



Haslemere Hospital League of Friends

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2013



With great delight the LOF committee members joined the staff and managers from Virgin Care for the reopening of the inpatients beds which happened on the 8th July 2013. The beds were reopened by Jeremy Hunt our local Member of Parliament for Waverley in South West Surrey. Mrs Libby Piper our new Mayor of Haslemere also joined us for the occasion.

The essential works programme was completed by the newly formed NHS Property Ltd., overseen by estates manager Mr. Jamie Andrews.

The essential work was extensive and included roof repairs, a complete overhaul of the existing heating and boiler system, replacement windows and the installation of a new generator. Work was also undertaken to replace the flooring and redecorate the facility using dementia-friendly colours.

The wards are once again bright and airy places to get well in.

The hospital continues to have a 14 bed shortfall in commissioned beds. This happened when the 14 beds for neurological conditions for younger adults were transferred to Woking Hospital. The LoF will encourage the full compliment of beds again.

The League of Friends has received many comments of concern regarding the number of local people who are being sent up to Guildford for Outpatient appointments. The local 'Patient Participation Group' for Haslemere Health Centre is working with the outpatient manager at the Royal Surrey County Hospital to identify the reasons why. The League of Friends will work with the Royal Surrey and local patient group to see if they can help in any way, and hope that prospective patients will request consultations in Haslemere .

In addition the League of Friends is represented on the Haslemere Health Group. This group was formed in January of this year by our previous Town Mayor. One of the greatest shortfalls that we have locally is the knowledge in the community as to what services are available. All three health interest groups in Haslemere are trying to ensure that local people are sign posted as to what is available on the Hospital site.