

Presentation of Photograph Montage and Fabric Wall Hanging to the Hospital on June 22nd 2021

When the country went into Lockdown in March 2020 The Friends very soon launched two on-line fundraising projects. One was for people to submit photographs depicting their thoughts or activities during lockdown, which has resulted in this lovely Montage of Photographs. This depicts people's activities, memories of holidays, time spent in their gardens and we also included photographs of our gifts to the hospital and especially the staff hub during the pandemic. Bernard our website co-ordinator included them on our website as they were submitted.

The second, the fabric wall hanging, depicting memories of the pandemic, proved to be quite a challenge for Sue Simpson, who very early on offered to sew the fabric blocks together. We had asked for them to be 6 inches by 4 inches and sewn on cotton, but you can see the range of sizes that we received. The effort however that everyone individually who sewed a block put into the work is so thought provoking and depicts a lasting memory of so many aspects that we have all lived through during the last 16 months. I should like to publicly thank Sue for all her hard work and I know how worried she was during the sewing together phase. We also are so grateful to her brother and sister-in-law who very kindly donated the cost of the framing.

I feel very proud that as a Charity we have remained so positive throughout the pandemic and still managed to raise funds in different ways. However, our grateful thanks must go to our many members and supporters and local organisations who have continued to support us so well.

Now it is my great pleasure to present this artwork to Debbie who has joined us to accept it on behalf of the hospital. We hope that it will be enjoyed by patients, staff and visitors for a long time to come.

Pauline Allard

Chairman, The Friends of the Princess Royal University Hospital