

AUTUMN MINI NEWSLETTER

Dear Member,

I hope that you enjoyed our Spring Newsletter and the celebrations that accompanied our relaunch aboard HMS Belfast.

Another Newsletter will be published later in the autumn but I thought that you would like to be brought up to date as we all return from holiday.

The KPA is intending to promote a number of areas this year, particularly those concerned with the young and those of limited education. We will link committee members to each dialysis unit and hope to develop much closer ties to both dialysis and pre-dialysis patients. Research will also be a priority for the committee along with working closely with the Trust and the Modernisation Initiative.

On behalf of the KPA, I was pleased to agree to open formally, the New Cross Dialysis Unit on 16 August... many guests were present, including Sir Jonathan Michael and Patricia Moberly (CE and Chair of the Trust).

The unit is a new build and is simply wonderful. It has the most up-to-date systems in the world, including individual ventilation systems, super water treatment plant, individual FREE TVs, car parking, self-care rooms, changing rooms and lockers, and facilities that promote self-care.

The KPA is sponsoring a pilot programme to supply snacks more appealing than toast – after consultation with the dieticians a large list of possible snacks has been developed. If, after a three-month trial the pilot scheme is successful, the process will be rolled out to other sites.

The KPA has been represented on the Emotional, Psychological, and Spiritual Committee since its inception. It has supported a successful bid to the Modernisation Initiative for funds to support further research into the impact of kidney disease on patients and families.

The KPA will also be tabling a question along with the Royal Free KPA, to the Annual Meeting of the National Kidney Federation on its efforts to make the Federation more sensitive to the needs of patients living in conurbations.

Along with this Newsletter you will receive Christmas Raffle tickets; we hope that you and your friends will invest in a few.

Best wishes

Trevor Cook
Chair