TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL

Charity number 515567

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objective

The object of the charity remains to improve the care environment for the benefit of patients, staff and visitors to the hospital and to aid in provision of a quality service within Bridgnorth Community Hospital, Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust and Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust initiatives, including for example Minor Injuries Unit, Outpatient clinics and Maternity services provided at Bridgnorth Community Hospital.

The Charity continues its aim to encourage, foster, and maintain the interest of the public in relation to patient experience, through its support of the work of Bridgnorth Hospital. The trustees have given proper thought and attention to all matters relating to activities undertaken by the Charity in accordance with the constitution.

Fundraising

The level of voluntary donations and legacies received has been significantly less than the previous year but there has been a 25% increase in coffee shop takings. Regular annual activities, e.g. coffee mornings, raffles and ad hoc pop-up stalls to sell hand knits and crafts and pre-loved books and jigsaw puzzles have been well supported. The primary aim however has been to interact with the general public to raise awareness of our charity's presence within the community. Our VE Day celebration event on the 8th of May was of particular note.

Funding requests received from Shropshire Community Trust for the Hospital have once again been more modest overall, mainly due to the ongoing planning and restructuring of service in line with the new government's ten-year plan for the NHS.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Administration

The trustees determined that a review of our object within the constitution, was required to enable us to benefit our local community more with NHS health needs and to this end significant work has been done to achieve a balanced and fit for purpose object allowing the charity to expand its reach to include community at home services provided by the Trust (in line with NHS directives) within Bridgnorth removing the restrictions of historical support of the hospital only. Having been approved by the Charity Commission a resolution was put to members and approved unanimously at the 2025 AGM on 27 April 2026, with the changes to take effect in the 2026 reporting year.

Following the 2024 AGM (in May 2025) we have been actively seeking a secretary to replace our outgoing officer but unfortunately, we were unsuccessful and the search continues along with our request for a pastoral lead which remains vacant. We will continue to strive to fill the posts appropriately but willing volunteers are not so readily available in our evolving society. I fear we are not alone in the struggle to find volunteers to help our charitable cause.

Work has been ongoing during this reporting period to review and update the organisation's role profiles and policy documentation following the formation of a Documentation Sub - committee. Progress has been slow but methodical and publication of finalised documents was finally completed.

Moving on to volunteer training the coffee shop volunteer refresher training was undertaken by the Coffee Shop Manager and Treasurer throughout the year and required Safeguarding and Dementia Awareness training has been completed by the butterfly cafe volunteers.

Kate Stevens the Trusts Southeast Localities Clinical Manager left midway through the year on a one-year break for personal reasons and we look forward to her return in due course.

Unfortunately, Trust liaison became very sporadic and more difficult with the NHS managers designated to bridge the role, tending not to be based on site as they continued with their primary roles elsewhere within the Trust.

With this in mind the charity has maintained a regular attendance at the majority of both Community Trust and the Secondary Care Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals NHS Trust meetings, as any member of the public can. Our designated NHS Liaison Trustee and the Chair have attended the majority of these meetings. This has resulted in enabling a better understanding of how the NHS care delivery system evolves and has enabled us to forge links with one of the Operating Directors of the community trust. This led to an initial very successful meeting with Trust Board level individuals in December with a second meeting planned for the new year to continue to foster links going forward providing a better understanding for current NHS Trust boards of what the charity's aims and overall, a better relationship between the NHS Trusts and our charity.

Tragically the death of our one remaining lifetime Vice President Mrs Sheila Plain in the early part of the year left us with just the Vice President (Advisory) remaining in post. This role has proven to be very beneficial given the experience and business acumen of the incumbent and the subsequent advice given when decisions need to be made.

Following a decision by the Trustees, the members were asked at the 2025 AGM for approval that former Trustee Mrs Margaret Bray be designated a Lifetime Vice President in recognition of her many years of volunteering and support for the League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital. The response was a unanimous agreement and the position graciously accepted.

Membership

Along the same vein as the last reporting period our membership numbers are still not increasing significantly and we continue to have difficulty in recruiting members despite a focus on new membership initiatives, at best we only appear to maintain membership levels.

Awards

This year our coffee shop manager, Verena Swinnerton was nominated by Bridgnorth Townswomen's Guild for an award for her service to the community, the last twelve being with the League of Friends. In recognition of her dedication, she was awarded a certificate of high recommendation along with a cheque to be donated to a charity of her choice with the League of Friends being the beneficiary.

Coffee Shop

The coffee shop opening times remain unchanged and the counter continues to be manned by our very dedicated volunteers led by Trustee and Volunteer Manager Verena, with an enthusiastic coffee shop committee who have focussed on fun and small fundraising events. All possible with huge support from our Treasurer. The 'friends' Knit and Natter group continued to meet every Tuesday and a local Parkinson's group now meets on one Wednesday per month, as their previous meeting venue became untenable for this small support group.

Butterfly Cafe

The Butterfly Café remains a very happy and safe space for its members to spend time the monthly activity week remains very popular and are monthly talking tables is becoming equally popular with domino's featuring significantly the afternoon trip out and the summer tea party in the hospital courtyard garden are fixed annual events now enjoyed by all thanks to all our Butterfly Cafe Trustees and volunteers for quietly getting on with making it all happen.

Remembrance Weekend

The League of Friends was represented at the town's Remembrance Parade by a small group of volunteers and a wreath laid at the War memorial. The Knit and Natter group made poppies which were distributed to ward patients and staff who wished to receive them.

Courtyard Gardens

The courtyard garden is becoming a popular place for patients, their visitors and staff to enjoy. The cherry tree, situated within the courtyard was removed early in the year as planned and a triangular raised bed was erected in its place and filled with flowers in an array of vibrant colours and there have been very many positive comments about this necessary change. There are two gardening volunteers who are progressing with a plan to make it a little less arduous to maintain the courtyard going forward, whilst still keeping the essence of the garden unchanged. The main reason for this is the limited number of volunteers and time available for tending the courtyard.

Funding

Funding requests were received in writing with costings and justification statements provided, before being considered by the trustee committee for funding approval. There have been fewer requests during this reporting period, likely due to uncertainties in the direction of operations within the Trust. The requests tendered were deemed appropriate and within our constitutional boundaries with our largest purchase this year being in the form of specialist patient armchairs.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Charity income has continued to come from donations, membership subscriptions, fundraising events and our coffee shop. There were no legacy donations in this reporting period.

The Charity provides support to the hospital by funding the purchase of equipment through requests presented by departments within the hospital.

Reserves

The Charity aims to maintain a reserve figure of £100,000 as agreed by the Trustees which has remained unchanged since the last review. This amount was deemed to be sufficient to meet foreseeable funding obligations although there has been no requirement to dip into the reserve figure during this reporting period.

Financial Auditing

Financial accounts and records are managed routinely by the organisations nominated treasurer and audited by an independent accountant annually. The audit for this period was completed without issue. Financial report submitted as a separate document.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Charity is an unincorporated organisation and is managed by the Trustees under its 2023 constitution document. Safeguarding and other policies are now in place with a review system to ensure they are updated in the future.

Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

Trustees are nominated, seconded, and elected/re-elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is overseen by the president.

Organisational structure

The League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital is administered by the Trustee Committee of up to fifteen people meeting a minimum of four times per year, in addition to the AGM and any Extraordinary General Meetings as and when required. There are two sub-committees which

oversee the running of the Coffee Shop and Butterfly Café respectively, with a minimum of two trustees sitting on each of the sub committees, who report to the main trustee meetings.

Relationships with other Charities

The charity is an affiliated member of Attend and in this reporting period the charity was invited to take part in their Friends Voices Project involving the interviewing of volunteers about their reasons for volunteering. The Bridgnorth League of Friends continues to contribute to the Association of Shropshire Leagues of Friends group which meets up to three times annually and serves as a support network among the Shropshire groups and the Spring meeting was hosted by Bridgnorth.

Trustees' induction and training

Induction is done through briefing by the Chair and Trustees and take part in training sessions e.g. safeguarding, risk assessment, food hygiene which are organised for all League of Friends volunteers as appropriate to the voluntary work they undertake.

Summary Overall we have had a busy year of activity and bank balances are in good shape, mainly through continued generous donations and benefactors. With constant changes happening in the NHS, following government directives the Trust is constantly going through change and restructuring to meet requirements. As a result, funding requests have perhaps not been so forthcoming as they might be at times and we have countered this by not actively organising large fundraising events, but ensuring we maintain awareness of our charity within the public arena with more bespoke social events, highlighting these through media channels.

A focus for the charity moving forward remains to increase our membership and bring new blood to our ranks to enable continuation of our Objective in the future as our membership is still not growing. We are keen to encourage new members, some with a little youth on their side

to futureproof the Charities existence. However, the current membership has supported the Charity well through this successful reporting period

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name

League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital

Registered Charity number

515567

Charities Principal Correspondence Address

7 River View Bernard's Hill, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 5AT.

Charities Principal Operations Address

The League of Friends Coffee Shop, Shropshire Community NHS Trust, Bridgnorth Community Hospital, Northgate, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16

Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity

Trustee Name	Office (if any) Appointment (A) at trustee committee level)	Dates Acted if not for whole year	Name of Person (or body) entitled to appoint Trustee (if any)
Paula Tristham	Chair		Membership (AGM)
Julia Davies	Deputy Chair		Membership (AGM)
Sue Burrows	Secretary		Membership (AGM)
Phil Palfrey	Treasurer		Membership (AGM)
Verena Swinnerton	Coffee Shop Manager		Membership (AGM)
Meg Andrews	Butterfly Café Lead (A)		Membership (AGM)
Julie Palfrey	Butterfly Café Lead (A)		Membership (AGM)

Margaret Bray	Knit and Natter Lead	01/01/25-30/04/25	Membership (AGM
Jean Prior	Knit and Natter Lead(A)		Membership (AGM)
Sarah Morford	Librarian	01/01/25-30/04/25	Membership (AGM)
June Muxworthy	100+ Club Secretary(A)		Membership (AGM)
Di Brown	Collection Tin Lead (A)		Membership (AGM)
Yvonne Askins	Trustee		Membership (AGM)
Rita Spence	Trustee		Membership (AGM)

Names of Presidency and Advisers

On election the Mayor of the Town was invited to be President of the Charity for the duration of their tenure.

President 2025 – Mayor Councillor David Cooper

In accordance with its constitution the Charity (at AGM) may see fit to bestow a Vice Presidency upon an agreeable individual perceived to be in the position to offer advice and guidance to the Trustees of the Charity. A Vice President may attend Trustee Meetings and contribute to discussion but has no voting rights at Committee Meetings

Vice Presidents 2025 – Lifetime appointment -Mrs Sheila Plain - RIP

Vice Presidents (Advisory) 2025 -Councillor Karen Sawbridge

Shropshire NHS Community NHS Trust Liaison

The charity has continued to maintain a healthy working relationship with the local hospital management team enabling the Trustees to make informed and justifiable decisions to enhance the work of the hospital for the public within the community. The hospital manager attends Trustee meetings and provides an overview and update of hospital activity bringing any

requests for enhancement of patient care and experience within the ward and departments of the hospital.

Names of Hospital Management Contacts

Kate Stevens - Southeast Shropshire Locality Manager (inclusive of Bridgnorth Hospital.)

Carol Harris – Administrative Officer- Retired 27th March 2025 and post withdrawn from Trust structure.

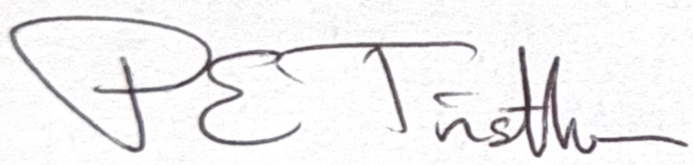
Amy Jeavons – Administration Officer

DECLARATIONS

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

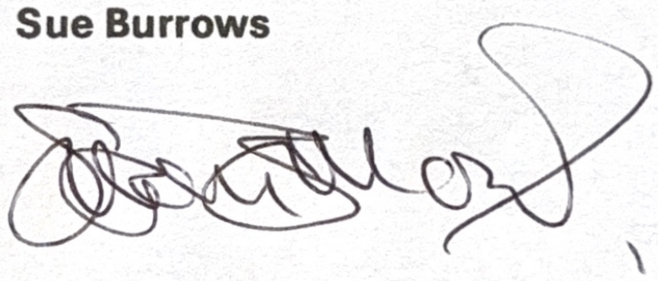
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Paula Elizabeth Tristham



Chair

Sue Burrows



Secretary

Date 27 April 2026

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

RECEIPTS

	2025 £		2024 £	
Voluntary Receipts				
Subscriptions	538.00		326.00	
Other Voluntary Receipts				
Donations General	3,467.10		5,725.85	
Legacy	-		82,695.83	
Funeral Donations	3,938.80		1,150.10	
External Associations	-		-	
		7,943.90		89,897.78
Receipts from Activities for generating funds				
Hospital Teas/Coffee Shop	41,854.70		31,914.33	
Collection Boxes	1,565.82		1,920.16	
Butterfly Café	663.40		234.70	
100 Club	1,905.00		2,232.00	
Bridgnorth Market Stall Events	334.20		234.50	
Name the Caterpillar	-		-	
Christmas Market	302.96		-	
Coffee Morning	-		-	
Sale of Greetings Cards	-		-	
Shropshire Community NHS Trust	-		-	
Books Sold Separate to Coffee Shop	-		-	
Easter Coffee Morning	295.50		-	
Carnival Event	-		718.20	
Halloween Event	-		-	
Christmas Sale	103.00		-	
Guess the Cake	-		-	
Easter Raffle	178.00		126.00	
Spring Event	-		302.00	
Name the Bear	-		52.00	
Church Craft Event	-		245.00	
Raffle	-		139.00	
Craft Sales	-		96.00	
Credit Card Cashback	44.00		26.00	
Poppy Sales	88.30		82.00	
VE Day Raffle	145.00		-	
Wolver Shirt Raffle	123.00		-	
Christmas Raffle	110.00		-	
Christmas Crackers	34.78		-	
		47,747.66		38,321.89
		55,691.56		128,219.67
Receipts from Investments				
Bank and Building Society Interest		4,881.01		5,188.48
		60,572.57		133,408.15

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

PAYMENTS

	2025 £		2024 £	
General				
Subscription and Insurance	1,245.66		1,006.00	
Producing and Posting Newsletters	-		-	
Expenses for Events Including Adverts	416.22		628.84	
Stationary Including Christmas and Greeting Cards, etc	977.81		1,507.69	
Coffee Shop Running Costs	21,908.32		10,668.75	
Till for Coffee Shop expenses	889.02		829.98	
Computer & Zoom costs	430.85		350.85	
100 Club Prizes	800.00		825.00	
Patients Presents and Flowers	156.25		258.41	
Gardens and Grounds	1,722.00		1,634.72	
Butterfly Café	1,106.15		640.19	
Accountancy Fees	612.00		345.00	
Donations	25.00		-	
Lottery License Fee	-		20.00	
Miscellaneous	1,215.33		1,528.23	
Gazebo	-		-	
Poppy Appeal	88.30		115.69	
Mileage	120.03		-	
		31,712.94		20,359.35
		31,712.94		20,359.35

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025 (CONTINUED)

PAYMENTS

	2025 £		2024 £	
Hospital Appropriations				
Newspapers	893.55		914.69	
Portering Chairs	-		401.61	
Freezer for the Hotel Services Team	-		731.98	
Equipment for Children's Area within Minor Injury Unit	-		955.16	
Dishwasher and Water Boiler	-		4,316.40	
Uroflowmeter for the Continence Team	-		3,596.99	
Baby Jaundice Meter	-		3,984.00	
Bristol Maid Dressing Trolleys and TV for Waiting Area in the Minor Injury Unit	-		6,193.57	
Patient Specialist Chairs	8,803.20		-	
Refrigerated Display case	1,380.00		-	
		11,076.75		21,094.40
		42,789.69		41,453.75
Accumulated Fund				
Bank Current and Deposit Accounts as at 1st January 2025		366,318.19		274,363.79
Excess of Receipts over Payments		17,782.88		91,954.40
		384,101.07		366,318.19

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
STATEMENT OF ASSESTS AND LIABILITIES		
Cash Funds		
Bank Community Account	2,686.74	2,032.52
Bank Business Premium Account	382,477.11	365,501.90
Total Bank Current and Deposit Accounts	385,163.85	367,534.42
Current Liabilities		
Creditor	(1,062.78)	(1,216.23)
	384,101.07	366,318.19

Approved by The League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital on 20 MARCH 2026 and signed on their behalf.

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Mr P. Palfrey
Hon Treasurer

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL

Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended: 31st December 2025

Charity No. 515567

Silver & Co
Accountants
Taxation
& Business Advisors

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL

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LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL
Legal and administrative information

President:	Bridgnorth Town Mayor
Chair:	Paula Tristham
Vice Chair:	Julia Davies
Secretary:	Sue Burrows
Treasurer:	Phil Palfrey
Coffee Shop Manager:	Verena Swinnerton
100+ Club Lead:	June Muxworthy
Butterfly Café Lead:	Meg Andrews Julie Palfrey
Trustees	Sarah Morford Jean Prior Margaret Bray (Resigned) Rita Spence Yvonne Askins Diane Brown
Independent Examiners:	The Hollies, 16 St Johns Street, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 6AG
Bankers:	Barclays Bank
Principal Address:	Ansteys, Eardington, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 5JT

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF BRIDGNORTH HOSPITAL
Trustees' Annual Report
For the year ended 31st December 2025

The trustees submit their annual report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2025. the trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2005 as modified by SORP 2019 (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The Charity is run by volunteer Trustees under the governance of its 2023 constitution. The objects are to support the care and well - being of patients, former patients, their relatives, carers and staff who are in or attending Bridgnorth Community Hospital; the hospitals work within the community of South Easr Shropshire Locality area and the work of services provided by any NHS Trust under Service Level Agreement within Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust.

Volunteers

The charity is grateful for the efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service provision and fund raising. It is estimated that approximately 37 volunteer hours were provided on a weekly basis. If this is valued at the National Living wage rate of £12.21 the weekly volunteer effort amounts to nearly £451.77.

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 & 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 Charities SORP 2019, (FRS 102);
- Make judgements 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 a 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of its 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.

Internal Control and Risk Management

The trustees review the effectiveness of all material internal controls, including operational, financial and compliance controls and risk management systems.

The internal control systems are designed to meet the Charity's particular needs and the risks to which it is exposed, to manage these risks and to provide reasonable assurance against misstatement or loss.

Statement of Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiners

We, the trustees of the charity who held office at the date of approval of these financial statements, each confirm so far as we are aware that:

- there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiners are unaware: and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as trustees in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Re-appointment of Trustees

The trustees are appointed by the members of the Association in Annual General Meeting.

Achievements and Performance

The results for the year are set out in the attached statements of financial activities.

Financial Review

The Charity's policy is to retain surplus funds pending suitable application by the charity for assistance of a project within the terms of charitable status.

The treasurer maintains the financial records of the Charity and reports regularly at all meetings.

Independent Examiners

A resolution proposing that Silver & Co be reappointed as independent examiners of the Charity will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

The results for the year are set out in the attached statements of financial activities.

Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees of League of Friends of Bridgnorth Hospital

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on pages 6 to 9

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent examiners' report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1 Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

2 to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Silver & Co
Independent Examiners

Silver & Co

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Date
23rd March 2026

The Hollies
16 St Johns Street
Bridgnorth
Shropshire
WV15 6AG