

TORBAY HOSPITAL  
**League of Friends**  
*Helping to care...*



**Our  
Volunteers...**

*...We thank you*

***We have many wonderful  
volunteers who help  
around the hospital.***

Our Volunteers offer their own time to help out as Guides within the Hospital as well as the Butterflies Café and the Linen League

See Page 6 for more...



**Our next  
big project.**

*See Page 3*



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# Contact us

If you would like to volunteer for one of our committees, or for any other enquiry, please contact:

- Mr P.F.V White (Secretary)..... 01803 298170  
Highlyn, 6 Haldon Close. Torquay,TQ1 2NA
- Butterflies Café..... 01803 654520
- League of Friends Office..... 01803 654520
- Email.....info@thlof.co.uk

# With Special Thanks

We would like to thank all of you who have contributed to making the Hospital League of Friends such a success, and we hope you will enjoy reading about how we continue to raise funds to carry on the good work.

There are over 140 volunteers working in the hospital, under the umbrella of the League. These include: the trolley service; manning the Butterflies Café; meeting and greeting people in the main entrance and showing them to different parts of the hospital; delivering documents for the consultants and much much more.

Designed and Printed by [www.frankmandesign.co.uk](http://www.frankmandesign.co.uk) Edited by Linda Dewis

When you have read this newsletter please pass it to a friend or neighbour to help publicise the work of **Torbay Hospital League of Friends.** Visit our website at [www.thlof.co.uk](http://www.thlof.co.uk)



*In Memory*

## Chairman Peter Welch sadly passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017, following a short illness.

Peter became aware of the work done by the Torbay Hospital League of Friends through his membership of Rotary and, having sampled a couple of meetings, was subsequently co-opted onto the Management Committee in early 2014.

A few months later he was not only elected as a full Trustee but also to the position of Vice Chairman. Unfortunately, shortly after he had to relinquish that position as Elizabeth was not well and he needed to spend time with her.

Happily, Elizabeth recovered so that two years later he was able to return to take up his position on the Management Committee and was shortly nominated to the position of Chairman which he took up in May 2016. Peter brought to the League a wealth of experience from a varied and successful professional life both in the UK and abroad.

Peter's time as Chairman was as busy as ever with the regular work of the League in which he played a full part. His time as Chairman was crowned by the success of the huge Appeal to raise £1.6m to equip the new build CCU.

Peter always had a smile on his face with a mischievous sense of humour and was an easy man to get on with. He will be greatly missed by all Trustees and Members of the League as well as everyone in the Hospital with whom he came into contact.



## We have helped to purchase...

### The League splashed out £2,000 to replace the iconic tropical fish tank at the entrance to the ward.

Ward Clerk Supervisor Jane Edwards said: 'The old tank was falling to pieces, so we were thrilled that the League came to the rescue.

As soon as they arrive on the ward, all the kids go straight to the tank – it's become a symbol of the ward'.



## ...New Beds

### Refurbishment of the doctor's mess room, enabling them to sleep between shifts.

The doctors mess - this will provide accommodation for junior doctors:

The nature of training in many medical specialties means that people are often expected to move around hospitals. Many people choose to settle in a permanent location - Plymouth/Exeter/Torbay/ somewhere in between all of them and therefore may have significant commutes to get home due to the nature of the geography of Devon and Cornwall.

It will also be used to mop up those doing non-resident on-calls who do not have a room allocated.

Currently junior doctors are napping on the mess sofas, which are not for this purpose, also the mess in the morning is buzzing with people eating breakfast, preparing lists and having handovers, so this is far from ideal.

The doctors had found some of the facilities themselves but needed help to furnish the room.

## Our next project we are helping to fund...

### We hope to buy 25 scopes, both for colonoscopes and gastroscopes, video recording software server to be used in our 3 room department.

This will be of benefit to many patients. The League of Friends has very generously agreed to buy new video endoscopy equipment for the 3 rooms at Torbay, **the total cost will be £1.3 million.**

The endoscopy unit carries out over 10,000 procedures per year and provides training for doctors from across the country.

The unit has led bowel screening (for 60-74 year olds) since 2006 and the bowel scope programme (for all 55 year olds) started at Torbay in 2015.

The new equipment will provide high definition images that increase the detection of pre-cancerous polyps; allowing the removal of polyps and prevention of bowel cancer. It can also help early detection of pre cancer changes in the oesophagus.

The new system will include video recording and this will greatly help doctors in clinic and multi-disciplinary cancer meetings.



The League of Friends bought much of the original endoscopy equipment that saw Torbay establish the first endoscopy unit in the South West. We are delighted that they continue to support us with the most up to date technology.

*Dr Mark Feeney*  
Consultant Gastroenterologist and Endoscopy Lead Torbay

## Our next big project.



# Meet the Team

Each issue we invite you to get know one of our many volunteers

## Lynne Hookings, Vice President, was given an Honorary Freeman of the Borough.

It was an enormous pleasure to see one of our long standing volunteers being recognised for her fantastic efforts, both with the League and with other organisations in the Bay.

Vice President, Lynne Hookings was admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Torbay at a special ceremony on 9th May at the Riviera Centre.

She was presented with her commemorative scroll and badge of office by the Chairman of Torbay Council, Councillor Ray Hill 'in recognition and appreciation of her contribution to the tourism industry within Torbay and her unceasing voluntary work for the NHS and Torbay Hospital League of Friends'.

Lynne has lived in Torbay since 1975 and, with her husband Michael, owned hotels for 27 years. She then ran successful training projects, one of which won a Silver Award in the England for Excellence Awards.

Within the League of Friends Lynne has chaired the Wellswood Group, the Events Committee and was Chairman of the League from 2010 to 2012. Her mammoth fundraising efforts were recognised when she was named Fundraiser of the Year at the 2016 South Devon Community Awards and has also served as a Public Governor of Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust since 2013.

A lady who has always believed in 'putting something back' in to the community.

**Many congratulations Lynne and a huge thank you from all at the League for your continued support.**



Photograph courtesy of Pyramid Photography



## Celebrating 25 years of service

**In June, Ann celebrated 25 years of service with the league.**

She was presented with her 25 year long service badge, certificate and bouquet by our vice chairman at a surprise celebration at Butterflies cafe.

## And this is how we did it...

Here are just a few of the many, many events and donations that have helped the League to reach their amazing target.



**£1069 Raised**

Our famous annual Bed Push.



**£388 Raised**

A fun quiz at Brixham Yacht Club.



**£258 Raised**

A dinner at Amici's Italian restaurant.



**£692 Raised**

A coffee morning held at the Imperial Hotel.



**£490 Raised**

A sunny day for Babbacombe Fair.



**£3560 Raised**

Summer Grand Draw.



**£1000 Raised**

Cub Scouts have ongoing fund raising, this final cheque raised almost £1000 in total.





## Our Volunteers...

... We thank you

**Volunteers for the League of Friends work as Guides, to help patients find their way around the Hospital, as well as delivering important medical records and messages between clinics; in our Butterflies Café and in the Linen League.**

### The Linen League

The Linen League has existed in its present form since 1957 when the Torbay Hospital League of Friends was founded.

It consists of a group of eight ladies who meet every Tuesday afternoon in Kitson Hall.

Its purpose is to make fabric items for the Wards and Departments that are either not available from manufacturers or can be made to individual requirements to meet the needs of the department.

This diverse range of items include, but not limited to; curtains, premature baby keepsake bags, fracture slings, ward gowns and breast feeding aids.

- 1 Selling Jewellery on level 2
- 2 Delivering the records and messages
- 3 The Linen League ladies
- 4 The Butterflies Café and trollies to Outpatient Clinics

The linen league ladies are holding 2 sales in November (15th and 21st) in the main entrance to raise money for the league.

**Please try and support them, these lovely ladies will undertake any task asked of them.**

21<sup>st</sup>  
NOV

28<sup>th</sup>  
NOV

**Linen Sale**  
Sale of linen goods in the new main entrance

## News from the Hospital...

- A challenging year
- Balancing the books
- Improvements in services
- Good' rating for our Emergency Department

**It has been a challenging year for us in Torbay and South Devon. There has been an enormous amount of change with development of new services in the community.**

Although it is sad that well-loved community hospitals have closed, the early evidence is that the new services, designed to look after people closer to home, are working as they should at this stage.

All of this change has been brought about through the hard work and dedication of our staff. As our Chief Executive says, the task has been 'like changing the engines of an airliner while it is in flight', as the demand for our services has continued throughout.

We have also had to achieve very substantial savings over the same time period. Across the whole of the NHS money is very tight. We have drawn up plans to take out £40M from our cost base.

This degree of savings requires change to the way we all work. We need to balance the books against the need for improvement in services and maintaining the quality and safety of care. We are pleased that in spite of the financial challenges we have managed to achieve improvements in services.

We were delighted to receive the 'Good' rating for our Emergency Department and Medical Services that were re-inspected by the CQC after a difficult inspection in 2016.



**Dr Robert Dyer**  
Medical Director

**"In the context of the NHS financial position the support of Torbay Hospital League of Friends is more important than ever"**

We have also been rated very highly in relation to experience of patients receiving cancer care and for doctors in training. Our staff survey shows that the Trust is still a really good place to work.

It is really difficult to make investments in improvements in the physical environment of our buildings and in state of the art equipment that improves care for patients.

The support from the League of Friends helps us to do that. We are very grateful for their ongoing support.

*Dr Robert Dyer*  
Medical Director

# How you can help...

Become a Friend of the League or an active member and join one of our district teams and receive a twice-yearly newsletter and other mail shots. Email us on **info@thlof.co.uk** if you are interested.

## Thank You Donations...

Donations can be sent to our secretary **Philip White, Highlyn, 6 Haldon Close, Torquay, TQ1 2NA**

If your donation can be 'gift aided' this will significantly increase the value to the Charity. Please contact the Secretary if you would like a Gift Aid form.

## Volunteer

If you would like to become a Volunteer to act as a Guide or to help with running Butterflies Café please contact one of our Voluntary organisers June or Pat on **01803 654520** or by email on **thlof@tiscali.co.uk**

## Leave a legacy

We hope our hospital plays a role in everyone living a long and happy life. Leaving a gift to charity is an amazing way for your generosity to last beyond your own lifetime.

*Please ask if you would like to receive our legacy information leaflet.*

## Or just have a coffee

The Butterflies Café on Level 2 is run by the League and all profits go to supporting our causes. It has a lovely relaxed atmosphere and every cuppa is helping to support the care of the people of Torbay and South Devon.

*The Café is open from 9.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday.*

**Visit our website** [www.thlof.co.uk](http://www.thlof.co.uk)

## Events

Everyone is very welcome to join us at any of our fundraising or information events.

Information on any of these events can be obtained by emailing **info@thlof.co.uk**.

Details will also be in the monthly e-news, nearer the time; so please make sure we have your e-mail address.

**We would love to see you.**

**Christmas Cards are now on sale at Butterflies Café, on level 2**

**22<sup>nd</sup>  
OCT**

### Sunday Lunch

The Belgrave Sands Hotel,  
2 course lunch with a welcome drink.

**16<sup>th</sup>  
NOV**

### Fashion Show & Concert

The Grand Hotel, Tickets £12.50  
with a welcome drink

**2<sup>nd</sup>  
DEC**

### Joy to the World Concert

Torbay Singers at St Matthias Church  
Tickets £12

**23<sup>rd</sup>  
JAN**

### Chish & Fipps

Hanburys Restaurant



### 95p in every £1

*Donated goes directly to supporting our charitable causes.*

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