



The League of Friends of the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital

NEWSLETTER
Spring/Summer 2025

Dear Member,

With Spring finally here it brings longer days, flowers in bloom and a renewed sense of energy; it also reminds us of the power of hope and healing. Thanks to your kindness and generosity our charity continues to provide hospital equipment to improve patient care and help save more lives. In the last 3 years we have gifted £650,000 of equipment across all medical departments, including Critical Care, A & E, Respiratory Unit, Endoscopy, Ophthalmology, Paediatrics .

Fundraising Chairman Sue Skinner and her marvellous team of talented ladies have been planning a variety of events for the coming months, please join us if you can and bring along your friends.

I can never give enough praise to our volunteers and staff who keep our four shops running day in day out, providing a much-needed service and always with a smile. Many of our donations and legacies are in appreciation of the kindness that patients and visitors have received from our shop staff. Extended thanks to the members of our committees who give their time, expertise and commitment to the League and have done so for many years.

We feel very lucky to receive such wonderful support from so many people in our community and from local businesses who continue to help us by providing sponsorship for our fundraising events. On behalf of the League of Friends I would like to say a 'huge' thank you to you all.

Yours sincerely,

Susan

Susan Hurdiss, Organising Secretary



Phil Felwell & Carmel Whiting, Medical Device Training Facilitators; Stu Johnson, Medical Engineering Team leader; Tom Saum, Medical Engineer

Phil Felwell said "The Medical Devices Training Team thank the League of Friends very much for kindly funding the purchase of these 2 Oxylitre Portable Suction pumps. These pumps are standardised on the Trust's Resuscitation Trolleys and are a potentially life-saving piece of equipment which all clinical staff need to know how to check, assemble and operate; failing to do so could result in harm to a patient. Up to now the Team has relied upon photographs and videos as training aids; having these two pumps will allow us to incorporate 'hands-on' training as part of the Medical Gasses staff Induction at both the Royal Shrewsbury and Princess Royal Hospitals; greatly improving the training experience"

Luke Fox said "We are extremely grateful to the League of Friends for funding 2 Taurus walking frames for our Trauma and Orthopaedic patients on Ward 32. I was fortunate to use these aids in a previous role and saw the benefit they had to patients. These frames have been particularly beneficial to our hip fracture patients who we know get the best possible outcomes if we facilitate earlier mobilisation. The feedback from patients and staff has been overwhelmingly positive and I'm hopeful other wards will invest in these moving forward to further benefit our patients at SaTH

Luke Fox (T&O Therapy Team manager), Clare Fisher (Therapy Support worker), Adam Johnson-Baddeley (Rotational Physiotherapist), Helen Williams (Ward Manager T&O ward 32) Demi Leigh Woollam (Therapy Support worker), Laura Tasker (Senior Physiotherapist) and patient Gwyneth Jones



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





Jane Titley - Paediatric Sister, Emma Higgins - Paediatric Practice Education Facilitator, Charlotte Davies and Jennie Probert - Paediatric Ward Managers with Liz Rowlands from the Berrington Branch Friends who raised the funds for this valuable piece of equipment

Beckie Nock, Advanced Clinical Practitioner – Paediatrics said “The donation of the VeinSight device has been really valuable in assisting nursing and medical staff in carrying out venepuncture and cannulation for our patients. The device allows us a better view of the target vein so that the procedure can be completed at a higher success rate and in turn causes less distress and discomfort for the patients. Valuable donations such as this help us make a big difference to the care we provide”

Abseil Challenge



Sally Davies and her sister Claire took up the Abseil challenge and raised in total £1,455. Congratulations on a marvellous achievement.



Some of our wonderful Shop staff and volunteers– Sue Croucher, Judy Mitchell, Dennis Creighton-Robinson, James Ashby & Martin Jones

Hardworking Staff and Volunteers

Shop Manager Leer Herkes said “Despite the massive negative impact the closure of Outpatients entrance has had on trade, our hard-working shop staff and volunteers managed to make last year our best ever. This allowed us to transfer £160,000 from the shops to the charitable funds account. I also appreciate the patience they all have while the changes are ongoing with the building work. It’s lovely to see a recent influx of new volunteers eager to help too”



Forthcoming Events:

- **Wednesday 2nd April 7.30pm**
Talk by Tullis Matson of 'Nature's Safe' Saving Animals From Extinction.
Chapel Fields Conference Centre, near Whitchurch.
£15.00 to include a welcome drink & cheese & biscuits.
Shortlisted for the Earthshot Prize in 2023. Nature Safe is Europe's only charity with laboratories dedicated to the long-term storage of live cells from animal species at risk of extinction).
- **Tuesday 20th May 10.00 - 12.00**
Coffee Morning By kind permission of Mr & Mrs James Hodgson, 44 Porthill Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 8RN
- **Tuesday 17th June 10.00-12.00**
Coffee Morning By kind permission of Kate Benbow, Bradeley Farm, Bourton, near Much Wenlock TF13 6JN
- **Wednesday 25th June**
Charity Golf Day
Mile End Golf Club, near Oswestry SY11 4JF
Entry to include coffee & bacon bap on arrival, round of golf, two course meal with coffee after the game
- **Saturday 19th July 2.00 – 5.00 pm**
Open Garden & Teas
Cruckfield House, Shoothill, Ford SY5 9NR
Admission £10.00
By kind permission of Mr Geoff Cobley
- **Thursday 4th Sept**
Ladies' Doubles Tennis Tournament
Shrewsbury Lawn & Town Walls Tennis clubs.
- **Friday 24th Oct**
Quiz Night
Radbrook Village Hall, Calverton Way,
Radbrook Green, Shrewsbury, SY3 6DZ

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



Snowdrops in Bloom

In 2024 SaTH Charity and the League of Friends came together to plant snowdrops in Captain Tom's Garden at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH). The snowdrops are now in full bloom, providing a welcome glimpse of spring to patients, staff and visitors. The snowdrops were planted to remember June Whitaker, a longtime member and supporter of the League of Friends who died in the summer of 2023. Julia Clarke, Director of Public Participation said "Seeing the first snowdrops of the year is a beautiful reminder that there is hope even after the darkest winter. These flowers are a living reminder of June Whitaker, as they were donated by her family from her gardens and they will flower year after year as winter draws to a close. We are grateful to the SaTH gardening team for their continued commitment to keeping the grounds looking their best even with all the building work going on. We know how much the outdoor spaces mean for the wellbeing of our patients, their loved ones and our staff."



Fundraising Chair Sue Skinner and Executive Committee member Jayne Mott with the High Sheriff Brian Welti – Spring had definitely arrived on this glorious day for our Sunday luncheon at Harmer Hill Village Hall held on the 2nd March. A delicious lunch was prepared by Oak Apple Catering; Brian Welti gave a talk on his role as High Sheriff. £1,340 was raised which will all be put towards equipment for Cardiology.

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 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 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 Wednesday 20th August** to ensure entry into the draw. **For extra tickets contact the office 01743 261007.**



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS



We are looking for volunteers aged 16 upwards to help in our shops within the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. Volunteering with us is a great way to meet like minded people, add life skills, build your social confidence and can also boost your CV.

Shifts start at just 2 hours a week and we work around your availability.

How to contact us...

Email: lee.herkes@nhs.net
Telephone: 01743 261 008
Website: www.rshlof.org.uk



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service