



St Wilfrid Lodge NEWS

Edition No. 76

Leeds Children's Heart Surgery Fund

St Wilfrid Lodge were delighted to welcome Lisa Williams from the Leeds Children's Heart Surgery Fund who gave an informative, interesting and at times moving presentation on the work of the Charity at our Supper Night.



The Fund is one of the two charities chosen as the 'Master's Charities' this year together with the William Merritt Centre. Funds will be raised throughout the year, primarily at our numerous social events. The inspiring talk and presentation were very well received with Lisa telling us about the work done by

the Charity, it's current activities and its hopes for future developments. We were certainly motivated to maximise our fund raising efforts!



Based at the Leeds General Infirmary, the Leeds Children's Heart Surgery Fund covers the regions of Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire. Around 450 babies, children and young adults from these regions need open heart surgery every year. The Fund aims to ensure these patients have the best possible care and to help their families in whatever way needed during their stay in hospital.

They raise money to help the Leeds Congenital Heart Unit at the General Infirmary provide superb care for its patients and their families, but their work doesn't stop there. More than 40% of the patients who have an operation will need long-term care, and each year 17,500 babies, children and adults pass through the unit. They provide valuable equipment, resources and research, as well as providing a support service for both the patients and their families along the way. They support them every step of the way - from womb to adulthood. Thanks to the generosity of their supporters, they've been able to approve funding for projects totalling millions of pounds in recent years. From funding cutting edge equipment to paying for the fish tank on the ward, they're always on the lookout for ways to help improve the lives of the heart patients. The Leeds Children's Heart Surgery Fund was created in 1988 by Duncan Walker. Since its inception the Fund has awarded over £6 million in grants to the heart unit, its patients and their families.



CHILDREN'S HEART SURGERY FUND

Over recent years, Children's Heart Surgery Fund has invested significant funding into family accommodation at the Leeds General Infirmary. This has included £410,000 being awarded to the Sick Children's Trust to build and maintain parental accommodation at Eckersley House.

They have made countless grants that have paid for ground-breaking new equipment; resources for the unit; staff training; family accommodation and support; and, many, many more projects including the raising of £500,000 towards a state-of-the-art children's heart theatre at the LGI which opened this year.

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