



The Blond
McIndoe Research
Foundation

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2008

Registered Charity No.

1106240

www.blondmcindoe.com

Tel: 01342 414295

The Last Twelve Months

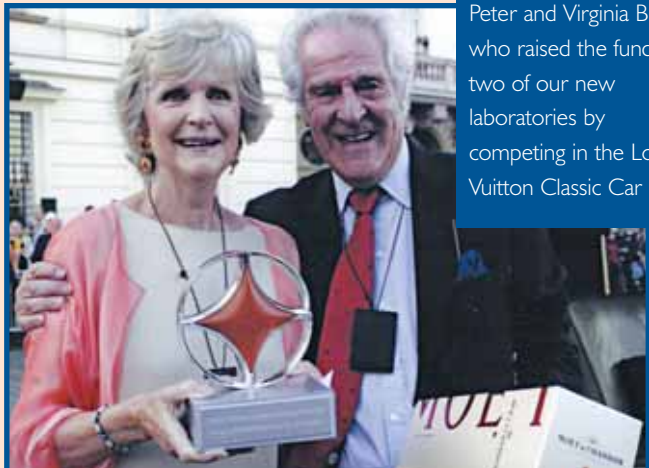
IT IS DIFFICULT to know where to start to tell you everything that has happened in the last twelve months but I can say that we have all been extremely busy and not only with our first and most important priority, our research.

Refurbished Laboratories

We opened our three newly refurbished laboratories at two separate events and were pleased to be able to invite so many of our friends and supporters to join us.



In the Paul Hart Laboratory: his widow, daughter and son in law and two grandchildren.



Peter and Virginia Blond who raised the funds for two of our new laboratories by competing in the Louis Vuitton Classic Car Rally.

Scientific Advisory Group

Our newly formed Scientific Group has brought together some very experienced and professional individuals who will help to guide our research in the future

Blond McIndoe Research Foundation Scientific Advisory Group

Blond McIndoe Research Foundation

Mr Baljit Dheansa FRCS

Trustee/Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Group

Dr Justin Sharpe Head of Research

Dr Nigel Jordan Group Leader
Clinical Research

Mrs Jackie Pinney

Chief Executive

Mr Paul Banwell BSc(Hons) FRCS(Eng)

FRCS(Plast) – Consultant Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeon – QVH

Mr Simon Booth – Burns Research Lead, McIndoe Burns Centre – QVH

Mr Andrew Brown FRCS FDSRCS

– Consultant Maxillofacial Surgeon – QVH

Tania Cubison FRCS (Plast) –

Consultant Burns and Plastic Surgeon – QVH

Mr Sheraz Daya MD FACP FACS FRCS(Ed)

– Director and Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon – QVH

Professor Alicia El Haj

– Institute Director Institute of Science & Technology in Medicine, Keel University

Mr Phil Gilbert FRCS (Ed) (Plast)

– Consultant Plastic Surgeon – QVH

Dr Julian Giles

– Consultant Anaesthetist – QVH

Professor Colin Green

– Director N.P.I.M.R.

Mr Asit Khandwala MS MCh FRCS (G)

FRCS (Plast) – Consultant Plastic and Hand Surgeon – QVH

Dr Renny Leach

– Non Executive Director – QVH

Dr Chris Mason MBBS PhD FRCS

– Group Leader Stem Cell Regenerative Medicine Bioprocessing Unit, UCL

Dr Robin Martin BSc PhD – Senior

Surgical Scientist – Smith & Nephew Medical Ltd

Mr Charles Nduka MA MD FRCS (Plast)

– Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon – QVH

Mr Nick Parkhouse DM MCh FRCS

– Consultant Plastic Reconstructive & Anaesthetic Surgeon – McIndoe Surgical Centre

Dr Gary Phillips – Principal

Research Fellow, Pharmacy & Biomolecular Sciences, Brighton

Dr Paul Sibbons PhD, N.P.I.M.R.

Mr Roger Smith M Chir (Plast) FRCS

– Consultant Plastic Surgeon – QVH

Royal Visit

The New Year began with a mixture of excitement and nerves when we were told that we were to be honoured by a visit from our Royal Patron, HRH The Princess Royal. We need not have worried, the Princess quickly put us all at ease and we enjoyed the day immensely. Staff and supporters were extremely proud to have been given this opportunity to talk to the Princess about the very important work that we do.

PRESS RELEASE

Leading Research Centre Welcomes Royal Visitor

The Princess' support as patron of the charity marks a continuing link between the Foundation and the royal family. The Queen Mother was the charity's former Patron and the Foundation was delighted when the Princess accepted an invitation to take on the role.

Vanora Marland said: "We were absolutely delighted to welcome the Princess to the Blond McIndoe Centre on her first visit as Patron. She was very keen to learn about our research work and to talk to staff and volunteers."

Jacqueline Pinney added: "The Princess Royal's support as a Patron is extremely important to us as a charity and we are thrilled that she is carrying on the Royal connection. It will help to raise our profile and enable us to continue with our vital work at the forefront of scientific medical research."

Guests included the Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex Hugh Wyatt and his wife Mrs Jane Wyatt, Colin Field, the High Sheriff of West Sussex, Councillor Margaret Johnson, Chairman of the West Sussex County Council, Councillor Margaret Hersey, Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council, John Jory, Chief Executive of Mid Sussex District Council, patrons of the Foundation Peter Blond and Lord Marks of Broughton, and Hugh Ure, Vice Chairman, The Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

The Princess was presented with a posy of flowers by volunteer Suzie Hughes, and with a book about Sir Archibald McIndoe's work by Mrs Marland. The book, called The Reconstruction of Warriors, was signed by members of the Guinea Pig Club.

The Blond McIndoe Research Foundation is located within the grounds of the Queen Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead, but is a registered charity. The Foundation does not receive any Government or NHS funding and relies on charitable giving. For further information: www.blondmcindoe.com



HRH The Princess Royal saw at first hand the pioneering work of the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation during a recent visit to the centre in East Grinstead, West Sussex.

The Princess made her first visit to the internationally renowned medical research centre since becoming its royal patron last year.

A registered charity, the centre specialises in innovative research into the repair of skin wounds, with particular emphasis on the treatment of burns.

During her visit the Princess toured the Foundation, seeing research in action and talking to the scientific staff.

She also met other patrons and supporters of the charity, including members of the famous 'Guinea Pig Club' – badly burned airmen who were given pioneering new treatment in East Grinstead during World War II by plastic surgeon Sir Archibald McIndoe.

The research foundation is the legacy of Sir Archibald McIndoe's work. His daughter, Mrs Vanora Marland MBE, is Chairman of the Foundation and she welcomed the Princess to the centre, along with Chief Executive, Jacqueline Pinney.

PHD Success

Rostislav Schevchenko came to us from the Ukraine three years ago, a young surgeon with only a basic command of the English language and a strong commitment to study for his PhD. Three short years later, he has achieved his ambition and been awarded his PhD. Ross worked very hard during his time with us, perfected his English, married Natasha and became a very valuable member of our team. Although we are sad to see him leave, we all wish him well in the future and were pleased to have been able to give him this opportunity.

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Two New Surgeons

We are now looking forward to welcoming two new young surgeons who will be joining us in the next few weeks to spend two years working towards an MD qualification.

These young doctors bring great expertise and clinical knowledge to the foundation which enhances our understanding of the problems that surgeons face in their daily work.

Where Would we be Without Our Volunteers?

Doreen and Alan came to us like manna from heaven. Our building was shabby and grey until they opened their paint pots and set to work transforming our offices and corridors into light and clean workspaces. Alan will tackle anything from a broken toilet to a leaking roof and the generosity of our local Homebase store ensures he is never short of materials to work with. ■



McIndoe Burns Support Group

SHORTLY AFTER I came to work at the Blond McIndoe Centre I was asked if I would be interested in joining the McIndoe Burns Support Group. I knew nothing about their work so, searched out the files and very quickly realised how much I would like to be involved – my first meeting confirmed by initial thoughts.

The work that we do here in the research centre is only at the very beginning of the many years of treatment that a burns patient will have to undergo and I believe that it is important for us to be involved in some small way in supporting that ongoing process.

The McIndoe Burns Support Group chose their name for the same reason as we chose ours – as a tribute to Sir Archibald McIndoe. He was well known for his

personal concern for the individual needs of burns patients and the group continues this support.

It was founded in 1983 by specially trained nurses, medical staff and people who had been personally involved with the trauma of a burn or a scald injury. Some of those founder members are still involved to this day.

Their prime aim is to provide patients with friendship, reassurance and support either soon after admission, during their stay or even much later when they return for follow up treatment.

We are indeed lucky that the legacy of Sir Archibald McIndoe lives on in so many ways on the very same premises that he conducted his initial life saving and life changing work.

Jacquie Pinney
Chief Executive
Blond McIndoe Research Foundation

Term of Office Completed

EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN CLERK, Chris Rolley, recently completed his year of office as National President of the Society of Local Council Clerks. This body has a membership of some 3,600 clerks of parish, town and community councils throughout England and Wales. When Chris was asked to nominate a charity for his fundraising event at Coventry in October, he nominated the Blond

McIndoe Research Foundation with which he was familiar through his work in the local community and as the Town Council's stakeholder governor at the Queen Victoria Hospital. Altogether, an amount of £1,640 was raised and Chris recently attended the foundation premises to present a cheque to the Charity's Chief Executive, Jacquie Pinney.

William Barnard RHODES-MOORHOUSE VC

WILL RHODES-MOORHOUSE was born in September 1887, the eldest son of Edward Moorhouse and Mary Ann, the part Maori daughter of William Barnard Rhodes, who was one of the founders of the colony of New Zealand. Will's parents settled in Northamptonshire, England, in 1884 along with his brother and two sisters. The family were wealthy and now living off the considerable fortune and income earned from their New Zealand properties.



From boyhood Will had a fascination about machinery and was particularly keen on steam engines and locomotive sets. He was a natural mechanic but never shone at school and said his time at Cambridge was wasted and wished that he could have gone straight from Harrow into the engineering shops. It was at this time that Will begun his obsession with speed on motorcycles and became an expert at skid braking.

In 1906/7 Will visited New Zealand where he was hailed as a Maori Chief, which mystified him since his family would never admit to such a sensitive matter. Upon returning to England he soon became involved in aviation and learnt to fly at Huntingdon where he teamed up with James Radley and together they built the Radley-Moorhouse mono-plane which resembled the Bleriot model. In this aircraft Will gained considerable experience and became a top cross-country pilot of his time. In 1910 he and Radley took a Gnome Bleriot 'brainstorming' across the USA to compete for money and fame and ended up in San Francisco winning the £1000 prize and where Will became the first person to fly through the Golden Gate Gorge.

At this time Will had now met Linda Morrith, a great friend of his sister and fallen in love. She was also fearless and accompanied Will on several risky enterprises. They were married in 1912 and honeymooned in Belgium, where they also took delivery of a Breguet plane. Along with a newspaper reporter, they took off in the 70HP Breguet and set off

for England to make the first Channel flight but due to turbulent weather near Ashford Will was forced to crash land, which made for a big news story.

His only son, Willie, was born in 1914 and upon the outbreak of war Will joined the RFC (Royal Flying Corps) as a 2nd Lt at the age of 27. However, because he had false teeth as a result of flying accidents, which the RFC considered a 'handicap', he then became an officer at the Farnborough Factory. However, unknown to officials he was flying again by Christmas 1914 and such was the need for pilots at the outset of WWI that he joined the No.2 Squadron RFC at Merville and began operational flying in March and April doing recce patrols, artillery spotting and photography which earned him a promotion.

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The second battle of Ypres had just commenced and German reinforcements were routed through the railway junction at Courtrai just 35 miles beyond the front line. When this location was designated to be bombed it was Will who took the task and on April 26th he took off carrying a 100 pound bomb. Flying at low altitude he came under fire from machine guns and rifles and was hit by a shell which drove

through the aircraft seat and into his left thigh along with shrapnel which took off three fingers from his right hand. After dropping the bomb its explosion almost sent the plane out of control. However, determined not to allow his aircraft to fall into German hands he gallantly flew at low altitude crossing the Ypres battlefields, where again he came under attack and was hit by a bullet which ripped through his abdomen and lodged under his ribs. This proved to be a fatal wound and he died the following afternoon and was later buried in Dorset.

Will was posthumously awarded the DSO and later the first Victoria Cross ever received by a pilot from air warfare. In 1991 his surviving relatives sold these medals and converted the proceeds into a Charitable Trust to support aviation causes. The W B Rhodes-Moorhouse VC Trust currently provides flying and engineering scholarships through The Air League and contributes to the RAF Benevolent Fund and Blond McIndoe Research Foundation at Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead.

Will's only son, Willie, gained his pilot's licence aged only sixteen and in 1939 joined the AAF (Auxiliary Air Force) as a 2nd Lieutenant and WWII pilot. He was killed at the height of the "Battle of Britain" shortly after being awarded the DFS in September 1940.

To read both Will and his sons remarkable life stories in more detail, please log on to our website www.blondmcindoe.com ■

The Story of a Very Special Young Lady **TRUDIE**



Trudie as a baby

TRUDIE WAS INJURED in a house fire in 1986 when she was just 13 months old. She was brought to the Queen Victoria Hospital and remained in intensive care for the first three months before being transferred to Peanut Ward for ongoing treatment.

Over the next 20 years, Trudie has returned regularly to hospital and has had over 35 operations during that time. These included skin grafting and tissue expanding to improve her hairline; her scalp having been particularly badly damaged in the fire.

Trudie is now a delightful 23 year old mother of Connor. Trudie shares her life with Darren in their own home in East Grinstead; never far away from the hospital which saved her life and where she has eventually ended up following a career in nursing.

Trudie wanted to tell her story to me so that I could use it in an attempt to illustrate how very important it is that we continue our research into the treatment of burns and other wounds, not only to save lives but reduce the scarring which can have such a devastating effect for the rest of the patient's life. Trudie has learned to understand and respect that people will always stare; she knows that

her injuries, and how she has coped with them, are what makes her the very special young woman that she is today. She now wants to give something back as a thank you to those who saved her life and to help others in the future.

I first met Trudie when I joined the McIndoe Burns Support Group, of which we are co members and was immediately inspired by her confidence and charming personality. Unfortunately, some people still find it difficult to look beyond the scars to find the real person underneath. We must continue our research work but in order to do that we need help. We can never stop accidents happening but, with your support, we can help those affected by them.

Please help us by sending whatever you can afford. ■

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Trudie with Connor



Grinstead and was instructed to keep their dressings moistened. We were also accompanied by a doctor.

On arrival at East Grinstead the patient was transferred to an awaiting saline bath. Later after grafting etc., they were sometimes returned to the county hospital. Now much better in their general health they became loved by everybody, were always in high spirits and loved to tease the young nurses. I was a very junior nurse but I well recall these brave young men talking about the wonderful surgeon, their own friend and hero who was reconstructing their lives in every way. They returned to East Grinstead for continuing care, friendship and expertise by this one special man Sir Archibald McIndoe, they were proud to be his guinea pigs.

Nurse Louisa Moore
Now Mrs Colin Harding.

Memories of a Wartime Nurse

I was a junior nurse at the Royal Sussex County Hospital during World War II and remember the incredibly brave airmen who were sometimes sent to us prior to being transferred to the Queen Victoria Hospital at East Grinstead. Their courage and unselfishness and thinking first of their fellow victims in spite of terrible pain and the constant smell of burned flesh. Their tulle GRAS mesh dressings were kept constantly moistened with saline swabbing and when the patient recovered from the initial shock, or indeed if they did recover, they were transferred to what has since become a world famous hospital for the treatment of burns. I was once privileged to accompany a patient from the Royal Sussex to the Queen Victoria Hospital at East

VINEGAR CAKE Why not try our wartime recipe – it is delicious.

- 6oz Self Raising Flour
- 3oz Margarine
- 3oz Sugar
- 1 Pint Milk
- 1 Tablespoon Vinegar
- 1 Teaspoon Bicarbonate of Soda
- 3 oz Mixed Dried fruit

Sift the flour, cream the margarine and sugar. Pour the milk into a large basin. Add the vinegar and bicarbonate of soda; the mixture will rise and froth in the basin. Blend in the flour, add vinegar liquid into the creamed margarine and sugar, then add dried fruit. Put into a greased and floured 7 inch tin. Bake in oven for 1 hour.

Christmas already?

THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS CARD was created and sent in 1843. A man named John Calcott Horsely printed the first Christmas card for Sir Henry Cole, the friend who had given him the idea.

Sir Henry Cole, a wealthy British businessman, wanted a card he could proudly send to friends and professional acquaintances to wish them a "Merry Christmas."

The card depicted a typical English family enjoying the holiday, and people performing acts of charity. A very important part of Victorian Christmas spirit. A thousand copies of the card were printed and sold for one shilling. This is reportedly the first Christmas card to be produced and sold to the public.

We are continuing this tradition by offering you a small selection of carefully chosen cards which we hope you will buy to send to your friends and family. By so doing, you will be supporting the charity and ultimately making a difference to the lives of patients. A form is enclosed with this newsletter but if you need any more please do not hesitate to ring us on 01342 414052 or email: Debbie.finch@blondmcindoe.com



FLORA LONDON MARATHON 2008



Hamish hits the pain barrier

OUR 6 RUNNERS for this year's Flora London Marathon Kate, Angela, Hamish, Sarah, Paul and Lauren raised a magnificent total of £8,500.00 for Blond McIndoe but sadly only Hamish sent us pictorial evidence of his day of victory.

A big thank you to everyone for a magnificent effort. Don't forget to let us know if you want to run in 2009 – we always have more applicants than places so make sure you are the earlybird who catches the worm. ■

How can you help?

VOLUNTEERING If you would like to volunteer – please get in touch. We would love to hear from you no matter what your skills. Can you paint a wall, write a letter, deliver leaflets, answer the phone or organise an event? You tell us what you would like to do.

FUNDRAISING can be great fun and there are so many things that you can do to raise money. Involve your family and friends. Why not open your garden to visitors and charge a small amount, organise a bring and buy, a sports tournament or concert. We desperately need a constant stream of funding to finance our essential work and YOU can make the difference to someone who is suffering.

DONATIONS Each and every donation, no matter how large or small, is important to us. There are many ways that you can donate and we do not mind how you do it, as long as you do!

We now have the facility for you to donate “on line” through *justgiving* or just use the old fashioned method and send us a cheque or postal order.

LEGACIES No one ever wants to think about the time when they will no longer be here, but by leaving a legacy to our charity you would be comforted by knowing that you are helping those still in pain and with possible lifelong disfigurement. ■

If you would be interested in visiting us or finding out more about the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation and its work, please complete the form below:

Name

Address

.....

..... Postcode

Daytime phone

Email

- I would like to receive information on ways to support the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation
- I would like to help the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation by leaving a legacy to secure funding for future research
- I would like to make a donation of (please tick)
 - £10.00 £25.00 £50.00
 - £100.00 other £.....
- Please tick if you require a receipt.

Please make your cheque or postal order payable to the **Blond McIndoe Research Foundation**.

Gift Aid Declaration

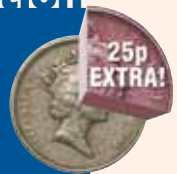
Donating via Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we receive an extra 25p from the Inland Revenue.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please tick the box below.

- I am a UK taxpayer and would like the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation to reclaim tax on all donations I have made in the last six years and thereafter.
- I can confirm that I pay an amount of income or capital gains tax equal to or greater than the amount that can be reclaimed on my donation in the tax year.

Signed

Date / /



The Blond McIndoe
Research Foundation

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