Dear Peter,

Thank you for your helpful letter of 5th November.

We examined the transfusion records of two of the batches that were heated, one for 2 hours and the other for 24 hours and this formed the basis of a short publication in Vox Sanguinis.

If there are now known to be two further batches that HIV positive donations were included, then I think it very important that we know the batch numbers so that we can review our transfusion records and ascertain which patients received them. As you know we have several patients in whom we are uncertain exactly how they came by HIV. It is, however, unlikely that either of these other two batches resulted in infection as all the patients who seroconverted to HIV either received the main implicated batch for the major cohort or one further batch for the minor cohort and the others who seroconverted did so prior to December 1984, prior to the introduction of heat treatment.

I should be grateful if you could let me know the batch numbers of the two additional lots just so that we can confirm just who received them.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

C.A. Ludlam,
Consultant Haematologist.