



Tree Of Life

Fundraising Campaign Launches

The Lions International Blood Research Appeal (LIBRA) is pleased to announce the launch of an exciting new fundraising campaign called Tree of Life, with a target of £100,000.

Funds will cover the cost of equipment required for the development of a ground-breaking leukaemia vaccine and other blood cancer treatments at King's College Hospital in London (King's).

LIBRA is King's official Haematology Charity and is the only charity in the world to solely support the world-renowned department.

Professor Ghulam Mufti OBE, Head of the Haematology Department at King's, recently provided LIBRA Trustees with a wish list of equipment required for the new clinical studies.

As the funding required to make the research possible is substantial, LIBRA is calling on supporters across the UK to help reach this target by the end of 2017.

The research equipment purchased will be used in a range of in-depth clinical studies as professors work to develop the new leukaemia vaccine for adult patients.

Professor Mufti is most grateful for the support and said: "The equipment funded by LIBRA will have a critical impact on our research efforts at King's."

If you would like to support the Tree of Life campaign, please visit www.libralionscharity.org to find out how you can make a difference.

Wider Benefits of Research

As part of new clinical studies, King's Haematology team is in collaboration with Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) and University College London Hospitals (UCL).

New treatment strategies developed at King's for adult patients are likely to help leukaemia and lymphoma patients, both adults and children, everywhere, including centres such as GOSH and UCL.

Therefore, Research work at King's, supported by LIBRA, will benefit adults and children with blood cancers.

Professor Farzin Farzaneh, Head of Molecular Medicine at King's, is leading the clinical studies and commented: "The value of support provided by LIBRA goes way beyond its monetary value, because of its ability to target specific needs in our research efforts."



LIBRA Pens Now Available

Please consider fundraising for LIBRA by selling our new branded pens in return for a donation. Available in pink and blue, the smart ballpoint pens have a comfortable grip.

We suggest a minimum donation of £1 per pen. Funds raised will go to our Tree of Life Campaign. To request pens, please call 01428 656283 or email info@libralionscharity.org



LIBRA Funded Unit Opens



We are delighted to inform you that the new LIBRA funded Ambulatory Transplant Unit is now up and running on the Davidson Ward at King's.

Patients undergoing treatment for various blood cancers are benefitting from access to the new outpatient unit, which cost £53,720 to equip.

In 2016 LIBRA successfully applied for match funding from the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) for this unit, with 50% of funding secured from LCIF and 50% raised through LIBRA fundraising.

LIBRA Chairman Andrew Lodge said: "King's have kept us up-to-date on progress with the new unit and it is fantastic to know that patients and staff at King's are now realising the benefits.

"We understand that many patients visit this unit daily for treatments such as chemotherapy, prior to and following a bone marrow or stem cell transplant.

"It is wonderful to see the LIBRA plaque on the wall of the unit, recognising our ongoing commitment to supporting King's and its haem-

atology patients. It also acknowledges the incredible support of LCIF, for which we are most grateful."

With the support of the LCIF funding, LIBRA is covering the cost of 27 specialist infusion pumps for patients receiving treatment on the ambulatory transplant unit.

We are also funding an additional 43 infusion pumps so that there are enough to be used throughout the Davidson Ward and on the ELF and LIBRA Ward.





Fundraising can take
you anywhere!

The sky really is the limit when it comes to fundraising for LIBRA.

Working with event partners, Do It for Charity, we are able to help our supporters register for fundraising challenges that suit their personal goals and abilities.

Whether you are interested in cycling from London to Paris, trekking Machu Picchu, conquering Ben Nevis, or taking part in a sponsored skydive or run - there is something for everyone.

Claire Allaker, LIBRA PR Officer said: "Overseas treks are very popular as they provide people of all ages with an opportunity to experience new places and cultures, while helping to raise funds.

"Throughout 2017 and looking ahead to 2018 there are plenty of organised challenges that people can sign up for. Later this year there is a Kilimanjaro Trek, along with a Sahara Trek. In 2018 we are looking to promote a Peru Trek and a China Trek.

"For those who prefer to fundraise in the UK, we can help to arrange sponsored skydives and our event partners host a variety of cycles and runs throughout the year.

"We also encourage people to come up with their own fundraising ideas. Our supporters have done some great things including cake sales, sponsored walks, head shaves, cinema screenings, magic nights, dinner parties and more.

"In recent years, we have seen an increase in online support from King's patients, their families and the public. Some donate via the LIBRA website, while others have set up online fundraising pages. They have been created in memory of loved ones, for personal challenges and team events.

"We work with Virgin Money Giving, so it is easy and safe for supporters to donate and fundraise online. It also helps us to secure Gift Aid on donations.

"We work closely with our supporters to make sure they have all the advice and tools they need to make sponsored challenges and fundraising activities a real success. We hope that more people will continue to come forward and help us to raise funds for King's"

Anyone planning to fundraise for LIBRA can email their story or event details to us at info@libralionscharity.org and the information will be shared on the blog page, along with our social media pages.



@LIBRACharity



LibraCharity

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www.libralionscharity.org

*Supporting King's Since 1976
Charity Number 276685*