

Money Talks

How you can help us

If you would like to make a donation to Hospice services, please complete the form below.



Title _____

First Name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

I would like to make a donation of: £ _____

Tick box for amount of cheque/postal order to be added, or box for donating by credit card

If you would like additional information on any of the events in the Newsletter, please specify:

Cheque/PO Credit Card Number _____

3 digit security code _____ (this can be found on the reverse of your Debit/Credit card)

Expiry Date _____ Issue Date/Number _____

If cardholder's name differs from the donor, please provide their name and address

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Ardgowan Matters

Keeping you up to date with everything happening at Ardgowan Hospice
www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk
ISSUE 2 Spring/Summer 2007



Top Marks

Ardgowan Hospice has again been voted one of the top employers in the UK by the Nursing Times

Spooky Capers

Find out more about this year's Halloween Party

Ladies Day

Tricia Stewart will be a guest speaker at our second Ladies Day in the Chartroom

Dates for your Diary. Events, fundraising, challenges.

People in the Picture. Staff profile, patient focus, our thanks.

News and Views. What's going on at Ardgowan Hospice.

Money Talks. How to donate, where the money is spent.



News and Views

Welcome

Welcome to Ardgowan Hospice Summer newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading about our latest activities and initiatives. There is always a great deal going on at the Hospice, which makes for a really satisfying and varied working life.

At the beginning of this week we held our annual remembrance service for over 240 people who had been bereaved this year. It was very encouraging to see more than 30 staff and volunteers from all departments prepared to support and serve those attending. The Ardgowan Hospice Singers brushed off their cobwebs and sang two moving hymns-thanks to Maureen Harrison, our conductor, for all her hard work!

Work is currently underway to organise some fun days for staff, as a thank you for their unstinting care and hard work. Watch out for photos in the next newsletter.

Thanks to you all for your continued support-please continue to think of us as we care and support the people of Inverclyde.

Dorothy McElroy, CEO

Dorothy McElroy



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How you can help us

Top Marks

Ardgowan Hospice has again been voted one of the top employers in the UK by the Nursing Times unique survey of the Top 100 organisations for nurses to work. This is a fantastic achievement for the staff here in Greenock who are the only Scottish hospice to make the list.

Nursing staff at Ardgowan were surveyed on the following topics:

How well does the organisation manage personal training and development?

Is it a family-friendly employer?

Do flexible working arrangements encourage staff retention?

Does it promote equality and diversity in your nursing workforce?

How strong is the nursing voice within the organisation?

The Top 100 is considered by those in the profession as a benchmark of employment excellence.

Dorothy McElroy, Ardgowan Hospice Chief Executive commented: "We are delighted to find ourselves in the Nursing Times Top 100 again this year, another outstanding achievement that makes us all particularly proud. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who participated in the survey and also to the organisation as a whole. We will certainly endeavour to further improve our placing next year."

Fundraising Update

Davie Provan Profile

We were delighted last month to have two very prestigious visitors to the Hospice. Gourrock born Davie Provan auctioned off his 1985 Scottish Cup winners medal from the centenary final and donated half the proceeds to Cash for Kids and half to the Hospice. The medal was bought by lifelong Celtic fan and former director Willie Haughey for £6,000. It was very kind of Willie to come down to the Hospice to help present the cheque and staff were very extremely happy that Davie took time out of his busy schedule to see round the Hospice to learn what the substantial donation would be used for.



Willie Haughey

Lottery

In 2000 the Ardgowan Hospice Lottery started and donates around £100,000 every year to the Hospice. Each entry costs £1 per week per lottery number but you can enter as many times as you wish and the draw takes place every Friday. The Lottery is a great way to support the Hospice as it raises considerable sums of money for the Hospice but you have the chance of winning £1,000! To enter you can use the enclosed form or pop into our Lottery Office in the Nicolson Business Centre, 18 Nicolson Street, Greenock.

Love is in the Air

The 17th Ardgowan Hospice St Valentine's Ball was another great success with over £18,000 being raised for Hospice services.

More than 300 people enjoyed a great night out at the Glasgow Hilton with fabulous food, great music and excellent raffle and auction prizes on offer!

The fundraising team would like to thank all our guests, donors and sponsors for supporting this event and we hope to see them again next year.

The event will once again be held in the Glasgow Hilton on Saturday 9 February 2008. Tickets priced £60 pp are now on sale. Please contact the fundraising team on **01475 726830** for more information.



Fundraising Update

Ladies Day - Sunday 19th August 2007

On Sunday 19th August we are hosting our second Ladies Day at the Chartroom at Kip Marina, Inverkip. We are delighted to have a wonderful guest speaker for the day – Tricia Stewart one of the original Calendar Girls! Tricia who was the inspiration behind the much-publicised nude WI calendar and was played by Helen Mirren in the film.

The day will begin with a fizz reception before sitting down to a delicious two-course lunch. Tricia will then tell us about her friends John and Angela who prompted her idea for the calendar and how they went from a small rural WI to being on the big screen around the world.

There will be a lucky dip on offer throughout the day and a £5 raffle, which will be drawn after lunch. Tickets are £30 each and we expect them to sell fast so places will only be reserved once payment has been made. Call Fundraising on **01475 726830** or email fundraising@ardhosp.co.uk to request a reservation form or purchase tickets online at www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk.



Spooky Capers

Another addition to our Calendar this year is a Halloween Party, taking place at Chartroom, Kip Marina on Friday 26th October. Tickets are priced £20 and include a light buffet and a spooky cocktail on arrival.

There will be prizes for the best dressed, with a disco on the night provided by Clyde 2.

Contact the fundraising team on **01475 726830** to purchase your tickets now or buy online at www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk.



Sports Dinner

The Tontine Hotel is the venue for another new event this year, a Sports Dinner on Friday 14th September. Our compere for the evening will be Ricky Hutchison and our guest speakers for the evening are:

Allan McGraw - ex Morton
Murdo McLeod - ex Celtic
Hugh Brown - Snooker Referee

Tickets are priced £35 and include a four-course meal, followed by an evening of great entertainment.

Contact the fundraising team on **01475 726830** to purchase your tickets now or buy online at www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk.



Fundraising Update

Heartfelt Thanks

Everyone at Ardgowan Hospice is extremely grateful to the community of Inverclyde for their continued support of our work. Lots of people have been busy raising funds on our behalf, too many to mention, here are just a few examples.

Thanks to: Aimee Kennedy who made jewellery and sold it to friends and family. Passion for Perfume in the Oak Mall donated the proceeds from their Mothers Day Raffle.

Local performers have been extremely generous. Greenock Philharmonic donated £775, Old Gourrock & Ashton Church Players £250, Greenock Speakers Club £271.50 and £150 from The Patrician Singers.

Inverclyde schools continue to be very supportive of the Hospice. Thanks to St Ninians, Gourrock, Kings Oak, Highholm, and Earnhill Primary Schools, Wellington Academy, St Columba's Kilmacollm, Greenock, Gourrock and Port Glasgow High Schools.

Thanks to you all, we wouldn't be able to continue our work without your support.

Dates for the Diary

July	Inverclyde Leisure 5K
16th June	Family Fun Day, Greenock Cricket Club
19th August	Ladies Day at the Chartroom, Inverkip Tickets priced £30 are available from fundraising or online at www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk
2nd September	Great Scottish Run in Glasgow Register online at www.runglasgow.org/
14th September	Sports Dinner at the Tontine Hotel, Greenock Tickets priced £35 are available from fundraising or online at www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk
1st October	Christmas Goods on Sale
26th October	Halloween Party at the Chartroom, Inverkip Tickets priced £20 are available from fundraising or online at www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk
October	Light up a Life Service Details to be confirmed
Various Dates	Parachute Jumps White Water Rafting Overseas Events

Call Fundraising on **01475 726830** email fundraising@ardhosp.co.uk or visit www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk for further details on any event.



News and Views

In Memoriam

Every year we open our doors to over 2000 families. Every year, over 300 families open their doors to one of our Community Nurse Specialists.

Our care and support for these families often motivates many individuals who have lost a loved one to give a gift to Ardgowan Hospice in memory of them.

"How can we begin to thank you for the care, attention and support you gave, not only to mum, but to all of us. It was great to see the way she really opened up to you and see the trust develop. This was a huge comfort to us."

Many people feel that donations given to Ardgowan Hospice instead of a floral tribute at funerals is a valuable and positive way of celebrating the life of a loved one.

Another lasting tribute is to create an In Memoriam Fund that allows friends and family to share photos and stories of a friend or loved one and make a donation to the Hospice if they wish. You can create a personal page in memory of your loved one on our website by visiting www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk/donate/remembrance.htm

We are extremely grateful for the gifts we receive in memory of loved ones as they enable us to continue our care to the people of Inverclyde.

Shop Till You Drop in Kilmacolm

Ardgowan Hospice has finally secured a location to open new premises in Kilmacolm. The shop located at Octavia Buildings, Bridge of Weir Road will be up and running by June this year but in order to successfully do so the Hospice needs your help.

Cath Bonnar, Shops Manager is actively seeking volunteers who may be interested in giving up a few hours of their spare time to work in the new shop and in the Greenock shop. Cath commented: "Volunteers play an integral part in the day to day running of the Ardgowan Hospice shops and we depend on their support immensely."

No formal experience is required, as on the job training will be provided on such tasks as sorting and pricing items, operation of the cash register and customer interaction.

The Hospice seeks volunteers from all ages and backgrounds so if you think you might be in a position to give up a few hours please contact Evelyn Sinclair, Voluntary Services Manager on **01475 726830** for an application form.



News and Views

Music Therapy

At Ardgowan Hospice we are constantly striving to introduce innovative services that will benefit our patients.

This year sees the introduction of a 42-week Music Therapy programme following on from a very successful pilot earlier in the year.

The therapy helps to explore the whole range of our emotions that can be held within the rhythms and harmonies of different musical styles and idioms. These intimate connections with music can remain despite disability or illness, and are not dependent on a musical training or background.

George Murray from Nordoff-Robbins will conduct the therapy at Ardgowan in group sessions for patients carers and staff. They are the UK's leading independent provider of music therapy services and each year provide over 30,000 music therapy sessions to children and adults in need across the UK.

Staff Profile

In this issue of Ardgowan Matters we will meet Ken Stevenson, our Director of Finance and HR.



Ken joined the Hospice in March 2007, however prior to this he was a member of the Hospice Council, Executive Committee and Treasurer and brings with him a wealth of business, local government and services sector experience. He has fellowships in both Accounting and H.R. and gained a Master of Business Administration at Glasgow University.

As a local man, Ken lives in Gourock and is married with three grown up children. In his spare time he enjoys bowling, sport in general, reading, photography art and is Treasurer of the George Square Baptist Church.

Commenting on his time here so far Ken said: "I am delighted by the generosity of the people in Inverclyde and would encourage them to continue supporting this very worthwhile cause. I am passionate about the Hospice and believe that it is one of Inverclyde's great success stories and I am looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead."

Audit at Ardgowan

Community Windpower are an independent and successful windfarm developer who aim to work closely with communities and aim to offer tailored and unique benefits to their projects.

The team at Community Windpower Ltd arranged an energy audit at Ardgowan Hospice to improve efficiency and reduce running costs. The audit found that a possible 70% energy saving can be obtained through lighting and further savings can be seen from the heating systems, air conditioning systems and water usage.

The full findings report will be submitted to the Hospice by mid-May with the energy efficient

products and initiatives being supported by Community Windpower Ltd.

Community Windpower submitted an application for a community windfarm at Leapmoor Forest near Inverkip in June 2006 and aim to become a more active donor to Ardgowan Hospice. Staff from the company will be present at the Hospice Family Fun Day in June.

If you would like more ideas on how you could spend wisely and save energy at home why not visit their website at

www.communitywindpower.co.uk

