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Check out the article about the KPA Summer Ball which was kindly written for this newsletter! If you would like to write a piece to feature next month please don't hesitate to contact me! I would love to hear from you. =)

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First things first, **we need a group name!** So let's have a competition! Please send in your name ideas and we will have a vote to decide which one to go with!

I have had 3 people volunteer to make up the editorial team, which is great! If anyone else would like to volunteer please let me know. As part of the team I would want your help to make sure there is content going on to the group so that it remains interesting and relevant. I will still monitor the page to make sure everything on it is appropriate.

Young Adult Social!

Tiger Bills has been closed for refurbishment! This means I will need to find a new venue for our social! Since a few of you have said you would like to come but couldn't make it on the 4th I have decided to push it back a few weeks. I apologise for any inconvenience this causes those of you who planned to come! But hopefully a later date will ensure a larger turn out. The new date is...

Tuesday 18th August!

I will keep you updated regarding the venue! I definitely want the social to go ahead so please let me know if you plan to come.. The event will remain the same, only the location will be different, although will still be near the hospital.
Arrival time between 5.30 and 6.00 pm.

BKPA YOUNG ADULT **ACTIVITY WEEKEND**

Ravenstor

Come and enjoy an action packed FREE weekend at the Ravenstor Youth Hostel an impressive country house in the heart of the peak district.

A fantastic opportunity to meet other young adults from across the UK and enjoy a wide range of activities including archery, canoeing, walking, cycling and lots of fun socialising.

18th, 19th & 20th September!

We will be traveling up with young adults from Guys Hospital in a mini bus. You will be required to contribute some petrol money, but we are hoping the cost of the mini bus will be covered. We plan to travel up on Friday morning and return on Sunday evening as we think this might be easier for those of you who work/study and also for those of you on dialysis. So far 5 people from St Georges have signed up, which is fantastic! If you would like to come please let me know asap as the places are filling up very quickly! It's set to be a great weekend!



An evening at the KPA Mid-Summer Ball by Jeunita

I'd been eyeing up posters advertising the Admiral Trust's Ball in aid of St George's Kidney Patient Association, so when I was asked if I would attend I was instantly filled with excitement at the prospect of dusting off my occasion wear and getting glammed up for an evening at the prestigious Kia Oval. I was accompanied by some of the nurses, Marie-Louise (Young Adult Worker) and several patients.

Upon arriving at the Oval on a beautiful warm, sunny June evening we were guided upstairs to a roof-top champagne reception with views overlooking the cricket grounds and London's skyline. It was beautiful. Champagne glasses in hand, we admired the view and set about mingling and taking the opportunity to get photos of everyone dressed in their finery.

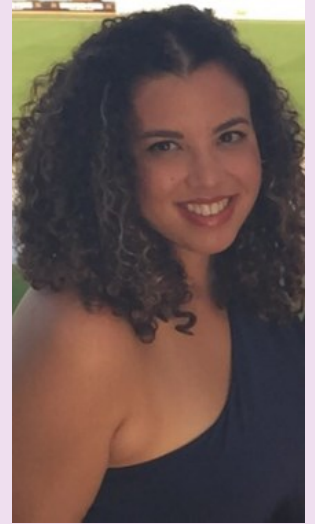
As dusk drew near we were summoned downstairs and seated at large formally arranged round tables, readily anticipating the rest of the evening's activities.

Once seated all guests took part in several games, as well as an auction. We were fortunate enough to meet Lawrence Keogh (head chef at the Wolesey Restaurant in Piccadilly) who told us about his personal struggles with kidney failure which led to him getting a transplant and writing a book on how to prepare meals suitable for those suffering with kidney failure! The Chairman of the Admiral Trust then shared his story about his struggle and how he was fortunate enough that his wife was able to donate to him. It was uplifting to see how well these people were doing and how passionate they were about helping to raise money for other kidney patients.

Just as stomachs began to rumble several waiters/waitresses streamed into the room with baskets full of warm bread rolls and butter. This was swiftly replaced by our first course, a spinach tart, followed by our main courses. The vegetarians amongst us were presented with a creamy risotto and there was chicken with white sauce, mushrooms and seasonal veg for the carnivores. For desert we all had orange and chocolate mousse. Throughout people chatted away amongst their tables making for a very lively atmosphere.

Shortly after dinner the string band began to play a set and nearly all of us ventured to the dance floor singing and dancing along to all the old classics.

The KPA Ball was such an amazing experience, not only because of the location, food and band but it was so inspiring to be surrounded by people from all different walks of life united for one cause.



Little Zion, 8, is youngest in the world to get new hands

by AIDAN RADNEDGE

A BOY of eight displays his beaming smile after becoming the world's youngest person to receive a double-hand transplant.

Zion Harvey showed off his new hands after they were attached by medics during an 11-hour operation.

The youngster, who lost his hands and feet after contracting a severe infection, said the new hands were 'weird at first, but then good'.

A team of 40 used steel plates and screws to fix his old and new bones before reconnecting his arteries, veins, muscles, tendons and nerves.

Dr L Scott Levin, of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, said: 'He woke up smiling. There hasn't been one whimper, one tear, one complaint.'

Zion is able to move his fingers and can pick up small objects such as pizza crusts. He contracted sepsis at the age of two and had his hands and feet amputated after multiple organ failure.

Mother Pattie Ray, who donated a kidney for her son's first transplant, said: 'This was no more of a risk than a kidney transplant.'

'So I felt like I was willing to take that risk for him, if he wanted it.'



I saw this article in the paper on my way home and thought it was a very inspiring story.

It is so amazing to think what these incredible surgeons can do! And what a brave young boy!

Please let me know if you hear or read about anything that you think would make a nice feature in the newsletter.