

Issue 13

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

Autumn
2015



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



St. Vincent's Foundation

Board of Directors: Mr. David Ryan (Chairman), Ms. Stephanie Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Dermot Furey, Prof. Michael Keane & Mr. John Hickey
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*St. Vincent's Foundation
is a voluntary
organisation and all
donations and grants are
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Welcome from John Hickey, C.E.O. of St. Vincent's Foundation



Welcome all to this the 13th edition of our donor's magazine *Friends of St. Vincent's*.

As we approach the end of 2015 we are delighted to bring our readers lots of stories of support for St. Vincent's. Throughout the magazine you can read about generosity of donors and fundraisers and the difference they have made to our patient care, to research and to medical education. All of these contribute to better medical outcomes.

Many fundraisers do so on a one-off basis and many other have established fundraising as annual events. In this edition we feature our longest fundraisers for Breast, Pancreatic and other Cancers. Read about these and many, many more.

We are pleased to highlight spending on these areas and on comforts for patients and their families that would not have been possible without this support. Some of the grants from St. Vincent's Foundation relate to equipment and research costs, others are in support of medical excellence and promotion of compassion in healthcare. Continuing medical education is also supported.

We have articles contributed by medical specialists in areas where St. Vincent's takes a lead role. We are grateful to our colleagues for these articles and as you read them, please consider if you can make a difference to a medical speciality that is particularly important to you.

Since our last edition of *Friends of St Vincent's* we have relaunched our website www.stvincentsfoundation.ie. The new version is easier to use and more compatible with mobile devices such as iphones and ipads. The development allowed us to interface with Facebook giving greater exposure to our activities and projects we support. We are grateful to all who worked on the website development including The Communications Clinic who gave their help on a voluntary basis.

Finally we would like to wish all our supporters a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

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.

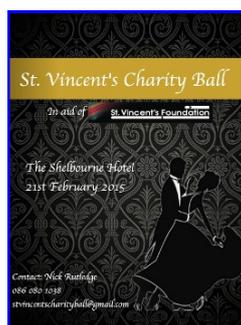
www.stvincents.ie

Fundraising Highlights

In each of the editions of this magazine we have featured wonderful stories of fundraising. They have demonstrated the imagination and energy of our supporters. Regular readers will recognise individuals and groups who have repeatedly gone to great lengths to help St. Vincent's. Each magazine also features first time fundraisers. We are really grateful to them all.

Wicklow Half Marathon fundraising by the Flood family:

In memory of Carol Flood from Ringsend, her family ran the Wicklow Half Marathon on the 22nd March last (see photo). The team comprised of her brother Tony, sister Liz, niece Nichole and nephews John, Anthony, Derek & Thomas. €1,385.85 was raised for the Mary Aikenhead Suite in St. Vincents where Carol was cared for in her final days. The family want to thank all who generously supported their fundraising initiative. On behalf of our patients we thank the Flood family for their generosity in seeking to help others, as they cope with their loss.



St. Vincent's Rugby Club Charity Ball 2015:

The St. Vincent's Hospital Rugby Club has had unprecedented success in recent years dominating the Hospitals Cup. Off the pitch as well the energy and generosity of the Club members has been spectacular. Each year they have organised a Spring Charity Ball to raise funds for causes within St. Vincent's Hospital. This year's Ball was held on February 21st in the Shelbourne Hotel. Lead by this year's Secretary Nick Rutledge and President Dr. John Holian, the hardworking committee spared no effort in ensuring a sell-out event and raised €3,500 to be shared by the Emergency Medicine and Cardiology units here in St Vincent's.

A big thank you to all concerned in this great event on behalf of our patients.

The Ireland Funds:

In June we were delighted to be advised of a \$3,000 grant from The Ireland Funds Promising Ireland Campaign towards physiotherapy equipment in the C.F. Unit. This grant was made possible through an anonymous donation at the Global Young Leaders Summit held in New York in January 2015, made through Ireland Funds. This grant payment of €2,703 is very much appreciated.

Then in October we were delighted to receive \$10,000 from a donor in the United States. This was directed to us by the Ireland Funds in the U.S. and converted to €8,813 for patients care.

Revenue Refund:

In each edition of "Friends of St. Vincent's" we highlight how we can get a rebate of tax on donations in certain circumstances. In July we received a €34,932.00 refund from the Revenue Commissioners which was very welcome. We actually refer to this process on page 17 of this magazine.

Fundraising Highlights continued.....

Christine Kearney's Fundraising projects for Breast Cancer Care

We have previously highlighted a number of projects that have been enabled by the consistent fundraising of Christine Kearney, her family and friends. Christine has been a well known supporter of St. Vincent's over the years raising almost €23,000 to date, enabling vital work in this medical area.

Bray City Rollers fundraising evening:

Robbie Greene and the Bray City Rollers, in partnership with Christine organised an exciting fundraising evening on Friday 26th June last in the Bray Head Fishing & Social Club.

Including the raffle, the function contributed a fantastic €1,712 to Breast Cancer research here in St. Vincent's. (see photo on the right of Robbie Greene & Christine Kearney presenting proceeds to John Hickey) Christine along with family and friends again rallied around providing catering on the night. They were also supported by many sponsors. We are grateful to one and all. Robbie Greene has been a performer in Ireland and internationally for over forty years and we really appreciate him and the Bray City Rollers giving their time for such a worthy cause.



The photographs above capture some of the spirit of the evening. From L. to R. Bray City Rollers: Joe, Philip, Bangers & Robbie; Christine, Katie & Catherine with the raffle prizes and Christine's Family: Helen, Kevin, Maggie, Christine, Ann, Bernie & Tommy.

Halloween Raffle on 29th October:

The 2015 Raffle raised a record €2,765 for Breast Cancer.

Halloween in St. Vincent's would not be complete without Christine Kearney's annual raffle for Breast Cancer. This year, she had 48 magnificently presented prizes, which made for a wonderful display in the hospital. On the day of the draw, Christine and her friends Catherine & Katie (pictured on the right) looked spectacular in their Halloween costumes.



We are sincerely grateful to Christine, her family and friends for the huge work they put into organising the prizes and selling tickets.

Our grateful thanks to all who supported this raffle, particularly Porter staff who sold tickets night and day for a week beforehand

Fundraising Highlights continued.....



TESCO Merrion Shopping Centre – Community Fund donation:

Our thanks to TESCO Merrion Shopping Centre for again nominating St. Vincent's under their Community Fund scheme. Breast Cancer services in St. Vincent's were selected as one of their chosen charities in April.

Helen Parsons (*pictured*) on behalf of TESCO Merrion presented €546.13 for this most worthy cause. We are really grateful for the continued support of TESCO.

This award is the third we have received for specific causes in the hospital from the TESCO Community Fund.

Sean Archbold Memorial Fundraising:

The family of the late Sean Archbold have again fundraised for St. Anne's Cancer Services and we want to acknowledge with thanks receipt of €226 from a recent raffle they held at a Darts competition in his memory.

Bequests:

St. Vincent's is very grateful for a further distribution from the estate of a lady in Australia, in June last, of a bequest for over €5,000 for St. Vincent's Private Hospital.

In July we received a bequest for over €43,000 from the estate of a man in County Wicklow.

St. Vincent's also received a very kind bequest of over €2,500 in August

In memory of Dot Kelly & Bosco Maguire:

We are most grateful to the family of the late Dot Kelly and her late partner Bosco Maguire, who donated a total of €1,000 from funeral donations; Dot's funds and Cheltenham winnings towards the C.F. Unit here in St. Vincent's.

2015 Sligo Warriors Festival & Run:

For the third year in a row, we have received a most generous donation of €1,000 from the Sligo Warriors Festival Committee. This has been at the behest of a former patient Denis Foley from Drumcliff, whose land is part of the course.

Each year runners from all over Ireland and various parts of the world converge on Strandhill to follow in the footsteps of Queen Maeve's ancient warriors. We are particularly grateful to all involved, especially Denis Foley & family, for continuing to support St. Vincent's in this way.



St. Killian's Junior School "Dress Up Day":

Our thanks to the pupils and staff in St. Killian's Junior School, Kingswood, Dublin 24 for organising a "Dress Up Day" on Friday 23rd October in memory of Louise Cullen, a great friend of their school who devoted much time and energy in supporting their parents, pupils and staff. This event raised €330 for patient care.

We are most grateful to all involved and in particular to the Cullen Family for nominating St. Vincent's.

Fundraising Highlights continued.....

Tom Kennedy Annual Memorial Rally:

In memory of the late Tom Kennedy, the Garden of Ireland Vintage Car Club held a most successful Memorial event on July 12th 2015 in Ashford.

Approximately 100 vintage cars and hundreds of spectators turned out on a wonderful summer day in support of, what is a now an annual fundraising event, for Cancer Care in St. Vincent's University Hospital.



Pictured are Tom's family and friends, including the committee of the Garden of Ireland Vintage Car Club, presenting a cheque for the proceeds.

This year's rally raised €2,000. This means that since it's inauguration in 2012, the Memorial Rally has contributed almost €8,000 to this vital medical area.

In addition to being an important contribution to St. Vincent's, this event is an ongoing tribute to Tom who was central to Vintage and Classic cars in County Wicklow. On behalf of our patients, sincere thanks to all.

Breast Cancer Fundraising in Enniscorthy:

Our thanks to Martina Cloke from Enniscorthy who raised €500 for Breast Cancer research here in St. Vincent's. Martina organised a coffee morning in her neighbourhood and intends that this will now happen each year. Sincere thanks to Martina and to her family and friends.



Liver Unit donation from Citco:

We would like to acknowledge our thanks to the staff in Citco Fund Services, Cork office for their most generous donation of €1,079 recently to the Liver Unit.



H.S.S.C.U. Charity Donation:

Our thanks to the Health Services Staffs Credit Union who made a charity donation of €150 in June 2015 to St. Vincent's Foundation.

Their continued support is very much appreciated.

Fundraising Highlights continued.....

Ian McDonald's fundraising for St. Anne's Cancer Care:

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. So far he has raised €3,285 making a huge contribution to this vital medical area and he still has one event to go with a St. Stephen's Day sea swim supported by his local community of Annacurra, Aughrim, County Wicklow.

Below we summarise Ian's activity to date together with some great pictures.



The story of Ian's year of fundraising started on January 1st when he decided to let his beard grow for just over 5 months. On June 6th in his local pub, The Saltee, along with his friend Kevin Stapleton they had their beards shaved. Kevin went one better and shaved his head too. They raised over €950 on the night.

The photos of Ian and Kevin capture the "before" and "after" the shave.



On October 26th, Ian ran the Dublin Marathon, finishing in the respectable time of time of 4hrs 44mins which was a great achievement.

Ian is photographed here at the start and finish of the race.



Ian isn't finished yet. The community of Annacurra has chosen his fundraising attempt as their annual charity

donation. Each year they organise a swim on St. Stephen's Day in the sea in order to raise funds for a designated charity. We will do a final report on Ian's fundraising year in the next edition of *Friends of St Vincent's*.

In the meantime we join with Ian in thanking the Annacurra community and all his other supporters for his wonderful efforts. Particular thanks to courageous Kevin Stapleton and of course to Ian himself.

Ekitiparapo Ireland donation to St. Vincent's:

We are delighted to receive a donation of €255 for patient care in the hospital from Ekitiparapo Ireland.

Ekitiparapo Ireland is a non-profit organisation, comprising a group of men and women from the immigrant community in Ireland, originally from the Ekiti language speaking area in Nigeria, West Africa.

They work together to improve their local community within the greater Dublin catchment areas and have made donations to several charities who touch the lives of their members. Our thanks to all in the Ekitiparapo Ireland for their generosity to St. Vincent's.

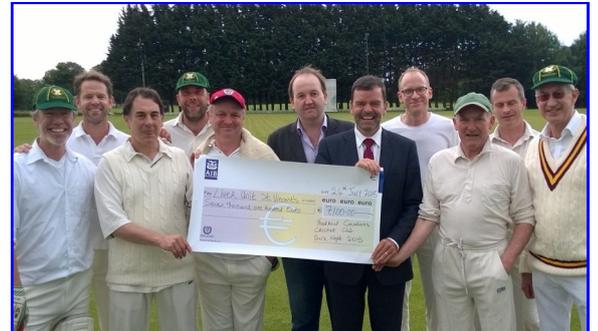
Pictured presenting their donation to St. Vincent's Foundation are Ronke Olojo, Adenike Adeyemi, Olufunke Ayoola & Ayodele Familoni,



Fundraising Highlights continued.....

Theatrical Cavaliers Cricket Club fundraiser for St. Vincent's Liver Unit:

On 26th April last, the Theatrical Cavaliers Cricket Club held a Gala Charity Quiz Night in O'Reilly Theatre Belvedere College fundraising for the Liver Unit here in St. Vincent's. They recently presented the proceeds of €7,100 (see photo) from this event.



The Theatrical Cavaliers is a Cricket Club for actors and associated professions. They have been going since 1987 and for more than twenty years they have held an annual Gala Charity Quiz to raise funds for deserving causes. To date they have raised over €110,000 for deserving causes and charities. In the theatrical world, the quiz has become a highlight of the social calendar – a thoroughly entertaining evening with a great atmosphere, witty hosts and outstanding prizes.

Our sincere thanks to the Captain Simon Coury, Vice-Captain Sean Duggan, Donnchadh O'Leary and all involved in organising this fantastic fundraising effort for St. Vincent's. Our thanks also to all the sponsors who donated prizes for the event.

The Liver Unit in St. Vincent's performed the first liver transplant in Ireland in 1993 and has since carried out over 900 transplants. In the Liver Unit patients are treated to world-class, life-changing medical treatment for the debilitating effects of liver disease. Donors and fundraisers, over the years, have made a huge contribution to medical outcomes, to patient comfort and to critical research. On behalf of our patients, we thank you.

Hazel Brack Cancer fundraising:



For several years now Hazel Brack has been an energetic supporter of Cancer care and research. On Friday October 30th Hazel turned Dunne's Stores Cornelscourt, where she works, into a sea of pink. (see photos below) With the assistance of the store management and a myriad of friends and family, Hazel raised over €4,000 for this vital medical care. Separately in this edition we have a report on great progress in research into Breast Cancer. This work would not be possible without this generous help. Over five years of fundraising, Hazel has raised over €22,000 for cancer treatment and research. We are truly indebted to her.



Fundraising Highlights continued.....



2015 V.H.I. Women's Mini Marathon:

The 2015 VHI Women's Mini Marathon took place on Monday June 1st. The weather conditions on the day were pretty awful and quite a challenge for all the participants. See photos below of some of our great supporters.



Pictured left to right are: Downey sisters: Marion, Hilary & Helen who fundraised for Breast Cancer services; Irene Doheny from Mountrath, County Laois who fundraised for the Liver Unit and the Forde Family & Friends from County Laois fundraising for the Liver Unit.

Liver Team S.V.U.H. take part in this year's Women's Mini Marathon:

Displaying great teamwork and concern for their patients, a team from the Liver Unit, St. Vincent's (see [photos below](#)) took part in this year's V.H.I. Women's Mini Marathon. The team consisted of Michelle, Shauna, Marian, Mairead, Nataliya, Annie, Sinead, Marie, Caroline, Anne, Susanne, Marilyn & Finola, with Consultant Diarmaid Houlihan making a guest appearance as well.

The Liver Unit team worked tirelessly to raise funds and the combined sponsorship, including a most generous patient donation of €1,000, raised a fantastic total of €3,610. This is a major contribution to our patient environment.



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



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 couple 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.

We 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

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

St. Vincent's Foundation raises money from donors to enable our hospitals realise their world class potential in medical care, research and education.

If you would like to support us please go to our website www.stvincentsfoundation.ie or call our donation line on 1850 603 803 or write to St. Vincent's Foundation, Elm Park, Dublin 4

Donors making a difference

We are always delighted to feature stories of generosity in fundraising. It is a particular pleasure to be able to demonstrate how these efforts contribute to our mission of patient care.

Here are some examples:

Donors provide Internet access in St Vincent's:

Enabled by donors, St. Vincent's Foundation financed a new system to provide internet access in patient areas throughout St Vincent's University Hospital. At a cost of just over €70,000 this is a great enhancement for patients and their families to be able to access mail and the web freely from many devices while in hospital. It also accommodates care providers to access critical information in the hospital.

St. Michael's College purchase E.D. equipment:

St Michael's College is located near our hospital. Over the years many students of St. Michael's have been treated for sports and other injuries in the Emergency Department in St. Vincent's. As part of the community involvement encouraged by the school, the students and their families raised money to purchase a simulator for the Emergency Department. This equipment is of great assistance in specific training for ED staff. The equipment ([photographed](#)) will benefit many patients of St Vincent's in the future. Our sincere thanks to the Management of St. Michael's and all the students.



Research and Education Support from St. Vincent's Foundation:

Enabled by many donors and fundraisers we are able to fund many worthwhile research projects and we feature a sample here:

Microbiology is leading a study in Clostridium Difficile Infection (CDI). This research is attempting to identify the strains of CDI which are currently causing disease in humans in Ireland, and correlate these with information about the patients affected. The study will include examination of the origins of community-associated CDI and ultimately contribute to prevention strategies in both healthcare settings and in the community.

A separate Study by the Obesity Research Group in St. Vincent's is focussed on investigating the effects of obesity, smoking and sex hormones on the immune system. The Group coordinates international, collaborative translational research in obesity and its complications.

Elsewhere in this edition we have a report on research into multi-generational breast cancer which has been heavily supported by St. Vincent's Foundation.

These are just some examples of very valuable work supported by the kindness of donors and fundraisers.

On the medical education side a recent legacy gift was specified to be used for nurse education. This allowed us to support a number of staff to expand their specialist knowledge with obvious benefits for our patients care and outcomes.

Donors making a difference continued.....

St. Vincent's Foundation supporting clinical excellence:

The support of donors and fundraisers has enabled us to improve the environment for patients in many ways. One of these is enabling staff to implement better procedures in their own medical areas. Clinical Masterclasses are an established method for showcasing these. At the Clinic Masterclass on October 8th 2015 we were delighted to launch a bursary for further education for staff who excelled in identifying potential improvements in the delivery of healthcare.



Dr. Ian Callanan MB FRCSI MBA, Group Clinical Audit Facilitator, St. Vincent's Healthcare Group comments on the Masterclass:

"It's hard to believe that we have hosted ten annual clinical audit masterclasses in the last decade. Each year, I am overwhelmed with the output of posters highlighting the clinical audit activity that happens here in the three hospitals every year. Staff put enormous effort into identifying what works and what needs to be improved for the care of our patients every year and the Masterclass provides an opportunity for showcasing that work. This year, following an approach to the Foundation, we were delighted to be able to launch the St Vincent's Foundation Travel bursary, which was to be awarded to the best audit poster that was judged to have the greatest effect on patient care. Conscious of the wonderful generosity of those who raise money for the Foundation, we felt that it would be an opportunity to further develop patient care by providing the winner with an opportunity to attend the premier conference on quality and safety in healthcare run by the BMJ and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement taking place in April 2016.



This year, the prize went to two staff, Audrey Byrne and Sharon Byrne, from St. Vincent's Private Hospital for their poster on the reduction of surgical site infections. Though the poster highlighted the recent results, these results are but the latest in many years of successfully reducing the incidence of surgical site infections in the hospital. Surgical site infections are now below 2% and below international benchmarks. Audrey and Sharon will now get the opportunity to travel to the International Forum and learn lots more on quality improvement that will no doubt benefit the patients that will be treated in the coming years in SVPH and can be transferred to the other hospitals in the group.



The donations of patients and families will lead to improvements not just in infection control but hopefully in the wider aspects of hospital care long into the future and for that we are extremely grateful."

Exercise Treadmills for Cystic Fibrosis Patients:



St. Vincent's Foundation is purchasing exercise treadmills for C.F. patients use, with monies donated for this purpose.

When C.F. patients are in the hospital they are vulnerable to infections and the provision of this equipment enables patients to take necessary exercise without moving from their immediate area in the hospital.

We thank all those who made this possible.

Research News

Research Project funded by donors to St.Vincent's Foundation

In the Spring 2013 edition of "Friends of St Vincent's" we mentioned a joint project with Trinity College and St Vincent's Hospital to target multi-generational Breast cancer. We are delighted to publish here the huge progress that has been made, This vital work would not have been possible without the support of donors and fundraisers. On behalf of our patients we humbly thank them and the work continues.

We are grateful to the research team for producing this article for us

Familial Breast Cancer Genetics—Project Update November 2015

This project was carefully designed to discover a genetic explanation for breast cancer in a cohort of 104 Irish women with a familial history of this disease.



This project began when medical student, Dr. Fatima Aloraifi, joined the team of Dr. Adrian Bracken (The Smurfit Institute of Genetics, TCD) and Dr. James Geraghty (St. Vincent's Hospital). Over the course of her research project, Dr. Aloraifi gathered DNA from the blood of 104 patients who were referred to National Centre for Medical Genetics in Dublin. These women had breast cancer and were from families with many members with the disease. All of these women were tested negative for the famous BRCA1/2 mutations. Our idea was that mutations in different genes cause breast cancer in these women and that discovering these will be enormously important for improved early detection and treatment of this disease.

Mr. James Geraghty

In the lab, we used the latest 'next generation' DNA sequencing technologies and discovered many new additional gene mutations in these women with familial breast cancer, including the genes ATM, CHEK2, RAD50, TP53 (p53), PALB2 and ERBB2 (HER2). This work was published in 2015 (ref).

The main conclusion of this work is that doctors in Ireland, in addition to checking the two BRCA1/2 genes, should also check these other genes in women from families with a history of breast cancer. We also suggest that the methods used in our paper, 'next generation sequencing of DNA' can now be used to facilitate this.



Dr. Adrian Bracken

To put our research so far into perspective and to highlight the need for more research, it is stark to consider the numbers; Of all the women with inherited breast cancer, the BRCA1/2 genes account for only 1 in 5 or 20%. Our study identified gene mutations in a further 25% of women. Therefore, combined 1 in 2 women can expect the doctor to be able to tell them the gene that causes the disease in their family. The benefit of this information is twofold. Firstly, members of these extended families can do a test to determine if they are a carrier or not. Secondly, as new therapies become available, knowing the causative gene will be essential information to use more targeted 'biological' therapies that are replacing chemotherapy.

Research News continued.....



Dr. Fatima Aloraifi

However, what about the 50% of women in which we do not yet know the causative gene? The project is continuing and we have new experiments driven by Carol O'Brien, a new PhD student in the lab, that identified mutations in the on/off switches of several breast cancer genes. So, this new concept is that rather the gene being broken like in the case of BRCA1/2, the genes switch can be broken. We are currently pursuing these new 'switch' mutations that we identified in 25/104 Irish women. We believe that this will ultimately lead to as much as 75% of women being able to learn their genetic predisposition to breast cancer, which will further improve prevention and treatment.

In a parallel project, driven by Evan Healy, another PhD student in the lab, we aim to develop a new treatment for "Triple negative breast cancer" or TNBC, which is the name given those breast cancers that test negative for estrogen receptors (ER-), progesterone receptors (PR-) and HER2 (HER2-).

Unfortunately, this means that they do not respond to hormonal therapy or therapies that target HER2, such as Herceptin. More than one out of every 10 breast cancer patients are diagnosed with TNBC.



Evan Healy

Because it is a particularly aggressive form, often affecting younger women, there is intense interest amongst doctors and researchers to develop new medications to treat it.



Carol O'Brien

Our study is designed to develop a new way to treat TNBC by focusing on a particular gene, TP53.

Classically, TP53 has been called a 'tumour suppressor' gene, meaning its normal function is to suppress or block cancer development. Remarkably, however, certain mutations of this gene generate an altered version of its protein called 'mutp53', which does the opposite and actually drives cancer growth. The cancer cells become dependent on mutp53 and therefore many scientists see this as a potential weakness that could lead to a new treatment.

Most TNBC cancers have mutp53 and therefore we decided to develop a new way to target it in this disease. To this end, we identified a new factor called PCLI, which binds to mutp53 and acts to increase its levels. Our idea in this project is to develop medicines (either traditional drugs or small 'peptides') to prevent PCLI from binding to mutp53. We plan to then test their potential as a new treatment for TNBC.

Therefore, we anticipate that these two projects will lead to improved diagnosis, prevention and treatments and therefore, hope for women with this breast cancer in Ireland.

Ref: Detection of novel germline mutations for breast cancer in non-BRCA1/2 families. Aloraifi Fatima, McDevitt T, Martiniano R, McGreevy J, McLoughlin R, Egan C, Cody N, Meany M, Kenny E, Green A, Bradley D, James Geraghty, Adrian Bracken. FEBS Journal. 2015. 282 (17): 3424-37.

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards campaign and raffle for Pancreatic Cancer:

Regular readers will know that, as we approach Christmas we organise a raffle in conjunction with sales of Christmas Cards. Each year a specific medical area is adopted for support and for 2015 we are donating all funds from the cards and raffle to Pancreatic Cancer.

November 13th 2015 is World Pancreatic Cancer Day. This complements the work of the Furey family and friends taking part in the Remembrance Run in the Phoenix Park on 8th November in memory of the late Moira Furey. This is now an annual event.

Of the 400 patients diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in Ireland every year, most of these are aged over 65 and while the incidence of the disease has remained relatively static over the past decade, it is widely anticipated that with the ageing population the incidence will increase significantly over the coming decades. Research and specialised care is vital to enable earlier diagnosis and improved outcomes.



Mr Justin Geoghegan, Director, National Surgical Centre for Pancreatic Cancer commented on the challenge "Despite enormous efforts pancreatic cancer remains one of the most difficult tumours to treat. Centralising the treatment of this cancer has brought great benefits but most patients still face many tough obstacles. Hope for future progress rests on unpicking the causes of pancreatic cancer by further research."

St. Vincent's University Hospital is the National Centre in Ireland for the treatment of Pancreatic Cancer. In this role, St. Vincent's can make great strides in tackling this critical medical area and support for this work is very important. Any help by way of donation or fundraising event would be much appreciated and make a real difference to Pancreatic Cancer patients and their families.

Order Form for Christmas Cards



Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact tel. no. _____ Amount Enclosed € _____

Cards are packed in 10's @€5.00 per pack

Tick Card Type/Quantity in box

1. Religious Cards
(assorted)

2. Non-Religious Cards
(assorted)

Cheque/postal order payable to St. Vincent's Foundation)

Return your completed order form to:

**Mr. John Hickey, C.E.O., St. Vincent's Foundation, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park,
Dublin 4 or Phone us on 01-2215065 with your order**

Donations & Gifts

Here we highlight some of the ways that supporters can help us achieve our worldclass 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. MyLegacy.ie organises Best Will Week each year.



Best Will Week encourages Irish people to consider the importance of making a will and also to consider leaving a gift to charity in a will after all other personal considerations have been decided. With changes to inheritance taxes in Budget 2016, Best Will Week offers a timely opportunity to settle personal affairs.

Research revealed this year highlights that only three in every ten Irish people have drafted a will despite the knowledge that a will provides certainty for loved ones. 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.

More information can be obtained from 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.

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.

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

MyCharity Affiliation

Don't forget our partner in fundraising **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.



If you are using the MyCharity to raise money for St Vincent's through a sponsored event the best way is by setting up your own page through www.mycharity.ie. You can reach this by going to our website www.stvincentsfoundation.ie and following the link for sponsored events. You can then email the link to friends who might wish to sponsor you. There is a Direct Debit payment facility on the mycharity website and also, we are linked to their Facebook & Text Fundraising applications. You can also access a myriad of fundraising ideas via the "fundraising ideas page" on this site.

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.

From the Archives

Extract from “A Century of Service 1834 to 1934”

From time to time we have featured interesting developments or events in the history of St. Vincent’s Hospital. One such critical development was the genesis of Radiology.



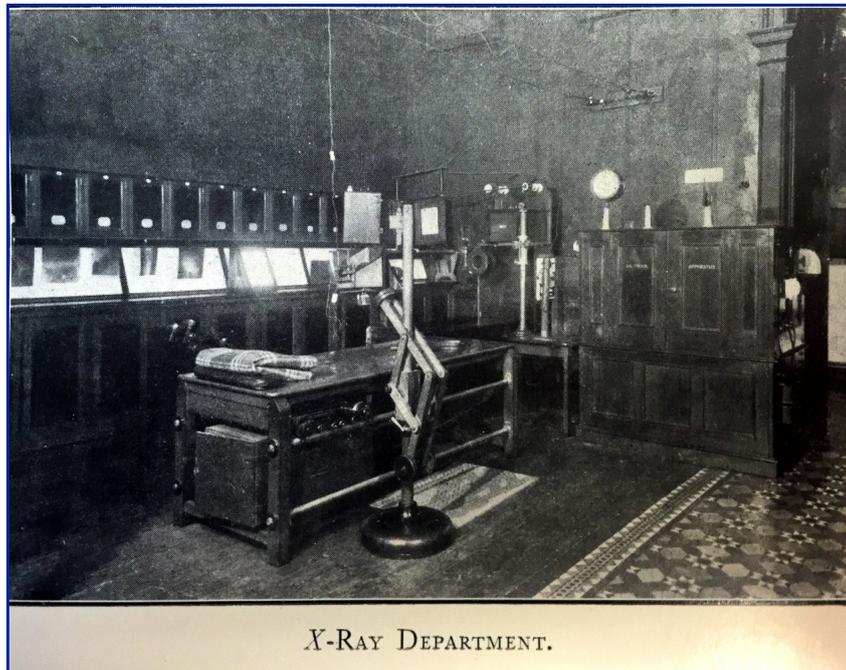
The Origins of the X-Ray Department

In 1895 a scientist Wilhelm Roentgen of Würzburg University discovered that an electrical discharge, passed through a Crookes’ Tube under certain conditions could generate an image which was to be developed and become a primitive photo of parts of the body, particularly the hand or foot.

The management of St. Vincent’s saw the potential for this and established the X-Ray Department, or Radiology as it better now described, in 1904. Only very few hospitals in Europe were equipped with a complete x-ray department at the time and such departments were usually situated in the cellars or basement. At St. Vincent’s a small room adjacent to the operating theatre was adapted for the purpose.

Over the next 100 years or so the evolution of Radiology became a vital element in diagnosis and treatment as well as an important contributor to medical education.

It is hard to imagine the humble beginnings of radiology in the outstanding equipment and professionals that work in this field in St. Vincent’s today.



*St. Vincent’s
Radiology Department from 1904*

Business Partners of St. Vincent's

In each Edition of *Friends of St Vincent's* we mention the importance of our Business Partners who we list below. They are vital in ensuring that we can contribute all donations to the cause chosen by the donor.

On our new website we have given greater prominence to the Business Partners.

If any of our readers who are in business would like to explore becoming a Business Partner, we would love to hear from them

We look forward to continuing to working with our Business Partners into the future, for the benefit of our patients.

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

AstraZeneca 

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YOUR PARTNER IN PATHOLOGY

DCC  ITAL
PHARMA DEVICES LOGISTICS

 NOVARTIS

Home Instead 
SENIOR CARE®
To us, it's personal SM


The Communications Clinic
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL


BEHAVIOUR
& ATTITUDES

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

Via Our Website

www.stvincentsfoundation.ie

Or

Pick up one of our leaflets in the hospital

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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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