

January 2017

Dear Friends

DDF newsletter no 83

I hope you have had an enjoyable Christmas and are looking forward to 2017?

In common with most charities this has been a challenging year for fund raising. I am most grateful to all of you who have helped the DDF without this we would not be able to improve the care of patients with gastroenterological conditions. We continue to run the DDF with extremely low overheads thanks to the unsung hard work and generosity of many people.

During the last year we have run a number of fund raising events.

The Ipswich Gilbert and Sullivan Society supported us by giving a concert at Woodbridge Community Hall on 14th May 2016. The choir sang a very wide range of music and provided great entertainment which was enjoyed by everyone who attended and in addition we raised £271.20.

As in previous years the Grand Spring Draw was well supported and raised just over £535

Thanks to the generous support of ISS, the hospital caterers we were able to run another Quiz night on 8th July at The Ipswich Hospital. This was a very enjoyable/successful event with over 100 people grappling with the questions set by question masters Kathie and Colin Scott who did a great job.

On 7th October a Hog Roast evening was held at St Clements Social Club. In addition to tasty food we were entertained by music from Paul Gee and the Retros and a Disco. It was a splendid evening for families to get together and reminded me of the annual garden party we used to hold. Special thanks to Denise Wilding and Sue Agar and their team, who worked so hard to make the evening a success.

During the year we have been privileged to have the ongoing loyal support of Humphry Adair's and his team of street and supermarket collectors, who have generated nearly £400 this financial year.

I should also like to pay special thanks to our Treasurer Judith Steward who has worked so hard to raise the profile of the charity. She has acquired a lot of excellent raffle prizes and ensured that we were the beneficiary of £600 from the Co-op charity token scheme.

As a result of the ongoing hard work of the DDF we have in the last year been able to provide funding for the following causes.

Financial support has enabled Mr Thomas Groot-Wassink (consultant in upper GI surgery) to undertake an in depth analysis of a large data base of 17,000 surgical patients. He examined risk factors for anastomotic leakage after colorectal resection, research which was published in the Colorectal Disease Journal in 20 July 2016. As a result of this, the DDF have agreed to provide £1500 to undertake a further analysis into the effects of the use of oral antibiotics during surgery.

We have purchased a portable ECG machine to assist the Endoscopy Unit with the monitoring of the ever increasing number of patients who have pacemakers to control the rhythm of their heart.

Support has been given for two specialist nurses to attend training courses in liver disease at King's College Hospital and another nurse for training in advanced endoscopy at St Mark's Hospital.

Future events

Chinese Meal at Mr Wing's Ipswich

7:30pm Wednesday 8th February 2017

Buffet meal

Price £18 per head (£10 deposit required)

Please contact Judith Steward on 01473 721481 by 6th February

Quiz Night

Ipswich Hospital Courtyard Restaurant

7:30pm Friday 31st March 2017

Teams of 6 people. Tickets £6 per head to include buffet supper

Bring your own bottle

Raffle and Grand Draw will be held

Tickets in advance from 01473 704453

Bridget.white@uk.issworld.com

An Indian meal is planned for the November details to follow on the ddfsuffolk.org.uk website.

Stop press: Are you Shopping On line?

If so there is a website called easyfundraising@email.easyfundraising.org.uk through which you can access suppliers and a donation to DDF.Suffolk is made for each transaction.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported the DDF in the past year. I can assure you that all the monies raised make a real difference to the services offered to patients and their families.

John Wyke
Chairman (john.wyke@ipswichhospital.nhs.uk)