The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The League of Friends OF THE KENT & CANTERBURY HOSPITAL

Annual Report & Accounts

For the Year Ending 31 December 2025



Reinvesting for the Benefit of our Community at Kent and Canterbury Hospital!

All the profits - £145k in 2025 - from our highly valued three Hospital Shops are invested in life saving and life changing equipment for the benefit of patients, staff and visitors.

Registered Charity No: 1155088

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Chairman's Foreword



I am delighted to have taken over as Chair of Kent and Canterbury Hospital League of Friends (LOF) in mid-2025, to continue the amazing fundraising work of this charity. The aim of the LOF is to support the East Kent Hospitals Trust and its staff in providing care for patients at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Since its foundation in 1953, the charity has raised over £9 million to support projects and fund equipment which benefits patients, staff and visitors. In the last 12 months alone, we have pledged £290k to purchase equipment for the hospital.

The LOF comprises a Board of Trustees, a Charity Manager and eight local city and village groups. We are supported by a fundraiser and social media expert. Our main regular source of income comes from the three hospital shops which are run by our Shops' Manager, paid staff and volunteers. The shops continue to provide an excellent service to staff, relatives and visitors and our turnover now exceeds £1 million per annum. The shops trolley visits the wards every day and both patients and staff take advantage of this to purchase items. We also run a ward library trolley of books and magazines for patients several times a week and have had nothing but positive feedback for both services.

The Trustees and groups meet regularly to oversee the running of the charity, to plan and organise fundraising events and to agree funding for equipment and projects requested by wards or departments. We are also extremely grateful to receive legacies and gifts in Wills from patients or families who wish to support their local hospital. In 2025, we received an amazing legacy of over £500k from the Will of Hilda Levi, a longtime Whitstable resident who died in 2022 with no known friends or relatives. This is the largest single donation received by the LOF and the Trustees were determined to spend this money on a large and ambitious project which will transform clinical services for patients of the whole of East Kent. We therefore launched the East Kent Cancer Radiotherapy Treatment Appeal in July 2025, mentioned in more detail later in the report, and have pledged £400k of Hilda's legacy to the project.

NHS hospital trusts are continuing to experience extreme financial pressures and the contributions of the LOF to purchase equipment and support improvements is more important than ever. Our input is greatly valued by the EKH Trust who have expressed their sincere thanks. Our significant contribution is something that all members and supporters of the LOF should feel proud of.
I was honoured to be able to represent the League of Friends at the recent installation of Sarah Mullally, the new Archbishop of Canterbury who is our Patron. She has a nursing background, and I look forward to meeting with her to discuss the work of our charity.

I would like to thank the hard-working members of our city and village groups, our donors and supporters and all our other volunteers for giving up their time in continuing to support the LOF. Thank you also to our paid staff who are passionate about the charity and to the Trustees for their expertise and ongoing contributions. The dedication and commitment of all involved means we make a real difference to patient care at Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

We would love to welcome new members of all ages to ensure that we can continue as a thriving organisation. The work we do is very rewarding and there are many ways to get involved: join one of our fundraising groups, volunteer in our hospital shops, even on a flexible basis, or help with the ward library trolley service. If you would like to be involved with our friendly team and support your local hospital, please do contact us - we would love to have some new members to help us. Call 01227 864030 or email: ekh-tr.leagueoffriends@nhs.net for more information.

Dr Kate Neales
Chair

Charity Objectives

The key objective of the charity (the League) is to provide services and funds to support the purchase of equipment and facilities which are beyond the scope of government funding to relieve sickness, protect good health and enhance the care and treatment of patients and visitors accessing NHS services as well as the staff working at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, which is a constituent part of the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust).

The League achieves its objectives by means of operating hospital shops, which primarily sell goods to patients, visitors and hospital staff, by the provision of services which include a mobile library service to in-patients, a daily shop trolley to the wards and fundraising activities organised by our Charity Fundraiser, in the community. Fundraising activities are also run by the League's eight locally based Groups and through the receipt of kind donations and legacies.

In considering the objectives, the Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees are confident that the activities which they undertake have a clear public benefit. The Trust provides clinical services within the scope of their NHS requirements and the League works hard to support and enhance those services.

Grants

Applications are received from the Kent and Canterbury Hospital staff for equipment and facilities for use in the hospital. They are examined against criteria laid down by the Trust and the League Trustees. Grants are approved at the League Trustee Board meetings and supported by both centrally generated funds and the eight League fundraising groups' generated funds.

The aim of the grants is to deliver projects and purchase equipment that make a difference to all who use the services at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital by:

* Enhancing the quality of patient care
* Improving the environment for patients and visitors
* Supporting NHS staff welfare in their work environment
* Providing financial funding for projects that support patient education and wellbeing

The League depends almost entirely upon unpaid volunteers for fundraising and for staffing the services that we provide for the hospital. The Trustees are truly appreciative of their hard work and acknowledge that the success of the League is largely due to them.



Lynne Bannon, our Charity Manager, oversees the League's Central activities, reporting to the Trustees and helping to ensure that the League achieves its overall objective of supporting the hospital for the benefit of patients, staff and visitors.



Matt Tillman, our Shops' Manager, runs the hospital's highly valued shops, helping us achieve our mission by providing quality service to patients, staff and visitors and maximising shops' profits which are used to purchase equipment for the hospital.

Focus on Fundraising

Our fundraising groups

* Ash
* Barham & Kingston
* Canterbury North
* Canterbury South
* Chartham
* Nailbourne
* St Stephen's & St Dunstan's
* Sturry

We are fortunate to have eight dedicated fundraising groups in Canterbury and the surrounding villages who are instrumental in raising funds and form the backbone of the charity.

Throughout the year our group members have enjoyed meeting up to plan and organise a huge variety of events and activities such as: coffee mornings, soup lunches, bingo sessions, bring and buy events, quiz games, letter-drops and sponsored walks, etc.

Group members, as well as individual volunteers, also give their time to help out in our three hospital shops. These provide a valuable service by selling a great variety of lunch options, snacks, drinks, newspapers, magazines, cards and many other convenience items. The shops' trolley undertakes daily ward rounds which is particularly useful for those patients unable to leave their bed. The shops' popularity has continued to increase year on year as footfall has steadily increased helping to produce record profits, which are ploughed back into the hospital.

The health benefits of volunteering are well documented. Our volunteers have commented that they thoroughly enjoy the social aspect of giving up their free time to support the League, working with long-established friends and having the opportunity of meeting new people. Many of our volunteers enjoy it so much that they have been with us for 20 years or more - some as many as 40+ years.

Our Charity Fundraiser and Social Media Specialist have continued to successfully organise and publicise a variety of fun and interesting fundraising events, as well as significantly expanding and improving our social media profile.

The League continues to turn fundraising and shops' profits into greatly appreciated funding of equipment and facilities which benefit so many patients, their visitors and our highly valued NHS staff. Equipment can range from small items such as chairs and overbed tables, to expensive high-tech medical machines such as a specialised ultrasound system and MRI equipment. Sometimes the smallest items can make the biggest difference which is very rewarding for our group members who selflessly fundraise throughout the year.

To everyone who has given up their free time to organise fundraising events, worked in our hospital shops and volunteered with our Library Trolley and Stamps & Coins Services, your efforts have not gone unnoticed and we say a huge thank you for your support and for contributing towards the continuing success of our charity.

If you would like to join our successful charity and feel part of a valued team supporting the Kent and Canterbury Hospital or for more information, please email our Charity Manager:

ekh-tr.leagueoffriends@nhs.net or telephone 01227 864030

Fundraising Successes

Throughout 2025 our city and local village groups have been hard at work, meeting up regularly to plan and organise events, walks and talks, etc. They continue to devise new and innovative ways of raising money, whilst promoting friendship within the League and the health benefits of volunteering. This report can only cover a few highlights of the events which have inspired our members to give up their precious time to help raise funds to buy equipment for the hospital. To you all, we say a huge thank you for all your efforts.

Ash Group has continued holding monthly coffee mornings in Ash Village Hall selling books, puzzles, bric-a- brac, jams and marmalade. Around £100 is often achieved. Tombolas also help to raise funds for the group.





Barham & Kingston Group continues to hold popular jumble sales, bring and buy events, plant sales and coffee mornings, raising impressive sums to boost funds. They were delighted to raise £273 for the League's East Kent Cancer Radiotherapy Treatment Appeal at their well supported October jumble sale. A further £313 was added to their funds from a successful November coffee morning.

Canterbury South Group marshalled at four charity car park days at Whitstable Junior School in 2025 raising £1,176 from the donations drivers made.

Another fantastic fundraiser was the produce stall at a member's home where they sold excess fruit and vegetables from their allotment. A total of £625.74 was raised. Other events included a soup lunch and beetle drive.



Canterbury North group's successful events included coffee mornings, stalls at local Spring and Christmas Fairs, an interesting Franciscan Gardeners talk, the sale of knitted items, a soup lunch and bingo plus a well-supported letter drop. The group also raised a significant £4k of the total £7k raised by selling grand draw raffle tickets in the run up to the Grand Draw in July.





In May, long-standing group member and League Trustee, Enid Gould (pictured on the right), was invited to the Buckingham Palace Garden party in recognition of her 42 years of service to the League of Friends. Fellow group member, Lillian Metcalfe (left), was thrilled to be her guest. Tea, cucumber sandwiches and sore feet all made for a memorable day!

Chartham group continued to regularly provide cakes and other refreshments for the local community coffee mornings and a member diligently makes popular and delicious home-made preserves for sale in the League's main hospital shop.

Other events included a plant, cake and re-gifting table at a member's home and the eye-catching Christmas post box knitted toppers in the village raised vital funds for the group. The latter were even featured as the 'Chartham Banksies' on the local news!





Nailbourne group held a well-attended talk on Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway raising £386 and as always, their annual letter-drop was a great success raising £610. The group's huge contribution towards organising the draw on fair day is always very much appreciated.

St Stephen's & St Dunstan's group had a busy year.

A successful annual plant sale raised around £730; despite a chilly breeze, lots of people came along to buy plants, have a coffee and chat.

The well-attended craft fair held in November was a lovely community event with local crafts people and almost £500 was raised.





Sturry Group continued to hold regular and well-established bingo events throughout the year together with HOI card game evenings.

In December, to the backdrop of a lively choir singing festive carols, a well-supported tombola in the Outpatients department raised a fantastic £450.

Do you fancy coming to one of our events or perhaps volunteering?
Maybe you want to know more about the League?

Visit our website: www.lofkch.org.uk, follow us on Facebook and Instagram
or contact our Charity Manager on:

ekh-tr.leagueoffriends@nhs.net / 01227 864030

We'd love to hear from you

Annual Fair

Despite the challenging weather conditions, with severe weather warnings and the need to postpone the event, the annual fair proved to be a tremendous success, raising an impressive £9k including grand draw ticket sales. This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and determination of everyone who braved the rain and uncertainty to attend, volunteer and support the day. Your enthusiasm, resilience and community spirit ensured the event went ahead successfully and we are incredibly grateful to each and every person who took part.



The Grand Draw took place in July and raised a fantastic £7k. Thanks to the generosity of prize givers and to those who purchased tickets, this was a record amount achieved.

A huge thank you goes to all the Leagues fundraising groups, especially Canterbury North who raised £4k of the total, and to all the local companies who donated such generous prizes.

(from left to right, Vice President Viv Pritchard, Louise Coleman then Chairman and Clare Blakemore Shops' Trustee)

We were especially grateful to the Lord Mayor who opened the event and stayed to enjoy the atmosphere. She also helped raise the profile of our newly launched East Kent Cancer Radiotherapy Treatment Appeal.









We are already planning a newly themed 'Festival & Fair' on 19 July next year with live music, stalls and food offerings to help make the day even more enjoyable and memorable for all.

Charity Fundraiser

Colin continued to raise money and the profile of our charity through organising a huge variety of fun and entertaining events. He has also secured a regular spot on a local radio station to publicise and promote the work we do and the equipment we are able to fund for the Hospital.



Many exciting events were held during the year, including quiz nights, the Easter Eggstravaganza, a Kent Police Male Voice Choir Concert, a Tipi & Cream Tea afternoon and carnival attendances to name but a few. And … Colin already has many fundraising ideas and events lined up for 2026 all of which will be shown on our website and promoted on Facebook and Instagram.



Fundraising highlights:

A great start to 2025 saw us being nominated by Tesco Whitfield (Dover) Book Club and we subsequently received a cheque for a fantastic £600 - a lovely surprise that certainly kicked off the New Year to a good start.

The Easter Eggstravaganza in March was fun and it was great to see so many staff, patients and visitors supporting it.

Thanks go to all the supermarkets who donated eggs - 200 in total - and to everyone who purchased tickets. A fantastic £321 was raised.







Between June - September the Saxon Shore Ukulele Band and Lucosu (a folk band) played in the hospital garden to raise awareness and funds; it was lovely to see so many patients coming out to watch and have a chat.



In August charity members walked the Whitstable and Herne Bay Carnivals giving out the League's East Kent Cancer Radiotherapy Treatment Appeal leaflets. It made us feel very proud to be thanked for what we do by so many along the routes.



September was a busy month with the highlight being the now annual 'Tea in the Tipi' event in Whitstable, which was enjoyed by all. Delicious scones with jam and cream, bottomless pots of tea and relaxing music in a scenic venue all conspired to make this a wonderful fundraising afternoon which sold an amazing 90 tickets and raised £555. We hope to hit 100 next time!



Social Media and Publicity Support

Jo Wynn-Carter has continued to improve our Facebook and Instagram content, significantly increasing our followers and showcasing a consistent and professional image.

Jo excels in promoting our identity and reach across social media platforms as well as publicising fundraising events, working closely with Colin and our Groups to help promote our fundraising events, good work and achievements.

East Kent Cancer Radiotherapy Treatment Appeal



In July we launched a fundraising campaign to greatly improve radiotherapy services at Canterbury for patients of East Kent after receiving an incredible legacy from past Whitstable resident, Hilda Levi. This ambitious project involves the introduction of an advanced localisation technique which makes radiotherapy faster, more comfortable and more accurate, allowing more patients to be treated locally without the need for tattoos or markings. This system is not funded by the NHS but is standard practice elsewhere in the world; it is already installed in up to 70 other radiotherapy units in the UK, all from charitable donations.

This exciting and ambitious project will cost over £800,000 to fully implement. The League of Friends pledged £400,000 from the Levi legacy and a pilot project is underway. The equipment is installed on one of Canterbury's radiotherapy machines, initially focusing on breast and prostate cancer patients.

Gifts in Action

This year has been highly successful, and our Trustees are delighted that we were able to award grants totalling £290k to enhance patient care at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital as well as designate £491k towards our Radiotherapy treatment fundraising appeal, making a record allocation of gifts of £781k.

Included in the above is the fantastic contribution of £37k made by our eight hard-working city and village fundraising groups to purchase items benefitting so many.

Here are some of the ways in which our funds were used in order to achieve our objectives:

Urodynamics Machine - £49k



The Urology Department requested a Urodynamics Machine costing £50k enabling patients to be investigated for bladder function problems and diagnosed more easily. The machine helps determine the best course of treatment, including surgery, medication or bladder training and can improve the success of procedures like surgery.

Urology Nurse Specialist, Mirinwon Hongsha (pictured) who runs the clinic said: 'This machine is not only easy to use but provides a more accurate interpretation on how the bladder behaves. It will greatly improve the quality of care we provide to our service users.'

Ophthalmology Laser System - £46k

This is a replacement due to advancing technologies. Modern laser systems offer improved precision, reliability and faster treatment times, which can reduce patient wait times and support a higher volume of procedures.



Echo Coremium Nail Extractor System - £28k



The Elective Orthopaedic Centre extended their gratitude for funding of a comprehensive nail extractor system of surgical tools used for the safe removal of metalwork from patients following traumatic fractures.

Kirsty Moulder, Senior Operating Department Practitioner for the Elective Orthopaedic Centre said: 'With the generosity of the League of Friends, we have confidence that we have the most reliable and suitable equipment at our disposal for surgical procedures. The system is of excellent quality and enables us to provide the best care for our patients. We greatly appreciate the opportunities that the League of Friends offer and we are committed to improving the lives of our patients through the equipment that they fund.'



18 x Electric Recliner Chairs for Cancer Services - £27k

Some chemotherapy treatments are given over ten hours and patient comfort is paramount to prevent pressure damage.

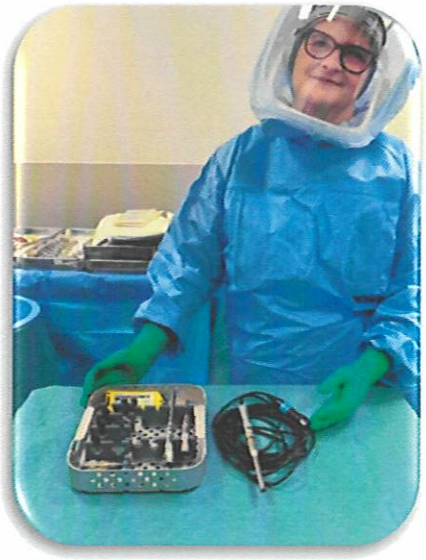
Patients are admitted very unwell and treatment can span over several days and weeks. These soft, comfortable chairs help to ensure the best possible patient care at a difficult time.

2 x Accuvein Viewing Systems for Harbledown & Stroke Resus - £11k

This infrared device will assist with locating veins with success at the first attempt. It is quicker, reduces bleeding and bruising, is easy to use and reduces patient anxiety.

Mala Rai, Stroke Lead Nurse, said: 'I would like to extend my gratitude to the sponsors for these devices on behalf of my team. They are making a real difference for staff and patients alike.'





Midas Rex Instrument Set for Theatres - £10k

This additional instrument set will reduce the operating time for complex revision and decompression surgeries resulting in shorter surgeries and reducing the risks associated with prolonged anaesthesia and will improve recovery times. Timely, efficient procedures also contribute to better outcomes and fewer delays in care.

Blood Gas Analyser - £9k

A blood gas analyser provides rapid measurements of blood oxygen, carbon dioxide, pH, bicarbonate, oxygen saturation and sometimes electrolytes, lactate and haemoglobin, offering critical insight into respiratory and metabolic status.

The machine will improve the care of patients in the Lung Function Room by enabling early diagnosis of respiratory disease





6 x Radiotherapy Recliner Chairs - £11k

Magdalena Fradoca, Radiotherapy Clinical Specialist (centre), said: 'Thanks to the £10,800 funding of these two comfortable reclining chairs, patients undergoing radiotherapy treatment can now sit more comfortably to ensure that their time on the unit is greatly improved.

Jenny Anderson, League of Friends Trustee (right), said: 'Our charity is happy to fund these chairs which will make a real difference to the patients' experience.'

iPads for Speech Therapy - £720



The app on the screen is the Tactus Language Therapy app which has been very useful for providing more intensive communication therapy for patients, particularly those on the stroke and neuro-rehabilitation wards.

It comes with thousands of ready-made, interactive exercises which can be prescribed and patients supported to use. Some patients decide to purchase the app for their own device, to use in hospital and after discharge which can help with continuity of care. Stephanie Earnshaw, Clinical Lead Speech and Language Therapist for Stroke and Neurology, said: 'Thank you so much League of Friends for funding the iPads and apps for us and our patients!



Robotic Da Vinci Drip in Ultrasound Probe - £31k

This probe is used internally during robotic surgery to remove tumours of the kidney. It enables the surgeon to determine the margins of the tumour, blood supply and other anatomical structures, ensuring a safer and more accurate dissection of the tumour.

Sarah Barrow, Urology Lead and Theatre Co-ordinator, said: 'Before this probe was generously funded by the League of Friends, we only had one probe; having two means that we can now treat more patients, shortening waiting times. Thank you, League of Friends, for your generosity and continued support of the hospital.'
Mr Matthew Crockett, Consultant
Robotic Surgeon, with the new probe

Portable Slit Lamp - £3,245



Ophthalmology expressed a big thank you to the League of Friends for funding a portable slit lamp for the outpatients' department.

A traditional slit lamp is bulky and table mounted, making it difficult for some patients to reach and rest their chin. Sister Rani Abraham noticed that when young children or patients with limited mobility attended the department, staff were forced to borrow this essential piece of equipment from theatres to allow them to examine their patients, so she turned to the League of Friends who were happy to help with this funding.

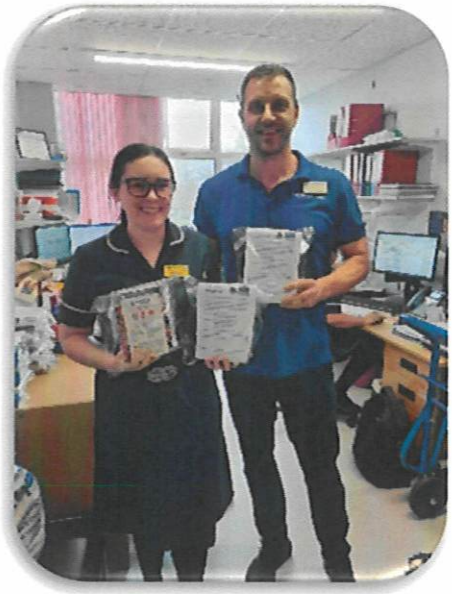
Sonosite PX Ultrasound - £40k



Using anaesthetic blocks under ultrasound guidance for orthopaedic surgery is becoming more prevalent, assisting staff and improving patient care. This machine incorporates the most advanced image clarity to help clinicians diagnose and treat patients more accurately.

James Williams, Theatre Co-ordinator & Recovery Lead, said: 'This ultrasound gives a huge level of support in providing our orthopaedic patients with regional anaesthetic blocks, enhancing their post-operative recovery. Thank you very much for the support in purchasing it.'

Christmas Gifting





'You have not been forgotten'...
As is our tradition, over many years, patients in the Kent and Canterbury Hospital over the festive period and children attending appointments in the run up to Christmas are treated to gifts, funded by generous donations.

Shops' Manager, Matt Tillman, said: 'We hope to spread a little festive cheer at what can be a difficult time for patients and it was lovely to receive such a warm welcome from both patients and staff as we delivered to the wards.'

Some of the equipment agreed for funding during the year:

Urodynamics Machine
Ophthalmology Laser System
Da Vinci Drip in Ultrasound Probe
Echo Coremium Nail Extractor System
18 x Electric Recliner Chairs for Cancer Services
10 x Specialist Chairs for Kent Vascular Ward
Omni Tract Retractor Set
15 X Wheelchairs & Accessories for Amputees
2 X Rehabilitation Exercise Bikes
2 x Accuvein Viewing Systems for Harbledown & Stroke Resus
6 X Radiotherapy Reclining Chairs
Midas Rex Instrument Set
Paediatric Ophthalmology Trolley
Blood Gas Analyser
5 x Specialist Wheelchairs
Gripables & 3 iPads for Hand Therapy
5 x Sleeper Chairs
Discectomy Retractor Set
Xcube with Cover
Chairs from Kingston Ward
Christmas Gifts for Patients
Dynamometer
iPad for Speech & Language Therapy
Piano for OPD Reception Area
5 X Pressure Cussions
Items for Jubilee Suite from grateful patient donation
Staff Wellbeing Advent Calendars

Looking forward/our plans for the future

We are delighted to report that the League has had another highly successful year. Our eight city and village fundraising groups have enjoyed regularly meeting up to plan and hold a huge variety of events It is pleasing that the local community has been keen to support our efforts including coffee mornings, quiz nights, sponsored events and talks by local experts.

The League continues to receive generous legacies from grateful patients and families and ensures that these larger donations are used for projects in line with the donor families' wishes, where stipulated.

The Trustees regularly consider what emerging issues they may need to address to ensure the League continues to meet its objectives, supporting the K&C Hospital and serving the community. The League takes its responsibilities seriously and continues to ensure that our policies, processes, procedures and governance are in line with best practice and meet the rigorous requirements of the Charities Commission. The reason we are a CIO designated charity is due to this continued focus on governance and controls.

The League will continue to endeavour to increase not only the total value of the grants given but to ensure that the money is well spent, enhancing the care and treatment given to patients and supporting the wellbeing of staff.

The three hospital shops form the business arm of our charity. Footfall and takings have continued to increase year over year and our customers have particularly appreciated the longer opening times of our main shop, 7am-7pm Monday-Friday, as we strive to provide the best possible service. We have a fantastic team of employees as well as regular volunteers who tirelessly give up their free time to support us - but more will always be welcomed.

Our aims for the future include:

- Continue to raise the profile of the League and fundraising in the community. To assist us in our efforts we have a Social Media/Publicity expert who has significant experience and contacts in this field.
- Additionally, our Charity Fundraiser will continue to organise an intetesting variety of events over the year continuing to increase awareness of our charity.
- Work with the Trust to maximise patient and staff benefit by increasing the level of financial support to the Trust.
- Maintain the highest standards of controls, governance and management and adhere to legislation and published best practice.
- Adhere to the Fundraising Code of Practice and Fundraising Regulator guidelines.
- Demonstrate value for money from the resources invested while monitoring risk, to ensure it is maintained at a level consummate with Charity legislation and guidelines.
- Whatever the final configuration of the hospitals and services across East Kent in the future, the K&C Hospital will continue to play a critical role, and the League will continue to support the staff, patients and visitors to the K&C Hospital.
- Continue to endeavour to reduce the League's carbon footprint by emailing documents to members wherever possible, saving on printing and postage expenditure.
- The League can only achieve these objectives with your support. Please go to our website for more information about our work, how to support our events, how to donate or become involved with one of our fundraising groups, volunteer in the Shops or as a trustee with our wonderful charity: www.lofkch.org.uk

Financial Summary

Financial Review Summary

The figures stated below provide an overview and are drawn from the full Annual Accounts at the back of this report:

A summary of the income is given below:

Income from all sources	£1,622k
Voluntary contributions	£398k
Expenditure totalled	£1,420k
Grants to the Trust	£290k
Governance & administrative costs	£67k
Income exceeded expenditure by	**£202k**

The League held net assets of £1,157k as at 31 December 2025 (£956k in 2024).

The net assets of the League were increased by £202k from the balance held at the end of the previous financial year.

Where our income came from

The League's main source of income comes from charitable fundraising activities, profit from the hospital shops, the generosity of the public who give donations as a thank you for the care they or their friends and family have received or in memory of loved ones and in bequests and legacies from their estates.

Throughout the year our dedicated and hardworking eight city and local village groups have found imaginative ways to raise funds and between them, achieved an income of £27k, which is very much appreciated by the Trustees.

During 2024 donations were £49k whilst legacies, where receipts are less predictable, were £349k. Shops' takings of £1,176k were a record, up 3.3% on 2024 thanks to the dedication and hard work of staff and volunteers alike and providing a great range of products for the patients, staff and visitors to the K&C Hospital resulting in a surplus after costs of £128k available for distribution as Gifts to the Trust. Interest received totalled £16k.

Where we spent our funds

The League spends the funds received in accordance with charity law, its grant making policy and respecting the wishes of donors. Grants to the Trust of £290k made up 20% of the total expenditure, (2024: £535k & 34%).

Grants are approved to achieve a benefit to the public (staff and the patients of the K&C Hospital together with visitors who use the services and facilities), which would not otherwise be possible within the constraints of the Trust's capital budgets.

Trustees consider each application on merit and aim to support technological advances in treatments by purchasing new and replacement medical equipment.

The League also provides services to patients, staff and the public by way of our three hospital shops, a newspaper and refreshments ward trolley and a mobile ward library trolley.

A summary of the expenditure is given below:

Gifts to the Hospital	£290k
Hospital Shops	£1,051k
Governance & Administration	£67k
Cost of Fundraising inc Publicity	£11k
Total Expenditure	**£1,419k**

Structure, Governance & Management

The League of the Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under charity number 1155088.

The objects of the Charity as stated in its Constitution document are: 'To relieve sickness and to preserve and protect good health for the public benefit by supporting the work of Kent and Canterbury Hospital by such means as the Trustees deem appropriate.'

The League CIO exists to raise funds and receive charitable donations to benefit the wards, departments and services provided by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital in Kent.

All income is recorded as 'unrestricted' unless a document which forms a legally binding Trust, eg, a Will, which identifies that the funds are to be used for a specific purpose and no other is received at the time of receipt.

Under the Constitution, the League's Trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

All the profits from the hospital shops, donations, legacies, gift aid, fundraising activities, proceeds from the Stamps and Coins Service and investment interest provide our income, are made available for the purchase of gifts to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

The Trustees

Trustees are the people legally responsible for having general control of the management and administration of the League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital CIO.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the League Constitution as at 12 December 2013.

A maximum of sixteen Trustees may be appointed at any one time with a minimum of four in office.

In accordance with clause 13 of the Constitution, one third of the charity Trustees must retire from office at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on a rotation basis and vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the meeting. Trustees appointed since the previous AGM should also resign and be re-elected at their first AGM.

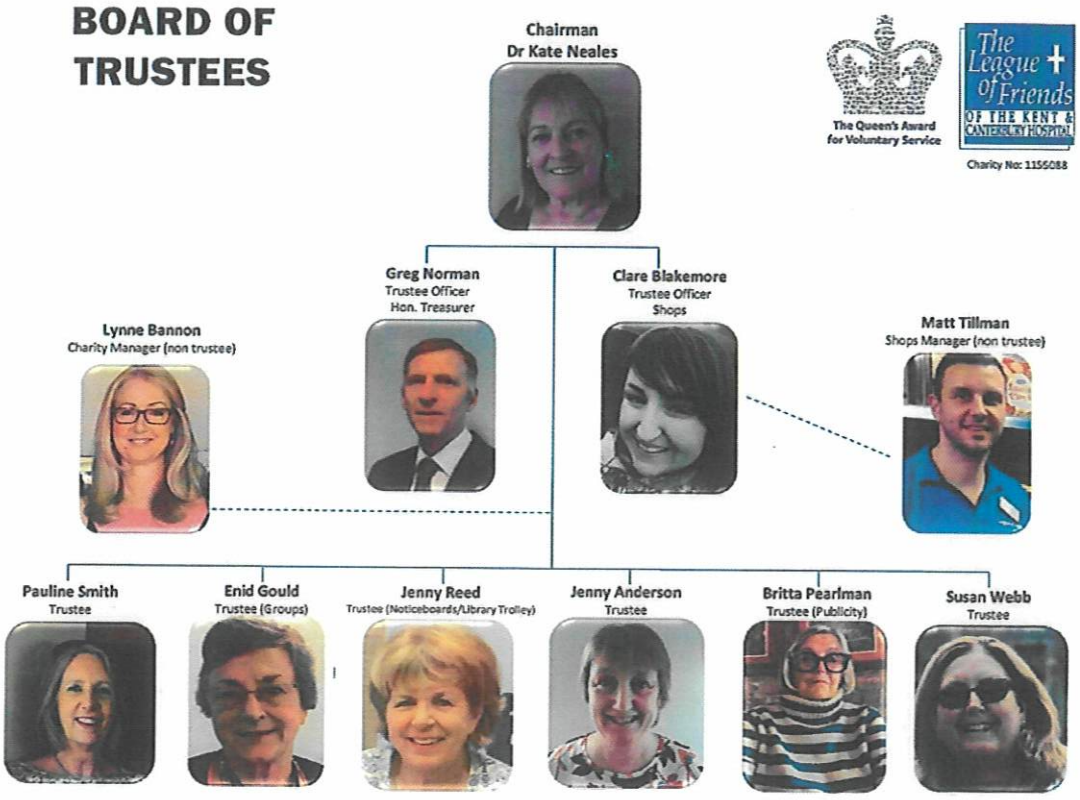
At the AGM in June:

- Mrs L Coleman resigned as Chairperson and Dr Kate Neales was elected as the new Chairperson.
- In accordance with the League's Constitution and by rotation, the following Trustees retired from office and following their agreement to stand for re-election, they were unanimously re-elected: Jenny Anderson, Jenny Reed and Pauline Smith.

On the 17th of November 2025 Mrs Susan Webb was elected as a trustee, we welcome her and know that the experience she brings will greatly benefit the League on Friends.

At the end of 2025, the League had one Vice President, an honorary role which carries no voting rights and is usually held by retired LOF chairpersons. Vice Presidents are invited to attend the AGM and five Central Committee meetings throughout the year, and their input is always welcomed by members.

As at the 31st of December 2025 the Trustees were:



Dr K Neales	-	Chairman
Mrs J Anderson	-	Trustee
Miss C Blakemore	-	Trustee for Shops
Mrs E Gould	-	Trustee for Groups
Mr G Norman	-	Hon Treasurer
Mrs B Pearlman	-	Trustee for Publicity
Mrs J Reed	-	Trustee for Noticeboards/Library Trolley
Mrs P Smith	-	Trustee
Mrs S Webb	-	Trustee

Meetings

The Trustees meet regularly, six times a year, and are supported by a salaried Charity Manager. Membership of the CIO is open to nominated persons from each of the eight local fundraising groups and from nominated persons from the services offered by the League.

The Trustees report to the wider membership at the Central Committee, which meets five times a year, and all nominated members are entitled to vote at this meeting. In advance of the AGM, members receive the formal reports and audited accounts. Aside from the AGM, the Central Committee's main purpose is to decide on the allocation of grants for gifts to the Hospital and individual local groups can pledge full or partial funding for specific gifts.

Additionally there is a Finance Sub-committee comprising the Chair person, Vice-Chair, Shops Trustee and the Treasurer which meets at least twice during the calendar year to review controls and governance as well as financial strategy.

Groups

There are eight city and local village groups as follows:

* Ash
* Barham & Kingston
* Canterbury North
* Canterbury South
* Chartham
* Nailbourne
* St Stephen's & St Dunstan's
* Sturry

Our groups form the backbone of the League and meet regularly to plan and hold fundraising events. At Central Committee meetings, held five times a year, the groups agree to purchase specific items for the hospital, chosen from a list of requests from hospital wards and departments. The groups also make up many of the volunteers required to run the on-site hospital shops.

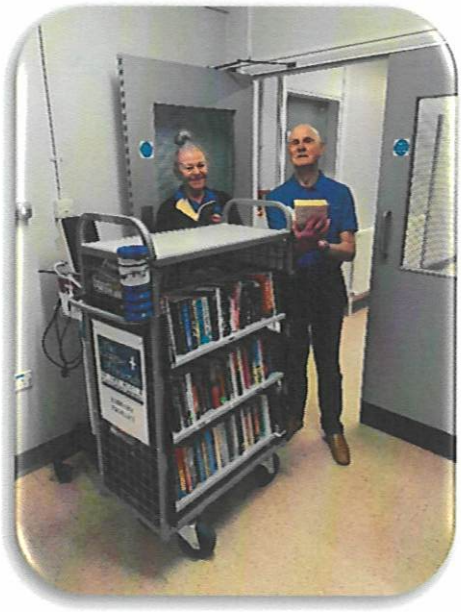
Each League group has its own Chair, Secretary and Treasurer as well as other members to manage its affairs and assist with fundraising. One of the charity's Trustees acts as Groups Liaison, attending their meetings when possible and reporting to the Trustees on any issues, concerns and activities of the groups.

Groups have enjoyed regularly meeting up throughout the year to plan and organise a variety of events. With the NHS under continued pressure and facing many challenges, the local community has come together and wholeheartedly supported our fundraising efforts so that we can achieve our aim of supporting the hospital. Events have included fun quiz nights, coffee and cake mornings, strawberry teas, plant sales, talk evenings, jam making sold in the League shops … the list goes on!

Underlining our controls and procedures environment, the groups do not have individual bank accounts but pay all monies raised into the charity's Central bank account. The Hon Treasurer keeps records of how much each group has raised and advises group treasurers accordingly, so that the group committees can decide how to spend their funds. The League maintains its accounts on a well-known accounting system in conjunction with a respected accounting firm.

Monthly Financial Reports are distributed to the Groups and to the Trustees for review. Groups provide quarterly returns to the Treasurer to enable Gift Aid to be claimed from HMRC.

Library Trolley Service



The Ward Library Trolley service, led by our long-serving and dedicated volunteer Mike Wadey (on the right) is welcomed by patients and staff alike.

Depending on the number of volunteers, ward rounds are undertaken 2-3 times a week with the aim of daily rounds if more volunteers can be recruited. A good selection of donated books and magazines are offered on loan, and even a pair of reading glasses, if required. Patients enjoy seeing a friendly face and if well enough, passing the time of day with our volunteers, even if they do not wish to take a book. We are extremely grateful to our dedicated small team who provide this highly valued service and are always looking for new volunteers who can spare a couple of hours every week.

Stamps & Coins Service – another bumper year



Thanks to the regular donations collected by our members and the generosity of the public responding to appeals by donating used stamps, coins, stamp albums and first day covers, a fantastic £3,107 was raised during the year.



The service has gone from strength to strength thanks to our long-serving volunteer, Barry Linden and his wife, who diligently trim and prepare large quantities of stamps, plus other items, ready for auction. After a flurry of donations resulting from lockdown clearouts, donations are slowing down somewhat but all donations, large or small, are equally welcomed.

The League thanks Barry and his wife for their tremendous efforts over many years and for raising a fantastic £21,300 since the service began.

Advisors & Information on Charity

Regulating Body
Charity Commission for England and Wales
London

Registered Charity Number
1155088

Principal Office
League of Friends
Kent and Canterbury Hospital
Ethelbert Road
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 3NG

Patron
The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

President
The Lord Mayor of Canterbury

Investment Managers
CCLA Investment Management Limited
80 Cheapside
London
EC2V 6DZ

Principal Bankers
National Westminster Bank PLC
11 The Parade
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2SG

Auditors
Kreston Reeves Audit LLP
Suite 2, Orchard House
Orchard Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT2 8AR

Accountants
Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
(Same address as above)

Auditors
The audit registration of Kreston Reeves LLP was transferred to Kreston Reeves Audit LLP on 6 October 2025. Kreston Reeves Audit LLP were formally appointed as auditor to the company on 6 October 2025.

Finance Sub Committee

This Committee was established in 2016 as a separate committee to support the Trustees in Governance and Finance issues that require in-depth review and discussion and where immediate decisions are required prior to the next Trustees' meeting.

The Committee works under Terms of Reference set out in the Governance Policy, which was updated in January 2025, and reports directly to the Trustees at the next meeting, making recommendations and notifying them of any decisions and actions that may have been taken.

Terms of Reference are reviewed annually and updated where required to meet the changing needs of the League.

Meetings are held at least twice a year and on an ad-hoc basis where necessary, to ensure the best outcome for the League.

The members of the Finance Sub Committee are key Trustee Officers and meetings are chaired by the Hon Treasurer or the Chairman where the Hon Treasurer is unable to attend. Members are:

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- Hon Treasurer
- Shops Trustee
- Additional officers where appropriate

The Committee has the following specific duties and functions:

- Review costs relating to Audit, banking and Shop Bookkeeping contracts to ensure these remain competitive and meet legal and Charity Commission compliance
- Review investment strategies to ensure maximising opportunities
- Review approval thresholds for expenditure from the Charity's funds
- Review and approve the annual report and accounts prior to submission to Trustees
- Review and approve expenditure where immediate action is required to maximise benefit and report to the Central Committee
- Review financial reserves and risk management
- Review new and existing governance and compliance policies
- Review Shops' structure and pay, including benefits package
- Review Health and Safety Audits
- Review shops' suppliers' quality control and ethics

Members are required to disclose all relevant interests at the start of meetings and withdraw from decisions when a conflict of interest arises.

Staff and Volunteers

The League is grateful for the unstinting efforts of its volunteers who are involved in fundraising activities, service provision through the League hospital shops and the Library Trolley Service together with the Stamps and Coins Service.

The League has an estimated 150 volunteers and members covering all aspects of the League's work. If each volunteer/member spends on average 3 hours per week volunteering, this equates to around 23,400 hours per year of voluntary work. If these volunteers were paid the national living wage then we estimate they give approximately £300k worth of unpaid work per year to the hospital.

The League's hospital shops are manned by 15 paid staff including a full-time Shops Manager and Deputy Manager, supported by volunteers.

The daily Ward Trolley Service (newspapers/refreshments/toiletries, etc) is undertaken by paid staff and is welcomed by patients and ward staff alike.

The ward Library Trolley Service is run by committed volunteers.

A paid Charity Fundraiser raises the profile of the League and holds various fundraising events throughout the year.

Kreston Reeves acts as Shops' Bookkeeper and the League is supported by a paid Charity Manager for administration.

Peninsula HR act as the charity's HR and Health and Safety advisor offering extensive support to staff and Trustees when required.

Total paid staff equates to circa 8 FTE. The League had a monthly average of 17 paid employees in 2025 (16 in 2024) at an annual cost of £276K (£251K in 2024).

Policies and Objectives

Grant making policy

The League accepts applications from the Kent and Canterbury Hospital staff for equipment, facilities and support for patient educational groups and projects as well as welfare requests in support of the NHS staff.

All applications must have been processed through the rigorous East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust procedures to ensure that any request meets the required needs, standards and criteria of the Trust prior to being submitted to the League for consideration.

It is the responsibility of the Trust to ensure that the applications have been authorised under their procedures and that any equipment purchased by the League funds will be supported and used at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital for a minimum of three years.

Applications are reviewed by the Trustees to ascertain their suitability to meet the objectives of the League and to request any additional information from the Trust deemed necessary to enable them to make this decision.

The applicants are requested to attend a League Central Committee meeting to present their case in support of their request. This provides an opportunity for the members of the League's fundraising groups to raise any issues and to decide if they wish to fully fund the equipment or to make a partial contribution.

The Trustees will commit Central Funds to meet any balance not met by the Groups to enable the equipment to be purchased.

Where the application is for medical equipment, the League requires a clinician to present the case for funding. A significant piece of equipment or project is deemed to be any single or joint purchase of over £15,000.

Where the applicant or Trust representative cannot, or fails to attend, the application will be deferred until the next meeting.

Grants agreed should be actioned within three months from approval. The League retains the right to cancel the grant if it has not been actioned.

The Trust will purchase the equipment and invoice the League once the supplier has been paid, providing a valid copy of the supplier's invoice in confirmation of purchase.

The League will arrange publicity presentations with the receiving department to promote the work of the League.

Risk statement

Throughout the year the Trustees actively review the risks which the League faces and take all reasonable steps to reduce and apply procedures to mitigate those risks.

The main areas of risk have been identified within the following categories:

• **Financial** • **Governance** • **Reputational**

The Trustees have mitigated these risks by:

- Regular review of the financial procedures and systems
- Maintaining a diversified low-risk approach to cash holdings and investments
- Review of reserves to ensure there are sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions arising to meet all legal obligations
- Maintaining up-to-date financial records, governance, policies and training documentation and practices
- Working with the Trust to understand the changes in strategic approach to delivery of services and the role of the League within these confines
- Registering with the Fundraising Regulator
- Committing to the Charity Commission's Fraud Prevention Pledge

In the Trustees' opinion, all appropriate action has been taken to ensure the risks are mitigated.

Investment Powers

The investment powers are stated in the charity's Constitution as follows: "the power to deposit or invest funds, employ a professional fund manager, and arrange for the investments or other property of the CIO to be held in the name of a nominee, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000.

Investment Objective

In view of the volatility in the share markets the Trustees retain all surplus funds in various cash holdings which provide immediate and notice access to funds to meet current and ongoing grants to the hospital to achieve the League's objectives.

Committed and non-committed funds are held in Charity Deposit accounts. It is important to maintain sufficient funds in instant access accounts to enable the League to meet all current and anticipated demand for grants (ie, gifts/equipment) to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

A significant sum (currently £144k) is maintained in the COIF Charities Deposit Fund, managed by CCLA Investment Management Ltd, which pays interest. Withdrawals can be made without penalty by submitting an appropriately authorised withdrawal form.

Remaining cash is currently held with several commercial banks

Unless the donor has expressed a specific request regarding investment, the investment of funds is in accordance with the Trustees Investment Act 1961.

Reserves Policy

Charity Reserves as defined under the Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (SORP) are those funds which become available to the charity to be spent at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the charity's objectives, excluding funds which are spent or committed or could only be realised through the disposal of fixed assets. These are therefore classified as 'free'.

The Trustees recognise their obligation to ensure that income received by the League should be spent effectively and promptly in accordance with the charity's objectives.

The Trustees have reviewed and revised their Reserves Policy and have determined that it is necessary to retain reserves separate to the day-to-day operational activity and bank accounts in the unlikely event of there being a significant reduction in income or to meet the cost of closure or transfer of the charity. Additionally, the Charity never commits more than it has cash on hand to cover those commitments, even though the actual liability will only crystallise at a later date.

Reserve funds set aside

The Charity regularly calculates and reserves for the very unlikely 'worst case' scenario of closing the charity and £144k is held in a separate COIF deposit account as at 31st December reserve has been categorised as a restricted asset in the accounts.

Definition of Funds

Restricted Funds
Funds which are subject to specific trusts, eg, terms of Will.

Endowment Funds
Funds which are to be held as capital and only the income generated can be expended.

Unrestricted Funds
Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees or designated in consideration of donors' wishes.

Designated Funds
Funds held for specific wards or services in consideration of approved grants (commitments) and/or donors' wishes. They do not form any binding Trust and can be transferred to general purpose funds at the discretion of the Trustees.

At the 31 December 2025 the reserves held were identified as below:

Restricted funds	**£100k**
Designated funds	**£ 491k**
Unrestricted funds	**£566k**
Less Fixed assets	**£39k**
Less Stock	**£26k**
Freely available reserves	**£501k**

The level of reserves held at 31 December 2025 is higher than the minimum requirements set in the policy but the level of grants fluctuate within a year, so reserve levels will be amended to suit.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The following pages show the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities in respect of the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP 2019 (FRS 102)
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the League's Constitution.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

As far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the League's auditors are unaware and the Trustees confirm that they have met the responsibilities set out above and complied with the requirements for preparing the accounts.

The financial statements attached have been compiled from and are in accordance with the financial records maintained by the Trustees. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 21st May 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:



Dr Kate Neales
Chairman

Independent Auditor's Report

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The League of Friends of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital CIO

Opinion

We have audited the financial Statements of The League of Friends of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital CIO (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st December 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flow and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:-

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2025, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion..

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.
We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement [set out on page 31], the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements.

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud or error; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error; and to respond appropriately to those risks.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud or error; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud or error; and to respond appropriately to those risks.

Based on our understanding of the Charity and industry, and through discussion with the trustees and other management (as required by auditing standards), we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to health and safety and employment law. We considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Act 2011, Statement of Recommended Practice, and pension legislation. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related management bias in accounting estimates and judgemental areas of the financial statements such as the valuation of legacies. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussions with management and assessment of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations (including health and safety) and fraud, and review of the reports made by management; and
- Assessment of identified fraud risk factors; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates; and
- Confirmation of related parties with management, and review of transactions throughout the period to identify any previously undisclosed transactions with related parties outside the normal course of business; and
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, and reviewing correspondence with relevant tax and regulatory authorities; and
- Performing analytical procedures with automated data analytics tools to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships, including related party transactions, that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Kreston Reeves Audit LLP
Statutory Auditor
Canterbury

26 May 2025

Kreston Reeves Audit LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of Financial Activities for 2025

Statement of Financial Activities					2025			2024
£	Note	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated (SGRT)	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Income:-								
Donations and legacies		14,150	358,347	25,871	398,368	873	656,850	657,723
Charitable activities		-	1,176,006	-	1,176,006	-	1,137,967	1,137,967
Other trading activites		-	32,129	-	32,129	-	34,539	34,539
Investments		-	15,562	-	15,562	-	15,321	15,321
Government grants		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance claim		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Income	2	14,150	1,582,044	25,871	1,622,065	873	1,844,677	1,845,550
Expenditure:-								
Raising funds		-	11,091	-	11,091	-	7,312	7,312
Charitable Activities		6,818	1,401,816	-	1,408,634	43,311	1,519,725	1,563,036
Total expenditure	3	6,818	1,412,907	-	1,419,725	43,311	1,527,037	1,570,348
Net movement:-		7,332	169,137	25,871	202,340	(42,438)	317,640	275,202
Inter-section transfers								
Transfers between funds		-	(465,401)	465,401	0	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		92,696	861,921	-	954,617	135,134	544,281	679,415
Total funds carried forward		100,028	565,657	491,272	1,156,957	92,696	861,921	954,617

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

All activities relate to ongoing operations

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

Balance Sheet as at 31 December					2025			2024
£	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Fixed Assets								
Tangible assets	4	-	39,035		39,035	-	45,408	45,408
Current Assets	5							
Stocks		-	25,665		25,665	-	31,811	31,811
Debtors	6	-	343,204		343,204	-	545,152	545,152
Cash at bank and in hand		127,524	368,000	491,272	986,796	136,007	515,524	651,531
Total Current Assets		127,524	736,869	491,272	1,355,665	136,007	1,092,487	1,228,494
Total Assets		127,524	775,904	491,272	1,394,700	136,007	1,137,895	1,273,902
Current Liabilities								
Creditors falling due within 1 year	8	(27,496)	(210,247)	-	(237,743)	(43,311)	(275,974)	(319,285)
Total Net Assets / Funds		100,028	565,657	491,272	1,156,957	92,696	861,921	954,617

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21st May 2026 and signed on their behalf by:-

Dr K Neales
Chair



Mr G Norman
Treasurer



The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

Cash Flow for 2025

Cash Flow	2025	2024
£		
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	**202,340**	**275,202**
Adjustments for:-		
Depreciation	6,373	8,554
Decrease/(increase) in stock	6,146	(9,428)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	201,948	(484,152)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	(81,542)	122,969
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	**335,265**	**(86,855)**
Cash flows from investing activities		
Net cash used to purchase tangible fixed assets	-	14,564
Net cash from disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**335,265**	**(101,419)**
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	651,531	752,950
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**986,796**	**651,531**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

The League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital CIO is a charitable incorporated organisation, domiciled in England and Wales, registration number 1155088. The principal office is at Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Ethelbert Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3NG. The accounts are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

Principal accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and have only departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has evolved following the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019. The League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital CIO constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The functional and presentation currency is Pounds Sterling. The financial statements are presented to the nearest Pound.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the League has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and are unaware of any material uncertainties facing the charity that could impact on this conclusion. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the League has evidence of entitlement and it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The charity does not have deferred income.

All income is considered to be Unrestricted, which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the League unless there is a legally binding Trust, such as a Will or Deed, or when the League has raised funds for a publicly stated specific purpose. Those funds with such documents will be recognised as Restricted in the accounts until such time as they are either spent, or can no longer be used for the purpose for which they were given. In such cases the donors will be contacted to request a change of purpose or return of funds, or where they become too small a value to achieve the initial purpose, they will be transferred to general funds in furtherance of the League's objectives.

1.31 Funds

Designated (unrestricted) funds comprise funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. These purposes are, in the main, for the provision of gifts to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. The Trustees may return these funds for general purposes at their discretion.

Where there are terms or conditions attached to the incoming resource (particularly grants) then these must be met before the income is recognised as the entitlement will not be evidenced, or where there is uncertainty that the conditions can be met, then the income is not recognised in the year.

Legacies are accounted for as incoming resource either on receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is probable.

Receipt is probable when:

- Confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate(s) that probate has been granted
- The executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy and
- All conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled or are within the charity's control
- Where the amount of the legacy can be reliably estimated
- Legacies which are subject to a life interest party are not recognised

Where legacies have been notified to the League, or the League is aware of the granting of probate, but that a reliable estimate cannot be identified, then the legacy is shown as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Fundraising income is shown gross.

Income from the shops operated by the League is accounted for when earned.

Investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is received.

Insurance income is recognised upon receipt of confirmation of pay-out.

Government grants are recognised using the accrual model. Grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the entity with no future related costs are recognised in income in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Gifts in kind are valued at a reasonable estimate of their value to the Charity. Gifts donated for resale are included as income either when they are sold or at the estimated resale value after deduction of the cost to sell the goods.

1.4 Intangible Income

The value of services rendered by volunteers is not incorporated in these accounts, but it is recognised that the intangible value of volunteers far outstrips any financial worth that may be attributed to their service.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.
Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the League. These are allocated on a time spent basis.
Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the League and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.
The cost of charitable activities comprises both the shops' expenditure and the value of gifts made to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Such gifts are recognised when the League has committed itself to the expenditure and this has been communicated to the hospital.
The League does not make grants to individuals. All grants are made to the Trust to provide for the care of NHS patients in furtherance of its charitable aims.
Liabilities are recognised as and when an obligation arises to transfer economic benefits as a result of past transactions or events.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

1.6 Tangible Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful life on the following basis: -

- Computers – 33% Straight line
- Shop Improvements – 5% Reducing balance
- Fittings & equipment – 20% Reducing balance – all areas

1.7 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Pre-payments are valued at the amount pre-paid net of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the League has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Grant commitments are only recognised when the League has committed itself to the expenditure and this has been communicated to the hospital.

1.11 Judgement in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires the Trustees to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that can affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities and the results for the year.

The nature of estimation is such that actual outcomes could differ significantly from those estimates.

Estimates for legacies have been made based on the information provided by the solicitors of the estates. The Trustees believe this is the best source of information to make the estimate of value, but accept that there may be changes from expectation.

1.12 Charity Tax

The League of Friends of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital CIO is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable trust for UK income tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 10 Income Tax Act 2007 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2 Income Analysis for 2025

Income				2025			2024
£	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Income from							
Donations	-	23,191	25,871	49,062	-	45,013	45,013
Legacies	14,150	335,156		349,306	873	611,837	612,710
Total donations & legacies	**14,150**	**358,347**	**25,871**	**398,368**	**873**	**656,850**	**657,723**
Charitable activities - shops & trolleys	**-**	**1,176,006**		**1,176,006**	**-**	**1,137,967**	**1,137,967**
Groups	-	17,069		17,069	-	16,854	16,854
Central	-	6,184		6,184	-	8,193	8,193
Joint summer fair	-	8,876		8,876	-	9,422	9,422
Hospital shops	-	-		-	-	70	70
Total other trading activities	**-**	**32,129**		**32,129**	**-**	**34,539**	**34,539**
Interest - deposit accounts	-	15,562		15,562	-	15,321	15,321
Total investment income	**-**	**15,562**		**15,562**	**-**	**15,321**	**15,321**
Government grants	-	-		-	-	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-		-	-	-	-
				-			
Total income	**14,150**	**1,582,044**	**25,871**	**1,622,065**	**873**	**1,844,677**	**1,845,550**

3 Expenditure Analysis for 2025

Expenditure			2025			2024
£	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Expenditure on						
Joint summer fair	-	2,037	2,037	-	1,279	1,279
Other fundraising costs	-	9,054	9,054	-	6,033	6,033
Total cost of raising funds	**-**	**11,091**	**11,091**	**-**	**7,312**	**7,312**
Shop & trolley purchases	-	755,106	755,106	-	700,679	700,679
Shop sundry purchases	-	7,256	7,256	-	2,194	2,194
Shop other direct costs	-	45,225	45,225	-	41,324	41,324
Shop wages	-	237,314	237,314	-	208,603	208,603
Shop depreciation	-	6,348	6,348	-	8,522	8,522
Total shop expenditure	**-**	**1,051,249**	**1,051,249**	**-**	**961,322**	**961,322**
Gifts - Central	6,818	205,740	212,558	43,311	219,208	262,519
Gifts - Groups	-	35,082	35,082	-	38,536	38,536
Gifts - Shops	-	42,545	42,545	-	234,765	234,765
Total gifts to hospital	**6,818**	**283,367**	**290,185**	**43,311**	**492,509**	**535,820**
Secretarial fees	-	38,567	38,567	-	41,983	41,983
Depreciation	-	25	25	-	32	32
Sundry purchases	-	8,183	8,183	-	6,979	6,979
Other direct costs	-	14,425	14,425	-	13,588	13,588
Auditors' remuneration	-	6,000	6,000	-	3,312	3,312
Total support & governance costs	**-**	**67,200**	**67,200**	**-**	**65,894**	**65,894**
Total expenditure	**6,818**	**1,412,907**	**1,419,725**	**43,311**	**1,527,037**	**1,570,348**

4 Analysis of tangible fixed assets as at 31 December 2025

Fixed Assets	Central			Shops			
£	Fittings / Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total	Fittings / Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total	Overall Total
Cost:-							
As at 1st January	**2,234**	**1,490**	**3,724**	**81,250**	**28,926**	**110,176**	**113,900**
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
As at 31st December	**2,234**	**1,490**	**3,724**	**81,250**	**28,926**	**110,176**	**113,900**
Depreciation:-							
As at 1st January	**(2,103)**	**(1,490)**	**(3,593)**	**(53,901)**	**(10,998)**	**(64,899)**	**(68,492)**
Charge for year	(25)	-	(25)	(5,454)	(894)	(6,348)	(6,373)
On disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
As at 31st December	**(2,128)**	**(1,490)**	**(3,618)**	**(59,355)**	**(11,892)**	**(71,247)**	**(74,865)**
NBV:-							
As at 1st January	131	-	131	27,349	17,928	45,277	45,408
As at 31st December	**106**	**-**	**106**	**21,895**	**17,034**	**38,929**	**39,035**

5 Analysis of net assets between funds as at 31 December 2025

Analysis of Net Assets between Funds				2025			2024
£	Restricted	Unrestricted	Designated (SGRT)	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Tangible Fixed Assets	**-**	**39,035**		**39,035**	**-**	**45,408**	**45,408**
Current Assets:				-			
Cash in hand	127,524	368,000	491,272	**986,796**	136,007	515,524	**651,531**
Stocks – Goods for resale	-	25,665		**25,665**	-	31,811	**31,811**
Debtors – Gift Aid	-	-		-	-	-	-
Debtors – Legacies	-	340,000		**340,000**	-	544,730	**544,730**
Debtors - others	-	3,204		**3,204**	-	422	422
Total Current Assets	**127,524**	**736,869**	**491,272**	**1,355,665**	**136,007**	**1,092,487**	**1,228,494**
Creditors due within 1 year:							
Trade – Shops	-	(71,094)		**(71,094)**	-	(49,050)	**(49,050)**
Gifts for Hospital	(27,496)	(128,153)		**(155,649)**	(43,311)	(223,463)	**(266,774)**
Other creditors	-	(11,000)		**(11,000)**	-	(3,461)	**(3,461)**
Total Creditors	**(27,496)**	**(210,247)**		**(237,743)**	**(43,311)**	**(275,974)**	**(319,285)**
Total Net Assets	**100,028**	**565,657**	**491,272**	**1,156,957**	**92,696**	**861,921**	**954,617**

6 Analysis of Debtors as at 31 December 2025

Analysis of Debtors due within 1 year			2025			2024
£	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Legacies	-	340,000	340,000	-	544,730	544,730
Other	-	3,204	3,204	-	422	422
Gift Aid - Central	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid - Groups	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Debtors	-	343,204	343,204	-	545,152	545,152

7 Contingent assets

There are no known contingent assets.

8 Analysis of Creditors as at 31 December 2025

Analysis of Creditors due within 1 year			2025			2024
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Trade (shop purchases for resale)	-	(60,131)	(60,131)	-	(38,091)	(38,091)
Other Creditors	-	(5,000)	(5,000)			-
Other creditors - VAT	-	(8,137)	(8,137)	-	(8,199)	(8,199)
Total Other Creditors	-	(13,137)	(13,137)	-	(8,199)	(8,199)
Accruals:						
Accountancy/Bookkeeping	-	(2,826)	(2,826)	-	(2,760)	(2,760)
Auditors	-	(6,000)	(6,000)	-	(3,461)	(3,461)
Wages	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commitment of Gifts to the Hospital	(27,496)	(128,153)	(155,649)	(43,311)	(223,463)	(266,774)
Total Accruals	(27,496)	(136,979)	(164,475)	(43,311)	(229,684)	(272,995)
Total Creditors	(27,496)	(210,247)	(237,743)	(43,311)	(275,974)	(319,285)

9 Transfer of Funds

The Trustees review all unrestricted and restricted funds to ensure that there is a need and can meet the criteria for its purposes. £465k of unrestricted assets were reclassified to designated assets recognising our intent to fund the radiography treatment (SGRT) project in the reported year (NIL in 2024).

10 Related Party Transactions

No Trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2024 – Nil).

11 Staff Costs and Trustee remuneration in 2025

The average monthly number of employees was 17 (16 in 2024). The charity ran its own payroll through a professional advisor for the full period. The total staff costs and employees' benefits was as follows:

	2025	2024
Gross wages	£257,492	£236,963
Employer's National Insurance	£13,363	£9,595
Employer's pension contributions	£5,026	£4,028
Total Payroll	**£275,881**	**£250,586**

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year and no employees meet the SORP definition of key management personnel. None of the Trustees have received any remuneration or benefits in kind from the League for their work in this financial year whilst undertaking their responsibilities for the Charity (2024 None).

No Trustees received reimbursement of expenses in the current year (2024 Nil).

12 Summary of Fund Movements in 2025

Summary of fund movements - current year					
	Balance at 1 January 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31 December 2025
	£	£	£		£
General funds	861,921	1,582,044	(1,412,907)	(465,401)	565,657
Restricted funds	92,696	14,150	(6,818)	-	100,028
Designated funds - SGRT Appeal	-	25,871	-	465,401	491,272
Total funds	**954,617**	**1,622,065**	**(1,419,725)**	**0**	**1,156,957**

Summary of fund movements - prior year					
	Balance at 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£		£
General funds	544,281	1,844,677	(1,527,037)	-	861,921
Restricted funds	135,134	873	(43,311)	-	92,696
Total funds	**679,415**	**1,845,550**	**(1,570,348)**	**-**	**954,617**

13 Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents as at 31 December 2025

Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents		
	2025	2024
	£	£
General funds	986,796	651,531
Total funds	**986,796**	**651,531**

14 Analysis of Changes in Net Debt in 2025

Analysis of Changes in Net Debt			
	Balance at 1 January 2025	Cash Flows	Balance at 31 December2025
	£	£	£
General funds	651,531	335,265	986,796
Total funds	**651,531**	**335,265**	**986,796**