

What we do

Pelican Cancer Foundation continues to make a big difference in the fight against bowel, liver and urological cancers. Our aim is to improve precision surgery. We develop the skills of cancer teams by providing ground breaking courses on the latest life saving operating techniques. These courses also provide an ideal venue for cancer specialists to share expertise which will help them to give their cancer patients the best chance of survival. We commission research projects that are looking for ways to improve surgery for cancer patients.

Pressing for change

Pelican is currently petitioning the Department of Health to support us in delivering another training programme for multi disciplinary teams.

Internally, Pelican is working hard to ensure that it makes best use of the generous support we receive. We are carrying out a review of how we commission research to make sure our work and your contribution will benefit the most people.

Ground breaking courses

Pelican continues to organise different courses, most frequently for consultant surgeons. This isn't training as surgery skills can only develop through experience and sharing of best practice. When surgeons come to Pelican they share their skills and experience, pushing forward the boundaries and helping cancer patients today.

'Bowel surgery saved my life'

"Without the Pelican Cancer Foundation, this photo wouldn't have been possible. I believe the surgery I had saved my life. After the treatment, we went on to have our youngest son, Tom. The only legacy we have of the cancer is an impressive scar on my stomach. We thank our lucky stars - and Professor Heald"

Richard Howeson (57), former bowel cancer patient, with wife Sarah (45) and children Henry (7), Maria (5) and Tom (2)

This shows the real successes of Pelican - people who survive The Big C and go on to have wonderful (and productive) lives because of what we do. Do you have a relation or friend who would be prepared to tell others about their experience of cancer surgery? Contact Juliet at Pelican – 01256 314746 or e-mail j.crawley@pelicancancer.org



'Surgery cures more patients than any other intervention for cancer'

Laparoscopic Surgery

Most people reading this will be aware of laparoscopic surgery which is *minimally invasive surgery*. This means that the patient has 'keyhole' surgery rather than the more invasive open surgery. This method of operating is achieved by the surgeon making a number of openings in the skin; for colorectal surgery this normally entails four small holes in the abdomen. The surgeon inserts small precision equipment through these ports (including a camera so that the operating area is visible on a screen) air is then pumped into the patient to allow operating space and the surgery can begin.

Benefits

There is increasing evidence that laparoscopic surgery is more beneficial than open surgery for patients. It avoids creating large open wounds, reduces scarring and enables patients to recover more quickly; an added bonus for patients is a shorter stay in hospital and less chance of infection.

Pelican is first

To introduce more surgeons to laparoscopic surgery, the Department of Health has sponsored centres around England including Pelican. We were the first centre to successfully run a course – four days of 'clinical immersion' for consultants. This course was so 'full-on' the surgeons were almost overwhelmed with surgeries – long days enabled each surgeon to participate in two operations and to watch a further six via live video links to operating theatres. A second successful course has since been run and Mr Cecil and Mr Gudgeon have also taken groups abroad to experience other operating techniques.

Lasers

Another first has been the battle of the lasers! Mr Hindley, Consultant Urologist at Basingstoke and Pelican organised the first-ever operating list which included both Green and Red Light lasers for the treatment of prostate disease. We had over 40 young surgeons from the South Thames Deanery watching via high definition link to the operating theatre. A very colourful and successful day; all the trainees stayed to the bitter end late on a Friday afternoon! The feedback was really good for this event and it's great to see Pelican at the forefront of this new use for existing technology.

It's great to see Pelican at the forefront of this exciting new technology (it's not existing at all in many places).



Fundraising

Fundraising activity has been busy over the last few months. First we had the Pink Pelican Ball at the Vineyard at Stockcross; a brilliant evening that had us all dancing and bidding far more than we anticipated at the auction thanks to the delicious food and wine. The Golf Day at Donnington Valley was very popular; Juliet called some of our golf mad supporters and the day was very quickly booked up. In September there was an Evening of Entertainment in the Vintners' Hall in London consisting of wine tasting, a wonderful cello and piano recital, delicious food and finally a very entertaining auction - magnificently stage managed by Jeffrey Archer. All the functions have been good fun as well as bringing in vital funds for Pelican.

Once again the charity is exceptionally grateful to a small number of trusts and organisations that have supported specific projects in the last twelve months.

If you would like to help us to continue our valuable work please complete the form overleaf and send it with your donation to; **The Pelican Cancer Foundation, The Ark, Dinwoodie Drive, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NN**

Forthcoming events

- ◇ The Pink Pelican Ball on 24th April at the Vineyard at Stockcross.
- ◇ The Pelican Golf Day on Wednesday 6th May. Book early for this very popular event.
- ◇ The Pelican Film Society, come and see the films you missed the first time around.

Contact Pelican on 01256 314746 to make a booking.

Make a donation

Please support our work in the fight against cancer.
I enclose a donation of £ to the Pelican Cancer Foundation.

Make your donation worth almost a third more at no extra cost to you by signing up for giftaid. If you are a UK taxpayer, please tick the box below to ensure that every £1 you give is worth an extra 28 pence to Pelican—at no extra cost to you.

giftaid it Yes, I would like this donation to Pelican Cancer Foundation and all donations I may make in the future (until I notify you otherwise) to be treated as Gift Aid donations. The amount of tax claimed by Pelican Cancer Foundation on your donations at the basic rate of tax must not exceed the amount of income and/or capital gains tax that you pay in any tax year.

Title: Forename(s): Surname:

Address:

Postcode: Tel No: Email:

Signature: Date:

Please return to: **The Pelican Cancer Foundation, The Ark, Dinwoodie Drive, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NN**

We would like to keep you up to date with news about our work and how you can support us. If you would prefer that we should not hold your details please telephone us on 01256 314746. We will never pass your details on to any other organisations.

Tax information: Pelican claims 25p of tax on every £1 you give. The Government will pay to the charity an extra 3p on every £1 you give between 6 April 2008 and 5 April 2011. This transitional relief for the charity does not affect your personal tax position.