

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF SEVENOAKS HOSPITAL

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Following on from our very busy year in 2022/23 when we undertook three major projects – the creation of the Sevenoaks Emporium, the replanting of the garden at the front of the main hospital and the refurbishment of the Tea Room, all of which I dealt with in my report at the AGM held in June 2023 – we have had a relatively quiet year in 2023/24 concentrating on building up our activities in the Tea Room.

We now have over 30 volunteers carrying out various shifts in the Tea Room which enables us to open from 10am (sometimes from 8am and often from 9am) to 4pm on Mondays to Thursdays and on Friday mornings. As well as generating a good profit to help fund our donations to the hospital, the Tea Room provides a welcoming environment to patients and visitors. As more patients attend the clinics from further afield, such as Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone and Medway, we get a lot of comments telling us how much this is appreciated. This must reflect well on Sevenoaks Hospital as a centre of excellence that is also very welcoming. We have invited our Volunteers to the AGM as they are a vital and integral part of the League's activities. The Treasurer's report at the AGM will elaborate on the income and profit generated by the Tea Room activities.

In the year to 30 September 2023 we have replaced a number of the televisions on the ward. The originals were provided by the League in 2017 and, inevitably, a number have given up the ghost. We also provided personal lockers for staff in the Urgent Treatment Centre and we have continued to purchase newspapers for the ward and to provide funds to the Sevenoaks Flower Club so that they can enhance the hospital reception areas with their wonderful flowers.

Since September 2023 the newspapers and flowers funding has continued, we have provided a DVD player and art materials for the in-patients and a bubble machine and toys to help distract infants and children giving blood in the Phlebotomy department. There has been one major piece of equipment provided – a meter to help the Midwives measure jaundice in babies so that they do not have to be sent to Pembury for the initial diagnosis. As usual, we have made provision for Christmas festivities. This year we provided hampers for staff working on the ward and in the Urgent Treatment Centre on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Although there have been some appointments to and resignations from the Committee over the last few years, there has been little significant change since 2009/10 when Roger Hope took over as President after the death of Jonathan Balcon, I replaced Roger as Chairman and Chris Dent and Chrissie Philip became Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. It is time for change and Roger has decided to stand down as President and three of our very long serving committee members, Rindy Bakker, Pat Downing and Maurice Short, wish to retire. Roger is willing to continue on the committee and we do not want to lose the experience of Rindy, Pat and Maurice so we will be proposing that they be appointed Honorary Vice Presidents at the AGM. Sadly, Stan Willis has also decided to step down from the committee due to his health. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of these people for their long and valuable service on the League of Friends.

I plan to give up my role as Chairman at the AGM and to put my name forward to succeed Roger Hope as President at the AGM and Chrissie Philip will be relinquishing her role as Honorary Secretary but will continue on the committee. We have two nominations for new committee members, Mandy and Neil Vickers. If anyone else would like to put their name forward either for the role of President or to join the committee they should notify the Secretary before the meeting. Contact details are on the attached Notice of Meeting.

Finally, I thank all the committee and all the volunteers for all the work they have put in over the last year.

Ian Philip
Chairman

May 2024

The League of Friends of Sevenoaks Hospital

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30 September 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Subscriptions and donations received		1,623		904
Legacies and donations in memoriam		4,000		509
Interest received:				
National savings	1,248		216	
Bank	136		11	
		1,384		227
Fund raising receipts				
Collection boxes & Wall safes	1,876		998	
Sale of Christmas Cards	1,622		1,553	
Raffles, Street Collections, misc sales etc	0		618	
Grant from Sevenoaks DC	0		3,616	
		3,498		6,785
Sevenoaks hospital canteen		20,608		985
Hospital Drinks Machine		-535		-653
Gross receipts		30,578		8,757
Payments				
Equipment, Fixtures and Fittings	4,336		12,056	
Other Grants	2,371		3,624	
Fund raising expenditure				
Christmas cards and other activities	900		853	
Christmas activity in hospitals	128		0	
		7,735		16,533
Sevenoaks hospital canteen				
Purchases		10,475		1,696
Refurbishment		0		487
Administration				
Postage and telephone	68		34	
Printing and stationery	0		0	
Internet and Website	318		66	
Lottery licence	20		20	
NAHLF sub. and insurance	690		645	
Sundry	35		35	
		1,131		800
		19,341		19,516
Net receipts/(payments) for the year		11,237		-10,759
Accumulated fund at 30 September 2022		74,636		85,395
Accumulated fund at 30 September 2023		£85,873		£74,636
Represented by:				
National savings income bonds		50,000		50,000
Business premium account		21,334		19,950
High interest business account		55		54
Bank current account		14,484		4,632
		£85,873		£74,636

This account has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The above account was approved by the board of trustees on 5 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by :

Christopher Dent

Treasurer



Ian Philip

Chairman



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The League of Friends of the Sevenoaks Hospitals.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the The League of Friends of the Sevenoaks Hospitals (the 'Charity') for the year ended 30 September 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Graham Austin

Date: 3 April 2024