

Chairman's Annual Report June 2022 – May 2023

This is my first Annual Report, having taken the Chair at the Annual General Meeting in May 2022. It has been a challenging year, during which The Friends has sought to re-establish itself as a Charity supporting the work of the PRUH. We have found that, post Covid, there have been many changes and that we have had to consider carefully how we go about promoting ourselves as a fund-raising organisation in the light of the changing personnel within The Friends itself.

We have been able to hold several Table Sales at the Hospital now that, post Covid, we have been allowed back onto the Hospital premises. We have raised valuable sums of money which we can redirect back to the Hospital in support of various projects. Also, importantly for us, staff, patients and visitors to the Hospital can see that we have a presence and are working in support of the Hospital. Great efforts have also been made in trying to promote ourselves through our website and other social media and our thanks go to Bernard Jayasundera who has been at the forefront of these efforts.

The Friends meet regularly with Rob Chidlow, Site Director of Finance, to work together in identifying projects that The Friends can support. Through this route we have been able to contribute towards the development of the Discharge Lounge, making the Hospital more “Dementia Friendly” and also “Staff Wellbeing” projects. For a full list of contributions, please refer to the Annual Accounts. We have also been able to support the Chaplaincy with new chairs for the Chapel and printing costs for special services. We have continued to fund the Oncology Travel Scheme, with Cannon Cars, whereby children are transported to various other hospitals in London and the South East for treatment. We are grateful to Rob for the time he gives us and the liaison between the Hospital and The Friends.

Throughout the year we have benefitted from generous donations from Rotary Clubs in the local area. We are grateful for their support and hope this can continue in the future. We are also grateful for several “legacies” which have generously identified The Friends charity in memory of deceased family members. We trust that we have been able to direct these funds in a suitable fashion.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Trustees, Committee members and volunteer helpers for their efforts this year. We would not have been able to achieve all that we have without their help.

Peter Harris

Chairman
The Friends of the Princess Royal University Hospital.
Farnborough. Kent.