



NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2019

Dear Members,

The Hospital:

Stamford Hospital remains very busy and continues to enjoy a strong reputation for the excellence of the care given. It is clear that the Hospital is a valued part of the North West Anglia Healthcare Trust, not just because of its many important services but also because it provides a footprint for the Trust in South Lincolnshire. It is clear that the Trust is keen to develop the site and in the last couple of years has invested heavily in it, including the provision of the MRI scanner.

The Trust has plans for the future of the site which might involve selling some land. Your committee strongly supports the idea of further development of services and also recognises that the redundant parts of the Hospital, particularly the old Ancaster, Exeter and Princess Mary wards and the old out patients and accident departments need to be demolished, thereby providing space for new services. The listed parts of the Hospital



[the original building and the fever blocks] will have to be retained and a use found for them. The Friends committee is uncertain of the wisdom of selling any of the site as this loss of space might inhibit future plans. At a recent meeting the recently retired Chief Executive, Stephen Graves, who is the project lead, gave a clear outline of the possibilities for the future of the Hospital site. This is an important issue and I am sure the Trust will be consulting widely. A key purpose of

the Friends of the Hospital is to represent where we can the views of local people so do please get in touch with us.

The Matron:

Sue Brooks retired this summer after 10 successful years as Matron. She was a great advocate of the Hospital and an inspirational leader, always emphasising the importance of quality, efficiency and kindness. The Friends of the Hospital worked closely with her and many of us joined the staff at her leaving celebration at the Hospital. We were pleased to provide a beautiful cake.





We have been delighted to welcome her successor, Caroline Wood. She has a background in physiotherapy and knows the Trust well. She has already had a major impact and she will be an enthusiastic supporter of the Hospital and of the development of new services.

The Hospital Museum:

Sue Brooks was a key person in driving forward the development of the Hospital Museum over the past few years, and received invaluable help from enthusiastic volunteers, particularly David Baxter who worked at the Hospital for many years and has a keen interest and in its history. It is situated in the ground floor of one of the Fever Blocks, and is difficult to access in the evening and weekends. It compares well with the best Hospital Museums in the country and this is recognised by the Trust which has recently been awarded a substantial heritage grant to look after and record our heritage. We will have more information on this in due course but in the meantime the Museum needs to move so that it is more accessible. Our new Matron has identified a legacy which will provide the funding required to move the Museum to the redundant chapel and mortuary which is near the dental practice. Once the move is complete we hope to open the Museum more often and David Baxter will be leading an action group to make this happen.



The Friends:

We continue to provide funds for the extras that help to make Stamford Hospital so special. Those who have visited the van Geest Unit recently will have seen the wall art we commissioned which helps provide a stimulating environment for the patients.

The Bill Packer Lecture:

This year's lecture will be held in the Meeting Hall at Stamford Hospital on Wednesday November 27th at 7.00pm for start at 7.30 pm. The speaker will be Nicholas Gallop, Headmaster of Stamford School.



The title of his talk: '20:20 Vision:- Ten Political Trends: an Educationalist's View'. Mr Gallop is a history graduate and as well as leading Stamford School writes regular political updates and edits a Politics Review journal. I can promise a very interesting evening. No tickets are required and do bring family or friends, and particularly those who might want to join the Friends.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Michael Dronfield

Chairman, Friends of Stamford Hospital.