

## THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF SEVENOAKS HOSPITAL

### COMMITTEE REPORT YEAR TO 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010



THE LEAGUE  
OF FRIENDS  
OF  
SEVENOAKS  
HOSPITAL

This last year has been one of consolidation for the Committee. In addition to Committee members, our meetings were regularly attended by the Matrons, Maggie Powell and Rachel Nicholls, Frances Wells and Betty Kinchin from West Kent Neuro-Rehab and Kaye Langham, the hospital administration co-ordinator. Mark Shepperd also joined us for one meeting where he updated us on the future of Kent Community Health. I would like to thank them all for their input at these meetings and the help that they give to us throughout the year. Their willing involvement in our activities helps sustain the extremely good relationship that the League of Friends has with the hospital and its staff. I also thank Roger Hope, our President who also serves on the Committee, Chris Dent (Treasurer) and Chrissie Philip (Secretary) for all their assistance and hard work throughout the year.

This time last year the work on the new Minor Injuries Unit had ground to a halt due to the demise of the building contractors. In the summer, new contractors were appointed and despite the very severe weather before Christmas they managed to complete the work earlier this year. The end result has been well worth the wait and I was very honoured to be asked, as Chairman of the League of Friends, to open the new expanded MIU at the beginning of March. We have contributed about £10K of our funds to provide additional equipment and facilities in the new unit. As always, we have made many other donations to the hospital but our major contribution in the last 12 months has been to purchase 18 electric beds at a cost of approximately £20K. This expenditure occurred after the end of the last financial year and does not, therefore appear in the accounts to 30 September 2010.

Yet again there have been huge changes to the structure of the NHS, especially so far as we are concerned as a community hospital, and no doubt there will be more when the government reaches a decision on GP commissioning. The main change for us is that the hospital is now part of Kent Community NHS Trust which came into existence on 1 April 2011. This Trust covers all community hospitals throughout Kent, whereas previously we were part of West Kent PCT. Inevitably, there have been a number of changes in the key personnel as a result of this change and we will be making every effort to establish as good a relationship with them as we had under the previous arrangement.

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 as well, of course, as all the staff in the hospital.

Ian Philip  
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.'*

*Registered Charity  
number 243039*