



# Newsletter

Addenbrooke's Liver Transplant Association

May 2005

Website: [www.alta.org.uk](http://www.alta.org.uk)

## Hello....

Good news – we have a third Liver Transplant Co-ordinator Tine Henson. She will be familiar to many of you as she spent five years nursing in the High Dependency Unit.

If you need help or advice, call Esther, Ingela or Tine on 01223 216672



## And Goodbye

It was not often that Ethel was lost for words during her 27 years nursing at Addenbrooke's, but she was speechless when she saw how many friends, colleagues and ex-patients attended her retirement party.



Ethel is pictured with the ALTA contingent standing, Ann Pitman, Olive Tierney, Ethel, Roy Pitman and Elaine Burnett and sitting Joyce Newby and Bridgette Eggo

## £5000 donation to Ward C9



On Saturday 12 February 2005, Shelly (pictured) held a fancy dress party in South Woodham Ferrers, Essex, to celebrate her 'new life', a year on from her emergency liver transplant. The party was also a chance to raise money for Addenbrooke's Hospital and to raise awareness of organ donation.

Shelly and her family donated the whole proceeds of the evening to Addenbrooke's, a total of £5,000. They were overwhelmed with the generosity of family and friends and would like to thank everyone for donating prizes and making donations. Full story on the ALTA website

## ALTA events

During the last few months many of you have been busy organising a series of fund raising and **donorcard** promotional events on behalf of ALTA. Please accept our thanks.

The Quiz Night in aid of our World Transplant Games Team was a great success. Thanks to all who took part, and all who donated prizes for the raffle and made cash donations. Mandy and Jim Watson organised a Charity Auction and a Disco and Raffle in the Newark area. Angie Blease and Chris held a very successful Jumble Sale in Soham

## From Clinic 5 to the Royal Albert Hall

The CREAM reunion concert at the Royal Albert Hall - London May - 2nd 3rd 5th 6th - 2005 appears to have been motivated by sentiment rather than money. Eric Clapton is said to have agreed to it because of his ex-bandmates' ill-health: bass-player Jack Bruce recently had a liver transplant and drummer Ginger Baker reportedly suffers from arthritis.

Jack is an inspiration to us all.

## Sources of help and support.

Some readers have asked how to find out more about coping with their liver conditions. In this issue we cover Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis. PSC Support is the UK Support Group for sufferers and their families. The group's objectives are :-

- To support patients during their illness with information regarding the disease and its treatment.
- To make contact links available so that PSC sufferers and their families/friends can keep in touch.
- To collect and collate information concerning the number of PSC patients and the pattern of treatment.
- To keep abreast of research into the treatment of and/or causes of PSC, and to disseminate this information to members.
- To provide a forum for patients to discuss their illness, and to provide feedback to medical professionals responsible for their treatment.

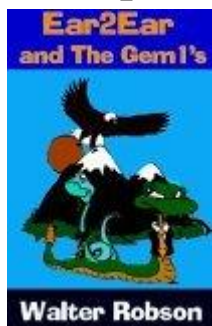
Their web site is at [www.psc-support.demon.co.uk](http://www.psc-support.demon.co.uk)

TO JOIN the PSC Support Group, you should contact its Secretary, Ginny Jones, 43 Whiteclosegate, CARLISLE, Cumbria. CA3 0JA. Tel: 01228 595457. [cmjones@supanet.com](mailto:cmjones@supanet.com)

Chairman and Treasurer, Ivor Sweigler, 39 Belvoir Road, Dulwich, London SE22 0QY. Tel / Fax 020 8693 8789 or 020 8637 0592. [pscsupport@aol.com](mailto:pscsupport@aol.com)

More support groups will be covered in future issues.

## Transplant Patient becomes Children's Author



Following his liver transplant at Addenbrookes, Walter Robson has gone on to write a prize-winning book for children aged 9+. Walter has offered to promote his book at ALTA events, donating the profits to our funds.

*Synopsis: A mile high Tsunami, caused by mankind's inability to stop global warming, destroys the known world. When a new danger threatens the survivors their only hope is - Celia, a female, talking, snake detective? Together with three human children they face adventure and terrible danger until finally they discover the awful truth.*

ISBN 1-904988-05-9

## Dates for your diary

12 June 2005	*Remembrance Service at Ely Cathedral, at 2.00pm To celebrate those in East Anglia who have donated their organs to help others
3-10 July 2005	Transplant Week. A <b>donorcard</b> promotional event on the concourse at Addenbrookes is planned.
16-24 July 2005	World Transplant Games (More info from Nina Herbert, 07967 300457)
25-28 Aug 2005	British Transplant Games 2005, Loughborough
9 October 2005	ALTA Celebration Day and AGM

\*You will receive an invitation to the Remembrance Service at Ely Cathedral. Could you please reply quickly so that they can organise tea and coffee.

## Patient Support Group, C9

Many of you will already have attended the Support Group Meeting when you have been an in-patient. The agenda is flexible, and covers issues and concerns raised by patients concerning their conditions, treatment and general well-being.

Any assistance that ex-patients can provide is welcomed, as they can answer many of the questions raised. Just pop up to C9 at around 2.30 pm, or you can call me if you want more information.

## Bye for now, and remember, Keep smiling



This is the 10th Anniversary Year of the UK Transplant Donor Register. Over 640,000 people have signed up for a donorcard in the first 7 months of the challenge.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed by promoting the donor card at functions in your area. If you can help, please call me and I will arrange for you to receive an Organ Donor Pack.

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