

League of Friends of the Queen Victoria Hospital
Chairman's Report for the Annual General Meeting to be held on
Tuesday, 27 September 2022 in the Surgeons' Mess, Queen Victoria Hospital

Dear Friend

I started my report last year by hoping that you and your families had remained well and safe during the Covid-19 pandemic. I fear – as someone who has just had Covid for the second time a month ago – that this is still an appropriate opening. I do hope you have managed to return to a more normal life and that, if you have been away on holiday, it wasn't ruined by the airlines, airports or ferry ports.

The Agenda for our AGM is attached and we would be delighted if you are able to join us. We will also arrange a Zoom hook up if you would prefer to participate virtually. It would help us if you could let us know whether you will join us either in person or by Zoom by Friday, 16 September 2022. If you intend to attend by Zoom, please email Linda Skinner, our Hon. Secretary, who will then send you the link linda@cobblecourt.co.uk.

The Accounts and the minutes of the AGM last year are available on-line at <https://www.qvh.nhs.uk/support-us>. If you do not have access to a computer and would like to see a copy of the accounts, please contact me – my contact details are at the bottom of this letter.

As you may be aware there are plans that the Queen Vic will merge with University Hospitals Sussex (UHS). UHS consists of seven hospitals including the Royal Sussex Hospital in Brighton, the Princess Royal in Haywards Heath and Worthing Hospital, which is where UHS is headquartered. These proposals have caused some lively debate at the Council of Governors (of which I am a Stakeholder Governor). Given the turbulent times we are in – which will almost certainly become more turbulent over the winter – I do not know whether the merger will go ahead. There are good arguments for merging and some good arguments for not merging. We will see. Coming out of Covid and dealing with the merger has meant that management has been fully occupied and so we have had few funding requests in 2021.

As you will probably be aware we have moved out of the benign investment environment we have enjoyed for the past years. We are extraordinarily grateful to have been given three significant legacies in the last year and we will try to ensure their generosity is remembered when we spend it. At the 30th June 2022 our investments and cash in the bank totalled just under £680,000.

As always, I would like to thank you for your continued support for the League of Friends. I would like to thank, once again, all the Trustees for the work they do, particularly Linda Skinner, the Hon. Secretary and Alexandra Durrant, the Hon. Treasurer.

I look forward to seeing you, if possible, at the AGM. We hope that at least 12 of you will attend so that we are quorate! If you are unable to attend and have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me either by email or by phone.

StJohn Brown
Chairman

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