



*1951-2021 – 70th Anniversary Year
Reflecting our past – Planning for your future*

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**FRIENDS OF YEATMAN HOSPITAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wednesday 22
September 2021**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Context

This is the fifth year that I have had the privilege of addressing our AGM, it is a further honour to do so in our 70th Anniversary Year, which provides me the opportunity to welcome on your behalf Mr Richard Hunt, Chairman of Hunt's Foods, as our Patron for the year.

It is right that we as your Executive Committee use this opportunity to take stock of the activities of the Friends over the preceding year, to share with you our intentions for the year ahead, while giving you the opportunity to question us and to share your opinions.

This past year has been one of the more challenging for the Yeatman. The full impact and implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic became apparent, in the key areas of patient interaction, resources in equipment and staff capacity to deal with revised processes and the overall demands on their time and expertise. You can be assured that the Yeatman and all its stands for as your community hospital continues to ride high on a deserved reputation of excellent clinical care. Whilst its influence reaches well beyond Hospital Lane, with the support of the Friends following wherever the Yeatman leads, in the delivery of care and in responding to the medical needs of our community.

We have refocused our attention to address the impact of C-19 on the Staff and patients of the Yeatman and our wider community. Sadly, however, many of our established fund-raising activities were placed on hold, nonetheless due to the generosity of the public we have raised funds through other means to enable the Friends to continue its support of important projects.

We underscore such financial support with our routine and strategic financial management, and I am pleased to report that your charity has not experienced any significant financial risk to endure during the COVID19 experience. We have maintained our routine of services support to the Yeatman, while have also accrued funds to contribute to Capital Projects. We have a number of such projects pending decisions of the Dorset Health Care Trust, and in the meantime, we are taking measures to avoid any perception that we are hoarding funds contrary to the Charity Commission's best practice.

We remain within the 5 year span of the 2017 Dorset Clinical Review, ensuring the Yeatman thrives in its role as a Community Hospital with beds, and remains central to the delivery of Health Care within the future North Dorset area hospital plan, with the prospect of significant enhancements both

in its roles and medical specialisations. The successful establishment of the Stroke and Rehabilitation Clinic is evidence of that intent, as it completes its 6-month trial period with an aspiration for it to serve the wider DHCT area from this autumn onwards, so providing a clear strategic purpose for the Hospital.

We continue to work positively with the Dorset Health Care Trust, and a success has been the reintroduction of a number of Outpatient Clinics which had previously been withdrawn. Furthermore, through many efforts of influence the MIU, having been closed in April 2020, was reinstated in June of this year, but we are now challenging the appointments only system in order to ensure its immediate availability at times of personal injury.

Whilst we acknowledge the capacity of the Yeatman's Staff, both clinical and administrative, as the key component of the Hospital's success we also acknowledge the capacity for our community to contribute to that success which is manifest in two aspects – the pride and ownership that our community feels for the hospital and, secondly, the focus of community service, which drives the Staff to perform at ever higher levels.

Such a level of community collaboration with the Yeatman's delivery of good medical purpose has been manifest throughout the C-19 era and still continues, and from which many new themes and practices have developed to the well-being of our community and more immediately to the benefit of the patients at their time of need.

Both aspects of community serve the common whole. In the drive for economies of scale, the centralisation of services and resources, we need to continue to pursue that recognition – value over cost for a satisfied and well-served community – in the interests of both the Staff's delivery, and their patients' receipt of clinical best practice.

In Year Achievements

Capital Projects The main planning vehicle for evaluation of our Capital Projects is our Strategy Planning Committee, which meets quarterly with representation from the DHCT.

By this means we ensure our aspirations are affordable and deliverable in appropriate time frames. This enables us, in conjunction with Matron, to respond to both the personal needs of the patients, as well as contributing to hospital infrastructure and equipment projects.

Our Capital Planning remains on track. Over the next 3 financial years we could if appropriate support Capital Projects up to a total of £600k.

Palliative Care

We have provided major funding over the past four years to extend the Yeatman's resources relating to terminal care through the addition of a second suite – the Ada Kearevell Suite – to complement the existing Jean King Suite. Both suites continue to provide great comfort for mind and body for the patients and their families. We monitor the suites' usage and plan additional enhancements as required.

Continual Enhancement

The NHS is responsible for Yeatman's infrastructure, but to ensure our patients receive their care in good time and within decent surroundings, we remain committed to a funding programme of continual improvement, the following:

New Project – Re-Adjust Mental Health Clinic and Office Space.

There is a vision to transform Stewart Lodge into a mental health suite, co-locating the Sherborne Outpatient Mental Health Team and the Sherborne Adult Community Mental Health Team together. The Community Adult Mental Health Services, Steps to Wellbeing and Drug and Alcohol Services which also use this space which will create an all-age provision for mental health care in Sherborne. Co-locating the services will significantly improve working relationships across the Teams, helping to smooth transitions between the services and offer a better-quality service overall. The area will also increase the number of clinics and appointments, as staff working in the services will have additional space to use. The priority is to make a significant positive difference to the working environment of this patient group. We have allocated an initial £10,000 to this project, with a view to donating further in conjunction with the expectation that DHCT will contribute too.

Upgrading Clinic Rooms in Outpatients (OPD) and Waiting Area. This is linked to the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group Proposals of moving 80% of outpatient clinics to Community Hospitals, which implies for the YH a modernisation of its OPD – over a 2-year project at a cost of £25K per room; first stage completed in July 2020. The Committee is considering committing funds to further upgrades to a total of £80K subject to further definition by DHCT.

Yeatman Outreach

In line with our vision that the influence of the Yeatman should extend beyond Hospital Lane we have initiated a number of out-reach project in direct support to our local community

Community Projects –

Restricted Funds Mental Health. In order to exercise restricted legacy funds for Mental Health we are supporting the Rendezvous Emotionally Connected Sherborne Project, which is focussed on supporting the youth within our community who have with Mental Health issues. Our initial contribution of £10,000 over 12 months, has been enhanced by 2 further contributions totalling £16,500.

Wider Mental Health Support – Sherborne Primary Schools. In response to the increased mental health issues amongst our younger generations caused by COVID-19 and other social challenges, we have allocated £17,500 to The Sherborne Abbey Primary and The Sherborne Primary Schools to support their mental health programmes.

New Projects

Some examples of our donations are as follows:

- District Nurses' - Equipment Projects £20,000.
 - Adult Speech and Language Dept - £4,700.
 - SALT Rowan Ward - £2,400.
 - Stroke and Rehab Unit Garden - £2,400
- (The Friends proudly supported the establishment of a garden for stroke patients to tend as part of their recovery. Fresh air, standing and balance practice, sensory work in identifying and touching plants and smelling the fragrances, upper arm rehab and relaxation are all potential benefits. It's a wonderful way to increase function in an enjoyable way)

The Years Ahead 21/22 – 22/23

We shall continue to provide our programme of Patients' Benefits and all facets of our routine support to the YH, while ensuring we complete our obligations to our agreed Capital Projects as they progress through FY 22/23; supported by our fundraising and other income generating activities.

In conjunction with DHCT, we shall review options for our support to future Capital Projects, to ensure that our contributions remain within our Objects and are enduring. We shall engage with other local stakeholders and DHCT regarding future development plans for Sherborne and the planning options within DHCT's plans within Hospital Infrastructure Plans – Series 2, known colloquially as HIP-2.

Our Enablers

Our Volunteers. I place these at the top of my list of those who make FOYH happen. The above achievements and future deliverables represent the higher strategic level work of your Committee. But I cannot stress my gratitude none more so in this extreme year of C-19 challenges more highly for all those Friends and the friends of our Friends who have volunteered throughout the year, be it for individual fund raising events, our Friendship Collectors, or our Trolley Ladies, our Gardeners and Flower Arrangers who provide a sense of friendship and normality for the patients on the wards. Not least of course, my huge thanks go to my Committee for their energy, guidance and dedication to our cause.

Finance. As you will hear from our Treasurer John Thompson, we are in good order both in year and for the future, being able to meet our objects while operating true to our Reserves Policy. Our funds have come from a range of sources, from individual donations and smaller family initiatives, and of course through legacies. But we do not take any of that for granted and we recognise our core income comes from the Friends, and in recognition of that fact over the last two years we have invested both time and money in new support systems and to improve our inter-action with the Friends.

Friends. We have successfully enhanced our capability to manage our Friends' administrative services and interaction, through two elements:

- **New FOYH Website** – This has proved very popular – and is being copied by our sister organizations within Dorset – it is lighter on the eye, easier to navigate and importantly easier to use for new Members to join
- **Friends Data Base** - We have established a new Data Base and we now know who our Friends are and accurately how many there are 1210. In the longer term this database will enable us to interact more directly with the Friends and to manage our funds more efficiently.

I have judged these to be essential investments in order to retain contact with our most valuable resource – our current Friends and to attract new ones, while enhancing our overall efficiency as a Charity of substance.

Communications and Marketing. Our Communications and Marketing Group has led our 70th Anniversary Year planning - a series of events for Hospital Staff, patients, and Friends and with the

support of Sherborne and Dorset Councils, we shall arrange an event for all to attend and participate in our anniversary. See the Annex - Dates for Your Diary Calendar.

In addition to advertising our usual round of activities it is now exploring the local corporate and business sectors for support to the Friends to generate new avenues of income and the indications have been positive.

Local Donors and Sponsorship. We have been hugely impressed and grateful for the support we have received from local institutions – although somewhat restricted this by COVID 19.

Community Liaison. We anticipate reinvigorating our Community Liaison, with the further development of our relationship with our local schools. This started with visits by students with an inclination to the Health Care Profession from the International School and has since included the Gryphon and Sherborne Girls' School and Sherborne Boys' and Leweston Schools, pitched at the Lower 6th forms. We are considering sponsorship of a form of medical training linked-back to employment within the Yeatman.

Governance

Committee Structures/Reorganisation. We have taken steps to ensure our Committee remains approachable, effective and efficient. Under our Vice-Chairperson, our Governance Procedures have been reviewed to ensure we remain compliant with the Charity Commission's Codes of Conduct and that our Constitution remains applicable to the Charity's development particularly within the IT arena, and consistent with our Objects and the roles of our Committee's officers, and that our sub-committees are properly constituted with bespoke terms of reference, and that our safeguarding procedures are in place and implemented when required.

Conclusion

The Friends of Yeatman Hospital has had a challenging but good year. The proof of that success is not just in the projects we have funded or sponsored, but also more importantly in the apparent contentment of the hospital's patients, and the whole effort of the professional Staff, our volunteers and the local community who all contribute to make it so.

We shall continue on the Friends' behalf to represent the Yeatman's interest within the DCCG Review and in our dealings the Dorset Health Care Trust.

To all of those involved in the Friends of Yeatman Hospital enterprise, thank you for your ideas your support, and of course your generous financial contributions. Please let them continue to so enable us to report another successful year when we meet again at next year's AGM.

DGH

CHAIRMAN

September 2021

Annex – Dates for Your Diary Calendar.



1951 - 2021 - 70th Anniversary

Reflecting on our past - Planning for your future

Dates for your Diary

2021:

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| October 13th 2021 | Dancing with the Diamonds |
| December 4th to
December 12th | Cheap Street Church Christmas Tree Festival |

2022:

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| January 21st 2022 | Fish and Chips Dinner/Quiz Night. |
| May 6th 2022 | International Nurses Day |
| May 8th 2022 | Car Boot Sale |
| May 14th 2022 | Thanksgiving Service in Sherborne Abbey |
| May 29th 2022 | Sherborne Castle Country Fair |
| June 8th 2022 | Art Event at Summer Lodge with Lawrence Belbin |
| Mid-June 2022 | Garden Party at Jenny Harding-Rolls |
| July 3rd 2022 | Car Boot Sale |
| July 26th 2022 | Closing Ceremony of 70th Anniversary Year |
| September 4th 2022 | Car Boot Sale |