



The League of Friends

OF THE ROYAL SHREWSBURY HOSPITAL

Newsletter Spring/Summer 2019

Dear Member,

As a charity we continue to grow due to the continuous support of so many generous people, for that reason we are able to provide vital hospital equipment which is helping to improve patient care and save more lives. Many of the legacies and donations we receive are in appreciation of the marvellous treatment patients have received from the hospital staff at RSH and also kindness shown from our volunteers when they visit one of our shops.

Our four shops within the hospital are constantly busy serving customers and providing a friendly and caring service; it's also wonderful to see many newly recruited volunteers of all ages generously giving their time to help in our shops and we are very grateful to them all. *"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."*

Our Fundraising Committee as always are working hard organising a variety of events for the coming months, along with our three branches, Berrington, Whitchurch and Church Stretton. (See 'Dates for your diary' for more details).

The positive feedback we receive on the equipment we have gifted and how much it has benefited patients makes it all worthwhile so thank you for helping to make a difference.

Yours sincerely

Susan

Susan Hurdiss, Organising Secretary

Last year the League of Friends gifted £1million for a new MRI Scanner and it has brought enormous benefits to patients young and old; as well as providing more advanced and high quality images.

Glen Whitehouse, Radiology Centre manager at Sath, said: "This MRI scanner provides us with the capacity we need to support the ever increasing demand for the MRI service and is already running 12 hour days providing fantastic images for our patients. The League of Friends' scanner has always been a bit special because it has the addition of cardiac imaging packages and functionality.

"Our dedicated MRI team are now providing regular MRI cardiac lists to our patients who would have otherwise had to travel outside of the county for their scans."



Dr Angus McGregor with Friends Chairman Richard Lawn

The Pathology Lab received two new microscopes thanks to a donation by the Friends of £43,000. The new microscopes will aid the important work of the cellular pathology team. Amanda Rainbow, deputy head BMS said "Cellular Pathology is fundamental to the diagnosis of cancer and its treatment. The department receives over 30,000 histology and non-gynaecological cytology specimens each year and produces around 130,000 stained slides. These are all examined by 11 Pathologists. This autumn the department welcomed two new Consultant Cellular Pathologists and they have already helped the dept. to reduce its turnaround time, enabling more rapid treatment for patients.

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The League of Friends Shop Office
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New Patient Monitors helping to improve Patient care

In total 17 Patient Monitors have been gifted to the hospital at a cost of £2,200 each due to the efforts of our marvellous Fundraising committee and members of the Berrington and Whitchurch branches; who have raised the money by holding events in their local community; each branch consists of only a small number of dedicated and enthusiastic ladies who for many years have given their time to organising wonderful events throughout the year.

Nigel Watkinson, Medical Engineering Services Manager at The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, said: "Monitors purchased for the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital by the League of Friends of the RSH and Berrington and Whitchurch branches allow the hospital's frontline nursing staff to carry out swift, reliable and accurate measurement of patient vital signs, they also have the facility to monitor ECG.



Stewart Johnson, Medical Engineer; Corrine Gwilliams, MES Office Manager; Libby Baines, Berrington branch; Jon Ashcroft, MES Team Leader; Thelma Wynn, Chairman of Whitchurch branch; Fraser Tench, Medical Engineer.

£44,000 Donation for two scanners is supporting the hospital's vital screening service

Jessica Smith, AAA Programme Co-ordinator/Manager of the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust said "Since we received the scanners we have used them to screen 4752 patients and have detected 41 aneurysms and continued to monitor patients whose aneurysms have not yet reached threshold. All of which could not have been done without the League of Friends support.

This year, we embarked on a poster campaign; once again the Friends supported us by displaying posters in their four hospital cafes and on their electronic T.V's. Many thanks for all your hard work and support, you have contributed so much to our services and are an inspiration to us".

Christmas Draw raised £2,500

Fundraising committee members Sue Skinner and Alison Holroyd drew out the four winning tickets with the help of two of the Panto characters from Mother Goose.

Special thanks to Colin Roscoe for his tremendous support in selling raffle tickets twice a week in the Outpatients reception and securing extra funds from Barclays bank.



"Christmas Wreaths & table decorations galore"

Fundraising Chairman Kate Hazan with florist Cathy Young who gave a wonderful demonstration.

Jordan Preece (centre) newly recruited staff member first joined the Friends over six months ago as a volunteer and has already proved to be a valued and popular member of the team. Shop volunteer Anne Hasnip (left) who for many years has given her time to helping in the shops; Sally Davies who not only helps in the shops but serves on both the Friends Executive and Fundraising committees.

Right: Committee members Alida England, Carol Baxter & Jane Preece.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: SPRING/SUMMER 2019

- **Wednesday 10th April 10.30 - 12.30:**

Coffee morning hosted by Jo Spencer-Jones at Bray House, Shawardine, SY4 1AJ. Admission £3.

- **Wednesday 15th May:**

Berrington branch coffee morning hosted by Roger & Sally Owen, Brookside, Dorrington.

- **Saturday 6th July:**

NGS Open Garden Tea hosted by Geoff Cobley.

- **Thursday 12th September:**

Ladies Doubles Tennis tournament, Town Walls, Shrewsbury.

Please note that extra events after this newsletter was printed will be arranged; for more details and any new updates please contact The Friends office: 01743 261007, email s.hurdiss@nhs.net or look on our website www.rshlof.org.uk

The Centenary Lodge of Mark Master Masons generously donated over 300 audio books worth £4,000 together with personal CD players and headphones. Richard Lawn, Chairman of the Friends Executive committee said, "At the League of Friends we are of course very proud of the large equipment items we are able to buy for the RSH because of the success of our shops and the kindness of people who donate to us or leave us legacies. But we are equally as proud of the more day to day things our volunteers can do for the patients and their loved ones - a kind word in the coffee shop or a welcome visit from the ward trolley. This amazing gift from The Centenary Lodge of Mark Master Masons combines both of these, both a generous donation and another way we can work to brighten patients' stay in the hospital."

The Mark Master Masons have since donated a further generous £500 and we are so very grateful for their continued support.



Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Ian Smith, Immediate Past Master Peter James and Derek Suttleworth, Charity Steward with Friends Shop Manager Lee Herkes.

For many years Adrienne and Alwynn have given their time to organising 'table-top' sales in Outpatients reception with all money going towards hospital equipment. At the end of 2018 they finally decided to retire and in recognition of their marvellous support they were presented with bouquets of flowers.



A winter lunch was held on the 20th February at the Trinity Centre with guest speakers Di Carrington and Sharon Magrath who gave a very interesting talk on their successful and incredible challenge sailing across the Atlantic. The event was well supported and raised £1400.

Centre: Di Carrington & Sharon Magrath with Richard Steventon, Friends Executive committee member and Sian Morris, member of the Friends Fundraising committee.



Leaving a gift in your Will or leaving a donation in memory of a loved will make a lasting difference

By making provision for the League of Friends RSH in your Will, you would be providing a lasting gift for future generations. Every sum, no matter how small, is welcomed and spent entirely on providing vital hospital equipment to improve patient care and help save more lives. *Thank you for your interest and support – we could not do without it.*

DRAW TICKETS:

Enclosed is a book of 10 raffle tickets which you can purchase yourself, or sell to family and friends. Tickets are just £1 each (£10 for the book) sold/unsold tickets should be returned to the Friends office **by 10.00 am on Thursday 15th August 2019** to ensure entry into the draw. **For extra tickets contact the office 01743 261007.**



Whatever the season...

Wace Morgan Solicitors will point you in the right direction



For legal advice contact Wace Morgan Solicitors

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A very special thanks to Wace Morgan for once again generously sponsoring this newsletter.