

Issue 24

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

2023 Edition

Welcome from
John Hickey, C.E.O.

2022 Business &
Financial Summary

Early Days of St.
Vincent's

Message from Prof.
Michael Keane, Group
Clinical Director

Fundraising &
Donor Highlights

Patient & Family Quotes

Donors Making a
Difference

How St. Vincent's
responds to Gifts.

Contact Us

*St. Vincent's Foundation
is a voluntary
organisation and all
donations and grants are
shown on our website*

www.stvincentsfoundation.ie

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



**ST. VINCENT'S
HEALTHCARE GROUP**

Advancing Healthcare Since 1834



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
Registered Charity Number 20001872
Registered Office: St. Vincent's Foundation, Elm Park, Dublin 4

Welcome from John Hickey, C.E.O. (Voluntary) of St. Vincent's Foundation

I am delighted to welcome readers to this, our 24th edition, of **Friends of St Vincent's**.

St. Vincent's Foundation has been in existence now for fifteen years. In that time we have received €11.5M in donations and fundraising proceeds from a myriad of sources. These have enabled the Foundation to support multiple projects involving medical research, advanced medical equipment and improvements to our patient environment. We regularly express our gratitude for all the thousands of individuals and organisations who have contributed. Our appreciation is very real and the positive impact is very evident.

In this edition we have outlined the financial performance in 2022 which is the most recent accounting period. We also encourage readers to visit our website to see all the detail of income and grant awards for this period and all other years.

We are pleased to have an article from Prof Michael Keane. As well as being the Group Clinical Director of St. Vincent's Healthcare Group and Dean of the School of Medicine in UCD, he is Interim Chief Executive Officer of St. Vincent's University Hospital and, of course, a Respiratory Medical Consultant in St. Vincent's Hospital. Despite the pressures of these roles, Michael finds time to be a Director of St. Vincent's Foundation and his guidance for the Foundation over many years has been invaluable.

In this issue, we continue to feature the many, many fundraising events and the fantastic outcomes of them. The creativity, energy and commitment that goes into these cannot be measured. As we highlight the successes, we stop to reflect on one of our greatest supporters, the Burke family from Arklow and commiserate with them on the death of their lovely husband, Dad and Grandad, Eamon. We all miss him.

I hope readers will be inspired by the generosity displayed by the people who undertake these fundraising events. Each one is a hero to us. While we almost always identify fundraisers, we rarely name donors in order to protect their privacy. Most want anonymity for their generosity and we respect that. We do however feature every one of them on our website and some in this magazine. The kind donors can identify themselves there. We thank them all. As usual we are proud to detail many improvements in St Vincent's that happen because of donors and fundraisers. Some of these projects and investments are very large and many, particularly research grants, can extend over many years. This year we are honoured to include early detail of the creation of a Simulation Laboratory (Sim Lab) in St. Vincent's. This will be a very significant investment and a phenomenal stride in the capacity of the hospital in medical training for patient benefits. The Lab is largely enabled by financial support from the McDermott family in memory of their much-loved Enda who, as a Consultant in St. Vincent's, was beloved of his colleagues and patients. He is sadly missed by all. This major project is a partnership with UCD which has also provided extremely generous support.



As I welcome all readers to this appreciation of our supporters, I would also recommend our website www.stvincentsfoundation.ie for more comprehensive and timely information of what is happening with St. Vincent's Foundation.

I want to thank all who make these outcomes possible; the donors, fundraisers, the staff in the SVHG hospitals, and the Directors and Members of St. Vincent's Foundation. Without their collective effort these results would not be possible.

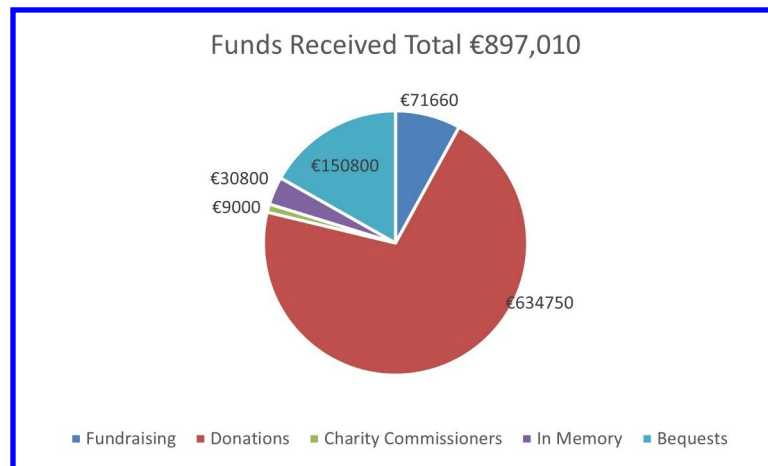
John Hickey, C.E.O. (Voluntary), St. Vincent's Foundation

2022 Business and Financial Summary

2022 Business and Financial Summary

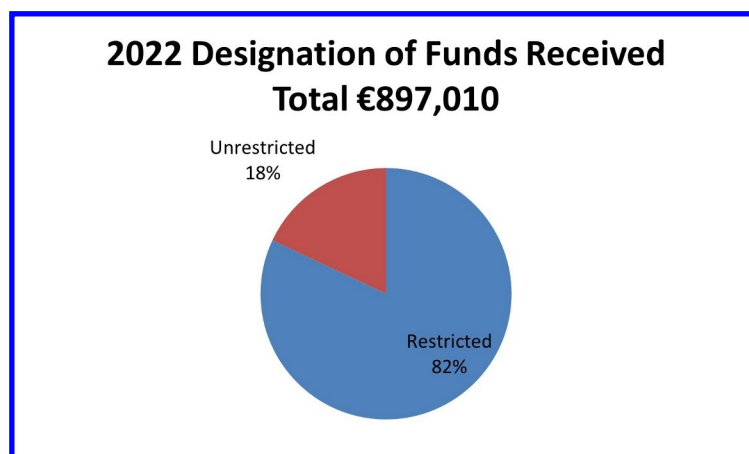
Income:

During 2022 St. Vincent's Foundation (SVF) received €897,010 in total income. The source of the funds is set out in the chart below. The biggest contributor was Donations followed by Bequests and Fundraising proceeds.



Fundraising by a wide range of supporters and events continued to be very important as well as the very generous decision by many bereaved families to request donations to St. Vincent's in lieu of funeral flowers.

Reclaims of taxation on donations are included in the overall donation figure. €735,395 of funds received were restricted to specific causes with €161,615 unrestricted.



Individual details of all receipts are shown on the website

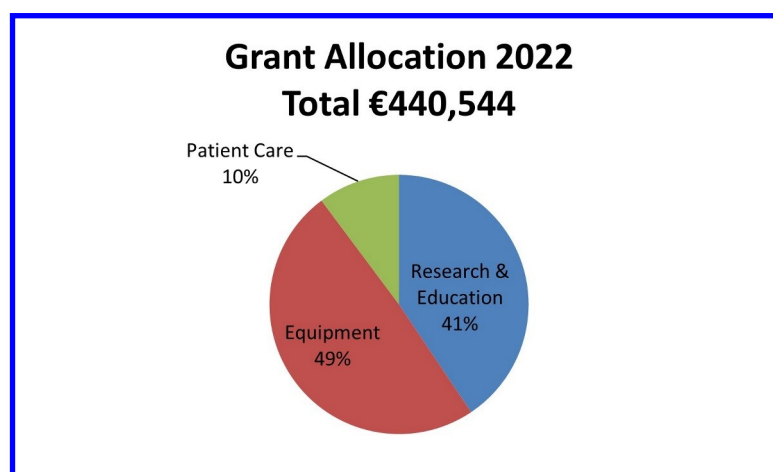
2022 Business and Financial Summary contd.....

Grants:

During the year we made grant disbursements of €440,544.

- ♦ €216,687 of total grants was provided to purchase Equipment and Software for patient treatment and support.
- ♦ €178,707 was contributed to Medical Education and Research projects.
- ♦ €45,150 was spend on Patient Care.

Total grants in 2022 showed a small increase (9%) on 2021.



All Grants are shown separately on our website

Principal Grant Allocations:

- ♦ Respiratory research in Sleep Laboratory €20,300
- ♦ Rheumatology Equipment €46,000
- ♦ Obesity Research €75,000 in partnership with Maynooth University
- ♦ Post Graduate education (UCD) €64,000
- ♦ Breast Cancer Genetic research in partnership with TCD €12,500
- ♦ Dietary equipment in St Michael's Hospital €12,000
- ♦ Completion of TV replacement project €45,150

Expenses:

St. Vincent's Foundation continues to operate on a voluntary basis with no salaries or wages. Costs were reduced by 24% to €19,975 (2021 €26,166). This is largely due to timing of payments and the figure for 2021 included a one-off payment for website improvement

Principal expenses are fees for accounting, legal and insurance, website hosting and maintenance, and production of our donor's magazine ***Friends of St. Vincent's***. Travel costs, telephone costs, commission payments to iDonate for online donations, and financial charges make up the balance.

Full details of the 2022 accounts are available on our website
www.stvincentsfoundation.ie

Early days of St. Vincent's



St. Vincent's Hospital was first opened its doors on February 3rd 1834 at 56 St. Stephen's Green in a premises that cost £3,000 at that time. If we can paraphrase the ambition of the founder Mother Mary Aikenhead, *'For love we want to give care to the poor that the rich can obtain for money'* In an unbroken series of nearly 190 years the hospital has delivered on that promise.

In the period it had a name change; from St. Vincent's Hospital to St. Vincent's University Hospital representing the partnership with UCD. It had a change of location in the late 1960's from St. Stephen's Green, where it had outgrown the original space and other surrounding buildings, to a brand new complex in Elm Park

Dublin 4. That campus has been massively enlarged over the years since, adding new services and emerging technologies that are central to a modern healthcare facility.

The other aspect that is incomparable to the founding years is the scale of patient numbers. As Prof Michael Keane has remarked elsewhere in this issue, St. Vincent's currently cares for more than 450,000 patients each year and the numbers continue to grow.

Looking back at the records from the early days demonstrates one feature that continues to this day. That is the contribution of generous donors to the development of care for patients. Mother Mary Aikenhead had confidence that she would receive sufficient financial support to establish the hospital and make it viable. Amusingly we saw that a sailor who was treated in the hospital in the early years donated a parrot. As it transpired to have a rich vocabulary of foul language the parrot was subsequently auctioned to raise funds for the hospital.

Almost 2 centuries later we continue to see this generosity all the time and we invite readers to read about the modern donors and fundraisers of 2023.



We mention in each issue that, as a voluntary organisation, St. Vincent's Foundation assures donors and fundraisers, that every cent raised goes to the intended cause.

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 patient care, research and education in St. Vincent's.

A message from Prof. Michael Keane



I am delighted to contribute to this edition of ***Friends of St. Vincent's*** because I have seen, at first hand, the huge contribution that donors and fundraisers have made to our hospitals and our capacity to care for patients. This is an opportunity for me to express my thanks to each and every one of those kind people.

Each year St. Vincent's Healthcare Group treats more than 450,000 patients including 42,000 In-Patients, 161,000 Daycare patients, and 250,000 Outpatients. In addition we have 80,000 attendances in our Accident & Emergency Department. These numbers continue to grow and we are very aware that the capacity of our hospitals does not meet the ongoing needs of those we serve.

Our staff are vital to giving the best possible care to our patients. St Vincent's Healthcare Group has more than 6,000 employees consisting of 300 Consultants, 600 Non-Consultant Doctors, 3,000 Nurses, 1,500 Clinical Support Staff and 600 Administrative Support & management Staff. I want to pay a heartfelt thanks to all staff within the Group for their unstinting efforts which I observe daily. I am aware that this magazine features unsolicited comments from patients and their families on the quality of treatment that our staff provide and this is very gratifying.

During the last year we recruited 38 new Consultant staff and we have a major focus on attracting and retaining doctors, nurses and support staff. As a teaching hospital we must invest in our education facilities and we are increasing our investment in these. The new Sim Lab is a huge contribution to this - referenced on page 23.

We had many achievements in our care capacity during the last year. These include the implementation of a Theatre Scheduling System and expansion of our ICU capacity. Our Obesity Management Care was developed and expanded providing greater accessibility to Bariatric surgical services. We increased capacity in St Anne's Day Centre and this enables more patients to receive treatments at home or closer to home. We also further developed our Robotic Surgery Service. This had initially been funded by the kind donations received through St. Vincent's Foundation. These are just a small sample of what has been happening and again I must pay tribute to the role that donors play in making these happen

In my role, as Group Clinical Director, I have a responsibility to ensure that we can deliver ongoing investment in world class clinical and translational research. In this, as in many other challenges, we are focussed on developing our links with other medical facilities locally and internationally. We will continue to invest in this work and these relationships. Our long-standing partnership with UCD is, of course, critical to our work in education and research and this continues to blossom.

For the future we will need to significantly increase our ability to cater for patient needs in many ways. We will be increasing our bed capacity (including Critical Care beds) in our three hospitals. We will develop new operating theatres and procedure rooms. We will also continue to enhance our diagnostic equipment. All of these, and the many other initiatives, will require investment. Donor and fundraising support will continue to be so important.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present this snapshot of St. Vincent's and for your welcome assistance to St. Vincent's Foundation.

Professor Michael Keane
Group Clinical Director, St. Vincent's Healthcare Group
Dean of School of Medicine U.C.D.

Fundraising & Donor Highlights



In the following pages we detail many of the events that contribute to support for equipment and activities in our hospitals and to enable the many research projects that, over time, improve our capacity to care for patients and enhance their outcomes. Mostly, sources of support can be summarised as follows:

- ♦ **Personal Donations.** Usually done on a confidential basis where the donor wishes to make a difference but not be publicly identified. We always respect this and, if in doubt, do not name benefactors.
- ♦ **Fundraisers.** Ranging from personal participation in large events to uniquely organised functions, these are a major contributor to our funds. The creativity involved is amazing.
- ♦ **Contributions from Pharmaceutical Companies.** In support of specific research projects or healthcare initiatives, these companies' educational grants are very important in pursuing our aims of improving the medical environment for our patients.
- ♦ **Bequests.** Increasingly in recent years we have seen that people are setting down what they want to happen after their death and often including a gift to a preferred charity. In our case this frequently is for a specific cause in the hospital. St. Vincent's Foundation has been an active partner in MyLegacy.ie in encouraging people to make Wills and to consider a small donation to a charity of their choice. The central feature of this is "Best Will Week" which happens each Autumn.
- ♦ **Donations in lieu of funeral flowers.** These continue to be a most generous source of support. The generosity is all the more remarkable given the sadness affecting the bereaved families at the time.
We always advise families of each donation when they are requested in lieu of flowers.
- ♦ **Wedding favours.** On a much happier note, we are always delighted when couples decide to include a gift to St. Vincent's, as part of their wedding plans, instead of Wedding Favours on their great day.
- ♦ **Tax Refunds.** In some circumstances personal donations can allow us to make a claim from the Revenue for a tax rebate which increases the value of the donation at no further cost to the donor. We encourage donors to sign the necessary certificates where appropriate.
- ♦ **Collection Boxes.** Each year these boxes throughout the hospital raise nearly €10,000 which is a very welcome addition. We must thank those people who, completely anonymously, support our collection boxes so generously throughout the hospital.
- ♦ **Standing Orders.** We take the opportunity to thank the people who, over time, have created Standing Orders for regular payments to St. Vincent's Foundation. Many of these have been running for several years and we really appreciate each and every one.

A big, big thank you to all involved and we hope you will enjoy and be inspired by the stories that follow.

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, Merrion Road, Dublin 4
St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.**



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....

Collen Construction fundraising for St. Anne's Cancer Care:

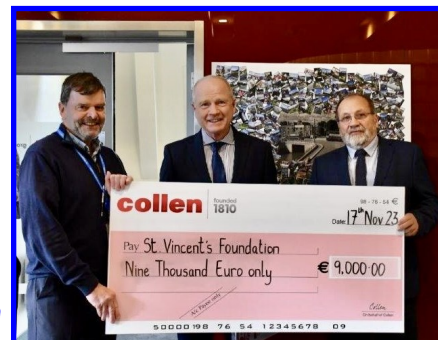
We are reporting on two Collen annual fundraising Charity Cycles, because of the timing of the event and presentation of donations. This amazing company now in it's 213th year of doing business, places the highest priority on contributing to the communities in which it operates. St. Vincent's is fortunate to have been selected as a Charity Partner by Collen raising funds for St Anne's Cancer in the hospital. St. Anne's was originally selected by Collen in memory of their much-loved colleague, the late Conor O'Carroll R.I.P., who was treated in St. Vincent's.

We cannot better describe the **2022** event than to reproduce the words of Tommy Drumm, Managing Director of Collen Construction. "Collen Construction held their annual Charity Cycle over the weekend of Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th September 2022. A total of 140 participants made up of Collen employees, friends, family, charity partners, clients, subcontractors, and extended supply chain participated in the event, choosing their own route and cycling at their own pace. The event also had 30 main sponsors from Collen's supply chain and brought together Collen's project teams in Ireland, Germany and Sweden, with others participating in Abu Dhabi, UK, France, Hong Kong, Spain, South Africa and USA. A total of over 10,000km was cycled, with €80,000 raised for Collen's 17 charity partners, which includes €5,000 to St. Vincent's Foundation." **The 2022 Charity presentation where Neil Collen, Chairman and Tommy Drumm, M.D. presented John Hickey, C.E.O., SVF with a cheque for €5,000**



The **2023 Charity Cycle** which was named "Building Bridges" took place in September. The title adopted reflects the message of connection and unity as a bridge of support. The concept was that as many people as possible would take part and either cross or pass a bridge as part of their cycle. Sandra Kelly, the extraordinary Chair of the Cycling Committee highlighted the driving motivation of the fundraising: "Whether bridging physical distance, or overcoming obstacles, anything is possible when we commit to 'Building Bridges' together".

Predictably the 2023 event was a huge success. 480 team members took part raising a grand total of €150,000 for 21 charities in Ireland, UK, Sweden and Denmark. St. Vincent's Foundation was presented with a fantastic donation of €9,000 from the 2023 event, bringing to €28,000 the support that the Collen Cycle has contributed to Cancer Care in the hospital since 2020. **The 2023 Charity Presentation with Tommy Drumm, M.D. and Neil Collen, Chairman presenting John Hickey, C.E.O., St. Vincent's Foundation with a cheque for €9,000**



We cannot adequately thank the management of Collen, The Cycling Committee, the participants and the terrific sponsors who contributed to this outcome.

Tommy Drumm Retirement:

Tommy Drumm has announced that he will shortly retire as M.D. of Collen Construction. Tommy has been one of our greatest supporters in the company. We wish him well in the next phase and we thank him sincerely for all his contribution to the hospital. **Tommy's daughter, Ciara, is a doctor in St. Vincent's and we were delighted to get both of them for a photo recently.**



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....



The Country Club Bar & Lounge, Limerick - Christmas Raffle for Intensive Care Unit:

The Country Club Bar & Lounge, Limerick organised a Christmas raffle on 23rd December 2022. As it coincided with the second anniversary of the sad death of Darren O'Shea, his brother Lloyd suggested that the proceeds would be donated to the Intensive Care Unit in St. Vincent's, where Darren was treated. The proprietors of the Country Club, Gary & Eileen Clancy readily agreed, for which



we are very grateful. The proceeds of the raffle came to an amazing €2,100 and is a most welcome contribution to our I.C.U. Eileen & Gary, we are deeply grateful to you, as we are to Darren's extended family. *Pictured at the cheque presentation to John Hickey, SVF are Eileen Clancy of the Country Club Bar & Lounge with Pauline O'Shea and granddaughter Amelie. Also pictured are Pauline, Amelie and Maria McKevitt.*

Anonymous Donations and Bequests:

As regular readers will be aware all donations are recorded as anonymous unless directed otherwise by the donor. We are delighted to highlight some of these while preserving the privacy wishes of the donors. Here are some recent examples during 2023 and we know the donors will recognise their own generosity in them:

- ♦ €100,000 anonymous donation in January for Patient Care and Medical Equipment
- ♦ A patient donated €2,000 in February for oncology patient care in St. Anne's Day Centre.
- ♦ €100,000 Bequest for Haematology & Cancer Research in March
- ♦ A grateful patient donated €3,000 to St. Brigid's Liver Unit in May this year. This donation will be used towards the purchase of a specialist reclining chair, which will be a great benefit to current and future patients.
- ♦ A donation in May of €5,000 to the Liver Unit, for which we are extremely grateful.
- ♦ €1,000 Bequest for Patient Care in June
- ♦ €500 Bequest for Patient Care in July
- ♦ €2,000 donation in August, from a grateful liver transplant recipient "in memory of their donor"
- ♦ €10,000 "in memory" donation to St. Brigid's Liver Unit in September to purchase equipment
- ♦ A donation from a grateful liver transplant recipients' family of €1,000 for Liver Unit
- ♦ A most generous Bequest of €54,978 for Patient Care in November
- ♦ A kind donation of €3,350 from a family in November for the Liver Unit

We thank all of these generous donors.

Hook Head Triathlon in memory of Eoin Furlong R.I.P.:

In memory of his beloved nephew Eoin Furlong, Tom Furlong from County Wexford took part in the Hook Head Triathlon in August, fundraising for St. Anne's Cancer Care here in St. Vincent's.

We are most grateful to Tom and his wife Lyndsey for proceeds of €2,210 that they recently donated to St. Vincent's.

Pictured is Tom Furlong and his son J.J. along with Eoin's parents Noel & Dianne, two brothers Sean & Daniel and sister Kayla.



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....



In memory of Eamon Burke RIP

It may seem incongruous to include an obituary under the heading of “fundraising & donor highlights” but in this instance we feel it is appropriate.

The family of the late Eamon Burke (**RIP 28th April 2023**) is legendary in the amount of money raised over many years for the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's. This generosity has continued after his death. The Burke family fundraising actually predates the Establishment of St. Vincent's Foundation. As we sympathise with Eamon's family, we also highlight further contributions from them below.

Eamon & Mary Burke's St. Stephen's Day Charity Swim 26th December 2022



We believe the current record holders for annual fundraisers are the Burke Family from Arklow. For 17 years, Eamon & Mary have organised a troop of brave swimmers to take to the water on St. Stephen's Day. During that time, they have sometimes been blessed with really good weather conditions, sometimes the weather has been far from ideal, but nevertheless the event happened.

Over the years, Eamon & Mary and their family and friends have raised €67,000 for the Liver Unit in St. Vincent's. This generous support has made an enormous contribution to current and future patients of the unit and we are so grateful for this. The swim on St. Stephen's Day 2022 raised €4,025, which is truly fantastic.

See photos from the 2022 Charity Swim and the cheque presentation by Eamon & Mary.



Eamon & Mary have always emphasised to us that the fundraising event can only happen because of the huge consistent support they receive each year. We want to particularly thank the Bridge Hotel Arklow for their catering each year for the participants and for the R.N.L.I. for ensuring the safety of all taking part.



Charity Cycle in July:

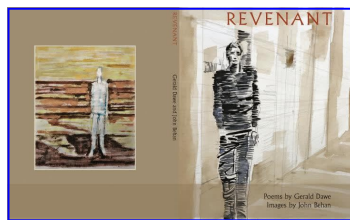
Eamon's son David and his friend Francis Harney undertook a Charity Cycle on 7th & 8th July 2023 – Kilmuckridge to Belfast 300km. This incredible endurance test raised €2,575. Once again, we are indebted to everybody in the Burke family and their supporters for making such a difference for current and future patients in the Unit.

Pictured presenting the fundraising proceeds are David Burke, John Hickey, S.V.F., Laurie Burke and Mary Burke. Pictured also is David Burke & Francis Harney with Mary Burke on the day of the cycle.

Continuing Eamon's legacy of generous fundraising, Mary and her family have two more events planned for December 2023. One is a Bingo Night and secondly, a repeat of the swim on St. Stephen's Day. We will report on both of these in the next edition of Friends of St. Vincent's but meanwhile we want to express our thanks for this wonderful family support at this most difficult and sad time for them.



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....



Poetry in support of St. Vincent's:

St. Vincent's was fortunate in February of this year to be the beneficiaries of an unusual fundraiser. We were delighted to receive a most generous donation of €4,000 from Prof. Gerald Dawe and Mr. John Behan. The donation was from profits raised from the sales of a book of poems, titled "Revenant", which was a collaboration between Prof. Dawe, who wrote the poems and John Behan,

Sculptor who provided the animations. The wish of the donors was that this gift be used for Oncology Nurse Education in St. Vincent's Private Hospital.

Annual fundraising by St. Michael's College:

One of the many attributes that sets St. Michael's College apart is the emphasis they place on social responsibility. Nowhere is this better exemplified than in their annual sale of Christmas trees for a range of charities. St. Vincent's is fortunate to have been a beneficiary for many years now.

This year the management and students again presented €2,500 to the Foundation to be directed to Pancreatic Cancer research in the hospital. This brings a total of €26,500 contributed by St. Michael's to a range of worthy causes within St. Vincent's. We are deeply grateful to the school management and all the students who participated in this fantastic result.

Donegal Table Quiz fundraising for St. Anne's Cancer Care:

Sincere thanks to a patient from County Donegal who organised a Table Quiz earlier this year and donated the proceeds of €1,700 for St. Anne's Cancer Care here in the hospital.

2023 Women's Mini Marathon – Thank you to our fundraisers:

A very sincere thanks to all our supporters who took part in the 2023 Women's Marathon on Sunday 4th June 2023, fundraising for various causes here in St. Vincent's.



From this year's event, over €9,500 has been raised for causes such as Intensive Care Unit, Renal Unit, Palliative Care, St Anne's Cancer Care, End of Life Suites and for Patient Care.

Virginia Credit Union fundraiser in memory of Amanda Brady:

Again this year, Virginia Credit Union held a Coffee Day to raise funds for a number of charities, including St. Vincent's Foundation, on 15th April last. The event was in memory of their great friend Amanda Brady who died in 2021. St. Vincent's received €501 from this event, for which we are most grateful.



2023 Sligo Warriors Run:

The 2023 Warriors Run (first held in 1985) was held on Saturday 26th August. This year, as always, runners from all over Ireland and wider afield, came to Strandhill to follow in the footsteps of the ancient warriors of Queen Maeve, historical Queen of Connaught.

Since 2013, the Sligo Warriors Run Committee has donated to St. Vincent's at the request of Denis Foley, whose land is part of the course. This year, Denis again nominated St. Vincent's Hospital and a most generous donation of €4,000 was received from them, to be used for the Kidney/Dialysis Unit here in St. Vincent's. We are most grateful to Denis Foley, the Committee and all involved for their generosity over the years and for again thinking of our patients.

Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....

Tralee 80's Disco Fundraiser for Pancreas Transplant:

On Friday 10th March 2023 in the Rose Hotel, Tralee an 80's Disco Fundraiser was held in support of the Pancreas Transplant Unit in St. Vincent's University Hospital. This event was organised by the Quirke family in collaboration with Anthony O'Connor.

Joseph Quirke was the beneficiary of a pancreas transplant in recent times, and thankfully, has made terrific progress.



The "80's Disco Night" raised the wonderful total of €6,700 which will be a fantastic enhancement to the transplant programme. Joseph Quirke recently presented the proceeds to Mr. Tom Gallagher, Pancreas Transplant Surgeon

Pictured on the right is Joseph Quirke (centre) presenting a cheque for €6,700 to Ms. Máire Ní Chinneide (Transplant Co-Ordinator) and Mr. Tom Gallagher (Surgeon) on behalf of Anthony O'Connor who organised the Night.



Emmet's Ten Tonne Challenge for Haematology:

We previously reported on how Emmet Burns undertook an amazing challenge to raise funds for Haematology care in St. Vincent's University Hospital and for the Irish Cancer Society.

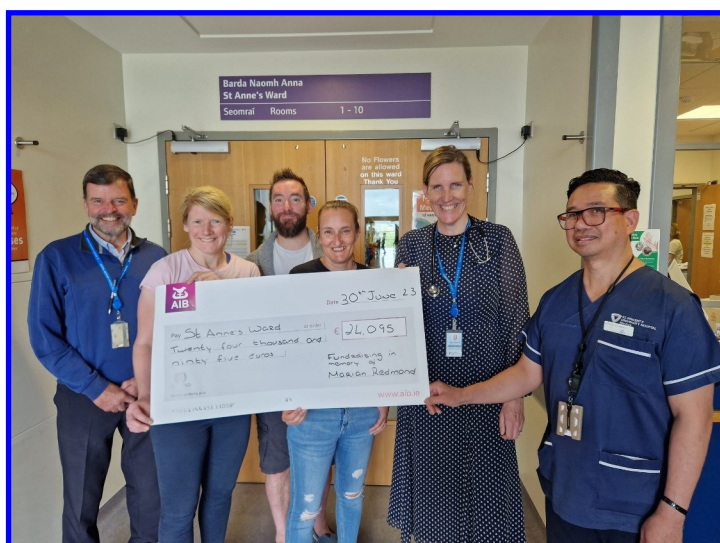
Emmet (*pictured on the left*) and his mother called in for a presentation photo in early May. We are most grateful to Emmet for this enormous contribution of €22,004.30 to our Haematology care.

Fundraising in memory of Marian Redmond for Haematology Cancer Care:

Following the death of their beloved mother, Marian, her son Damien and daughter Lisa raised between them the magnificent sum of €24,095. Their fundraising included Run Mom Home raising €22,050 and Bog Meadow Crew participation in the Women's Mini Marathon raising €2,045.

As well as being a wonderful tribute to their mum, this is a fantastic contribution to our capacity in Haematology/Cancer Care, for which we are extremely grateful.

Pictured at the cheque presentation are John Hickey, St. Vincent's Foundation; Laoise Traynor; Damien & Lisa Redmond; Dr. Claire Andrews, Consultant Haematologist, SVUH and Leo Ortiz, CNM2 St. Anne's Ward



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....



Jillian McNulty's Valentines Ball 2023:

Over the years we have featured the fundraising activities of Jillian McNulty. This year, in a hugely successful Valentines Day Ball Jillian raised a total of €9,000. €5,000 was contributed to St. Vincent's being shared between Cystic Fibrosis and Renal care. In addition €4,000 was donated to C.F. Ireland. We were delighted that Jillian and her mother visited the hospital to make the cheque presentations.

Pictured is Jillian presenting cheques to St. Vincent's C.F. Unit (Dr. Trevor Nicholson & Prof. Ed McKone) and Nephrology Dialysis Unit (Prof. John Holian & Dr. Aisling O'Riordan) along with John Hickey, St. Vincent's Foundation and Philip Watt of C.F. Ireland



In memory of Colm Donnelly – fundraising for I.C.U. in St. Vincent's:

Following the tragic death of 18 year old Colm Donnelly from County Wexford in February 2023, his bereaved family donated a most generous sum of €20,000 to the Intensive Care Unit in St. Vincent's.



These funds came from a variety of supports. As well as requesting donations to I.C.U. in lieu of funeral flowers, the extended Donnelly family also organised a fundraising evening and a Tractor Run on 23rd April. The latter raised a total of €57,507.41, supporting four organisations close to the late Colm's heart – the Intensive Care Unit in St. Vincent's, the Friends of Gorey District Hospital, Gorey Community School and Kilanerin National School. The capacity of St. Vincent's I.C.U. will be greatly enhanced by the €20,000 contribution. We are enormously grateful to Colm's family for this

extraordinary generosity in the most painful of circumstance for them.

Pictured above are Rita Devereux and Patsy Stone from I.C.U. in St. Vincent's attending the cheque presentations.

Lans Liver Run:

Our thanks to Elaine O'Brien from County Cork who raised €212 for the Liver Unit following her participation in the Clonakilty Waterfront Marathon.

Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....

Fundraiser in memory of John Grant (Sconny) R.I.P.

This fundraising sprung from the tragic circumstances where a beloved husband, father, brother and extended family member died from pancreatic cancer, just over a week from diagnosis. Despite their grief, John Grant's family organised a series of events within their community in north County Donegal and raised an extraordinary total of €41,500. Donations of €2,000 each were made to two local palliative and bereavement charities and a massive total of €37,500 was contributed to a specific project in St. Vincent's, focussing on the early detection of pancreatic cancer within families with a recognised propensity to encounter the disease. This project will have profound positive effects for the outcomes for future patients.

We feel it is very appropriate to reproduce the message of the family as they sought donations to the fund: **"John Grant was a great family man, who passed away at only 50 years old from Pancreatic Cancer, after only being diagnosed 8 days prior. He is painfully missed by his wife Katherine, his young children - Dean, Valerie, Callum & Kaylah, his siblings Caroline, Micky & Paul and all his extended family. John was one of life's good guys - he was kind, considerate, respectful, selfless, loving to Katherine and his kids, hardworking and great craic. Pancreatic Cancer is often called the silent killer, and with good reason, most people don't experience symptoms until the cancer is big enough to impact the surrounding organs, and the symptoms are often vague. Every cent raised is going to St. Vincent's Foundation for Research into the Early Detection of Pancreatic Cancer."**

Pictured are John's close and extended family presenting the proceeds to St. Vincent's

This terrific outcome spells a wonderful response for which we are deeply grateful.



Fundraising in memory of Lorraine McBride:

Cahir McBride from County Donegal, having lost his beloved wife Lorraine, sought to fundraise to support the patient environment in St. Anne's ward.

From this fundraising, Cahir donated €5,000 which has enabled the completion of a project to provide reclining chairs in each of the patient rooms in St. Anne's.

This fundraising by Cahir and his family also benefitted a number of local charities in County Donegal and the Irish Cancer Society. Cahir

kindly came to St. Vincent's to present the proceeds and we are extremely grateful to him, and to his family and friends who supported this initiative.

Pictured above is Cahir McBride presenting the fundraising proceeds to John Hickey, St. Vincent's Foundation and Mini Moby, Cancer Directorate Nurse Manager, SVUH

Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....

Carrauntoohil Climb for the Liver Unit:

Congratulations to liver transplant recipient Helen Wrenn from County Limerick who climbed Carrauntoohil Mountain during the Summer to fundraise for the Liver Unit here in St. Vincent's. In any circumstances, this climb would represent an enormous challenge and we are so grateful to Helen for undertaking it and, in the process, raising €2,045. Helen has previously fundraised for the Liver Unit and her achievements in reciprocating for her care in the hospital is much appreciated.

Pictured is Helen at the top of Carrauntoohil with friends and supporters



Pan Can Golf Classic for Pancreatic Cancer:

A Pan Can Golf Classic was held in Blainroe Golf Club on Friday 8th September last to raise funds in support of Pancreatic Cancer care and transplant in St. Vincent's.

The organisers Liam Holland and Ray McElhinney were outstandingly successful in raising a magnificent total of €9,500 on the day. They have both expressed their gratitude to the many participants and contributors for this success. Ray and Liam have prioritised pancreatic cancer care and research, as both their families have been directly affected by this disease. It is extraordinarily generous of them to seek to have others benefit and to contribute their

time and skill to making the fundraising such a success. *Pictured at the cheque presentation are Liam Holland & Ray McElhinney with John Hickey, St. Vincent's Foundation.*

Lambay Christmas Lights appeal for Colorectal Cancer care in St. Vincent's:



In December 2022 we advertised an exciting Christmas lights fundraising project being undertaken for the first time by Ciara Crangle and her friends and neighbours in Ballybrack. We are delighted now to report on an outstanding success in fundraising from this undertaking. Ciara raised the grand total of €2,280 for Colorectal Cancer patient care and research here in St. Vincent's.

Ciara, together with her friend Sinead Cahill (*pictured*) presented the cheque proceeds.



On behalf of all our patients we express our sincere thanks for this wonderful activity and result.

Repeat event Christmas 2023:

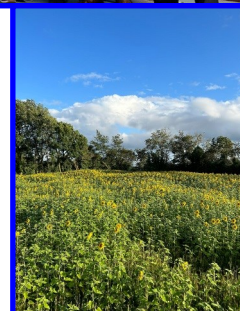
Building on the great success of the inaugural event in 2022, Ciara and her hard-working committee are repeating the event this Christmas. Again the beneficiary will be Colorectal Cancer care and research in St. Vincent's. We have no doubt it will be spectacularly popular again within their community and herald the spirit of Christmas. In the next issue, we will report on the outcome.

Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....

Sale of Sunflowers for Cystic Fibrosis Unit:

Philip Dunne from Maganey, County Kildare planted one acre of sunflowers at his land to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis services here in St. Vincent's University Hospital. For St. Vincent's Foundation this was a first. As well as being a spectacular sight, the initiative was hugely successful raising the sum of

€6,818.50. This amazing result, in no small way, reflects Philip's popularity in the community. Philip emphasised the huge contribution his friend Elaine Timmins made to this result. Thank you to all involved. **Pictured are Philip & Elaine with Prof. Charles Gallagher and the C.F. team along with photos from Philips sunflower field**



Macra Na Feirme Wexford Reunion Barbecue in Memory of Eileen Doyle

On 22nd September 2023, Wexford Macra Na Feirme, current and previous members, held a barbecue in Askanmore Community Centre, County Wexford. The organisers had the twin aims of commemorating their great friend, Eileen Doyle (nee Graham) (**pictured**), who had died just 3 months before, and raising money for Cancer Care in St. Vincent's and for Wexford Hospice.

Eileen was a much loved member of her community and a huge figure in County Wexford Macra Na Feirme. She was awarded a National recognition from Macra for her work for the organisation. The enormous task of making contact with Macra members going back as far as the 1970's was undertaken by a hardworking Committee and resulted in a wonderful evening enjoyed by all and raising €7,190 which was shared equally between Cancer Care in St. Vincent's and Wexford Hospice.



Geraldine Doyle, speaking at the event concluded with a phrase very appropriate to the grief of Eileen's family and friends "Death leaves a heartache that no-one can heal & love leaves memories no-one can steal".

As we express our gratitude for this great contribution of €3,595 to St. Vincent's we also sympathise with Eileen's husband, Michael, and her family, on their great loss.

Pictured is a photo of the cheque presentation which took place in Craanford Community Centre.



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....

The Wild Run West – 5 marathons in 72 hours – fundraiser for St. Vincent's Liver Unit & Fowlers Syndrome:

A stellar effort over St. Patrick's weekend saw Ailbhe Quinn (*[pictured presenting her fundraising proceeds](#)*) (from Latton, Co. Monaghan), Eimear Sammon (Monaghan Town) and Bob Grace (Rower Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny) complete their run from Latton to Westport Co. Mayo.

They battled all four seasons through sun, rain, wind and hail to complete an incredible 210km journey and raised €50,000, of which 25,000 was for St. Vincent's Liver Unit.



They set off from Latton O'Rahilly GAA grounds on Thursday morning and headed towards Cootehill and onto Cavan where they were absolutely overwhelmed by the send off they received! This support continued over the weekend as they clocked off the kms and got closer and closer to their destination. The money continued to roll in on GoFundMe and just hours after they arrived into Westport the target was reached!

A virtual run/walk challenge saw over 100 people get involved before the main challenge took place! We are forever thankful for everyone who got involved.

A massive thank you goes out to everyone who donated, those who came out to support the lads and those who helped out over the journey. Also a special thank you to all the support runners, driving and support team without whom the weekend wouldn't have been possible. We are deeply grateful for this contribution to our Liver patient care. *[Photos below capture the event](#)*



The Kehoe Family Benefit Night for the Liver Transplant Unit:

On 23rd September last, the Kehoe Family held a benefit night in the Carraig Hotel, Carrick on Suir. Sandra Kehoe Collins is a healthy example of the positive effects of a Liver transplant. She and her family organised this superb fundraising event, raising a total of €8,592 for the Liver Unit. In doing so, the Kehoe family combined the efforts of the communities of Carrick on Suir, County Tipperary and Piltown, County Kilkenny. The night was a great success and we are extremely grateful to Sandra and her family for this wonderful contribution.

As an added piece of good news, Sandra, on her recent visit to St. Vincent's was telling us that she is due to have her first baby before the end of this year and we wish her well in that.

[Pictured are Sandra with her parents Shirley & Jimmy presenting the fundraising proceeds to John Hickey, St. Vincent's Foundation.](#)



Fundraising & Donor Highlights continued.....



Dublin South East & NII Circle K Managers - Fight Back at Cancer:

In gratitude for the care of a colleague in St. Vincent's, the managers in Dublin South East and NII Circle K Stores came together earlier this year to raise money for St. Anne's Cancer Care in St. Vincent's Hospital. They held a family fun day for the area as well as local raffles and fundraising. We are delighted to acknowledge with thanks receipt of a magnificent total of €12,353.56 from these events. Our thanks to the management in Circle K and all associated with this wonderful fundraising for the benefit of our patients in St. Anne's.



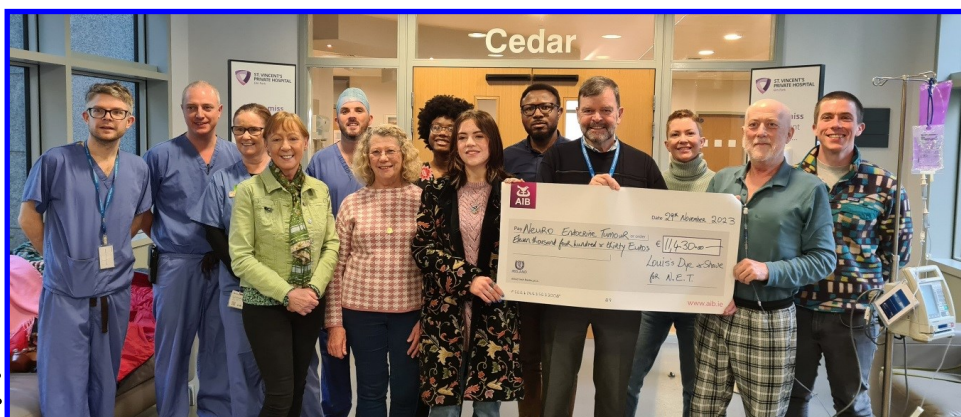
Fox Veterinary Clinic "Hell Day" fundraiser for N.E.T.:

In previous editions we have highlighted the generous support for St. Vincent's from the Carey family in memory of their much loved P.J. Carey who died in December 2021. Our thanks to Aisling Carey and her fellow colleagues at Fox Veterinary Clinic Finglas, along with her sister, who took part in the "Ultimate Hell Day" at The Curragh this summer. (See photos from The Hell Day) They were fundraising for a cause very close to the Carey family's heart -Neuroendocrine Tumour research and care here in St. Vincent's. Our sincere thanks to them all for their fundraising efforts which donated €1,655 to this most important cause.



Louis Corrigan's Dye & Shave for N.E.T.

Louis Corrigan from County Meath is currently receiving treatment in St. Vincent's. With enormous generosity, Louis decided to undertake a "Dye and Shave" fundraising event to raise funds for Neuro Endocrine Tumour (N.E.T.) research in the hospital. Louis originally set a target of €1,500 for his fundraising but the support he received far exceeded his expectations and a magnificent total of €11,340 was raised. We would like to express our sincere thanks to those generous people who supported this fantastic initiative. Louis and several family members recently presented the fundraising proceeds to St. Vincent's Foundation. Again, we thank him, his family and supporters for this wonderful contribution for N.E.T. research here in St. Vincent's and wish him the very best for his treatment and future health.



Present with Louis for the cheque presentation to John Hickey, SVF at the Cedar Ward in St. Vincent's Private Hospital, were his wife Ger, his son Ronan (who also got his head shaved), his sister Pam and her two daughters Mairead (who did the head shaving) and Maedbh (who also got her head shaved), along with members of the SVPrivate team treating Louis, including Consultant Surgeon, Mr. Anthony Stafford.

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

***All donations and grants are shown on our website
www.stvincentsfoundation.ie***

Patient & Family Quotes

In some issues we share comments from patients when we come across them. We reproduce them faithfully only redacting any detail that could possibly identify the person involved.

Most, but not all, reflect the recovery of a patient's health.

Here are some quotes selected at random:

"Thank you for your kindness and for everything you have done for me during my stay"

"Thank you for minding my Granny"

"Thank you so much for all your love and kindness"

"Thank you so much for all the great care over the last 4 weeks and for always being so kind"

"Thanks for all your care and attention to details in looking after me"

"As we come to terms with the loss of our beloved William RIP we want to thank you most sincerely for the kindness, attention and professional care you gave him"

"I will never forget how you saved my life and for that I'm forever grateful"

"Thank you so much for the care during my recent admission"

"You are all so kind and caring and I always felt I was in safe hands"

"From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for looking after our brother. You were like family to him"

"Thank you for the help, attention, and care over the last few days"

"I wish to express my family's gratitude for the care and treatment given to my 93 year old father."

"The doctor gave a very clear explanation of his diagnosis and treatment."

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 Healthcare Group. Here we feature investments in patient and family comforts, equipment and medical education and research, all financed by donors through St. Vincent's Foundation

Our legion of fundraisers and donors all have one thing in common—they want to improve the environment and outcomes for current and future patients. In some cases the donors have already identified, perhaps from conversations with care staff, how they would like to do something that makes things better. In many other, they know the area of medicine or of St. Vincent's that they want to benefit from their efforts. In all of these circumstances we are always delighted to demonstrate how these funds really do make a difference. In doing so we must give a huge Thank You to the people who made these happen.

Condolence Cards:

St. Vincent's Foundation were delighted to provide a grant of €750 to the Social Work Bereavement Care team for the production of new condolence cards to provide to families after the death of a loved one in the hospital.



ENT improvements thanks to a €100,000 donation:

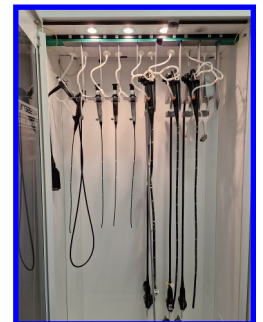
The generosity of an anonymous donation of €100,000 made in January this year, has enabled a hugely positive investment that would not have happened otherwise. In our Ear Nose & Throat (ENT) Department a key investigative procedure requires a reusable naso-pharyngeal scope.

(pictured on the left is the Wassenburg Automated Endoscope Reprocessor (AER))

After each use this equipment needs to be fully decontaminated. Currently this is done in a three-stage process as it has been historically. As technology has evolved in this area, this has become the least preferred option, internationally, to do the cleaning.

This most generous donation has enabled us to commission a fully automated system to replace this process at a total cost of €96,579. As well as the process efficiencies which will enable us to deal with many more ENT patients in the same time period, the process is total traceable and validated. *(pictured the Scopes in Drying cabinet)*

It is a wonderful addition to our capacity for care in ENT and doubly important because the number of ENT patients presenting is growing all the time for a variety of reasons.



Sincere thanks on behalf of our patients to the anonymous donor.

T.V.'s for Caritas step-down facility:

St. Vincent's Foundation was pleased to provide a grant of €7,233 for the provision of 26 TV's in the premises previously occupied by Caritas but now used as a "step-down" facility for SVUH. Caritas currently caters for 31 patients who no longer need the intensive nursing/medical care that SVUH provides but are not ready for discharge. It serves well in alleviating pressure on the hospital beds. SVF has invested heavily in the TV population throughout SVUH ensuring that every ward area is appropriately provided with working TVs. It has had a very positive effect and it seems wrong that step-down patients would be any less well served.

Donors making a difference continued.....



SVF grant for Medical English classes for Ukrainian doctors in Ireland:

St. Vincent's University Hospital was pleased to announce in May last, the successful graduation of 25 Ukrainian doctors from a comprehensive English language course. The course was initiated and developed by SVUH consultants Dr. John Holian and Prof Hugh Mulcahy (*pictured*) and supported by the hospital management.

The course was delivered by Ukrainian lecturer Prof Oksana Kachurets in response to the significant language barrier faced by Ukrainian doctors arriving in Ireland.

St. Vincent's Foundation was delighted to support this great initiative with a grant of €2,280.



Dietary Machine for C.F. Unit:

Due to a most generous donation of €9,000 from the McNamara Family in Waterford in July 2023, a Bio-electrical Impedence Analysis (BIA) machine (*pictured*) was purchased for the C.F. Unit.

Clodagh Landers, a Dietitian with the C.F. Unit outlines *"The staff and patients in the CF Unit would like to extend their sincere thanks to the McNamara family for their extremely generous donation to fund the purchase of a BIA machine. This will facilitate in-depth analysis of body composition of people with CF to improve our clinical practice in line with international guidelines. It will also support future collaborative research projects with other CF centres across Ireland."*

Recliner Chairs for C.F. Unit:

The McNamara Family also generously donated €11,980 during the summer for the purchase of recliner chairs for St. Christopher's C.F. Unit.

From the Philip Dunne *"Sunflower"* project we were able to complete the replacement and upgrading of the recliner chairs in St. Christopher's. This is important for patients and their families using these facilities.

Reclining chairs & Sofa's in the Liver Unit:

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Liver Unit, we recently purchased two recliner chairs and 2 sofas for the relative's room on St. Brigid's Ward.



Donors making a difference continued.....

New Next Generation Sequencing Service at St. Vincent's University Hospital:

Enabled by a grant from St. Vincent's Foundation and other kind philanthropic contributors, St. Vincent's recently invested in a state of the art technology that will have a major positive impact on the care for our patients. We are grateful to Dr. Maura Cotter for summarising this service:

"We are very pleased to announce our in-house solid tumour next generation sequencing (NGS) service is up and running in St. Vincent's University Hospital since August 2023. Our molecular laboratory now houses a vital piece of new equipment which allows for the simultaneous detection of multiple genes from the one patient tumour sample. The generous donation from St. Vincent's Foundation significantly contributed to the purchase of this NGS instrument, the first NGS platform to be set up within the hospital.

The treatment options for cancer patients have grown significantly over the past few years with the development of molecular targeted therapies. The Oncomine Focus Assay allows us to understand the mutational profile of tumour samples and more precisely guide personalised treatment decisions against the specific molecular alterations identified. We now routinely report tumour-specific gene panels for pancreatic, bile duct, colonic, bladder, melanoma and breast cancers among others. Having the equipment in-house enables us to give a detailed report to our oncologists and patients as soon as possible rather than outsourcing requests.

This is an exciting time for our department and for our molecular team who have worked tirelessly to get us to this point. Our vision is to further develop our molecular service by expanding our cancer panels and cancer testing down the line. Providing our clinicians with the molecular information they need accurately and quickly so they can take care of our SVUH patients is truly essential."

Dr. Maura B. Cotter, Consultant Histopathologist, S.V.U.H.



Pictured are Molecular Laboratory staff L. to R. Dr. Bruce Moran, Lorraine Powell, Prof. Niall Swan, Prof. Aurelie Fabre, Dr. Maura Cotter, Jean Murphy & Ciaran Cuniffe

Pictured are the next generation sequencing (NGS) Ion Torrent machines in the SVUH Molecular Department: The Ion Chef System (x2) and Ion GeneStudio S5 System.



Donors making a difference continued.....

Creation of a Simulation Laboratory in St Vincent's:

It is just in the implementation phase as we go to print, but we are excited to announce a significant development at St. Vincent's University Hospital: the creation of a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory dedicated to the memory of our late colleague, Mr Enda McDermott (R.I.P.). This transformative initiative has been made possible through a generous donation from the McDermott family and UCD, and will be housed on the ground floor of our Education & Research Centre.

The Simulation Laboratory represents a milestone in health professionals' education and patient safety. The first phase of construction marks the beginning of providing an inter-professional collaborative immersive learning environment. This facility, which will incorporate cutting-edge technology and simulation techniques, will empower our staff and students to enhance their skills leading to improved quality of care and patient safety – which is the ultimate objective.

This initiative exemplifies SVUH's commitment to continuous learning and excellence. Through high quality simulation-based education, healthcare professionals can learn together, practice and rehearse in a controlled and risk-free setting. This not only benefits our hospital and our patients but it will also strengthen the broader medical community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the McDermott family for their extraordinary support. Their generosity will leave a lasting impact on our patients, staff and organisation aligning perfectly with SVUH's mission to provide exceptional medical services and promote continuous learning.

We will be delighted to provide updates on this amazing project in future editions of **Friends of St. Vincent's**.

Acknowledgement for a wonderful support group St. Vincent's Private Hospital:

The management in St. Vincent's Private Hospital have highlighted a Palliative Care initiative that is very helpful to patients and their families. The project is described below and we could not do better than transcribe it fully. We are indebted to all concerned:

"Inspired by the comfort gained from initiatives used to maintain connections among patients and their loved ones during the pandemic, the Palliative Care Team at St. Vincent's Private Hospital have introduced 'Memory Hearts' to enhance the support provided to patients under their care.

Joan Jones had previously made syringe driver covers for patients and when approached about this endeavour kindly agreed to help. For almost 2 years Joan along with her fellow crafters from Greystones has provided hundreds of these precious hearts. Each heart is beautifully handmade and graciously donated. The idea is that the patient keeps one heart, and matching hearts are given to those closest to them. This offers a tangible symbol of the love held between them and which can be cherished as a keepsake.

The feedback has been profoundly moving. We wish to extend our gratitude to this wonderful group of women for enabling the provision of this invaluable memory making resource."

Pictured are Back row Helen Smullen, Joan Jones, Deirdre Kinsella, Sandra Pegman, Saragh Ward & Front row Deirdre Kearney, Ann Clarke (not in the photo Mary Young)

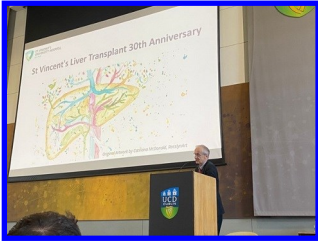


Donors making a difference continued.....

Liver Transplant Patient Day:

St. Vincent's Foundation was delighted to make a significant grant to enable a key Liver event to take place. The key objective of the Liver Transplant Patient Day, in addition to celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the inauguration of the National Liver Transplant programme, was to assist current and future patients to achieve better outcomes. The Patient Day was held in UCD on Saturday 14th October 2023. The day was a huge success and we are grateful to Dr. Audrey Dillon, Consultant Hepatologist for summarising the event for us:

"The National Liver transplant programme celebrated 30 years and 1300 liver transplants in SVUH with a patient education day in the O'Reilly Hall UCD attended by 500 recipients, their families and both current and past members of staff.



Mr. Justin Geoghegan, who recently retired from the programme opened the day, followed by a series of talks on the history of the unit presented by Prof. Oscar Traynor, surgeon who founded the programme and Prof. Aiden McCormick, Hepatologist; healthy diet, activity and skincare after transplant presented by Ms. Niamh O'Sullivan, Clinical Specialist Dietician, Ms. Laura Talty, Senior Physiotherapist and Ms. Louise Fleming, Skin Cancer CNS and on the future aspirations of the programme presented by Dr. Audrey Dillon, Hepatologist and Mr Emir Hoti, Transplant Surgeon. The highlights of the day for many were the presentations on the patient journey through transplant from two recent recipients as well as an inspiring talk by Ms. Kaye Duffy, O.B.E., founder of the Royal Victoria Hospital Liver Support Group.

*There were glowing reports of the chats at lunch and while there was much happy emotion, there was a quiet reflection in remembrance of donors, and recipients who had passed away. A group of patients were inspired to set up a St. Vincent's Liver Transplant Support Group, details of which will be shared with the 690 recipients who still attend the liver transplant service. " **Pictured are some attendees on the day***



Familial Lung Fibrosis Research project:

Due to the generosity and amazing fundraising efforts of David Crosby (€38,258 raised to date), St. Vincent's Foundation was delighted to recently allocate a grant of €35,000 to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, to support a Familial Lung Fibrosis Research project being conducted by Prof. Killian Hurley, in R.C.S.I. Prof. David Healy Thoracic Surgeon here in St. Vincent's was delighted to support this project commenting:

"All this money was raised by the efforts of David Crosby and all donors contributed on the basis that the money was for Lung Fibrosis research. David achieved this, running himself in three marathons. David went on a thorough search for a research recipient, that would deliver research output and scientific return on investment. He and his team have identified Killian Hurley's gene focused research work as the optimum recipient and I fully support this money being activated and used".

On behalf of current and future patients dealing with Lung Fibrosis, we thank David Crosby.

Donors making a difference continued.....

National Simultaneous Pancreas & Kidney Study Day:

In October, St. Vincent's Foundation was pleased to financially support this highly important event. We should stress that this would not have been possible without the funds provided to the Foundation from fundraising events and donations. We think that donors will be proud to see how this medical area of key focus in St. Vincent's will be enabled to improve outcomes for patients as a consequence of this and similar activities in the future.

We are delighted that Caroline Doyle, Transplant Coordinator in S.V.U.H. has summarised the content, atmosphere and outcomes from the day. Caroline's report is reproduced below:

"On the 13th October 2023 we had our National Simultaneous Pancreas & Kidney Study Day. We gathered together an exceptional team of national and international experts, clinicians, coordinators & patients for a day filled with insightful discussions, informative presentations, and invaluable knowledge sharing.



Keynote speakers included: Mr. Tom Gallagher (SVUH), Mr. Andrew Sutherland (Edinburgh), Marie Ni Chinneide (SVUH Transplant Coordinator), Mr. Marek Mazur (University Hospital Kerry), Caroline Doyle (SVUH Transplant Coordinator), a Kidney & Pancreas Transplant Recipient, Dr. Ciara Magee (Beaumont Hospital), Mr. Neal Dugal (Beaumont Hospital), Ms. Fiona Hand (SVUH), Ms. Anne Brennan (SVUH), Dr. Christos Andreou (SVUH) & Dr. Konstantinos Alifieris (SVUH).

This National Study Day brought together professionals who were previously unconnected, enabling a holistic approach to understanding Simultaneous Pancreas & Kidney Transplants. There was an excellent turnout

from around the country and feedback during and following the event was hugely positive with the hope of repeating this type of event again in the future.

A massive thank you to everyone who participated, shared their knowledge and engaged in discussions and to the support from St. Vincents Foundation and our sponsors, without whom such an event could never have taken place."

SVF grant for new T-Pro Digital Dictation System:

Enabled by a grant of €75,000 from St. Vincent's Foundation, St. Vincent's University Hospital has recently introduced a cutting-edge Digital Dictation System called T-Pro. It incorporates advanced speech recognition technology integrated with Patient Record and appointments systems.



T-Pro is designed to speed up communications with patients, ensuring earlier confirmation of appointments and meetings with healthcare providers.

T-Pro is being introduced to the Hospital on a phased basis. With the full implementation, we can optimise our clinical workflows and provide a higher standard of care to our patients.

This would not have been possible without the kindness of donors.

Donors making a difference continued.....

Chemo Compounding Robot in St. Vincent's Private Hospital:

Enabled by money donated specifically for the benefit of St. Vincent's Private Hospital (SVPH), St. Vincent's Foundation recently made a grant of €100,000 to purchase a Chemo Compounding Robot in S.V.P.H.

Hospital Management describe the benefits of this investment:

"S.V.P.H. is extremely grateful for the Foundation's support which has facilitated SVPH being the first Private hospital in Ireland to order an Aseptic (Chemo) Compounding Robot.. S.V.P.H. has the busiest private Oncology service in Ireland. The Aseptic Compounding Unit team consists of 19 dedicated Technicians and Pharmacists who currently work in a challenging work environment using manual isolators to compound the chemo.

Hazardous drugs including chemotherapy must be made in controlled clean room conditions to protect the staff from the product and the product from the environment. This Compounding Robot presents an excellent opportunity to increase staff safety while increasing product output to maximise patient treatments."

Brian Fitzgerald, C.E.O. of S.V.P.H. said: *"The most important element of the care we provide to our patients is the quality of staff we employ and we are committed to providing our staff with an excellent working environment. Our investment in an Aseptic (Chemo) Compounding Robot will help minimise work related strain injuries while also increasing our capacity to care for a greater number of Oncology patients"*.

We are deeply indebted to all the donors who made this investment possible.



Pictured above are some of the SVPH Aseptic Compounding team

Facilities Upgrade in St. Anne's Ward:

Following the generosity of several fundraisers, we were able to improve the environment in St. Anne's Ward. It enabled improvements in the Family Room in the ward, delivered high quality appropriate seating throughout. This is a great support to patients and to their families.

The investments we have just featured are making a hugely significant contribution to our patient care and will continue to do so for the years ahead. They clearly evidence that the various efforts our supporters have made to raise funds are central to our capacity to achieve our worldclass potential. We thank them again.

How St. Vincent's responds to Gifts

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 funds received.



Donors:

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.

In respect of personal donations of €250 or more, there is an opportunity to make a claim to the Revenue for a repayment of tax paid. This further increases the value of the donation without any additional cost to the donor. In relevant situations we ask donors to sign a CHY form to enable the claim.

Further details and tax relief forms are available on www.revenue.ie under "Charitable Donation Scheme"

Fundraising:

Fundraisers will be individually identified in the publicly accessible database, if they have requested to be identified, by name and amount raised.



We are happy to provide a sponsorship pack for anyone organising a fundraising event or taking part in one. We also encourage fundraisers to consider widening their appeal for support by setting up a page on iDonate; <https://www.idonate.ie/stvincents> The process is very simple. We will be pleased to deal with any queries on 01-2215065.

Bequests:

St. Vincent's Foundation is a founder member of MyLegacy.ie which encourages people to make a will and to consider supporting a favourite charitable cause as they set out their wishes in a will.



A person who dies without having made a will is potentially causing a difficult situation for the loved ones they leave behind and it is estimated that only about 30% of adults in Ireland have up-to-date wills. Our central message is to highlight the importance of making a will. The secondary emphasis is to suggest supporting a preferred charity in doing so. As we have mentioned before, bequests are a great way for supporters to have an impact in the hospital for many years to come.

It is opportune that we should thank previous legacy donors and their families, who every year have contributed to improving the capacity of St. Vincent's to cater for our patients. This tradition actually goes back almost 200 years, to the foundation of St. Vincent's Hospital in 1834.

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.

Donations can be made via our Website

www.stvincentsfoundation.ie

Or

Pick up one of our leaflets in the hospital

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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Registered Charity No. 20001872

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

St. Vincent's Foundation