

Newsletter for University College Hospital Cancer Fund

Impact

Winter 2016 / Spring 2017

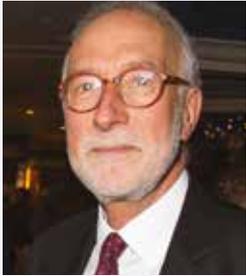


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**Championing
cancer research
at UCLH**

Dear friends and supporters



Professor Jeffrey Tobias

Looking back at the progress UCLH has made over the past few years, I'm astounded by the number of breakthroughs we've seen. For instance, the installation of cutting-edge equipment and the many improvements in chemo and radiotherapy treatment, giving renewed hope to so many.

If you have been here recently, you'll already know that construction is underway on the new integrated proton beam therapy and specialist cancer and surgical treatment facilities. It would be difficult to overstate the sense of excitement that pervades the Hospital as the new nine-floor, 25,000-square-foot structure begins to take shape. We are on the threshold of a new era in healthcare for the UK.

However, while there are still patients succumbing to this terrible group of diseases, we know (and so do you!) that there is much more to do. During the summer, our long-term supporter Dennis Wells sadly passed away. Dennis was so proud to be contributing to the UCH Cancer Fund and we were honoured to call him one of our benefactors. Early on in his illness, he made provision in his Will for UCLH. We are so grateful for his generosity, and will ensure that his kindness is used in the way he wanted. Legacies like Dennis' have become a really important source of income for us – please see Peter's article on the back page of this issue.

Needless to say, it is vital that we continue to discover more successful cancer treatments by funding promising research projects. I'm delighted to announce that earlier this year, the UCH Cancer Fund joined forces with the UCL Cancer Research Institute to do just that. We know that by funding more high-quality research projects, we can advance new treatments and technologies, ultimately helping to change lives.

If you are interested in funding a research project, please do contact Nick Gilbert, Head of Fundraising, at nick.gilbert@uclh.nhs.uk or call him on 020 3447 1885.

Thank you so much for your continued and generous support for the UCH Cancer Fund. Your commitment and determination inspires us all!

Professor Jeffrey Tobias MA, MD, FRCP, FRCR

Professor of Cancer Medicine, and Chair, UCH Cancer Fund

Blast from the past

The UCH Christmas tree is a tradition that goes back decades, as you can see in this photo from the hospital archives, taken in the early 1920s.



Nurses hand out presents to young patients

Many seasonal customs continue to this day – decorating the hospital, handing out gifts throughout the children's wards, as well as singing carols throughout the Hospital.

Often these activities are only made possible thanks to the generosity of both Hospital staff and local supporters, who donate time and resources to help ensure the festive cheer remains high throughout the Trust.



Win up to £25,000 and support the UCH Cancer Fund with Unity

Unity is a lottery with a difference – for every £1 entry, 50p goes directly to the UCH Cancer Fund which we can then use to support cancer services at the Hospital.

It's really simple to play: sign up from as little as £1 per week and you'll be allocated a six-digit Unity lottery number. A draw then takes place each Saturday, and if you match 3, 4, 5 or 6 digits in the correct place in the sequence, you'll be notified automatically that you've won a cash prize.

Want to join in?

Sign up or find out more via our webpage:

www.uchcancerfund.org.uk/lottery

News from UCH Cancer Fund

Funding Leukemia research in memory of Andrea

The UCH Cancer Fund has recently widened its scope to include cancer research at UCLH, ensuring that we are able to combat the disease at all stages. Although advances in cancer treatment continue to improve thanks to the life-changing work taking place at UCL, many of the rarest forms of the disease continue to have devastating impact.

One such example is Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML), one of the most aggressive, fast-moving and least understood of all cancers. In 2014, Andrea Firebrace was diagnosed with the illness and having undergone a courageous battle, passed on the 15th June 2015 aged 43, just over a year after her initial diagnosis. Andrea was vibrant, witty, fun and loyal. She was the centre of her husband and young family's life, a much loved daughter and sister, and a treasured friend to countless.

During her treatment, Andrea and her husband Henry had learned that AML does not respond to drugs that are successful in treating other forms of cancer. It behaves differently and the chances of survival are, sadly, very low.



The Firebrace Family

As such, Henry created the Andrea Firebrace Foundation to fund a PhD position researching AML and shed light on why this most frightening of diseases afflicts those that it does, why it does not respond to drugs in the same way to other forms of cancer, and eventually, uncover treatments to beat it.

The research project will be managed by Dr Marc Mansour of the UCL Cancer Research Institute. If you would like to find out more about raising money for cancer research at UCLH, please contact our fundraising team.

Discover more about the Andrea Firebrace Foundation and the research being undertaken at www.andreafirebracefoundation.com

A few words from our new Volunteer Student Coordinator

I first volunteered with the UCH Cancer Fund at a rugby game between Saracens and Leicester Tigers where I helped at the 'Tackle Zone' and had the chance



Kristen Stockdale

to meet the fundraising team. Although I volunteer regularly at UCH, I found myself wanting to do a bit more, so I emailed Nick and asked if I could do anything to help (as well as begin my covert mission to find and destroy the photos taken of me attempting to throw a rugby ball).

At the UCH Cancer Fund, volunteering is a two-way street: I'm learning new skills in marketing, communications and events

management from the fundraising team, whilst also having the chance to put forward my own ideas based on personal interests and experiences.

Some of the work I've done includes managing the UCH Cancer Fund's social media accounts and representing the charity at student events on the UCL campus. I also helped to source raffle prizes from local businesses, which is how I found myself strolling down Tottenham Court Road with a bottle of Cava and rather large cake.

Admittedly, it was at this point I was tempted to abandon my volunteering duties and take off with the goods for a luxurious Friday evening, but helping the UCH Cancer Fund and the amazing work

Interested in volunteering your time at the UCH Cancer Fund? Contact owain.rees@uclh.nhs.uk

it supports seemed more rewarding in the long run (besides, I still hadn't found those rugby photos).

Not only is the UCH Cancer Fund team a great bunch to volunteer with, but the role itself is extremely rewarding. Just walking about the Cancer Centre you can see all the staff, patients and their loved ones benefitting from the work we do. Anyone who's volunteered before will recognise that warm feeling you get from helping others, and I really get this in spades.

Kristen Stockdale

News from the Hospital

Spotlight on Head & Neck Cancer

Cancer is an incredibly complex disease. However, despite not receiving as much attention as other types of cancers, few cancers are as complex and as life-changing as those which occur in the region of the head and neck.

The UCLH Head & Neck Cancer Department is now the largest in London, having seen its surgical throughput increase significantly in recent months and years. Over a very short period of time, the department has doubled its workload and now carries out around 3 – 4 major operations a week. In the year to August 2016, the Department treated around 380 new cancer patients, with about 70% of patients undergoing the whole spectrum of treatment – from surgery to chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Sarah Orr, Clinical Nurse Specialist for Head and Neck, pays tribute to

the patients in her care: "The courage of Head & Neck patients inspires me greatly and drives my determination to continually improve treatment outcomes for these incredible individuals."

The Head & Neck team's specialities now include Thyroid and Sarcoma. As Sarah Orr comments, "we [the Head & Neck department] have a very good multidisciplinary team to support patients." Against the backdrop of the tremendous growth the Head & Neck team has recently experienced, Anna Bruce, Senior Nurse for Head and Neck, now foresees a 1-2 year period of consolidation.

Anna has nothing but praise for the brilliant Head & Neck team: "Head & Neck is a very specialist area and the tremendous expertise demonstrated by our nurses every day is just incredible." Anna feels the team can improve



Staff from the Head & Neck Cancer Dept.

further by greater investment in staff development and training which can benefit both staff and patients. Anna believes that this investment will bolster UCLH's reputation as one of the leading Head & Neck Cancer teams in both London and the UK.

Head & Neck Cancer Services have just launched a new website which can be found at www.uclh.nhs.uk

60 seconds with Junior Doctor, Ava Tzankova



Junior Doctor, Ava Tzankova

Over the last year we've been delighted to welcome a number of new Junior Doctors to UCLH. We caught up with Ava Tzankova, who started as a Foundation Year 2 doctor and from August she has become a CT1/CT2 (core trainee year 1 & year 2) for UCLH. We caught up with Ava to see how her first year is going.

What is your role at UCLH?

I am a Junior Doctor for the Haematology department. I take in any new admissions and take care of acute illnesses on the wards. The Junior Doctors are divided into different teams and we rotate on a regular basis which means that we learn about different aspects of the job immediately.

Why did you want to go into medicine?

It's always been a dream of mine to be a doctor! There's never been another profession that I have wanted to go into. I like to help people and, in this role, I can see the impact that I am making immediately.

Have you always wanted to work at UCLH?

Absolutely – I remember walking around London and coming across the Hospital. I immediately knew that I wanted to work there – it looked a bit like the TV show 'Grey's Anatomy'!!

How have you found your time at the Hospital?

I really like it, especially the Haematology Staff! The Senior Staff have been amazing and have taught me so much! The Consultants are approachable and more than happy to make you understand processes. They have an amazing ability to help you feel part of the team immediately. The nurses have also been fantastic and the team spirit amongst them is brilliant, which is very important.

What has been the best and most challenging aspect?

The best aspect is that I had very little knowledge before I started and, since then, I've gained such a lot. I am much more comfortable in the role now. Perhaps the most challenging aspect has been that every day I need to learn something new – but that's a good thing really!

Gene testing of rare tumour type could uncover 'cancer families'

A team that includes researchers at UCLH, the Institute of Cancer Research, London, and the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, has been studying patients with rare cancers called sarcoma to shed light on the genetic causes of multiple cancers within families.

This study gives us the most detailed picture yet of the genetics of sarcoma patients, and reveals that in a significant proportion there may be a genetic cause for this rare cancer, and other more common types of the disease.

Dr Beatrice Seddon, the Clinical Oncologist who led the research for UCLH, said: "This joint work is an important step towards a better understanding of sarcoma genetics. This

is the first evidence that multiple genetic mutations interacting could be causing sarcomas in some patients, rather than a single gene driving their disease."

The research found that over half of the 1,162 sarcoma patients tested were born with mutations in at least one gene already known to increase cancer risk.

Study co-author Professor Ian Judson, who led the UK arm of the study at the Institute of Cancer Research, London, and the Royal Marsden, said: "This important study has uncovered mutations occurring in some sarcoma patients that could potentially be targeted by precision treatments, opening up new avenues for treatment that should be investigated in clinical trials. It's also



Dr Beatrice Seddon, clinical oncologist, who led the research for UCLH

fascinating that this study has shed light on the inheritance of cancer risk in families more widely, and offers clues to explaining why some families are affected by many different cancer types."

Research begins to develop pioneering technology to plan radiotherapy treatment

A new medical research partnership which aims to develop pioneering technology which can automatically differentiate between cancerous and healthy tissues on patient scans was announced in August 2016. The partnership brings together leading clinicians and researchers at UCLH with some of the UK's top technologists at DeepMind Health, who specialise in using machine learning to solve some of the world's most complex problems.

At present, it can take clinicians up to four hours to identify and differentiate between cancerous and healthy tissues on CT and MRI scans of Head and Neck cancer patients. This process, known as segmentation, is particularly difficult in Head and Neck cancer patients because their tumours are situated in extremely close proximity to healthy structures such as the eyes and nerves.

Before treatment can begin, clinicians identify the cancerous areas on the scans and the areas that must be protected from radiation. It is essential that cancerous and healthy tissues are identified accurately so that radiotherapy treatment can be targeted effectively, giving the highest radiation dose possible to the tumour, while preserving healthy, surrounding structures and reducing possible side effects.

The purpose of the research collaboration between UCLH and DeepMind is to develop artificial intelligence technology to assist clinicians in the segmentation process, so that it can be done more rapidly but just as accurately. Clinicians will remain responsible for deciding radiotherapy treatment plans but it is



UCLH radiographers prepare a patient for CT scan.

hoped that the segmentation process could be reduced from up to four hours to around an hour.

Professor Kathy Pritchard-Jones, Chief Medical Officer of London Cancer, the integrated cancer system that serves a population of more than 3.5 million, said: "Head and Neck cancer is rare and is one of the most complex tumour sites to treat. Therefore, if we can develop technology to assist in planning radiotherapy treatment for these tumours, we would expect that such a breakthrough would be transferable to other types of cancer. This would not only benefit UCLH patients, but patients across the country."

News from the Community

Going the distance

Our world was turned upside down in April 2016 when Bianca was diagnosed with stage 2 Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Before the diagnosis we both enjoyed taking part in sporting events together, completing Ride London 100 in 2015 and Bath Half Marathon in March 2016, but our hopes of tackling the Royal Parks Half Marathon were soon forgotten.

Being a partner of someone going through cancer treatment can be very tough and the hardest part was the lack of control over any situations and the feelings of being unable to help Bianca. We are so grateful that since the start of this journey she has been looked after so well by the staff at the UCH Cancer Centre, who have provided world-class care and support for both of us and our families.

This was when I decided that I had to support the UCH Cancer Fund. Originally my challenge was going to be the London Marathon, but this has now changed quite dramatically and I will be running three half marathons, three marathons and there's even talk

of taking on an Ironman challenge in July 2017! I must say, the aim of raising £5,000 seemed daunting at first, but thanks to the support of friends and family our fundraising is now 90% complete, with my final challenge still a year away.

Bianca has said on numerous occasions that without the help she received from the Support and Information Service at UCH and the free complementary therapies, going through chemotherapy would have been unbearable. Witnessing the kindness offered by this amazing Hospital has been incredibly heartwarming and thanks to the staff, the feeling of being lost on that day in April was greatly reduced. Because of this, I will always be a huge advocate of the Hospital and the work supported by the UCH Cancer Fund.

Dan Joyce

Interested in taking on a challenge event in support of the UCH Cancer Fund? Contact owain.rees@uclh.nhs.uk



Dan and Bianca



Finding my head for heights

I lost both my aunt and uncle to cancer several years ago, and last May my cousin (their daughter) was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She has since begun chemotherapy and we are remaining positive about her ability to recover.



I felt I needed to show my support by raising money and doing something completely outside of my comfort zone, so being petrified of heights, I settled on a skydive!

Having set up my JustGiving page, I began sharing it with my family, friends and colleagues via Facebook and e-mail. The

response was overwhelming, ensuring there was enough incentive to make sure I did the jump! Despite hitting my fundraising target, I continued to re-share the page periodically, urging more people to donate, and was extremely pleased with the final amount raised – over £1,300!

On the day I was a little numb and scared, but I knew I was at the point of no return. My cousin had travelled up from Cornwall with her family mid-treatment to support me, which spurred me on somewhat, though I was still pretty rigid throughout the flight.

Reaching altitude, I was pretty much paralysed as my instructor started pushing me towards the open door. It's hard to describe the fear I felt at that moment, getting into position, but the next thing I knew I was falling through the air at 125mph!



Alison and her cousin on jump day

Now I can't say I would ever relish doing it again but, although scary, it was rather exhilarating. Also, when I did manage to open my eyes, the views were breathtaking. Ultimately, I felt relieved that I had landed safely, proud of myself for completing the challenge and grateful to everyone who had donated to such a worthy cause.

Alison Steadman

UCH staff take on the Regent's Park fun run

Attaining physical fitness is a very worthwhile personal goal. Raising money for charity is a very generous gesture. Combining both, however – sheer perfection! This is why I decided to participate in a fun run in aid of the UCH Cancer Fund.



Nurses, Siobhan McGuckin and Sian Parker, after the race.

On Sunday 26th June 2016, I woke up to a bright sunny day with not a grey cloud in sight. Wearing the trendy UCH Cancer Fund vest, I made my way to Regents Park, the venue

for the event. Amongst the crowd of people were two of my colleagues from

UCLH, also taking on the run in aid of the special work the UCH Cancer Fund does!

So, we registered, received our ID numbers and began warming up. It was great to see so many young people at the event, clearly excited about raising funds for their chosen charity. The starting pistol fired and then my race began.

Twenty-eight minutes & eighteen seconds later, I (somehow) managed to cross the finish line. The setting, organisation and sheer enthusiasm of everyone at the event was incredible. I would like to thank ISEH, my fellow runners and, above all, my generous sponsors - who ensure we can continue the fight against cancer!

Anubhav Sood



Anubhav Sood receives his running vest prior to the race.

Giving cancer the boot

Greenford Celtic FC is a Youth Football Club based in Ealing with a passion for giving back to the local community. After one of their members began treatment at UCH's Teenage Cancer ward, they decided to support the Hospital by hosting a series of events between June and September 2016.

During this time, the club organised a sponsored run, a parents vs managers exhibition match, as well as a youth football tournament to raise money for Teenage Cancer Services and huge thanks go to all those who got involved in their fundraising – either as organisers or participants.

In the end, the determination of all those involved meant that they were able to double their original target and raise over £2,200 – which will be of huge benefit to young cancer patients both in Greater London and beyond.



Midwives on Bikes – Land's End to John O'Groats Cycle Challenge

Belinda Green and Alison Steadman both work as midwives within UCLH's Elizabeth Garrett Anderson wing, which led them to take on a fundraising challenge for the UCH Cancer Fund and support Cervical Cancer services at the Hospital.



They set themselves the task of cycling over 1,000 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats over 12 days. This was no mean feat to say the least – although both midwives had cycled regularly in the past, they had never attempted a distance of this length.

The midwives soon began getting ready for their adventure, starting a training regime that would prepare their legs and brains (also their bottoms!) for the long distances ahead, while simultaneously

organising bowling nights, cake sales and raffles, with the aim of raising over £2,000 in support of UCH.

Completing their cycle in June, the midwives fended off injury, challenging conditions and a number of mechanical issues to complete the distance and arrive at the northernmost part of the UK, triumphant.



The Traveling Newburys

The Newburys had lost their father to stomach and oesophageal cancer in 2009 and decided they wanted to fundraise in his memory. They chose the UCH Cancer Fund as their designated charity, wanting to support our services for UCLH patients, including psychological assistance, complementary therapies and new equipment for wards.

Having started their training in December 2015, on 30th August 2016 they began their 16,000 foot ascent to the summit of Mont Blanc, enduring temperatures as low as -10 °C (despite it being summer) and completing the trek in five days, and raising over £3,000 in their father's memory.



The Newburys at the Mont Blanc summit

Amy Newbury had this to say of the challenge: "it was challenging in ways I wasn't expecting and physically demanding, but overall, an amazing experience!"

London to Brighton Ultra Challenge

What motivated you to support the UCH Cancer Fund?

For the care, love and genuine compassion shown to an amazing woman, a friend and her family, during an incredibly difficult time – and the courage that she showed in making a full recovery.

How did you prepare for the 100K London to Brighton Challenge, and what did you do to promote it?

Lots of walking of varying duration and light cardio, but fundamentally it was all about getting the legs used to being active for several hours. I promoted my fundraising through Facebook and by talking about it with friends – by sharing live updates and seeing your determination to complete.

Did you feel fully supported by the UCH Cancer Fund team?

Yes, the team has been great, from when I first enquired about doing the event and asking them to register with the organisers, through to providing a slightly larger t-shirt for the event.

Would you recommend this event to others?

Highly recommended, it is incredibly well-organised, lots of people, all with stories to tell and you get to walk through



Jason certainly wasn't 'dragon' his feet to complete this challenge

beautiful parts of the countryside. There are moments, like at three in the morning, when you really don't feel you can lift your legs over another branch on the floor, but the sense of achievement and the smile on your face as you cross the finish line is worth a few hours of discomfort. In fact, I'm planning on doing the event again, but I just need a couple of toe nails to grow back before I do!

Jason Boyer

In memory of my wife, Christine

The last 18 months were the most difficult of our lives as I supported my wife, Christine, following her diagnosis with Stage IV endometrial cancer. It is a less well-known cancer but nonetheless deadly for that. Chris faced all of this with her customary courage and humour, never complaining even when the treatments wore her down or made her feel very poorly.



Christine Burns

During this time she received excellent care at the UCH Cancer Centre, benefiting from the complementary therapies available through the Support &

Information Service. She found the 'Look Good Feel Better' class very helpful, not to mention the massage therapy received during one of her long chemo treatments. She was also able to have a hairpiece and found it amusing to tell friends that her husband was sleeping with Raquel Welch, as the hair was from the 'Raquel Welch' wig collection!

Neither of us realised at the time that these therapies and the wig service were made possible by the UCH Cancer Fund, but were very grateful that they were available, together with the quiet area where you can find sanctuary (and tea) during long visits to the Hospital.

My wife was a serving police officer with the Met Police up to the time of her death and she was honoured by colleagues past and present who came in large numbers to the service funeral held near Regent's Park. A collection at the church raised over £1,500 which the family were keen to donate to the UCH Cancer Fund whose services had really helped Christine, and will continue to benefit others in the future.

Andrew Burns

Art Exhibition and Print Sale: Manou Shama-Levy

Diagnosed with advanced metastasised cancer, Manou Shama-Levy was told that her prospects were extremely limited. By combining her chemotherapy treatment at UCH with a highly nutritious diet, yoga and regular walks with her dog Banjo, she was not only able to reverse the progression of the disease but also destroy all evidence of the metastasis some two years on.

"The idea that you can contribute to your recovery is terribly important."

One day, while waiting for a follow-up appointment with her oncologist at the UCH Cancer Centre, she was reading a copy of Impact and soon found herself chatting with another patient who was organising a fundraising gala in aid of the UCH Cancer Fund.

"I thought: 'what a lovely idea!' And was trying to think what I could do that was more personal to me, as I wasn't a mad party-giver. Then it dawned on me..."

This conversation then prompted her to host an event of her own, playing to her strengths by organising an exhibition of her work and a sale of her etchings – despite not having shown her work in nearly a decade. The event took place over



Manou Shama-Levy, photographed with her work in her home

two weekends in July and was held at her home in Tufnell Park, which also serves as her studio and exhibition space. In total she sold over 150 pieces to friends and family, raising over £5,000.

As Manou had also benefited from complementary therapies including homeopathy and reflexology, offered via the Support and Information Service during her treatment at UCH, she decided that proceeds from her art sale

would go towards continuing these services for patients at UCH, in addition to providing new equipment to the Cancer Centre on the 2nd floor.

Interested in organising an event to support of the UCH Cancer Fund in your community? Contact owain.rees@uclh.nhs.uk

Maya & Esme host a Great British Bake Sale

How did you hear about the UCH Cancer Fund?

We heard about the Cancer Fund because Esme's father is a Sarcoma specialist at UCH and inspired us to raise money for the Support and Information Service at UCH.

What fundraising activity did you choose?

Well, every year our street organises a big party that we always have a stall at, and this year we thought it would be lots of fun to host our own stall, now that we felt old enough.

We decided to sell cakes because we enjoy baking together, and have a 'spin the wheel' game where people could win sweets and toys. We knew that having a



Maya and Esme at their street party stall.

game on the stall would be successful, especially with younger children.

How did you prepare for the street party, and what did you do to promote it?

We contacted the UCH Cancer Fund and they provided us with t-shirts, balloons, leaflets and donation boxes for the event, then we spent a day preparing our stall by making posters, baking and building our 'spin the wheel' game.

Would you recommend this activity to others?

Definitely! Raising money for charity is a very fulfilling deed and makes you feel really good about yourself. In fact it was so much fun, we wish we could have found another event like this to have raised more money!

Maya Sutton-Patel & Esme Whelan

News from Companies and Trusts

50km in a day! Congratulations and well done to Team Amplifi for completing the 50km Peak District Trekfest challenge, raising over £8,000 for the UCH Cancer Fund.

My name is Beth Eustice and I work for Amplifi, a media investment company and corporate partner of the UCH Cancer Fund. The Trekfest Amplifi team wanted to continue to help UCH as part of our ongoing fundraising for the charity, by taking on a challenge bigger than most of us expected! Here is my encounter of our Trekfest challenge on behalf of the Amplifi employees who took part in the event.

On 3rd September, Team Amplifi travelled to the Peak District entering into the unknown. Twenty-eight hikers put on their boots and geared up ready for what we suspected to be a walk in the park – that it was not!

We started strong, in high spirits, all in the name of a fantastic cause. Then shortly after, the hills began, and the heavens completely opened. Stocking up on sweets, and an array of snack bars at the first check point, we knew (quite literally) we had a real uphill battle ahead of us, trekking on through the elements, with sheer determination to reach each peak. After the first three hours we reached our biggest peak at Kinder Scout, where a mist descended over the hilltops. Soggy, cold, and beginning to ache, we felt victorious at the knowledge we had reached the top.

The descents were often worse than the peaks, wading through rivers, muddy puddles, and eroding rocks, but the team atmosphere brought the whole experience to life. Colleagues that had never spoken before in the office environment helped one another through, with hand-holding, bandage applying, and the odd motivational song to boost morale.

As the final countdown approached, the night sky turned dark, and that's when



Amplifi at the start of the trekking challenge

the real challenge began. We stumbled through treacherous terrain, colossal inclines, while battling torrential rain, howling winds, and even a field of angry goats! However, with the end goal in mind of making a difference to UCH cancer patient services, we remained strong - with everyone crossing the finishing line in under 15 hours!

A tough challenge by any means, but all for an amazing charity.

Beth Eustice, Amplifi staff member

Trekfest - the experience was like no other, we really did think it was just going to be walking up and down a few hills but it was climbing mountains in the pouring rain, it was extremely tough! But it was definitely all worth it in the end. We organised the trip for 28 of us to travel up to the Peak District and stay overnight in Hope. At times it got extremely hectic but once we were on that train with the team, looking out the window at the beautiful peaks, it was worth all the stress. We met some great people throughout the trip, getting to know colleagues from work that

we had never spoken to before. We helped each other through the highs and lows, the cowpats and the muddy puddles. It was a great way to really get to know Margaret from UCH and all the fantastic fundraising she gets involved with, she really is an amazing woman and great to work with. I think the Amplifi UCH Cancer Fund committee is definitely a stronger group now and we are really looking forward to doing more fundraising throughout the year for this great cause.

Georgina Tyler and Annie Moberly

“
Colleagues that
had never spoken
before in the office
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one another.”

The Magic of the Movies at DCM



We are delighted Digital Cinema Media (DCM), based on Euston Road, is hosting quarterly film screenings for young patients at UCH. Anastasia Takis, Marketing Manager at DCM, said: "DCM is proud to partner with our neighbour, University College Hospital, to host film screenings across the year in our private screening room. So far this year, we've worked with Twentieth Century Fox and The Walt Disney Company to show Alvin and the Chipmunks and The Jungle Book. We're excited to announce that the next screening will be Finding Dory. We hope that by working with UCH we can help their young patients to forget about their sickness and struggles, and escape for a few hours through the world of film."



Card from patients who attended the screening

The Great Unruly Bake Off

A big thank you to staff at digital advertising company, Unruly, for holding an office bake off competition which raised £242 for the UCH Cancer Fund. Alex Stafford at Unruly said: "UCH is a cause close to our hearts here at Unruly, as a very good friend and colleague of ours was diagnosed with AMPL, a rare type of leukaemia in December 2014. He is currently being looked after by the wonderful staff at UCH, and we wanted to help show our support for both him and the whole team at UCH for the incredible work they do."



The winning cake!

A huge thank you to Honest Burger on Tottenham Court Road for choosing to support the UCH Cancer Fund as part of their Honesty Box Day, which raised £435 to support cancer services across the Hospital.



Staff from the Tottenham Court Road branch of Honest Burger

Nominate us at your workplace or club

Does your workplace have a charity of the year? If so, please put the UCH Cancer Fund forward to be considered as your company's charity partner. A partnership with us can bring many benefits to your company whilst helping to raise vital funds to support cancer patients at UCH. Taking part in fundraising activities is a great way of team-building and getting to know your colleagues better. Please get

in touch to find out why you should choose us as your charity partner!

Are you a member of a club or group in your community? If so, you could help raise vital funds for us. Just contact our team and we will provide you with advice and all the fundraising materials you need.

For further information, please contact us at cancerfund@uclh.nhs.uk or on 020 3447 1885.

