

Friends raising funds to help injured surveyor

Piers Stone, aged 25, of Lambert Smith Hampton, was severely disabled in a snow-boarding accident whilst on holiday. Any compensation that he receives from accident insurance will be woefully inadequate for his future needs. LionHeart is supporting friends, family and colleagues to raise funds towards helping him achieve independent living on his discharge from Stoke Mandeville Hospital, where he has been undergoing rehabilitation.

Piers hopes that he will eventually return to work but is currently told that his local authority housing service will not be able to offer him accommodation suitable for a wheelchair user for three years! LionHeart is keeping in close touch with Piers, offering support and advice, and with those raising funds on his behalf. The charity is committed to offering financial help when it is needed.

David Harris of King Sturge is to undertake a sponsored run of 150 miles across the Sahara Desert in April as part of the fundraising effort. For further information and offers of sponsorship contact Chris Wall at LionHeart.

Stewards seminars update

Since November Stewards seminars have been held in Cambridge, Coventry, London, and Maidstone. It has been good that RICS Regional Directors have found time to attend some seminars, which have provided an opportunity for all those interested in the activities of LionHeart to share their ideas and experiences, and to become better informed about the work of the charity. Trustees have attended many meetings and expressed their appreciation for the work undertaken by volunteer Stewards and Fundraisers. Many ideas put forward by Stewards to improve services for beneficiaries and support for Stewards will receive consideration. Further seminars are to be held on:

26 February	Bristol
11 April	Patcham, Sussex
18 April	Esher, Surrey
23 April	Corbridge, Northumberland
25 April	Lifton, Cornwall

All Stewards will be sent a questionnaire seeking their opinion on the venue, timing and content of meetings. This will ensure meetings planned for the 2002/03 session continue to meet the needs of those who participate and attract the greatest possible attendance. It is hoped that all stewards and fundraisers will make every effort to attend a seminar each year.

RICS West Midlands Property Quiz wins award

Organisers of the RICS West Midlands Property Quiz have received the Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors' Award in recognition of their achievement in raising funds for LionHeart. The 2000 award was presented to Simon Farrant, of Phoenix Beard's Birmingham office, Chairman of the Organising Committee and Chairman of the RICS West Midlands Regional Board by Hugh Stebbing, Master of The Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors (2000/01).

This popular annual event has raised £92,000 over the past three years. The proceeds have been shared equally between LionHeart and the intensive care unit of the Diana, Princess of Wales Children's Hospital in Birmingham.



Simon Farrant (right) receiving the award from Hugh Stebbing

The 2002 Quiz is to be held at the Holte Suite, Aston Villa Football Club, Birmingham on 7 February 2002. Nominations are invited for the 2001 award – email Mike Carter at mcarter@lionheart.org.uk.

2002 Flora London Marathon – are you up to it?



LionHeart still has places in its team of 5 runners in the 2002 Flora London Marathon team. Those taking part are asked to raise £2,000 sponsorship from amongst family, friends and business associates. A prize is awarded to the person raising the most money for the charity. The event will take place on 14 April. Interested runners or sponsors should contact Chris Wall at LionHeart for further details on 0845 6039057 (calls are charged at local rate) or email her at cwall@lionheart.org.uk.

Estate Agent crosses the desert to deliver sales particulars

LionHeart stewards are resourceful people, often with busy working lives. When York estate agent Edward Waterson (pictured right) received a request for sales particulars from a small town on Africa's Skeleton Coast, he decided to deliver them by hand, which involved a journey of over 6,000 miles including the last 100 miles on foot through the Namib Desert.

Edward, the residential sales partner in the York office of Carter Jonas, had been asked for particulars of Appleton Hall in North Yorkshire, which has historic connections with the guano trade which once thrived off the coast, one of the most remote areas in the world.

As it happened Edward was about to set off on a trek to raise money for the Mines Advisory Group, the Nobel Prize winning charity which clears land mines and unexploded bombs in nearby Angola and other parts of the world. Edward slipped two sets of particulars into his backpack for the trek.

"Ilse Rust of the Swakopmund Museum was delighted to have them for their archives", said Edward. "Delivering them by hand meant that I was able to get the particulars there more quickly and was also able to save the postage, which appealed to the Yorkshireman in me." Edward raised over £6,000 for the Mines Advisory Group.



Christmas cheer

LionHeart, the charity for RICS members and their dependants in need spent £22,000 on Christmas gifts to beneficiaries in 2001. David Larkin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees said:

"Over 65% of beneficiaries are of working age with families to support, whose lives have been dramatically changed by circumstances that could affect any one of us. The majority have long-term illness or disability, or are single parents and are dependent on State Benefits which are significantly lower than their former incomes. We also help many elderly people and widows.

"Gifts and additional financial help at Christmas will provide some of the extra comforts that most of us take for granted and ensure that they have a more enjoyable time than would otherwise have been possible."

"My Fair Lady" success



450 Chartered Surveyors, friends, colleagues and old boys of Prior Park School, Bath, attended a charity performance of "My Fair Lady", featuring the original Royal National Theatre cast at the Drury Lane Theatre on 15 December 2001. Tickets were sold in order to help raise £25,000 to benefit Peter Minahan (pictured left), aged 49, married with three children, who is severely disabled following a cerebral aneurysm in 1999. The initiative was supported by Sir Cameron Mackintosh, an old boy of the school.

The fundraising group is helping to fund adaptations (see right) to the family home in Truro so that Peter can receive the care he needs at home. LionHeart is assisting the family in other ways.

An amazing £29,000 has been raised so far and work is well under way. Peter and his family are delighted that the project will provide the adaptation of a garage at the family home to accommodate his special needs. Anyone wishing to make a donation towards this worthy cause is invited to telephone Alison Judd on 01306 875460 or email alij@contaxgroup.com for further details.



Two new trustees elected

Michael Jefferys (Kent) and Patrick Hall (Wiltshire) have been elected to the Board of Trustees of LionHeart. Michael Jefferys continues to be Corresponding Steward for Kent, a post which he has held for many years and serves on the Grants Committee. Patrick Hall was formerly a co-opted member of the Administration, Investment and Finance Committee upon which he will continue to serve in his new capacity.

LionHeart to launch new web-site

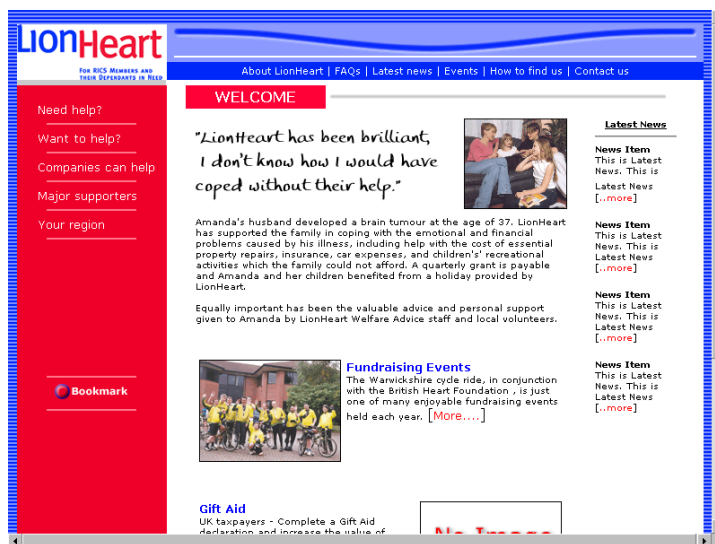
A new and much improved web-site is to be launched by LionHeart in mid-February. It will replace the existing LionHeart site that still bears the purple and gold logo which was abandoned last year.

The new site will display pages featuring LionHeart services and fundraising events, news, and local information for each RICS region. It will be interactive enabling people to email their suggestions, enquiries and requests for information to the charity. There will be an online facility for making a Gift Aid declaration and the site ultimately will handle on-line donations. One page will feature our major corporate supporters with links to their own web-sites, and there will be links with other charity sites for people requiring information. LionHeart Link will be posted on the web-site. Anyone who does not have access to the web should contact Chris Wall to ensure that they continue to receive a copy of LionHeart Link.

“We are very excited about this development”, said Mike Carter, Chief Executive. “It is an essential part of our strategy to improve communications with members of the RICS, making us more accessible to those in need and getting closer to our supporters.”

The site has been designed by Areza who have undertaken the work at a beneficial price as part of their commercial support to charities. Although the site is hosted by Areza, pages can be can be updated by Chris Wall at the LionHeart office, so that the contents remain relevant and current. Organisers of fundraising events will be able to attract wider support by posting details on the web site.”

Visit the newly-launched site from 18 February onwards at www.lionheart.org.uk



LionHeart keeping people warm in winter

Many beneficiaries who experience breakdown of their central heating system, often at the coldest time of the year, cannot afford the cost of repairs. Long delays can occur in getting an engineer to call at a busy time of the year, obtaining a quotation, and then contacting a charity for help with the cost of repairs.

Mindful of these problems, LionHeart has arranged a bulk servicing contract for their beneficiaries who are owner-occupiers with gas central heating. The object is to ensure that, through an annual check, their system is working safely and efficiently and that in case of breakdown repairs are carried out promptly.

The contract arranged for British Gas Three Star Service gives priority callout, usually same day or next day, free replacement of parts and labour for the whole system, not just the boiler. Being a direct payment, this is a practical way to provide help without affecting the recipient's entitlement to State benefits.

The value of the scheme was immediately apparent when 10% of the systems inspected at the outset of the scheme failed to comply with current standards of performance or safety and required immediate remedial work. The introduction of the scheme has reduced heating costs for many users and may even have saved lives.

Staff news



Christine Wall (pictured left) was dressed for the occasion when she received the award of Post-graduate Diploma in Marketing from the Chartered Institute of Marketing. Chris was a highly successful student and during the course also received the Chartered Institute of Marketing course award at Tile Hill College. Not content with her recent achievement Chris is now studying for the Executive MBA at Coventry University.

Bena Kansara has commenced the second year of a course leading to the award of the Advanced Diploma in European Therapeutic Counselling and Clare Davis has commenced the first year of the course.

Donations with RICS subscriptions



Who will help you to keep focused in times of trouble?

LionHeart supports members and their dependants who experience unforeseen difficulties including unemployment, illness and disability, and bereavement.

A £10 donation to LionHeart with your annual RICS subscription can really make a difference.

LionHeart
FOR RICS MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS IN NEED

Surveyor Court, Westwood Way, Coventry CV4 8BF
Telephone: 0845 603 9057 (local rate) Facsimile: 024 7647 6701
E-mail: info@lionheart.org.uk Web site: www.lionheart.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 261245

Members of the RICS who are UK taxpayers have been invited to complete a Gift Aid declaration when making a donation to LionHeart with payment of their RICS subscription. The charity is then able to reclaim the tax paid on the donation, increasing the value of the gift by 28%. And the declaration covers all future donations.

If all donors who give £10 when paying their subscription were to make a gift aid declaration income from this source would be increased by around £90,000 at no extra cost to the donors. It is never too late to make your declaration by telephone or email. Contact Elaine New at the LionHeart office for details – Tel: 0845 6039057 or email enew@lionheart.org.uk.

Warwickshire Heart Cycle Ride

Estimated proceeds of over £2,000 raised by the third Warwickshire Heart Cycle Ride held on 30 September 2001 will be shared between the British Heart Foundation and LionHeart.

Nearly 200 adults and children enjoyed a cycle ride from Westwood Business Park through the picturesque Warwickshire Countryside, following a 12, 30 or 50 mile route. Each route was carefully selected to combine interest, safety and scenic beauty. In addition to the many families and individuals taking part, team entries included pupils from Alderman Callow school and Blazing Saddles Riding Club for people with disabilities. Property firm entries included Drivers Jonas, Bruton Knowles, Colliers Conrad Ritblat Erdman, Jones Lang La Salle and Laing Homes Specialist Team. Prizes will be presented by the Lord Mayor of Coventry to the individual man and woman and the team raising the most money for the charities on 13 May. It is hoped that a local radio broadcaster will also attend.

Firms wishing to sponsor this event on 22 September 2002 should contact Chris Wall at LionHeart on 0845 6039057 or email cwall@lionheart.org.uk for further details.

The Blazing Saddles team after completing the Warwickshire Heart Cycle Ride, at Surveyor Court, Westwood Business Park, Coventry



2002 dates for your diary

- 7 Feb** West Midlands Property Quiz, Holte Suite, Aston Villa F.C.
- 18 Feb** LionHeart Web Site launch
- 14 Apr** Flora London Marathon
- 13 Jun** LionHeart AGM
- 28 Jun** LionHeart Annual Clay Pigeon Shoot, West Wycombe Shooting Ground
- 30 Aug** LionHeart Scottish Golf Challenge at Blairgowrie Golf Club, Rosemount
- 17 Sep** Surrey Golf Day at Royal mid-Surrey Golf Club
- 22 Sep** Warwickshire Heart Cycle Ride in aid of LionHeart and British Heart Foundation
- 5 Nov** RICS Property Quiz, Grosvenor House Hotel, London

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