

Friends of Holy Cross Hospital

Newsletter

OCTOBER 2011

ISSUE 25

A Visit to Meet the England squad at Twickenham

On Tuesday 9th August, we took one of our 'sporty' patients and his family to an open training session for the England Rugby Team at Twickenham prior to the squad setting off to New Zealand for the World Cup.



This made up for cancelling a trip to the cricket at Lords, deemed unsafe on account of the riots that had broken out across London.

It was a beautiful sunny day and the ice-cream vendor was doing good business when we arrived.

We took photos of the Mascots and were wondering what to do with our time before training started

when a fleet of black Range Rovers arrived each carrying a couple of players and staff.

The players were very happy to mingle with fans and

stopped to talk to us and share their excitement at being considered to play for their country. We had lots of 'photo opportunities' with both players and the training staff.

Once they were all inside the stadium was opened and we received VIP treatment, being allocated lots of space next to the players tunnel, behind the players benches and within touching distance of Martin Johnson, Jonny Wilkinson, Mike Tyndall and many more familiar rugby faces.

Thanks to the RFU, we shared an experience that is a rarity in any professional sport and had a great time!

Without the Friend's support for social activities and in particular the minibuses memorable days such as this would not be possible. The benefit to the patient and his family is incalculable.

Miss Ann McIntosh 11/5/1935 – 8/7/2011

It seemed so natural that Ann should come to work at Holy Cross in a voluntary capacity. She retired after a distinguished career in nursing at University College Hospital, London and was following in the footsteps of both parents, who had been founder members of the Friends of Holy Cross Hospital. Her mother, Margaret, had run the trolley shop from the 1960's and for the whole of her long life faithfully supported the Friends at their events.

When the Hospital decided that it was no longer relevant to keep a shop as a permanent feature, Ann volunteered to organise a rota of shoppers to ensure that patients were kept supplied with personal sundry items. Ann was still doing this until she died so suddenly and unexpectedly.

Ann was also a regular volunteer in the Living Room. Every week she led a group of patients in reading newspapers, gave expert support in developing the gardening activities and was exceptionally flexible and generous with her time.

It was Ann's way to be quiet and self-effacing in all she did. So it is only with hindsight that what at the time seemed so natural, now appears to have been an outstanding contribution to the Friends, the Hospital and the patients. We miss her greatly and judging by the large number of people who packed the church on the occasion of her funeral, there are a great many other organisations and individuals who do the same.



Opening of the Woodland Trail



The Woodland Trail was opened by Pippa Greenwood on June 8th. The reception was attended by the Mayor of Haslemere Jim Edwards, patients and their families, members of staff, and Friends of Holy Cross.

Winemans Bluff Many thanks to Anna Austin for organising such a fun evening and Ellis of Richmond for supplying the wines. £1450 was raised.

Golf day This year's golf day took place on 20th September organised for the first time by John Warton. He writes;" a very enjoyable day, the weather was kind and 48 people played and all seemed to enjoy the course. At the dinner, Charles Sommer gave a brief talk describing the work of the Hospital and what the Friends do to try to enhance the patients' lives with the little extras. After dinner, I auctioned some Golf Vouchers kindly donated and the Lunch for 8 people at the Coutts Bank Director's suite at 440 Strand kindly given once again by the Bank raising £1,500 in total. A number of the teams asked to be invited again next year!" The day raised in excess of £5000. Many thanks to John for organising the event and to all sponsors.

Boxing Day Fun Run. The money raised by this year's run is going to be put towards a new and improved tilt table. This table, which is custom made for the hospital, allows severely disabled patients to receive physiotherapy in the upright position

Gardening Club The Gardening Club have been enjoying the raised tables purchased by the Amenity Fund with money raised by The Friends of Holy Cross Hospital



Dates for the Diary

Sunday 9th October Sponsored Walk

All welcome, a sponsorship form has been enclosed with the newsletter. The walk starts at 9.30am. Geoffrey Arkell-Hardwick has designed a walk around the area of Petworth, taking in the villages of Upperton, Tillington, Byworth, the river Rother and Petworth Park. There will be a coffee stop at Coultershaw Beam Pump at 11.00a.m. This is a scheduled ancient monument and the pump originally installed in 1782 is again in working order. No need to carry coffee now! Lunch will be at the Stonemasons Inn, Petworth around 1pm. The starting point will be the parking area adjacent to the cricket ground pavilion on the south side of Upperton, on the RH side of the minor road leading to Tillington. This is also a good spot for tea and tiffin at the conclusion of the walk, enjoying a fine view of the downs! Dogs are welcome but they will need to be on the lead at times.

Start map reference : SU 959225
OS Explorer sheet 133.

Saturday 19 November 2011 - 7.30pm at Barrow Hills School Chapel, Witley

'A Tale of Two Cities'

Music of London and Paris

Clare Loosley, soprano

Paul Webster, piano

Tickets £10 including programme & a glass of wine. Available from Charles Sommer 01403 820643, Charles.sommer@btinternet.com and from reception at HCH. For more details see the website: www.holycross.org.uk