



Centre Takes Key Role in Department of Health Multi-Million Pound Research Projects

Pancreatic cancer is one of the major causes of cancer death in the United Kingdom. In 2005 alone, 7632 patients were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and in 2006 it resulted in 7315 deaths.

Over the past three decades, our understanding of the biology of pancreatic cancer has increased considerably. There have been major innovations in imaging, improvements in surgical techniques and, more recently, the discovery of biomarkers which has made targeted therapies possible.

In spite of these developments, the overall survival figures for pancreatic cancer remain bleak. Five years after initial diagnosis, less than 5% of all patients with pancreatic cancer are alive. Most patients present with advanced disease due to a combination of presenting late to health care professionals and the difficulties in making an early diagnosis.

The Department of Health, through the Health Technology Assessment programme, has approved funding of £1 million for a national multi-centre prospective project. This will study the contribution of Fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) Positron Emission Tomography and Computerised Tomography (PET/CT) scanning in the early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. It will also evaluate the role of FDG PET/CT in the management of this disease and it aims to identify patients who will benefit the most from FDG PET/CT.

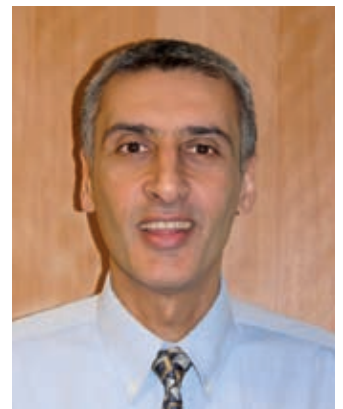
Paul Strickland Scanner Centre played a major role in the success of the grant application, a national collaborative effort spearheaded by the Academic Department of Surgery at the University of Liverpool. Dr. Bal Sanghera is co-applicant and lead physicist for the project and Dr. Wai Lup Wong, also co-applicant, is the lead for the project.

Staff at the Scanner Centre will play a central role in delivering this important NHS initiative.

Dr. Sanghera will be overseeing the quality assurance of the technical aspects of the study across the UK. In recognition of its expertise in PET/CT, Paul Strickland Scanner Centre has been appointed as the central laboratory and our clinical PET/CT team, headed by Dr. Wong, will be reviewing all the PET/CT scans and providing second stage PET/CT quality assurance and expert second opinions.



Dr Wai Lup Wong MRCP FRCR



Dr Bal Sanghera PHD

Team Lead £2.3 Million Head & Neck Cancer Assessment

The PET/CT team at Paul Strickland are at the centre of the Department of Health £2.3 million Health Technology Assessment of the role of FDG PET/CT in care of patients with head and neck cancer, where Dr. Sanghera is lead physicist and Dr. Wong the imaging lead and in charge of the reference laboratory.

The allocation of these major resources by the Department of Health is proof of the unique talents and facilities at Paul Strickland Scanner Centre which are of so much benefit for current and future patients.

The profits keep growing!

Last year the profit from the Plant & Cake Sale was 33% up on 2007. This year it was up another 20% on 2008, raising £1,100! On May 11th, stalwart George Ives brought his famous tomato plants and flowers and his wife Pam manned the bric a brac stall.



Mary Williamson and Juliet Stratford cooked up £320 with a splendid array of cakes and buns, helped by their clever idea of selling larger cakes in quarters for easy eating.

Garden Scene digs us out of trouble

On the morning of the Plant & Cake Sale, realising we were short of donated plants, Valerie Newberry paid a last minute visit to Garden Scene at Chipperfield and asked if they could help. Without hesitation they produced tray after tray of their best bedding plants and wished us luck.

Thank you Garden Scene, and we hope your prompt help results in reciprocal business from readers of Scanning Matters. So, if you need plants, trees and shrubs with friendly and knowledgeable service from a family-owned nursery go to Garden Scene, Tower Hill, Chipperfield.



Weather fails to dull walkers' enthusiasm

On Bank Holiday Monday 4th May the clouds and the walkers gathered for the Annual Chenies Spring Walk from Chenies Manor through 5 miles of the rolling Chess Valley. The event attracted a record 432 participants including, again, a large group with Alison Whitehead, walking in memory of her husband Miles who did so much for the Centre.

Afterwards Alison wrote:

"We really enjoyed the walk yesterday. I have counted up and we had a party of 72 walkers (61 paying, 8 under 10's and 3 dogs). The drizzle was fairly minimal and



had very little impact – apart from that crucial picnic eating moment, so many thanks for letting us shelter in your marquee. So a great time was had by all. Another bonus is that from our entry fees and website donations it looks like we have raised £725.51 including Gift Aid for the Scanner Appeal. Miles would be proud."

Mrs Macleod Matthews kindly allowed our participants free access to her lovely tulip gardens and we are, as always, grateful to her for allowing us to use Chenies Manor as our base. We couldn't organise the event without it. As we go to press, the total raised is £5115.

T&B (Contractors) Limited Golf Day

T&B (Contractors) Limited have worked hard to build the centre's new Reception, patient changing areas and Reporting Rooms on time and on budget.

They held their Annual Golf Day at Pinner Hill Golf Club on 3rd June. Following their policy of 'putting something back into the community', they named Paul Strickland Scanner Centre as their charity with all funds raised on the day going to the Scanner Appeal. The amount raised will be over £4,000! We much appreciate the generosity of the participants and the expert organisation of Nigel Stephens and his team.



Chairman of PSSC Trustees, John Hanney with Rae Borras, Chairman of Borras (Construction) Limited and T&B (Contractors) Limited and Andrew Rysdale, Associate Director of Robert Martell & Partners.

All you need is the Will to help patients

For nearly 25 years Paul Strickland Scanner Appeal has benefited from the thoughtfulness of those who leave a legacy in their Will, safe in the knowledge that this helps to save the lives of others.

We now undertake over 12000 scans a year and, with new resources, plan to increase our capacity even more in the future, because early scanning saves lives. We can only do this through donations and, especially, legacies.



Legacies are our life blood. They enable us to plan for the future, so we are prepared when an exciting new breakthrough in technology becomes available, pinpointing the problem and speeding the treatment. New equipment opens the door to new treatment areas and research opportunities. For instance, legacies have facilitated our expansion into the fields of prostate cancer and cardiology.

It is easy to leave a legacy, and your bequest is deducted from the value of your estate before any tax is calculated.

Whether you think of us or not, please do make a Will to simplify things for those you leave behind. Arrange today to see a solicitor.

Denham scores again!

Following favourable comments last year, the Paul Strickland Annual Charity Golf Day was held again at Denham Golf Club on 16th June. The weather was perfect and the course was in top class condition, which ensured another successful event for all participants.

Volunteer Hilary Croft and Barclays Bank staff member Tracy Cann sold tickets for the Name the Teddy Bear competition, which was won by Paul Ellis. On the course at the 5th hole, volunteer ladies offered shade in a gazebo and refreshments, and took bets on who could land their ball on the green.

At dinner, Barclays volunteers organised a Table Sweep, won by Norman Grundon of Grundon Waste Management. 12 desirable auction prizes had been generously donated and, after dinner, volunteer auctioneer Paul Ellis of T&B (Contractors) Ltd. extracted bids which raised £1695. Our grateful thanks to Paul and the exuberant bidders.

We are most grateful for the support of the golfers and the splendid items donated by local businesses and individuals and all who helped towards such a memorable event. With generous match funding from Barclays Bank, the event raised nearly £6000.

The 2010 Golf Day is booked at Denham Golf Club for Tuesday 15th June. It will be another great day. Put it in your diary!

Both teams collect their prizes from Wing Commander Edna Partridge



Winners Finchley Seniors captained by Paddy Kelly with Eamonn Murphy, Noel Traynor & George Glendon



Very close runners-up Matthew Arnold & Baldwin

We want our packs to get ahead of the pack!

Charity Christmas cards appear earlier each year. We wanted you to see ours first! Our artists have produced designs especially for us, so the cards you send your friends will be unique.



Scene specially painted and donated by Ann Dixon



Design specially painted and donated by Ann Gibbard

The designs were given free by the artists and are printed & packed free of charge by Byron Marketing Communications Group, Uxbridge, so every penny you pay goes to the Scanner Appeal.

The cards are £5 per pack of 10 and conform to Post Office approved size for standard 1st & 2nd class mail. Please order yours on the enclosed form or by phoning the Appeals Office on 01923 844290. Orders will be fulfilled from mid September.

FRIENDS PAGE

Enigma is code for Friendship

In April, on another highly successful visit organised by Social Secretary Valerie Newberry, 43 Friends and friends of Friends went to the 2nd World War National Codes Centre at Bletchley Park made famous in the film 'Enigma' starring Kate Winslet.

The group was welcomed with a coffee and introductory talk before their tour of the cipher machines, including the Enigma and a replica of Alan Turing's Bombe.

The day included visits to the huts where it all happened, displays of wartime vehicles, model ships and Churchillian memorabilia. An intriguing day closed with welcome refreshments and much discussion of the way this secret establishment, and one unappreciated genius, contributed in the nick of time to winning World War 2.



Friends assemble at Bletchley Park

Time to make Friends

Everyone needs friends to share things with, talk things over and give mutual help and support. At Paul Strickland Scanner Centre we need friends too, so we should get together – you and us.

Join the Friends of Paul Strickland Scanner Centre. We can give you the chance to make friends and enjoy a social programme of theatre visits, meals and trips out. You could join others in helping with fundraising events, being involved as much or as little as you like. There's the Plant & Cake Sale, the Early Christmas Fayre and Golf Day as well as supermarket collections.

Whether you're at a social event or helping us to raise funds, you'll experience fellowship of like minded people, all helping in a common cause – to beat disease. Your friendship would mean a lot to us and to our patients.

Please phone the Appeals Office on 01923 844290 and join us. It's free!

200 Club Quarterly Draw

The first Draw of 2009 was held at the Friends Committee Meeting on 12th March. The £100 winner lives in Eastcote, the £50 winner lives in Watford and the £25 winner is from Edgware.

The second Draw took place at the Friends Committee Meeting on 22nd June. The 3 winners live in Harefield, East Sussex and Pinner. The six lucky people have all been informed.

Membership costs only £20 a year from January to December. Three prizes are drawn four times a year, so the odds are good!

Bookings for the year commencing January 2010 can be taken from this September.

Stake your claim now by phoning Caroline on 01923 844290.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday September 9th

Visit to Kew Gardens

Departure: Coach leaves Mount Vernon Hospital at 10.30

Return: Between 4.30 and 5.00pm

Price: Including coach, entry & guided tour £27.50

Lunch: optional 3 course set lunch available at £20 per person

To book: Call Appeals Office on 01923 844290, but please hurry as numbers are limited.



Monday 9th November

Early Christmas Fayre

Olwen Bettsworth Hall, Mount Vernon. Please donate items for sale by the end of October. Bookings for stalls are already high. Stallholders, please book soon on 01923 844290 to secure your space.

Friday 4th December

Christmas Concert at Northwood Preparatory School.

Moor Farm, Sandy Lodge Road, Rickmansworth WD3 1LW



Harrow Apollo Male Choir and the boys from the school. Tickets £10 from Appeals Office on 01923 844290.



Harrow Apollo
Male Choir