



July 5th, 2016

Bringing comfort to patients

Patients with lung conditions are sitting very comfortably at South Tyneside District Hospital, thanks to Breathe Easy South Tyneside.

The British Lung Foundation support group bought three reclining chairs for Ward 10 at a cost of £1,500. The money was raised at various events, including coffee mornings, a concert by the South Shields People's Mission Silver Band and a curry night.

Respiratory Nurse Specialist Tracey Brydon said: "We are very grateful to Breathe Easy South Tyneside for their generosity. Respiratory patients are often very unwell and can't find a resting place in bed but these chairs allow them to vary their position and, sometimes, even sleep. They can also be used by relatives who need to sleep over in a side room. The chairs, which meet our infection control standards, have foot rests and the wheels on them make it easy for staff to move them around."

Breathe Easy South Tyneside provides support and advice for people affected by a lung condition. As South Tyneside has one of the highest rates of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in the country, the group is particularly important to the borough.

Members meet on the third Friday of the month in St Gregory's Church Hall, St Gregory's Court, South Shields, at 2pm. All those who have a lung condition, plus families, friends and carers, are welcome to attend. As well as organising fund-raising events, the group invites speakers and arranges trips out. Anyone interested in going along to the meetings can contact Maureen Jones on 0191 455 9246 for more information or they are welcome to simply turn up.

ends

Pictured above: Breathe Easy South Tyneside's Meg Binnie sitting in one of the chairs, flanked by her colleagues Beryl Johnson and Maureen Jones, with back, left to right, Staff Nurse Nadia Elkaram, Ward Manager Viv Cockburn, Staff Nurse Lynsey Natrass and Respiratory Nurse Specialist Tracey Brydon

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

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