

FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL CORNWALL HOSPITAL - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2021

The year started in 2021 with our Coffee Bar transformed into a clinical area administering the first doses of a vaccination for Covid. We were proud to support their work by providing a loyal band of volunteers who guided parents and were responsible for the post observation area, as well as ensuring seating areas were wiped. This group also supported the vaccination programme when the clinicians moved to the Health and Well-being Centre which was used for the rest of the year. When National restrictions and RCH allowed us, we reopened our Friends Coffee Bar in May and I am pleased that trade steadily increased but, because visitors were limited, we relied on staff and patients to support us – thank you to our volunteers who worked tirelessly to re-stock, to locate all the equipment which had been stored in many places and to provide a rota to serve the drinks and food. Also, a huge thank you to Chacewater Bakery who were, as ever, very flexible with our orders. Whilst income was considerably down versus pre- Covid, it was our main source of income for the year.

Another source of income was through the collecting boxes that were placed next to our drinks services. Volunteers in Headland continued to provide a very important role in that department by serving drinks and biscuits, chatting to patients, and serving a sandwich lunch. This group were recognised by achieving a RCHT 'Brilliant You' Award for volunteers, alongside Eve Thorpe. Jenny Dyer became the overall 'Volunteer of the Year' as she had worked hard from the outset of Covid in so many different areas. Later in the year, Mermaid restarted their drinks service as did ENT, but footfall in other areas diminished as they were patient-only waiting areas. We undertook some varied activities for raising funds from cream teas, pumpkin carving, recycled greeting cards and a Christmas tombola. We were also very grateful to the many donations that we received to support our work.

From a limited income, we were still able to provide grants for £46,795.42: - 4 x Double Bed Children & HIV £6,000.00 ; Scalp Cooling machine & caps Headland Unit £9,500.00 ; Magnifying glass with light x 20 Critical Care £239.80 ; ECG Machine St Mawes Lounge £2,747.26 ; MRI Ventilator Clinical Care ACCT £26,461.56 ; CBHN Studio Mixed Interface CHBN £1,846.80.

New volunteer roles were created to support the work of the hospital. With no visitors allowed in the hospital or on a ward, there was a necessity to provide a means for inpatients to get personal items - this was provided by a team working on the reception desk. Others helped with the completion of surveys which needed to be undertaken, supporting the RCH Charity with their 'Kit Kat Of Kindness' project, as well as making phone calls to support the 'Going Home Bags'. Several Friends continued to knit, and we have provided numerous knitted blankets and 'twiddle muffs' for use with patients. Thank you one and all.

The Friends Committee have continued to meet monthly, by Zoom initially and then, when the Government allowed more social mixing, we have been very grateful to Chacewater Bowling Club for allowing us to use their Club Hall. With help, they also wrapped over 500 Christmas presents for patients who were in a hospital bed on Christmas morning. As a committee, we were also very aware of our many volunteers who were not able to carry out their usual roles and we tried to contact them by telephone on a regular basis. The regular edition of the 'Keeping in Touch' newsletter was produced.

During the year more volunteers were encouraged to return if they felt that they wanted to, however everyone needed to undertake a Covid risk assessment to ensure that they were safe to return. Several volunteers have felt uncomfortable or were not able to return and we thank them for all they have done in the past and wish them good health in the future.

As a Charity we are very ably supported by the staff at RCH and from the Voluntary Services Office, as well as the staff and Directors of RCH - Thank you. We look forward to continuing our roles at RCH and are prepared to face the challenges and opportunities as, and when, they arrive to continue to 'help make a difference'.

Beatrice J Dyer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
FRIENDS OF THE ROYAL CORNWALL HOSPITAL
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 252083

I report on the Accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2021.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND EXAMINERS

As the Charities Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that the audit requirements of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 of disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required by an audit and consequently , I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination :-

No matter has come to my attention

1. Which gives me a reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirement
 - a. to keeping records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met or

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

A H ROGERS ACCOUNTANCY & BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

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