



The New Sir William Rous Unit at Kingston Hospital

June 2009

Dear Supporter

We wrote to you several months ago to tell you that work on the new Sir William Rous Unit was completed and that the building was being commissioned and would be open to patients from June 2008. We are delighted to advise you that the building did indeed open to patients in June of last year, shortly followed by the official opening by HRH Princess Alexandra in July.

We thought it would be helpful to write to keep you in the picture about the progress of the Unit, and the difference it has made to patients and staff in such a short space of time.

Jan Morrison OBE, Lead Cancer nurse at Kingston Hospital said "The new Sir William Rous Unit is a joy to work in for the cancer support nurses. It has a very calm and caring atmosphere. We especially love having quiet rooms where we can take patients and relatives for private discussion and support. It has also made a huge difference for patients who can now receive their chemotherapy treatment in the unit (provided by our partners The Royal Marsden) and the Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service has also proved immensely helpful."

A patient said: "I would like to say how pleased and impressed I was with my experience at the Sir William Rous Unit, especially the empathy and professionalism shown to me by the whole team."

Archana Sood, Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Manager, said “We want to ensure that people affected by cancer have access to good quality, comprehensive and appropriate information and support. In the time we have been open we have met over 400 visitors. Queries have ranged from visitors seeking information about their cancer diagnosis to people who are anxious about changes in their bodies which they feel may be a symptom of a cancer. The Service is available Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. No appointment is necessary and visitors will be greeted by myself or a trained volunteer.”

We are tremendously grateful to our partners from The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust for managing the chemotherapy suite, and to Macmillan Cancer Support for managing the Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Centre.

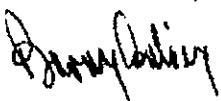
A patient who recently transferred her chemotherapy from another hospital to Kingston said of The Royal Marsden’s treatment “It is such a calm atmosphere here and much less busy than where I was before. It doesn’t feel like a hospital either and it is great to have it so much closer to home.”

Although we have raised the £4.5million required to build and equip the new Sir William Rous Unit we are keeping the Appeal open and will continue to raise money for the Unit. This is because we are very aware that we will need to update the equipment used in the unit as new methods of diagnosis and treatment for cancer become available.

We would be delighted if you would like to continue to support the Sir William Rous Unit, and you can do this in a number of ways; from a donation using the enclosed form, to a sponsored event, to remembering the Kingston Can Appeal in your will. If you would like any further information please contact Barry Couling, the Appeal Manager, whose details are on the letterhead.

In view of your support for the Kingston Can Appeal over many years, we thought you might also wish to know about the Trust’s application for Foundation Trust status and we are enclosing a leaflet for your information. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Trust please complete and return the reply.

Yours sincerely



Barry Couling
Appeal Manager