

## "20-20 Voice" Newsletter

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May: 2019

Welcome to the merry month of May, the month of blossom it seems! A nice gentle start to the year's proceedings as we collected **£30** from our ever friendly **Aberdale Public House** where they raffled a basket of toiletry goodies for us with Brendan winning the prize.

And now some blinding news from our friends in Scotland as first reports indicate that **£2,500+** has been raised at the Sports dinner last month. Well done **Jo Ann Macdonald** & team for organising this event and all that it entailed and please be assured that as soon as I get the correct total figure certificates of thanks will be winging their way north. We can do a lot of good with this money and we will be starting with St John's Hospital, Livingston, where our friend Leo Thomson was cared for-**and we will be asking Annie Thomson to do the presenting on our behalf!**

Being somewhat innovative I am delighted to say that we have "**Brilliant news from**



**our ENT dept"** where our ladies are doing very well with the IOBI (tongue pressures) equipment.....and we have a winner as Mr 'X' has now been doing the prescribed exercises for some 3 months and is showing great improvements in both speech & swallowing; the gentleman is tremendously impressed (as are our ladies) and very, very grateful. We also found out that even with a semi-glossectomy (50% tongue removal) this system can be highly beneficial 😊. We also picked up **£27** on our travels too from w/band sales. It all helps towards our next purchase/s.

We must be attracting more people as I was invited on a radio show on Thurs, 18<sup>th</sup> April to discuss laryngectomees and all the problems that lay within. All good promo! ....and apparently I've been told that I will be invited back in August/Sept as they want to know more about us, our lives, our joys & our fears

A cracking night at the **Cuisine of India** (15<sup>th</sup>) where 23 hardy souls enjoyed some fantastic food..... & plenty of drinks I noted – and why not I say? Thanks to the dodgy 'mic' I ended up doing the Norman Collier routine and threatened to dunk the errant piece of equipment head first into my beer – trouble was, the beer wasn't Heineken so it wouldn't

have helped at all 😞 ! Raffle prizes were all well received and the Stand-up-Bingo prize (an Echo Dot) was won by a first time player – and why not indeed: it really was amazing how so many people sat down so quickly! Another great night at the **Cuisine of India** and our thanks go to 'AK' and the lads once again 😊. We changed the C/Tub over while we were there and counted up £42.68 this morning!

No rest for the wicked as we turned up at the ZigZag studio (Clarendon Park, Leicester) where they were holding their 'Open Day' (17<sup>th</sup>), honouring this charity in the process. Wowee, when I turned up the place was packed with large people & little people too. Face Painting, James the Clown, Lary Bear naming (Egbert), Guess the sweet jar (443), raffle prizes galore, Disco Dancing & more – what a day. Igor had all the staff 'well trained' as industrious as ever (we have a [video online](#) too) and with all the activity going on I was simply a bystander! 😞. Quite interesting to note that most of the kids accepted my Dalek voice....it was the parents who looked twice! Despite my voice, they raised a magnificent **£521** on the day. What can we do but a very serious thank you to all at Zig Zag – a truly tremendous effort by all 🙌. Video here →

<https://www.facebook.com/zigzagphotographyleicester/videos/2298268553833682/>

And now up to Scotland where our friends organised a Sports night dinner with the proceeds going to their chosen charity – **20-20 Voice Cancer.org** if you please.... and it pleased us very much indeed! In memory of the lovely **Leo Thomson** the function raised a total of **£2,700.00** which is now safely in our account and earmarked for much helping of laryngectomees. We are awaiting a bit of a shopping list from **Leo's** friendly, caring hospital, [St Johns in Livingston](#) as they desperately need our help – and it will be done! We are the charity that 'does what it says on the tin' & 'helping hands' are here to help! 😊



Now for Jo Ann in Chipstead who has got the co-operation of the Bricklayers Arms again for her Easter Egg count....and we have a winner as the young lady pictured correctly guessed 406 of the little blighters!

Meanwhile up [Blackpool](#) way, **Jo Ann's** sister (**Sam**) is taking on her first **10K** run to raise funds for this charity. Not a runner by any means, **Sam** has been in training for a while as she is determined to complete the course. The company she works for, Beaverbrooks Jewellers, have promised to '[double match](#)' all donations and that's an offer we cannot refuse folks 😊. So, every £10 donated will be turned into £30! How's about that then!!! And if you want to help us with treble monies → [donate here](#) 😊

You will be getting this newsletter a few days early as the good lady & I are off to Derbyshire to live in a 'shed with a bath' for a week of peace & quiet! 😊

*Phil J*