

Ardgowan Matters

Keeping you up to date
with everything happening
at Ardgowan Hospice

www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk

ISSUE 6 October 2008

She's in Fashion!

The Chartroom at Inverkip hosted our recent ladies day event.

Love is in the Air

News of our forthcoming annual St. Valentine's ball, held at the luxurious Marriott Hotel in Glasgow



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CEO Welcome

As you can see from the latest newsletter, staff and volunteers continue to work hard in everything they do to make things better for patients and families.

This is exemplified by our group of more than 300 volunteers, who were delighted to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service from the Lord Lieutenant of Renfrewshire in August. This national honour, equivalent to the MBE, acknowledges the outstanding value of their contribution to the life of the Hospice and those it serves.



Together with you, our supporters, they assist us to care for hundreds of Inverclyde people who rely on our specialist services every year.

This summer we developed a five year strategy for Ardgowan Hospice and launched our updated logo, to make sure we continue to offer the very best of care and rise to the challenges ahead. With your help and support we will continue to work with others to make this a reality.

Chief Executive Officer



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The Recruit

During the summer 24 Inverclyde teenagers took up the challenge of a lifetime to compete for one year contracts with companies such as Royal Bank of Scotland, T-Mobile, Phoenix Car Company and Inverclyde Council.

Proceeds from the challenges set for the young entrepreneurs were very kindly donated to Ardgowan Hospice as well as the proceeds from the charity auction and raffle held at the glitzy award dinner in the town hall in August.

£7298 was donated to the hospice and we would

like to thank all the students involved as well as Inverclyde Council Enterprise Development Officer Robert Lamb and his fantastic team from St Stephen's Enterprise Centre.



She's In Fashion!

More than 150 ladies put on their Sunday best to attend the recent Ardgowan Hospice Ladies Day, which was held in the Chartroom at Inverkip Marina.

The weather was kind on the day and the sun shone as the ladies drank pink champagne out on the patio before going inside to view the excellent fashion show put on by Alison's of Gourrock. The models strutted their stuff on the catwalk and wowed the crowds with a selection of next season's fashions to the tunes from the Mamma Mia soundtrack - there was even some audience participation as the ladies sang along to the music.

After the fashion show the ladies were served a sumptuous afternoon tea and had the opportunity to take part in the charity raffle, silent auction and take their chances with the lucky dip.

Karen Quigley and her team were also on hand to provide taster beauty therapies and treatments for some lucky ladies.

Each lady was also treated to a fabulous goody bag containing products from Buchanan's, Aulds, Ardgowan Health & Beauty, Healthy Outlook, Black & Lizars and many more too numerous to name check!

Around £6,000 was raised from the event which was a tremendous contribution to our funds and will go a long way towards continuing to provide the excellent care provision and services provided by Ardgowan Hospice.

The fundraising team at Ardgowan would like to thank all those who contributed prizes to the raffle, donated items for the goody bags and silent auction, as well as Playtex and IBM for assisting with sponsorship of the event.

A big thank you also to all the ladies who attended and helped make this event another great success as well as our volunteer helpers on the day.



Fundraising Update

Light up a Life

Ardgowan Hospice invites you to join us in remembering loved ones who are no longer with us by Lighting up a Life and sponsoring a light on the Christmas tree at Westburn Church on Nelson Street, Greenock.

On Sunday 30 November at 6.00pm we will be illuminating the lights on our tree and would be delighted if you would be able to join us at this special event as we remember our loved ones this Christmas. The dedication will be followed by tea in the church hall where there will be an opportunity to purchase our Christmas cards and merchandise.

If you would like to dedicate a light to someone please return the enclosed card to Ardgowan Hospice or visit our website www.ardgowanhospice.org.uk.

All memorial lights will be entered in Ardgowan Hospice's book of remembrance, which will be displayed at our annual remembrance service and thereafter, in the hospice.

On behalf of everyone at Ardgowan Hospice may we take this opportunity to wish you and your family best wishes for the forthcoming festive season.

Christmas Cards

Our new range of Christmas cards are now on sale from both hospice receptions, and are available in our four shops in Gourrock, Greenock, Port Glasgow and Kilmacollm now. We also have a selection of Christmas merchandise including badges and wrapping paper on sale.



Love is in the Air

Ardgowan Hospice is pleased to announce that its 2009 Annual St Valentine's Ball will be held on Saturday 14th February at the luxurious Marriott Hotel, Glasgow. The evening promises to be a spectacular fund-raising event beginning with a champagne reception and sumptuous four course dinner prepared by the hotels top chefs.

Guests will have the chance to bid for some amazing prizes at a Charity Auction as well as win some fabulous prizes in our charity raffle. Finally you can dance the night away to fantastic live music performed by Soul Train.

Return transport will be available for those who require it from various pick up points. Tickets for this magnificent evening are priced at £60 per person with all proceeds coming to the Hospice.

If you would like be a part of this spectacular night and at the same time support your local Hospice, please contact Allison Smith, Elaine McNeill or Linda Faint in the Fundraising Department for further information on 01475 726830 or alternatively complete and return the enclosed booking form. We anticipate demand to be high for this event and would therefore recommend you reserve your places as soon as possible.

Fundraising Update

Hospice Friends

The Friends of Ardgowan Hospice have a busy time in the coming months and have a calendar of events planned to raise funds:

Dates for the Diary

Halloween Lunch

29/10/08

James Watt College

Tickets £12.00

11.45am for 12.Noon

Braehead Collection

6/12/08

(Collectors Required)

Coffee Morning

1/11/08

Westburn Church

Donation £1.50

10.00am - 12.Noon

If you have any queries regarding any of these events please contact Cathie Thompson on 01475 726830.

Christmas Fayre & Coffee Morning

29/11/08

Westburn Church

Donation £1.50

10.00am – 12:30pm

Our Friends group in Kilmacolm have also been busy with their house to house collection which took place in August. During this week they raised a staggering £3659 which is a great boost to Hospice funds. Thanks to everyone who took part.

Christmas Carols

8&9/12/08

Ardgowan House, Inverkip

Tickets £12.00

7:30pm

The group will be hosting an Antique & Christmas Fayre Coffee Morning on 8th November in the village centre from 10.00am – 12 Noon. Why not pop along and bag yourself a bargain as well as taking the opportunity to purchase your Hospice Christmas Cards.

Christmas Carol Concert

14/12/08

Greenock Town Hall

Tickets £4, £6, & £7

7.00pm

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.

for donating £1155 instead of receiving gifts at their Ruby Wedding, Dorothy Stark who collected £360 in lieu of gifts for her 60th birthday, Samuel Hannah who donated £110 in rather than gifts for his 70th birthday.

Skelmorlie Golf club who donated £106, The Sutherland Bar for raising a magnificent £1750, the New Roxburgh Bar for an impressive £2000, Gourrock Curling club for £1500, Mr & Mrs Quigg

Thanks again for all your efforts.

Allison Smith
Fundraising & Public Relations Manager

Hospice Refurbishment Programme Update

The refurbishment programme undertaken at Ardgowan Hospice is now complete and both buildings are looking splendid.

Subsequent to the major refurbishment local electrical company WLE have completed an update to the emergency lighting in ACCESS and are currently updating Nelson Street, as well as implementing a new Nurse Call System in ACCESS this month.

New Windows have been fitted in the Loggia at Nelson Street and the new meeting room is also now operational, as well as the completion of our new overnight accommodation for patients relatives.



Legacy Appeal

Ardgowan Hospice is dedicated to providing specialist care and support to patients with a life limiting illness.

Our wide range of services are provided completely free of charge to patients and their families and often acts as a vital lifeline. As a charity, our existence and ability to provide these life-enhancing services relies solely on grants and donations. That is why one of the most important ways you can help us continue our essential work is by leaving a Gift to the Hospice in your Will. The Gift of a legacy is the most lasting contribution you can make and it doesn't cost you a penny in your lifetime.

Without gifts in wills, some charities would simply not exist. Others would have to make dramatic cuts and very hard decisions. Thanks to previous Gifts in Wills, Ardgowan Hospice has been able to achieve many improvements in the care and support services we provide to people diagnosed with cancer and other life limiting illnesses.

So if you feel the time is right for you and your family to remember Ardgowan Hospice in your Will you should contact your local Solicitor who will be able to assist and advise you.

Leaving a legacy can really make a tremendous difference to the lives of so many.

Hospice Merchandise

Ardgowan Hospice has a wide range of merchandise on offer to suits all tastes and budgets! From air fresheners, badges, cards and trolley tags there is something for everyone.

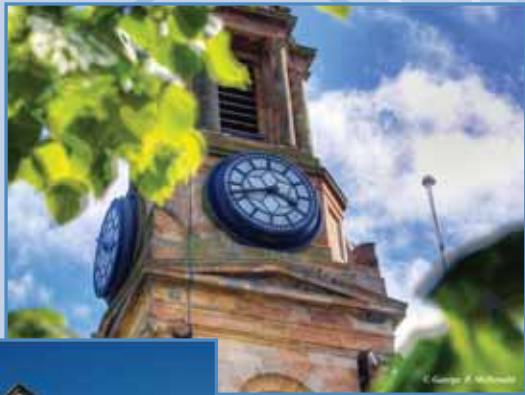
We have also just introduced our new 2009 Hospice Calendar which is on sale now for £5.50 and is available from both receptions and our Hospice shops.

The calendar consists of twelve beautiful photographs all sponsored by local companies and taken by local photographer George McDonald. Each month features a different Inverclyde scene including Custom House in Greenock, Ashton Shore in Gourock, The former Gourock Ropeworks in Port Glasgow, Inverkip Marina and the Kilmacolm to Bridge of Weir cycle track.

Another item that has proven very popular is our Picture Inverclyde book containing one hundred pictures of the Inverclyde area taken by the Inverclyde Camera Club and various schoolchildren who won a photographic competition.

Books, priced £9.99 are available in both Hospice receptions and in the four Hospice shops in Gourock, Greenock, Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm.

Both items would make excellent Christmas gifts so why not pop in and take a look.



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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