



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

Newsletter No. 63

AUTUMN 2023



Our 75th Celebrations have begun! What better way to kick off our 75th anniversary celebrations than with our wonderful volunteer team! Members of our shops, community services and trustee volunteer groups joined us for a wonderful lunch and celebration at Durweston Village Hall. A fantastic time was had by all!



On Friday 23rd June at 7pm, a team of staff from The Blandford School, set off from Westbay in Bridport, on a mission to complete 100km of the Southcoast Path all the way to Sandbanks in Poole in under 24 hours. This year the school very generously chose to support The Friends of Blandford Hospital! A phenomenal £2097 was raised!

The challenge took the staff all the way along some of the most beautiful British coastline, including checkpoints in Abbotsbury, Ferrybridge, Osmington Mills, Lulworth Cove and Kimmeridge with the challenge being completed inside the 24-hour target at the ferry crossing at Studland, where friends and families of team members were on hand to welcome the team home. A huge well done and thank you to all involved!

Friends Grand Raffle 2023!

Enclosed are two books of raffle tickets, which we would be grateful if you would buy yourself or perhaps sell to friends and family?

Please make sure to return the stubs and payment by Friday 20th October, in the addressed envelope provided to be in with a chance of winning some fantastic prizes, including.... Assorted gift vouchers totalling £100, Luxury Food Hamper, Drinks Hamper, Pamper Hamper, £50 Hall and Woodhouse voucher, Voucher for the White Horse, Stourpaine and many more!

THE FRIENDS OF BLANDFORD COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



From the President

This year's AGM was a wonderful occasion as it has been three years since we have been able to hold a public meeting due to the covid pandemic which resulted in our hospital venue being closed to public use.

This resulted in our AGM business being carried using electronic voting organised and verified by our office staff which was executed very successfully but we did miss the personal meeting.

Our AGM this year gave us all the opportunity to hear the report of our annual financial year accounts from our Treasurer and charity performance report from our Chairman, along with the opportunity to receive and answer questions raised.

At the AGM we voted in two new Trustees, Ms Nicci Brown and Mr Joe Hickish., who were co-opted onto our council during the year. Mr Joe Hickish is taking on the role of Secretary.

Finally, we heard an introduction talk by our new Matron, Annette Sanchez who joined our hospital during last year, informing us of her plans as Matron and her wish to work closely with the Friends as she had done on her previous appointment as Matron at Wimborne.

The AGM was brought to a close with drinks and snacks, and an opportunity for a social chat before heading home.

Plans for the future:

Since my report to our Newsletter, the OCT Scanner has been successfully installed and is now being well used in the Outpatients Department. We have appeared in the local press handing over a cheque to the Trust for your donation of £65,000.

Unfortunately, the news is not so good on our wishes to refurbish the Treatment and Procedure Suite.

The Trust have now started their Wave 4 project in our hospital and as a result our project has been delayed until their works have been completed.

The Wave 4 project is to use areas within the hospital which are currently under used to accommodate Trust community services currently housed in other buildings within the town.

We have expressed our concerns to the Trust about the car parking pressures which already exist and the effect this will have on patients attending the hospital for treatment.

Mac McLaughlin Project Manager

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 by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities, support services and equipment not normally provided by the NHS or statutory authorities and 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 Opportunity Group, who provide a pre-school setting for children with additional needs. 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 wards 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 and health related community projects. It is expected that Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust will fund the provision and replacement of standard hospital equipment, fixtures and fittings.

President	Mr W McLaughlin F.R.I.C.S
Trustees and Officers	
Chairman	Mr S Cole
Deputy Chairman	Mr P Richell
Secretary	Mr J Hickish
Treasurer	Mrs K Pluck
Working Group Chairman	
Community Services	Mr P Richell
Fundraising	Mr M Wood
Shop Support	Mrs L Prior
Trustees	
Mrs A Brown	Mrs Y Thorne
Mr T Bridle A.I.B.	Mr S Hayward
Mr C Marjoram	Mrs Y Thorne
Ms N Brown	

The trustees present their report along with the financial statement of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. 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.

TY HOSPITAL - ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

Incoming Resources	2023	2022
Donations & Gift Aid	40,185	24,753
Subscriptions	2,200	3,615
Other Trading Activities	110,177	143,747
Investments (rent on flats)	13,662	12,943
Net gains/ losses on investments	-46,159	141,193
Legacies	81,690	43,698
Total	201,755	369,949
Resources Expended		
Raising Funds	61,903	59,321
Charitable Activities	86,583	192,599
Other	42,056	46,661
	<u>190,542</u>	<u>298,581</u>
Net income	<u>11,213</u>	<u>71,368</u>
Total Funds Brought Forward	2,842,280	2,770,912
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>2,853,493</u>	<u>2,842,280</u>
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022		
Tangible Assets	348,379	280,213
Investments	2,561,301	2,607,460
Total Fixed Assets	<u>2,909,680</u>	<u>2,887,673</u>
Current Assets		
Debtors	116,451	156,767
Cash at bank and in hand	282,789	241,200
Total Current Assets	<u>399,240</u>	<u>397,967</u>
Current Liabilities	<u>455,427</u>	<u>443,360</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>2,853,493</u>	<u>2,842,280</u>

Financial Review

In the year ended 31 March 2023, Total Income received at £ 247,914 was £19K higher than last year. Increase in Donations, and Legacy income compensated for lower levels of Shop income.

Total Expenditure was £190,542, lower than 2022, As in previous years, grants of £12K and £6K were paid to Blandford school and Blandford opportunity Group, respectively. Additionally, a grant of £10K was awarded to Age Concern in Sturminster Newton. No further commitments have been made in the year towards Hospital Equipment and Amenities.

Expenditure on Fixed Assets included electronic tills for the shops, shelving for the warehouse and a minibus to replace our current one.

As at 31 March 2023, our bank balance was £282,789. The value of investments held with M&G amounted to £2,561,301. The total value of unrestricted reserves stood at £2,853,493.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Our new Christmas Cards (as pictured below) are now available in packs of 10, priced at £3.50 per pack. We have eight festive designs to choose from which can be purchased from our charity shops in Barnack Walk, Blandford or Innes Court, Sturminster Newton. Alternatively, they can be ordered through the Friends office by returning the slip below.



I enclose my cheque for £_____ plus £2.50 per order towards postage and packing
(Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Blandford Hospital")

___ Packs of Woodland Four Candles

___ Packs of Twelve Days of Christmas

___ Packs of Festive Donkeys

___ Packs of Christmas Nativity

___ Packs of Winter Berry Robin

___ Packs of Santa & Reindeer

___ Packs of O Christmas Tree

___ Packs of Christmas Village

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

Please return this order slip to the Friends of Blandford Community Hospital, Milldown Road,
Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7DD.