The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital



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

FFCH NEWSLETTER 22 Summer 2019

VOLUNTEER AWARDS

OneCommunity, one of the Fareham organisations supporting volunteers, announced an Awards Event, and we nominated Jill Sadler, our Vice-Chair, and Mavis Bowthorpe, our volunteer coordinator, who have both given many years of service to the Friends. Then to our surprise and pleasure we were told that Suella Braverman MP had recommended the whole of our Committee! At the event in June all received certificates and had their photos taken with the Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Pamela Bryant.



THE HEALTH SUMMIT IN FAREHAM

We took our display board to the Health Summit, organised by Suella Braverman, where various local health providers gave presentations about their work. One concerned the Extended Hours appointments offered at Fareham Community Hospital by all the Fareham GPs. These will now run at the Hospital from 6.30 pm to 10.30 pm on Monday to Friday, but we are losing the Saturday and Sunday morning appointments, which will shortly be offered instead at Portchester Surgery.

This does not affect the Same Day Access service run for their patients by Whiteley, Jubilee and Highlands Road GPs.

INFORMATION ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

At the same event a speaker from Hampshire County Council explained the County's website which gives full information on the many social care and support services they offer. It is called "Connect to Support Hampshire" and can be reached on line at https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/

The Friends Information Service at the Hospital links in to this, as well as providing health information from across the local area and the whole of Hampshire. There is a location in the Hospital Reception area with leaflets, displays and our own database. A Volunteer can be available on request. There is a secure "posting box" on the desk where requests for further information or to see a Volunteer can be left. It is important to stress that this service is for information only, and not advice.



FFCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held on 19th June in the Tom Smith Room, which is now to be the primary venue for the Friends' meetings. It has been decided that holding them in the Reception area can cause difficulties for the increasingly popular Same Day Access and Extended Hours services. In spite of the change it went very smoothly; an audience of 16 were given reports on the year's activities and finances by me and our Treasurer. Seven of the Trustees were re-elected en bloc. Our long-term volunteer coordinator, Mavis Bowthorpe, is now retiring, and was replaced by her colleague Janet Tucker. Mavis was warmly thanked by Petta Dillaway, FFCH Chairperson, with flowers for her many years of service and support to FFCH activities.



TALKS AT THE HOSPITAL

The bi-monthly Talks will also now take place in the Tom Smith Room. The next, on Wednesday 10th July, is called "Steady as You Go - Lessons on how to care for ourselves." Mansi Shah will share her expertise and experiences as a Physiotherapist and Team Leader, specialising in musculoskeletal and sports-related injuries. The event starts at 6.00 pm with refreshments, and the talk begins at 6.30 pm. Tickets are £5 per person, payable on entry.



The leader of the Talks team, Jocelyn Jones, is stepping down from this role, and at the AGM she was given flowers and thanked for all her hard work. She will remain on the team, but from September it will be headed by Anne Ford.

WARTIME ON COLDEAST ESTATE

It's interesting to learn from an article by Diana Peagram in a publication by the Warsash Local History Society that the earliest community Hospital on the Coldeast site was an Emergency Hospital set up during World War Two by the Ministry of Health to treat service and civilian war casualties, as well as those suffering from general illnesses. Our Hospital is not the first!

Our display boards will be at the Warsash Festival on Saturday 6th July. Perhaps we shall see you there.

With best wishes,

Petta Dillaway Chair, Friends of Fareham Community Hospital