



Friends of Victoria Hospital

The newsletter of The Friends of Victoria Hospital, Wimborne, Dorset

No. 51

Summer 2021

Chairman's Corner



However much some of us find new technology frustrating it has certainly proved to be essential during the pandemic. The government have been able to set up vital networks to test and vaccinate us, and communication between us all has been possible despite the lockdown.

This is how the Friends trustees have stayed in touch with you and each other. This newsletter represents notification of the second AGM during the restrictions which we hope to hold in July, albeit with a reduced attendance.

Life for hospital staff was considerably worse during the second lockdown with many contracting the virus themselves. We have tried to help where we can and know you would like me to thank Matron Annette Sanchez and the staff for their hard work and dedication to caring for local people.

Everything is getting back to normal and the hospital is now involved in getting the surgery and outpatient waiting lists down. We can also start to consider other ways we can help to improve access for patients and are working with Dorset Healthcare to buy a piece of the old football club land earmarked for hospital use in the Core Strategy of 2012.

The Friends would love to hear your comments, questions and suggestions about the services provided at the hospital so that we can put your views forward. □

Anne Salter, new trustee

Anne was delighted to become a new trustee with The Friends in 2020 after retiring from a long career in the NHS and Local Government in 2019.

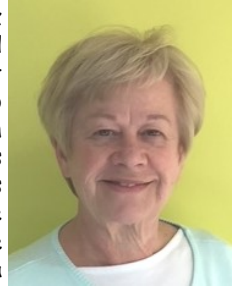
After training as a nurse in Suffolk, Anne moved to Wimborne and worked at Wimborne Hospital firstly as a staff nurse and then as a Ward Sister. Living in Wimborne for over 40 years, she has strong local connections with the schools, voluntary sector and Wimborne Minster.

She completed a diploma in public health nursing, a degree in nursing and worked as a health visitor in Wimborne before branching out into health improvement and strategic commissioning.

She was one of the first nurses to be engaged with Board level work alongside primary care colleagues and for many years worked across both the NHS and Dorset County Council at Senior Level around Children's Services. Her final post before retiring was in leading work for children's services on behalf of NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group.

Anne and her husband Mike have two

daughters and six grandchildren and retirement has meant that she is now able to spend more time with the family as well as volunteering for areas of work that are close to her heart. The Friends of Victoria Hospital is definitely one of these.



Delighted to be involved as a trustee with The Friends, she is incredibly impressed by the commitment and support of the large number of our volunteers and members. She sees how the community has shown itself to be supportive of their local hospital over many years and she is thrilled to be involved in helping to shape new opportunities and services that can be provided by the hospital.

Anne is hoping to meet as many of the hospital staff, volunteers and members of The Friends in 2021 as she can. □

Colehill Sew and Sews



This amazing cake was made by Hilary Gardner of the Colehill Sew-and-sews, who kindly sewed scrubs for our staff in the first lockdown. They have recently met again for the first time since then, and decided to donate the cake to the hospital staff and patients who benefitted from their kindness a year ago. In the photo Gill Rutherford (centre) is presenting the cake to Clare Dickinson and Lorraine Braybrook. □



Website failure

We are embarrassed to apologise for not responding to messages sent to us from our website. Unfortunately we have been unaware for some time that for technical reasons the messages sent from the Contact Form on our website

have not arrived in our email account.

For about half that time, under Covid restrictions our office was manned less fully than usual, which made it even less likely that we would spot the absence of such messages.

Dorset Healthcare's IT Department is looking into what went wrong and we hope the link can be restored. We are very sorry for this lapse and are contacting many of those who left messages for us. □

The Friends of Victoria Hospital, W

Report of the Trustees

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 Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The object of the Friends is to "support patients of the hospital and others in the community who are in need of health care as may be provided by the hospital and generally to support the work of the hospital." All our activities support this NHS hospital's work, a service of care available equally to all members of the local community. The Friends' aims are to respond to the needs of the patients in the hospital and the community where appropriate, and to supplement those facilities and services in the hospital which will enhance their health, welfare and comfort. All this is demonstrably for the public benefit.

Grant-making policy

Funding is considered for projects providing they meet the following criteria which are to:

- * ensure continuity of current services
- * enable additional services to be provided locally
- * add to the well-being or treatment of patients, or working conditions of staff
- * enhance the hospital or community environment
- * improve care through staff training.

The hospital management initiates requests for grants. The Friends consider the views of clinicians on the benefits of medical equipment, and from the hospital management they require a sound business case which confirms that the equipment will answer a need and be put to regular, beneficial use.

Achievements and performance

The entire financial year fell under the varying restrictions re Covid-19. The Friends received contributions from individuals and organisations by way of subscriptions, donations and legacies. Funds increased helpfully. A membership of about 1,000 provided a dependable flow of income.

We published one newsletter and maintained a presence in the locality by our Facebook page. No face-to-face promotional events took place.

Objectives for 2020-2021 [which were restricted by Covid-19 measures]:

- * Promote fund raising
- * Provide an information channel to our members and the public
- * Liaise with the Dorset HealthCare NHS Trust and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group over services, developments at the hospital and the implementation of the Clinical Services Review
- * Act as an advocate for community opinion on local healthcare
- * Fund staff training through Phyllis Coombes Award grants
- * Fund the acquisition of equipment and capital ventures
- * Administer the Friends' charity Shop
- * Support card stall services in the hospital
- * Maintain and support volunteers.

Liaison with Dorset HealthCare NHS Trust

Meetings were held electronically with senior managers in the Trust at local and Dorset level to discuss the services provided at the hospital. The Locality Manager and Hospital Matron kept in touch with the trustees' committee.

Hospital Staff Training

Through the Phyllis Coombes Award one member of staff was funded for an online course at a cost of £50. During the year no face-to-face courses were being offered.

Grants for Equipment

The Friends committed £63,495 to hospital improvements and new equipment. Items included £45,000 for structural alterations, £12,216 on surgical equipment for operations on haemorrhoids and £548 on a labcold fridge.

Charity Shop

Forced closures because of the pandemic meant that the shop was open for less than five months of our financial year. The state grant re Furlough and Retail proved very beneficial. We retained our staff and were able to pay continuing expenses such as rent. An intended assessment of the shop's performance was delayed until trading circumstances are normal.

Cards Stalls

During this year these stalls in the hospital were closed.

Financial Review - Reserves Policy

The Committee's policy is to keep funds to a minimum of £100,000 accessible for equipment purchase. Undesignated and unrestricted funds totalled £3,909,735 at the year end. (Please refer to the Plans for the Future) We do not currently have any designated or restricted funds. The

charity reacts to the hospital's requests for funding, and these in turn respond to healthcare policies in the area.

Equipment can be expensive, alterations to buildings much more so and projects which we could support financially do not arise in an orderly fashion. The Friends remain poised to support any development which improves the care and facilities of the hospital.

The security of our funds is the trustees' top priority. Alternative financial arrangements are kept under constant review and our cash deposits are all close to the £85,000 guarantee limit and with different providers.

During the year our invested portfolio rebounded strongly from the Covid shock in early 2020, and is currently stable.

Budgeting:

The Friends' expenditure on major items follows the hospital's requirements. This is outside the control of the Friends, so not susceptible to standard budgeting. We hold capital in anticipation of requests for grants, which range in size from under £1,000 to tens or hundreds of thousands.

Plans which we will support include changes to use of space for admin, medical records and the Minor Injuries Unit, and improvements to the X-ray / Physiotherapy Departments.

The Friends are keen to see clarity of purpose with regard to use of the parcel of land designated for hospital use on the vacated football pitch and are following closely developments over the ownership of the land.

Risk Management

The trustees considered the risks to which the charity is exposed, reviewed those risks and established systems and procedures to manage them. They did not identify any major risks.

The most serious risk to the charity's objectives would be policy changes at various levels of healthcare organisation which led to the closure (or radical downgrading) of the hospital. We cannot influence decisions at governmental level, but do exert pressure where appropriate on the local healthcare trust and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group.

Secondly the failure of financial institutions could threaten our capital funds. We diversify our deposits and investments, thus minimising risk as far as feasible. We held our investment positions throughout the year and they have retained their value well.

Online presence, publicity and communications:

Vimborne — Annual Report 2020/21

The Friends' website is used by members and visitors to communicate with the charity, inform themselves about it or make single or regular donations. The website is securely hosted and passworded. We publish a newsletter normally twice a year which is sent to all members and widely available locally and on the website. The Friends also have a Facebook page which is used to invite public support, recruits new members and promotes our events, maximising our contact with local people. It proved essential when galvanizing support for making PPE for the nursing staff early in the pandemic.

Going Concern:

There is currently no uncertainty about the charity's quality as a going concern. The Friends' function on minimal running costs and own no property nor have any ongoing commitments. The trustee officers are all volunteers and receive no remuneration. The two managers in the Charity Shop are paid from the Shop's operational funds. Lively fund-raising activities in normal times ensure a high profile for our charity which enjoys enduring local support. This last element

most significantly ensures the future of the charity.

Sources of Income

Legacies as usual proved the greatest source of income, and they are highly valued. The Shop surplus and members' subscriptions provide a regular and significant income which can be roughly predicted. Donations and legacies in particular are entirely unpredictable but are most gratefully received.

Volunteers

With the exception of the two part-time shop managers, all trustees and personnel who worked for the FVHW did so as volunteers. They contribute over 6,500 man-hours to the charity over a normal year. Their contribution is indispensable to both the daily running and special events of the Friends and is most warmly appreciated.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust is a Society which is a registered charity (Number 299230) and whose business is conducted and managed by its Committee of Trustees. The charity is governed by rules adopted

in 1950, as amended 20 June 1959, 27 June 1990 and 24 June 1992. A revised Constitution was approved at the Annual General Meeting in July 2009.

New trustees are inducted when they undertake their responsibilities. The committee has the power to appoint new trustees as vacancies arise and gives due regard to any specialist skills required at that time.

Plans for the Future

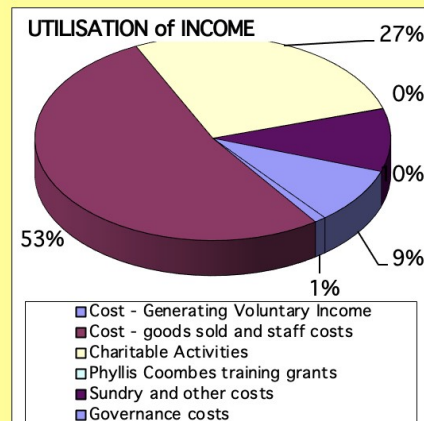
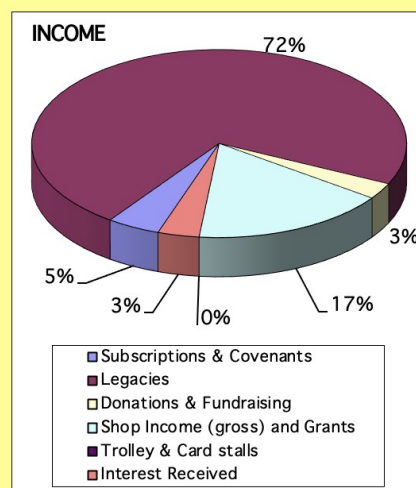
The Friends accumulated further funds for use when needs in the hospital arise, and to support the introduction of procedures and services. This may be with new equipment or improvements to the design and fabric of parts of the buildings. Over time changes in land use adjacent to the hospital's site may present opportunities for expansion and development with attendant high costs. This may influence the use of our grants.

The trustees are monitoring closely the impact that Covid 19 will have on the charity's capital and income, both fundraising and investment income, and are confident that the short to medium term impact on liquidity will not affect the ability of the charity to fulfil its aims and commitments. □

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

*These figures are extracted from the audited draft accounts which have not yet been approved, but are unlikely to change.
After approval the accounts may be inspected on request to the Trustees.*

	2020	2021	
INCOME	£	£	
Subscriptions & Covenants	12,741	13,434	5%
Legacies	358,240	211,497	72%
Donations & Fundraising	14,457	8,160	3%
Shop Income (gross) and Grants	42,755	49,357	17%
Trolley & Card stalls	-	-	0%
Interest Received	13,990	10,468	4%
Total	442,183	292,916	
UTILISATION OF INCOME			
Cost - Generating Voluntary Income	3,386	779	1%
Cost - goods sold and staff costs	47,846	38,592	53%
Charitable Activities	81,067	20,057	27%
Phyllis Coombes training grants	1,350	50	0%
Sundry and other costs	5,436	7,289	10%
Governance costs	7,155	6,512	9%
Total	146,240	73,279	
Profit/(Loss) on investments	(65,649)	429,349	
Excess of income / expenditure	230,294	648,986	
Balance Sheet Summary - 31 March 2021			
Current assets:			
Stock of cards and trolley	1,528	1,526	
Debtors & prepaid expenses	201,461	170,725	
	202,989	172,251	
Bank & cash balances and investments	3,108,875	3,802,552	
	3,311,864	3,974,803	
Total assets	3,311,864	3,974,803	
Liabilities			
Expenses to be paid	51,115	65,068	
Net assets	3,260,749	3,909,735	
Reserves brought forward	3,030,455	3,260,749	
Excess of income/expenditure	230,294	648,986	
Reserves carried forward	3,260,749	3,909,735	



RESPONSE FORM

I wish to become or I am a Member of the Friends of Victoria Hospital, Wimborne

[please ring correct words above & PRINT below]

Name: (surname)

..... (first name)

Title (Mr / Mrs etc)

Address:

.....

Postcode: Tel No.

I enclose a cheque payable to 'The Friends of Victoria Hospital, Wimborne' for £ (min £5)

We respect your privacy and wish to keep your name and address on our computer only in order to log your subscriptions, keep your details up-to-date, post you our newsletter and (where appropriate) claim Gift Aid. Your details are processed lawfully on our computer only, backed up securely and will be disclosed (as required) only to the Inland Revenue and to our mailsorting firm. We will not disclose any information to anyone else.

To find out more on how your details are used and kept secure, and about your rights in this connection, ring 01202 856484, or email dhc.fvhw@nhs.net or write to: Victoria Road, Wimborne, BH21 1ER. You may stop your membership at any time and we will delete your details.

If you agree to your details being processed as described, please tick to confirm and proceed:

I agree []

GIFT AID DECLARATION

If you currently pay tax the Friends of Victoria Hospital can claim back the tax from a subscription / donation of any amount, whether regular or one-off, provided you have given the authority. You can cancel this authority at any time. If you agree, please sign the declaration below.

I want the Friends of Victoria Hospital to reclaim tax on this donation and all future donations (delete as needed)

Signed:

Date: 20

Please complete and return to:

The Secretary

Friends of Victoria Hospital, Victoria Road, Wimborne
BH21 1ER

Registered Charity 299230

STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To: The Manager

..... plc (your bank)

..... (bank address)

..... (bank address)

..... (bank postcode)

Please pay to the account of the Friends of Victoria Hospital, Wimborne at Barclays Bank plc, Wimborne Branch, (sort code 20-96-96), A/c No. 33765237 the sum of

£ on / / next, and annually thereafter on the same date. This instruction cancels any previous order in favour of the Friends of Victoria Hospital, Wimborne.

Your bank a/c no.:

Your bank sort code:

Your name:

Your address:

.....

.....

Your postcode:

Signed:

Date:

Dates for 2021

July 10th

Wimborne Minster Fundraising Event

Minster Green, craft & gift stall, 10 to 4pm, weather permitting.

July 15th

Annual General Meeting

Community Learning and Resource Centre, 41-44 King Street, Wimborne. 7 p.m.

The seats are limited to 40 because of social distancing, so booking is required. Please see the blue panel below.

July 25th

Cream Teas and Open Garden

with Faye Clifford, Brackenwood, God's Blessing Green, Harts Lane, Holt, BH21 7DD near Stewarts Garden Centre. 1 to 5pm, weather permitting. Numbers will be limited because of Covid. For more info and to book your space, please contact Faye.

August 22nd

Dreamboat Regatta and Entertainment

Various stalls and refreshments by the river. Riverside Park. 12 to 5 pm. Craft and gift stall. Weather permitting.

September 11th and 12th

Cream Tea Weekend at the Old School, Sturminster Marshall, next to the Red Lion. Craft and gift stall. 2.30 to 5.30 pm each day.

November 13th

Christmas Charity Fair

Allendale Centre, Wimborne. 10 to 3pm. Craft and quality gift stall.

Please feel free to contact Rae via our office (details below) to confirm events. ☐

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 7pm on 15 July 2021

We sincerely hope we can hold a face-to-face meeting, adhering to the rules at the time.

We have booked our normal room at the Learning Centre which has enough capacity, but near the time we would appreciate knowing if you hope to attend.

Please let us know by either

Email,

Message from our website

or by Post

Contact details in box below.

Please let us know by
Thurs 8th July

The Friends of Victoria Hospital Wimborne Newsletter

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