



## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2014

Dear Friends,

**The Future of Stamford Hospital.** We are pleased to see the plans for the future of Stamford Hospital that have been outlined by the Trust, and particularly the planned investment in new services and facilities. We feel that the Trust management has listened and responded to the views of local people, not least those views of the many Friends of Stamford Hospital that have been articulated by your committee at every possible opportunity.

**Funds and items purchased.** The Friends do enjoy much local support, as is evidenced by the generous donations we receive. In the last year we have had three large bequests and we are in a good position to provide financial support for some of the new services planned at Stamford Hospital. We are looking forward to bids for funding from the staff at the Hospital.

The list of items we have funded in recent years is impressive and you can all be assured that the money we receive is spent wisely. Please have a look at our website [[friendsofstamfordhospital.org.uk](http://friendsofstamfordhospital.org.uk)] and click on 'Achievements' to see the list. Amongst other projects, we have paid for work in the John van Geest unit for alterations to the treatment room which have made a big difference to the ward. We are very keen to continue to support this ward that is working extremely well as a nurse led unit.



*New Treatment Room*



The volunteers continue to play an important role, welcoming patients and giving directions. Many patients are very anxious when they arrive in the Hospital, and there is nothing better than the warm, friendly welcome the volunteers provide. They also raise a considerable sum annually through the sale of books, and are always happy to have more books donated.

**CQC inspection.** The Trust is currently undergoing an inspection by the Care Quality Commission and we should soon see their report. It is likely that Stamford will be seen in a favourable light, not least because of the extraordinarily high level of patient satisfaction that is repeatedly shown in surveys.

**David Felton.** We were all saddened to hear of the death of Mr. Felton last month. He was a very popular Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. He was a great advocate of Stamford Hospital and was Chairman of the Friends from 1979 to 1994. He was a most entertaining and amusing character, very much in evidence when he chaired the annual Hospital Christmas quiz. He will be greatly missed and our sympathy goes to his wife and family.

**Annual General Meeting.** Another year has passed and our AGM is due. We always have a medical speaker at our AGM's and this has proved very popular. We like to invite local Consultants who work at Stamford Hospital, and we have enjoyed many fascinating lectures from them in recent years. I always find it so reassuring to listen to such high quality doctors talking enthusiastically about their subject and I feel we are very fortunate in the quality of the staff, medical and all others, who provide such a good service in our local hospital.

This year I am delighted that Dr Andreas Erdmann BSc(MED) MBChB FRCA FFPM-RCA FIPP has agreed to speak. He is a Consultant in Pain Medicine and spends most of his working time in the Pain Department at Stamford Hospital. Pain Medicine is a relatively new specialty and the unit provides a service not only for local people but also for a wide area in the Region. He will be talking on "Advances in the understanding and treatment of pain".



You are invited to attend the AGM and the lecture on Tuesday May 13th, 2014 at 7.30pm in the Meeting hall at Stamford Hospital. If you have friends or family who would like to come to listen to the lecture, and who are not members of the Friends, they will be very welcome, and hopefully they might join.

I hope to see you at the forthcoming AGM. Your committee welcomes comment and feedback from members, so do get in touch.

*Michael Dronfield*

Chairman, Friends of Stamford Hospital