



Dear friends

Welcome to the sixth issue of *UCARE News*.

In this issue, we launch two exciting projects.

First, we are pleased to announce our first Research Fellowship, dedicated to our founding Chair, Ian Kirkham. The UCARE-Ian Kirkham Fellowship will give young scientists of exceptional promise the opportunity to conduct a research project of their own instigation and the opportunity to build an independent research career.

Secondly, we announce our commitment to raise funds for a new Urology Research Institute in Oxford which will ensure that the three main research components – basic sciences, translational medicine, and clinical and population-based research – allow us to close the loop and drive discovery from the bench to the bedside. Our vision to raise millions to create a world-leading centre for urological research would make sure the knowledge and technological advances are rapidly available to the global scientific community to enable rapid translation into medicines for patients.

We also welcome Lizzy Musgrove to the UCARE team. She will provide administrative support and assist us in developing our fundraising initiatives to increase our impact and efficiency.

Best wishes

Julian Briant
Chair, Board of Trustees

RAF Home Run

On 10th August, 2011 a team of twelve cyclists from the RAF's 78 Squadron, who fly Merlin EH101 helicopters, will recreate the escape route of an Allied servicemen through occupied Europe during WW2. This escape route is known as The Comète Line. This will involve a journey of over 850 miles across Holland, Belgium, France & Spain, which the team aim to do in 6 days. This will mark the 70th Anniversary of the first successful escape along The Comète Line.



The cyclists will retrace the route taken by one pilot in particular, ex-78 Squadron bomber pilot George Duffee, DFC who after 4 months of successfully evading capture returned to the UK. George Duffee (pictured centre left) went on to fly another 29 missions before the end of the war and went on to participate in the Berlin Airlift in 1948. The cyclists will be guided along the way by the grandchildren of those who helped British servicemen more than 60 years ago.



The Comète Line route

The team whilst taking up this amazing challenge are also raising money for UCARE, The British Red Cross (who gave support to POWs and the Escape Lines), and ELMS (Escape Lines Memorial).

To show your support please go to www.charitygiving.co.uk/exhomerun.



UCARE would like to say a special thank you to the RAF's 78 Squadron for their continued support. This event follows on from their '3 Peaks and a 80kg stretcher' challenge last year (pictured left) where they again raised both awareness and funds for

UCARE. If you are interested about reading more into the background of this remarkable story please go to www.ucare-cancer.org.uk or to our Facebook homepage.

Broughton Castle Garden Party

Join us at the home of our Patrons Lord and Lady Saye & Sele for the UCARE summer garden party on Saturday 18th June at 3pm.

This quintessentially English family event includes a combination of entertainment, refreshments with the most spectacular backdrop of Broughton Castle near Banbury. Please contact us if you would like to sponsor any part of this event, could make a cake or some jam for a stall, donate a raffle prize, or would like to help in any way.

Tickets: Adult – £15; Child – £7.50; Family ticket – £40. Parents of young children, please note that Broughton Castle has a moat.

Contact Val or Lizzy for tickets: email ucare@ucare-oxford.org.uk or call 01865 767777

Swim a Mountain!



A big thanks to Thame Swimming Club for organising their 'Swim a Mountain' event, with 56 swimmers, aged 9 to 18, taking part.

First to finish swimming Everest was George Finch, Boys Squad Capt, closely followed by Boys Squad Vice Capt James Goetz – both completing 354 lengths of 8850m. They both did a 150m cool down swim to complete 9km this evening. First to finish a mountain was James Newton who did 89 lengths to swim Mount Kosciusko, (it's in Australia, apparently). Their Fundraising & Swim 21 secretary, Greg Smith, did a fantastic job organising this event which raised £950 for UCARE.

Boat race winner

Congratulations to Oxford who won the 2011 XChanging Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race. Oxford crew member, Simon Hislop is a supporter of UCARE.

Simon began rowing at school aged 15, and won the Student Coxed Fours at Henley in 2004 and the Visitors Challenge Cup in 2008. He was selected in the Great Britain VIII for the U23 World Championships in 2005, but had to pull out due to injury. He was diagnosed with testicular cancer in April 2010, but after surgery is back to full health. Keen to raise awareness of urological cancers, Simon explains: "*the motivation behind not keeping the whole cancer thing to myself: it doesn't have the profile that I think such a cancer should. Young guys just aren't really aware of the need for checking themselves and what a significant benefit early intervention has on the management of the disease*".

UCARE Golf Day

UCARE holds its 3rd charity golf day on the 9th September 2011 at Studley Wood Golf Club.

The cost per person is £125, and we really hope that you will be able to bring a team and join us for a great day. If you would like to play as an individual and cannot bring a team we will arrange for you to join a 4 ball. The day includes breakfast, a round of golf, a delicious meal, wine, prizes, celebrity and media guests and an auction. If you were able to support us, or sponsor part of the day the Trustees would be hugely grateful. Please contact Val or Lizzy 01865 767777 or ucare@ucare-oxford.org.uk

Successful Spin-a-thon



Dr Patrick Pollard, a researcher in Oxford, organised a 3 hour "spin-a-thon" (exercise bike ride) to raise

funds for UCARE. This was held on Saturday 26th March and raised over £1,200. Our thanks go to Patrick and all who took part for such a successful fundraising initiative.

New Years Honours

Our heartfelt congratulations to Clive Stone who was awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours 2011. Many of you will know Clive, who is a patient himself, and who was a founding volunteer with UCARE. Clive also chairs FROG, Friends of Renal Oncology Group, the Oxfordshire support group for people with kidney cancer.



LOTTERY FUNDED

Funding from the Big Lottery Fund has enabled the purchase of a web integrated relationship management and fundraising system. This will have massive potential gain in our forecasting, planning and fundraising, and therefore, the research that we might support and the raising of the public profile of urological cancers. Together we can fulfill our mission of raising funds for research and raising public awareness.

As featured on Britain's Got Talent: "Oxford's finest sing Lady GaGa, well that's *Out of The Blue!*" Out of the Blue also sang for UCARE at the Holywell Music Room in Oxford in February... it was a fantastic evening.

These are just a few photos and events, and our grateful thanks go to everyone who supported and raised funds for UCARE – please keep the photos and updates coming.



Seven new projects

Thanks to your generosity and support we are able to support seven new projects.

1 Dr Patrick Pollard
Metabolic transformation in hereditary renal cancer: *identification of novel pathways and targets*

Normal cells have the potential to undergo transformation into cancer cells. Dr Pollard and his team have generated cells which mimic this defect, analysing changes in metabolism and gene expression that may contribute to cancer. Such information will be used to identify targets amenable to therapeutic intervention in hereditary and other renal cancer types.

2 Dr David Mole
Analysis of HIF target genes in VHL deficient clear cell renal cell carcinoma

By discovering new genes involved in kidney cancer Dr Mole and his team aim to identify novel therapeutic targets and new tests to predict tumour behaviour and response to current treatments.

3 Dr Val Macaulay
A screen for proteins that influence sensitivity to IGF-1R inhibition

We are studying a protein called IGF-1R, which helps prostate cancers grow and spread, and we are testing new IGF-1R blocking drugs in the clinic. We hope this project will tell us what makes prostate cancer cells sensitive to IGF-1R blockers, and help us to design clinical trials of combination treatments for prostate cancer.

4 Dr Ester Hammond
Radio sensitisation of renal cell carcinoma through the induction of autophagy

Preliminary data suggests that radiation-induced killing of renal carcinoma cells can be increased by addition of an agent that induces autophagic cell death. Dr Hammond's team will look at the function and benefits of combining STF-62247 with radiation as an effective means of killing renal carcinoma cells in culture.

5 Chris Blick
Mechanisms of response and resistance to therapeutic agents in renal cell cancer

Many kidney tumours fail to respond or develop resistance to treatment. Mr Blick aims to analyse and profile the genetic differences of kidney tumours and identify key pathways which may explain altered drug sensitivity and drug resistance.

6 Rob McCormick
Molecular prediction of response to anti-angiogenic drugs in renal cancer

This study aims to investigate the genes and proteins switched on in kidney tumour cells when they are treated with new anti-cancer agents, and to study the changes that occur as cells develop resistance to these therapies.

7 Isha Prematilleke
Lymphovascular invasion in testicular seminomas

Seminoma is the commonest malignant tumour arising in the testis. It most often spreads to the lymph nodes first. This project aims to quantify the improvement in detection of lymphovascular invasion by the tumour using immunohistochemical staining for D2-40. The objective is to improve the accuracy of detection using this method and see if it has a bearing on the subsequent management and outcome in these patients.



“UCARE provides an opportunity to give to cancer research in a more personal way, while at the same time knowing that the research carried out in Oxford will be of benefit to people around the world.”

David Cranston, UCARE trustee

Information is power

Your donation will make a difference...

£50 could pay for educational materials to raise awareness or urological cancers and help people make informed decisions about their treatment.

£100 could pay for a testicular self-examination model.



Visit CancerLinks

Visit www.cancerlinks.org.uk: the local gateway to information and support for people with cancer, their carers and family. UCARE supports the CancerLinks website because it provides up-to-date information, and is run by patients and healthcare professionals.

Please donate today



I would like to support the fight against cancer

Research is often complicated, time-consuming and expensive but it provides hope for patients and their families, and leads to more effective ways of treating and preventing cancer. **Please help by giving what you can.**

I would like to give a donation to UCARE of:

£10 £100 £250

My choice £

Please make cheques payable to UCARE

I would like to give a monthly donation to help UCARE plan for the future:

£10 £25

My choice £

(Before you send your completed slip to us, please ask your bank or building society to set up your monthly standing order gift and give them our banking details: CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME10 4JQ, Account Number 00017501, Sort Code 40-52-40. To help us keep accurate records, please give your full name as the reference.)

Title: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Email: _____

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I am a UK taxpayer and I want UCARE to reclaim the tax I have already paid on my gift(s) from 6 April 2007 until further notice. (You must pay income tax / capital gains tax equal to the amount we reclaim on your gifts).

Sp11

Please tick the box if you prefer not to receive updates about our work. We will not share your details with other organisations.

Thank you



www.ucare-oxford.org.uk

UCARE (Oxford) is a registered charity, number 1120887.

Please return this form to: UCARE, HIFU Unit, Churchill Hospital, Oxford, OX3 7LJ

How you can help



Have you heard about easyfundraising yet?

It's the easiest way to help raise money for UCARE!

If you already shop online with retailers such as Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, Comet, iTunes, eBay or HMV, then we need you to sign up for free to raise money while you shop!

You shop directly with the retailer as you would normally, but if you sign up to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ucare for free and use the links on the easyfundraising site to take you to the retailer, then a percentage of whatever you spend comes directly to us at no extra cost to yourself. Spend £100 with M&S online or Amazon and you raise £2.50 for us. £100 with WH Smith puts £2.00 in our pocket, and so on. There's over 2,000 retailers on their site, and some of the donations can be as much as 15% of your purchase.



If you would like to support UCARE, please complete and return the form in this issue of UCARE News, visit www.ucare-oxford.org.uk or call Val Berry on 01865 767777. Thank you.

UCARE (Urology Cancer Research and Education) is an independent, Oxford-based charity committed to improving the treatment and care of urological cancer patients, through research and education.



“ It's so important to support UCARE as they are dealing with the lesser-known cancers. ”

Simon Burnett – UCARE Patron

Your name here...

By sponsoring an event, information leaflet or newsletter, your company name would be in a prominent position. Whether you're a small, local business or a multi-national concern, we look forward to working with you as a UCARE partner.

Contact Val Berry on 01865 767777 to find out more.

Fundraising Group

UCARE has moved forward significantly since our inception. As part of revising our strategy, we are reorganising our fundraising group. Our hope is that you will want to join us in volunteering to be a member of the group in 2011.

Our plan is to have a Fundraising Group which, amongst other activities, will support individuals or smaller groups raising funds or helping out in a variety of ways.

You may want to be involved on a regular basis or just to help out as and when you can. Whatever your involvement, you will be helping UCARE to raise both funds and awareness and will be given a warm welcome.

Contact Val Berry on 01865 767777 to find out more.

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www.ucare-oxford.org.uk

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