

## Gonubie Round Table donates an incredible R20 000!



Debbie Kleinenberg, of CHOC Eastern Cape, receives the R20 000 donation from Gonubie Round Table Chairman, Jaques de Jager, at a recent Round Table ceremony.

A very big thank you to Gonubie Round Table, who have given us a donation of R20 000 from the money they raised from hosting The Gonubie Festival - an amazing contribution that is going to be put to good use very soon. Many, many thanks!

### Special thanks to...

Johnson and Johnson for their generous donation of products for the care bags.

Donne Canning and the Merrifield Grade 7 learners for visiting the children and bringing them gifts. The children had a wonderful time and love the gifts!

### New Developments...

Welcome to our three new volunteers: Penny Smith, Denise Muil and Judy White. We are very excited to have these wonderful young ladies join us and share in improving the lives of the children suffering from cancer.

### Special Request...

We require volunteers to assist us with our mothers' sewing programme or to teach other arts and crafts skills. Anyone who wishes to assist can contact Debbie.

## Blood Buddy visits the Ward: SANBS celebrates World Blood Donor's Day



Debbie Kleinenberg of CHOC and Judy Koch of the SANBS with the children on World Blood Donor's Day.



Dr Rema Matthew and several members of SANBS with the blood buddy at the Ward.

## Merrifield learners visit the Ward

A group of Merrifield learners spent some time with the children of Ward C5 and kindly gave the children gifts.



### Signs and symptoms of childhood cancer...

- C**ontinued, unexplained weight loss
- H**eadaches, often with early morning vomiting
- I**ncreased swelling or persistent pain in bones, joints, back, or legs
- L**ump or mass, especially in the abdomen, neck, chest, pelvis, or armpits
- D**evelopment of excessive bruising, bleeding, or rash
- C**onstant infections
- A** whitish color behind the pupil
- N**ausea which persists or vomiting without nausea
- C**onstant tiredness or noticeable paleness
- E**ye or vision changes which occur suddenly
- R**ecurrent or persistent fevers of unknown origin

## + Your Medical Facts

### LEUKEMIA TREATMENT

Treating leukemia is sometimes confusing and complicated. The common methods used to kill blasts are chemotherapy and radiation therapy. Blood transfusions don't kill blasts, but are very important. Bone marrow transplants and immunotherapy are also methods of treatment.

This month we give you information on:

### CHEMOTHERAPY

Here are some of the drugs used during chemotherapy:

- Vincristine: it comes from the periwinkle plant and acts on dividing cells and is given into a vein (IV).
- Prednisone or Decadron: it is a hormone and acts by killing lymphocytes. It comes in the form of a pill.
- L-Asparaginase: it is one of a group of drugs called enzymes and acts by breaking up one of the ingredients that blasts need to make protein, and blasts need protein to grow and divide. This is given as a shot usually into a muscle.
- Daunorubicin or Adriamycin: they are a group of antibiotics and they stop cells from making RNA and DNA so that cells can't grow and divide. They are given as an IV shot.
- Methotrexate: it is one of a group of drugs called antimetabolites and acts by stopping cells from making new DNA so they can't divide. It is given as a spinal tap, as a pill, an IV or IM.
- 6-Mercaptopurine: is also an antimetabolite and is given either as a pill or as an IV shot
- Cytosine arabinoside: it is another antimetabolite and is given as a shot either IV or under the skin.
- 6-Thioguanine: is another antimetabolite and comes as a pill.
- 5-Azacytidine: it acts by confusing a cell and it stops making protein and therefore doesn't grow anymore. It is given as an IV.
- Cyclophosphamide: it is called an alkylating agent it acts by changing the way important molecules are shaped. It is given as a pill or an IV shot.
- Bis-chloroethyl-nitrosourea: it also changes the way important molecules are shaped and is given as an IV shot.