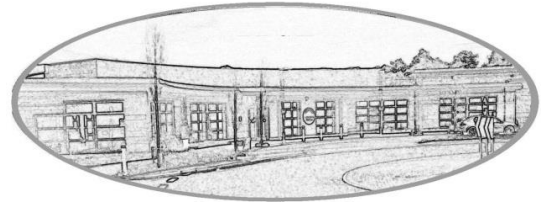


**The Friends of
Fareham Community Hospital**



Patrons: Alderman Brian Bayford, Councillor Seán Woodward, Lucy Docherty, Mark Hoban

FFCH NEWSLETTER 20 WINTER 2019

HOME DIALYSIS TRAINING HUB

For several years the Friends and local charities have been campaigning and raising money for some service at the Hospital to help those with kidney failure to deal with their need for frequent sessions of kidney dialysis. Sometimes this has meant patients travelling three times a week to dialysis centres as far away as Havant. As techniques have improved, NHS services have been able to provide home dialysis machines which can, where suitable, be installed in people's houses, with a link to the service providers which will constantly monitor their use and effectiveness - a huge relief to patients who no longer need to make long journeys several times a week.

However, this plan involves the need for a Training Hub for those receiving a home dialysis machine, and Queen Alexandra Hospital and the Hospital Management have agreed a plan to install one at the Hospital. The considerable building work needed for this is scheduled to start in January, to be completed by the end of April - an exciting development which will make a significant contribution to the Government's latest plans for the NHS.

Three units will be in use at the training hub, these are:



Claria



Harmony



Nxt Stage

FAREHAM PRIMARY CARE SERVICE

At the Health Summit in the autumn, organised by Fareham MP Suella Braverman, Dr. Tom Bertram updated the audience on the Primary Care Service at the Hospital. This continues to provide same-day access at the Hospital to patients of Whiteley, Jubilee and Highlands Road GP surgeries, from 8 am to 6.30 pm on weekdays

Since its start in autumn 2017 it has dealt with some 36,000 enquiries and appointments. Since the autumn of 2018 this has expanded to include a Home Visit service, taking place in the mornings to allow for any treatment decisions to take place in good time. This will be available to all Fareham practices, as is the Extended Access service which runs from 6.30 pm to 8 pm each weekday; 8.00am – 4.30pm Saturday; 8.00am – 1pm Sundays.



TALKS AT THE HOSPITAL

The November talk, called "Going Through the Motions", about bowel problems, was most informative and also hugely entertaining, despite the topic! In January our friendly Paramedic paid a welcome return visit, to update us on safety in the home, with emphasis on the risks to the "less young" of us and also the use of modern defibrillators and their locations around the area.

NEWS FROM THE BOROUGH

In the Autumn Councillor Trevor Cartwright, Executive Member for Health paid a visit to the Hospital to meet staff and Friends. He reported in the Council's later newsletter that it had recently held a meeting with Dr. Jonathan Nash, Consultant in charge of the Breast Screening Service, the service managers at QA, and the Hospital Management, to discuss an initiative to bring the breast screening service into the Hospital on a permanent basis. Dr. Nash and his colleagues were very supportive of the idea. However, after consultation it was felt that a fixed facility using the Hospital's existing X-ray facilities would probably be more likely, and this would not happen for some time.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

This event, to thank the Friends' Volunteer teams for their tireless service throughout the year, was a very happy occasion. Particular thanks were given to those who for several years have manned the blood desk appointments desk.





This Phlebotomy service has now been withdrawn, with GP requests moving to GP surgeries and the hospital Phlebotomists undertaking consultant requests only. Our Volunteers are therefore no longer needed for this work. However, given the new services planned for the Hospital, as well as the latest Government initiatives, there will be many more opportunities for Volunteer involvement in the future.

MEMORY GROUP CHRISTMAS OUTING



Our two Monday Memory Groups combined forces and held their annual Christmas Party in St Johns Church Hall, St Michaels Grove in Fareham. A buffet lunch and entertainment was arranged by some of the Carer Volunteers, and our Hospital Volunteers joined in and helped where needed. Also present were some of the health care students from Fareham College. An amazing raffle was held for the participants and a very happy, enjoyable and festive time was had by all.

With best wishes for the New Year

Petta Dillaway
Chair, Friends of Fareham Community Hospital