

Diary dates

With some return to normality, further regular Club events and activities have now been rescheduled as below.

All dates are also posted on the News & Events page of the Club's website at :

www.thetickerclub.co.uk

Annual General Meeting 2022 Wed 27th April

at the Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham at 10.00 for 10.15

Annual Volunteers' Seminar 2022

[date & time to be confirmed] in the Education & Research Centre

Members' Social Evenings

[Dates & venues to be confirmed shortly]



Lottery winners

NOVEMBER	No.
1st £50 K Duggan	184
2nd £25 J Richards	140
3rd £13 W Mullin	195
DECEMBER	No.
1st £100 A Warne	8
2nd £50 M Holmes	43
3rd £26 L Swann	133
JANUARY	No.
1st £50 J Dowell	137
2nd £25 F Tomlin	1
3rd £13 N Woodward	144

Former Club chair with 'quiet strength'

The Club is sad to report the passing of Jack Davies, former chair of the Club from 2000-2002, at age 94.

His family write :

Jack passed away after a short illness with his family at his bedside. He had two heart valve replacements at the age of 70 at Wythenshawe Hospital enabling him to live a long & full life. It was a result of this that he learned of The Ticker Club and became a keen supporter of it for many years. Initially providing support on wards talking to patients, sharing his experiences and helping alleviate their concerns, this was a role he particularly enjoyed. He then went on to chair the Club helping to re-establish it, alongside John Miller, after a difficult period.

In his long life he lived and worked in the USA for 15 years, was a keen photographer, travelled the world from New Zea



Former chair Jack Davies

land to South Africa and enjoyed a range of hobbies from dancing to table tennis.

Jack will be sadly missed by his wife of 72 years, who refers to him as 'a special man', and by a son, daughter, 3 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Victor Hyman writes : In the Ticker Club I'm more used to being seen as a patient support volunteer, but at Christmas time I take on a different guise.

I worked for many years at the Barbakan Delicatessen in Chorlton-cum-Hardy where my former boss asked if I would appear for a couple of days in another role.

Delighted, I said, given that in lieu of payment any monies donated would go to my chosen charity.

I'm pleased to say this raised **£150** for the Club.



Belinda's '2021' quiz

1. What was the name of the container ship which blocked the Suez Canal for 6 days in March, after running aground?
2. Who succeeded Angela Merkel as Chancellor of Germany?
3. Who scored England's goal in the final of Euro 2020, played in July 2021?
4. The Euro 2020 final was won on penalties - by which country's team?
5. Which UK city did UNESCO strip of its World Heritage status in July 2021?
6. On July 24th, Lady Kitty Spencer married billionaire fashion tycoon Michael Lewis. How old was she? How old was he?
7. Charlotte Worthington won an Olympic Gold Medal. In what event?
8. The first all civilian spaceflight was launched in September. By which company?
9. Who was accidentally shot dead whilst filming Alex Baldwin?
10. Abba released their first album of new materials after how many years?
11. Who became F1 world motor racing champion after winning in Abu Dhabi in December?
12. Who is Chief Officer with the Cheshire Association of Local Councils and was a special guest at the Brit Awards in May 2021?
13. Which Grand Slam tennis tournament did 18 yr old Emma Raducanu win?
14. For how long did Sweden's first female prime minister serve in office before being ousted? Several months, several hours, several days or several minutes?
15. Name the Italian rock band whose entry 'Zitti E Buoni' who won 2021 Eurovision Song Contest.

[Answers on page 3]

Charity No. 519754



The Ticker Club

NEWSLETTER

www.thetickerclub.co.uk

Winter 2022

Founded 1987

Affiliated to the British Heart Foundation

Ticker team

Chair :
DAVID HOLMES



Vice Chair :
MARTIN MERRIMAN

Secretary :
GAYNOR SLATER



Treasurer :
MARIE HOLMES

Committee members :
BELINDA CARTER
NAZIR CHOONARA
JOHN MILLER
MUNEEB YASSIR

Co-opted members :
VERNON MARSHALL
[Two to be co-opted]

Visitor coordinator :
MUNEEB YASSIR

Membership :
BELINDA CARTER
Newsletter & Media :
JOHN MILLER



Diary dates go
firm at last :
see page 4

Your Club needs you

It is hard to overstate the importance of The Ticker Club to the wellbeing of patients within the Cardiac Unit at Wythenshawe. The level of support, given to patients in answering the many non-medical questions and concerns they may have, is a fact recognised by the consultants and staff. This is a support met by our patient support visitors, all of whom are of course volunteers.

But sadly, having lost a number of volunteers for various reasons over the two years that the pandemic has been with us, it seems we may be reaching a point where we will not be able to provide the care and support we usually give to patients. As we reach the stage where we will shortly be returning to ward and clinic visiting, we are likely to find ourselves lacking in cover for the full week.

Volunteers within the Club are essential to carry on the work we undertake, not only in the wards and clinics, but also in the Club's administrative work. So, we also need people with experience and abilities in bookkeeping and secretarial roles. Without the committee the Club could not function - no performance happens without a back-stage team!

How can you become a Volunteer?

Though there are steps to go through as laid down by NHS England, it's a straightforward process. There are also requirements set by Manchester Foundation Trust (of which Wythenshawe is a part) that have to be completed for insurance cover purposes, even though some of the learning may seem to us unnecessary. But none of these are difficult and we will always make sure help and guidance are available. Other than that, you would need to meet with our Volunteer Coordinator, Muneeb, who will talk to you about the process and allay any concerns you may have. A DBS check will be handled by the Volunteers Office, at no expense to you or us.

I have posted the request for volunteers for

some time now, asking for interested individuals to come forward, with a little response, but the situation is becoming critical to the future of The Ticker Club and our support work.

Or perhaps a committee member?

We are also looking for new committee members to replace those stepping down at the end of their term of office. These are finite roles which do not have to be forever and full support and mentoring will always be available. The committee meets only six times a year and includes a number of interesting jobs to keep our profile high within the Hospital.

So, if you'd like to have a chat about becoming a volunteer either for the ward or clinic visiting, or in an administration role (without commitment of course), please in the first instance give David Holmes a ring on 07872 312205 or e-mail him on :

david.holmes.ticker@gmail.com

Prize Draw winner



Winner of the donated Christmas hamper :
Club member 102-year-old Ellen Elentin

[Full list of winners on page 2]

Page 2: Chairman's chat, and Xmas Draw winners

Page 3: Key points from two committee meetings

Page 4: A sad goodbye & Belinda's quiz

Donations

Thank you for your donations, large and small, whether from individual members, from non-members, or organisations supporting our work.

GIFT AID : If you are donating, have you signed for Gift Aid? If you are a tax payer, this increases your donation by 25%.

Donations of £100 and over received from November to January are shown below :

Donation from / for	£
Noel McElroy	1000
T Ashraf	295
In mem. Marian Higham	285
R Manners-Wood	100
In mem. Rick Barlow	135
S Reid	300
In mem. Hazel Farrington	360
Barbara Stones	100
In mem. Alan Joyce	1200
Keith Donohue	100
In mem. Jackie Carey	700
Michael Hyman	1000
Barbakan Deli	150
In mem. Jack Davies	230

Smaller donations are always recorded and are very much appreciated.

Membership

Our thanks to all our Club members for continuing to support the Club in this way.

Sadly, no new members have joined the Club since the last Newsletter, though a further FIVE are pending subject to receipt of membership fees.

But we're sorry to report the passing of the following three Club members:

0863 Marian Higham
1004 Jack Davies [see p.4]
1495 Brian Searle

Belinda Carter, Membership Sec

Chairman's chat

Happy New Year to you all, belated as it may be. I wish you and yours a peaceful and prosperous one.

Despite the increase in infections, we're all now finding there seems to be less risk for the future and, going forward, the restrictions we've lived with will soon be a thing of the past. What a wonderful change! This will allow us to resume our work in the Hospital after a gap of two years. I'm looking forward to the chance to see staff in the Hospital and congratulate them personally for their work whilst we have been kept away. Many have been affected by the virus themselves and they all deserve our gratitude.

I have tried to keep in touch with as many staff as possible to maintain our involvement as much as I could, and I know that some of our volunteers have been involved in virtual workshops in Cardiac Rehab during last year. We have retained the mobile phone and e-mail contact for patients and made our contact leaflets available in as many places as possible. We have also continued to provide literature to give patients information about

their forthcoming procedures so that The Ticker Club's name is still known to as many as possible.

We are still unable to access our office in Entrance 6 on a daily basis, but only in the evenings and weekends so that we could carry on with necessary work on our computer. My hallway continues to double as a satellite office, as has been the case for nearly two years now. I have made inroads into having a full time working space in the Hospital again, so I am hoping it will not be too long before I can get my home space back to normal!

Surgery is continuing at more or less pre-pandemic levels. I cannot help but think of the number of patients who are missing our chats whilst they are in the wards and clinics. We are going to be involved in a virtual pre-operation forum on Friday afternoons, as previously face-to-face in CTCCU before these events were postponed. So once again, another step back to near-normality.

Should you, for any reason, wish to contact me, please ring me on 07872 312205 or e-mail david.holmes.ticker@gmail.com



Continue to keep safe and stay well and - to use the old TV phrase - let's hope 'normal service will be resumed as soon as possible'!

David Holmes, Club Chair

Chairman, members and guests enjoy the Christmas party at the Cresta Court



Christmas Draw winners

No.	Prize	Name
1st 1445	£100 voucher	D Jones
2nd 0154	£50 voucher	G Birtwistle
3rd 0967	Champagne	S Culverwell
4th 1660	Xmas hamper	E Lentin
5th 0986	Men's toiletries	P Glover
6th 2573	Tin of sweets	M Shore
7th 3384	Oil burner set	W Davis
8th 0502	Cut gls candle set	W Chew
9th 2690	Bayls/Harding set	Shelley
10th 0656	Lily O'Brien chocs	Derbyshire
11th 1095	Wm's cosmetics	Hannington
12th 1523	Lindor chocs	Kinsello
13th 0639	Moments biscuits	M Daniels
14th 2564	Bayl. hand creams	V Shillito

The Draw raised over £2,000 for Club funds



Hold your breath : drawing the winners

Key points from November & January committee meetings

With access to our office in the Hospital limited during lockdowns, committee meetings continued bi-monthly on Zoom until we were able to hold our first meeting back in the Hospital's Education & Research Centre (ERC) in September. Since then the committee has resumed its regular bi-monthly meetings in the ERC.

Please note : All items reflect the position at the time of the meeting but will hopefully still provide an insight into matters in hand.

Committee meeting Wed 10th Nov

- Wythenshawe Hospital update : Covid restrictions are still in place. CCTU are currently undertaking 30 open heart operations per week.
- Volunteers Seminar 2021 : This will not take place this calendar year. Re-scheduled for May 2022 [date now tbc]. Volunteer Coordinators will be responsible for arranging this.
- Christmas Social : This is still going ahead at the Cresta Court on 7th December 2021 at 7.30pm. The deadline to reply is 16th November as final numbers, menus and payment have to be submitted to the Cresta Court by 19th November. It was agreed to invite two members of the Trust and their partners.

- Friday Afternoon Presentations : Will Scott is now the lead at the CCTU. The Trust are investigating the possibility of doing a virtual consultation meeting for pre-op patients via Microsoft Teams on Friday afternoons. If this goes ahead the Club would like to be involved and are already organised to give input. It would be extremely beneficial for us to have a presence. There is a concern that, if these virtual meetings do go ahead, 'face to face' meetings would probably not continue even after Covid, as they are staff intensive. The previously planned video is no longer going ahead.

- Going forward : There is a real need to recruit for the 3 posts that are to be open for election in April 2022 (AGM date is 27th April). Two further roles will be up for election in 2023.
- Virgin Money Giving has decided to withdraw from the donation platform business as of 30th Nov 2021. We have researched alternatives but care had to be taken as some carry high charges. Direct payment can be made to PayPal Giving Fund as we are registered with them who don't charge as it is paid for by profits PayPal make. It is also linked to the Facebook fundraising pages. It was agreed we direct people to Facebook and review early next year before

the marathon season starts. PayPal is now on our website and in our Newsletters [see bottom of this page].

- Inpatient Support : Sadly the phone has been very quiet. We need to get back on the wards again as visibility will make a big difference. We need to be seen and at this moment with no office where people can see us and make enquiries we haven't got a presence.

Committee meeting Wed 12th Jan

- Seminar May 2022 [date to be confirmed] : Dr Laura Dobson and Prof Chambers are willing to give presentations to the TC. The Seminar content will be based around :
 - * Zoom presentation by LD or PC
 - * Fire training
 - * GP's new replacement
 - * Chair's report
 - * Treasurer's report

- Reserve Fund procedure : MH is currently researching/writing about this (whilst complying with Charity Commission's guidelines). There are no clear guidelines on 'reserve' time-scales and MH is suggesting a 2-year commitment for TC to pay any/all outgoings when there is no income over that time period. The reserve process will also be documented in the annual report, along with why we have a large amount in our current account re the legacy monies and how we are taking this forward.

- Ward Gifts : MH has received 2 thank you letters as a result of our Christmas ward donations.

- Amazon Smile : we have received £7.62 to date.

- Membership : numbers are still dwindling as has been the case over the last few years.

- It was agreed by all committee members to grant Eruch Cavasji an 'honorary' membership though this would not set a precedent.

- It was thought to be a good idea to re-start social meetings again, starting earlier at 7.00pm and hopefully at the Stamford in Altrincham.

- So far 9 ward volunteers have been 'signed off' and certificated for all of the training modules. The remainder are in the process of completing them, with a deadline is 31st Jan 2022. Some volunteers have decided not to complete the training modules and will be returning their volunteer badges in line with MFT's request - volunteers should be volunteering for the right reason and training is for their own safety.

- TC volunteers can now 'man' a desk at entrance 6. Those volunteers at the desk and speaking to patients, promoting the TC and answering questions from the public, need to have completed all the training modules and have had a heart procedure of some kind. A rota will be devised for volunteers to work on the desk/table and the TC banner put up.

- The situation regarding committee members has now become critical. By the end of April 2022, we will be losing 3 roles - Treasurer, Secretary and Vice Chair. How can we recruit?! AGMs, ward visits, social meetings, people coming into the office are all good forums for this. However, with these not taking place due to Covid, it has had an impact on our recruitment. **Gaynor Slater**

Belinda's '2021' quiz p.4

The answers

1. Ever Given
2. Olaf Schultz
3. Luke Shaw
4. Italy
5. Liverpool
6. She was 30, he was 62
7. BMX
8. SpaceX
9. Halya Hutchins
10. 40
11. Max Verstappen
12. Jackie Weaver
13. US Open
14. Hours
15. Maneski