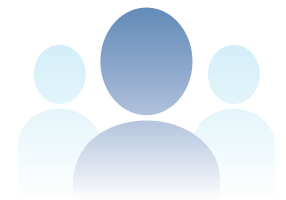




The League of Friends

OF THE ROYAL SHREWSBURY HOSPITAL



NEWSLETTER Autumn/Winter 2023/2024

Dear Member,

As the golden hues of summer gently yield to the warm embrace of autumn, we reflect upon the variety of events held by our wonderful fundraising team and look forward to the exciting plans for the season ahead.

Sue Skinner, a dedicated and long-standing committee member, has taken on the role of the new Chairman, bringing with her a treasure trove of fresh ideas for the upcoming year whilst upholding our traditional events.

Over the last twelve months, an impressive sum of £34,548 has been raised through their fundraising events alone - a truly remarkable achievement. This success is a testament to the dedication and enthusiasm of our committee, as well as the generosity of all those who came along and supported us.

Our four hospital shops continue to deliver a valuable service to our customers, through the hard work and dedication of our incredible staff and volunteers. In our quest to make an even greater impact, we continually seek new volunteers. If you, or anyone you know, can spare some time to brighten someone's day, serve a cup of coffee and above all, make a meaningful difference, we eagerly welcome your involvement.

It is through the generosity and kindness of individuals like you that our charity can continue to provide the essential funding for innovative pieces of hospital equipment – helping to improve the care for patients. This vital support has led to the acquisition of kit, such as the Surgical Navigation System for ENT. This technology has enabled highly skilled surgeons to perform complex reconstructive surgery whilst affording patients the opportunity to receive their much-needed treatment closer to home, rather than having to travel long distances.

We extend our gratitude and thanks to the staff at Wace Morgan solicitors, who have generously sponsored our newsletters and provided help and support on some of our fundraising projects for over twelve years.

Yours sincerely,

Susan

Susan Hurdiss, Organising Secretary

Equipment gifted to the Hospital Trust 2022/23:-

- £196,867** Ventilators for Intensive Care Unit.
- £168,750** Equipment for Ophthalmology.
- £11,976** Air filters for hospital wards.
- £9,282** Monitors for Day Surgery cases.
- £16,054** Funding contribution towards Radiotherapy A1 Software.
- £3,007** Reclining chairs for End-of-life Swan Rooms.
- £5,590** Cuddle blankets for End-of-Life care.
- £7,843** Mammography equipment.
- £4,980** Falls alarm systems.
- £3,663** Vein Sight 500 for quick location of veins in children.
- £78,326** Nasal Navigation system for ENT, used in complex reconstruction surgery.
- £39,995** Moving & Handling equipment.



Shop volunteers Jean Jones and Maggy Scott pulled out the four winning tickets in this year's League of Friends' Summer Draw. Both ladies along with a small team of other wonderful volunteers give their time freely and generously to help keep the Friends four hospital shops running. We would like to thank everyone who supported our Draw which raised £1,140, all the money will be put towards funding the Surgical Navigation System.

The League of Friends Fundraising Office
Royal Shrewsbury Hospital North, Shrewsbury SY3 8XQ
T: (01743) 261007

The League of Friends Shop Office
T: (01743) 261008

Email: s.hurdiss@nhs.net
www.rshlof.org.uk



Sad news on the loss of Mrs June Whitaker

June has been a big part of the League of Friends RSH for 51 years, joining in 1972, during that time she has taken up the role both as Chairman of the Executive Committee and of the Fundraising committee, hardly missing any meetings; not only giving her time as a valued Trustee but also helping at events as well as raising individual funds for the Friends by hosting charity lunches and garden visits. She has been presented with numerous awards for outstanding voluntary service, always thinking of others before herself.

Just over 30 years ago June was part of a small group of volunteers who set up the Shropshire Association League of Friends, which continues to this day. As President she hosted an annual 'Bring & Share Lunch' at her home in Westbury, which provides a wonderful opportunity for everyone to get together.

Treasurer Tony Barker said, "she will be greatly missed and remembered for what a wonderful person she was and an inspiration to us all"



June with Jayne & Paul Mott before Jayne received her League of Mercy Award for outstanding voluntary service. June was there to give her support, always keen to highlight the good work of others.



The High Sheriff steps in at the last minute to kindly host this special event. (High Sheriff Mandy Thorn, Jayne Mott Chairman of the Shropshire Association LoF with members of the various Leagues).

After a family wedding Peter & Susan Draper kindly offered their beautifully decorated barn for the Friends to hold a coffee morning, the glorious sunshine enticed lots of friends and family to come along, enjoy coffee & cake and be tempted by the variety of stalls. The event was a great success and raised £1,820.



Committee members Barbara Lester, Christine Balmer & Judy Edwards

Carol Baxter, Tricia Wells & Linda Savage



Joy Fox pictured with Sue Skinner

A coffee morning was held in the idyllic setting of the home of Kevin & Joy Fox and the event was well supported and raised £750.

Shop Manager Lee Herkes said "I am happy to announce that things have pretty much returned to pre-pandemic levels in the shops again and they are as busy as ever. I would like to thank all our staff and volunteers for their amazing hard work, especially at these times where we are so short of volunteers to help in the shops. To give you some idea of how busy we are, we are currently selling 450 Chelsea buns a week across all the shops! (That's £675 raised a week just from Chelsea bun sales)"

Shop Volunteers Ellie & Alison helping in the Shop



Dates for your diary:

- Saturday 11th November**
 Bridge afternoon £25.00 pp includes lunch
Mereside Hall, Shrewsbury, commencing at mid-day. For more details email rose-crocker@hotmail.co.uk
- Monday 27th November**
 Berrington Branch League of Friends
 Festive Wreath Making, Longden Village Hall.
*£35 pp includes coffee/ biscuits, a light lunch of homemade soup and cakes.
 Plus an evening session £30 includes mulled wine and mince pies.*
- Friday 8th December**
 Art exhibition by Penny Timmins at Morris Hall.
*Preview evening 6 - 9pm
 £20 pp includes welcome drink & canapes.
 Bar available to purchase extra drinks.*
- Monday 11th December**
 Christmas wreath making hosted by Jo Spencer Jones.
*£30 pp includes coffee/tea, mulled wine & mincepies.
 Two sessions: 9.30 – 12.00 & 1.00 – 4.00pm*

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

A Fizz & Flowers event was kindly hosted by Mr & Mrs James Tanner on one of the hottest evenings of the year, with the most stunning location of Preen Manor, Tanners fizz and delicious canapes all freshly prepared and served by the Fundraising committee, it couldn't be anything but a wonderful event and enjoyed by everyone. Due to the tremendous support the event raised £3,000.



*Les Hurdiss,
 Derek Skinner &
 Jonathan Davies
 serving*

*Fundraising members
 Gail Gilchrist,
 Alex Whittall,
 Chris Balmer
 & Alison Holroyd*



*New Fundraising Chairman
 Sue Skinner presents former
 Chairman Jane Preece with
 a beautiful, engraved gift
 in appreciation of her hard
 work and commitment over
 the last 3 years. Jane will
 continue as a valued member
 of the fundraising and Executive
 committees.*

The annual Tennis Tournament was a scorcher! Yet it didn't deter the amazing and skillful tennis players that took part, after the tournament a delicious summer lunch was served followed by a presentation of prizes. £1,800 was raised which included a generous donation from Lloyds Bank.

We are very grateful to everyone that supported us, special thanks to the Shrewsbury High school, Town Walls & Shrewsbury Lawn tennis clubs for the use of their courts and Club House. Extra thanks to Lakeland for generously donating a fabulous prize for our raffle.

*Judy Edwards with Alex
 Sudlow from Lloyds Bank*



Leaving a gift in your Will or leaving a donation in memory of a loved one 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 9.00 am on 14th December** to ensure entry into the draw. **For extra tickets contact the office 01743 261007.**

Please note that League of Friends Christmas Cards are available to purchase from any of our hospital shops or St Mary's Church Charity Card shop in Shrewsbury



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To speak to one of our experts get in touch today.

Shrewsbury

01743 280 100

Newtown

01686 806 500

You can also email our team:
help@wmlaw.co.uk

We also operate a 24 hour domestic violence helpline.

If you need help please call our trauma line on:
07823 777 774