

September 2017

Dear Friends

DDF newsletter no 84

Don't forget our Coop share number is 623106

If we could communicate with you by email please send me your email address.

Despite the economic climate and uncertainty we have had a productive 2017.

Quiz night at the Ipswich Hospital on 30th of March was a very well attended (more than 100) and enjoyable evening. As with previous years we are grateful to the hospital caterers (ISS) who gave their support including food gratis. Also to Melvin the question writer who stepped in to help us out at a late stage. As you will see from the Treasurers we made profit of £748 in addition to which we drew the Spring Grand draw which raised £659. The winners were - L Wilson £250, E Lawlor £100 and B Underhill £50 (kindly donated half to DDF).

We were busy in the spring with street collections. On 4th of April at the Ipswich Town Football Club where we managed to have 15 collectors and despite a low gate number collected £329.37. We were collecting at Tesco's at Martlesham and Copdock on the 8th and 21st April respectively and raised a further £684.90. A big thank you to all those who helped and to Humphry Adair for his invaluable assistance with the collections.

The highlight of the summer was the Grand Garden Party on 4th of June, held at Roydon Hall Farm, Roydon. This was courtesy of Doreen Wrinch and her family who not only hosted the party but did a vast amount of work in the garden organised additional fund raising activities and made everyone so welcome. Assisted by DDF members and staff from the endoscopy unit of the Ipswich Hospital, in excess of 100 people who attended raised around £1500 and this was boosted to £2488 by a generous donation from Barclays Bank arranged by the Lizzie Sadler. All in all a superb afternoon which reminded me of the garden parties we used to hold for the DDF some years ago. A very big thank you to all involved.

Forthcoming events

Annual General Meeting

Date: Tuesday November 21st 2017 at 18:30

Venue: Endoscopy Unit at the Ipswich Hospital.

Agenda and further details will be posted on the DDF website.

So we have an idea of numbers please let Marjorie Thompson

(mobile no. 07703485213) know if you are going to attend.

A charity curry evening is being held at the Maharani restaurant, Norwich Road, Ipswich on the evening of Thursday 9th November 2017. All are welcome.

DDF Quiz Night

Friday 2nd March 2018. 7pm til 11pm

In the Courtyard Restaurant, Ipswich Hospital

£6 per head, max. 6 people per team.

Includes food but bring your own bottle

Raffle

Tickets in advance from 01473 704468 or

bridget.white@uk.issworld.com

As many of you will have heard the Ipswich Hospital and Colchester Hospitals are being joined together. Although mainly working separately the two gastroenterology units have been collaborating for the past 6 years with the Bowel Cancer Screening Program. This joint working has really brought it home to me what a huge difference the DDF makes to the service we are able to deliver for patients at Ipswich. Listening to my colleagues in Colchester bemoaning the lack of funds for equipment and staff training, things we have been able to support from the DDF funds for some years is very sobering. As such the monies that you help to raise provide an invaluable resource for the patients at Ipswich. (Please be reassured these funds will not be used to support activities in Colchester).

This last year the DDF supported one of our surgeons (Mr Thomas Groot Wassinck) to research the use of antibiotics for patients undergoing bowel surgery. He has analysed a very large American database and has been able to demonstrate the value and safety of antibiotics in this situation. The results of this work have been published and introduced in Ipswich so patients are receiving the best evidence based treatment. All thanks to your generosity.

I enclose tickets for the Autumn Grand Draw and thank you for your ongoing support.

With best wishes and thanks to all the people who have made donations of time and or money to support the DDF this last year. Particular thanks to our hard working committee.

John Wyke

Chairman Digestive Disorders Foundation, Suffolk