



The relaxation of some of the Covid restrictions has allowed us to return to face to face fundraising. The TAE Art Show on Saturday 3rd July was an amazing occasion with almost 1000 postcard sized original paintings on sale. The artists came from across the globe. The sale continued on line until 6 August resulting in an amazing total of over £21K.

A huge thank you to Claire Charlton who liaised with the organisers and who spent hours sorting the paintings and getting them ready to post around the world. We have never been involved in such an amazing event before and it was truly very exciting. This was followed by the Cycle Ride on 18 July and then our picnic in the park – lunch in the Sanctuary Garden on Friday 23 July. It was so lovely to see everyone again face to face. A brilliant idea Claire – we must repeat it next year.

LINC now has two shops on the Bath Road and I know many of you have already visited our new one at 218. We still sell ladies clothes at 224 and men's and children's wear at 218 together with household items. Laura oversees 224 and Ella 218. We still need some more volunteers so if you can spare a couple of hours each week, please let one of them know.

I would also like to thank Louise Adkins who has supported me during the pandemic. Being a vulnerable patient I had to work from home but Lou was extremely good at bringing me the post and doing whatever was necessary in the office.

And finally, welcome back Claire. It is so good to see her making a steady improvement from her recent surgery. We wish her all the very best for a complete recovery.

Ciri Rouse



Twitter Art Exhibit

The **Twitter Art Exhibit** was set up over ten years ago with the idea that, "Through Art, We Can Change the World." LINC was thrilled to be chosen as the charity of 2021 and it has been a delight to work with the TAE committee. We received close to 1000 postcard sized original paintings from artists in over 50 countries. This was such a positive and uplifting project to be involved in during the lockdown months with such a huge selection of paintings arriving to support our charity.

On Saturday 3 July we held the opening at Cheltenham Racecourse. Not only was it fabulous to see the art displayed but also lovely to welcome so many of you to a live event. After the opening, the cards were sold online and **the grand total raised was £21,384.**

We'd like to thank all the TAE artists, everyone who purchased a card, our patron Jackie Llewelyn-Bowen for her painting and **Tayntons Solicitors** for sponsoring us. What a wonderful event and now the postman can have a rest!



Meet Mike

Mike Bayliss is a LINC patient who has just shared his story with us. We wish him all the very best for his ongoing treatment. His marvellous book is available to purchase in our new LINC Shop.

"After suffering back pain on and off I finally decided to go and get it checked out. A visit to a back specialist at the Winfield Hospital, and an MRI scan later, I went to appointment on 31 March 2017 at 6.30 (funny how things stick in your mind). We thought I might have a pro lapsed disc and was awaiting confirmation. Little did I know that this would be the start of my cancer journey as the scan had shown a tumour around my pelvis and he was sure it was cancer and so it began...

After about a month of further tests the diagnosis came back as stage 4 Non Hodgkin Lymphoma which had spread to my bone marrow.

I met with Dr Richard Lush and he told me of the prognosis and treatment, I started very soon after with six rounds of chemotherapy.

I also visited Rendcomb side rooms in Cheltenham Hospital for a short stay after picking up an infection and a couple of years of maintenance chemo to try and keep things at bay soon followed.

Follow up scans along the way showed the cancer moving around and spreading in areas of my bone marrow. After some radio therapy to hit certain areas I had another scan and after a further second opinion we decided that a stem cell transplant would be the best course of action.

I'm on that journey now having a part successful extraction and going back in late June for a final go with the view to going in for the treatment mid-July.

The care and attention I've had from everyone along the way has been amazing. My family and I are all so very lucky to have all of the hospital teams fighting in our corner as well

When first diagnosed it took a while to get my head round it but suddenly a lot of things I'd put off for another day became more important. One of these was to finish a book I started after leaving school. The diagnosis gave me the kick I needed and some 34 years later I finished 'Bedtimeasaurus' and had it published. I'm very proud of it and it's been great getting involved with LINC to donate the books to raise awareness for the great work they do."



Hadrian's Wall Walk

Huge congratulations to John Phillips, JMP Insurance and Neil Brimble, Abbey Business Interiors who completed their Hadrian's Wall Walk in July. They walked the gruelling 84 miles of Hadrian's Wall in 6 days. Starting at Wallsend on 6th July they walked through rain and wind to reach Bowness-on-Solway on 12th July. This is a remarkable achievement and they have raised £6,537.57 to date. Thank you so much to both of them and to everyone who kindly sponsored them.



Clinical Psychologists

The two LINC clinical psychologists, Dr Nicky Dobbin and Dr Ashley Dawson are entirely funded by the charity and reliant on your generous donations. After the last year, we can all appreciate what isolation feels like but imagine what this is like when also facing a diagnosis of leukaemia. Some patients spend many months in an isolation side room and during the pandemic have been unable to receive visitors and family support. The emotional support provided for these patients has been increasingly vital and important for patient recovery.

Picnic In The Park

The Picnic in the Park was a lovely occasion and it was good to see so many of our regular Lunch Club members in person again. We were all treated to the most splendid picnic boxes made for us by Sweet Success and we will definitely be holding more of these events in the Sanctuary Garden again.



Sanctuary Garden

The Sanctuary Garden is in full bloom as we write this and it's looking as lovely as ever. We were delighted to add the new planters this Spring, kindly donated by the Jones family and they have been filled with agapanthus lilies. Gardening Naturally kindly donated a selection of products and tools for use in the Garden which were very grateful for. We still need some more help at our monthly garden maintenance sessions which take place on the last Friday of every month so please get in touch if you can spare a couple of hours.



Shop News

Our new shop at 218 Bath Road is now open and doing well as we welcome Ella Mason and Laura Levy as our new shop managers. We would love your donations of high quality clothing, homewares, books and toys please. These can be dropped off at either of the shops and please remember to fill in a Gift Aid form if possible which means that the charity can claim back 25% from the Government on your donation.

Can you spare a few hours a week to volunteer in one of the shops? Volunteering can be such a positive experience and we would really appreciate your help and time even for a couple of hours a week.



3 Counties Cycle Ride

We were so excited to be able to hold our 3 Counties Cycle Ride once again this year and thank you so much to all the wonderful cyclists who came along on a very sunny Sunday to support us. It was also fantastic to see so many of you wearing our new cycling jerseys which created a real team spirit. #TeamLINC Thank you to Creed Foodservice for kindly donating the food for the BBQ and Thomson and Bancks and Tewkesbury Rugby Club for sponsoring the event. We raised £4,000.

Challenges

Trudi and Paul Scott cycled from Land's End to John O'Groats on a tandem for LINC. Trudi's sister, Rebecca received care in one of the isolation side rooms on Rendcomb Ward. Trudi writes "They supported her and her family physically and mentally throughout her cancer treatment. We'd like to say a huge thank you by raising money to help them continue the wonderful work they do. Rebecca is now cancer free and enjoying being back with her children. We are extremely grateful to LINC for their role in her recovery."

Sadly **Simon Westlake** lost his battle with Leukaemia aged just 39 in June. His friends are taking on the challenge in his memory of driving 120 miles from Tewkesbury to Lymington, taking the ferry to the Isle of Wight, cycling around the island (100k) and then driving home all in one day. This is taking place on 5th September and we wish them them the best of luck.

Upcoming Events

We are very much looking forward to holding fundraising events again although it is still difficult to plan ahead. Please keep looking on social media for the latest news as we certainly hope to hold another concert in the Sanctuary Garden and other events in the Autumn wherever possible.

Golf Day will be taking place at **Cotswold Hills on September 8**. Please enter online.

Parachute Jump Are you up for the ultimate challenge? Taking place on **12 September**, please contact us for details.

Thank You...

Jody Hung for completing her second Leckhampton Hill Marathon and raising a fabulous £732.00. **Bovis Homes** for donating stock from one of their show homes for our new shop and **Pro-Dec** for painting the 218 Shop inside and out. **Tim Evans** for sorting and storing the milk bottle tops and safely delivering the next batch of milk bottle tops to the recycling plant in Portsmouth. **Rachel Westlake** who donated £1,000 in memory of husband, Simon. **Cheltenham Bowling Club** held a day in memory of their Chairman, Graham Griffiths which

raised £235. **The Crypt School** who have been busy collecting milk bottle tops for us. **Martin Podd** for holding a sale of paintings in Winchcombe. **Martin Podd and Maureen Chew** donated 10% of painting sales to LINC. **GE Aviation** who provided a team of volunteers to help in the Sanctuary Garden. **GB Liners** who are kindly supporting us by encouraging their customers to donate to the shop. **Johanna Hamer** raised £385.71 when completing a wing walk to mark her 80th Birthday! **Mike Bayliss** for his donation of 30 Bedtimesaurus books to sell in the shop, a donation of £2,340.80 to pay for 16 new drip stands for EJU and to **Amy and Chris Hughes** for holding a wedding sweepstake raising £290. **Emily Avery** walked the South West Coast Path and raised £215.33 in July.



Reply Slip

I would like to make a donation

I would like to become a Regular Giver

I would like to help in the Sanctuary Garden

I would like to help in the LINC Charity shops

Please return to LINC Charity Office, LINC Outpatients Dept,
Cheltenham General Hospital, Sandford Road, Cheltenham. GL53 7AN
or email ghn-tr.linc@nhs.net

If you wish to unsubscribe from LINC Lines newsletter please tick here

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I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008. Please tick the box