

The GOOD NEWS



Above: The new patient lounge. Below: The new garden with improved wheelchair access.

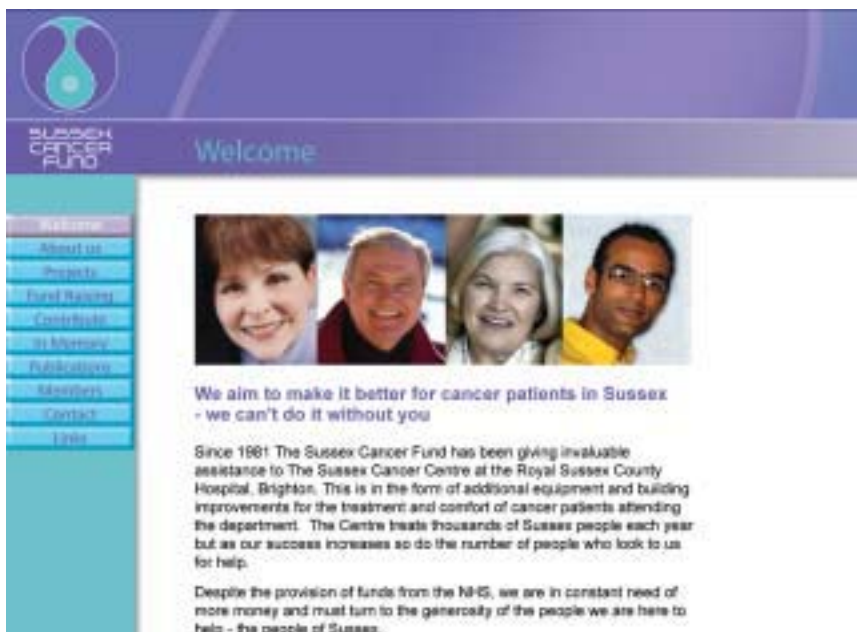
Artist's impressions: Morgan Carn Partnership

New larger patient lounge

In conjunction with raising funds for a new Chemotherapy Day Centre, the Sussex Cancer Fund is also raising funds for a much needed enlarged lounge for patients to cope with our increasing clinics. The aim is to raise approximately £200,000 to extend the waiting room to increase seating and improve the access to our garden. At the same time we are striving to improve the appearance

and ambience of the entrance, reception, clinic corridors, provide a new trolley bay and a nurses' station. It is important to the staff and Charity to make the centre as comfortable as possible for our patients and provide them with a relaxed atmosphere and pleasant surroundings. Your support for this and many other projects is much needed to enable us to achieve this.





New website planned

A new website will soon be launched which will help increase awareness of all that the fund has achieved to date and the important role it plays in helping to raise standards of treatment for our patients in Sussex. It will feature news on past and current events and lots of useful information and links. www.sussexcancerfund.co.uk

Car Park Sentry Box

To complete our funding of the Cancer Centre car park, a new sentry box has now been ordered to house our attendant from wind, rain and shine.

Many of our patients have worried about him standing in all weathers, so I am sure you are as pleased as he is.

Meet our members



Trevor Robbins

Trevor is 58 years old, married with two daughters and lives in Cuckfield, Mid Sussex. He has been semi-retired for some time and is a keen golfer.

“ I was treated as a patient at the Oncology Unit some twenty years ago and a couple of times again in subsequent years. I was so grateful for the treatment given and the kindness shown, that I wanted to try and give something back. The Sussex Cancer Treatment Fund, as it was then known, had been established for some years and I joined a group of very enthusiastic fund raisers. I remain amazed at the generosity and ingenuity of people wishing to help the charity provide those extras for the patients of the oncology department that NHS funding is unable to. ”



New Administrator for the Sussex Cancer Fund

Tracy Walker recently took over the position of Administrator of the Fund in February 2005. Her predecessor, Kath Davis, worked for the fund for a number of years and helped to build up the Charity enabling it to work alongside the NHS and provide facilities and many improvements for patients' treatment at the Sussex Cancer Centre.

Working part-time for the Charity Tracy is always looking for helpers, fundraisers and ideas to help raise monies to make patients lives just that little bit easier.

Tracy also works as a Service Improvement Manager for Cancer Administration, project managing service improvements that benefit patients and staff. She has worked within the Sussex Cancer Centre for 6½ years and enjoys the difference that she can contribute to cancer services and looks to people like you to help the Charity improve patients' lives in our care.

Please contact her should you like to help in some way, no matter how big or small, on 01273 664930 or e-mail: tracy.walker@bsuh.nhs.uk.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2004/2005

It is a pleasure to record the continued success of our charity. As always this is largely due to the considerable efforts of our paid and unpaid officers, the support of the Governors and Trustees and, of course, our benefactors.

New Chemotherapy Suite update

The construction of the new building on the roof of the linear accelerators has been delayed due to a shortage of steel, but work has just commenced. Our £450,000 contribution, as part of an overall cost of over £2million, will give the Cancer Centre a superb chemo-therapy suite on level 1 of the 3 floor building. This should be available for clinical use in about 1 year's time.

Patient Lounge

We have nearly completed the design of an improved and enlarged patients' lounge. This will also greatly improve access to the garden. At the same time the appearance and ambience of the entrance, reception area and clinic corridor will be improved. The approximate cost of £200,000 has been approved by the charity as the scheme will greatly improve the patients experience in the Cancer Centre. We hope to complete the project by the end of the year.

Patient Support Centre

In conjunction with the Macmillan cancer charity we are exploring the possibility of creating a Patient Support Centre in the vicinity of the Cancer Centre. This ambitious project would be the largest fund raising effort ever undertaken by

the Charity and hence the need to work with Macmillan.

Research Fund

Next year we will look at the use of the Research Fund. In anticipation of this the Trustees and Governors have agreed to use the Research Fund to purchase vital computer equipment which will, in part, facilitate research into novel radiotherapy techniques (IMRT).

25th Anniversary

In the coming months the Charity will consider the most appropriate way to celebrate our 25th Anniversary due on the 31st December 2005.

Our new format newsletter 'Good News' has been a resounding success. We look forward to further issues advertising recent achievements and future plans. In addition we should soon have our own website.

During the year we have continued to provide essential support for study leave and have funded several relatively minor improvements to our ward and Centre with more in the pipeline.

I am sad to report that our longstanding and very effective administrator Kath Davis is retiring. We are very fortunate in finding an able successor who has detailed knowledge of the Centre.



George Deutsch

Fundraising Team

The Sussex Cancer Fund Fundraising Team is made up of a small group who have, over the past few years, arranged events on behalf of the Sussex Cancer Fund.

The team's biggest success has been the six mile sponsored walk which it has arranged for the past three years along Brighton & Hove seafront. A total of £16,500 for the 'coffers' has been raised and this will be going towards the upgrading of the patients' waiting area and gardens.

Details for the next walk, which they are hoping to arrange in the Spring of 2006, will appear on the website.

If you would like to be involved with the team please call Tracy Walker on 01273 664930.



Top: The team at work on the sponsored walk on Brighton & Hove seafront.

Below: Jane Patrick and Ray Ward from the team are shown some of the future building plans by Dr Deutsch.


Fund-raising

A BIG THANKS to all you fund-raisers. The pictures opposite represent just some of the many ways in which people gathered much needed funds.

1. Tim Morris raised £2350 organising and participating in a Rock Concert with local Brighton bands.

2. Paul Goulet raised £1650 organising a Classic Car Rally "A Drive For Life" from Amberley Working Museum to Petworth House.

3. 1st Henfield Guides raised £250 by carol singing in December 2004.

Thank you to all our other supporters who are too numerous to mention. 

All donations should be sent to:
The Administrator
Sussex Cancer Fund
Sussex Cancer Centre
Royal Sussex County Hospital
Eastern Road, Brighton BN2 5BE

Cheques should be made payable to 'Sussex Cancer Fund'. If you would like to help raise funds in any way - please contact our administrator.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid allows Charities to reclaim the basic rate of income tax on single donations from UK taxpayers. This enables us to increase the value of your kind donation 28 % at no extra cost to yourself. I promise! If you are happy for your donation to be made using Gift Aid, please ask our administrator for a form or download from our website.

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