



### LIBRA CALLS FOR SUPPORT WITH ACORNS TO OAKS PROJECT . . .



**I am pleased to send you your copy of our summer newsletter which includes a variety of interesting features.**

Generous LIBRA supporters have been pulling together over

the past few months and making donations, helping us to get closer to the £249,000 target that we are set to raise for our Acorns to Oaks Project.

With £36,000 to go, we need your support to ensure that we achieve our goal and provide the Haematology Department at King's College Hospital with the funds it requires to purchase three specialist pieces of diagnostic equipment.

This newsletter features the Acorns to Oaks project in more detail and you can also read about the vital equipment that we are helping to purchase.

In other news, our fittest supporters gear up for the London to Brighton Cycle Ride, we look at a new Government initiative which could benefit charities and put some of our latest fundraisers in the spotlight. I hope you enjoy the latest edition of the Good News and thank you for your continued support.

**LIBRA Chairman Lion Andrew Lodge**

#### IN THIS EDITION . . .

##### Fundraising News

- Acorns to Oaks appeal update

##### Features

- Donations put to good use
- Some welcome relief

## HELP US REACH OUR FUNDRAISING TARGET

**W**ith the support of LIBRA King's launched the 'Acorns to Oaks Project' in 2004 to raise awareness of the need for funding to cover the cost of specialist equipment. We agreed to support this fantastic appeal and raise a total of £249,000.



The existing Haematology Department at King's is a major global centre for bone marrow transplantation, diabetes therapy and treatment of liver disease. It has the highest liver transplantation programme in Europe and serves those at high risk of haematological diseases, diabetes, cardiovascular and neurological mortality.

A Clinical Research Facility is being developed at the hospital and it will house a state-of-the-art cell treatment unit for the Haematology Department. In order to successfully treat patients and develop cures, the blood research team requires three pieces of diagnostic equipment which will be purchased with the £249,000. These consist of two FACS Analysers and an AID iSpot Reader.

LIBRA Chairman Lion Andrew Lodge said: "The new Clinical Research Facility is due to open this year and it is vital that we raise the outstanding £36,000 soon. We would appreciate your support in helping us to reach our target. Even the smallest donations will make a real difference.

"We have worked closely with King's since 1976 and over the years it has become one of

the world's leading centres for research into haematological diseases and cell therapies. With your help it will continue to develop new treatments and also provide first class patient care."

If you would like to make a donation to LIBRA, take part in a sponsored activity or hold your own fundraising event please let us know. You can also find out more about us and the Acorns to Oaks Project by visiting our website at [www.libralionscharity.org](http://www.libralionscharity.org) or please feel free to contact us directly."



Once the Acorns to Oaks appeal is complete we will launch a new fundraising initiative with King's as there are many exciting projects in the pipeline. As you can imagine we play a very important role in helping the Haematology Unit to move research projects and new treatments forward.

**Photograph above:** The new clinical research facility at King's is taking shape

## DONATIONS PUT TO GOOD USE

**P**rofessor Ghulam Mufti, Head of the Haematology Department at King's recently met with LIBRA Trustees to explain how the funds raised through the Acorns to Oaks Appeal will be used by the hospital. The Professor confirmed that the £249,000 will cover the cost of two FACS Analysers and an AID iSpot Reader.

Here we look at these specialist pieces of diagnostic equipment and explain why they are so important to the Haematology Department.

### FACS ANALYSERS

Fluorescence activated cell scanning (FACS) is a vital tool for identifying malignant cells. It works using flow cytometry which is a specialised form of microscopy. The analyser provides a means of measuring cells or particles as they pass one by one through a light source, which is usually a focused laser beam.

It is possible to measure physical characteristics such as cell size and shape by the way cells scatter light. Chemical characteristics can also be confirmed.



### AID iSPOT READER



Since 1989 AID has been producing automated imaging devices including user-friendly software programs for use within haematology units. AID

equipment is used by health professionals who focus on immunology and infectious diseases.



King's require the latest iSpot Reader, developed by AID, to perform cell and enzyme analysis via LED illumination.

Professor Mufti is delighted that LIBRA is so close to reaching the Acorns to Oaks target and commented: "LIBRA Trustees and supporters have dedicated a great deal of time to this appeal and we are most grateful. The FACS Analysers and iSPot Reader will benefit our research teams and ensure that we are able to diagnose serious conditions swiftly. In turn, this will enable us to establish how best to treat patients."



**Photograph above:** Professor Ghulam Mufti, Head of the Haematology Department

**Left:** A FACS Analyser

## FROM KING'S TO BRIGHTON SEA FRONT



**We recently interviewed Anwar Alhaq who works at King's and is in training to take part in the London to Brighton Cycle Ride for LIBRA. Here he discusses the new Clinical Research Facility that is taking shape at the hospital and why LIBRA's support is vital.**

**Q: What is your role at King's?**

A: I am the Divisional Manager for the Reference Services within Pathology. This includes the Leukaemia Diagnostics Centre (the Haematological Malignancy Diagnostic Centre) and the Red Cell Centre.

**Q: How long have you worked at the hospital?**

A: Since 2007. This is my second stint back at King's. My first ever job was at the hospital over 25 years ago and the second time around, it was like coming home to an extended family.

**Q: How did you find out about LIBRA?**

A: Actually, I have known about LIBRA for a long time. Over the years, they have been instrumental in supporting research and development at King's. They have certainly

helped make King's one of the world's leading centres for research into haematological disease.

**Q: Is the new Clinical Research Facility near completion?**

A: Yes, we get regular updates and pictures circulated. It certainly seems to be taking shape rapidly and we are looking forward to moving in later this year.

**Q: What difference will the facility make?**

A: The Clinical Research Facility will be very important for a number of reasons. Firstly, this state-of-the-art facility will allow us to expand the number of transplants that we can undertake at King's. Secondly, it will allow us to undertake one of the first gene therapy trials in leukaemia and lastly it will allow us to expand the range of diseases that we can treat using stem cells. It will be one of the most important stem cell facilities in the UK.

**Q: Why did you choose to support LIBRA?**

A: I know that LIBRA has supported us at King's for many years and I just wanted to show my gratitude by doing something for this fantastic Lions appeal.

**Q: How are you preparing for the cycle ride?**

A: By cycling around Richmond Park. About 10 years ago, I trained for a marathon by running around Richmond Park and I'm not sure that I'm cycling around it any faster!

**Q: Have you taken part before?**

A: Yes, last year and I said then that I would never do it again. There is a big hill as you approach Brighton!

**Q: Why would you encourage others to support LIBRA?**

A: LIBRA has provided wonderful support to King's over many years and this has helped to establish a Haematology Department that excels in clinical, diagnostics and research and development. It's now recognised internationally as a centre of excellence. That's quite an achievement for any charity!

## SOME WELCOME RELIEF



**I**nheritance tax is to be reduced to encourage people to donate part of their estates to charity. For anyone who plans to leave money to LIBRA and other Lions appeals this is very good news and maybe those who haven't planned to do so will think again.

Inheritance tax is paid on estates worth more than £325,000. However, if 10% of an estate above this limit is given to charity the rate of inheritance tax payable on the balance is to be cut from 40% to 36% from next April.

The general public have shown time and again how generous they are towards charities and the Government have given this proposal its full backing. It is anticipated that in the first three years charities will receive an extra £300 million.

Wills often contain gifts to charities and if this tax relief is implemented the cost of those legacies to the estate, provided they qualify for this tax relief, will be greatly reduced. The beneficiaries will have less tax to pay on the estate and charities will receive a welcome financial boost.

### Good News On Gift Aid



The Treasury has also announced a "Gift Aid small donations" scheme under which it will reimburse a charity for tax on small charitable donations made without a Gift Aid declaration. It will also increase the benefits that charities may provide to Gift Aid donors.

*giftaid it*

## CALL FOR CYCLISTS



**S**even LIBRA supporters have now signed up to take part in the London to Brighton Cycle Ride on Sunday 11th September 2011. Entry numbers are creeping up and with very limited places it is important that you register as soon as possible.

There is still time for you to book a place but please make sure you do it soon to avoid any disappointment!

The event will begin the exciting challenge in South London, travel through Mitcham, Carshalton, Chipstead, Banstead, Haywards Heath and finally to Brighton having completed 54 miles.

If you are interested in taking part all you need to do is pledge to raise £100 for LIBRA and you can secure a place. Please confirm your interest by contacting Claire Allaker on 01483 425363 or email [info@libralionscharity.org](mailto:info@libralionscharity.org) and you will be provided with an entry pack.

Alternatively you can register online by visiting the home page of the LIBRA website and following the details provided. Please visit today to book your place, [www.libralionscharity.org](http://www.libralionscharity.org)

## LONDON TO PARIS



**I**f you are a keen cyclist we hope you will be interested in cycling from London to Paris to raise funds for LIBRA. We work closely with professional event organisers who are coordinating this exciting challenge in May 2012.

If you are prepared to raise £1400 in sponsorship you can sign up for this event which enables cyclists to experience two of the worlds most chic cities, on one of the best cycling routes in the

whole of Europe! LIBRA would receive £700 and everything raised on top of that.

Participants will Cycle through beautiful English villages and into stunning rural France, passing historical landmarks and famous battlefields from World War I. The final destination is Paris, undoubtedly one of the most magical places on earth.

The sense of achievement you'll experience will be one you'll treasure forever. For those of you in search of the challenge of a lifetime simply give us a call on 01483 425363 or email [claire@positivereactionpr.co.uk](mailto:claire@positivereactionpr.co.uk) and we will send you a full information pack and everything you need to take part in this fantastic event.

**London to Paris Cycle**  
**Wednesday 9th May – Sunday 13th May**  
**Sponsorship: £1400**  
**Deposit: £139**

# GENEROUS DONATIONS

**L**ions District 105E has generously donated £1,950 to LIBRA. The support of these Lions demonstrates a great commitment to our appeal. This district covers Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, parts of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Rutland. It has 60 clubs and more than 1200 members.

Former LIBRA Trustee Lion Paul Coleman said: "A number of Lions Clubs in District 105 E, where I live, have individually decided to make donations to LIBRA during the last 12 months.

"As a Past District Governor of District 105 SE, the original sponsor of the project, and also having served for a brief time as a Trustee before my work commitments took me overseas, I have always believed that LIBRA is a worthy appeal and has achieved great things of which we can be very proud.

"It is very gratifying to see that funds continue to be donated and are going towards meeting the Acorns to Oaks target. Whilst I appreciate that there are many demands on Lions Clubs' funds in these straitened times, I would encourage other Clubs to support the wonderful appeal which is LIBRA.

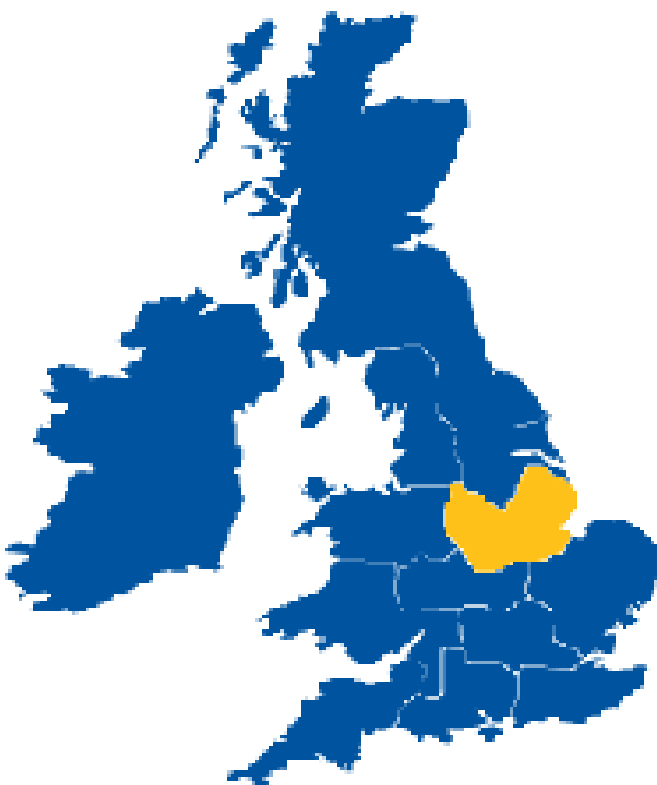
"It is vitally important that we help to cover the costs of the diagnostic equipment needed by King's College Hospital so that it may continue to make great advances in research into ways of improving health care for the future."

We would like to thank the following clubs for their donations:

**Glanford & Lindsey Lions**  
**Coningsby & Tattershall Lions**  
**Ilkeston Lions**  
**Crowland Lions**  
**Caistor Lions**  
**Lincoln Lions**  
**Scunthorpe Lions**  
**Skegness Lions**  
**Derby Lions**  
**Sleaford Lions**  
**Mablethorpe Lions**  
**Edwinstowe & the Dukeries Lions**  
**North Notts Lions**  
**Woodhall Spa Lions**  
**Louth Lions**  
**Ratcliffe on Trent Lions**  
**Retford Lions**

Visit [www.lions105e.org.uk](http://www.lions105e.org.uk) for more information.

**Image left:** District105 E



# LIBRA HERO



**Lucy Pope started to support us in 2009 and has taken part in some exciting activities to help raise funds. The thirty-year-old lives in Calne, Wiltshire, and is busy spreading the word about our appeal. Here we speak to Lucy to find out her thoughts about LIBRA.**

**Q: Why did you decide to support LIBRA?**

A: Because I feel it's a worthy and honourable cause. I read through the information on the website and found it so interesting. I think that it is important that we support the Haematology Department at King's as new treatments for degenerative diseases are being developed there.

**Q: Do you know anyone who has suffered with a degenerative disease?**

A: Yes, cancer has sadly affected members of my family and friends. I am touched by anyone who has been affected by a degenerative disease.

**Q: Did this spur you on to fundraise for LIBRA?**

A: Yes, cancer comes in so many forms and I understand the need for diagnostic equipment. LIBRA really is the only charity I know of which covers the cost of specialist equipment. I'm fascinated about how it is used by researchers at King's as they try to answer so many questions surrounding these degenerative diseases. I really hope the equipment will help the researchers to develop new and improved treatments for sufferers.

**Photograph top left:** Lucy with her race number ahead of Santa Run in 2009

**Q: What activities have you taken part in to raise funds for the appeal?**

A: 5K race in London and I also went along to a charity film night last year. Most recently, I signed up to take part in the London to Brighton Cycle Ride this September. I hope to join more events in the future as I'm always looking forward to the next challenge!!

**Q: Are you looking forward to the London to Brighton Cycle Ride?**

A: YES, YES, YES! I'm training hard for this event. I aim to raise as much as possible and am already spreading the word. I have set up a just giving fundraising page [www.justgiving.com/libracyclechallenge/](http://www.justgiving.com/libracyclechallenge/) to help me to raise funds. I also want to set up a 'Just Text Giving' number where you can invite people to text their donations through to you. This can be a more convenient way for people to donate as you can give anything from £1 to £10 in a single donation. Technology is a huge help when it comes to securing donations.

**Q: Have your friends and family shown interest in LIBRA since you started fundraising?**

A: Yes I have done various charity events over the years, my family, friends and work colleagues have all been very supportive.

**Q: Will you continue to support LIBRA in the future?**

A: Yes I will happily continue to support such a great cause and encourage others to do so.

## THANK YOU LUCY



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Adventurous people  
throughout the UK  
to do something like this...

...for

# FREE!

Help us raise funds by making  
an exhilarating 10,000 feet  
freefall parachute jump.

No experience is required and  
if you raise the minimum amount  
of sponsorship you will get to  
jump for FREE!



**For a free information pack call**

Claire Allaker

Email: [events@libralionscharity.org](mailto:events@libralionscharity.org)

Telephone: 01483 425363

Mobile: 07795 255393

**LIBRA**  
Lions International Blood Research Appeal

## ANNUAL GO KARTING DAY 2011



**T**he Battle and Villages Annual Go Karting Day is fast approaching and event organisers are calling on supporters to get in gear and take part! Following on from the success of last years high-speed event, this LIBRA fundraiser will once again take place at the Campbell track in Sussex.

The endurance race for teams of four will be held on Sunday 18th September. The circuit is located at Filching Manor and Motor Museum in the heart of the South Downs. It is the largest track in the county, with uphill and downhill sections, and challenging corners.

Glyn Upjohn LIBRA District Officer commented: "We are grateful to Battle and Villages Lions Club for organising this wonderful annual event. The venue is superb and we hope that a number of teams will register to take part."

The event will be professionally run with competitors reaching speeds of 50mph. Each team will be supplied with overalls, helmets and gloves.

***Entry is just £45.00 per person so please don't miss out by securing your place today.***  
To confirm your interest please contact Mark Standen:-

**Telephone: 01424 430158**

**Email: [markstanden@googlemail.com](mailto:markstanden@googlemail.com)**



**Find out more by visiting [www.battlelionsclub.org.uk](http://www.battlelionsclub.org.uk)**

## GIVE MONTHLY



**Making a small monthly donation to LIBRA is an easy way for you to provide ongoing support.**

**Regular gifts provide us with vital funds, enabling us to support King's College Hospital through the purchase of life saving equipment.**

**Setting up a Direct Debit couldn't be easier. To find out how we can help you to make the necessary arrangements please call us on 01483 425 363**

**Your donations will benefit patients today and in the future.**

**LIBRA**  
Lions International Blood Research Appeal