

The Friends of the Hospital at Rye

Newsletter Spring 2018



Message from Your New Chairman

I have recently taken over from Sally Compton, who has been your chairman for the last three years. I am delighted to be asked to help in this way, as the hospital has been a real interest of mine since I moved here six years ago. Almost my first job was working as a volunteer on "Here to Help", our volunteer service providing short-term support to anyone housebound. I have also worked on the Reception Desk, in the days before it was updated and redecorated. We have so many people coming in and expressing their pleasure at the new bright reception area and I will still be found manning the desk once a month, to keep my hand in.



I am an Occupational Therapist by profession and worked for more than 30 years in both health and social services so I hope my skills will make me useful to you all.

This is such an exciting time to have been made Chairman of the Friends. The plans to build a multifunctional day-care facility are moving ahead, and the Friends have been looking at the furniture and fittings needed in the building. It has been an eye-opener, working with the architects and interior designer to move this forward, and the latest information booklet is now available. The centre is going to be a real benefit locally, extending our ability to help people living in the community and those who from time to time use our in-patient intermediate care beds. The Chairman's Report overleaf will fill you in on the details of the other new facilities at the top of the hill!

In the hospital, the Friends have been able to purchase an interactive system loaded on to a computer tablet, known as RITA, for more details see right. We have also been looking at a riser recliner chair, to assist the occupational therapists with their assessment for use at home after discharge and to enable more independence in getting in and out of the chair without help in the hospital.

The Fundraising Committee have organised a varied and fun programme and we hope many of you will be able to attend them. Jennifer Grenfell and her team are very committed and enthusiastic and a great deal of work goes into organising these events. I look forward to carrying on with the excellent work that the Friends do to raise funds for the hospital and for the benefit of the local community.

Gillian Roder, Chairman of the Friends

Christmas Wreath Making

This took place on Saturday 16th December in Appledore, where the very talented Tamsin Scott demonstrated her creativity with such flare, yet with such ease. Eleven people set to work on this festive, sunny December day with just a bare wire frame, a mountain of woodland in piles in front of them and some secateurs.



The creations that appeared were truly individual, but all beautiful! A big thank you to everyone who took part and especially to Tamsin for donating both her time and expertise. Grateful thanks also to Georgina Stephenson for hosting

the event, Marie-Claire Erith for her endless foraging in the weeks running up to it and Katie Gurney on the day for her boundless energy, cheer and ability to get things done.

New Chair Scales

Family and friends of Peter Cutting generously donated to the Friends to provide a new set of scales in memory of his wife, Jacqueline. Peter's and Jacqueline's daughter, Pauline Wood, is a staff nurse at the hospital (on the right with her father) and suggested that the money was used to replace the much-needed SECA 955, digital chair scales.



Educating RITA

The Friends have recently purchased an interactive system loaded on to a computer tablet, that will help our patients to use music, films and games at the bedside, to name but a few of the activities stored on this little miracle known as RITA. We are training up some volunteers to work with the patients and teach other members of staff in its use. It also has the ability to help patients and their relatives build a life story for the person, to help with more personalised care.

The Friends of the Hospital at Rye

Newsletter Spring 2018

Board Report



Welcome Gillian to your new role as Chair of the Friends.

We are delighted to announce that on 19th April Rother District Planning Committee voted 10 to 1 in favour of our application for consent to build a sixty-bed care home.

With approval having already been granted for the Day Care Centre, the Board has much to do to handle all the conditions and ensure we have sufficient funds to complete these important additions to our health services.

Our core mission is however to ensure that the hospital services continue to be delivered at the highest quality for our community and we were delighted to receive the accolades from the University of Birmingham as a result of their national study (see below right).

Barry Nealon, Chairman of the Board

Sara Steady

The Friends have received a donation from Daphne Hill, a former patient, to purchase a Sara Steady. Whilst Mrs Hill was in hospital she identified that the current Sara Steady, which the Friends purchased four years ago, was in constant use. Her son David, pictured right with Matron, approached the Friends on her behalf and Daphne kindly

donated the money to purchase a second one. This donation is very much appreciated by both staff and patients.

Left: Matron Diana Carter demonstrates the Sara Steady



Fashion Show

Following last year's success, Niche and the Friends hosted another Spring Fashion Show in the town hall where a capacity crowd watched five glamorous models show off Niche's new collection on the catwalk. Over £1300 was raised in total, through ticket sales and the annual raffle, with the proceeds of the ticket sales divided 50/50 between the hospital and Rye Community Transport. A big thank you to Jane Conlin and Lesley Farrow for all their hard work.



Don't Lose Touch!

UPDATE YOUR COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

In May 2018 the Data Protection Act is changing and we won't be able to get in touch with you unless you give us your consent to do so.

Please ensure you fill in the 'Don't Lose Touch' form enclosed with this newsletter.

Birmingham University Study

In 2017 the Hospital at Rye was delighted to be selected as one of nine UK community hospitals engaged in a national study for the National Institute for Health Research to understand the level of services offered and its role and engagement with our local community.

A working group of representatives from the care community, patients and staff contributed to the study, and the results have helped the Charity in formulating the design for the new Neighbourhood Hub planned for the former ambulance site adjacent to the hospital.

The hospital was pleased to receive a very complimentary report from the study with the heading **Profile, Patients, Passion and Pride**, reflecting the commitment and work of the working group, and the dedication of everyone connected with the hospital. This can be viewed on the hospital website www.ryehospital.org.uk.

Forthcoming Events

Monday 28th May

Boot Fair, in aid of the Hospital at Rye, Jempsons, Peasmarsh.

Saturday 2nd June

Open Gardens, Hartshorn House, Mermaid Street, Rye, 11-4pm

Saturday 14th July

Iden Film Night and BBQ

Annual Grand Prize Raffle to be drawn on 14th July

For more information please email Stephanie on fundraising@ryehospital.org.uk

