



# The League of Friends

OF THE ROYAL SHREWSBURY HOSPITAL

## Newsletter Autumn/Winter 2022/23

### Dear Member,

As the leaves begin to fall and the air starts to feel crisper and a little cooler, we take time to reflect on the summers past. I hope you managed to enjoy the abundance of sunshine we were blessed with and have some lovely memories to look back on.

Our wonderful Fundraising Committee were busy organising numerous events benefitting from the glorious weather. I thank everyone who has supported us and especially those that generously hosted events in their beautiful gardens.

The Shrewsbury Flower Show once again brought the Quarry alive having previously been cancelled for two years due to Covid. The LoF were delighted to serve our traditional bacon butties during the two set-up days, seeing familiar faces and welcoming new. Once the show commenced our stand converted into a Plant Creche for visitors to leave their purchases, along with a donation to help raise extra funds for equipment.

Our four shops within the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital continue to be the Friends front-line providing a daily service to all its customers. During Covid it was difficult not seeing everyone and unfortunately not all our volunteers have been able to return; however, it is wonderful to welcome many new faces to our team.

Sincere thanks to Wace Morgan for their generosity and kindness in sponsoring our newsletters for the past eleven years, it is so very much appreciated.

There are several events planned for the coming months, including our Christmas coffee morning on the 12th December at Prestfelde School, please come along if you can as it would be wonderful to see you.

Yours sincerely

Susan

Susan Hurdiss, Organising Secretary

As we grieve the loss of our beloved Queen, we recall one of her more memorable and poignant quotes: "It's worth remembering that it is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change."

- The Queen's Christmas broadcast 2019.



*In 2006 The League of Friends of the RSH were presented with a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service for outstanding achievement and commitment to helping others. Executive Chairman at the time, James Hodgson proudly accepted the award from the Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire Algernon Heber-Percy.*



*Sue Skinner & Alison Holroyd from our Fundraising committee busy setting up the Friends Stall at the Shrewsbury Flower Show*

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Catriona said: "I, like many others, have seen first-hand how RSH LoF have contributed through their invaluable support whether that is through their four coffee shops located at RSH, or through their many fundraising events each year. All the funds raised are used to purchase additional equipment for the benefit of our patients, which is fantastic, and we are incredibly grateful for all their support. Congratulations to the winners."

Richard Steventon, Executive Chairman of the League of Friends thanked everyone who has supported our Summer Draw this year, with all proceeds going towards funding three Patient Vital Signs Monitors for the Day Care Unit. This additional equipment is to support an increase in elective surgery post COVID-19."

The four winning tickets for this year's Friends Summer Raffle were drawn on Wednesday 17th August by Louise Barnett, Chief Executive of The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust and Catriona McMahon, Chair of SaTH.



Lyn Hawes,  
Jackie Winwood,  
Richard Steventon,  
Wendy Parton &  
Bridget Goodall

Wendy is presented with retirement gifts from the Friends Executive Chairman Richard Steventon & Shops Chairman Jackie Winwood in recognition of over 30 years' service; during that time she has been a big part of the team helping to run the Friends four hospital shops, her warmth and kindness will be greatly missed.

### League of Friends donate £200,000 towards the new unit in Ophthalmology

The new cataract suite has been named after Tony Barker, in recognition of his 37 years of continued service as the League of Friends Honorary Treasurer.

Tony Fox, consultant surgeon and lead for the Ophthalmology Transformation Work stream at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, said: "I am delighted that all of the years of collaborative work to modernise and transform the ophthalmology services at Shrewsbury and Telford have culminated into this amazing facility."

Baroness Finlay, President of Attend, a charity that supports and expands roles that volunteers play in creating health communities, said: "It has really struck me that this is a co-production – and that you have worked with your patients, your community and your staff and out of it you have instilled the best of all the ideas. "As for the League of Friends, the amount of money that they have raised is amazing"

Julia Clarke, director of public participation at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, said: "We are, as ever, very grateful to the League of Friends who have supported the investment in this service and the wonderful unit which supports patients across Shropshire, Telford., Wrekin and Mid Wales.



Committee member Chris Balmer with Chris Neil's grandson Arthur who was a big help on the Plant Stall



Tricia Wells and Mary Rose Bone busy serving tea/coffee.

Chris Neil kindly hosted a coffee morning at her beautiful home near Yockleton, it was the perfect sunny day to explore the lovely gardens while catching up with friends over a coffee. The event raised £713, many thanks to all the helpers and everyone who attended and gave their support.

Baroness Finlay with League Friends Treasurer Mr Anthony Barker





## Dates for your diary:-

- **Friday 28th October 7.00pm:**

Quiz Night at Radbrook Community Centre.  
Calverton Way, Shrewsbury, SY3 6DJ  
Tables of 4, £40 (£10 pp) includes a buffet, glasses of wine and soft drinks will be available to purchase.

- **Friday 2nd December:**

Christmas Wreath Making, led by florist Liz Dawson  
Hosted by Jo Spencer Jones  
Braye House, Shrawardine, Shrewsbury, SY4 1AJ  
Two sessions 9.00am -12.00, 1.00pm - 4.00  
£30 includes all materials and refreshments

- **Monday 12th December 10.00-12.30:**

Christmas Coffee Morning  
Prestfelde School, London Road, SY2 6NZ  
£5.00 Entrance includes welcome coffee/tea & mincepies.  
Plenty of stalls with festive treats and gift ideas

For further information on these events, please contact:  
Friends office: 01743 261007 or email:  
s.hurdiss@nhs.net

### Afternoon teas in the beautiful gardens of Manor House, Little Stretton, hosted by Charmian Smithers

Once again we were lucky with the weather and it was a glorious sunny afternoon, just perfect for indulging in afternoon tea and homemade cakes in the idyllic setting of Manor House, where the gardens simply took your breath away. Sincere thanks to Charmian and the ladies from the Fundraising Committee who helped and provided an array of delicious homemade cakes. Due to the marvellous support from everyone the afternoon raised £1,250.



Charmian on the right showing some friends her beautiful hand-painted cards.



Gail Gilchrist from the Fundraising Committee busy serving on the Plant Stall.

The rain held off and once again the Ladies Tennis Tournament was a huge success and raised £1,800, which included a generous donation of £500 from Lloyds Bank. Members of the Fundraising committee provided a delicious lunch for all the players. Many thanks to Shrewsbury High School and Town Walls Tennis Club for the use of their courts and Club House.



Karen Sullivan & Fiona Edwards receiving their winning trophy from Friends Chairman Richard Steventon.



Alex Sudlow from Lloyds Bank helping Judy Edwards, lead organiser of the event, draw the raffle.

### 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 very much indeed for your support.



#### 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 Friday 9th December** 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

**01743 280 100**

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help@wmlaw.co.uk [www.wacemorgan.co.uk](http://www.wacemorgan.co.uk)

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