



**THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS
OF
FAIRFORD HOSPITAL**
(REG. CHARITY NO: 1006416)

WE STILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT PLEASE READ ON

Our Newsletter is in a different format this year. We hope you will enjoy it and that it will act as a reminder of the League's many activities.

As you all know in January 2006 the PCT Board took the decision to close all the beds at Fairford Hospital against the wishes of the local communities and despite the magnificent attendance of more than 300 supporters at the Board Meeting and the presentation of a petition of 3,574 signatures urging the retention of medical beds in the hospital.

No new patients were admitted to the hospital from 1st February and now there are no in-patients at all.

The PCT has identified a range of out-patient services to be provided at the Hospital, including consultant appointments previously held at Gloucester, Cheltenham or Swindon. Details are awaited but it is understood that new arrangements will come into being later this year

The League is now in discussion with a not for profit Service Provider about the possibility of a new medical facility known as 'Option 4'. Several landowners in the area have expressed an interest and planners are being consulted. We will provide an update at our AGM .

We are aware that a number of Friends have questioned the need to continue to give donations. As you will see from this newsletter the League provides many community services. The changes to Fairford Hospital will result in an even greater need for these services. Donations through the Hospital are already down and in order to continue, our activities must be funded. We rely entirely on donations and fund raising events to achieve this. The House to House collection is our major fundraiser. The money we collect is not given to the PCT or other local hospitals.

Thus I urge you to be as generous as you can and as you have been in the past.

David Phillips, Chairman



**Our volunteer drivers transport
around 600 patients a year to the
surgeries and hospitals.**



The League of Friends

The **League of Friends** is a voluntary run registered charity, which aims to help with extras for the Hospital and General Practices in Fairford and Lechlade.

Our volunteer drivers transport over 600 patients a year to the surgeries and hospitals. We also provide hospital reception cover.

Friends in the Community is an extension of the League of Friends and provides active support within the community including:

Home nursing for the terminally ill

Free Physiotherapy for the over 60s

Support for Counselling Services

A free prescription delivery service for the homebound in outlying villages

Welcome-home help for the elderly discharged from hospital

The Edna Dawes Lunch Club

The Edna Dawes Lunch Club

The Club is held on Mondays at Beau-moor Place, Fairford, for the benefit of the frail, elderly and isolated in the Fairford and Lechlade areas. The initiative, funded by the Executors of the late Edna Dawes in her memory, has a full time organiser. For more information about the Club or to volunteer help with its running please contact Sally White on 01285 851161.



Counselling

The Executors of the late Edna Dawes have agreed to finance additional counselling services at Farmor's School and two further projects which are under consideration. We also pay for counselling services at both Fairford and Lechlade Surgeries

The League of Friends



Home Nursing



For patients of Fairford or Lechlade surgeries who are very ill or prefer to stay in their own homes with close family or friends to care for them, helped by G.P.s and District Nurse, we provide any extra nursing through the **Friends in the Community Home Nursing Scheme**, registered with: The Commission for Social Care Inspection, 1210 Landsowne Court, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4AB



Who does the nursing or caring?

The team consists of experienced nurses, known to many of the patients. Some are mothers wishing to work part-time, some practise full time while others may be approaching retirement. They are able to support the patient and the family and work as a team with G.P.s and other medical services.

Who makes the contact?

The G.P or District Nurse contacts our Nursing Co-ordinator who makes all the arrangements.

Who pays for the nursing?

The Friends

There is no charge to the patient or family. Nurses and carers are paid by the League of Friends at N.H.S. rates.

ARE YOU A QUALIFIED NURSE?

If you are a nurse and would like to join our team of paid specialists, please contact the Chairman or Co-ordinator.



The League of Friends



Physiotherapy

The provision of physiotherapy services by the NHS does not always meet the immediate needs of the older members of the community. The League of Friends offers this as a supplement to the already existing care.



Who is covered by the scheme?

Anyone over 60 years of age or chronically sick who is a patient of the Fairford or Lechlade surgeries and whose condition is considered by the Doctor to warrant physiotherapy which is not immediately available through the NHS.

“Option 4”

Under discussion:

A new medical facility for Fairford & Lechlade including:

- * Nursing home beds
- * GP medical beds
- * Out patient services
- * Other local community services

Who does the physiotherapy?

Qualified physiotherapists working under the direction of the Superintendent Physio from the local area and known to many prospective patients. They provide treatment at regular clinics at Fairford surgery or in the homes of those unable to travel.

Who pays for the physiotherapy?

The Friends

There is no charge to the patient or family. The League of Friends has a contract with the PCT for this service.

The League of Friends



The League of Friends



Who runs the Friends in the Community schemes?

A Committee that includes a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, a Doctor from each practice, a Nursing Co-ordinator, a Physiotherapy Co-ordinator and the Matron of Fairford Hospital.

The League of Friends is managed by a committee including:

Chairman: David Phillips
01285 850322

Treasurer: Jim Barge
01367 850271

Co-ordinator: Gail Bloxham
01285 850261

Where does the money come from?

The Friends

We rely entirely on donations and fund-raising activities. The House to House Collection is our major fund-raising activity. The money we collect is not given to the PCT or other local hospitals.

Annual General Meeting

Members of the League are invited to the AGM at the Fairford Community Centre at 7:30pm on Wednesday 10th May 2006.

Want to help?

To offer practical help or to become a Friend of Fairford Hospital, please contact the Chairman or Co-ordinator.

Friends:

Would you please complete the front of the collection envelope so that we can both keep you up to date with future activities and claim back 28p tax for every £1 you give, a very important source of revenue for the League.

THANK YOU

The League could not operate without the generous support from those we serve. On behalf of all those associated with the Hospital and our Friends in the Community services a very big thank you.



The League of Friends

The League of Friends of Fairford Hospital
(Registered Charity No: 1006416)

I /We would like to become/remain a registered member of the League of Friends

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Tel. Code and No: _____

I/We would like to volunteer practical help (e.g. we always need more car drivers)

Please fill in, detach and put in collection envelope or post to: Gail Bloxham,
Co-ordinator, Mistle House, Ashbrook Lane, Ampney Crucis, Nr Cirencester, GL7 5SG

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BANKER'S ORDER

To: _____ Bank plc _____ Branch
(name of your bank)

(address of your bank)

Please pay to Lloyds TSB Bank plc, High Street, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4AD (30-92-06)
for the credit of the League of Friends of Fairford Hospital Account No: 1093698

the sum of : £ _____ (amount in words) _____

on _____ and thereafter annually/monthly for _____ years*
* (delete as appropriate) until I instruct you otherwise*

Account No: _____ Sort Code _____

Account in the Name(s) of _____ (in capitals)

Signature _____ Date _____