

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital



Patrons:

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

FFCH NEWSLETTER 30 Spring - Summer 2022

Letter from the Chair

Volunteers, Friends, and Supporters

As most of you will be aware we now run our Memory Group from the British Legion premises as well as all our committee meetings. Our Memory Group is now once again running weekly on both Monday mornings and afternoons and after a bit of a slow start is now back to our pre-Covid numbers. Please contact Petta Dillaway on 01489 584 086 for any further information on this group.

Our Reactive Transport project has finally started, although somewhat slowly, and we offer transport support to those in our community requiring booster vaccinations. We are still looking for anyone who might be interested in taking up a driving role and ask if you are interested that you complete an application form on our website at:

<https://www.friends-of-fch.org/> or leave your details on 07760 450 930.

The current vaccination programme is now reaching its conclusion but will restart again in September.

The Gardening group have been incredibly busy working on 2 of the inner courtyards. We now have a Festival Courtyard which gives those patients having chemotherapy a lovely outlook and we also have the Jubilee Courtyard where a tree has been planted to commemorate our Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We hope to have an official opening of both courtyards, and dedication of the Queen's "Green Canopy" Jubilee Tree in the Autumn. Jill Sadler is always looking for more volunteers for this group so please contact her on 01489 584310 if you are interested. There are further gardening projects in the pipeline but without more gardening volunteers it will be difficult to maintain these.

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital

The long-awaited chemotherapy unit was formally opened on 6 June this year and at our AGM Natalie Borman gave us an update on the exciting developments currently in the pipeline for our Community Hospital.



Chemotherapy Unit official opening

Our very successful book trolley has now been reinstated in the hospital and this continues to give us much needed funds. Kay Cope is always grateful for books but please do not leave them by the bookstall. Kay is always happy to receive these at her home address so please contact her on 01489 573 808.

We had another very successful Carol concert around the Christmas tree at the hospital in December and we hope to have a bigger and better event next time.

Once again, my thanks to everyone involved with this wonderful group and my particular thanks go to our hard-working committee without whom I would struggle.

My very best wishes to you all

Anne Ford xx

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital

FFCH Volunteer Refreshment, Hospitality Team

The vaccination programme has now halted for the Summer. The refreshment group has supported this programme since late 2020 and deserve the break before it all begins again in September.

The Refreshment Group members have attended other functions, the AGM, the Warsash Festival, they also offer drinks to the Chemo patients' mid-week, however this service is not yet established, and uptake has been varied.

Members of this group also help with other events and look forward to the Talks returning as they also provide refreshments at these events.



Refreshment team help at the Warsash Festival

Memory Groups

The morning and afternoon groups continue to meet each Monday at the British Legion. Numbers have varied as Covid continued to cause infection, however members have recovered and returned when better.

We have had several events: a Jubilee party; Cup Cake day for Alzheimer support; and an indoor picnic when the weather prevented us from using the hospital grounds.

Petta Dillaway

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital



Jubilee Party



Cup Cake Day

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital

Volunteer Gardening Group

FFCH Courtyard Gardens

We have at last completed the courtyard gardens and are now busy trying to keep all the beautiful trees watered – particularly during the recent dry weather.

Jubilee Courtyard



Festival Courtyard



I am asking if there are any volunteers prepared to help with the regular watering needed in the Courtyards, as well as a Volunteer needed to help me set up a Just Giving page to raise money to help pay for all the work we have undertaken in the courtyards. This money will go towards the trees planted - particularly the lovely *Prunus Subhirtella Autumnalis* in the Jubilee Garden which will be dedicated as the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree. We would also like to put an armillary sundial in the Festival garden.

My IT skills were stretched to the limit organising a Just Giving charity website for us, and I now need help setting up the specific page needed for the gardens!

We have also been asked to help with planting and maintenance of 3 large wooden planters, which the Hospital's landlord GB Partnerships are donating for the rear garden and which we are hoping to plant with "bee friendly" plants. They too of course will need watering and maintaining.

So let me know if you might be prepared to help with any of these activities, or if I am unavailable, contact the Hon. Treasurer, Peter Humphreys (07968 096 054).

Jill Sadler

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital

FFCH Transport Scheme

Currently direct access to the hospital via public transport, is not possible. After receiving several requests to improve the situation, with seed funding from local councillors, we set about creating an FFCH Transport service designed to assist people in the FCH Fareham catchment area to get to an appointment if they had no own-transport available. A small number of helpers were recruited to provide administrative management of the service and to be drivers, operating procedures were drafted, DBS checks completed, and security passes prepared. A trial of the service was undertaken in conjunction with the recent round of Covid vaccinations which demonstrated the viability of the service.

We are now planning to take the service “live” and this will probably be in conjunction with the next round of vaccinations in September. However, we are also evaluating the demand for access to the hospital for other appointments such as visits to the chemotherapy suite.

If we are to expand the service, we will need more drivers and if you are interested in helping, please leave your contact details on the application form on our website at <https://www.friends-of-fch.org/> or leave your details on 07760 450 930.

This is a not-for-profit service, and we only ask clients to cover the cost of the journey. All our team offer their services freely.



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Warsash Festival 2022

Our volunteers were busy at the Warsash festival this year. The 3m-by-3m gazebo was erected with the assistance of friends from local community groups and well before the 12-noon opening time the stall was set out with a comprehensive display board and information leaflets describing the FFCH activities and services provided at the hospital, together with our bookstall and other fundraising activities.

The weather was kind to this first post-covid festival and well supported by people from the local community. This helped us raise much needed funds to support our work at the hospital. Thanks go to all those who gave freely of their time to organize and run the FFCH stall.



The FFCH Stall at the Warsash Festival

Fareham Community Lottery

The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital is now a recipient of funding from Fareham Community Lottery. The funding is derived from the sale of lottery tickets and if you wish to support FFCH in this way, while at the same time having an opportunity to win cash prizes of up to £25,000.00 every week then go to www.farehamlottery.org.uk and search for Friends of Fareham Hospital. FFCH receives 40p per ticket sold.



The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital

Membership Fees

Many thanks to all those members who have paid their Membership fees for this year.

The membership fee remains at £5.00, is due in June each year and can be paid by

either direct bank transfer to our Barclays Bank account
Sort Code: 20-30-89, Account Number: 43888142

or by giving a cheque to our Treasurer:

Peter Humphreys
47 Crescent Road
Locks Heath
Southampton
SO31 6PE

Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Fareham Community Hospital".

Best regards

The FFCH team, July 2022