

# The Gloucestershire Chest Fund Ltd.

Greetings Friends and Supporters

The barbecue at Dr Peter Roscoe's lovely house in Pamington was an outstanding success in spite of slightly uncooperative weather. 47 friends and supporters attended for a delightful afternoon of food wine and friendship. We met a number of people who will be able to help us in our new project and the afternoon raised over £300.00.

## **A Big "Thank You to Peter and Elaine Roscoe".**

### **Now for the 'BIG ONE'**

In the last newsletter I hinted that we might be about to undertake something very special. Well we are!

The Consultant Chest Physicians of Cheltenham General and Gloucestershire Royal Hospitals have asked us to raise the money to provide Gloucestershire with an Endobronchial Ultrasound service. This is a wonderful piece of equipment that will diagnose lung cancer **quickly** and accurately without the need for intrusive surgery. The technique is widely used in U.S.A. and Europe but is available in only two centres in the U.K. i.e. Edinburgh and Cambridge. **We want Gloucestershire to be next.**

I'm not competent to describe the procedure so I asked Dr. Ian Mortimore of Cheltenham General Hospital if he would kindly describe the technique in 'Layman's terms':



Dr. Ian Mortimore Bsc. PhD. MRCP  
Respiratory Disease Consultant

### **A new weapon in the fight against lung cancer**

Once lung cancer is suspected, patients have chest x-rays and CT scans, which can confirm the presence of abnormal tissue. However, to make a firm diagnosis of lung cancer, a biopsy of abnormal tissue is required. Conventionally, this can be performed by bronchoscopy, in which a tube is passed through the nose and into the central airways of the lungs. If abnormal tissue is visible it can be biopsied. Peripheral lesions in the lungs can often be biopsied using a needle passed through the skin and chest wall. However, if abnormal tissue is central within the chest and not visible at bronchoscopy, at present, an operation performed at a regional cardiothoracic centre is required to obtain tissue.

Endobronchial ultrasound guided needle biopsy is a new technique, which can obtain tissue at bronchoscopy when the tumour is not visible within the airways. The ultrasound probe detects abnormal tissue and a needle can be passed painlessly from the bronchoscope through the airway in order to obtain a biopsy specimen. This technique, which can be performed locally, is a significant advance both for diagnosis and staging of lung cancer.

The Trustees of the Gloucestershire Chest Fund have agreed to launch a major fund raising appeal for 2007/8 to purchase this equipment, which will cost in excess of £80,000

**How can you help?**

**P.T.O.**



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**Make a donation.** Whatever you can afford will be gratefully received.

**Make a regular payment promise** - £3.00 per month or more lets us reclaim a income tax if you are a U.K. tax payer.

**Make a legacy** – Please remember the Fund in your will – let your passing benefit others.

**Donations in lieu of floral tributes** – When you lose a loved one why not let others benefit?

Are you able to set up a small group of helpers in your family, office or factory? Please organise:

**Coffee Morning, Beetle Drive, Tabletop sale, Car Boot sale, Raffle, Sponsored Event.**

If you are able to spare 2 or 3 hours a month please let me know.



## Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>. November

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>. November 2007 is C.O.P.D. day in England.

Jo Astbury will be in the Beechwood Shopping Centre in Cheltenham with a Gloucestershire Chest Fund display and goods for sale. Why don't you stop by and say 'Hello'?

On the same day I will be in Eastgate Market Precinct. Come and say 'Hi'

## Cheese and Wine Party & Annual Draw

This popular annual event will be held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup>. December 2007 at St. Georges Hall, Brockworth. Please reserve the date in your diary.

### Help us to save money

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter please let me know. The newsletter is not 'junk mail'. It is only sent to those who have expressed an interest in the Gloucestershire Chest Fund and who have asked to be kept up to date with our activities.

Last September I sent draw tickets to over 160 supporters of the Fund and I'm sorry to say that almost a third did not reply. Postage costs are high and we do not wish to waste money. If you no longer wish to help or buy draw tickets please let me know.

Best Wishes  
Ron Hannam  
Fundraiser

**Dr. Mortimore's article says it all. We have only to raise the money**

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