



**Ileostomy & Internal Pouch
Association**

Registered Charity

North West Lancashire & Cumbria IA Branch
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Dear member,

30th April 2020.

Obviously the main topic which is on everyone's mind is Covid19. I hope that you have all been able to follow governmental advice without too much hardship and have remained safe and well.

As I fall in the "elderly" at risk group I have restricted my travel to a weekly shop at the supermarket and find that after the initial shortages due to panic buying by some people things are almost back to normal apart from having to queue for a short time but once inside it is quite pleasant because there are not many people in the aisles at any one time due to the social distancing rules.

I am fortunate enough to have a large garden and because of the good weather I have spent most of my time working in it - even digging up an old tree stump - so much for being classed as an "oldie" and I'm pleased to say that my garden has never before looked as neat and tidy at this time of year.

On a brighter note and thanks to a contribution from IA's Matched Funding Scheme we were able to purchase an Anatomical Torso, a full length door mirror, and coffee cups and flasks to allow patients to have discussions in private, in a refurbished side room at the Royal Preston Hospital, about any issues they may have either pre or post operative.

The torso would be used to demonstrate how the full digestive system works and will also be used by the Colorectal Nursing Team, which covers stoma care, to train nurses on general wards to be aware of issues which might arise with patients with a stoma if admitted for other medical reasons.

I'm sorry that our members' meeting had to be cancelled as have some planned by the Appliance Manufacturing companies but to use the words of the famous Vera Lynn song – "We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when, but I know we'll meet again some sunny day". In the meantime stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

Keith

Keith Woan.
Branch Secretary

Ileostomy and Internal Pouch Association is a company limited by guarantee.

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