



The Tracy Sollis Leukaemia Trust

(registered charity number 1069269)

Annual Report

January –December 2013



Aims and Objectives

Relieving sickness, suffering and distress of patients with leukaemia is the aim and objective of 'The Tracy Sollis Leukaemia Trust', either by providing complementary therapy for patients, purchasing equipment such as electric beds - *to give added comfort*, or intravenous pumps to increase the amount of treatment facilities available. We are readily at hand to consider any worthy request.

Research into the disease also comes within the Trust's remit, with grants for laboratory equipment considered. If the application is successful and providing funds are available, the Trust will purchase and donate as requested.

Complementary Therapy

During the year of 2013, The Trust's complementary therapist Carrie Adams, saw 518 patients. Patients have stated that not only have they looked forward to the sessions and felt the benefit of the treatment, but how much they have appreciated a listening ear to any problems or concerns they may have relating to their illness.

Towards the end of the year, we took on our second complementary therapist, Gill Goldfinch. Gill is providing complementary therapy outside the hospital environment. This is proving helpful for patients who require quality time in between their medical treatment. This is an area the Trust recognises and wishes to expand on.

Trustee Board

There were a few changes to the Trustee Board during the year. Zuzana Brotherton resigned due to family and work commitments and we give grateful thanks for her dedicated time spent with us. We were also saddened when Marie Jones handed in her resignation. We give thanks to Marie and all share our gratitude for the brief but highly efficient time she spent with us. Following the above resignations and to strengthen up the board we welcomed four new members. They are Vivien Bentley, Helen Gray, Peter Vale and Roger Warrington. This brought the total of Trustees to ten.

The Trust has received an increase in support and donations throughout the year. Here are just a few of the activities that took place.

A Golden Moment

Worthy of a special mention are Barbara and Austin Sadler who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Barb and Austin from Honeybourne generously requested donations for The Tracy Sollis Leukaemia Trust instead of the receiving of presents. As a result the magnificent sum of £646.00 was raised and presented to The Trust.

Fundraising Support

Roy Barnett from Broadway held a Pig Roast and Country and Western Evening. Roy's energy and enthusiasm has been amazing and we are indebted for his generous support which raised £285.00.

Students of Tracy's former school, namely Prince Henry's, took part in a 'The Apprentice' style event to which they named The Tracy Sollis Leukaemia Trust as the beneficiary. They raised £300.00 in total plus a further £7.26 from a collection.

Worcester Lions held a 'Golf Day' and donated £300.00

Lygonian Singers continued their annual support by donating £500.00

The Lenches Family Day raised £65.39

Members of the North Cotswold Vintage Motorcycle Club, Katy and Neil Batchelor, organized a Picnic Run raising £105.00

A big annual event for Evesham is the 'Asparafest'. This event has grown from strength to strength and The Trust's involvement in manning the Car Park over the two consecutive day's proved very worthwhile. A total sum of £1,113.80 was collected in donations from motorists.

An added income from the Asparafest was the raffle and subsequent draw for a beautifully made dolls house, complete with furniture, kindly donated by Doreen and Gordon Weeton. The house was displayed prior to the event in Avon Estates shop window and raised the total sum of £548.

Assisting local clubs and organisations with events has proved very profitable. Evesham Running Club needed volunteers to help Marshall the Evesham 10k and by such provision the Trust generously received a donation of £200.00

On a musical note, the Bretforton Silver Band held it's Annual Proms in the Park'. It was requested that The Trust man the Car Park at which it would be able to collect donations. All donations received were to be split with the band. A total village of £428.00 was raised with the Trust receiving £214.00. It was therefore a pleasant surprise when following a band committee meeting it was unanimously voted by members to hand back their share of the proceeds.

A further musical success was held at 'Drakes Broughton Village Hall. It featured a sixties night with two band's 'Mines a Pint & 'The Throwbacks.' The event was organised by Chris and Rosie Hunter and raised a notable £805.35.

We give special thanks go to the Trust's Patron, Gordon Giltrap, who once again held his annual Concert at The Fleece Inn, Bretforton and continues to support us in any way he possibly can.

Travelling that extra mile were the 'Evesham Taxi Association' who handed over to The Trust £200.00 at a meeting held at Bengeworth Working Mens Club. A collection was also held during the evening of the presentation raising a further £69.94.

Annual General Meeting 2013 ref: 2012 year end

The Trust's Annual General Meeting in 2013 was well attended with over 40 people present. The Annual General Report was read out by Sue Sollis which was followed by Lisa Rowberry, from Worcester Royal Hospital, speaking of the benefit of the Tracy Sollis Assessment Bay (T.S.A.B.) This is the Unit which The Trust has fully equipped to provide a fast speed tracking system for cancer patients. It prevents those with a compromised immune system being subject to unnecessary exposure to infection.

The Trust's Complementary Therapist, Carrie Ann Adam's, was presented with a 'Certificate of Achievement' for her work during 2012.

The evening ended with a Cheque Presentation for £1,115.00 from Representatives of the Stargazer Reunion Event held at Evesham Working Mens Club earlier in the year.

Company and Business Support

Businesses providing support have increased and we give special thanks to the following:-

Foster & Freeman who presented the Trust with the magnificent sum of £1,210.00

Panache & Chi who held a Fashion Show raising £408.43

Yorkshire Building Society who donated £100.00

One Stop who nominated The Trust as their charity for 2013 raising £205.00

Santander Building Society who through their charitable giving donated £392.00

We give special thanks to Cartridge World and Bradford Carpets for their support and to Evesham Self Drive (E.S.D.) for the readily available provision of a van on request. This is required when the trust is donated bulky items for its charity shop which simply cannot be transported by car.

The Charity Shop

The shop continues to flourish with an increased flow of quality goods being donated. The beginning of the year was a challenging time when rising damp experienced on the premises needed to be addressed. It was all hands on deck to clear the shop completely for remedial work. This was certainly no easy task, but all volunteers were magnificent with the work undertaken and the shop happily returned to its former glory. Our sincere thanks to Worcester County Council for acknowledging the problem as being due to their library building being built too close and subsequently reimbursing us for lack of trade during our forced temporary closure.

In September the Trustees employed Tina Sims to work one day a week in the shop to allow Sue Sollis the time to deal with other charity matters arising.

The shop income for 2013 was £37,949.16 which is an increase of 19.49% on year 2012.

The Trustee Board - Year Ending 2013

Mr Nigel Smith
Mr Peter Vale
Mrs Sue Sollis
Mrs Ann Oakes
Mrs Debbie Edmondson
Mrs Margueritte Bayley
Mr Roger Warrington
Mrs Vivien Bentley
Mrs Helen Gray
Mr Chris Hunter

Co. Founder Member – Sue Sollis

Voluntary Administration

Treasurer – Mrs Angela Harper
Minute Secretary – Margueritte Bayley