



Friends

At the heart of RJAH

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Christmas 2022 Newsletter



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2022 in review...

With festive wishes, The Friends Office

As 2022 draws to a close we take time to reflect of another year of challenges, changes and achievements - along with looking forward to the opportunities a new year brings.

We are extremely appreciative of all the support we have received this year; from those who have made donations, our fundraising groups, our staff and volunteer family alike.

2022 has been a year of recovery, and we're pleased to have made significant steps to return to 'normal service'. Footfall through our retail outlets has increased, our fundraising groups have held a multitude of prosperous events, free from restrictions, and our voluntary services is flourishing with the return of a number of roles that had been suspended since 2020.

We were especially pleased to further develop our volunteering infrastructure thanks to a grant from the Volunteering Futures Fund, and March saw the launch of our youth volunteering scheme - Future Friends.

Future Friends was setup to help break down barriers to accessing opportunities faced by marginalised groups of people. These barriers include those impacted by loneliness, with disabilities, from ethnic minority backgrounds and young people. Opportunities are available to individuals between the ages of 16-25. We are pleased to end the year with 27 Future Friends onboard!

For so many organisations volunteers are the backbone of their work; and it's no different here at RJAH.

The Friends looks confidently forward to the challenges of 2023 and sends you warm Christmas greetings with best wishes for a happy New Year.

Friends & RJAH Updates

Future Friends opportunities showcased at Ellesmere College

In November we had the pleasure of attending Ellesmere College to chat to their sixth form students about volunteering opportunities available at RJAH.

We discussed our Future Friends volunteering scheme, which aims to provide youth groups with a range of voluntary opportunities.

For more information on the available roles and to apply visit our dedicated website: www.futurefriendsrjah.org.uk



Headley Court Veterans' Centre officially open for business

RJAH's state-of-the-art Headley Court Veterans' Orthopaedic Centre is officially open for business - following a special ribbon-cutting ceremony which took place on Friday 11 November

The pioneering centre, which has been built by local contractor Pave Aways, is the UK's first dedicated orthopaedic centre for veterans.

To symbolise the exciting beginning of a new era, the ribbon was cut by Anna Turner JP, Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire; Michael Debens, Trustee of the Headley Court Charity; and Air Vice Marshal Anthony J. Stables, Chair of The Headley Court Charity.



Positive feedback for our eBay shop!



"The scarf is absolutely beautiful, very soft wool & the quality of it is outstanding (better than what I have seen in the shops). For what it costs I think its a bargain, it also arrived super quick too & I am so happy with purchase & would definitely recommend the seller!"



Festive Fundraising

Whitchurch fundraisers hold a festive wreath making class

Whitchurch fundraising branch has raised over £850 in its Christmas wreath making event.

The group of 35 ladies led by well known local flower arranging specialist, Mrs Janet Blake, were able to enjoy wreath making along with mince pies and mulled wine along with festive music.

Angela Witter, Chair Whitchurch branch was pleased with how the event went. She said: "We were thinking of new ideas to raise money and we're delighted that so many people signed up to support us.



Ludlow hosts 26th successful Christmas Fair

Ludlow branch's annual Christmas Fair returned to Ludlow Racecourse for the 26th year, raising a spectacular £15,000.

The well attended event took place in November and boasted a selection of over 70 unique stalls - the perfect opportunity to kick start Christmas shopping!

In addition, the branch were able to donate £1700 to Hands Together Ludlow to help with their community fridge. This money was raised in the Plymouth Pavilion Cafe throughout the day.



Winter Drinks and Stalls proves a huge hit for Shrewsbury fundraisers

Congratulations to our fundraising branch based in Shrewsbury for hosting a hugely successful Christmas event.

Winter Drinks and Stalls raised an incredible £5119.

The well supported event took place at Cound Hall by kind permission of Mr & Mrs D Sykes-Waller. Drinks and canapés were included in the price of the ticket and guests were able to browse a handful of exclusive stalls for the perfect festive shopping experience.



2022 Support

Items funded throughout the year!

The biggest thank you to everyone who has supported our charity throughout the year, it is hugely appreciated and enables us to provide a consistent level of assistance to RJAH. Funds raised by our donors, fundraisers, branches and within the hospital helps us to give essential support for patients, relatives and staff by providing services, organising volunteers, funding equipment, issuing grants and supporting wellbeing. From providing toothbrushes to funding an endoscopic surgical kit, we are at the heart of RJAH as a good friend should be.

Samaritan Grants - £1,030

Specialist Gaming Cart for Alice Ward - £2,046

Veterans' Orthopaedic Centre donation - £100,000

Toiletry packs for patients - £155

Wheelchair accessible vehicle - £12,950

Dementia clocks for Kenyon and Ludlow Ward - £763

Baby monitors for HDU - £54

Lyneal Trust boat trips for MCSI patients - £795

Rainbow arch for Alice Ward - £350

Professor Richardson's memorial garden signage & maintenance - £975

Welcome packs for our overseas nurses - £1,059

Sponsoring RJAH's 'Fruity Friday' initiative - £150

International Nurses' Day gifts - £1,484

'Sound ear to noise' sign - £437

Fall prevention kits - £147

Total = £122,395



Christmas at RJAH

Christmas Carol Service makes its return to RJAH

December saw the return of RJAH's Christmas Carol Service, after a three year hiatus.

The event saw performances from the Orthopaedic Male Voice Choir, along with readings from RJAH staff members and volunteers.

We were pleased to support the Chaplaincy team with this event and help to facilitate a sprinkling of festive cheer to patients, staff and volunteers at the hospital.

A big thank you to Morrisons Oswestry Community Champions for kindly donating the perfect festive refreshment - mince pies.

RJAH takes part in Oswestry's annual Christmas parade

This year RJAH took part in the annual Oswestry Christmas Parade - for the first time

The float was filled with RJAH staff and their children, who were dressed up as nurses, doctors, admin staff, and all the other professions you'd find in the NHS, representing the future of RJAH.

We were delighted to support the float with a donation to help transform the lorry into a winter wonderland!

Friends bring festive cheer to Midland Centre for Spinal Injuries

We had the absolute pleasure of bringing a dash of festive cheer to patients on the Midland Centre of Spinal Injuries with the donation a Christmas tree.

The tree stands in the dining area for patients, who are staying on the unit during the festive period, to enjoy.

We are also planning on delivering Christmas gift bags to those across the Trust who will be spending Christmas day as an inpatient - this is something we do on an annual basis.

Each gift bag includes festive treats and Christmas crackers.



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.

Your support helps us to continue to take care of the well-being of patients and staff. Every donation, large or small, will make a difference.

Visit our JustGiving page to make a donation:
www.justgiving.com/robertjones-agneshunt/donate

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 hosting a quiz, 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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