



The Oesophageal Patients Association  
Caring for the cancer patient & their family

www.opa.org.uk FIGHTING OESOPHAGEAL & GASTRIC CANCER Winter Issue 2019

# New Home for the OPA

We are delighted to have moved to our new offices in Hockley Heath, with better facilities to give our wonderful charity room to grow!

Our new head office in Hockley Heath is set in beautiful countryside, with much needed office space including a meeting room for us to help our growing list of patients, carers and their families.

None of this could have been possible without all of the support we are receiving by those touched by Oesophageal and Gastric Cancers.



## 2019 Strictly Star wears Fiona Wade Appeal Wristband!

One of the current Strictly Celebrities, Catherine Tyldesley, wearing the OPA Fiona Wade Wristband.

Catherine Tyldesley is best known for the role of Eva Price which she played on Coronation Street. Catherine can also be seen on Trollied, 15 Days and Scarborough.

The OPA would like to send a massive thank you to Catherine and Fiona.

Fiona Wade Appeal Wristbands can be ordered on the OPA Online Shop - <https://www.opa.org.uk/products/fiona-wade-appeal-wristband.html>



### Brand New OPA pin badges now in stock

You can order yours by visiting the OPA online shop to show your support. Cost is just £3 (inc P&P). [opa.org.uk/sections/opa-pin-badge.html](http://opa.org.uk/sections/opa-pin-badge.html)



0121 704 9860

charity@opa.org.uk

Charity No. 1062461

# Support for our AMAZING fundraisers

We would like to say a huge thankyou to everyone who has raised money to ensure we can carry on the fight against Oesophageal and Gastric Cancer.

We have always done our best to give those who can help as much support as we can, following on from feedback given to us by our fundraisers, we are delighted to announce the new OPA fundraising pack!

This simple pack has some great pointers on how to get an event or challenge off the ground and a few branded items to get you on your way!

If you would like to help us continue our support for patients, carers and their families, get in touch today and we will send you a pack. Call us on 0121 704 9860 or email us on: [charity@opa.org.uk](mailto:charity@opa.org.uk).

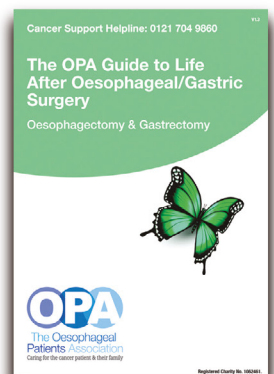
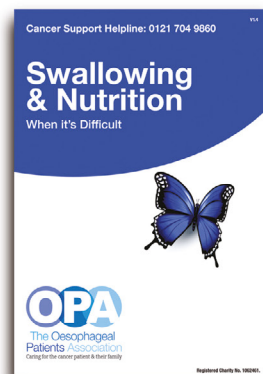
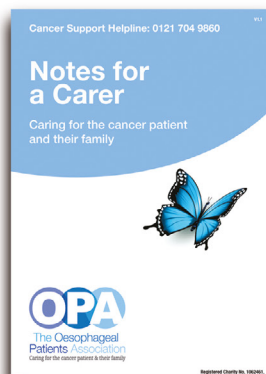
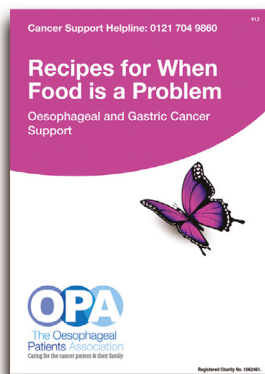
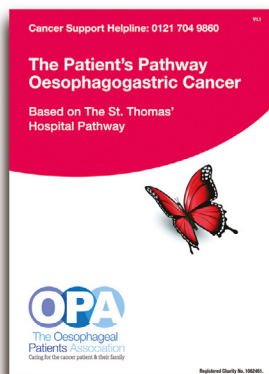


## Our new range of helpful booklets coming soon...

If you need any help or advice, we are here and if you need any of the OPA's publications you may notice they are looking very different these days.

We are committed to constantly checking and revising the booklets we supply free of charge with the help of some of the leading dietitians and surgeons in the country, the

newest generation of these books also feature the OPA's new branding and provide helpful advice, tips, recipes and even explain the patient's pathway to surgery and beyond, these booklets still form the cornerstones of what we do for Oesophageal and Gastric patients, carers and their families.





# Bed Wedges - Discount for the OPA



To take advantage of this offer:

1. Please call or email the OPA first and we will give you a Discount Code. Call us on 0121 704 9860 or email [enquiries@opa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@opa.org.uk)

2. With the Discount Code, call Putnams on 01752 345 678, email [info@putnams.co.uk](mailto:info@putnams.co.uk) or visit <https://www.putnams.co.uk/collections/bed-wedge-pillows/products/bed-wedge>

The OPA is continuing to put £12.50 per pillow towards this partnership and Putnams have, on top of that, agreed to a generous discount. The new standard retail price is £59.66, so you pay £31.50 – which is still saving over 48%!

## In Memoriam



Julie is on the right

Julie McEwen was an inspirational woman and a wonderful and supportive member of Tæppa's Tump Morris along with her husband Colin. She will be sadly missed, for her smile, her dancing and her courage.

Julie will be missed by us all at Guildford, our thoughts are with Colin and all of her family and friends.

Thank you to the Tæppa's Tump Morris dancers for raising funds of £869.93 in memory of Julie.

# Golfers go for it!



Special thanks to David Wiggin and Ptarmigan Media for organising their second Golf Day event in aid of the OPA!

This was held on 10th September 2019 at the Berkshire Golf Club, Berkshire.

**over £20,000.00  
Raised!**



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[charity@opa.org.uk](mailto:charity@opa.org.uk)



# Thank you to our supporters and fundraisers

Ptarmigan Media

Tenovus Choir

Mark Ramsden

Clive & Carolyn  
Bailey

Wolfski HD

Paddy Cuthberts

Joy Venturi Rose

Camelot

Tæppa's Tump  
Morris

Ray Clark

Bernard Murphy

Max Kellar

Jake Warner

*Thank you*

Rebecca Mulryan

Enhance Wealth  
Management

And anyone we may have missed.

Also, thanks for the continued support of our Charitable Trusts.

## Ray Clark's Band Appeal II

This amazing event organised by Ray Clark was held on Saturday 3rd August 2019, the Howden Shire Hall in East Yorkshire opened its doors to host the second concert for Ray Clark's Band Appeal: a show to raise funds and awareness for the OPA (Oesophageal Patients Association), and The Fiona Wade (Priya Sharma of Emmerdale) Appeal.



Like the event at The Junction Theatre in Goole a year previously, the organizer put the concert together in a similar fashion, presented as a variety show, very reminiscent of Sunday Night at the London Palladium. Although the concert poster displayed six acts, sadly, due to injury, only four were able to appear but that did not detract from the quality, or the unique way in which it was presented. Female impersonator, Mr. Chris Field was unable to appear due to a

shoulder injury, and The Yorkshire Tenor, Jacob Walsh had to back out with a throat injury.

The compere's job fell to the very talented comedy magician, William Knight, who grabbed the audience immediately with his wit and banter before quickly introducing 60's vocalist, Ray Clark: in an unscripted first set Ray featured two seventies hits accompanied by his acoustic guitar, and a couple of sixties numbers from The Searchers and Cliff Richard.

Following Ray was Goole's very own female vocalist Jessica Sharp: a talented young singer who also organizes her own charity fundraiser, Picnic in the Park, as well as entertaining with the Goole Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society. In her first set she proved she was at home with songs in any genre, one of which was a power ballad, Never Enough from The Greatest Showman, and Don't Rain On My Parade, a track featured in the film, Funny Girl starring Barbara Streisand.

William brought on the final act of the first half, the man with the golden voice who regularly appears on the East Yorkshire Coast circuit for Shearings at a number of their hotels, Mr. Daniel Defoe. Classics such as Night of a



Thousand Stars came out one after another, with a fabulous rendition of a medley from the musical, Oklahoma, that had plenty of audience participation.

After the interval, comedian cum magician, William Knight, took to the stage and utilized a number of rather nervous audience

members for one of his tricks, but like any seasoned professional, he made it all look very easy and, contrary to popular belief, no one was actually hurt! Due to the injuries, Jessica Sharp took to the stage for a second time with a fabulous performance of Shallow, the Lady Gaga hit from A Star Is Born, before belting out a number of dance tunes including Walking On Sunshine, and Abba's Mamma Mia to finish.

Ray Clark's second set concluded a very successful evening with a number of sixties classics by The Fortunes and The Monkees before switching to the eighties with Dire Straits Walk Of Life, and an American car song from 2006, a hit for Cliff Richard entitled What Car, before ending with a Dave Edmunds seventies rock classic, I Knew The Bride.

A special appearance by OPA trustee, Philip Wright who had travelled all the way from London for the night gave detailed information about the OPA and the Fiona Wade Appeal.

The show finished with a huge thank you to the sponsors, all of which were advertised in the evening's program. All artists returned to the stage for a collective and bouncy rendition of the Comic Relief theme, Tony Christie's, Amarillo: a fitting end to an excellent evening's entertainment.

The total figure raised and paid to the charity was £769.60

Program Sponsors:

Glews Garage, Broadley Printers, KSP Tooling, Clan Shots Photography, Abacus Accountancy, Steve Walker Motor Engineer

## Meet our new Trustees

The OPA are pleased to welcome aboard our new Trustees!



Professor Janusz Jankowski – MBChB MSc MD PhD PGCE PGCM AGAF FACG FRCP SFHEA

Professor Janusz Jankowski is a doctor, educationalist, researcher, writer and health policy expert. He is a board member of several health and sports charities.



Mr Javed Sultan - MSc MD FRCS Consultant Oesophago-Gastric, Bariatric & Laparoscopic Surgeon and Greater Manchester Clinical Lead for Oesophgo-Gastric Cancer

He was a Consultant Surgeon at the largest internationally renowned Northern Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Unit (Newcastle upon Tyne) prior to his appointment at the Royal Surrey County Hospital.

Thrill your walls now with stunning prints from the OPA's new art gallery.

# Fab Prints for Sale!

## ONLY £50 EACH!

(INCLUDING P&P)

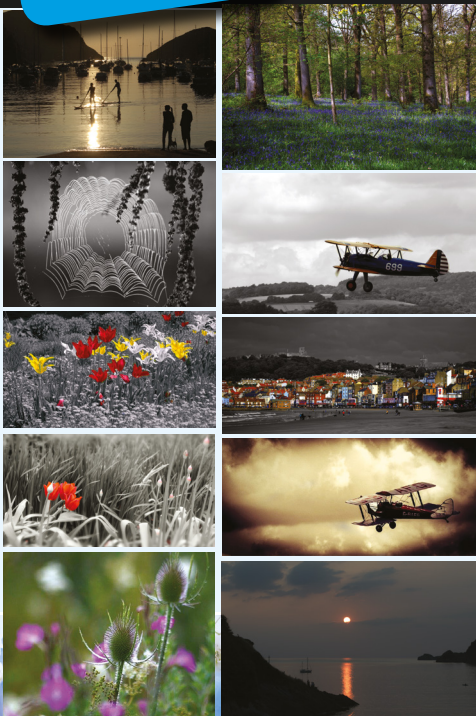
Purchase a unique Christmas gift from the OPA.

Choose from a selection of prints taken and donated by our very own Chairman

David Chuter ©

Prints are 20 x 16 inches approx.

(more prints available on the OPA online shop)







# Oesophageal Cancer. Marie's Story:



Our Journey began in October 2018 when my dad Ken Jones was diagnosed with terminal Oesophageal Cancer, chemo began in November 2018 and the road ahead was full of appointments, tests, and sadly discomfort for my dad. However it was a battle that he faced with bravery and determination to fight with everything he had.

Before the illness Dad was a hard working tradesman whom ran his own successful business for over 30 years, he was the kindest man who would help anyone, forever going above and beyond for customers and friends. Dad was just 66 Years old, a loving husband for 36 years to my mother Carol and a true family man who adored his two grandchildren Emelia and George who meant the world to him.

Mum slowly became dads carer, taking some leave from work she didn't leave his side, she went above and beyond her love for him, in dads words she was "his Angel". Since I was a little girl my dads dream was to one day walk me down the aisle, something I hoped would happen with my long term partner Andrew of 11 years. it always became something that we wanted to do but never got round to. Then when dad was diagnosed a few months later unbeknown to me Andy rang my dad and asked for his permission for my hand in marriage to which my dad replied "yes of course I couldn't ask for a better man for

my daughter" the moments that followed were some of the happiest times that ill forever treasure, we asked dad to pick the date, we chose the venue Langton's House in Hornchurch Essex, as it was local for dad.



The wedding (25th August 2019) then became dads focus and goal it was all he would talk about and the sense of pride and happiness it gave him will stay with me forever. Sadly dad didn't get to fulfil his goal as he lost his fight on 28th July 2019, surrounded by all those who loved him dearly, he will forever be remembered with love in our hearts and boots that can never be filled!

After laying dad to rest we had a family discussion about whether to go ahead or not but it was decided that dad would have wanted us to go ahead, it was also then decided that my mum would walk me down the aisle and that we would have a picture of dad on the table as we walked down, I also had a locket made that was attached to my bouquet which had a picture of dad and words that read "walk with me dad". The day itself was beautiful it was the hottest day of the year, and full of nothing but love and happiness a lasting legacy for dad, one which I think he would be very proud of.

Marie Larkin.

*Our sincerest thanks to Marie for sharing her story.*

## Fiona Wade Update.

Following the engagement announcement from our patron Fiona Wade, we are delighted to wish Fiona and Simon our congratulations on their forthcoming wedding. Also to say a massive thanks to Fiona for all of her help and support for the OPA!



data innovations

## Thankyou!

Our thanks to Lee, Dave and the team at Data Innovations for helping us with all our IT, careful management of all data and an IT infrastructure upgrade has been critical for us, so thanks from the office team here!

# Place your Christmas Card Order Here...

You can order your OPA Christmas Cards by calling 0121 704 9860, posting this order form and sending with a cheque to: OPA, 6 & 7 Umberslade Business Centre, Pound House Lane, Hockley Heath, Solihull B94 5DF. or email the order to us: enquiries@opa.org.uk or via the shop online.

'Snowfall, Hockley Woods, Essex' from a painting by Christine Muckley,

- 5 Cards £7.50
- 10 Cards £15.00
- 20 Cards £30.00
- 50 Cards £60.00



'Bluetit', from a painting by Christine Muckley,

- 5 Cards £7.50
- 10 Cards £15.00
- 20 Cards £30.00
- 50 Cards £60.00



'Winter Scene, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex' from a painting by Christine Muckley,

- 5 Cards £7.50
- 10 Cards £15.00
- 20 Cards £30.00
- 50 Cards £60.00



'Snowfall, Thorpe Bay, Essex', from a painting by Christine Muckley,

- 5 Cards £7.50
- 10 Cards £15.00
- 20 Cards £30.00
- 50 Cards £60.00

'Snowfall, Southend-on-sea, Essex' from a painting by Christine Muckley,

- 5 Cards £7.50
- 10 Cards £15.00
- 20 Cards £30.00
- 50 Cards £60.00



'Winter Robin', from a painting by Christine Muckley,

- 5 Cards £7.50
- 10 Cards £15.00
- 20 Cards £30.00
- 50 Cards £60.00



## Full set of designs

- 6 Cards (one of each Design) £9.00
- 12 Cards (two of each Design) £18.00
- 24 Cards (four of each Design) £36.00
- 48 Cards (eight of each Design) £58.00

Please send your payment together with a tick against the card(s) you wish to order to: OPA, 6 & 7 Umberslade Business Centre, Pound House Lane, Hockley Heath, Solihull B94 5DF. or email the order to us: enquiries@opa.org.uk.

Please make all cheques payable to the OPA, or pay online: Account number: 51354973 Sort Code: 40-42-12, or via our website: [www.opa.org.uk/sections/christmas-cards.html](http://www.opa.org.uk/sections/christmas-cards.html)

### Christmas Card Order Form

Name:.....  
 Address:.....  
 ..... Tel:.....  
 Email:.....  
 Amount enclosed for order:..... I would also like to donate £..... to the OPA.



# For Standing Order Donations

## By bank transfer

Recipient bank: HSBC Bank,  
34 Poplar Road, Solihull, B91 3AF  
Sort Code: 40 - 42 - 12  
Account Number: 51354973

## To make an online donation visit:

<https://www.opa.org.uk/donations.html>

## By regular Standing Order payment –

Sort Code: 40-42-12

Account Number: 51354973

I wish to make regular donations to the Oesophageal Patients Association of *(tick appropriate box)*

£2  £5  £10  £25  £100,

or other amount:

Please state amount in words:

every *(tick appropriate box)*  Week  Month  Year starting on \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ until further notice.

## Your bank details

To: (insert name and address of your bank) \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code: \_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

## In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to the OPA.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay.

## Your Details

Title: (Mr/Mrs/Dr etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

# Any other Donations

I am pleased to send a donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ Please tick here  if this is to be treated as a Gift Aid donation.

Title: (Mr/Mrs/Dr etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

For online donations – Account number: 51354973 Sort Code: 40-42-12

Please send this form to: Fundraising Dept. The OPA, 6 & 7 Umberslade Business Centre, Pound House Lane, Hockley Heath, Solihull B94 5DF. Or email to: [enquiries@opa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@opa.org.uk)

For further information please contact The OPA on 0121 704 9860 or email [charity@opa.org.uk](mailto:charity@opa.org.uk)

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