

Message from Tony Midgley, Our Chairman:

The first phase of the Forest Consultation into the future for the community hospitals has now concluded with a decision taken by the respective NHS trusts that a replacement single hospital will be built in place of the two existing hospitals. The broad location for the new hospital will be established in a few months' time and this will be in Cinderford, Coleford or Lydney. The hospital will not be available for public use until 2022 at the earliest, and in the meantime assurances have been given that the existing hospitals will continue to function as at present without any reduction in services. As a result of this decision, we will need to provide full support to the Matron and staff for at least the next four years, and the Friends will try to maintain fundraising at or beyond current levels regardless of whether or not the new hospital is built in Lydney.

The Friends will fully support the local community of Lydney and District in lobbying for the new hospital to come to Lydney. This support will include participating in a presentation to the advisory group which the Trust intends to convene shortly to assess the relative merits of the different location options. There are persuasive arguments in Lydney's favour and these will be fully analysed and quantified prior to the formal presentation.

Committee		Trustees
Anthony Midgley – Chairman	Emma Kemsley	Mary Thurston – Chairman
Brian James - Treasurer	Steve Longton	Viscount Rupert Bledisloe
Mary Thurston – Secretary	John Martyn	Brian James
Linda Beswick	Anita Mott	Jeremy Williams
Ron Beddis	Margaret Reeks	
James Bocking	Sue Rees	
Angela Davies	Kathy Watts	
Marie Fraser Griffiths	Steve Willatt	

The Friends of Lydney Hospital are kindly supported by Watts Group, Althorpe House, High Street, Lydney, Gloucestershire GL15 5DD
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 or email kathywatts@watts-group.co.uk or via Facebook
 For more information visit our website www.friendsoflydneyhospital.org.uk
 Registered Charity No 277785

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2018



In spite of the severe weather and heavy snowfall, Lydney Hospital and the Minor Injuries Unit stayed open throughout, WITH MANY THANKS to the hard working nurses who stayed overnight to look after patients. Matron Cheryl Haswell sent out an appeal on Saturday morning for help in clearing the hospital car park and Dawn Cracknell from DS Cracknell Contracting came to the rescue with her JCB. Dawn and her team, who had been working non-stop for several days looking after car parks in South Wales, had the car park cleared by midday. Some changes were made to the MIU opening hours on Friday and Saturday with the Dilke Hospital having to close on both days.





The Lydney branch of the Coventry Building society has raised and donated funds to the Friends of Lydney & District Hospital over several years. Their donations have allowed the purchase of many much-needed items for our hospital and we are very grateful.



Another regular donor is Pillowell School. Every year the children sing and play musical instruments outside the Co-op store in Lydney and have raised significant funds over many years. A big thank you to children and staff!

THANK YOU - The Friends are most grateful to **all the local individuals, organisations and companies** who continue to generously support our fund raising activities in so many ways. Without your support, it would not be possible to provide the much needed equipment and extra facilities at our local hospital especially at a time when the NHS budget is under particular strain.

Recent equipment purchased by the Friends:

- 4 x Aylesbury Chairs for the Outpatients - £1,272
- 10 x Repose Mattresses - £1,187
- 3 x Note Trolleys - £772
- 2 x Television Sets for the Wards - £268
- 24 x generous Flexi-Form Seat Cushions - £924
- 2 x Soft-Form Premier Mattresses with Pumps - £1,100
- Bristol Maid Pottering Chair - £4,442
- Sara Steady Walking Aid - £1,172
- 8 x Maximum Stackable Armchairs @ £106 per chair
- 2 x Elite Rectangular Flip Top Tables @ £231 per table
- Garden seats in memory of Jean Aldridge
- A range of small toys for Children's Services at Stone bury House
- Sofa bed for Relatives Room in memory of Roger Hook
- 20 x Ward Bedside Chairs @ £218 per chair - £4,360
- 8 x bi-fold welded seam crash mats - £628
- **Upgrade of X-ray suite £120,000**
- A 'trauma' trolley for Minor Injuries Unit - £4,216
- Interactive Dementia Computer System for use on Inpatient wards - £5,495
- Chair Scale with BMI - £495
- 20 x Affinity over-bed tables - £3,450
- 1 x TV and 2 stands - £600
- Motomed and other exercise equipment for In-patient physio - £4,880

In addition, each year:

- Daily newspapers are provided for inpatients
- A small gift is given to long-serving members of staff upon their retirement
- Christmas gifts are given to staff and patients
- Financial support is provided for nurses' events at the hospital
- The Friends maintain the gardens in front of the hospital