



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2017

Dear Friends,

These are exciting times for Stamford Hospital. We have heard of many ideas over recent years for future developments but until recently no evidence that these would be realized. Things have now changed: over the last two months the builders have been working in the Hospital making substantial and very welcome changes to the modern part of the Hospital which amongst other benefits will increase the out patient capacity, transform phlebotomy and greatly enhance the diagnostic imaging department. The arrival of a state of the art MRI scanner last month is reassuring - evidence that the Hospital Trust is firmly committed to the Hospital's future.

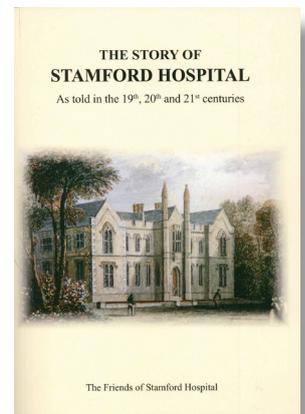


The new scanner is lowered into position from Morrison's car park.

The committee of the Friends of Stamford Hospital feels greatly reassured by this and we have been pleased to provide substantial funds to several Hospital departments. The largest donation has been to the Ophthalmology department, providing a piece of equipment to help assess patients prior to cataract surgery. Previously patients had to visit Peterborough for this. We hope that in time this may lead to the cataract surgery itself being done in Stamford. Our other donations have included specialist chairs and a trolley [which will not move in a powerful magnetic field] for the MRI scanning room, a bladder scanner for out patients and a specialist ophthalmology couch. Our donations are not confined to equipment: for example we provided funds last year to support the Stamford Hospital nurses reunion day [a wonderful event], Christmas lunch for the magnificent Hospital staff and Christmas gifts for patients in the van Geest unit.

The Story of Stamford Hospital; as told in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

This book was published by the Friends last year and sales have gone very well. We are keen to sell as many as possible and may be initiating a reprint later this year. We felt that a knowledge of the Hospital's history will help people to understand why it has such strong local support. If you have not purchased a copy then they are available at the volunteers' desk at the Hospital or by sending a cheque for £10 (made out to The Friends of Stamford Hospital) to 9 Haddon Road, Stamford PE9 2UW.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The AGM this year will take place in the Meeting Hall at Stamford Hospital on; **WEDNESDAY APRIL 5TH at 7.30pm.** The agenda and minutes of the previous meeting will be available on the night.

Following the business part of the meeting I will be delighted to introduce our guest speaker, Mr Sumit Dhingra, Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. He is a staunch supporter of Stamford Hospital and is keen to expand and develop services there. His talk will be called "Cataract surgery past, present and future".



I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM. There will be refreshments served beforehand and I suggest you arrive in good time. The meeting is open to members and non-members, and if you have family or friends who are interested in the future of our local Hospital please do bring them along with you.

A date for your diary – Thursday 7 December 2017 – The ever popular Christmas Quiz. More details will follow in our next newsletter but if you wish to reserve a place, please call **Kay Hircock on 01780 763333.**

Michael Dronfield

Chairman, Friends of Stamford Hospital