

# League of Friends

## Chairman's Update

April 2020



Our 68<sup>th</sup> AGM which was due to take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> May. This has been postponed until the autumn. With the current lockdown period and the uncertainty of when the level of restrictions will change we thought it wise to do so.

Up until the current situation the Hospital Services have been developing well and we have responded promptly to requests for financial support for equipment or upgrades whenever necessary.

This year we have funded the following:

### **Falls prevention monitors:**

6 sets of bed and chair sensors for patients with cognitive impairment or those likely to fall. At a cost of £2,981.

### **Tovertafel table:**

Including a projector and 4 mounts together with 9 games. At a cost of £7,410.

### **Cabling installation and TV amplifier retune.**

At a cost of £200.

### **Stress Incontinence Peritone and EMG biofeedback units x 2 plus 3 x Pericalm units for the Physiotherapy Department**

for female health conditions.

At a cost of £519.

### **Cubicle Track system for additional 4 cubicles in the Physiotherapy Department**

At a cost of £2,534.

### **Patient Garden areas.**

At a cost of £1,303.

Prior to the Covid 19 situation we had agreed to purchase new seating and blinds for the Retinal Screening Clinic to be reinstated in the Outpatient Annexe. Unfortunately this hasn't happened as yet as the annexe has been converted into a Community Testing Centre for potential virus patients.

In addition we had been asked to consider a further piece of hand held Ophthalmology equipment for patients who are unable to use the fixed units. This is on hold until the current critical situation changes.

I mentioned in last year's report that Haslemere is part of the West of Waverley Primary Care Network. The network seems to be developing well. Unfortunately many of the schemes and plans have been derailed due to more pressing priorities. Likewise the newly merged Surrey Heartlands commissioning group is also facing other more pressing issues at the moment. However, when we have our next AGM I can update you all.

The Better Care Together programme re Urgent Care is also on hold as well. At the public meeting held in September last year the residents of Haslemere and surrounding area provided the greatest number of responses to the Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group open sessions regarding sharing views and online responses.

Fortunately several years ago we purchased iPads for both wards these have enabled patients to Skype their families at a time when ward visiting is restricted.

As many of our volunteers who take the trolley shop around the wards are over 70 years of age the RSCH have followed Government advice and temporarily halted our ward visits. However, we have enabled the staff in the hospital to access the trolley themselves for patient purchases and we have agreed to restock as required. Our thanks to Brenda Essex for organising this.

The Haslemere Flower Club have maintained the floral decorations in the front hall which is greatly appreciated.

A Care Quality Commission visit was planned in March/April. This has been postponed due to the Pandemic. Despite the internal restrictions on visiting our gardening team have ensured that the external gardens and planting arrangements have been maintained for patients to enjoy.

We greatly appreciate the wonderful commitment of all the staff in the NHS and others who work to keep us safe and well especially in these troubled times. In addition our League of Friends could not survive without the wonderful financial contributions you donate which enable us to provide the extra support into our local hospital. Thank you very much.

N.B. We will publish AGM date in the Autumn.

