



# 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.friendsofblandford.org.uk](http://www.friendsofblandford.org.uk)

## SUMMER UPDATE 2021



### The Return of Affordable Art

Friday 30th July – Saturday 7th August



We are absolutely delighted that our incredibly talented shop volunteer, Joan Capron has agreed to stage another of her Affordable Art Exhibitions this summer in our Blandford Charity Shop and hope you enjoy seeing a few examples of her work. Joan's charity exhibitions are always held on the basis of 100% donation and this will be her 4th exhibition for the Friends of Blandford Hospital but follows many previous exhibitions for other charities. Joan describes the exhibition and the challenges of this last year here in her own words.



*Dear Hospital Friends,*

*We all know that due to Covid everything has got behind. However, our exciting news is that things are now well under way for our 4th Affordable Art Exhibition in the summer.*

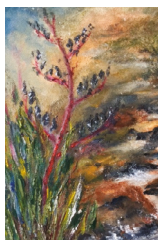
*On one hand it has been a difficult year in which to prepare an exhibition. Being 'shielding vulnerable' has meant I've been shut away from many sources of inspiration and variety of art materials.*

*On the other hand it's been exciting because I have challenged myself to experiment by painting on anything that came to hand .....including slate, silk, stones, canvas, textured wallpaper and even cotton sheeting! I've used pastels, inks, acrylic paints and powder, oils, pencil and collage ....great fun! To add to the variety we have also invited any of our volunteers who paint to donate work.*

*So lockdown has affected not only the subject matter and style but also the costings. Ours has always been an affordable exhibition, bringing art within everyone's reach and our prices will remain low this year too. Being aware of the present financial climate I have tried to make it even more affordable by offering, alongside our framed paintings, many mounted and signed prints at a fraction of the cost of an original painting. And of course we will have lots of greetings cards as usual.*

*I hope that you will all find something to enjoy and that our hospital charity will benefit. So make a note in your diaries of 30th July - 7th Aug. And I will look forward to meeting you there.*

*Regards, Joan Capron*



**Thank you Joan! We can't wait to see all of your work.**



# THE FRIENDS OF BLANDFORD COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



## From the Chairman

During this unusual, pandemic year we have continued to support the hospital and local community. We have had to adapt the way we do things in line with the Government's legislation on Covid 19. All community activity involving volunteers was temporarily suspended for the safety of our volunteers. Our shops were also closed for most of the year. Initially, our staff worked from home to complete a backlog of work and then, more recently, they have been flexibly furloughed. All Board, Council and Staff meetings have taken place via the Zoom platform. The positive outcome of this was that all Trustees' now have improved IT skills!

In the community we have again supported Life Education Wessex, a service that visits local schools to educate children on various health issues including the safe facts of life and drug and alcohol awareness. We have also continued to fund a councillor at Blandford School, a valuable service helping children who are experiencing difficulty. We are pleased that the Musculoskeletal Suite project, to which The Friends contributed £300,000, was completed in May 2020. This enables patients to be supported in a local 'one stop shop' instead of having to visit District Community Hospitals. Normally, we have a busy Fund Raising Diary but, due to the Covid 19 situation, all events were cancelled with the exception of the Annual Raffle, which was itself a great success. We have set up a link from our website to a Just Giving page, which has added another source of funds. Our staff have kept in contact with our many volunteers through Facebook, our website and telephone calls and we look forward to seeing them back once the lockdown is over.

## Plans for the future

Our fund raising committee have again planned another exciting year of events for the coming year. We continue to look at the upgrading of the day treatment centre (Theatre). We are involved with the planning of a one stop musculoskeletal service and plans are at an early stage but we are optimistic that this will be completed within the next 12 months.

Currently our membership stands at 875. We are developing plans to increase the numbers further with the launching of our new website which gives the general public an in-depth view of the Friends and what they do, which should encourage more people to join our Friends. There is a link within the website in order for them to do this. We will continue our role, representing patient needs, 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** Mr W McLaughlin F.R.I.C.S.

### Trustees and Officers

Chairman	Mr S Cole
Deputy Chairman	Mr P Richell
Secretary	Mrs D Sale
Treasurer	Mr S Hayward

### Working Group Chairman

Community Services	Mr P Richell
Fundraising	Mr M Wood
Shop Support	Mrs L Prior

### Trustees

Mrs A Brown	Mrs D Stenner
Mr T Bridle A.I.B	Mrs J Thompson
Mr C Marjoram	Mrs Y Thorne
Mrs J Stayt	

The trustees present their report along with the financial statement of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. 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) and 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 & 2019). 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 shall be to provide support and assistance to patients of the hospital and preserve and protect the health of the community. We do this by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities, support services and equipment not normally provided by the NHS or statutory authorities. We also provide a gardener to look after the Millennium Garden and the Portman Unit Courtyard. 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 also provided amenities and support in the hospital and the community for patients, staff and others, including the Blandford Opportunities Group, who provide a day facility for disabled children. 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.

# ITY HOSPITAL - ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

## Financial Review

In the year ended 31 March 2021 income increased by £1,109,558 over the previous year, the increase resulting from the receipt of two large legacies as well as the realisation of further legacies totalling £916,676 yet to be received. These very generous legacies more than offset declines of £15,764 in donations and Gift Aid, £4,281 in memberships and £47,332 in other trading activities, the latter resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic forcing the closure of our shops for much of the year and the cancellation of all fundraising activities. Unfortunately, this will continue to have a significant impact on income next year.

Incoming Resources	2021	2020
Donations & Gift Aid	22,761	38,525
Subscriptions	10,574	14,855
Other trading activities	98,019	145,351
Investments (rent on flats)	11,504	10,645
Net Gains/(Losses) on Investments	193,238	-104,990
Legacies	<u>1,191,676</u>	<u>15,600</u>
Total	1,527,772	119,986
<b>Resources expended</b>		
Raising funds	51,651	61,827
Charitable activities	60,639	400,803
Other	<u>47,340</u>	<u>50,580</u>
	<u>159,630</u>	<u>513,210</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>1,368,142</u>	393,224
Total funds bought forward	1,402,770	1,795,994
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<u>2,770,912</u>	<u>1,402,770</u>
<b>BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2021</b>		
Tangible Assets	287,634	292,614
Investments	<u>1,666,267</u>	<u>1,223,029</u>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<u>1,953,901</u>	<u>1,515,643</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	927,937	7,940
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>206,488</u>	<u>204,392</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	1,134,425	212,332
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<u>317,414</u>	<u>325,205</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>2,770,912</u>	<u>1,402,770</u>

### Community Transport Volunteers!

Don't forget we are always looking for minibus drivers to enable us to provide our weekly shopping trips and social trips. We also require minibus escorts to accompany each trip.

Volunteer car drivers are also needed to continue to provide our essential and in high demand medical transport service.

Please do get in contact with either Lisa or Leonne to discuss what this involves on 01258 450095 or via email on [dhc.friends.blandford@nhs.net](mailto:dhc.friends.blandford@nhs.net)

## Another way to support The Friends of Blandford Hospital....

With our shops closed for much of the year and fundraising events suspended, our annual income dramatically dropped. We need your support more than ever.

Perhaps you may consider making an online donation via our website [www.friendsofblandford.org.uk](http://www.friendsofblandford.org.uk) where you will be able to click on a link on the home page. Your donations make a real difference to our charity. Thank you.



Do you perhaps have any unwanted gift items looking for a new home? These items are particularly useful to us in our fundraising. Not only do we love to sell them in our shops but they are valuable as prizes at our bingos, in our raffles and on our gift stall at the Autumn Fair. Please consider donating them to us so we can use them to raise valuable funds. Thank you!

## Autumn Fair

Sat 16th October

The Corn Exchange, Blandford

9.30am – 2.00pm



*More news on this popular event in our Autumn Newsletter but pop the date in your diary!*

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH  
THE FRIENDS OF BLANDFORD HOSPITAL



@friendsblandfordhospital



We hope to be able to restart our very popular bingo evenings in the Autumn. Watch this space!

## SHOP NEWS...

After quite a year we were delighted to once again be able to reopen our shops on 12th April and receive such a lovely welcome back from our customers. More of our volunteers have now returned and are enjoying being back but we are still missing some that are not quite ready to start again. We really hope they will want to come back soon as we miss them dearly. In the meantime, our current volunteers are working their magic in our shops and are loving every minute! A huge thank you to them all for everything they do, especially whilst our team is a little depleted.

Our shops are always in need of good quality goods to sell but we currently have to limit the amounts we can receive in our shops on a daily basis. We are happy to accept 2 small bags or boxes per donor in the shop and can arrange for larger amounts to be collected or perhaps delivered to our warehouse by appointment. Should you wish to arrange a collection or make an appointment at our warehouse then please email [emma.sisson@nhs.net](mailto:emma.sisson@nhs.net) or call 01258 451456.

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, furniture, 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.**

## Visit us at...

**Barnack Walk,  
Blandford**

**Tel: 01258 458390**

**and**

**Innes Court,  
Sturminster Newton**

**Tel: 01258 471245**

*Opening hours currently  
vary so please contact the  
shops directly for current  
hours.*



Our charity shops are looking for more volunteers in both Blandford and Sturminster Newton. Volunteering in our shops is a very social activity, a great way to make new friends, learn new skills and give something back to the community. The shop family is a happy team who enjoy the variety of tasks to keep them busy. If you have a few hours to give each week and would like to get involved then please call Emma on 01258 451456 who will be able to find the ideal volunteering role to suit you and the time you would like to give.