

September 2012

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Dear Supporter,

As you are probably aware, we produce an annual fundraising newsletter which is usually distributed in September. Its purpose is to keep our donors informed about the extra equipment and improvements to facilities at the hospital that have been provided as a result of your generous support of our charity.

However, we have decided to delay production of this year's newsletter because we hope to be able to bring you exciting news in January about a major fundraising appeal that the hospital is planning to undertake.

In the meantime we are writing to let you know about a few forthcoming events you may be interested in. We are sure you will be delighted to learn that following the successful conclusion of our 'Relative Comfort' appeal, building work has recently started on our £13 million building which will incorporate a new 21 bedded Critical Care Unit on the first floor. Over £300,000 was raised through public donations for the 'Relative Comfort' appeal which will allow us to build en-suite overnight accommodation, a day lounge with kitchen facilities and a counselling room for use by the families of patients being treated in the Critical Care Unit. Your support, leading to the provision of these facilities, will really help to make what can often be a very distressing and traumatic time for families, a little easier to cope with.

October is breast cancer awareness month

Once again we are working with Chester Football Club to hold our third annual "Think Pink Day" at their home match against Histon on Saturday 27th October at the Exacta Stadium. This is a family orientated day where everybody is encouraged to come wearing pink - even the players will be wearing a pink kit! Proceeds from the day are donated to the Countess Breast Care Unit.

This year as an extension of think pink day we will also be holding our first ever....

Think Pink Balloon Race



You have a chance to win a fabulous 7 night holiday for 2 in Marbella including flights and £200 towards car hire for just £2 a ticket! The prize has generously been donated by Healthcare Staff Benefits.



You can buy a ticket(s) to take part by visiting 'www.justgiving.com/COCH-balloon race' or you can purchase from the fundraising office at the Countess. We also need people to take tickets to sell to friends, family and work colleagues. Call 01244 366240 for further information.



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Trees of Light

Friday 7th December at 6pm

We have taken the opportunity of enclosing a 'Trees of Light' application form for our annual Lighting Ceremony and Service of Remembrance. This takes place under the canopy at the main entrance of the hospital, and will include performances from the Chester Wind Band and the Fireflies Ladies Choir. Lights can be sponsored in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate the life of somebody special. In addition to a light shining on one of trees, names will be included in our Books of Honour which are permanently displayed in the Spiritual Care Centre at the Countess, and at Ellesmere Port Hospital.



M&S Bank

M&S Bank

Another date for your diary is **Sunday 9th December at 9am** when we will be holding our second.....

SANTA DASH

This festive event, kindly sponsored by M&S Bank is jointly organised between the Countess of Chester Hospital charity and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. You can walk or run the 4k route and further information about this popular event can be found within the enclosed leaflet/application form.



Last year we had to close entries and again we have limited places available, so book early to avoid disappointment! If you have already received a leaflet, we would be grateful if you could pass this one to a friend, colleague or neighbour and help us make this an even bigger Santa Dash this year!



CROWNE PLAZA®
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We are delighted to advise that The Crowne Plaza Chester who generously sponsored our Celebration of Achievement Awards earlier this year, have a special offer on Christmas Party Nights exclusively for our

supporters – Book a table of 10 and you will get one place free (does not apply to New Year's Eve). Quote "Countess of Chester" to qualify. Please see their website for further information on these festive fun nights!



Many thanks for your continued support of our hospital, it is very much appreciated.

Kind regards,



Janet Ratcliffe
Fundraising Manager