



## NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2016

Dear Friends,

Despite all the uncertainties for the future the Hospital remains busy and the quality of service and care as good as ever. We can thank the Matron, Sue Brooks, and all her staff for their commitment, hard work and kindness.

The Friends remain active in our promotion of the Hospital and the financial support we provide to enhance the services offered, and particularly to support new initiatives. We are grateful to other charities that have contributed to our funds, particularly the Mayor's Charity and the Burghley Family Trust. We have agreed to provide funds for several items over the last few months, ranging from simple and inexpensive [eg. a radio for the phlebotomy suite] to high tech and expensive, particularly a biometric device for the ophthalmology department which will allow patients with cataracts to have all the assessment they require in Stamford prior to surgery. This may lead to the development of cataract surgery at Stamford Hospital.

We remain involved in the discussions about the future of Stamford Hospital. The site clearly needs to be developed and redundant buildings demolished, maintaining of course the listed buildings, notably the original Hospital and the Fever Blocks. The merger of the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital NHS Foundation Trust with the Hinchinbrook Trust should not affect the plans for Stamford, and currently there is much interest in the proposals coming from the Lakeside Healthcare Group to develop the site in partnership with the Hospital Trust. We will remain closely involved and do all we can to encourage a solution that provides the best possible care for the people of Stamford and the surrounding area.

We were pleased to support the Royal College of Nursing's 100th anniversary celebration party on July 20th. Nurses who have worked at the Hospital were invited, and there were over 100 present who all greatly enjoyed meeting old friends and colleagues. Many of them live locally providing further evidence of the importance of a local Hospital looking after local people.



We have recently published an up to date History of Stamford Hospital, and here is an article published last month in Stamford Living.

## The Friends Support Stamford Hospital with a book launch

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

THE story of Stamford Hospital started in 1823 with the death of Henry Fryer, a prominent local surgeon. His estate included £7,477 set aside to establish an Infirmary and this was built on land provided by the Marquess of Exeter. The Hospital opened in 1828, the final cost of construction being £5,793 12s. 1d.

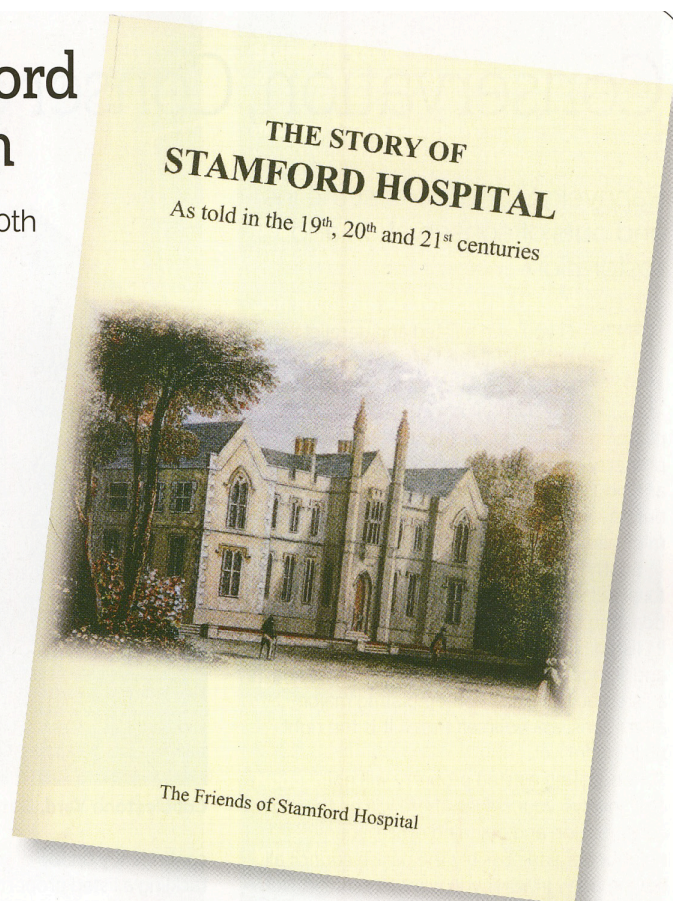
The Hospital's story over the next 188 years gives a vivid and fascinating insight into the development of healthcare and the changing nature of society. Three accounts have been written and are presented sequentially in this book.

The first history, published in 1879, was written by William Newman, an eminent surgeon who worked at the Hospital for over 30 years. He was devoted to the Hospital and had many interests outside medicine, notably in history and photography, and was one of many inspirational clinicians who have worked in Stamford. He was responsible for several imaginative innovations, not least the design and construction of the three Fever Blocks, very necessary in a time when infections such as typhoid, cholera, diphtheria and scarlet fever were common and often fatal. The detailed planning of these facilities is well described in his account.

A second history was commissioned and published by the Friends of Stamford Hospital in 1978 to mark the 150th anniversary of the Hospital and the 30th anniversary of the incorporation of the Hospital into the newly formed National Health Service in 1948. This account gives a more modern perspective on the origins of the Hospital and describes the changes through most of the 20th century including the effects of two World Wars and the introduction of the NHS.

Both of these histories were published in pamphlets, not books, and there was a risk that they would be lost in the future. The committee of the Friends of Stamford Hospital has decided to republish them in a book, and include a third section describing the most recent history taking the story up to 2015.

This new book is available for purchase from:



1. The volunteers at reception at Stamford Hospital. Price £8.  
or 2. By post. Please send a cheque for £10 [which includes £2 for P&P] and your name and address to:  
The Friends of Stamford Hospital, 9 Haddon Road,, Stamford, PE9 2UW  
• For more details on the Friends of Stamford Hospital, and information on how to become a member, please visit:  
[www.friendsofstamfordhospital.org.uk](http://www.friendsofstamfordhospital.org.uk)

**Bill Packer Memorial Lecture:** This year's lecture will be held on Thursday November 10th at 7.30 pm. Venue; Stamford Hospital Meeting Hall.

**“ NHS at a tipping point: why we need to renew, reinvigorate and re-engage”**

**Speaker: Professor Robert Harris,** Chief Executive Officer of the Lakeside Healthcare Group

We are delighted that Prof Harris has agreed to speak to us. He is a leading figure in the Lakeside Healthcare Group which is a partnership of several General Practices now including all three Stamford Practices. He has worked in the Healthcare field for many years including at the very centre of policy in the Department of Health. He has a wide knowledge of the delivery and organization of healthcare, has great energy and vision, and is a very good speaker.

I hope you will be able to attend. There is no need for tickets but I suggest you get there in good time so as to get a seat. Do bring family and friends if you wish.

*Michael Dronfield* Chairman, Friends of Stamford Hospital