

Dear Members

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter, however, since starting to compile it, the weather has taken a definite wintery turn!

In November we held our first Bill Packer lecture since 2019 . This was given by Rob Hughes, recently retired Chair of the North West Anglia Foundation Trust (NWAFT). Rob gave us an insight of his transition from a Director's post in industry to chairing a large hospitals Trust.

Trish Mason organised another book sale at the Easton on the Hill Village Hall, as part of their Christmas Fair. This raised £256 and we gained some new members – so a success and our thanks go to Trish. On the subject of book sales, we are again selling books in the outpatients department at the hospital, so if you are visiting, do have a look – some bargains to be had.

Trish will be organising another book stall at the Easton on the Hill Gala Weekend in May, further details to follow.

You may have seen that the Nurses Home, last used in the 1970's, has been demolished to make way for a new healthcare facility. Just what that might be has yet to be decided, but we will look forward to seeing how it develops. You will see from the photo below, that the building had just two floors in 1939 but by the 1960's such was the demand for student nursing places, the building was extended to four floors!



Requests for funding for items has been somewhat slow following the easing of Covid restrictions at the hospital. The focus has been on reinstating services and all departments are becoming busier, so we are hoping for more requests in the future. We have provided funding for equipment in the Physiotherapy department. This is being used in the rehabilitation of children, patients with musculoskeletal problems and those with neurological conditions. We have also recently approved a further £12,000 funding on some additional equipment for the ultrasound and MRI department.

Now some less happy news. Mike Dronfield, our Chair of 28 years, has decided to stand down and retire as a Trustee. I am sure many of you know Mike and will agree he has been an outstanding Chair and hard working link with the Trust. He was appointed as chair whilst still working as a Consultant Gastroenterologist and has been a great supporter of Stamford Hospital. Our sincere thanks go to him – he will be much missed.



Two other Trustees, Carrie Armitage and Eric Gibbon, have also recently resigned. Both have served the committee well and Eric set up and ran our website. We send them our thanks and very best wishes. We have several vacancies on our Committee – if you would like to join us, please speak up!

### **Annual General Meeting 2023**

This year's AGM will take place on Thursday 20 April at 7.30pm in the new Meeting Hall at the Hospital. This is situated to the right of the outpatient entrance, follow the pathway and the hall is on the left.

**PLEASE PARK IN THE HOSPITAL CAR PARK, NOT SHEEPMARKET CAR PARK – YOU WILL GET A TICKET!**



Our speakers this year are Michael Lumb, and Kerry Gardner from Doctrin. Michael's talk is entitled:

### **Digital Antenatal Care: The Art of the Possible**

Michael Lumb was a Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist at Peterborough and Stamford for twenty-five years, retiring in July 2021. He has been interested in using computers in healthcare since he was a medical student and was a Research Fellow at the University of Cambridge for two years during his training. He became the first Chief Clinical Information Officer at NWAFT from 2017. At the start of the pandemic he used digital technology to largely virtualise his antenatal clinics with distinct advantages for his patients. Kerry will talk about advances in digital healthcare technology in General Practice.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Best wishes

Kay Hircock  
Secretary and Interim Chair