

Friends of the Sheffield Children's Hospital

Registered Charity No. 503571

Patrons:
Rt. Hon. David Blunkett
Sean Bean



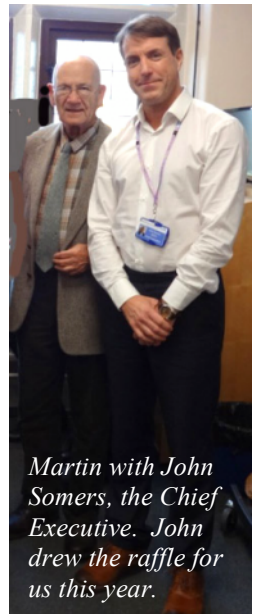
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SPRING NEWSLETTER 2017

Dear Friends

I am very sad to report the death of Connie Hebblethwaite. She was one of the original founders of the Friends' Shop in 1985 and ran it successfully for many years. It was her persuasiveness that brought so many volunteers to work in the shop and her commercial expertise that enabled it to thrive so well and become the financial mainstay of the Friends. Not least among her achievements was to train her daughter, Lynne, to look after the shop. The Friends owe her a great debt of gratitude.

Rebuilding of the hospital is grinding on. The shop has been moved to the corridor linking A&E with the restaurant while its permanent site in the new outpatients is being readied. All going well it will reopen in the new Outpatient Atrium next autumn. We are very grateful to Lynne and her volunteers for all the extra work moving the stock to its temporary site. As the shop is now a little out of the way we anticipate its takings will temporarily fall but are maintaining our regular support for the patients.



Martin with John Somers, the Chief Executive. John drew the raffle for us this year.

We are very sorry the committee has lost Robin Goodliffe. It was Robin's energy and enthusiasm that made our last two raffles so successful. His job has taken him South.

We were also sorry to lose our teacher's representative Gillian Campbell to retirement. Also Pat Savage who died 23rd May 2016. She had been an active member of the committee for many years and used to look after the bric a brac stall at the Fayre.

We welcomed two new active members: Caroline Hague as the new teacher's representative and Eileen Hills.

We have to thank our committee for being so active this year with every member contributing to our fund raising and a very active attendance at our meetings. I look forward to the next year.

I wish you all a happy, healthy 2017

Dr Martin Steiner (Chairman)

The object of our charity is to raise funds to help and support the welfare of the patients of the Sheffield Children's Hospital. We publicise the availability of funding throughout the hospital and we are always pleased to receive requests. No reasonable request is ever rejected and we are usually able to respond quickly to appeals for help.

We have made over 40 donations this year and during the last ten years we have given over £240,000 to the various wards and departments of the Hospital. We continue to fund a wide range of projects and activities for the benefit of patients.

Here are some examples of thanks we received for donations made during the year:

Dear Friends of the Children's Hospital,

I have been trying to sort out the soft play area in the Child assessment Unit. The families that attend our clinics in child assessment may be here for a couple of hours and we had nowhere for the very young children to play. This soft play area enables the child to play safely and not have to be nursed on a carer's knee all the time. Thank you so much for this gift, it will make our children and families visits here a little easier.

Please thank everyone concerned for their generosity and patience. I have attached a picture.

Kind regards

Linda Bostock
Support Worker
Child Assessment
Unit.



The League of Friends has been very generous in supporting the mothers of breastfed babies admitted to the Trust. They have provided funds for the Infant Feeding team to purchase some portable breast pumps and cool boxes.



Vicky and new mum Becky with a pump and cool box

Resident mothers are now able to express in their room overnight and store the milk at a suitable temperature until the next morning, without having to come down to the ward numerous times. This has allowed mothers to get a well-deserved rest alongside providing breast milk for her baby.

Many thanks to the League of Friends for supporting the best health outcomes for our mums and their babies at Sheffield Children's hospital.

Vicky Smith - Infant Feeding Team

You made our day; these two were fed up and hot on the baby ward M1. These chairs made it possible for not only these two poorly babies to get out of their beds but made it possible for the tired mummies and daddies to have a chat and socialise with others now that these two were settled happy and babbling along to each other.

It's really amazing the difference something so small, which we as parents would take for granted at home, can have such an impact on their mental and physical health. Jonah and Heritage have been extremely ill with meningitis and pneumonia. This helped to break up the time. Thank you to the Friends for finding these bouncers.

From Heritage's mum



Our charity is entirely run by volunteers and most of our income is generated by the shop and raffle. This year we have also received a large bequest and we have also been the beneficiary of donations given in memory of Connie Hebblethwaite, who was our founder member and was still active in the Charity, and of Margaret Mottram, who helped in the shop for many years.

We are very fortunate to also receive funds from wide a range of sources, including the following organisations:

Bents Green Church, Brightholmlee Methodist Church, Nether Edge Neighbourhood Group, Park Gardeners Ladies Section, Sheffield University Women's Club, Wharncliffe Side Players, St Peter's Conisburgh

We have also received many generous donations from individuals, including Maggie Little, who donates all the profits from the sale of the bunting that she makes. She writes:



I make strings of 10 flags and sell them for £10 and I also make mini strings of 5 flags for £4. I only use new material and all of the proceeds go to the hospital.

My bunting has been sent to countries all over the world, as it is very light and easy to post as a gift. I am always available to sell bunting at church events, coffee mornings etc and I can be contacted at maggielittle@sky.com

RAFFLE

This will be my last year of running the raffle as I am moving away from Sheffield, so it was gratifying that we had another resounding success. We raised just over £3000, including Beryl's personal fund raising contribution of over £960.

It was particularly pleasing to see so many willing volunteers helping to sell the raffle tickets in Crystal Peaks Shopping Centre! Some were 'stalwarts' from previous years, but also a number of 'new friends', all of whom made a significant contribution to the fundraising effort! Thank you!!

There were 51 prizes donated, all of excellent quality and some additional 'surprise' hampers which were won by three lucky people who attended the draw.



Robin surrounded by just a few of this year's raffle prizes

The following people and companies donated prizes:

P.A. Jewelry, Napoleons, Tiago, Motorpoint Arena, Bestsellers, Sheffield United, Sheffield Wednesday, Baldwins Omega, W M Waites Conisbrough, Stringers of Conisbrough, Fosters of Thrybergh, Bazaar of Thrybergh, Boots, Tesco, Morrisons, Spar, Co-Op, Chatsworth Garden Centre, Cannon Hall, Pets @ Home, Copycats, Damart, Hallmark, Dalesetter Rosettes, Party Town

All the prizes were claimed and were delivered well in time for Christmas Day!!

Robin Goodliffe (Raffle Organizer)

HOSPITAL FRIENDS SHOP



Lynne with two of our regular volunteers, Joan Futter and Anne Howarth, in the temporary shop

Our original shop closed in November but we have been given a smaller temporary shop, which is situated on Floor B along the corridor from A & E and X-Ray.

The shop continues to provide a service for children and parents, and is the main source of income for the Charity.

Our new shop will be in the redeveloped Outpatients and we hope that it will be ready later this year.

I would like to thank our wonderful volunteers who have continued to staff the shop and for all their support during a very difficult time. Thanks also to the band of knitters who keep us supplied with beautiful baby clothes and blankets which help to raise a lot of money for the charity

Lynne Hebblethwaite (Shop Coordinator)

Membership of the Friends

Currently the Friends have 150 members. The membership subscription is £2 per year; members receive an annual Newsletter and have the opportunity to attend the AGM.

Members are always welcome to help with fund raising events. We encourage members to join the committee and we welcome any applications.

Margaret Lindley (Membership Secretary)



Staff with some of the Christmas toys for the Wards donated by the Friends

CONTACTS FOR THE FRIENDS

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