



Friday, January 24th 2014

Press Release

Patients set to benefit from specialist equipment thanks to Masonic donation

A FORMER Cardiac patient has presented the Unit he was treated on with specialist equipment to help patients in the same position.

Peter Clay, Worshipful Master of Cleveleys Park Masonic Lodge, was treated at the Day Case Unit at the Lancashire Cardiac Centre last month. He wanted to help the Unit and so contacted all Masonic Lodges in the North Fylde area.

Thanks to funding from the Mark Master Masons, Peter was able to buy a Roche CoaguChek XS machine for bedside INR testing which is used to test blood in patients on Warfarin.

He said: "At first we thought the machine was going to cost £1,000 but we managed to get it down to £300 including VAT. I also got some strips for the machine which were about £120.

"I was treated on the Unit in December after having a DC Cardioversion [which regulates the heart rate]. When I was on the Unit I spoke to Sam about what they might need and she said it would be great to have another INR machine because there could be long waits for patients who used the existing machine."

Peter, who is 67 and lives in North Shore, continued: "We're hoping to be able to purchase further equipment for the Unit. The Mark Masons have donated money for this piece of equipment and have also said they will match donations made by the North Fylde Group. Wyre Lodge has also offered a further donation so we're hoping to be able to purchase more vital equipment soon."

The equipment was accepted on the Trust's behalf by charity Blue Skies Hospitals Fund.

Cardiology Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Sam Kilmurray, said: “Currently we have one machine which is used across the whole of Cardiology.

“This means that there can often be a sizeable wait for patients. There can be twenty or thirty patients waiting for the machine in one session and some patients will have further procedures dependant on the results of the finger prick test; so it’s really important to do the test as quickly as possible.

“Thank you so much to Mr Clay and the Masonic community which donated money to buy this machine. It will be really well used and will provide a better patient experience.”



PIC: L-R Worshipful Master of Cleveleys Park Lodge Peter Clay, Cardiology Advanced Practitioner Sam Kilmurray, Head of Fundraising Kathy Ancell and Publicity Officer for the Fylde Group of Mark Master Masons Bob Boal.

For further information about this Press Release, please call Heather Eckton, Communications Officer, on 01253 655614 or email heather.eckton@bwh.nhs.uk

Find us on:

www.blueskieshospitalsfund.co.uk

www.twitter.com/BlueSkiesFund

www.facebook.com/BlueSkiesHospitalsFund