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## Tracy Sollis Charity Shop

3 Library Arcade

62 High Street

Evesham

WR11 4HG

Founder Member : - SUE SOLLIS



Patron : - GORDON GILTRAP

## **The Tracy Sollis Leukaemia Trust**

(registered charity number 1069269)

'Relieving sickness, suffering and distress  
of those suffering from leukaemia'



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**Annual Report**  
**January/December**  
**2009**

The year has been a challenging one due to efforts to provide facilities for patients at Worcester Royal Hospital being put on hold. Notification was received that no more electronic beds, of which we had already purchased three, were required. This was a big disappointment as we had hoped to supply the whole ward with these special beds. They increase a patients comfort and wellbeing by altering their lying position simply at the press of a button. However it was good to learn that the ones we have already provided, remain on the ward and are much appreciated. The most needy patients are being given priority to their availability.

A further obstacle was experienced when we were told that the intravenous pumps, of which we had already provided several, were being decommissioned in preference for another type of pump. This was solely because the 'giving sets' used would be cheaper. Luckily we were able to step in to reclaim them as they were technically our property. We have subsequently re-donated them to St Richards Hospice where I am pleased to say they are being put to good use.

The first highlight of the year, was when several members of The Trustees and I, paid a visit to The Tracy Sollis Laboratory to see how things were progressing. Good work is being made on the research front with blood samples and cord blood stem cells being processed in order to assist with successful transplantation. We were all highly impressed at the work being undertaken.

Later during the year, we arranged a visit and presentation on cord blood from Teri Duffy, who is the midwife cord blood coordinator for the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust. We invited midwives and members of the public to attend and enjoyed a very informative evening. The life saving property of cord blood and its potential to take research into a whole new era is staggering. Surely this is the most valuable waste product to be recycled!

The Tracy Sollis Charity Shop, based in Evesham, reached bursting point and a decision had to be made. Public support had grown to such an extent that the donation of goods had taken over. We could no longer work under such cramped conditions. A move to bigger premises meant a higher rent and running costs, but it was felt that the move would be more than compensated by an increased financial turnover. We subsequently moved into bigger premises during December, with the remaining lease on our existing shop transferred to the new one. Luckily the new shop is situated directly opposite the previous one in the Library Arcade. Our address remains the same, except that number 3 Library Arcade, is now replaced by being number 5 Library Arcade.

Revised areas in which The Trust can fulfil its aims and objectives has been put under close scrutiny. The result is that we have the following plans for the year 2010. They are as follows:-

1. Funds raised will be used to update equipment in The Tracy Sollis Laboratory where blood samples and cord blood stem cells are processed in order to assist with both research and transplantation.
2. Following negotiations with Worcester Royal Hospital's Haematology Ward, The Trust will consider purchasing equipment only with the understanding that it remains the property of The Tracy Sollis Leukaemia Trust. It shall be used for patients on the Haematology Ward with no change of circumstances to this arrangement without our prior approval.
3. Individual requests for help will be considered on referral from a medical practitioner/doctor/consultant.

My thanks to all supporters and our Patron Gordon Giltrap who turns up without fail to perform at the Fleece Inn, Bretforton each year.

We now enter 2010 with revised goals and ambitions which can be achieved with your help. I big thank you to all.

Sue Sollis (*Founder Member*)