



Manchester breaks its fundraising record

The President of the Insurance Institute of Manchester, David Barton-Sharratt, presented a cheque for £11,600 to The Insurance Charities recently.

The Manchester institute worked tirelessly during 2008 to raise a record amount. The first Manchester Insurance Awards, held in September 2008 was just one event that raised a significant amount of money for The Insurance Charities – £8000 was raised from this event alone. It also raised over £3000 at its annual dinner in November 2008, attended by over 700 guests.

David Barton-Sharratt said "We are delighted to have exceeded previous amounts raised for The Insurance Charities. The Inaugural Manchester Insurance Awards and Summer Ball, in addition to the traditional annual dinner, all contributed to this worthwhile cause. Given the current economic downturn, it is satisfying to see that the hard work of everyone involved has gone to raising funds that will assist insurance industry employees who are in need."



• Cheque: Charities president, Tony Alderman (right) with David Barton-Sharratt.

Lutine Lineslip Regatta backs the Charities

The Insurance Charities is delighted to be one of the nominated charities for this year's Lutine Lineslip Regatta, which is the largest and most prestigious sailing event for the insurance community.

On 3 to 4 June teams from the insurance industry will come together on the Solent for the 10th staging of the Lutine Lineslip Regatta. The Regatta was established in 1999 and is popular among yachtsmen and women in the insurance community with 14 boats taking part last year and

various fundraising activities with an opportunity for those participating to find out a little more about the charities. All the proceeds will be shared with the Jubilee Sailing Trust.

"We rely on help from within the insurance industry, both in the form of donations and spreading the word. Being involved in such an exciting event allows us to raise funds and hopefully raise awareness too," said the Charities' marketing manager Rachel Mason.

The regatta is open to crews chartering a yacht and also to companies and individuals with their own yachts who wish to participate as a private entry. The charter division will race on single class of yacht, a fleet of Beneteau 40.7 racer/cruiser yachts with race sails

and the option of spinnakers.

Further information about participating can be obtained from Simon Boulding of Britannia Corporate Events on 02380 458 900 or simon@britanniaevents.co.uk.



• Ocean Wave: one of the crews in last year's regatta taking a breather.

more expected this time. It is run by the Lloyd's Yacht Club in conjunction with Britannia Events and with *Post Magazine* as its media partner.

One of the highlights of the regatta will be the impressive gala dinner held at the prestigious Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes. The evening will be a chance to celebrate the successes from the day's sailing and will feature



Contacting The Insurance Charities

✉ 20 Aldermanbury, London
EC2V 7HY

☎ 020 7606 3763

& 020 7762 6482

Fax: 020 7600 1170

info@theinsurancecharities.org.uk

Those we help: Alex

Nick has spent more than 20 years in insurance. He lives in Shropshire with his wife and two young sons, the younger of whom – Alex – suffers from an aggressive form of cancer. As well as the obvious concerns for their son, Nick and his wife have needed to juggle their finances in order to cope with the additional financial pressure of regular trips to and from Birmingham Children's Hospital, which is 60 miles from their home.

Many people have supported the family during this difficult time and The Insurance Charities is providing funds to ease matters for them financially. We are also helping with the cost of a holiday to give them some quality time together.



• Dr Alex: turning the tables on the doctors and nurses at Birmingham Children's Hospital with a cheeky smile.

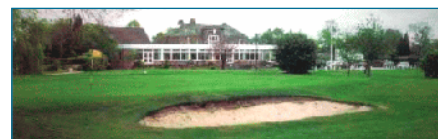
Nick and his wife long for the time when they can simply enjoy being an ordinary family. In the meantime, the support we can channel their way ensures that financial pressure is not an additional concern.

If you know of anyone in similar circumstances please contact the office. All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence.

Potteries bound for 2009 golf tournament final

Now's the time to line up your local institute or company to take part in the annual Insurance Charities Golf Competition, which has raised a significant amount to benefit insurance people in need over the past seven years.

This year's final is being hosted in the Potteries by the Insurance Institute of Stoke as part of its centenary year programme. It will be held on Monday 14 September at Newcastle-under-Lyme Golf Club, details of which can be found at www.newcastlelodgegolfclub.co.uk. The club has just concluded its own centenary year celebrations.



• The 19th beckons: a view back towards the clubhouse at Newcastle-under-Lyme.

If there isn't anything yet in place in your area, why not organise a qualifying competition with your colleagues or friends to be held by mid-August? Alternatively, you can link an existing local institute or corporate golf day to this national competition. If we can help in any way, please contact Rachel Mason in the office.

News Round-up news...news...news

Legacies nowadays form an important part of charitable income and The Insurance Charities is no exception. In the past, we have benefited from several very generous legacies and would like to develop this income stream further. If you think you can help the Insurance Charities in this way and would like any advice please contact Annali-Joy Thornicroft or Rachel Mason who will be pleased to advise you.

Local institutes have always been a key part of the Charities' nationwide network and this year we want to meet as many of them as possible either at one of their regular meetings or by speaking at annual dinners. Already, several institutes have invited the Charities to speak at their dinners and we have been delighted with the response. If you think your members would like to know more about the work of the Charities in this way, please contact the office.

During 2009 The Insurance Charities will be launching a new drive to contact employers. Many firms are very generous in supporting The Insurance Charities but others, including some large

firms, have lost touch, often as a consequence of the upheaval that follows merger and acquisition. A special sub-group of the Marketing and Fundraising Committee is working on this and is aiming to meet as many employers as possible to explain how the Charities can help their staff and how they can help the Charities.

The response to the survey of local institutes carried out last year was very helpful. As a result of the issues raised by this, the Charities has circulated a further questionnaire focusing on four key topics: publicity materials, a new DVD, the newsletter and the website. We are hoping that local institutes will raise this at their regular meetings to get feedback from as many members as possible. If you would like a copy of the questionnaire or think you can help with gathering feedback, please contact Rachel Mason.



• Leaflets: do they work for your institute?

Charities Day plans are taking shape

Plans for Insurance Charities Day – on both sides of the Irish Sea – are taking shape.

In the Republic of Ireland, Insurance Charities Day remains in its traditional place of the first Friday in March (6 March this year) and features the popular and hugely successful lunch in Dublin as its centrepiece. The president of the Insurance Charities, Tony Alderman, will be supporting the event which raised over €24,000 last year.

Insurance Charities Day in the United Kingdom will be on Friday 19 June. It was moved to this early summer date last year, a change that has been popular with local institutes so

you can now pencil in the 3rd Friday of June as soon as you get your new diaries every year.

In London, the Charities staff will be joined by the president, many of the directors and staff from insurers, brokers, loss adjusters and service providers on another sponsored lunchtime walk through the historic streets of the City of London. Once again, they will be joined by a colourful, and very loud, town crier. Due to the increasing popularity of the event, there are likely to be two starting points this year, both with knowledgeable guides to lead them. More details will be available soon.

The office would love to hear about



• Oyez, Oyez: the Charities is all set to catch the eye on the streets of the City of London on Insurance Charities Day in June.

plans for events elsewhere and are also able to give advice and provide a range of publicity materials to support local events.

Those who help: Mike Hillier, Southampton



In the first of a new series focusing on the vital role of our local representatives, Mike Hillier writes about his work on the south coast.

I became the Honorary Charities Representative for the Southampton Institute in 1993. The existing representative wanted to retire and, having just completed my year as President of the Insurance Institute of Southampton, I volunteered to take over the role, with no real knowledge of what was involved.

At that time, we had half a dozen local beneficiaries, mainly widows who had outlived their husband's pensions, who received a little financial help from the Widows and Orphans Fund plus a parcel of provisions at Christmas. Fundraising was just a raffle at the annual dinner and at Christ-

mas. This mix was common among local institutes at that time.

In recent years, the beneficiaries have changed and now mainly arise from the illness or disability of an employee or a member of their family. When requested by the Charities, I visit new enquirers for assistance and help them complete the application form. I also visit existing beneficiaries once a year to obtain the information needed for an assessment of their continuing financial needs and, with the help of my colleagues on Council, continue to distribute the Christmas hampers to existing beneficiaries.

I also lead our fundraising team in Southampton. With the help of our dinner committee, which runs our successful Kings and Queens game, and our sports and social committee, which includes a raffle at its events, such as quiz nights and skittles evenings, we have managed to increase our local contribution to the Charities from a few hundred pounds in my early days to around £10,000 every year.

Charities Day is our big opportunity to reach out to the majority of staff in our industry. We try to get local offices to run fundraising events. We started a specific Charities Day golf competition last year and hope, this year, to promote a sponsored walk.

My third role is to try to raise awareness of the Charities among our local

insurance community. We frequently display the Charities' leaflets at our various events, including lecture meetings. Sometimes, I am invited to speak about the work of the Charities during these events, particularly by our colleagues from The Personal Finance Society

At the end of the day, I am pleased to be able to put something back into an industry that has served me well. The highlights of my role, so far, have been when my local Institute was awarded the Charities Centenary Shield in 2007, being elected the first Honorary Vice President for Life of the Southampton Institute, in part in recognition of my work for The Insurance Charities and successfully establishing the Charities National Golf Competition. This now raises a meaningful amount each year and also helps raise awareness of the Charities among people in the industry who might not, otherwise, be aware of it.

Spread the word
about
The Insurance Charities
Please forward this
newsletter onto colleagues
or let us know of other
people who should be
added to the mailing list

info@theinsurancecharities.org.uk