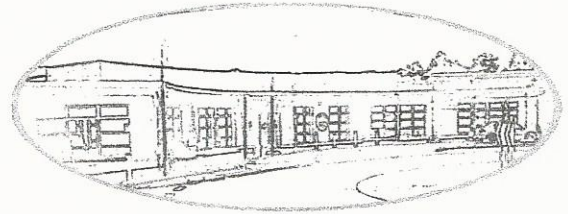


**The Friends of
Fareham Community Hospital**



Patrons: Cllr. Brian Bayford; Lucy Docherty; Mark Hoban; Cllr. Sean Woodward

Chair: Jill Sadler

NEWSLETTER NO.15 **SPRING-SUMMER 2017**

THE FRIENDS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Friends' AGM will take place on Thursday 29th June at 6.30 pm at the Hospital. We warmly invite all our Friends, volunteers, supporters and patrons to this event, but of course members of the public are also welcome to attend. However, due to restrictions on the space available, we would ask that anyone planning to come would notify us in advance by emailing us at foffch10@gmail.com, or dropping in a note to The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital, Fareham Community Hospital, Brook Lane, Sarisbury SO31 7DQ.

The event will include a presentation by Dr Tom Bertram and Kerry Cooper, explaining the CCG's plans for the expansion of services at the Hospital and the Same Day Access Hub under the Better Local Care project for Fareham.

THE MEMORY GROUP

The weekly Memory Group held on Monday afternoons for people with dementia and their carers, which is mainly supported by our volunteers, has proved so popular that we are planning ways in which a second one can be started. At the moment the best option seems to be to hold another session later in the same afternoon, but consultations are still taking place about this, and more volunteers will be needed.

Meanwhile, grateful thanks to ASDA in Newgate Lane, whose Token Scheme has raised £500 for the Group, and to Nicola Howell, whose approach to them has paid off so handsomely. We are also waiting to hear how much Waitrose in Gosport have raised for us through their Community scheme. And finally, thanks to Lara, the daughter of one of our volunteers, who raised £100 for us through her Dance-a-cality Cheer and Dance Show raffle.

HOSPITAL INFORMATION SERVICE

A new project we have been working on for some time is shortly to become a

reality. For some time it has seemed to us that, although there are many health and social care agencies which offer advice and support to help people with various problems, it sometimes seems difficult to find the right one. One of our volunteers, June Stevenson, who has had previous experience with Citizens Advice, has been collecting a data-base of these groups on computer, and it is hoped to try out an Information Service based in Reception at the Hospital which can help people locate the one they need. We would not offer advice, but simply aim to provide information. We are planning to start this in the autumn.

FUND-RAISING TALKS

March's talk on "Diabetes - what it is and how to beat it" given by Raymond Hale, from the Fareham & Gosport branch of Diabetes UK, was very well attended, with a very enthusiastic speaker and a lot of audience participation. The same must be said of the one in May. Entitled "Can you hear me?", it introduced the Fareham Rotary Club's project "Let's hear in Fareham", on checking and improving in public places such as banks, surgeries, churches, etc., the Audio Loop system, which links in to hearing aids to maximise their effectiveness. Other speakers were Huw Thomas, Consultant Head of Audiology and Hearing Aid Services from Queen Alexandra Hospital, and Lorraine Gailey, of Hearing Link. We were also introduced to a charming and beautifully behaved Hearing dog!

Our July meeting will be given over to a Health Summit organised by Suella Fernandes. Our Talks project will resume in September, and we are well on our way to finalising an interesting interactive autumn/winter programme.

WARSASH FESTIVAL

Our display stand will be at the Warsash Festival, on Saturday 8th July in the Strawberry Fields by the shore at Warsash - we look forward to seeing you there.

Jill Sadler
Chair