

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF SEVENOAKS HOSPITAL

COMMITTEE REPORT YEAR TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2007



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A year ago we were still uncertain as to the future of our Hospital. It was therefore with great relief that we learned last Summer that following the Community Hospital review, Sevenoaks (as well as the other Community Hospitals in our area) would play a significant role in the delivery of health services to local communities in the future. Seven of the temporarily closed beds were re-opened and there is a phased reopening of Holmesdale Ward over the next few years – in part to coincide with the opening of the new Pembury Hospital.

As a result of the decision the Trust have embarked on the process of upgrading facilities at Sevenoaks and this is continuing. In addition to the re-opening of Holmesdale ward (which will need up-grading before it is re-opened) there are proposals to enlarge the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) and to upgrade the consulting rooms in out-patients.

As a result of the uncertainties we had very few requests for help during the year and we only spent £7,114 on equipment and other amenities. This included £3,160 for a cardiac monitor for MIU, a syringe driver, a coagucheck machine and equipment for the midwives. Since the year end we have purchased a bladder scanner (£4,250), a cardiac tape machine, a chair for Phlebotomy, two Dynamap machines and a number of other items – total cost £7750.

Our income for the year to September 2007 at £16,881 is considerably down on the £31,662 of the previous year – probably as a result of the uncertainties. Although we now have significant accumulated funds we expect considerable demand as the services delivered in Sevenoaks are enlarged and improved.

We are pleased that the District Council have agreed to change the Hospital signs from “No A&E” to “Minor Injuries Unit” which will hopefully increase usage. We are also in the later stages of producing a website for the League of Friends which will help promote the Hospital.

We would like to thank all those volunteers who help make the Hospital work and contribute to the lovely environment for patients and staff. In particular all those who man the coffee bar, the ladies of Sevenoaks Flower Club for the flower arrangements in the Hospital and the volunteer drivers.

We are very optimistic that the future of Sevenoaks Hospital will be bright and we will contribute whenever possible to the growth of the health services delivered here.

Roger Hope
Chairman

‘To supplement the service provided by the Hospital for the health welfare and comfort of the patients and others in the community, by the provision of equipment and amenities for patients and staff.’