



NEW MAN AT HELM: From left, chairman of trustees Mary Thurston, chairman of Friends Tony Midgley and Brian James treasure and trustee.

Tony's to lead the Friends

RETIRED naval officer and engineer Tony Midgley has agreed to take over the helm at the Friends of Lydney Hospital after the death of Melville Watts.

The 66-year-old trustee has agreed to run the charitable trust until the next annual general meeting in the new year.

He said founder Mr Watts was an inspiration and the trust was determined to carry on the excellent work he started 47 years ago which has improved local health facilities.

Secretary Mary Thurston says it is vital to have somebody at the helm to work with doctors and the NHS during the current period of change.

"I'm not trying to take Melville's place, because that's impossible," said Mr Midgley from Lydney.

"But we want to maintain some continuity and let people know we are still committed to the same goals."

The Watts Group will continue to provide secretarial support to the Friends.