

Issue 14

# St. Vincent's Foundation Newsletter for the *Friends of St. Vincent's*

Spring  
2016



St. Vincent's Foundation is the philanthropic fundraising arm of St. Vincent's Healthcare Group

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John Hickey, C.E.O.

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*St. Vincent's Foundation  
is a voluntary  
organisation and all  
donations and grants are  
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## St. Vincent's Foundation

Board of Directors: Mr. David Ryan (Chairman), Ms. Stephanie Fitzpatrick,  
Mr. Dermot Furey, Prof. Michael Keane & Mr. John Hickey  
Registered in Dublin, Ireland, Company No. 464228 Charity No. 1183  
Registered Office: St. Vincent's Foundation, Elm Park, Dublin 4

## Welcome from John Hickey, C.E.O. of St. Vincent's Foundation



I am delighted to bring you this, the 14<sup>th</sup> issue of our donor's magazine.

In most editions we have featured some great stories of fundraising and demonstrated the huge impact that these efforts have had on our patient care and medical research. This time we have many of the latter; research projects and purchases that would not have been possible without the huge consistent support of so many friends of St. Vincent's.

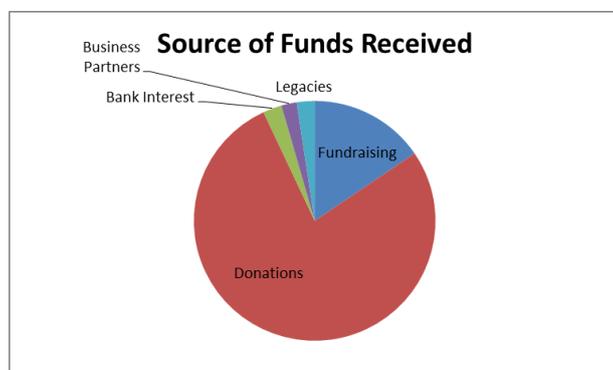
Given the 1916 Centenary occasion we looked back in history at the role of St. Vincent's staff in 1916 and in this we are particularly grateful for the wonderful book by F. O. C. Meenan.

Finally, we follow here with a summary of the performance highlights of St. Vincent's Foundation in 2015 with a sincere thank you to all who made this happen.

### 2015 Business and Financial Summary

#### Income

During 2015 St. Vincent's Foundation received €485,808 between fundraising proceeds and donations. This total was similar to 2014 when that year was adjusted for a transfer of an existing fund of €100,000.



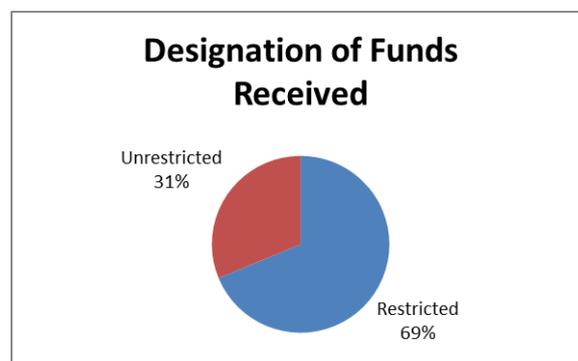
The sums received increased over the course of the year with just €125,000 of the total income coming in the first half of the year, with €360,000 received in the second half.

€328,435 of funds received were restricted to specific causes with €149,140 unrestricted

**Individual details of all receipts are shown on our website**

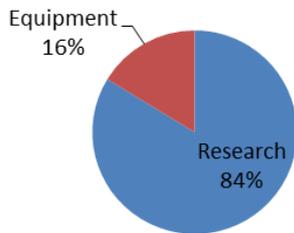
#### Grants

During the year we made grant disbursements of €302,523. The majority (€253,268) being spent on vital medical research, with the remaining €49,255 used for purchase of equipment for patient care and comfort.



## *Welcome from John Hickey continued.....*

### **Total Grant Allocation €302,523**



*All Grants are shown separately on our website*

#### **Expenses**

St. Vincent's Foundation continues to operate on a voluntary basis. Costs therefore amounted to just €18,579. Principal expenses are fees for accounting, legal and insurance, website development and maintenance and production of twice-yearly donors magazine cost c€10,000. Travel costs, callcentre payments and depreciation made up the balance.

The accounts for 2015 and earlier years can be inspected on our website.

None of the foregoing would be possible without the continued support and generosity of so many fundraisers and donors.

On behalf of our current and future patients, we are grateful to all.

**John Hickey,  
C.E.O. (Voluntary), St. Vincent's Foundation**

***As St. Vincent's Foundation is a voluntary organisation,  
all money goes to the intended cause.***

***All donations and grants are shown on our website  
[www.stvincentsfoundation.ie](http://www.stvincentsfoundation.ie)***

***St. Vincent's Healthcare Group comprises  
St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4 (affiliated with University  
College Dublin); St. Vincent's Private Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4 and  
St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.  
[www.stvincents.ie](http://www.stvincents.ie)***

# *Fundraising Highlights*

For the past eight years we have included hundreds of fundraising events.

The ones that follow are no less heart-warming and demonstrate such generosity.

We are really grateful to them all.

## **Christmas Cards & Raffle for Pancreatic Cancer:**

Our Christmas Cards & Raffle sales campaign in 2015 was in support of Pancreatic Cancer research and care. Together they raised over €6,000. Our sincere thanks to all who supported this initiative buying cards or raffle lines.

We are particularly thankful to the following who generously donated prizes for our Christmas Raffle:

***Gloria Winterlich***  
***Gowan Motors Merrion Ltd.***  
***Noonan Services Group***  
***Tara Towers Hotel, Dublin***  
***Tony Walsh Pharmacy, Merrion S.C.***  
***The Merrion Inn***  
***Island Living Gift Shop, Merrion S.C.***

***Remané Jewellers, Merrion S.C.***  
***The Harbour Mill Westport***  
***18 Carrot Health Food Shop, Merrion S.C.***  
***Home Instead Senior Care***  
***Bianconi's Restaurant, Merrion Road***  
***Aggie's Homemade Foods, Co. Wexford***  
***KSG***

Congratulations to all who won prizes—which included staff, patients and visitors.

We must highlight the invaluable help from the Porter Staff at the main reception in S.V.U.H.; staff in St. Vincent's Private Hospital; KSG shops in SVUH; Alex Counihan and Bridie Cormican & the Catering Staff in SVUH for selling Christmas cards and raffle lines for the Foundation.



## *Fundraising Highlights continued.....*

### **Pub Quiz for Liver Unit in memory of Tony Arten R.I.P.**

In memory of Tony Arten RIP, his daughter Shannon, extended family and friends organised a fundraising Pub Quiz in The Comet Pub, Santry on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015. [\(see photos below\)](#)

The highly successful event raised €1,236 for the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's. We are really grateful for this terrific contribution.



Sincere thanks to the Arten family, their friends and all who donated prizes and supported this wonderful fundraising event.

### **Galway Family fundraiser for the Liver Unit:**

In memory of Thomas Donoghue RIP, his sister Bernie Murphy and family from Headford, County Galway have donated over €1,500 to the Liver Unit. Of this Bernie's daughter Mairead donated €350 from Wedding Favours. We wish Mairead and her husband Eoin every happiness for their future together and thank them, her mother Bernie & the extended family for their generous donations. These funds are designated for the purchase of a chair and additional T.V. remote controls for St. Brigid's Ward.

### **Ian McDonald's St. Anne's Oncology Fundraising & Sponsored Swim:**

As we mentioned in previous issues, after Ian McDonald's Mum was successfully treated for cancer in St. Vincent's, he was determined to have a year of fundraising for cancer treatment and research during 2015.



Greatly supported by his local community of Annacurra, Aughrim, County Wicklow, the story of Ian's year of fundraising started in January 2015 when he decided to let his beard grow for just over 5 months. In June 2015 in his local pub, The Saltee, he and his friend Kevin Stapleton had their beards shaved. Over €950 was raised on the night.

In October last, Ian ran the Dublin Marathon, finishing in 4hrs 44mins which was a great achievement. Then in December his local community of Annacurra chose his fundraising cause as their annual charity donation. Each year they organise a swim on St. Stephen's Day in the sea and this event raised over €1,200. In total Ian's fundraising events have contributed €4,555 to St. Anne's Oncology Cancer Care here in St. Vincent's. What a great result.

We would like to sincerely thank Ian, the Annacurra community and his other supporters for all his wonderful efforts and major contribution to a vital medical area.

## *Fundraising Highlights continued.....*

### **Furey/Kenny Remembrance Run November 2015 for Pancreatic Cancer Research**

The family and friends of the late Moira Furey have been unstinting in fundraising in her memory. They again organised a huge contingent of family, friends and supporters to take part in the Remembrance Run in the Phoenix Park in November last. St. Vincent's have received €4,257 from the 2015 event for Pancreatic Cancer research in St. Vincent's. Sincere thanks to Dermot Furey and all involved this year and in previous years.



### **Killinick Harriers Fundraising for St. Anne's Oncology**

Inspired by Philip Hore and his family from County Wexford, Killinick Harriers held a series of events in December last for St. Anne's Oncology Day Care Ward in St. Vincent's.

Philip called in last February to present proceeds of €22,000 to St. Vincent's Foundation.

We would like to express our thanks to Philip and all involved in this massive fundraising for the hospital.

*Pictured above presenting the proceeds are Annaleigh Hore, Aileen O'Meara Oncology Liaison Nurse SVUH, Philip Hore, John Hickey, Alyson Keane & Ciaran Moran*

*Post Script; It is with great regret that we advise that Philip Hore died on March 3rd 2016. May He Rest in Peace. We have included this feature by kind permission of Philip's family, to whom we offer sincere sympathy on a great loss.*

### **U.C.D. Med Day 2015**

On the 16th October last, U.C.D. Medical Society held their annual charity day to support many worthy charities. St. Vincent's is always included and we really appreciate this continued support.

On Med Day, hundreds of students took to the streets of Dublin to fundraise in bright attire and, with great energy and Enthusiasm, raised in excess of €27,000.

*Pictured on the right are Maria, Sarah & Patrick from Med. Soc. UCD presenting to John Hickey, St. Vincent's Foundation.*

We were delighted to receive €1,500 for patient care, research and education here in St. Vincent's. We are really grateful to the students, who each year, make this contribution.

Since 2009 St. Vincent's has received €14,500 from U.C.D. Med Day. This has been an enormous contribution to research and medical care in St. Vincent's.



## *Fundraising Highlights continued.....*



### **Eamonn & Mary Burke's Annual New Year's Day Swim for the Liver Unit**

For many years now, Eamonn & Mary Burke from Arklow, have marked New Year's Day with a fundraising swim. The event has grown over the years, with now over 50 people taking part and with huge support from the community.

This year they raised the magnificent amount of €4,365, bringing the total contribution to patient care for the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's to over €34,000.

We are indebted to all concerned and particularly to Eamonn & Mary, great friends of St. Vincent's.

*(Eamonn & Mary Burke pictured presenting their proceeds)*



### **Christine Kearney's Easter Raffle 2016 for Breast Cancer**



For the last seven years, Christine Kearney and her friends Catherine and Katie, have organised two raffles each year, for Breast Cancer in St. Vincent's.

Christine has completed her Easter Raffle 2016, with a magnificent display of prizes resulting in the raising of €3,025 for this critical medical area.

In total, Christine and her team have contributed almost €26,000 from these events.

Christine, Catherine & Katie always bring a wonderful sense of fun to their events and their efforts are really appreciated by our patients and visitors.

We are all indebted to them.



## *Fundraising Highlights continued.....*



### **2016 Women's Mini Marathon**

The 2016 V.H.I. Women's Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016 @ 2.00pm.

Best of luck to all our supporters who are taking part in this year's event.

Each year, important causes in St. Vincent's benefit from this Fundraising.

We always stress that participants can nominate their preferred cause in the hospital.

### **November Fundraising for St. Anne's**

In memory of their friend Shane Murphy R.I.P., John Rafferty and his friends in SuperValu Churchtown took part in Movember fundraising for St. Anne's Cancer Care in St. Vincent's. Our thanks to all involved in raising €395, a terrific result and much appreciated.

### **Wedding Favours for the Liver Unit**

Our thanks to Aindrea McDaid from Letterkenny, Co. Donegal who donated to the Liver Unit in memory of her late father, for her marriage to Sean in April.



### **Valentine Muckfest fundraising**

In memory of her father-in-law Paddy Mulligan R.I.P., Eileen Mulligan and members of the family (pictured) took part in the Valentine Muckfest in Tullow, Co. Carlow on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February last, fundraising for St. Vincent's. Our thanks for €70 received from this event.

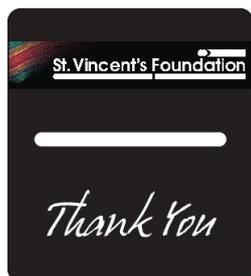


### **Presentation College Athenry Donation for Obesity Research and Care**

Following a presentation by Prof. Donal O'Shea to the students of Presentation College Athenry, the school very kindly donated €200 in support of Obesity Research and Care in St. Vincent's Hospital. We appreciate this assistance.

***We are so indebted to all our supporters mentioned here and to many more not listed. Some donors do not want to be identified and we always respect that.***

## *How we handle your money*



Regular readers will be familiar with this page which we reproduce in each edition as we feel it is important to demonstrate both our activities but also our consistent policy in dealing with donations.

**Donations:** *In line with our privacy policy we generally do not highlight specific donors unless they specifically request to be identified. Most donors want confidentiality and we always respect that.*

Personal details of **Donors** will remain confidential unless SVF is specifically requested by the Donor to publicise them. Otherwise Donors will be able to recognise their own donation by reference on that page to the donation date and amount and by the cause, if they have specified one.

**Fundraisers** will be individually identified in the publicly accessible database, if they have requested to be identified, by name and amount raised. Otherwise they will be able to recognise their contribution by reference to the presentation date and amount and specific cause if nominated.

***We would like to take the opportunity to thank those many, many generous people who give money to assist us in our work.***

*Many couples getting married decide to make a contribution instead of wedding favours on their wedding day. Normally we are asked for table displays for the wedding reception and we are of course very happy to provide them. We thank all those couples as we wish them a long and happy married life.*

*On the sad occasion of the loss of a loved one, many families request a donation to a named charity in lieu of funeral flowers. St. Vincent's frequently benefits from this generosity. This is most appreciated. We always advise the family of donations received and also acknowledge directly to the donor. As we thank these families we would like to acknowledge the Funeral Directors who assist people who wish to donate.*

*Through the end of 2015 and into 2016 we have noted an increase in the number of bereaved families who request donations to St. Vincent's instead of flowers and we are grateful for this kindness at the most difficult time for them.*

*We continue to receive donations in lieu of Court fines and we are grateful to the Court staff who support this.*

*Finally we must thank those people who, completely anonymously, give lots of donations through our collection boxes in the hospital.*



**For details of all donations, fundraising and spending, please see our website [www.stvincentsfoundation.ie](http://www.stvincentsfoundation.ie)**

**On the website also, you can read our Income and Grants policies.**

## *Donors making a difference*

In the pages that follow we demonstrate the practical impact that donors and fundraisers have had on patient care in St. Vincent's Hospital. Firstly we feature staff training and equipment financed by donors through St. Vincent's Foundation and also some investments in patient and family comforts.

Later in the following pages we have a large number of research projects presented by the leaders and teams involved.

### **SVF supports End of Life Care Skills Workshop**

Through generosity of donors, St. Vincent's Foundation was delighted to support The End Of Life Care Skills Workshop in the hospital in January 2016. This was an initiative by the Palliative Care, End of Life and Bereavement Service Review Group.

The aim of the Workshop was to inform and educate staff about the services provided around Palliative Care, End of Life and Bereavement. Staff were given the opportunity to ask questions about the specifics of care for these patients and their families.

The workshop was assessed by attendees and rated very highly as assisting staff in this very sensitive area.



*Picture above shows Mr. Aidan O'Donnell, Deputy Principal together with some First Year students presenting the cheque to John Hickey*

### **St. Michael's College support for Emergency Department training**

From a range of fundraising activities, primarily the selling of Christmas Trees, the boys of St. Michael's College support a huge range of charitable activities.

The College has been a consistent supporter of St. Vincent's Foundation and, this year, presented €2,500 to be used towards the purchase of a training mannequin for the Emergency Department.

This complements their earlier gift of an iSimulator, which has been of great benefit to the Department.

### **Donor equipment for Nurse Education**

This Sphinx scanner (*pictured on right*) was financed by a kind donor. As an audit tool for Nursing Department, it is a major contributor to nurse education in St. Vincent's, and as a consequence to patient care.



## *Donors making a difference*



### **Reclining Chairs for St. Anne's Oncology Ward**

Enabled by the Whelan family and other donors, St. Vincent's Foundation financed the purchase of 3 reclining chairs for St. Anne's Ward.

These are particularly suited to this environment and provide considerable comfort to patients and immediate family.

### **Relaxation facility for St. Christopher's Ward**

As the dedicated Cystic Fibrosis Unit in St. Vincent's, many of the patients in St. Christopher's Ward spend long periods in the hospital.

Owing to the generosity of donors and fundraisers, we were able to organise investment in furnishing a Day Room to be a relaxed and comfortable environment for patients and their families. We are deeply grateful to so many supporters who have made this possible



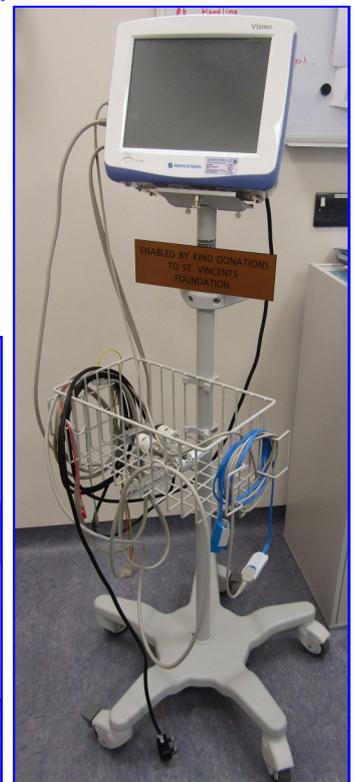
### **Glen Hatton Memorial Fund**

Some time back, in the aftermath of the death of Glen Hatton R.I.P., his family raised very considerable funds to support St. Vincent's.

This generosity has enabled the purchase of very important equipment for St. Anne's Oncology Ward including:

- Cardiac Monitor
- Genius Thermometer x 4
- Comfort Cuff Dynamap x 4
- ECG Machine MAC3500
- Volumat Agilia infusion pump x10
- Mc Kinley Syringe Driver x 3
- Reck MOTmed Viva 2 Light leg and arm trainer

Some of the items are photographed here and all have contributed enormously to patient care, comfort and outcomes. From the same fund, more equipment will be acquired and reported in later editions of this magazine.



## *Donors making a difference in Research*

**Following are a selection of recent Research Projects supported by St. Vincent's Foundation with donors funds. We are grateful to the contributors who have given us the articles on their specific Research Projects**

**Pancreatic Cancer Pathology Research Project generously supported by St. Vincent's Foundation through funds raised in memory of Moira Furey R.I.P.**

**(Dr. Danielle Costigan, Histopathology Dept. S.V.U.H.)**

Ampullary carcinoma is a rare cancer of the gastrointestinal tract. These tumours are so-called because of their location at the 'ampulla of Vater', an opening into the small bowel where a duct draining bile from the liver and gallbladder meets another duct draining substances from the pancreas. Because of this location they are considered a form of pancreatic cancer. When examined under the microscope these tumours can resemble cancers of the pancreas or cancers of the small bowel and therefore are separated into 'pancreatic' or 'intestinal' subtypes. Studies have shown that deciding the 'subtype' of ampullary cancer is important for predicting patients' survival and for choosing the most appropriate treatment regimen. However, reliably achieving correct subtyping is not straightforward and has been the source of ongoing investigation.

Our research work focussed on how best to differentiate these tumour subtypes under the microscope. Our results show that in cases where the subtype is unclear or 'mixed' on initial examination, 92% can be accurately subtyped using a combination of five different markers that are applied to tumour tissue. Another area of the project related to the phenomenon of 'tumour budding' in these cancers. The presence or absence of cancer cells 'budding' from the edge of a tumour assessed under the microscope is an established method of predicting aggressive behaviour of colon cancers.

Our results suggest that when applied to ampullary cancers it can also help separate the cancers that are more likely to spread to lymph nodes and overall correlate with a worse outcome for the patient. Both of these promising ongoing areas of investigation, subtyping and tumour budding, offer potential as practical tools to help doctors decide which patients with ampullary cancer may benefit from chemotherapy, the type of chemotherapy to use and may also aid prediction of survival in individual patients.

The results of this project have been presented at international pathology conferences in Boston (2015) and Seattle (2016).



*Pictured L. to R. are Dr. Niall Swan, Consultant Pathologist; Ms Jean Murphy, Histopathology Dept.; Ms Miriam Hayes, Clinical Nurse Specialist; Ms Emer Burton, Clinical Nurse Specialist & Mr. Emir Hoti, Consultant HPB surgeon with a copy of the presentation made in Seattle in March 2016. Missing from the photo is Dr. Danielle Costigan and the remaining Consultant HPB surgeons.*

*Dr. Niall Swan, Consultant Pathologist, Dept of Histopathology commented "The support from the Foundation and the donation by the Furey family is much appreciated and we are confident the project has made an impact on how these tumours are treated which will result in improved outcomes for patients with ampullary cancers".*

# *Donors making a difference in Research continued....*

## **Personalised Medicine by sequencing the tumour genomes of colorectal cancer patients (Prof. Kieran Sheahan, Consultant Histopathologist)**

Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in the Republic of Ireland and in this study we will sequence the DNA from the tumours of colorectal cancer patients.



This is a collaboration between Prof. Kieran Sheahan, Dr. Elizabeth Ryan & the clinical group at the Centre for Colorectal Disease, St. Vincent's University Hospital, and Dr. Simon Furney who is a specialist in the field of bioinformatics – the study of biology using computational approaches - at the School of Medicine, University College Dublin.

*(Photo L. to R. Dr. Elizabeth Ryan, Dr. Simon Furney & Prof. Kieran Sheahan)*

Recent advances in DNA sequencing allow the genomes of cancer patients to be sequenced at much lower costs than before. Our colorectal cancer genomics study will avail of the latest genome sequencing technology to conduct “whole genome sequencing” of the tumours from colorectal cancer patients at S.V.U.H. Having sequenced the tumour genomes, Dr. Furney will use advanced bioinformatics algorithms to identify the mutations that have occurred during tumour development.

In particular, our study is interested in patients who have multiple tumours and we will identify differences between tumours occurring in individual patients. This is crucial as the existence of differences between tumours in the same patient could lead to the requirement for personalised treatment regimes.

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## **Multiphasic Contrast-enhanced Chest CT for the Evaluation of Intra-thoracic Malignancy (Prof. Jonathan D. Dodd, Professor of Radiology)**

The Team: Dr. Ciaran Redmond, SpR in Radiology; Dr. Gerry Healy, SpR in Radiology; Dr. Hannah Fleming, SpR in Radiology; Dr. Conor Barry, SHO Respiratory Medicine; Susan Collins, CSR in Computed Tomography & Prof. Jonathan D. Dodd, Professor of Radiology

The multiphasic CT enhancement characteristics following contrast administration of several abdominal malignancies (e.g. hepatic, renal) are well described. These enhancement characteristics enable radiologists to accurately diagnose and stage cancers such as liver and cholangiocarcinoma with increased accuracy. There is little data examining the enhancement characteristics of intra-thoracic malignancies, and the current standard practice for CT evaluation is the acquisition of a single phase following contrast administration.

*Pictured L. to R. are Dr. Gerald Healy, Dr. Hannah Fleming, Dr. Ciaran Redmond & Prof. Jonathon Dodd*



Our study, using funds from a St. Vincent's Foundation grant, is investigating the enhancement characteristics of intra-thoracic malignancies. We are focusing on two groups of patients; patients with

## *Donors making a difference in Research continued.....*

pleural malignancy and patients with primary lung cancers surrounded by pneumonia, both of which can be challenging to diagnose on standard chest CT. Suitable patients are being prospectively recruited from the Lung Cancer Multidisciplinary Meeting following a histologically proven diagnosis of malignancy. We acquire CT images of the site of interest at designated time intervals following intravenous contrast administration. We then analyse the enhancement characteristics of the malignant lesion over the time intervals.

We hope that the results of study may result in the definition of a new CT protocol for use in these two patient groups, improving on the accuracy of diagnosis and ultimately improving lung and pleural cancer detection and staging for patients using multiphasic CT.

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### **Research in Oncology HER2-positive breast cancer and the CharactHer Study (Dr. Giuseppe Gullio, Consultant Medical Oncologist:)**

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy among women and in Ireland there are approximately 2,800 new cases and 970 deaths every year. About 15-20% of all breast cancers present an alteration in a gene called "HER2" which confers a more aggressive behavior and a poorer prognosis. In fact, patients with the so-called "HER2-positive" breast cancer, in the absence of appropriate treatment, have a higher risk of developing distant metastases and an overall shorter survival.



Pictured are Dr. Giuseppe Gullio with Jo Ballot, Clinical Research Manager & Giulio Calzaferri, CharactHer study co-ordinator

The introduction since the early 2000s of a new class of powerful agents specifically targeting HER2, has revolutionized the treatment of HER2-positive breast cancer and has changed dramatically its natural history. However, despite all the significant improvements of the last 15 years, still a considerable number of patients with HER2-positive breast cancer develop distant metastases after primary therapy and ultimately die of progressive metastatic disease.

At the Medical Oncology Department at St. Vincent's University Hospital we have established an internationally recognised role in clinical research in the field of HER2-positive breast cancer. In 2012, as part of this large research project, an international translational study called CharactHer was initiated with the aim to investigate and identify the molecular factors that determine the response to anti-HER2 therapy.

This study is sponsored by ICORG – All Ireland Cooperative Oncology Research Group - (code: ICORG 12-09) and is led by investigators at S.V.U.H. The study involves and has the support of other institutions in Dublin (Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Beaumont Hospital, St James' Hospital) and in Italy (Humanitas Cancer Center in Milan and Catania Oncology Center in Sicily).

## *Donors making a difference in Research continued.....*

The CharactHer study plans to recruit about 300 patients over 5 years, including both cases of HER2-sensitive and HER2-refractory disease. In accordance with the study protocol, a large panel of investigations is being performed on the tumor samples, including analysis of DNA mutations, cytogenetic alterations and immune-histochemical studies. Over 160 patients (55% of total accrual) have already been registered in the study, about 130 of whom are from St. Vincent's Hospital.

The first grant from St. Vincent's Foundation to the CharactHer study in 2015 has allowed us to employ a highly qualified researcher at S.V.U.H. specifically to coordinate the study across all the participating institutions. As part of this position, the CharactHer study Coordinator facilitates the communication among the Centers, is responsible for the quality of the data collected and coordinates the collection and preparation of tumor samples for the relevant laboratory studies.

In line with the planned study timeline, the first results of the CharactHer study are expected in the last trimester of 2016 and could have a meaningful impact on the clinical and translational research on HER2-positive breast cancer.

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### ***HCV Infection Screening Project (Dr. Diarmaid Houlihan, Consultant Hepatologist)***

Exciting developments in the therapeutics of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection over the past decade have lead to the generation of a novel class of medicines called Direct-Acting Antiviral agents (DAA).

The traditional therapies for HCV infection were highly toxic with significant side effects and only moderate efficacy. In contrast the new DAA's are highly effective with a minimal side effect profile.

To date over 700 patients with advanced liver disease have been treated with Direct-Acting Antiviral agents (DAA) therapy in Ireland. The Viral Hepatitis Unit in St. Vincent's Hospital has a dedicated team and has treated a large number of these patients.



It is estimated that there is a significant number HCV positive individuals in the community in Ireland. Many of these patients do not know that they are infected and some will progress to liver cirrhosis and die from liver disease.

St. Vincent's Foundation have kindly funded a community based research nurse with the aim of screening and identifying patients with HCV infection in the community. State of the art tools will be used to identify those with advanced liver disease. These patients will then be offered therapy with the aim of preventing liver failure, liver cancer and death from liver disease.

*Dr. Diarmaid Houlihan, Consultant Hepatologist, Liver Unit, S.V.U.H.*

## *From the Archives*

ÉIRE  
IRELAND

19  
2016

### **St. Vincent's Staff in the events of 1916**

In this year of commemoration of the events of 1916 we want to highlight some of the involvement and experiences of members of staff in St. Vincent's at that time. We are indebted to the wonderful book written and collated by the late F.O.C. Meenan.

Much of the activity in Easter Week 1916 centred on St. Stephen's Green.

A detachment of the Citizen Army under the leadership of Micheal Malin and Countess Markievicz occupied St. Stephen's Green and the Royal College of Surgeons. The Crown forces were established in the Shelbourne Hotel and the University Club. Given that St. Vincent's Hospital was in its original location in St Stephen's Green, it was surrounded by fighting and indeed many staff were unable to get to work in the hospital.

Early in the morning of Easter Monday, an ambulance came to Emergency Department with a man who had died from gunshot wounds. Another body was brought in almost immediately followed by a further man with shoulder wounds. All were attended by Dr. A.D. Courtney who was House Surgeon in the hospital.

It emerged that a medical student, Jim Ryan, was missing from the hospital residence and it transpired that he was in the G.P.O.. Although he was just a student he was appointed chief medical officer because the doctor who had been expected to fill that role did not turn up at the G.P.O. Dr. James Ryan later had a distinguished political career and served for a time as Minister for Health.

Richard Tobin, a surgeon in the hospital encountered looters stealing from shops in Grafton Street and chased them off with his blackthorn stick. Surgeon Tobin was subsequently called to attend to James Connolly in the Dublin Castle hospital and formed an intimate friendship with him.

A British sailor on shore leave recounted later that he had been rescued by a doctor who pulled him from the street into the hospital fearing that he would be shot as he was in naval uniform. The doctor who remained anonymous gave him a disguise and ensured his safety.

The youngest patient admitted to the hospital with bullet wounds was aged twelve.

During the conflict, the authorities of St. Vincent's Hospital, in common with the management of the other voluntary hospitals, ignored a demand by the British forces to report cases of gunshot wounds and other suspicious injuries admitted to the wards.

*St. Vincent's Hospital relocated from St. Stephen's Green to Elm Park in 1970.*



# Donations & Gifts

Here we highlight some of the ways that supporters can help us achieve our world class potential. We specifically highlight legacy gifts, In Memory donations and direct gifts.

## St. Vincent's joins with other Irish Charities to promote Wills:

St. Vincent's Foundation is one of 77 charities in Ireland who together form MyLegacy.ie. The dual purpose of MyLegacy.ie is to encourage everyone to make a will and also to consider leaving something to a charitable cause when doing so. The activities of MyLegacy.ie include organisation of **Best Will Week** each year.



When a person in Ireland dies without a will, their estate is divided among family members on the basis of rules laid down in the Succession Act 1965. If no beneficiaries can be found, the person's estate, including property and savings, revert to the State's intestate funds deposit account. Given that less than 30% of Irish adults have made a will there is often a resultant uncertainty in how their assets should be treated. A will gives that certainty.

In other developed countries charitable bequests are a large element of charitable income but it is less the norm in Ireland. Thankfully this is changing in recent times and many supporters have informed us that a particular cause in St Vincent's has been named in their will. We are truly grateful to them for that.

More information can be obtained from [www.MyLegacy.ie](http://www.MyLegacy.ie) or by contacting John Hickey in St. Vincent's Foundation.

*The lives and medical outcomes of many of our patients have been positively affected by the kindness of those who left a gift to St. Vincent's in their Will.*

## In Memory donations



When bereaved families request donations to a charitable cause in lieu of funeral flowers, they demonstrate extreme generosity in seeking to have others benefit from their loss. In each edition of "*Friends of St Vincent's*" we want to acknowledge families who have requested that donations be made to St. Vincent's and these donations are very important to us.

Often the bereaved relatives specify a medical area to be supported and we always adhere to this wish. If families intend to have a collection, in the church, at the funeral we can provide suitable laminated signs on request.

We also often receive in memory donations too coinciding with the Anniversary of a loved one's passing.

## Personal Donations

Patient support in St. Vincent's has always been enabled by the kindness of donors. We are grateful to them all. Contributions from *Friends of St. Vincent's* also help us in vital research that will improve the outcomes for patients now and in the future.

As well as one-off donations, we are fortunate that a number of supporters have set up Standing Order payments, so that we receive a regular amount each month. This is a wonderful contribution.

# Ways you can Help St. Vincent's

## **Tax Reclaim for Charities**

As a registered charity, donations to St Vincent's Foundation can be enhanced when we can reclaim tax on the amount donated. The process is quite simple and we describe it here.

From January 2013, for all donations of €250 or more in a given tax year the receiving charity receives a tax rebate for the charity provided the donor/taxpayer had paid tax of this amount or more in the relevant tax period.

Because donations are made from "after-tax" income the tax reclaim is calculated to refund the amount of tax that would have been deducted and the taxation rate used is 31%.

The benefit to charities is best demonstrated by an example as follows: where a donor gives €500 during 2014 to St Vincent's Foundation the €500 is considered to be what was left after the donor had paid tax. At a rate of 31% this gross amount before deduction of tax is calculated at €724.65. If the donor has paid a minimum of €224.65 in tax in 2014 the Revenue will repay this amount (€224.65) to St. Vincent's Foundation thereby increasing the value of the donation by almost 45%.

Relevant donors complete and sign a Revenue CHY4 form, which we will provide and the tax reclaimed is very worthwhile as it substantially increases the income to charities at no further cost to donors.

## **Fundraising Events**

These are one of the biggest sources of financial support and are covered extensively in this magazine.

**Are you thinking of taking part in a fundraising event?** If so, please consider choosing St. Vincent's Foundation as your chosen charity You can select the cause within the Foundation you would like your money to go to All monies received will go directly to your chosen cause and patient care

**Contact us now for a sponsorship pack on 01-2215065**

or

**Email: [stvincentsfoundation@svhg.ie](mailto:stvincentsfoundation@svhg.ie)**



## **EverydayHero (formerly MyCharity) Affiliation**

Don't forget our partner in fundraising **EverydayHero (formerly mycharity.ie)** This is a really useful way to organise fundraising for sponsored events.

If anyone is considering participating in any type of sponsored event, it is worth visiting the website.

Literally any kind of event can be put up.

Everydayhero is an online fundraising platform just like MyCharity.ie, allowing people to raise money for their favourite causes or to give donations directly to them.

MyChairty.ie has now evolved into Everydayhero and is now fully mobile and is optimised to work on smart phones. It includes a range of engaging features for fundraisers to post photos, blog posts and even share their training effort with their friends and family.

See further details on [www.everydayhero.ie](http://www.everydayhero.ie)

## *Business Partners of St. Vincent's*

**St. Vincent's Foundation is supported by the following Business Partners**

*As a voluntary organisation St. Vincent's Foundation assures donors and fundraisers that every cent raised goes to the intended cause. We can do this because the quite minimal costs involved in managing the Foundation are covered by our Business Partners.*

*We are grateful to them all.*



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***Every amount contributed to St. Vincent's makes a difference to our patient care regardless of how large or small.***

***All the ways to make donations are listed on the final page of this magazine.***

***However you choose to help St Vincent's you are assured that all your donation goes to your selected cause without deduction of costs. We are a voluntary organisation dedicated to raising funds for patients care, research and education in St Vincent's.***

Donations can be made by  
24 hour donation phone line Tel: 1850 603 803

Via Our Website

[www.stvincentsfoundation.ie](http://www.stvincentsfoundation.ie)

Or

Pick up one of our leaflets in the hospital

**OUR CONTACT DETAILS**

**St. Vincent's Foundation**

**St. Vincent's University Hospital**

**Elm Park**

**Dublin 4 D04 T6F4**

**Tel: 01 221 5065**

**Fax: 01 221 4428**

**Email: [stvincentsfoundation@svhg.ie](mailto:stvincentsfoundation@svhg.ie)**

**St. Vincent's Foundation**

**Company Registration No. 464228 Charity No. 1183**

St. Vincent's Foundation complies with The Principles of Good Governance and with  
The Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising