

**THE
PLYMOUTH AND CORNWALL
CANCER FUND**

**Registered Charity
Number: 262587**

**ANNUAL REPORT
&
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For The Year Ending
31st October, 2012**

THE PLYMOUTH AND CORNWALL CANCER FUND

Registered Address:

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E.Mail:pwh(@whitefordcrocker.co.uk)

(Offices now moved to:
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E.Mail: peter@curtissolicitors.co.uk)

Charity Registration Number:

262587

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST OCTOBER, 2012

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs S Aspley
5 Willoughby Park
Yelverton
Devon
PL20 6AN
Telephone: Yelverton: 01822 859042
E.Mail:saspley@bar-asp.fsnet.co.uk

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr A Bedford
Head of Radiotherapy Physics
Level 02
Derriford Hospital
Plymouth 6 8DH
Telephone: 01752 763069
E.mail: anthony.bedford@nhs.net

HONORARY SECRETARY

Mr P W Harker, B.A.Hons., Solicitor
Whiteford Crocker
Park House, 28 Outland Road
Milehouse
Plymouth PL2 3DE
Telephone: Plymouth (01752) 550711
E.Mail.pwh@whitefordcrocker.co.uk
(NB: please see new address detailed above as
from November 2012)

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr M Webb
“Edgemoor”
3 Grenofen Close
Grenofen, Tavistock
PL19 9NE
Telephone: Tavistock (01822) 617466
E.Mail.mfwebb@tiscali.co.uk

MEMBERS:

Ms M Ahearne
Mr T A V Chandler
Mrs J Cole
Mrs M Conbeer
Mrs S Dennison
Mrs S Lamb
Dr M Nugent

Miss A O'Connor
Mr C Oppong
Dr U Pai
Professor R J Parsons
Dr S Pascoe
Mrs P Stapleton
Mrs J Widlake
Mrs J Willimott

THE AIMS OF THE FUND

**Improvement of local facilities for the
diagnosis and treatment of cancer**

**Improvement of local facilities for the
care of cancer patients**

**Assistance with the relief of hardship
arising from cancer**

Promotion of cancer education

Support of local research

Chairman's Report 2011/12

I took over the Chair of The Plymouth and Cornwall Cancer Fund in April 2012 from Professor John Parsons, who had held the position for over 13 years. I would like to thank him and the Committee Members and Anne O'Connor, Administrative Secretary for easing this transition and for all their support.

2011/12 has seen an increase in requests to the Plymouth and Cornwall Cancer Fund for funding to support local people suffering from cancer, their families, and the staff and infrastructure that provide their care. I think this is a reflection of the current financial climate we find ourselves in and the financial burden that places on those affected by cancer and those that provide their care.

Requests for hardship grants have increased substantially this year, and the amount funded has in fact doubled. These grants mainly took the form of assisting with travel costs of the patients attending Derriford Hospital for treatment or to attend a specialist centre for diagnostics and/or treatment. I would like to acknowledge the work the staff who identify these patients and families in need, and put forward requests on their behalf.

Multi-Disciplinary Teams of cancer specialists are important in ensuring all patients benefit from the full range of expert advice needed for high quality care. In recognition of this we have funded video conferencing and pathology equipment to enhance facilities available to these Teams in Derriford Hospital.

Plymouth and Cornwall Fund has continued to support requests for equipment used in the treatment of cancer. This has included this year, contributing to the funding of brachytherapy equipment used to treat patients from across the SW Peninsula and radiotherapy monitoring equipment.

We have provided finance to support various members of staff working in cancer care, wanting to attend conferences. Continued professional development is essential for staff working in this locality to keep up to date and abreast of latest techniques and practices. With the pressure on NHS budgets, staff education and training is often targeted in cutbacks. Plymouth and Cornwall Cancer Fund are pleased that we are able to ease this burden and play a part in maintaining standards of care.

We continue to support financially a new Palliative Care Chaplain based at Derriford Hospital. Feedback from patients and staff extol the benefits of this post to patients and carers affected by cancer, whatever their faith. The committee has therefore agreed to carry on with this funding for a further three years.

Our Shop in Hyde Park, Plymouth continues to flourish while nationally other charity retail outlets appear to be struggling. This would not be possible without the sterling work done by our band of volunteers. We have had to contribute to some repairs to the building this year, but as the profits keep increasing, it would seem that this should be a good investment. The shop is currently our main source of income and integral in our mission to support local people affected by cancer and those that care for them.

This year we have been able to approve the increased number of requests for hardship grants, various pieces of equipment, training and education. The accounts demonstrate that approving requests in 2011/12 has meant spending possibly more than ever before, and that this cannot be repeated without an increase in income. Although donations and shop revenue are steadily increasing year on year, the Committee believe the only way that the Plymouth and Cornwall Cancer Fund can do this is by actively raising funds. To this end, the Committee agreed a Fund Raising Strategy in September 2012. This will include pursuing charitable bursaries and grants, approaching business and clubs and organisations. This will mean improving the Fund's publicity through the development of a website and active campaigning, building on the excellent work of our current band of volunteers and fundraisers, to whom we are so grateful for the time and support they give.

The next year promises to be a busy one. We plan to raise our profile to optimise our fund raising capabilities by the development of a website which will hopefully give the charity more credibility and allow us to function within what is now a fairly competitive market. It should also increase publicity, enable on line donating and provide information for patients and health professionals.

Achieving our goals for the future is not going to be easy in the current economic climate and will require the continued support of our committee, fundraisers and volunteers. These dedicated people willingly give up their time and energy and I am grateful that they are up for the challenge ahead.

Sara J Aspley
Chairman
March 2013

DEEDS OF COVENANT

Information available from the Hon. Treasurer/Hon. Secretary

GIFT AID

Information available from the Hon. Treasurer/Hon. Secretary

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

As detailed – page 2

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

These were held as detailed below:

Tuesday, 17TH January, 2012 in the Oncology Reception Area, Level 02, Derriford Hospital.

Wednesday, 28th March, 2012 in the Oncology Reception Area, Level 02, Derriford Hospital.

Tuesday, 10th July, 2012 in the Oncology Reception Area, Level 02, Derriford Hospital.

Tuesday, 18th September, 2012 in the Oncology Reception Area, Level 02, Derriford Hospital.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held in the Oncology Reception Area, Level 02, Derriford Hospital, on Wednesday, 28th March, 2012.

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION

- Attendance of Lead Dosimetrist, Radiotherapy Physics – Varian User Group Meeting, Edinburgh Hospital
- Retrospective funding – Attendance in respect of Cancer Services Manager and Directorate Manager, Oncology – Conference Manchester April 2011
- Attendance Brain Tumour Seminar Plymouth – Member of Staff, The Surgery, Looe
- Attendance of two Nurses to Cancer Care Conference, London.

SUPPORT FOR EQUIPMENT

- **Radiotherapy Head & Neck Supports**
-
- **Radiotherapy instrument trolleys**
-
- **Video conferencing room Equipment**
-
- **Radiotherapy Physics High Dose Rate Chamber**
-
- **Pathology Digital Conferencing Microscope**
-
- **Brachytherapy Equipment**
-

HARDSHIP GRANTS

Immediate cash grants were paid to cancer patients or their families in a total of **£12,909** with amounts ranging from **£19.80 to £515**. Funds are constantly needed to enable us to continue to help people in real financial need. In some cases, patients are perhaps no longer in a position to work or the financial implications of undergoing treatment put a further burden on their circumstances. Assistance towards travel costs to attend for treatment, additional clothing, bed linen or telephone costs represent the type of assistance sought. These requests are made to the Fund through the Mustard Tree Support Centre at Derriford Hospital where full financial assessments are made prior to application.

**PLYMOUTH AND CORNWALL CANCER FUND
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 262587**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2012

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES & AFFAIRS

Treasurer's report for the financial year to 31 October 2012

A good year, financially, for the Fund on the basis that grants issued have helped more cancer sufferers than ever, personally, and the Oncology Dept in the hospital significantly.

Income, at nearly £51000, rose by just over 5%, this helped by another record year, income wise, for the shop. Here income increased by 2.5% to £43767. Donations were up, following some fundraising, but investment income was down, reflecting the current market.

Expenditure, however, at over £120000, was a record and the greatest since the Fund assisted with the extension to the Oncology Dept waiting area. We know, at the end of the previous financial year, October 2011, the Fund had commitments of over £76000 to assist the hospital with new video conferencing materials, a part time chaplain and also specific equipment but, on top of this, we have continued to fund courses and training for staff, besides agreeing hardship requests of nearly £13000. Costs for administration and the running of the shop have only increased by 2% in the year, excellent in the present economic climate.

Spending money to help others is the role of charity but we have now ended the year with substantially reduced funds, just over £75000. The Fund does, of course, still have investments which continue to provide good income and they have increased in value during the year and are now worth some £63000.

As we go into a new business year the only financial commitment is for the part time chaplain in the hospital but we do need to start to raise funds in additional ways, other than the shop, if we are going to be able to support any significant requests for equipment from the Oncology Dept.