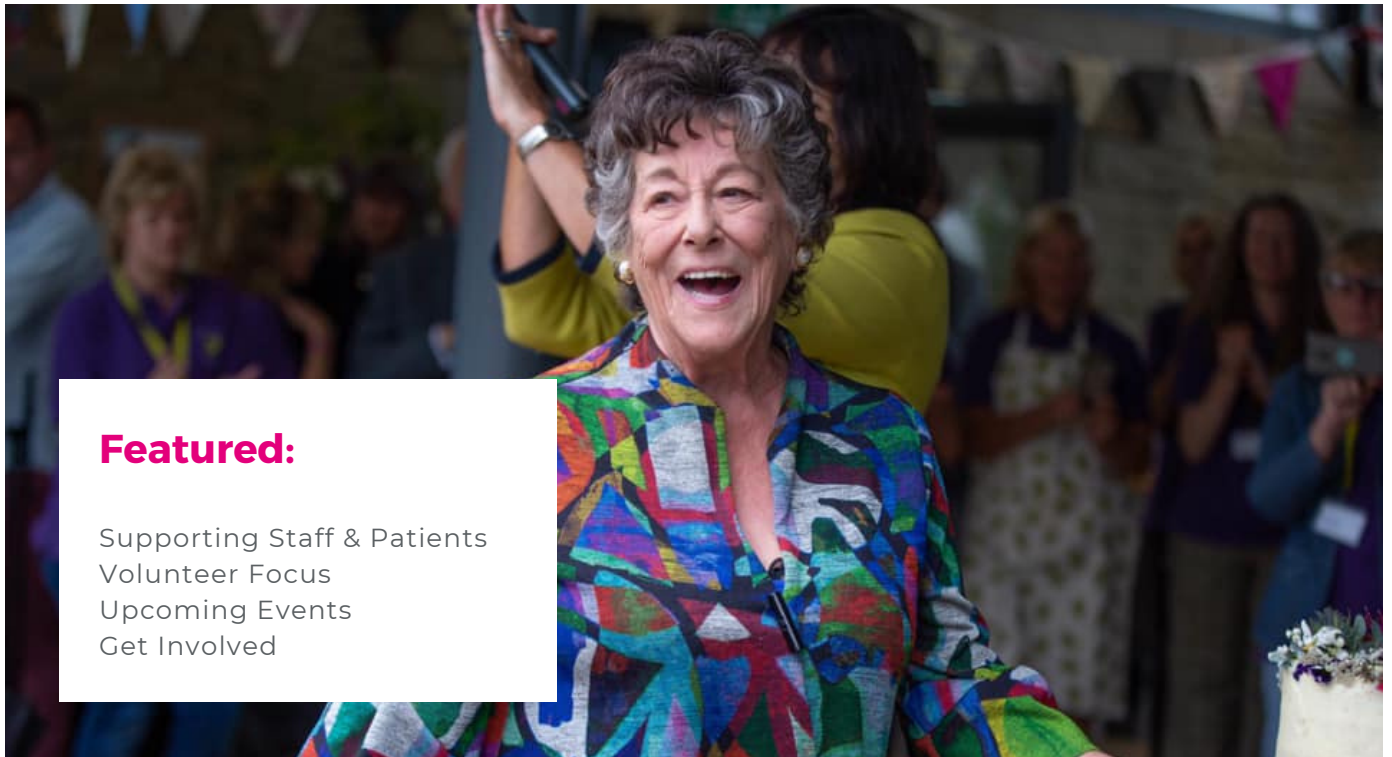




Friends
At the heart of RJAH

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Summer 2021 Newsletter



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Legendary friend awarded MBE

Congratulations to Susan, Lady Trevor who has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for 'Services to Healthcare Charities'.

Here at The League of Friends and RJAH we are thrilled and delighted to offer our warmest congratulations to Susan, Lady Trevor who has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for 'Services to Healthcare Charities'.

For more than 53 years, Lady Trevor has supported numerous charities; Chirk Hospital Circle of Friends, Horatio's Garden, NSPCC – and most notably The League of Friends RJAH for whom she is Vice-Chairman and has been involved with since 1968.

Lady Trevor said: "I am humbled to receive this honour, it was so very unexpected.

"I hope it can also highlight the work of the wonderful charities that I have been involved with, in particular The League of Friends and RJAH, a hospital which is incredibly close to my heart.

"I am part of a fantastic team and we are very fortunate to have many people working hard to support charities across Shropshire."

Supporting Staff & Patients

Memorial Garden for much-loved Prof Richardson unveiled

Professor Richardson's Memorial Garden has been created in memory of Professor James Richardson – known affectionately to his colleagues and patients as 'Prof'.

Located within the courtyard outside the hospital's Baschurch Day Unit the serene garden was made possible thanks to a number of generous donations; including £10,000 from the Friends.

The garden offers a peaceful and tranquil space for staff and patients to reflect.



Ground-breaking ceremony takes place for Veterans Centre

Work on the UK's first dedicated orthopaedic centre for Armed Forces veterans formally began in June with an official ground-breaking ceremony.

The pioneering facility is being built onsite at RJAH thanks to a charitable grant of £6 million from Headley Court Charity.

The hospital had initially launched a £1.5 million appeal back in October 2018 to build a more modest outpatient facility for veterans, but is now set to boast a vaster facility. The Friends were delighted to kick off the fundraising campaign with a donation of £100,000.



Friends help to mark celebration days

Two important celebration days have been marked at RJAH, with the help of their Friends.

International Nurses Day which takes place every year to remember the birthday of Florence Nightingale – the nurse who founded modern nursing, alongside Operating Department Practitioners (ODP) Day which began in 2018 to recognise the profession.

We had the pleasure of arranging gifts of a personalised mug and self-care products for each of our nurses and all our ODPs received a dianthus plant.



Supporting Staff & Patients

Friends help Orthotics to take exciting new steps

The Friends have funded an innovative piece of equipment to benefit the hospital's Orthotics department - two 3D L.A.S.A.R Posture Plates that will be used in the treatment of patients at RJAH.

The posture plates provide an instant assessment of a patient's posture, showing where their weight bearing line sits - with cameras linked to each plate they also provide real time data to both the patient and clinician.

The equipment will be used to compare different orthoses on patients in order to find the optimum brace for them, along with being used to fine tune the fitting of an orthosis to ensure the greatest result is achieved.

The purchase of the 3D L.A.S.A.R Posture Plates cost over £15,000.

Jane Dewsbury, Principle Orthotist, said: "I'm very grateful to the League of Friends for supporting the Orthotics department."

RJAH unveils £50,000 cutting-edge orthosis with help from Friends

The Mobile Arm Rehabilitation Kit (MARK) – a powered arm and hand orthosis designed to help restore function to paralysed or weakened upper limbs – is now available for patients thanks to a £50,000 investment from the Friends.

The RJAH is currently the only NHS Trust in the UK with access to this piece of equipment.

Mr Simon Pickard, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon who specialises in hand and upper limb surgery – was the driving force behind the purchase of the MARK system.

He said: "This is a really innovative and progressive piece of equipment that will benefit a large cohort of our patients going forward – especially those with weakened muscles or paralysis that require intensive rehabilitation."



“

This equipment provides a real technical advancement, not only within Orthotics at RJAH, but nationally as the use of supporting technical equipment within the Orthotics industry has been very slow up until this point.



“

As the first NHS Trust to have this system, it means we have the opportunity to be involved in high-quality research and will allow us, as a hospital, to provide our patients with world-class care.

Volunteer Focus

Volunteers recognised for their commitment to RJA

Volunteers' Week, which ran at the beginning of June, saw the Friends launch three keepsake badges that honour the length of service volunteers have given to RJA, and to recognise their dedication and commitment.

White, silver and gold badges were made available to mark three different durations of time; up to 5 years, between 5 and 10 years and over 10 years.

Heather Thomas-Bache, Head of Voluntary Services for the League of Friends, said: "Volunteers' Week is a time to say thank you every single one of our wonderful volunteers - those who have supported RJA throughout the pandemic and those who usually volunteer but haven't been able to due to Covid-19.

"Our long-term service badges are a small token of our thanks for the incredible amount of support our volunteers provide to staff, patients and relatives at RJA. They're also to let those who remain at home know that we're thinking of them and looking forward to when we're able to welcome them back."

Susan Heer, who currently volunteers in the Vaccination Centre and on the Covid-19 Screening Desk, has just collected her gold badge to mark 12 years of service.

She said: "I thoroughly enjoy being part of the Friends volunteer family and the past twelve years have flown by - I will wear my gold badge with pride!"

Long standing volunteer recognised by The Queen

We were delighted to hear the news that one of our longstanding volunteers, Lynne Lloyd, has been recognised by The Queen

Lynne received the Royal Maundy money on Maundy Thursday after being nominated by her local dioceses for contributions to her local church and community - which includes her voluntary work at RJA

Lynne was one of six people from the Diocese of Lichfield to have been recognised in the traditional 'Maundy money' award by The Queen - congratulations!



Janice Roberts has collected her silver badge after six years of active volunteering. Janice currently works in the Friends Coffee Shop and on the Covid-19 Screening Desk.

She said: "What a thoughtful keepsake - I'm proud to be part of such a dedicated and wonderful team."

Mike Webber joined the team 7 months prior to the pandemic but has worked throughout on the Covid-19 Screening Desk and more recently in the Vaccination Centre. Mike has collected his white badge.

Mike said: "Working as a volunteer, supporting this hospital's hard-working and dedicated nursing staff, I find the experience to be deeply rewarding."



CELEBRATING
60 YEARS OF SERVICE!

Upcoming Celebrations, Events & Get-togethers

2021 is a very exciting year for us, as we mark our Diamond Anniversary! We have some really fabulous fundraising events and get-togethers planned, and we would love for you to join us. If you require any additional information on any of our events or would like to get involved please email: rjah.communityfundraising@nhs.net.

Festival on the Field

We are hosting a fantastically fun 60's themed 'Festival on the Field' to mark 100 years of our much-loved hospital, The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic, and 60 years of the Friends.

Join us as we celebrate these significant milestones and honour the work of our incredible frontline NHS staff.

The daytime will host a family-friendly event involving live music, craft stalls, food and drink and children's entertainment. The evening will see a swinging sixties themed disco for adults to enjoy.

To book your tickets visit: www.festivalonthe field.org

*Saturday 7th August
RJAH Field
11am - 10pm*



The Mere Mile

Take the plunge this summer and sign up for our open water swim fundraiser, which is being held in conjunction with Swimfinity.

This year participants are able to choose between two distances; 1 mile or 2.5 miles.

Each participant will receive an event swim hat, goodie bag and finishers memento.

Contact rjah.communityfundraising@nhs.net to register.

*Monday 30th August
The Mere, Ellesmere
10am until 5pm*



Branch Liaison/AGM

We warmly invite our Branch members and volunteers along to our Annual General Meeting.

Join us for lunch with friends at 1pm, followed by talks from Mr Pickard, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, and the Orthotics Department.

*Tuesday 28th September
Lion Quays
1pm until 4pm*

How you can help...

Make a donation

From providing toothbrushes to funding an endoscopic surgical kit, we are at the heart of RJAH as a good friend should be. Together our staff, volunteers and trustees do all they can to support, enhance and improve the environment, facilities and care delivered.

Covid-19 has severely impacted on our financial resources but with your support you can help us to continue to take care of the well-being of patients and staff. Every donation, large or small, will make a difference.

Please visit our JustGiving page to donate - www.justgiving.com/robertjones-agneshunt

Donations may also be made via BACS, cheque or over the phone - call 01691 404401 for further details.



Can you fundraise for us?

Can you help support the work we do? Whether it's raising £10 or £10,000, every bit helps. There's no limit to the imaginative ways in which you can help us raise money, especially in the current climate.

Your fundraising activity can be anything from donating the money you saved from not commuting to work, to completing a sponsored 'Couch to 5k'.

If you would like to fundraise for us please do get in touch, we would love to hear your ideas.

Email us on rjah.communityfundraising@nhs.net



Contact us

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