

In Memory



Nottingham
Hospitals
Charity

At the heart of your care

ISSUE FOUR – AUTUMN 2018

In celebration of you – our brave fundraisers and donors – who support our hospitals in memory of loved ones. Thank you.

Once again, we're celebrating the achievements of families, friends, colleagues and neighbours, who support the care of patients old and young at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, in tribute to the life and memory of someone who has died.

Since the last issue of this newsletter, there has been much to celebrate. Our wonderful NHS turned 70 years old – and of course we celebrated in the most fitting way possible, with tea and cake. Patients at Hayward House - an end-of-life care centre in the grounds of the City Hospital - cut a very special 'Big 7Tea' cake and are encouraging you to do the same! Why not savour the last of the summer and hold your own tea party? There are plenty of useful resources available at our website to help you do so – www.nottinghamhospitalscharity.org.uk/get-involved/nhs-70-big-7tea/



NHS Big7tea Introduction

May also marked the launch of the SWAN initiative – which promotes compassionate and quality end-of-life care for patients across our hospitals. Donations to our new SWAN fund provide support for all staff as they care for patients and their families, helping them to make important decisions about bereavement care, organ and tissue donation. The initiative ties in with an annual 'Dying Matters Week' which encourages openness in conversations about death and bereavement, and highlights the importance of making our wishes known.

If you would like to support the SWAN fund, by donating or fundraising, please do contact us on **0115 962 7905**, or email charity@nuh.nhs.uk.

Full steam ahead for John!

John Tomlinson sadly passed away at Nottingham Children's Hospital in April 2017. He was 14 years old.

Whilst John was poorly, his family – mum and dad, Hazel and Stuart, and sister, Ellie – were able to stay in the hospital's parent and family accommodation facilities, allowing them to be at John's bedside day and night.

Having access to these facilities – which provided relief, privacy and respite from the busy clinical environment – meant the world to them.



Full steam ahead for John

Continued on page 2



Nottingham Hospitals Charity

Supporting Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

Continued from page 1

In honour of John, and to create a wonderful, lasting legacy for their son, the family have been raising money to support our Big Appeal – an ambitious fundraising appeal which will, in its first stage, support a complete refurbishment of the parent and family accommodation suite at Nottingham Children's Hospital.

Hazel, Stuart and Ellie are steam enthusiasts! John also loved to spend time driving the family's traction engine with his dad. Their whole community have been incredibly generous in support of the family's fundraising – we've received gifts from Rempstone Traction Engine Club, Barton Gate Charity Steam Rally and Stroud Vintage Transport and Engine Club, to name just a few!

Stuart's employers, Statfold Barn Railway, helped the family to organise a 'boilersuit ball' in John's memory in the Railway's own venue – which houses their impressive collection of steam trains and vintage engines! John would

have been so proud of the evening, which paid tribute to his memory throughout. It was a very emotional event, but also a phenomenal fundraiser – and great fun too. Through their raffle, auction and ticket sales, the family raised more than £11,600 on the night for the Big Appeal.

Thanks to the Tomlinsons' incredible bravery and commitment to honouring their son and brother, over £23,800 has now been given, which will support the complete two bedrooms and bathrooms for families to make use of whilst their child is in hospital. To all those who contributed to this amazing tribute, thank you.

To find out more about our next stage of the Big Appeal, raising funds to support the purchase of an i-MRI machine for the treatment of children's brain tumours, visit our website www.nottinghamhospitalscharity.org.uk/appeals/the-big-appeal/

Remembering Rachel

Rachel Ann Knight sadly passed away in 2016. Throughout her life, she worked as an accountant in the NHS and so in her memory, her mother, Mrs Beryl Kutschera, knew that she also wanted to support our hospitals.

Mrs Kutschera felt that the most fitting tribute to her daughter would be to fund a piece of specialist medical equipment at Nottingham City Hospital and her incredibly generous gift of £2,000 was able to purchase a 'CoaguChek XS Pro' INR Machine at the Urology Centre.

Julie Dean, Urology Theatres Clinical Manager, said of Mrs Kutschera's kindness: The Urology Theatre Team had identified a need for an INR machine (a device which measures how long it takes for a patient's blood to clot) during patient admissions,

and we were thrilled when Mrs Kutschera offered to purchase a device in memory of her daughter, Rachel.

The machine will be used to check that it is safe to proceed with surgery when patients are admitted to the department. The test can be completed within a few seconds using a drop of blood from a finger prick test. The INR result is available in seconds, the test is far less painful, and the decision to proceed with surgery can be made much more quickly. We can't thank Mrs Kutschera enough.



We are so thankful to have had the opportunity to work with Mrs Kutschera, and our colleagues at Nottingham University Hospitals, to create a legacy that Rachel would have been proud of. Mrs Kutschera's kindness has transformed care for Urology patients, and will continue to do so for many years to come.

If you would like to find out more about supporting enhancements in honour of your loved one, please call our fundraising team on 0115 962 7905.

‘Thank you!’

We’re so lucky to have the chance to meet fundraisers who support our hospitals in memory of their loved ones. Here are just a few of the wonderful people we’ve been saying ‘thank you’ to over the past few months....

Michael Heal gave **£960** to **Hayward House** in loving memory of his wife, Christine, who was a patient at the Unit.

Michael collected donations in lieu of flowers at Christine’s funeral to continue her legacy through the work of the unit. We’re so grateful for Michael’s bravery, and to all those who gave so generously – from the UK, all the way to the USA.



Michael Heal

Black and Green ball for the Breast Institute



Thank you to a wonderful group of friends who raised a phenomenal **£22,500** for the **Nottingham Breast Institute**. The ‘Black and Green Masquerade Ball’ was held in memory of Samantha Black, who sadly lost her battle with breast cancer, and in celebration of Eloise Green, who won her fight with the disease.

The money was raised through ticket sales to the event, which was held at Colwick Hall, as well as through a raffle and auction on the night! The friends’ incredible fundraising has purchased a new state-of-the-art digital mammography machine at the Nottingham Breast Institute.

In July 2017, Kirstie Baker and Richard Beadling’s baby daughter, Lilly, passed away on the Neonatal Unit at Queen’s Medical Centre. The couple returned to the Unit in March to present a cheque for **£2,400** to our **Big Neonatal Appeal**.

The money raised by their family and friends in Lilly’s memory will go towards specialist equipment and training to help staff administer manual ventilation on premature babies like Lilly. Lilly’s dad, Richard, said of the team: ‘they’re incredible. They became Lilly’s family when she was here, and we’ll always think of them as our family too.’ We think Kirstie and Richard are incredible too, and we’re so grateful for their kindness.



Kirstie Baker and Richard Beadling

If you would like to arrange a visit to Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, to present a cheque in memory of your loved one, please call our Fundraising Officer, Ellis Keay on 0115 962 7905.

Amelia's legacy

Amelia Wood was 11 years old when she was involved in a tragic accident. As she made her way to school earlier this year, she was struck by a wheel which had detached from a passing car. Amelia was rushed nearly 70 miles from her hometown of Louth to Nottingham Children's Hospital at Queen's Medical Centre, but doctors were unable to save her life.

Since Amelia passed away, her amazing family and friends have been committed to raising money in her memory – scaling the Three Peaks, holding raffles, baking cakes and organising a charity football match. In total, they have raised around £30,000 for a number of charities, including over £7,000 which will be donated to the Nottingham Children's Hospital Paediatric Critical Care Unit (PCCU). The family want



Amelia Wood

to thank the PCCU team for the care the whole family received.

On behalf of our colleagues at PCCU, we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who continues to fundraise or donate in Amelia's memory. The money raised for our hospitals keeps her memory alive and will make a huge difference to young patients and their families at one of the most challenging times in their lives. You are all truly remarkable.

Walk for Hope

After discovering she was pregnant again in January 2017, Katie Keating found it hard to enjoy her pregnancy. She had lost her baby girl, Charlie, 20 weeks into her pregnancy in November 2015, and was constantly in fear of losing another baby. At this incredibly difficult time, she found there was very little support for people in her situation.

Katie explains how she and her husband, Neil, felt: 'We were so scared the same fate would befall us again and I found all of the scans especially difficult. Even after we discovered our daughter was healthy I spent the remainder of my pregnancy obsessing over how to prevent a stillbirth and was riddled with anxiety. I didn't feel that I could attend other support groups for fear of upsetting others with my bump. I felt lost and in need of support.'

After being supported through her loss by the Zephyr's

Bereavement Centre at Nottingham City Hospital, which is run by Nottingham Hospitals Charity, Katie spoke to the centre's Project Manager, Carly Williams, about the need for a group for those pregnant after loss. Katie said: 'With the help of Carly, I set up the HOPE Pregnancy After a Loss support group. It began with just me and one other pregnant lady and we have since had five other ladies and their partners attend. To date, seven rainbow babies have been born. The group is supported by a bereavement midwife and volunteers and every

month we have a guest speaker or practitioner deliver different activities to promote relaxation, discussion and bonding.'

Katie, whose 'rainbow baby' (born after the loss of another baby) Grace was born ten months ago, is now raising money for Zephyr's, where the HOPE support group meets monthly. Their sponsored walk, held at Shipleigh Country Park, raised over £300 for the centre. Thank you, Katie, for all that you do for Zephyr's and for parents and families across Nottinghamshire!



Katie and Grace

If you would like to find out more about how to honour the memory of your loved one – from organising a funeral collection to setting up a tribute page, please do contact Ellis Keay on **0115 962 7905** or email ellis.keay@nuh.nhs.uk. We will be honoured to support you.

Nottingham University Hospitals Charity, registered in England and Wales no. 1165397. Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England no. 9978675.