



THE FRIENDS OF BLANDFORD COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Charity No. 800482

Milldown Road, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DD

Tel: 01258 450095 (General Office) 01258 451456 (Shops and Fundraising)

www.friendsblandford.org

SUMMER UPDATE 2017

Welcome to our summary of the Charity's Annual Report and Accounts which we have combined with our Fundraising Update. Should you wish to see a full copy of the Annual Report then it is available on our website, www.friendsblandford.org or you are welcome to contact the office and request a copy.

We are so proud to announce that our services have been recognised by the "Community Hospitals Association" (CHA). We submitted an application back in August 2016 and in October we were informed we had been shortlisted for an "Innovations and Best Practice in Community Hospitals Awards 2016". As a result of this we undertook an in depth interview in November by the Chair of the Innovations panel before a final decision would be made. This was our opportunity to raise the profile of our Community Hospital and the services that, we the Friends, can offer within the community. We seized this opportunity to promote the services we offer.

Transport to medical appointments

We operate an extensive transport scheme to medical appointments. All referrals for any part of our service have to come via a GP who operates in the Blandford and surrounding area.

We have 25 regular volunteer drivers who use their own vehicles and we reimburse their fuel expenses. As an example 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016 we did in excess of 1600 medical journeys.

Minibuses

We have 2 minibuses. Both buses have side steps and an electronic tail lift facility to make easy accessibility and to accommodate wheelchair users. We do regular weekly shopping trips. We organise social outings to places of interest i.e. Swanage, Weymouth, Pleasure Boat Cruises around Poole Harbour. These are extremely popular and are aimed at people who have no other way of getting out and about. It is important that they have the opportunity to socialise and often friendships are formed with other users.

We also support the local Blind Club and Stroke Club in transporting their members to club meetings.

Companionship

We are only too well aware how isolated and lonely people can become in their own home if they have no family around or are unable to get out and about. We have a few volunteers who can offer companionship in people's own home to try and alleviate this. Often a friendship will "blossom".



The presentation of this award 'Innovations and Best Practice in Community Hospitals' is an absolute honour and not only does it recognise the project/service we offer but also what a fantastic, dedicated and committed bunch of volunteers we are lucky enough to have recruited. I would also like to use this opportunity not only to recognise this but also to fully appreciate them and say a huge thank you to them all as there is no doubt that without them we would not be in a position to offer such a fantastic and unique service.

THE FRIENDS OF BLANDFORD COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



From the Chairman

We have supported the hospital this year including the purchase of a microscope for theatre and audiometer for outpatients. We have also provided within the hospital, entertainment plus music and drum therapy for inpatients. We also continue to provide services, such as newspapers, staff training and a gardener to look after the Millennium garden and Portman Unit courtyard. In the community we have been able to support Life Education Wessex again – a service visiting local schools to educate children on various health needs including the safe facts of life, drug and alcohol awareness. We are continuing to support the Blandford Youth Trust with the funding of a councillor at the Blandford School, a valuable service helping children at times of difficulty. We have also supported the Positive Approach Group - who support local patients with mental health issues. During the year we continued to go from strength to strength and this is down to the never ending support of our enthusiastic team of volunteers. Our fund raising events have again, continued to raise much needed income. A charity Golf Day was organised and was very successful. Our two hospital charity shops in Blandford and Sturminster Newton continue to be well supported and have recorded the best ever takings this year - a credit to all involved. The Autumn Fair held in the local Corn Exchange also broke all records last time as well - with our highest ever takings recorded. In addition to supporting our hospital and community financially, we also have our marvellous volunteers, who provide assistance on the ward and also drive for our voluntary transport scheme. A much valued community service, for people in need of transport help to get to medical appointments - especially helpful for those living in rural areas. With over 1600 journeys a year, our drivers are kept busy. None of this would be possible without the ongoing support of our volunteers. Our achievements this year are as always the result of our volunteers efforts to serve their community. In recognition of this, the Community Hospitals Association has awarded us a Best Practice and Innovation Award for Community Services.

Plans for the future

Our fund raising committee have again planned another exciting year of events for the coming year and we look forward to the community supporting us. Three years ago, a vision document was produced identifying the health needs of the local community and the services that could be delivered, either in the community hospital or in the patient's home. This document has been reviewed, in partnership with local GPs and the Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust. The development of a family room for the relatives of patients on Tarrant Ward for overnight stays has started and we continue to look at the upgrading of the hydrotherapy pool and the day theatre. Currently our membership is 860 and a small action group are developing plans to increase the membership over a period of time. We will continue our role as representative of patient needs whether within the hospital or the community, and we are grateful to the Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust for accepting us as a responsible participant in the future of our hospital and community care. **Steve Cole, Chairman**

President	Dr D I T Wilson M.B.E
Life Vice President	G Adam O.B.E.
Trustees and Officers	
Chairman	Mr S Cole
Deputy Chairman	Mr W McLaughlin F.R.I.C.S.
Secretary	Mrs D Sale
Treasurer	Mr T Bridle A.I.B.
Working Group Chairman	
Community Services	Mr P Richell
Fundraising	Mr M Wood
Shop Support	Mrs L Prior
Membership	Mr M Woods
Trustees	
Mrs A Brown	Mrs D Stenner

The trustees present their report along with the financial statement of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2017. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and reporting by Charities 2011. The Friends are a registered charity (No. 800482) whose business is conducted and managed by its Officers and Trustees (as listed above). This charity is governed by the rules of The Friends of Blandford Community Hospital Constitution, Objects and Rules, dated March 1994 (amended 2008). The trustees all give freely of their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Friends are to relieve patients and former patients of Blandford Community Hospital and others in the community, who are convalescent, infirm or in need of financial assistance and, generally, to support the work of the hospital. In pursuance of these objects the Council continued to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from individuals and organisations by way of subscriptions, donations or otherwise. Efforts are made to enlist the support of a broadly based substantial membership in order to keep in touch with the actual needs of the population, and existing members are encouraged to assist in this respect. The Friends continued to supplement the service provided by the hospital management for the health, welfare and comfort of patients and others in the community, and also provided amenities in the hospital and community for patients and staff. In considering applications for financial support the following priorities are adopted:

- Major projects that add to the well-being and/or treatment of patients and/or the working conditions of the staff.
- Additional equipment that would extend or enhance work carried out by consultants in the hospital.
- Additional equipment to facilitate treatment given in the ward and outpatient clinics.
- Grants for further training of hospital staff, especially nursing staff.
- Improvements to the hospital environment.
- Equipment for improved care in the community.

It is expected that Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust will fund the provision and replacement of standard hospital equipment, and fixtures and fittings.

TY HOSPITAL - ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

Financial Review

In the year ended 31st March 2017 we see income increased by £25,625 with all income streams showing improvement on last year. Our spend on Charitable Activities this year amounts to £127,748 which includes spending in the Hospital and covers our Mini Bus and Community Volunteers Scheme as well as several contributions to health related projects within the wider community. We therefore see this year an excess of income of £163,528. However total funds now held by The Friends still stands at a very healthy £1,696,982.

	2016	2017
	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions & Donations	45,225	46,773
Legacies	500	6,103
Fundraising Events (Gross)	18,047	22,258
Shop Income (Gross)	129,716	137,587
Investment Income	63,420	69,812
	<u>256,908</u>	<u>282,533</u>
Net (Losses) Gains on Investments	(76,111)	116,161
Total	<u>180,797</u>	<u>398,694</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Raising Funds	60,933	67,936
Charitable Activities	137,195	127,748
Other Costs	31,984	39,482
	<u>230,112</u>	<u>235,166</u>
Excess of (Expenditure)/Income	<u>(49,315)</u>	<u>163,528</u>
BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY		
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	321,419	310,984
Investments	1,126,827	1,292,988
Total Fixed Assets	<u>1,448,246</u>	<u>1,603,972</u>
Current Assets		
Debtors	8,421	8,778
Cash at Bank and in Hand	<u>118,656</u>	<u>108,436</u>
Total Current Assets	127,077	117,214
Creditors	<u>41,869</u>	<u>24,204</u>
Net Current Assets	<u>85,208</u>	<u>93,010</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>1,533,454</u>	<u>1,696,982</u>
Reserves brought forward	1,582,769	1,533,454
Excess of (Expenditure)/Income	<u>(49,315)</u>	<u>163,528</u>
Reserves carried forward	<u>1,533,454</u>	<u>1,696,982</u>

Independent Examiner

The Charities Act 2006 introduced an increased income threshold amending the previous audit requirements. At the Friends' present income level an independent examination can be undertaken instead of an audit and advantage has been taken of this provision. Mr J N Butt A.C.A. who holds the necessary professional accountancy qualification and who has been independent of the Friends activities and decisions during the past year was accordingly appointed in this respect.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday 12th July 2017
at 6.30pm**

**To be held at
Blandford Community Hospital**

**ALL ARE WELCOME
Refreshments will be available**



The charity has lots of volunteering opportunities available such as driving clients to medical appointments, driving and escorting on our minibus, offering support in many ways to local residents, working in our charity shops and at our fundraising events and delivering publications to our membership in the local area.

If you have a few hours to give each week and would like to get involved then please call either Lisa (For Hospital and Community Volunteering) on 01258 450095 or Emma (For Shops and Fundraising Volunteering) on 01258 451456 who will be able to find the ideal volunteering role to suit you and the time you would like to give.

SHOP NEWS...

Our shops are always in need of good quality goods to sell. Please consider donating your unwanted items and if you require a collection then give the office a call for us to arrange a convenient time. We particularly need: Good Quality clothing for men, women and children, shoes, handbags, Household linens, DVDs, unwanted gifts and toiletries, jewellery, toys and quality bric-a-brac. We regret we are unable to accept videos, records, microwaves, computers, and tube style televisions.

Any goods you donate to our charity shops will benefit our Community Hospital and local projects.

Of course, don't forget to pay us a visit for some bargain hunting each time you are in town! We look forward to seeing you there.

PRIZE BINGO



**Summer Bingo 15th June
Autumn Bingo 14th September
Christmas Bingo 30th November**

**Hospital Dining Room
Doors Open 6.45pm Eyes Down 7.30pm**

Autumn Fair

Sat 14th October

**The Corn Exchange, Blandford
9.30am – 2.00pm**



There will be a wonderful selection of goods on sale, our grand raffle, tombolas and refreshments

Visit us at...

**Barnack Walk,
Blandford**

Tel: 01258 458390

**Opening Hours:
Monday – Saturday
10am – 4pm**

**Innes Court,
Station Rd,
Sturminster
Newton**

**Tel: 01258 471245
Opening Hours:
Monday 9am – 4pm
Tuesday – Friday
10am – 4pm
Saturday
9.30am – 12.30pm**

Charity Golf Day Ashley Wood Golf Club Friday 23rd June 2017

**Wimborne Road, Blandford, Dorset DT11 9HN
Tel: 01258 452253**

The Friends of Blandford Community Hospital for the third year running are holding a Charity Golf Day at The Ashley Wood Golf Club on Friday 23rd June 2017. It is a great opportunity to have a fun day of Golf with food, drinks, prizes and a raffle. Support a very good cause. Entry is £160.00 for a team of 4 playing a Shotgun start Texas Scramble.

How to contact us...

The Friends' Office at the Hospital is usually open from 10am until 4pm, from Monday to Friday.

**Tel: 01258 450095 (General Enquiries)
01258 451456 (Shops and Fundraising)**

**Email: dhc.friends.blandford@nhs.net
Website: www.friendsblandford.org**

If you do use email to contact us, please note that our email address changed and all email should now be sent to dhc.friends.blandford@nhs.net