

'The Ticker Girls' do us proud!



As a quid pro quo for our Annual Golf Day concession, The Ticker Club enters a team in the AM/AM held at The Alsager Golf & Country Club in August, writes Alan Imrie.

The picture shows the team of lady golfers who represented the club this year. From left to right are Mary Hobson, Jayne Kerrigan, Teresa Rushton and Bev King – resplendent in their pink and white.

To quote Bev whose team have supported our annual golf days at 'Alsager' and Chorlton cum Hardy, "It was an honour to represent The Ticker Club and we were lucky enough to win the Ladies Section with 87 points. The Ticker Club is a charity very dear to me as my uncle received support and much reassurance from The Ticker Club whilst he was awaiting surgery in Wythenshawe Hospital. Unfortunately, he never made it to the operating

table and rather poignantly died on the eve of my very first Ticker Club competition at Alsager. We have had really enjoyable times, with some good and some not so good golf played, but we always have a lot of fun! We all feel it is a very valuable charity to champion and hopefully we will have many more days out supporting this cause. Looking forward to Chorlton in October".

All say "Cheese"

Ticker Club member and ward visitor Mary Fagan did the Ticker Club proud on Saturday 11th August by holding her Cheese and Wine party in Macclesfield. Mary was originally going to hold the event at her home, however when tickets started to sell like hot cakes, over fifty people wanted to attend the party, Mary decided a bigger venue was needed and so asked the local Scout Group if it was possible to borrow their building for the evening. A fabulous spread of Cheeses was laid out, including some very hot and spicy ones which was complemented with the various wines that were available.



Chairman John Phillips, on behalf of the Club, thanked Mary and her hard working team of helpers including her two daughters from Leicester, for making the party such a success.

A raffle and tombola were held and all the funds were kindly donated to the Ticker Club. A grand total of £335.35 was raised on the event. Mary then presented

the Ticker Club Officers with a wine glass each which was decorated with a Ticker Club logo.

Pictured from l. to r:- Hazel & John Phillips, Val Shillito, Mary Fagan, Martin Merriman and Cliff Clinkard

Wendy boosts The Ticker Club funds

The C.T.C.C U (Cardiothoracic Critical Care Unit) produced its own Olympian Champion for the Ticker Club in July. Wythenshawe Park had its own Olympic Week games and organisers had set up a 5k and 10k runs.



The C.T.C.C.U'S departments own Wendy Hobson (Senior Healthcare Assistant) joined in the fun packed Wythenshawe Park Olympic Week and entered and completed both of the events to raise funds for the Club. Friends and her work colleagues sponsored Wendy and she donated £125.00 to the Ticker Club.

Your Chairman's thoughts

The media team have told me to keep this chat brief, as we are a little short of space due to wanting to share with you all of the good news of the 25th Anniversary weekend. However, what I must say is that this is turning out to be a fantastic year for the Ticker Club :- 25th year celebrations, Volunteer Team of the Year award, 5th year of clinic visiting at Tameside Hospital and most important £1,000,000 raised since our inception in 1987. Without all of your efforts these milestones would never have been reached.

This is all down to the hard work put in by ward and clinic visitors, by all fundraisers and also our members. I want to say thank you for your support, not only this year but over the last 25 years.

We have more to focus on this year: a Golf Charity day in October, a Christmas Member's Meeting in December, guest speakers at our monthly meetings etc. So watch out in the Newsletter for notice of these events.

Chat soon John

Lottery Results

1st prize = £42.00
2nd prize = £21.00
3rd prize = £13.00

July 123 R Noel
239 C Clinkard
216 P Fletcher

August 128 R Clegg
202 F A Tomlin
147 C Cooper

September 106 S Forshaw
271 M Wright
158 C Laithwaite

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Members' get-togethers

on 2nd Thursday of every month at The Railway Inn, Ashley Road, Hale WA14 2UN

at 7.30 for 8.00 pm

Enjoy a drink, a chat & all the news

FREE well-lit station car park opposite

Light refreshments provided

Grand Christmas Draw tickets will be on sale in early November.

Buy your tickets and support the Club.

The Draw will be made at

Members Xmas Buffet on Wednesday 12th December.

You need to book early to avoid disappointment.

Only £5 per person

We have some of last year's stock of Christmas cards for sale at reduced price.

Pack of 10 mixed cards for a minimum donation of £2 which includes postage

Complete the order form that was sent with this Newsletter



Charity No. 519754



1987 - 2012
25 Years

THE TICKER CLUB NEWSLETTER

www.uhsm.nhs.uk/patients/tickerclub

October 2012

Affiliated to the British Heart Foundation

"Charity that's all heart celebrates £1million milestone"

{As reported in a recent edition of the Manchester Evening News (Tuesday 18th September 2012)}

They wanted to give something back to the hospital and provide more support for people going through similar experiences.

The Charity set up by fellow patients at Wythenshawe Hospital is celebrating an historic milestone – Raising a **MILLION POUNDS**, since it was set up 25 years ago in 1987. Over the past 25 years, the group has raised £1m to pay for new equipment and improve patient facilities although the main aim is to reassure Cardiac patients and their families with the dedicated team of Visitors speaking to patients in Outpatient Clinics and in the Cardiac Wards.

Chairman John Phillips believes the secret of the Club's success lies in the fact that all the Visitors have been through Open Heart Surgery and know exactly how the patients are feeling. He said: "Often, people are frightened, wondering what will happen to them. We aren't medical people but we are living proof that the procedures work and we can share our experiences"



Karen James, Wythenshawe's Chief Operating Officer, said that the Hospital owes a huge debt to the Ticker Club which can never be repaid.

She said: "Over the years, Ticker Club members have provided a valuable service to thousands of patients at a time when they are at their most vulnerable. They allay fears and calm nerves visiting Wards and Outpatient clinics, not just at Wythenshawe but also at Tameside and Wigan Hospitals. To be celebrating 25 years and £1 million raised is indeed a truly remarkable achievement"

£1,000,000 Milestone

Ticker Club members will be delighted to know that £1m has been raised by the Club since it was begun with the first donation in 1987. Many of the members came along to the hospital on Friday 14th September 2012.

Pictured above with the £1m signage are some Ticker Club members along with Karen James pictured far left thanking Ticker Club Chairman John Phillips on behalf of Wythenshawe for the funds donated to the hospital. Karen is the Chief Operating Officer and Senior Information Risk Officer at Wythenshawe Hospital. Around 40 members were then joined by hospital staff for a buffet lunch provided by the hospital.

The lunch was followed by an enlightening presentation session chaired by Neil Davidson, Clinical Director of Cardio Thoracic Services at Wythenshawe Hospital. Neil introduced current Ticker Club Chairman John Phillips, who gave the assembled audience a brief look back into the history of the club and then onto outline the clubs aims of patient support, patient representation and fund raising.

Neil then asked current club member and ex bypass patient John Miller to give the guests an insight into his own personal journey as a patient from his original diagnosis, through to his final recovery.

Finally Neil introduced a good friend of The Ticker Club, Cardiac Surgeon Professor Ben Bridgewater. Ben Bridgewater has a long-standing interest in collecting and reporting clinical outcomes following cardiac surgery. He went on to advise the group of the important aspect of regulation within the area of cardiac surgery. Finally he thanked the club for the work we carry out as volunteers within the hospital.

Neil ended the session and thanked the club for their work in both patient support and fund raising and hoped that it would long continue.



The Ticker Club at Tameside Hospital

Friday 28th September 2012 was the 5th anniversary of Wythenshawe Hospital's Ticker Club's presence at Tameside Hospital's Cardiac Outpatients Clinic. Initiated by Alan Munday of the Ticker Club, it was inspired by the presence of the Club at Wigan Hospital, run by the late Bill Sullivan and John Pimblett. Alan Munday had observed the Wigan organisation and set about seeking a similar set up at Tameside.

The Club's presence at Tameside began on Friday 28th of September 2007 at Mr.Yonan's (now Professor) clinics for pre and post operation Patients, with Specialist Cardiac Nurse Sue Battersby usually in attendance with Professor Yonan.

Eruch Cavasji joined Alan at Tameside in the early days and more recently John Phillips and Joan Dickinson have joined the team - we have been in need of a female team member for some time.

We hope that it is of some comfort to Patients and their families to talk to those who have, themselves, undergone Cardiac procedures.

“Carry on Volunteer”



Saturday, September 15th 2012, saw the Ticker Club celebrate its 25th Birthday. The afternoon was a huge success with over 100 people attending the North West Heart Centre at Wythenshawe Hospital for the celebration of this event. The afternoon got underway with members, their guests and the hospital staff receiving a warm welcome from the Ticker Club Secretary Cliff Clinkard.

Cliff introduced the afternoon's first guest speaker, Karen James. Karen is the Chief Operating Officer and Senior Information Risk Officer at The University Hospital of South Manchester, NHS Foundation Trust.



Karen told of her long standing connection with Wythenshawe and recalled her first contact with The Ticker Club when she was a Nurse at the hospital. Karen thanked the Club for all the hard work that has been put in over the 25 years and thanked them for the £1 million pounds raised over that time for the benefit of Cardiac Patients.



Our next guest speaker was Consultant Cardiologist, Doctor Nicholas Brooks. Members will be aware that Doctor Brooks is one of the joint Presidents of the Ticker Club. He explained to the audience about the progress that has been made over the years with regard to Cardiac Treatment and explained how advances were leading to far longer life expectancy, and that patients were having successful procedures carried out much later in life than would have been considered some years ago. He further explained how some types of treatment are now becoming less intrusive and as such some aspects of major surgery were thankfully showing a slight decline. Doctor Brooks rounded his presentation off thanking the Ticker Club for the funds that we have worked hard to raise over the years and wished us continued success in the future.



Cliff Clinkard, founder member John Foulkes and John Phillips

Two times Ex Chairman Alan Imrie spoke next and gave an excellent talk on the history of the Club from its inception right up to the present time. His talk was peppered with some humorous tales of ingenious fund raising methods from the early days.

Alan's talk was strengthened by an excellent visual display in the Heart Centre put together by long standing Club member John Miller. The audience were enthralled with Alan's talk and a long round of applause followed, so well done Alan.



Current Club Chairman John Phillips then responded with a vote of thanks to what would be a long list of unsung heroes, but he said he felt that many people should rightly be thanked on this special day. This included all past Chairmen, Vice Chairs, Secretaries, Treasurers and past Committee members.

John expressed his thanks also to the efforts of John Pimblett who carries out Clinic visiting at Wigan Hospital and to Alan Munday and his team at Tameside Hospital for their Clinic visiting work. John also thanked long standing club member Malcolm Blessitt for his long service to the club in his role of Independent Auditor of the Ticker Club accounts. John also used the occasion to express his indebtedness to the current Club Officers and Committee, for the support they had given to him in his first year as Chairman.

On behalf of the Ticker Club he thanked another well deserving charitable organisation, the "League of Friends" for giving their time on the day to provide catering facilities for the occasion.

On a final note John expressed his gratitude to all for coming along and supporting what was a special day in the history of the Ticker Club. Cliff then introduced local Wythenshawe MP, Paul Goggins, who is also a Joint President of the Club. Paul spoke of the Volunteer Spirit that has waved through the country this year - at the Queens Jubilee Celebrations, the 2012 Olympic Games and Para Olympics and as such related this to the volunteer spirit within our club. Paul went on to say how much he appreciated the work that we put into supporting Cardiac patients and their families at Wythenshawe Hospital.



Chairman John Phillips invited Past Chairmen Jack Davies, Alan Imrie, Jim Shillito and John Birks to come up and to be presented with a very specially personalised Ticker Club Clock as our token of the Ticker Club's appreciation for the work that they had put in over many years. Paul Goggins kindly presented the Clocks to these deserving recipients.



John also then invited Malcolm Blessitt, our Independent Auditor for over 20 years, to come up to be presented with one of the clocks as a special thank you for the work he had put in behind the scenes as another of the Club's unsung heroes.

John also paid tribute to two of the great stalwarts of the Volunteer visitor Team, Barbara Taylor and Bill Sullivan who passed away in the last 12 months.

This was not quite the end of the celebration.

Retired Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Mr Colin Campbell and a founder Member, John Foulkes, were then invited to cut a celebratory 25th Birthday cake to mark the occasion and, as you would expect, holding the knife was not a problem for a retired Heart surgeon!

As the picture shows, Colin is on the left.

Finally afternoon tea was served to the guests by our willing volunteer colleagues from the League of Friends.

The Ticker Club Committee would like to thank all the Guests, Ticker Club members and staff who attended our Anniversary celebration and made it a very successful event.

“Here's to the next 25 years”



Update for patient support team at Annual Seminar



Around 20 of the Club's patient support visitors, new and old, came together in May at the Hospital for their annual seminar, writes John Miller. This regular seminar serves both to introduce new visitors to the team and to update existing visitors on recent developments. This year these included progress in surgery and patient care, as well as the roles of physiology and cardiac imaging.

Surgeon Ben Bridgewater told visitors that, though waiting times were now occasionally slipping over the target 18 weeks, current trends were very positive with overall results still improving and with more and more operations being carried out on older patients. And also now with more importance now being given to secondary prevention, valve and artery repairs and replacements were now often good for 20+ years with no-one really knowing exactly how

long they would last beyond that. But with new procedures involving more and more costly kit, the trend was towards closer co-operation between major hospitals, in our case between Wythenshawe and MRI.

On accountability Mr Bridgewater said it had always been his belief that the NHS should be open about its results, even where it meant some surgeons were now being stopped from operating; this was as it should be. He welcomed the fact that an annual formal appraisal, to include the patient view, was being introduced. Alongside this, professional bodies should make more effort to represent themselves well, for example through their websites. There was already evidence of the profession's determination to move away from 'paternalism'.

The theme of accountability was picked up by matron Nancy Hurst, one of whose responsibilities is to monitor the standards and conduct audits. UHSM audits, she said, would be on the internet from July, constantly monitoring the 'patient experience'. This was an area where the Club's visitors could help, for example by contributing to the forum set up by Ben Bridgewater.

Later, Dr Matt Schmidt brought visitors up to date on the rise of cardiac imaging, now in common use and rapidly outstripping the more invasive angiogram. Cardiac imaging is a system based on using radio waves to image water in the body without involving radioactivity. But with the need for costly equipment as well as numbers of specially trained staff, this is another area that will involve considerable pooling of resources in the near future.

Alan Munday spoke to mark 5 years of visits to Wythenshawe clinicians' outreach clinics at Tameside Hospital, before Club chairman John Phillips concluded the day with a roundup of the Club's current work at UHSM.