

# Salisbury Hospital League of Friends

## A Welcome from the Chairman

2021/2022



**A very warm welcome to all our members and also to those who may be reading our League of Friends magazine for the first time. The last two years have been challenging for us all, so it is truly wonderful to be able again to introduce this usually regular publication which updates you on some of our activities. My sincere thanks go to all who have taken so much care in the preparations of their articles and, as always, to Sue and George Todd and to Lesley Self in ArtCare for their invaluable assistance on the editorial team.**

It is with much regret that I report the untimely death of my close friend and Trustee Richard Morgan. I also report the resignation of another Trustee, William Collings, who served on the Board for many years. Both Richard and Bill were very valued members of the team. I am, however, pleased to welcome Brian Bentley and Lesley Self to the Trustees Board. Both have worked in Salisbury Hospital for many years and will, I am sure, be a great asset to us.

An organisation like ours needs a dedicated team to support it. Our Treasurer, Andy James, has done a fantastic job with all our accounting in addition to his complex role in the Finance department. Similarly, Emma Cox, our tireless secretary, manages a full time senior position in Project Management. Anna Weaver has continued her work as Membership secretary and Sal Etherington maintains her role as manager of the shop's finances. Without this team we would be lost, so a huge thank you to them all.

As a result of the Trust's pandemic policy and for the greater protection of our magnificent volunteers, we had to close the League of Friends shop in March 2020. It remained closed until June 2021, resulting in a huge loss of income to the League of Friends. We were very fortunate that this was partially offset by the timely receipt of two legacies for which we are extremely grateful. The silver lining to the cloud of shop closure was that we were able to distribute all of our residual sweets in the shop to the hospital staff as a way of thanking them for the superb care they have given us all. The shop is now up and running again and approaching a normal pattern of activity. As always, special thanks to Rita Taylor and Trevor Grant for their management skills and to George Todd for supervising all our wonderful volunteers. We are always in need of further help in the shop, so if you feel you could spare just a few hours a week, please do pop in and have a chat with a volunteer, who will be pleased to assist.

In the past year, the League of Friends gave a grant of £5000 to assist the funding of the 2021 Staff Awards ceremony in recognition of our gratitude to the many staff who have made such a huge personal and professional contribution to patient care during the Coronavirus pandemic. Supporting the well-being of our staff and patients has become an important theme of the work of the League of Friends as you can see from a number of the articles in this magazine. The valuable addition of the Salisbury Hospital Nature Guide helps to direct staff and visitors to the natural wonders of the hospital campus, helping us all to appreciate our surroundings. Isolation from family and friends following hospital admission during the pandemic has proved a huge stress to patients and has been eased a little by the Messaging Card service run by the Patient Advice and Liaison Service. With the help of some lovely cards, printed and supplied thanks to funding from the League, messages from relatives were conveyed to individual patients on the wards, thereby maintaining some contact at such a difficult time; and we have been able to lend support to the organisation which manages all the hospital volunteers and to recognise the very important contribution given to patients by our Allied Health Professionals.

All of the bids submitted for funding are discussed in depth by the Trustees of the League of Friends, who meet every quarter to consider them. We have continued with virtual meetings throughout both lock-downs, but have recently been able to meet face to face at last. Without your continuing support, we would not be able to meet the demand made on our limited resources, hence the need to expand

our membership numbers. If you are not currently a member, may I ask that you seriously consider joining us in the League of Friends as a way of expressing your thanks to the staff for the care that you or your relatives have received and also to ensure that the hospital is there to support you in a compassionate and efficient way should you need it again.

This magazine has again been generously printed free of charge to the League of Friends by Horizon Publishing of Ringwood. A very special thank you goes to Marco di Pinto and his team and also to the many local companies who have purchased advertising in this edition.

Finally, I would like to thank again all those who have contributed to the 2022 magazine, which I hope you will enjoy reading. I would also like to sincerely wish you a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

**David Stratton**

**Chairman, Salisbury League of Friends**

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## Could Improving Oral Healthcare Reduce Severe Covid-19 Infection?

Salisbury Hospital has announced a drive to improve oral healthcare for all our patients, with specific measures in place for those with COVID-19. The project is inspired by the research work of Dr Graham Lloyd-Jones, Consultant radiologist, who is investigating COVID-19 with several research groups. At the end of October, his work was reported in *Nature Outlook*, a leading scientific publication. Here he explains how this work began and how the League of Friends helped.

Initially, my work was based on gaining an understanding of the appearances of the lung disease in COVID-19 on X-rays and scans. The pattern is totally unlike any pneumonia we have seen before. The airways of the lungs are not inflamed, as occurs in influenza. It's the blood vessels which are abnormal. This raised an important question in my mind. Could the virus be getting to the lungs via the bloodstream?

I went back to square one.



We know that the virus first infects the nasal passages and reproduces in the mouth. In those with COVID-19, a single teaspoon of saliva contains 500 million copies of the virus. The higher the viral load (number of viruses) in the saliva, the more likely you are to get severe COVID-19. High viral load in saliva is a better predictor of death than a patient's age.

Importantly, gum disease is highly associated with severe COVID-19. Dental researchers, who for months had known about this connection, were working on the basis that inflammation in the mouth due to gum disease might be worsening the disease elsewhere in the body – but they didn't know what was going on in the lungs. I wondered if the explanation could be more straightforward.

We know that other bugs can escape from the mouth, enter the bloodstream and infect the heart or lungs. Perhaps the same could be happening with SARS-CoV-2 in the development of COVID-19. Simply put, if you have bleeding gums, there would be no barrier between the millions of viruses in your saliva and the veins of the mouth. From here, the virus would first be delivered to the lung blood vessels, exactly where we see the lung damage.

All the risk factors for severe gum disease are the same as for severe COVID-19. These include increasing age, male sex, all the racial and genetic factors including blood group, diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, kidney disease, obesity, COPD and smoking. Those who find it difficult to care for their mouths have also been more affected by COVID-19, such as those with dementia, learning difficulties or physical difficulties. It seems that gum disease could be a converging or even a main risk factor for severe COVID-19.

If this were true, it would mean that oral health would become central to our understanding of how the lung disease develops. Furthermore, an improvement in oral healthcare could be beneficial in treating the illness or possibly even help prevent development of the lung disease in those infected.

In February 2021, I published the theory describing the potential for the passage of SARS-CoV-2 from the mouth to the lungs via the blood vessels. I then teamed up with gum disease experts to publish a

scientific hypothesis in April. The paper was reported in more than 100 news publications globally and we were interviewed on SKY News and BBC Radio.

We proposed that use of simple oral hygiene measures, such as toothbrushing, could be beneficial for those with COVID-19. Also, research at Cardiff University has shown there are specific mouthwashes which kill the virus in the test tube in 30 seconds. We suggested that these products could benefit patients with COVID-19. I am now working with research groups elsewhere in the UK to answer that exact question and to prove that the pathway of delivery of the virus from the mouth to the lungs is via the bloodstream.

In the meantime, at Salisbury Hospital, we are forging ahead. With the enthusiastic backing of the Trust's executive team, we have initiated a hospital wide quality improvement project to focus on oral healthcare. Experts from Health Education England have started additional training for our nurses. We are aiming for excellence in oral healthcare for our COVID-19 patients, who now all receive a supply of one of the specific mouthwashes. The measures we are putting in place are based on existing evidence that shows paying attention to oral healthcare for inpatients is beneficial, shortening hospital stay and even reducing death rate.

The project has gained the enthusiastic attention of those at the very top of dentistry, public health, infection control and medical research in the UK. As soon as we are up and running in Salisbury, we will be sharing our ideas and practices with as many other hospitals as possible. I am extremely grateful for the generous gift of £350 which the League of Friends offered so we could buy the first consignment of mouthwash to get the project underway. The hospital is now funding the project which was formally launched on 1st November 2021.



***Dr Graham Lloyd-Jones***  
***Consultant Radiologist, Salisbury District Hospital***

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## **League of Friends Funds New Wheelchair Fleet for Salisbury District Hospital**

**The League of Friends has very generously funded the purchase of a new fleet of wheelchairs for visitors to use when attending Salisbury District Hospital.**

This significant improvement is the result of a lengthy process, which started by identifying the requirements we were looking for in a chair, both from the user perspective as well as engineering and safety. We asked representatives from our team of volunteers and the League of Friends' members to give views as potential users. Then the Trust staff, such as Porters, Manual Handling Experts, Medical Engineers and Infection Control specialists were asked to contribute and ensure we purchased a device which was fit for purpose in a busy hospital environment.



Essential qualities identified were that they must be lightweight and easy to steer, have an easy to operate and effective braking system, be easy to get into and out of, easy to clean and, importantly, be of a robust design to be able to tolerate the significant wear and tear the chairs receive, including often being left outside in the car parks in all weathers. Once we narrowed down the wheelchair styles on the market, we considered two chairs loaned to us. This ensured that those involved in the selection process could come and try them out to verify that they met our criteria and were worthy of the investment. We placed the order just before the start of the pandemic which, unfortunately, caused delays in the process of manufacture, delivery and roll out of the chairs. However, we were delighted to put them into use just before the Easter weekend 2021.

Feedback has been very positive with one visitor commenting that they were "much better than the ones I used in other hospitals". Their bright, cheerful colours, which reflect the colours in the League of Friends logo, means that they are easy to identify and differentiate from the heavier 'portering' style





chairs on site. They have a squeeze and release braking mechanism next to the handles which is easier to use for those with poor balance or mobility than locking castors on wheels. It also means that the brakes operate automatically, which is both a useful and a safer option – those of you who know our site will know we are built on a hill so there are some steep slopes to negotiate! An automatic braking system stops wheelchairs rolling away out of control, with or without passengers. The footrest lifts to allow ease of entry for users entering the chair from the front and each arm also lifts up out of the way if required. This is very helpful if a user needs to transfer into the chair from the side. The wheelchair can be pulled alongside so they can slide across from another chair or out of a car.

Unfortunately, we do need to try and protect the investment the League of Friends have made, so we have had to attach chains and coin operated locks (similar to those on shopping trolleys) to the chairs to limit the likelihood of the chairs being taken off site. We apologise that this may impact some of our users and so, following feedback received, we are arranging for more anchor points to be located around the site. Currently, they are only in the main entrance, but we plan to put other anchor points by PALS (near the bus stop on The Green), the Nunton Entrance and are exploring options for the Emergency Department too. This will make them more accessible to our visitors, and hopefully encourage users to return them so that they are available for others.

The League of Friends have kindly indicated that it would be willing to support an increase in the number of chairs, given their success and positive feedback. We currently have 15 chairs and are hoping to expand this by another 10 during 2022. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks not only to the League of Friends for supporting their purchase, but also to all those involved in the selection process who made this project possible.

**Clare Goodyear**  
Medical Device Safety Officer and Decontamination Lead, Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

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## PALS Messaging Cards - A lifeline to loved ones

When the Coronavirus pandemic began in early 2020, visiting patients in Salisbury District Hospital had to be severely restricted to avoid further spread of infection. This resulted in many inpatients feeling totally isolated from their families and friends. Being lonely and separated from your loved ones when you are really poorly can be heartbreaking for all.

Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS ) realised the scale of the problem and began to assist in the sharing of messages between patients and families in April 2020. Families and friends were encouraged to email a message to a dedicated address and this was then relayed to patients twice daily.

Initially, we were printing messages using a stock of cards kindly provided by ArtCare, but we rapidly found that we were running out of cards as the service became more widely known. We then decided to approach the League of Friends to ask if it would fund an idea to solve the problem. We would hold a competition asking staff throughout the Hospital to submit their own selected photographs. The winning entries would then be made into cards which could be used to contain printed messages from family and friends and delivered as before. Happily, the League of Friends was delighted to be able to approve funding for the printing of an initial 800 cards.



After funding was secured, ArtCare worked with us, using their current staff contacts to request images for the cards. As it was November, we welcomed a winter theme but were also happy to include any local scenes and landmarks.

We had a huge response and, once they were shortlisted, we asked patients and staff to vote for their favourites. Lesley Self in ArtCare then designed and ordered the cards for us. The cards are of a beautiful quality and, on the back, they have the name of the photographers and their roles in the hospital. We feel that this gives the cards a really special local touch and is a source of huge pride for each photographer.

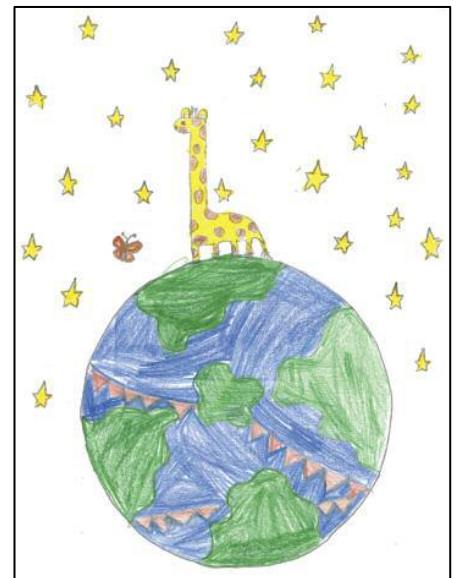


Since the initial print run, the League of Friends has been pleased to fund two further runs based on a Spring and Summer theme and over 2000 cards with their precious messages have been delivered. From the start, delivery of the cards has been a role gladly undertaken by volunteers acting as Pharmacy runners, which has been really helpful as access to the wards was very limited. It has been lovely to share with them the purpose of the project so they are aware of the vital work they are doing – a wonderful example of what can be achieved when agencies combine their skills and commitment.

Messages have been received from friends and relatives from all over the world as well as locally. From as far away as Australia, France and the Netherlands, families have been able to Drstay in touch with their sick relatives. Unfortunately, at times, these messages have been the last contact that family members have had with patients and it has been a real privilege to help them keep in touch to the end.

As well as delivering the message cards, we have been facilitating video calls carried out by staff volunteers and encouraging personal photos to be sent in, which we then display on a small tabletop white board alongside the cards. All of this allows us to offer a truly accessible service which has been really appreciated by families and patients alike.

This autumn, we collaborated with our End-of-Life Lead Nurse, who worked with her children's school to design some cards for patients who may not have had any visitors or post. These cards will be distributed via the Chaplains, relevant staff and volunteers where needed. We decided to run a further competition for the children on Sarum ward, with patients and staff voting for their favourite design, the winning entry being added to our autumn/winter print run.



Drawn by Amelia, a pupil at Motcombe Primary School

To send a message, please email to [sft.messagestoalovedone@nhs.net](mailto:sft.messagestoalovedone@nhs.net). Further details of how to send a message are given on the hospital website, but staff have also been encouraged to offer this service to relatives when they call for updates. We provide promotional material for display on nurses' stations and near phones.

This project has involved enormous commitment by so many people who have already been struggling with their own workload during the pandemic. Our sincere thanks go to them all, but especially to the Salisbury Hospital League of Friends which funded the provision of the message cards and continues to do so.

**Helen Rynne**  
Patient Engagement Lead, Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

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# Supporting AHP day on the 14th October 2021

This year we wanted to say a big thank you to all of our Allied Health professionals (AHPs) that work at Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust (SFT). AHPs are active across all areas of healthcare and are made up of 14 different professions. They are the third largest clinical staff cohort and add up to around 400 staff employed by SFT, and has representatives from the following services:

Occupational Therapists  
Physiotherapists  
Radiographers  
Dietitians  
Speech and Language Therapists (S&LT)  
Podiatrists  
Operating Department practitioners (ODPs)  
Orthotists  
Orthoptists

The other valued professions not represented at SFT are Paramedics, Art, Drama and Music Therapists and Osteopaths.

This year's theme for AHP day was **Celebrate, Inspire, Connect and Appreciate**. Following this theme, we *celebrated* and *inspired* our staff by running a week of activities which emphasised the diverse skills and knowledge that our AHPs provide on a daily basis. This was highlighted across the Hospital with posters being produced by the different services. These are available to see on level 4 and in Springs restaurant.



We connected with staff from across the Trust by running a competition which was based in Wessex Rehab and consisted of the fastest team of four across a bouldering wall. This was won by a team of radiographers who competed and triumphed on AHP day itself.

In order to show our *appreciation* for all of the hard working AHPs, we approached the League of Friends with a request for funding the purchase of 400 bespoke insulated drinks bottles, printed with an amazing logo designed by Lesley Self in Artcare. We would like to thank the League for their support with this project. Each bottle holds 500ml of liquid and will keep the drinks hot or cold all day.

AHPs often do not have a dedicated rest room which makes rehydration difficult. These bottles are of metal construction and do not contain any plastic, so are environmentally friendly. They all have a metal handle, which allows the staff member to easily carry them, even if they have bundles of notes to take with them. This gift will be a lasting reminder of how much we appreciate their often unrecognised hard work and commitment.

**Andy Matthews**  
Business Manager, Wessex Rehabilitation and Therapies Service



Photos left to right: Celebration cake; David Stratton Chairman presents first water bottle; staff collecting their bottles and the fastest team of four across a bouldering wall

# Tracking and Thanking

Keeping Salisbury District Hospital's Volunteers safe during the pandemic,  
with thanks to the League of Friends

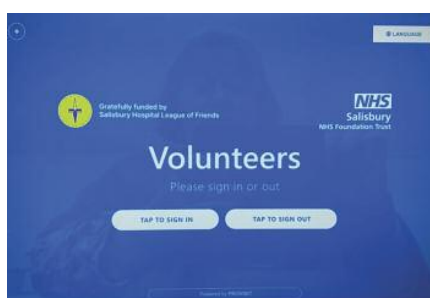
*"The new Volunteer Signing In and Out system kindly funded by the Salisbury Hospital League of Friends in 2020 has been of huge benefit to the Trust, enabling us to track and trace volunteers, check key information regarding their COVID-19 status and give urgent updates. We thank them for their support," Jo Jarvis, Voluntary Services Manager said. She added, "These are all vital elements of managing our volunteers, and we couldn't have done it as effectively without the new system."*

The COVID-19 pandemic has put pressures on everyone across the globe, and the hospital has found itself having to think on its feet constantly to ensure that we can serve our patients and the community in the best possible way, whilst keeping staff, patients, volunteers and visitors as safe as possible.

In the very early days of the pandemic, many of our volunteers were 'stood down', either for their own health reasons or because of the hospital's infection prevention and control measures – including risk management and social distancing. Changes in the focus of the way services were delivered had to be made as many elective procedures were initially put on hold. That meant that whilst we had fewer volunteers on site, we kept a core base of them, often in new roles. Sometimes, our Pharmacy medication delivery team was active in many parts of the hospital, doing more shifts than previously.

The Voluntary Services Team soon identified that we needed to achieve several things quickly and sustainably, including a means of 'track and trace' and screening volunteers for COVID-19 before they volunteered. The existing paper-based signing in system would not have achieved that with any reliability. There was also no easy way to ensure that urgent messages could get to volunteers each time they were on site.

After researching and understanding what other hospitals were doing, we identified a new IT system developed by ProVisit. The League of Friends generously donated the funds for us to deploy two of their special touch screens across the site in order to vastly improve how we keep our volunteers, patients, staff and visitors safe. The screens are infinitely customisable by the team, on an almost real-time basis. They have been a huge success, and we now use the facility and information that they provide on a daily basis to enhance how we work with our volunteers.



Primarily they enable:

## Track and trace

In particular, we know who is on site – where and when in real time – so that if an outbreak happens on a ward or a volunteer tests positive, we know who to contact and arrange for testing.

## Immediate checking of COVID-19 status every time a volunteer comes on duty

Because the rules and infection control needs have

changed as the science has improved, we have been able to change our signing in 'screening' questions (sometimes immediately!) – from initially asking about coughs and temperatures, to checking about Individual Volunteer Risk Assessments and then asking about individual lateral flow testing. We are also now checking if they have recently returned from a 'red' category country.

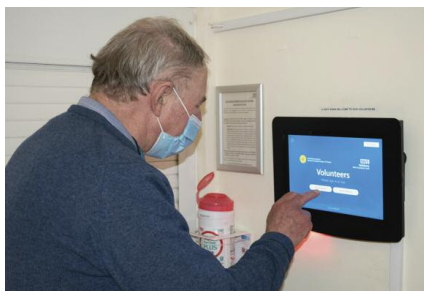
## Knowing who is on site at any time

This has enabled us to contact and redeploy a volunteer to a more urgent role.

## Information, advice and reminders

Reminders such as 'Hands, Face, Space', advice about what to do if 'pinged' by track and trace, or if a household member tests positive and, currently, a reminder that we can offer flu vaccines and COVID boosters, as well as a Call to Action for more ward support at mealtimes.

Question	YES	NO
Do you have Coronavirus (COVID-19)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you had a continuous cough in the last 24 hours?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you had a raised temperature in the last 24 hours?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
As far as you are aware, have you been in contact with anyone with COVID-19 in the last 4 days?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you returned from abroad in the last week?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you or a family member been shielding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you or a family member in the 'at risk' groups as defined by the Government?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you completed a Volunteer COVID-19 Risk Assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



### Reporting

As resource management, supporting the staff and patients at busy times and managing the footfall in the hospital is critical, we are able to report figures of how many volunteers help us and where, and how many hours of their time they kindly donate. Currently, some 137 volunteers are back on site and, in September 2021, they gave us over 2,000 hours across more than 25 wards and departments. We can also see if somebody has stopped volunteering and it helps us to follow this up.

### Thanking

We can never thank our volunteers enough, and we try to find different ways to do this all of the time. As we can add new screens on to the system very easily from our own PCs, at Christmas we posted a Thank You with a picture of our special Volunteer Thank You window decoration. It brought a smile to a few faces!

More recently, we have been able to inform the Senior Incident Management Team about the current volunteer numbers supporting the wards as part of the hospital planning regarding the winter pressure. As we will hopefully have an increase in volunteers responding to our recent Call to Action to help the wards with mealtimes and refreshments, it will give us an immediate overview of where and when the volunteers are supporting those wards, and make it easier to focus on filling critical gaps.

As we increase the number of volunteers coming on site and the coverage of wards and departments widens, the League of Friends has recently very generously funded another three screens, so that we can now ensure that this wider range of volunteers can also sign in and out at more locations across the site. The Salisbury Hospice will also have their own screen as part of this enhanced deployment.

We are delighted that we have the benefit of such a flexible and useful system funded by the League of Friends – it will serve us well into the future as we increasingly and extensively use the data which we get from it. It will help ensure that we can better plan how volunteers can help our colleagues with the added bonus that it will help our Volunteer Thanking to be much more personal and informed, knowing exactly how much of their valuable time they have kindly donated. Above all, it will also help to keep them safe.

**Jo Jarvis**

**Voluntary Services Manager, Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust**





# STAFF AWARDS 2021

September was a month of saying thank you at Salisbury District Hospital and it was all made possible with the support of the League of Friends. The League of Friends happily cooperated with The Stars Appeal and the hospital Trust to produce a series of events to both thank staff for their work during the pandemic and give everyone a chance to relax together, have some fun, catch up with colleagues and treat their families.

At the heart of the month was a fabulous Awards evening, where teams and individuals from across the whole Trust gathered in a marquee in the Cathedral Close to celebrate, reflect and party. The League of Friends proudly sponsored the meal and drinks reception and also the Award for The Unsung Contribution (Non-Clinical), which was presented by League of Friends Trustee Henry Wilding to Richard Pearce and Andy Stagg.

The award event included a video looking back on a year like no other. It can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZ6dyZNNz1E>



The month also saw the League of Friends supporting the Spoken Word and Music evening held at the new Brown Street venue. The well-received and innovative poetry project, which commissioned poet Martin Figura create a new collection of work based on the experiences of staff during the pandemic, has attracted national and broadcast media attention. The poems were used throughout the September and contributed to the impact of the events. The poem Morning being read by Martin Figura can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tiM-l38Le6E>

Feedback from the events has been exceptional with staff saying *“I don’t think I will feel like I did on Thursday again... it was amazing on so many levels.” “It was a brilliant night.” “The best night!” and “I think we can be confident that for last night at least they were able to reconnect properly with their colleagues and found lots of joy”.*

Dr Kate Jenkins, who was part of the team behind the series of events, has conducted some research on how the month of activity made staff feel and has created this word cloud.

Once again, a huge thank you to the Salisbury Hospital League of Friends for their part in funding these events.

**Dave Roberts – Head of Communications,  
Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust**



*Award for The Unsung Contribution (non-clinical) which was presented by League of Friends Trustee Henry Wilding to Richard Pearce and Andy Staqq*



*Staff awards held in a marquee in the grounds  
of Salisbury Cathedral*

# RADIO ODSTOCK

## Linking Hospital and Community Online

On 21st November 2021, Radio Odstock, the Salisbury Hospital and Community radio station, will celebrate its second anniversary of broadcasting online. Since 1953, the station had been broadcasting to the patients in Salisbury District Hospital through hospital headsets or bedside sets but, by going online, it was able to link the patients and also the staff in both the Hospital and the Hospice to the world of not only Salisbury and its satellite villages, but also beyond and vice versa.

The support of the League of Friends to enable the station to do this was invaluable and the benefits in the challenging times that we have had, and continue to have, can hardly be emphasised enough.

Part of the funding was used to update our old and tired computer system, which runs our 24 hour schedule. Now both live and automated shows operate on time with a better sound quality, giving a more professional finish to our broadcasting. The computers in the two studios are now internet connected and can receive requests by email. We are also now able to have a dedicated website including a request form which outputs to the presenters' screens. PALS are delivering our request e-mail address flyers with the personal messages they take to patients using the cards supplied by the League of Friends. We are advertising the address to the community as much as possible to enable further contact between hospital and community at a time where we are unable to take requests on the wards.



Our computer network in the building is now able to prioritise our broadcast stream to ensure our listeners get the best quality signal. Our Programme Controller can work remotely from home, which he wasn't able to do before. He can load programmes instantly onto the system and sort out any issues from home. The funding enabled us to upgrade the microphones in studio 1 and we have started using dual screens. Some work is about to begin on maintenance on some of our other equipment (faders, laser packs for CD players, etc.). Internet access means listeners can access us not only now by the Hospedia bedside sets but also by their phones and tablets using a variety of apps that Radio Odstock has joined to enable them to do so. They can also listen to us on their devices via the Radio Odstock website or follow us on social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

Internet access also means we have enabled the hospital's chaplaincy team to be able to broadcast live some of their Sunday services. This has promoted all their hard work and encouraged the patients, who cannot attend personally, to listen on their headsets. It has also encouraged people to listen locally and worldwide. We are hoping to do more for Remembrance Day and at Christmas.

Internet access has also meant that we have been able to take the station out into the community post-lockdown. For example, we broadcast at the Salisbury Hospice Charity Firewalk, where one of our presenters was taking part. Several local people took part and their friends and relations, who might not have been able to attend, were able to listen to the event at home or in hospital and feel part of it. Our second event was a fete at the local village of Nunton. This particular event helped us to make links with some local bands which have subsequently been playing on the station, as well as in the local community. Radio Odstock was also present at a local fund raising event for the John McNeill Opportunity Centre. It was extremely well attended and many local businesses supported it. The organiser, when interviewed after the event, said that, because of our help, more local people came and dug deep into their pockets. They were obviously listening to the show and decided to pop down to support the event. Our next outside event will be at a Christmas service for the Salisbury Hospice. It will be played out again via the Hospice website and it will feature in the station's Christmas schedule. As patients for the last 18 months have been limited with outside contact, we consider these events vital to bring the community into them via our broadcasts.





Next year we are hoping to attend and support more local events using the equipment sourced through funding from the League of Friends for which we are so very grateful.

[www.radioodstock.org.uk](http://www.radioodstock.org.uk)

Facebook: Radio Odstock

Twitter: @OdstockRadio

**Chris Emm**  
Community News Editor

## WHAT WE SUPPORTED 2020/2021

Nurses badges	£1,704
Radio Odstock Upgrade	£4,123
Wheelchairs	£10,619
ProVisit volunteer registration system	£6,600 + £6,992 = £135,92
Falls Awareness week support	£100
End of Life Continuing Care support	£1,000
Patient Message Cards	£222 + £225 + £225 = £672
Christmas Trees and lights	£3,000
Mouthwash Project 350	£350
EPRR Awareness week support 239	£239
Specialised dementia Walking Frames 900	£900
Staff Awards Ceremony support 5000	£5,000
AHP day support 2772	£2,772
Admin Staff Forum support 250	£250
The Spoken Word project 7000	£7,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£51321</b>

**The Salisbury Hospital League of Friends**  
Help us fund the small projects that make a big difference