

HEART OF THE MATER

Look at the life saving difference YOU make!

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023

“I went into A&E with stage 4 cancer on two organs.”— Derek



Thanks to you...

Innovative Surgery Saved Derek's Life

Derek and his wife were away celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary when he suddenly felt unwell... They called a doctor who noticed he had a huge swelling on his abdomen.

Derek hadn't noticed any symptoms. Maybe a bit of reflux. But suddenly, he was in A&E with doctors asking him questions and running tests.

Their verdict: stage 4 liver and bowel cancer. He needed emergency surgery to put a colostomy in place.

When the need is most critical, you can depend on the Mater... and the Mater depends on you!

Derek went through chemotherapy to bring the cancer under control. Then he came back to the Mater for surgery. He didn't know he'd be breaking new medical ground...

It was one of the first of its kind in Ireland — one of the first bowel and liver resections. And it meant both operations could be performed at the same time. Which meant

Continue reading over...

On page 3: THANK YOU, for the world's best mammogram machine...

Derek's story, Continued from page 1...

less of the risk which usually comes with needing multiple surgeries, and faster healing time for Derek.

“

As it stands today, I'm extremely lucky. I went into A&E with stage 4 cancer on two organs and now I'm on the road to recovery. I'm so thankful. The staff do incredible work...”

This groundbreaking surgery is only possible because of the generous support of caring people like you — who put the



Drs John Conneely, Tamara Gall and Ailin Rogers saved Derek's life, thanks to your generosity.

Mater at the very forefront of life-saving technology in healthcare.

Derek is just happy to be alive! He still receives care at the Mater, and your kindness and concern bring more comfort and care than you know. Thank you!

162 Years of Caring and You...

On the day the Mater opened its doors in 1861, the death rate in Dublin was the highest in all of Europe. Only the rich had access to healthcare.

But the Mater would be a hospital for the people. And from the very start — *despite having so little themselves* — the Mater has been powered by the kindness of the people of Ireland... caring people like you.

You carry that same spirit of concern and compassion in your heart today. And that's why we hope you'll consider a gift in your Will.

Making a gift in your Will is simple. We'd love to send you more information to help you decide what feels right for you and your family. **Just tick the YES box on the reply form enclosed and we'll pop something special in the post just for you.**



Thank you for your consideration!

Thank you for being there for people like Tara through the worst times of their lives —

“You are in safe hands... You’re going to get through this”

Tara had convinced herself she was wasting her doctor’s time. *But she wasn’t...*

The doctor found a hard lump on her breast — Tara had breast cancer.

She had surgery soon after. It went well, but the doctor recommended chemotherapy because they found cancer in her lymph nodes.

But your steadfast support of the Mater means the most exceptional patient care.

“ *Within a week of being diagnosed I was operated on. That feeling of ‘Oh God, I’ve got cancer’ was quickly swept away by feeling seen, feeling that you matter...* ”

You’ll be so pleased to hear that Tara is cancer free now. But just like all our breast cancer survivors, she’ll need regular mammograms for the rest of her life.



Because of you, Tara knew she could depend on the best care —
Thank you!

Your generosity... your kindness... every day you touch lives like Tara’s here at the hospital. Thank you for caring.

THANK YOU... for Bringing the World’s Best Mammogram Machine to the Mater!

Not long ago we asked for your help to bring the best in breast cancer and diagnosis here to the Mater...

...it was a call you answered with your heart!

Thanks to your generosity, our doctors are so close to having this life-saving equipment in their hands. And the better the technology you give radiologists like Dr Emma Stanley, the more cancers she can catch, and the more precious lives we can save.

For every mother, daughter, sister, wife, aunt, and best friend... thank you for believing in the very best breast cancer care.



Three Minutes With... Nurse Joy

How long have you been at the Mater?

I've been an Operating Theatre Nurse at the Mater for almost 22 years.

Is there a particularly memorable time for you?

The pandemic. So many patients were really scared. I really appreciated getting the chance to comfort them at such an uncertain time.

You've also been a patient at the Mater?

In 2017, I had Thyroid

Cancer. I was terrified but I had surgery and I've had the all clear ever since. Then recently, I was having dizzy spells and was taken down to A&E. I had a stroke! I'm now in rehab and take medication to control the dizziness.

And your message to people who support the Mater?

The Mater is my second home, I love it here. I'm able to help our patients and their loved ones because of your generosity so I want to say — **thank you!**



Thank you for the love and support you give our doctors and nurses.

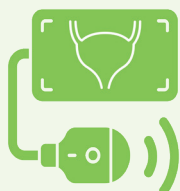
Summer Wish List for Comfort and Relief

Could you help diagnose a rare disease or bring relief to someone in their most frightening moments?

❤️ **€25** can cover the cost of toiletries and snacks for a patient in hospital who has no family support.

❤️ **€250** can help support a family who are struggling with transportation and accommodation costs while their loved one is sick.

BIG WISH!



Bladder Scanner — €5,850

Have you heard of Multiple System Atrophy (MSA)? You probably haven't, but this rare and debilitating disease can be easily missed. The bladder scanner is the BEST way to detect it and we urgently need one. *Could you help?*

If you're able to help with a gift today, we'd be very grateful. Use the reply form enclosed or give online at materfoundation.ie/donate — Thank you!



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