

November 2007

The Peter Culverhouse Memorial Trust had another great year in 2007. Three separate events have allowed us to continue to provide significant support to both the SDBTT Astro Fund and the Princess Alice Hospice.

Robert James ran the 2007 Flora London Marathon on behalf of the PCMT, defying the hot weather (that always accompanies a PCMT fund raising event) to place 78th out of the field overall, and 25th in his age category. The generosity of sponsors, who supported both directly and via a special on line sponsorship facility, made this a major source of support for the PCMT. Nick Reeve organised the Future / Retro concert in South London – an evening of dinner and live music that played to standing room only. It was a fantastic night, involving an enormous amount of effort to bring together so many fantastic musicians (all of whom donated their time gratis). Ticket sales and a raffle raised significant amounts of money on the day, and the PCMT was a major beneficiary of this.

The annual golf day at Clandon Regis, organised by David and Yvonne, is now stretching the capacity of the golf club to its very limits. We had the highest ever attendance, with 14 teams of 4 golfers competing for the trophies generous donated again by Derek Wreay. There 97 attending the dinner in the evening, which serves not only as a fundraiser but as a reunion for the PCMT's many supporters. The raffle was a spectacular success breaking all records. The auction also added significantly to the money raised on the night, under the careful control of Bob Green. The 2008 golf day is set for Friday 13 June 2008. Contact David (david.culverhouse@bowood-leisure.co.uk) if you would like details.

Alongside the fund raising events, the PCMT continues to benefit from a steady stream of donations from its supporters. Each year, regular monthly and quarterly contributions (most of which are tax exempt) contribute about the same amount as our major fundraising events. This steady source of income is extremely important to the charity. For those who would like to make a contribution, details on how to donate (and the forms that allow us to be most tax efficient) are available on the web site www.pcmf.org (kept up to date by our designer, Justin Mitchell).

With all this year's fundraising activity, and with the investment income that the PCMT earns from its endowment, we have been able to make donations totalling £3318.57 to each of the two charities that we support. That is a near 27% increase on the donations that we were able to make in our first year of fund raising, four years ago, and the donations we have made to our beneficiaries have averaged a 6.1% rate of growth since we established the PCMT. We have, of course, also added to the endowment to enable us to provide a steady stream of income in future years. Full details of the accounts are on the [web site](#).

These donations are making a real difference. Our chosen research beneficiary, the SDBTT Astro Fund, is currently offering support to a new investigation into low grade gliomas, and our donations are the equivalent of 5% of the annual funding of this research. The project that the SDBTT have supported in previous years, run by Dr Jeremy Rees, has amassed considerable data. The researchers are in contact with a pharmaceutical company about possible drug development – full details of this can be found at the Astro Fund website www.astrofund.org.uk.

Meanwhile the Princess Alice Hospice is now firmly established in its newly built facilities. The Hospice continues to provide the excellent care and support that it did when Peter stayed there, and of course is still organising training and education for those involved in cancer care and treatment. The Hospice relies on private donations and its own fundraising efforts to raise 35% of the total necessary funds – which means it has to find just under £6,000 through fundraising every day of the year in order to stay open. The PCMT donations now amount to almost 60% of the donations that are required for a day's operation – 14 hours of care is able to be provided because of the generosity of the PCMT supporters. A medium term aim for the PCMT is to be able to provide a day's worth of funding. More details on the Princess Alice Hospice can be found at www.pah.org.uk.

Four years of fund raising has meant that the PCMT has given over £12,000 to research low grade gliomas, and over £12,000 to the Princess Alice Hospice. The endowment has grown by over £21,000 since the PCMT was established, and last year earned over £1,300 of income that directly benefitted our charities. The four founders, and David and Yvonne remain very grateful to everyone for their support – through sponsorship, helping out at events, contributing their time and effort (as Rob and Nick did in 2007), attending fundraisers, and making donations. We made a real difference in 2007, and we hope that we can continue this great momentum in 2008.

Finally, if you know of anyone who should be receiving this newsletter, and who is not on our mailing list, please feel free to get in touch directly, or visit the website.

Many thanks

Nick, Mark, Paul, and Tom