HOSPITALITY

WINTER EDITION OCT 2023 - JAN 2024

Friends of Eastbourne Hospital

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE NUMBER 172

PLUS: News

www.friendsdgh.org.uk

FOEH

OPEN GARDENS
RAISE OVER £20K
- see the garden
galleries inside

THE 18TH ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION - what's in store this year

THE FRIENDS FASHION SHOW an afternoon of fun, fashion and fundraising

Sadly announcing the permanent closure of the flower cabin

FLUS: News from the Office & Trust, Fundraising Round-ups, Dates for the Diary, and all Donations



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Art Exhibition and Sale of Paintings

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> > £400,000

for Eastbourne's expanding Cardiology department, helping us provide equipment so that they can carry out even more life-saving procedures at Eastbourne DGH



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Admission Free

Informal Painting Demonstration by well known local artist Terry Hobbs at 2.00 pm Saturday

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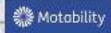
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28-29 OCTOBER 18th Annual Art Exhibition St. Andrew's Prep 10am - 4pm

22 NOVEMBER FoEH AGM Victoria Baptist Church, Eldon Road, 2pm - 4pm

24 NOVEMBER FoEH Quiz Night The Fishermens Club 7pm, Price £5 Teams up to 7 people

25 NOVEMBER
FoEH Christmas Fair
and coffee morning
All Saints' Church Hall,
Grange Road
10am-12pm

30 NOVEMBER
Dine Around the World
Thai Marina
7pm, Price £25

1 MARCH FoEH Race Night The Fishermens Club Full details TBC

15 MARCH FoEH Quiz Night The Fishermens Club 7pm, Price £5 Teams up to 7 people

For details on events or to register interest, see: www.friendsdgh.org.uk/ events

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



As autumn fast approaches the Friends activities and fundraising are speeding up after the usual quiet August. The fundraising for our major project this year, to raise £400K

for the new invasive cardiology unit, is nearing completion and the funds will be raised by the end of the year as planned.

Over the summer our season of Open Gardens has come to a close with a total of around £20K raised, which is an astonishing achievement as there were only seven gardens this year as opposed to nine in the last two years. Our thanks must, as usual, go to all the organisers, volunteers, and garden owners for making it such a successful year.

The Sugar Ray golf tournament was back this year after a break for Covid and at the time of writing I do not know how much money has been raised.

Over the time up until Christmas there are several fundraising events organised. These include the Art Exhibition, the Christmas Fair, Dine around the World at the Thai Marina, and the last quiz of the year. More details can be found in this edition of Hospitality and on our website. Please come and support some of these events.

And it is great that we have now relaunched our education Lectures for the public. The first talk since Covid was given this October by Mr Karl Spiteri about the Robot that the Friends spent £500K on last year.

You may remember that we held a competition for school children to paint a

picture about doctors and nurses and their jobs. Well I am delighted to say that we have been able to put a large number of these pictures up in the foyer in the hospital. Please have a look next time you are in

The Friends AGM Is being held on 22nd November to which you are all invited. I will announce the Friends Major Project at that meeting for next year. I am currently in discussion with the Trust about what that will be

It is with great pleasure that I announce that the trustees of the Friends have elected Hugh Parker as my deputy chair. Hugh has been a trustee for many years and has done stirling work for the Friends during that time, including standing in for me on occasions. He takes over from Margaret Lonsdale who has left the Eastbourne area for Surrey.

And lastly I am delighted to announce that our shops for the first time had a turnover of over £500K this year. What a wonderful achievement. Our thanks to the shop manager, Rai Hitchen, and all her very hard working volunteers. But as usual I make a plea for more people to come forward to volunteer, because without you we cannot maintain our services.



Introducing Mr Karl Spiteri and his talk, 'Precision in Motion: The unparalleled advantages of robotic surgery'

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NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

'DOCTORS AND NURSES' - FOYER ART DISPLAY

If you received our last issue of Hospitality, you will have seen the winning entry from our 2023 Children's Art Competition on the front cover.

However, we received so many fantastic entries that we turned them into an exhibition, and are now proudly displaying all of the shortlisted pieces on the wall of the DGH's main entrance, opposite the Friends Shop. If you are in the hospital, do stroll over for a wonderful insight into how our local children see 'Doctors and Nurses' and the work they do. Many thanks to all of the children who sent in such charming art.



NUMBERS TO NOTE

Please do note that the main number for the DGH switchboard is:

0300 131 4500

and that Voluntary Services can be contacted directly by calling the above number and then using extension 771615.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - DONATIONS

This year the Christmas Coffee Morning is taking place in All Saints Church Hall, Grange Road on 25th November from 10.00-12.00.

We would be very grateful for any donations of cakes, jewellery and unwanted gifts for our stalls. You can phone the office on 749503 or contact the event organise, Bo Phillips, on 722985 (after October 13th) to arrange collections; or items can be dropped off in the Friends Shop.

EDUCATION LECTURE

We would like to thank locum consultant urologist Mr Karl Spiteri for his fascinating talk on the history, functionality and importance of the Da Vinci Robot within the DGH.

We would also like to thank the volunteers who helped on the night - meeting, greeting and seating, and also helping with refreshments and closing the evening.

Although the Friends no longer send Christmas cards, we would like to wish all our members, readers and supporters a very happy festive season and all good wishes for the new year ahead.

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If you have any time to volunteer for the Friends, or know someone else who might benefit from doing so please contact 01323 749503 or esh-tr.friendsdqh@nhs.net for details

Help us help them help you

A FAREWELL TO FRIENDS

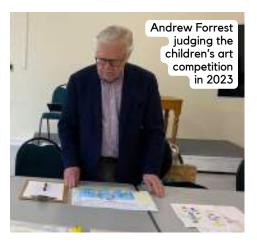
ANDREW FORREST

We were very sad to hear of the tragic death of Andrew Forrest in Eastbourne on July 26th 2023. Andrew had been a huge supporter of the Friends of Eastbourne Hospital for many years.

During the last eleven years while he was Chairman and then President of the Society of Eastbourne Artists he very kindly arranged for the Friends to borrow the Society's stands every year to display around 200 paintings at their annual Art Exhibition. He also helped erect the stands and then helped with the hanging of the paintings as well as entering his own paintings for sale.

Earlier this year we invited Andrew to help us judge a competition set up by the Friends for local children to design a cover for our Hospitality magazine. His professional comments on the children's artwork were very much appreciated.

Andrew, a perfect gentleman, will be very much missed by so many, and the Friends Art Team will remember his great kindness, generosity, and wonderful support over many years.



GEOFF DUFFELL

We don't sell sunshine on the shop trolley, but when Geoff was pushing it you'd have been forgiven for thinking we did. He brought smiles to the staff he visited on every round, and was an equally popular personality at the heart of our volunteer team.

Geoff's contributions to the Friends spanned a multitude of roles - not only a regular on the trolley round, he was a guiding hand at events, a good-humoured parking attendant, an adept and reliable event photographer and even the occasional compère. He fulfilled each of these roles with enthusiasm, dedication, humour and kindness.

Beyond his visible roles, Geoff provided solid support and encouragement to his fellow volunteers and always to the office, where our office manager and his bereaved wife Sue continues her work for the Friends with every bit the same spirit Geoff had.

Geoff leaves a legacy of joy, care and compassion, and he will be forever in the hearts of everyone here at the Friends.





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FOEH 18TH ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION

ST. ANDREW'S PREP, MEADS, 10 AM - 4 PM SATURDAY 28TH AND SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2023

We are delighted that 66 local artists have entered just over 300 original paintings for sale at this year's Friends Annual Art Exhibition.

The by the generous support Headmaster of St. Andrew's Prep, Mr Tom Gregory, is very much appreciated. We are allowed the use of the school gym to display all the paintings. This year we are very grateful to the Wannock Art Group and the Polegate Art Group for lending us their stands to display the paintings. We would also like to thank Paul and Ellen Crockford for generously donating the wine, and Eastbourne College for lending us the glasses, for the Preview Evening.

Two well-known artists are kindly donating their paintings for our 2023 project to raise funds for the Cardiology Dept at the DGH, Jackie Hurwood (pictured right) for the raffle prize and Alan Everard for the Silent Auction.

On the Saturday we are looking forward to a painting demonstration by Terry Hobbs at 2pm to which you are all invited. Then on Sunday October 29th Ian Parrott, a popular cartoonist, will once again do quick sketches of our visitors for a donation of £10 which he is going to donate to the Friends.

We look forward to welcoming you over the weekend to a wonderful display of paintings. Admission is free, and you and your friends will have the opportunity to vote for your favourite picture in the show. You may also be tempted to buy a painting!

Ann Caffyn, Art Exhibition Organiser





TRUST NEWS

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW ELECTIVE CARE HUB AT EASTBOURNE DGH

A ground-breaking ceremony was held at Eastbourne District General Hospital to mark the start of building works on a new Elective Care Hub.

Trust chairman, Steve Phoenix and Chief Executive, Joe Chadwick-Bell gathered with colleagues and NHS stakeholders for the ceremony.

The project will deliver a modern, purpose-built day surgery unit which will include a preassessment area, four theatres, admission, recovery and discharge space plus associated support facilities. The new unit will increase the amount of day surgery activity that takes place across Sussex.

Open from 7am to 11pm and conducting procedures from 8am to 6pm, initially five days a week, moving to six days in the future, it will offer residents from across Sussex the opportunity to have their day surgery procedure performed more quickly and in a purpose-built environment that allows extra capacity to address both current and future surgical needs.

We have received £22.5 million from NHS England's Elective Recovery Plan with additional funding coming from NHS Sussex

Steve Phoenix, Chairman of East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust said; 'It is a privilege to mark the beginning of this exciting project. The elective care hub will make a real difference to how we treat patients and lead to an improvement in the quality of care we can deliver.'

Joe Chadwick-Bell, Chief Executive of East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust said 'Its great to see work getting underway on this purpose built elective hub which will mean better facilities for our staff and patients. The project is a partnership between our trust and partners at NHS Sussex and NHS England and today marks a milestone in making the plans a reality.'

The new elective hub is due to open March 2025.

CELEBRATING NHS75 AT 10 DOWNING STREET AND WEST-

During this year's celebrations for the 75th birthday of the NHS, some of our colleagues had the honour of being invited to events at 10 Downing Street and Westminster Abbey. The reception for NHS Champions at No.10 Downing Street was hosted by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Steve Barclay, who said: 'The NHS has changed a lot over the last 75 years.

Patients are 80% less likely to die from cardiovascular disease today than in 1948. Back then, the NHS had 144,000 members of staff — it now has 1.4 million. In 1948 it had a budget of £11 billion, it is now over £180 billion. But two things haven't changed. The amazing staff who provide high quality care for patients, and that it is free at the point of use. Those are the

CELEBRATING THE LONG SERVICE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers across the have trust been recognised for their dedication with the presentation of long service awards at recent events held at both Conquest Hospital and Eastbourne DGH.

A total of 107 volunteers were awarded for an incredible 931 years of combined voluntary service between them. Volunteers who were invited to the events have provided 5, 10, 15, 20 or 25 years of committed service to organisation, the helping enhance to patient experience every step of the way.

This year's award winners came from our who help teams on provide admin wards, support, assist the work of the cardiac rehab team, provide a warm welcome to visitors front of house, visit patients in a chaplaincy capacity and support the work of the trust's volunteering **Friends** partners, the charities Hospital and Radio.

With just over 400 volunteers currently offering their time, our longest serving volunteer has now been a member of the DGH Radio team for 43 years... and still counting!

The trust's voluntary services team who proudly co-ordinate and support the volunteers said: "These annual events give us the opportunity to celebrate and recognise the value volunteers bring to our organisation. Ιt extremely important to recognise the support this team give every day to our hospitals, colleagues and patients."

Volunteers are an integral part of the NHS. They are the often unsung heroes who quietly make a difference in whatever way they can. We have just over 400 of these heroes currently and we are ready to take on more.









MINSTER ABBEY

principles that we are all here to celebrate today."

On Wednesday 5 July a service was held at Westminster Abbey to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NHS. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh attended the event, which was led by the Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle.

An address was given by Amanda Pritchard, Chief Executive of NHS England, who said: "We come together today not to celebrate an idea, but to celebrate all those who have breathed life into it, who have made it mean something real to tens of millions of people over three quarters of a century, and who continue to give us hope for the future."





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END OF THE FLOWER SHOP

It is with areat sadness that the decision has been made not to re-open the Friends Flower Shop that has been closed since Covid. There were many factors to be taken into consideration and the decision was not made lightly. We know that some of our regular customers will be disappointed but it was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain the stock levels due to the short shelf life of flowers and the near monopoly that the supermarkets seem to have now on flower sales. Also, there are now very few, if any, wards where visitors can take flowers in for patients. which had been one of our main sources. of customers.

Over the years the Flower Shop has been a great contributor to the overall shop sales, and this couldn't have been achieved without the lovely volunteers that often went the extra mile to create such lovely arrangements and take the flowers to various outside events. There are too many to mention by name, but we hope that they realise how much they were valued.

In 2017 due to changes in the hospital foyer the Flower Shop, which was previously in the main entrance to the hospital, was relocated to a cabin by the car park. Although there were fears this would neaatively impact performance and sales the volunteers were not daunted by this and readily took on the challenge of making the most of this new situation. The new cabin was officially opened by the then Lord Lieutenant of Sussex, Peter Field, on what felt like the coldest February day on record!

We would like to thank all our past customers for their support and custom, and all those that did at any time volunteer in the Flower Shop. You all helped to make a difference.



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OPEN GARDENS 2023

Once again we can look back on a very successful open garden season, which has helped contribute over £20,000 towards the Cardiology project. The season spanned May to September and overall we were blessed with very favourable weather, if a little too hot at times!

We started at Carters Corner, then our travels took in Eastbourne (twice), Firle, Bishopstone, Friston and Folkington. Without exception all of these gardens had their own unique charms and we must once again thank the owners for all the hard work they put in before opening to get their gardens into such good shape for our visitors to enjoy.

We would like to thank Robert and Liz Johnson for their help with planning the season, and the wonderful volunteer team who worked tirelessly during the season to ensure a pleasant visitor experience. A special thank you must go to Andy Lennard of Able Transport, as without him and his helper Sam there would be no tables, chairs, or even teacups at the gardens. Their cheerfulness and willingness to help when asked to move things for the fourth or fifth time is very much appreciated!

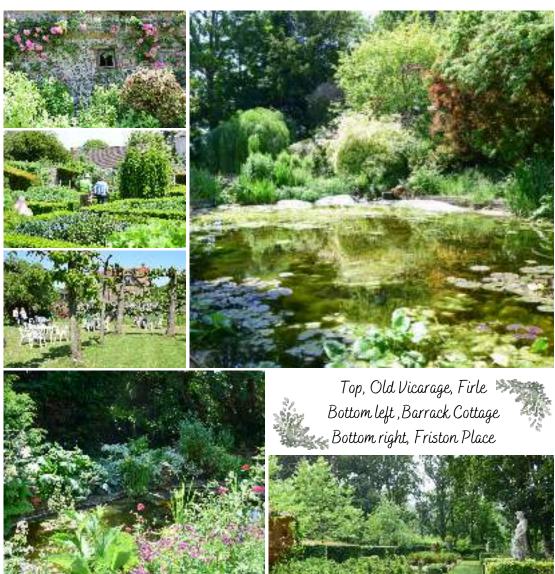
Our thoughts will soon be turning to the 2024 season, and we would love to hear from anyone that would like to talk to us about either opening their garden for us or becoming part of the volunteer team. Over the years the open gardens have been a vital part of our annual fundraising calendar, enjoyed by both the volunteers and visitors, but would be nothing without gardens to open, or volunteers to plan and be there on the day.























Our Open Garden team was joined at Folkington Place by a student on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, who had been volunteering with the Friends at various events over the preceding six months in order to complete the volunteering component of her Bronze DofE certificate. If you know any students looking to undertake a similar certificate, or who want to increase their skills or experience ahead of completing a UCAS form or similar portfolio, then please encourage them to contact us. Volunteering experience will stand out on any CV and give young volunteers valuable interpersonal skills and work experience in a friendly, informal and flexible environment.



It really does take a team to make our Open Garden seasons the success they are. To everyone who gets involved, from the very start to the finish of the season, we say

Thank You 💬





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FASHION SHOW, 2023



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- 2. Sign up and search for 'Friends of Eastbourne Hospital' as your chosen cause
- 3. Search for the websites where you want to shop, click through to them, and carry on exactly as usual, knowing that if you do make a purchase, a percentage comes to us!

You will also be able to set up a donation reminder on your device, so instead of visiting easyfundraising to search for your retailer prior to shopping, you can go straight there and a pop-up will let you know if they're an easyfundraising partner!

Here are just some of the thousands of retailers who are taking part. If your favourites aren't there, then go and have a look for them - without a doubt you will find some of your regular retailers there.























Please do sign up before you start your Christmas shopping, it really will make a difference!

FUNDRAISING ROUND-UPS

As mentioned by Harry in his Chairman's Report, our thanks go to the organisers of the **Sugar Ray Golf Tournament**, held in September, the proceeds of which will be confirmed and donated to the Friends in due course.

We also thank everyone at the **Hailsham Artist's Network**, whose art and craft fair in July raised £154.54. Helping serve the refreshments on the day were Friends volunteers Rosemary, Ann, Elaine and Chris.

Another successful summer event, held to fundraise for both the Friends of Eastbourne Hospital and the Friends of Conquest Hospital, was an afternoon tea hosted by **Helen Davey** of Bexhill. Helen held the event in her own garden and raised £250 for both charities.

Many thanks also go to photographer **Martin Rumary** of Willingdon, who kindly donated £200 from the sale of photographic equipment to the Friends, following his own successful treatment here at the hospital.

We are very grateful to **Sylvia White** who recently donated several ranges of nightwear and underwear to the Friends Shop on the closure of her own business. Essential items for the shop and for patients who may sometimes be admitted at short notice, this clothing is very much appreciated. Details of a sale which will include Sylvia's kind donations will be announced as soon as a date is confirmed. Do come along and pick up some lovely pieces at sale prices.

CLIVE HANCOCKS

Clive Hancocks spent eight days in September walking 80 miles of the Dales Way in order to raise money for the Friends. His way of giving back to the hospital following treatment he had received there for prostate cancer, Clive described the experience as gruelling at times, but that it was Yorkshire at its best and he was buoyed by camaraderie. Clive's fundraising total stands at over £450. We thank him very much for all his support.





CAROLINE SMITH

"Caroline Smith's East Sussex Social Friends Meet-Ups" celebrated its third anniversary in September, A raffle was held and the proceeds were divided between the Friends and St Wilfrid's. We were delighted to meet Caroline and receive the group's kind donation of £139.



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Annual General Meeting

WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2023

2PM VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH ELDON ROAD, BN21 1UE



Supporting the patients, staff and visitors at the Eastbourne DGH by fundraising for additional equipment, amenities and services.

Please visit

www.friendsdgh.org.uk

to view the agenda for this AGM

For more details, contact the Friends Office on:

01323 749503 esh-tr.friendsdgh@nhs.net

www.friendsdgh.org.uk

Sand

Sandy Boyce-Sharpe

President

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr Harry Walmsley

Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT

Peter Skilbeck

Treasurer

GUEST SPEAKER

Professor Nik Patel

Cardiology Consultant

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f you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional ax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment ax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.
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...... Post Code

QUIZ NGHT

Friday 24 November

7pm for 7.30pm

The Fishermen's Club, Royal Parade, Eastbourne



Tickets £5

Teams of up to 7 People

Contact the Friends Office for tickets or more information on



Free admission, donations welcome. Raising funds for: Eastbourne DGH.











CHRISTMAS

FAIR

...and coffee morning

SATURDAY 25 NOV 2023 10.00-12.00

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL GRANGE RD BN21 4HE

01323 749503 / www.friendsdgh.org.uk

























Stalls include:

* Gifts * Cakes * Marmalade * Patchwork * Jewellery * * FOEH Shop * Books * Cards * Home Made Gifts * Raffle *