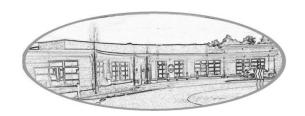
The Friends of Fareham Community Hospital



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

FFCH NEWSLETTER 23 Autumn 2019

THE HOME DIALYSIS TRAINING HUB

This significant new facility due to be established at the Hospital, which has been delayed for some time, now seems to be coming a little nearer. The Clinical Commissioning Groups announced that it would start installation on 21st October, and although this didn't happen, it seems that the Renal Department at QA have been alerting appropriate patients to its arrival, and various rooms at the Hospital have been cleared and reassigned to its use. This has included a room used by the Memory Group Team for their equipment, which has been temporarily relocated. We hope for some more action in the New Year!

EVENING GP APPOINTMENTS

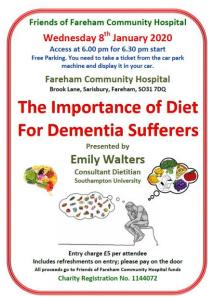
The Extended Hours GP weekday evening service at the Hospital mentioned in the last Newsletter has now settled into its new format, and a note describing it has been issued. It can be seen on the back page of the Friends' Health Facilities Leaflet, including the availability of weekend daytime and evening GP appointments on Saturday and Sunday at Portchester Health Centre, West Street, Portchester, PO16 9TU. This is an appointment only service, and must be accessed through your GP practice or by calling the NHS 111 number.

FAREHAM COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

We took our display boards to this event in Ferneham Hall in October, where it proved very popular. We took the opportunity to publicise the Extended Hours GP service, and ran out of the entire 50 Facilities Leaflet we took with us, as well as handing out a number of our other leaflets.

TALKS AT THE HOSPITAL

The November talk on organ donation was very much appreciated. The next one, on Wednesday 8th January, 6.00 pm for a 6.30 pm start, is by Emily Walters, Consultant Dietitian at Southampton University, and will be on suitable nutrition for dementia patients, a very important and topical subject.



THE CENTRAL COURTYARD GARDEN

One of the individual features of the Hospital is the three courtyard gardens that can be seen from the Reception Area. Two of them are looking tidy and pleasant, but the one behind the Reception Desk needs some attention, and the Hospital Management have invited suggestions from the Friends' Gardening Group.

Some people may not have noticed this patch of green and brown behind the receptionists, but regular visitors to the Hospital will be aware of the springtime visits of a duck, which uses the tall bamboo plants in the middle to raise a brood of little ducklings. This garden also borders the windows of the Tom Smith Room, where the Memory Groups meet, and these little birds are



great favourites of Memory Group visitors. The Gardening Group have come up with some suggestions, which include retaining the ducklings' green nest area, replacing some ugly invasive grasses, and adding a decorative sundial as a focus point. The Warsash Festival organisers have very kindly offered some funding to the Friends for a specific project at the Hospital, and discussions are continuing as to whether they and the Management would find this a suitable one.

VOLUNTEERS EVENT



Following the ending of the Friends' involvement with Phlebotomy Booking, some volunteers have decided to step down from their role; we thank them very much for all the hard work they've done in the past. An event is being planned for late January for our remaining helpers to update them on future plans and possible new volunteering opportunities - the date will be announced soon. Meanwhile invitations for the Coffee Volunteers Christmas Morning Thursday 12th December from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. in the Tom Smith Room have gone out and we hope to see many there.

Our Christmas tree is up in Reception and the Raffle Board is on the desk - don't miss the opportunity to win some handsome prizes.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Petta Dillaway Chair, Friends of Fareham Community Hospital