's League of Friends is already one of the most successful in the country and with the backing of the local Sainsbury's staff over the next year we can only go from strength to strength. We have already drawn up a variety of joint fundraising events and hopefully there is something that will appeal to all. We are particularly hoping the 'Tu' fashion show and Santa Saunter will attract a lot of interest."

Paula Vasco-Knight, Chief Executive of South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust, which manages Torbay Hospital said: "It is fantastic that Sainsbury's have chosen to back our League of Friends. We are very proud of the ongoing work that they do for the hospital and our patients."

Kiri Bigwood, Customer Services Manager and Colleague Council representative at Torquay Sainsbury's store said: "We saw

some great nominations from local charities bidding to be our Charity of the Year – the quality of applications was really high. We were really impressed by the professionalism of the League of Friends and its history of strong partnership with the hospital. Nearly all our staff have either been treated at Torbay Hospital, or have friends or relatives that have, so we felt that the League of Friends is a charity that we could really get behind, making a difference for the whole community living in the Bay."

Torbay Hospital benefitted from a new hoist to assist with moving patients, thanks to a donation of £4,000 from the League of Friends.

The hoist - which is used in Outpatients, Day Surgery and the Eye Clinic is significant in helping those who have to move people with restricted mobility. It has many uses and can be used to assist with the transfer of patients to and from beds, chairs, etc.

...see the complete 2010 LIST OF 'THLOF' DONATIONS on page 8

Keep up-to-date with 'Torbay Hospital League of Friends' - visit our website at www.thlof.co.uk

With YOUR help... The LEAGUE continues to help others

Breast care patients across South Devon to benefit from League of Friends' donation

South Devon patients undergoing breast surgery at Torbay Hospital will spend less time in the operating theatre thanks to a £40,000 donation from the League of Friends to purchase a digital specimen radiology system.

Mr Peter Donnelly, Breast Care Consultant Surgeon at South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust, which runs Torbay Hospital, explained: "Over a third of patients diagnosed with breast cancer, mainly as a result of screening, have an operation to remove a malignant lump or lesion which is so small it cannot be felt and needs to be marked in the breast tissue prior to operation. Previously, whilst the patient was in surgery, this tissue would be physically taken to the breast radiology unit for testing so as to try and identify if the surgeon had been successful in removing the whole lump and had got what we call 'clear margins'. This practice was essential as it would tell

us whether additional surgery was necessary but the process could add up to a further 30 minutes to the length of the operation.

Now, due to the digital specimen radiology system which is located in the actual operating theatre, the surgeon has an indication within seconds as to whether the procedure has been successful, or if further surgery is required. This equipment means patients are spending less time in surgery which has a tremendous impact on improving patient care. I, and the staff at the Breast Care Unit, would like to thank the League of Friends for their kind donation."

Lynne Hookings, Chairman of Torbay Hospital's League of Friends, said: *"I am sure most of us know of a friend, relative or colleague who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. We are delighted to hear that our donation will make a real difference to breast cancer surgeons and their patients."*

Why Should we raise money for an NHS Hospital ?

A question often raised...

We realise that medical equipment is becoming more and more advanced all the time and regardless of what the hospital can buy with its NHS funding - there is always more that could be of great benefit to the treatment and recovery of patients.

Fundraising through events, one-off donations, annual giving and legacies is essential to keep our hospital at the forefront of medical developments. With the best possible and most up to date equipment, local people can benefit from the latest treatments without having to

travel great distances in order to be able to receive vital care.

It is a fact that Torbay Hospital has been able to attract some of the finest consultants and staff because of the equipment available to them and this in turn has helped Torbay Hospital to become a leading hospital - and as a top performer - earned its NHS Foundation status.

How can you help us without having to do too much ?

By encouraging your friends and relatives to

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How YOU can help... to keep our hospital improving.



TORBAY HOSPITAL

League of Friends

Helping to care...

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

- Please enrol me as a member of the League of Friends
- I would like the League of Friends to treat donations I make from the date of this Declaration until I notify otherwise as a GIFT AID DONATION
- By cheque payable to "The Torbay Hospital League of Friends"
- By completing the Bankers order form below

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

I/W/E enclose

£

I am aware that I must pay an amount of Income/ Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax the Charity reclaims on my donation in the tax year.

Signature:

Date:

BANKERS ORDER FORM

To (Your Bank Name):

Address:

Postcode:

Please pay National Westminster Bank, Torquay, 55-70-01 for the credit of **TORBAY HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS** (Registered Charity No: 200905). Account No. 05909295 the sum of:

£

Words:

Commencing NOW

and thereafter annually every

(due date) until further notice from me/us in writing

Account to be debited:

Account Number

First Signature

Second Signature

Print name:

Print name:

Dated:

Please send completed form(s) to Mrs J Hearne,
Membership Secretary, Torbay Hospital League of Friends,
2 Heathlands Court, Heathlands Rise, Teignmouth TQ14 9HH

With YOUR help...The LEAGUE says "Eye do" to new Laser

Patients receiving treatment for eye disease at Torbay Hospital are to benefit from a state-of-the-art laser thanks to a huge £80,000 donation from the League of Friends.



Terri Artus, Theatre Sister, Charlie James, Consultant Ophthalmologist and Lynne Hookings, Chairman of the Torbay Hospital League of Friends

The new PASCAL Photocoagulator will be used to treat patients with conditions such as diabetic retinopathy and retinal vein occlusion, two significant causes of blindness. Over a thousand patients from South Devon are expected to benefit from the new laser in the first year.

Charlie James, consultant ophthalmologist

and lead clinician for the diabetic retinopathy screening service at Torbay Hospital said: "Over the years the Torbay League of Friends has been very supportive of the eye clinic and ophthalmology services and once again we are immensely privileged to receive their latest donation. The PASCAL laser is one of the most up-to-date and sophisticated ophthalmic lasers available which means the treatment we offer will be more efficient, and patients are likely to experience less discomfort.

"Here in South Devon the prevalence of diabetes is rising relentlessly. We also have a significantly older population, and sadly eye problems do tend to be something that develop as we age. This means resources such as this laser are much valued, and a huge leap forward in our ability to deliver quality care to more patients."

Lynne Hookings, Chairman of Torbay's League of Friends, said: "The League is very proud to have made this donation possible. Poor eye sight and vision can have a huge impact on a person's quality of life, so it is tremendous news to know that local people with debilitating conditions are going to see real benefits from the laser."

Why Should we raise money for an NHS Hospital ?

A question often raised...

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become a 'Friend'. **We do not have set membership 'fees' so you choose exactly how much you want to donate each year** - or, you may prefer to just give us some of your spare time and become a volunteer. Even by supporting our events, raffles, garden parties etc you are helping the LOF.

All your input is invaluable, so whether you choose to help with your time - or by donating - you can be assured that it will all be put to excellent use.

We are proud to be 'Friends' of the hospital, and are proud of what we achieve - look at

our list of gifts so far this year (back page) - last year 99p in every £1 raised went straight into the Charity fund - not many other Charities can boast this.

We are proud of what we achieve in helping our hospital which, in turn, is there for us every hour of every day - whenever we need medical help.

Lastly - and by no means least - we are proud to be part of a very happy and a very great team of people.

Do please join us.

With YOUR help... Sponsored Events are really appreciated



This year's Torbay Hospital League of Friends Eye Clinic Sponsored Walk built on last year's success by doubling the number of walkers from twelve to twenty-four.

It took place on Saturday 18th September 2010, walking from the Riviera Centre in Torquay to Goodrington and back. We started just after 10am, arriving at Goodrington for welcome refreshments by about 11:30. The weather was just perfect – sunny but not too hot, and as we strolled along the coast path, the views out to sea were idyllic. We returned to the Riviera Centre by 2pm for more refreshments!

I wanted to set up the walk because I felt indebted to the eye clinic for the excellent treatment I have had there for macular degeneration, and it seems to have become an annual event. I know it is a centre of excellence but the evolving nature of the new technology needed is extremely expensive, and the walk's aim was to contribute to this.

The walkers were eye clinic patients, their friends and family, plus a consultant, Mick Cole, quite a few of the nursing staff, and League of Friends members. The age range of the walkers was impressive, stretching from three to seventy-eight. Everyone completed the walk, and the only minor casualty was one man who was ambushed by a loose dog and fell over. He is fine now!

This walk was a great success thanks to all who took part or supported it through donations and sponsorship. Last year we raised £1,400; this year we will surpass this figure, and will be able to buy a Tonopen, which is a hand-held instrument for measuring pressure within the eye. This will enable eye clinic staff to extend their work to A & E, outpatients, and on the wards.

Kay Wilkinson



The TONOPEN AVIA is designed to help eliminate operator error and functions in any position, making it ideal to use on all your patients, including those in beds or wheelchairs.

Arranging a Sponsored Event?

If you are involved in a sponsored event and would like to donate the funds you raise to a good cause, please consider

The Torbay Hospital league of Friends.

We continually strive to donate new equipment to our hospital and the rewards of your efforts would be most appreciated.

TORBAY HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS
LATEST DONATIONS:

Expenditure / Approved Items paid to date during 2010.

Date	Item	Department	Cost
January 2010	Nintendo WiiFit Console	John Parkes Unit	£663.67
February 2010	2 x Cough Assist Machines	Paediatric & Learning Disability Unit	£8,283.50
April 2010	Audio Visual Equipment for Horizon Centre	Horizon Centre	£220,000
April 2010	Sponsorship for Visually Impaired Lecture	Ophthalmology	£1,000
May 2010	Chairs Ricky Grant Unit	Ricky Grant Unit	£9,079
June 2010	Pascal Laser	Ophthalmology	£78,950
June 2010	Corneal Pachymeter	Ophthalmology	£2,200
June 2010	Patient Hoist	Outpatients	£4,308
June 2010	Ice Machine	Ella Rowcroft	£2,812
June 2010	Paediatric Transilluminator	Children's Department	£994
July 2010	Upgrade to Ante Natal Clinic & Maternity Assessment Unit	Ante Natal Clinic & Maternity Assessment Unit	£8,924
July 2010	Cover for Pool table	Haytor Mental Health Unit	£389.99
July 2010	Faxitron DX-50 Surgical Specimen Radiography System	Breast Surgery Unit	£40,000
Sept 2010	Middlesex Elderly Assessment of Mental State (MEAMS) pack	Occupational Therapy Department	£180.72
Sept 2010	Digital Breast Screening Equipment	Breast Care Unit	£770,000
2010	TOTAL TO DATE		£1,147,784.98