

## A word from Holy Cross Hospital CEO

I cannot believe we are already in December!

The last 6 months have flown by, we have been busy working on the interior of the hospital to make it more aesthetically pleasing whilst ensuring we facilitate an environment in line with infection prevention and control measures.

**Decorating:** The wards have had a “make over” having lifted the worn carpet and replaced it with luxury vinyl flooring. With the newly painted walls, each area now looks clean and bright.

We had hoped to have the patient and family lounges on both wards finished with new furniture and soft furnishings however the flooring and decorating has taken longer than planned so we will now wait until the New Year to focus on these two areas.

Since reclaiming the family lounges on each ward, we have provided a space for our nurses. This is a space for sharing their clinical handover and writing their notes – “The Nurses’ Hub”

**Farewells and Introductions:** In July we said a fond farewell to Tim Bailey who retired from Holy Cross Hospital after 10 years. We also said farewell to Sue O’Rourke having devoted a staggering 40 years’ service to Holy Cross. Both enjoyed a well-attended retirement tea party. We wish them great joy and happiness in the years ahead.



Welcome .....

**Richard Otuorimuo, Finance Director**



**Rachel Jamieson, HR Manager**

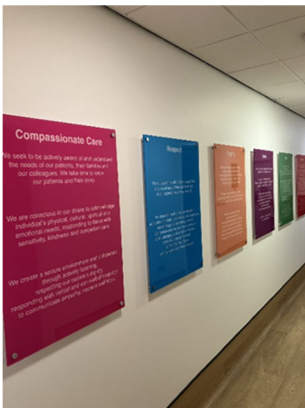


Both Richard and Rachel have a wealth of experience in their professional fields and are already making a difference at Holy Cross Hospital by improving our governance processes and systems. We look forward to embracing the transformation associated with their individual fields of expertise.

**Branding:** Since June we have also been working on our Branding. With all internal documents and e mails templated to illustrate our Values. We have also changed the green colour used in our written communications to Teal and so in time you will see a change to letterheads once we use up existing stationary.

**Signage:** For those of you who visit the hospital you will have noticed our new hospital sign as one turns off the Hindhead Road. With so many comments that the hospital signs merged into the leafy background we felt it important to rectify this. The signs are in our brand colours and the feedback is that the appearance is more "crisp and clear" furthermore the information is easier to read when driving or walking past.

**Core Values and Behaviours:** We now have our Values and Behaviours displayed in the corridor leading off the main reception and a smaller version outside our Caregiver dining room. They act as a reminder to each one of us why we are here, the Values that drive our behaviours and the behaviours we strive to achieve each day. The displays also provide an illustration to our patients and their families of the standards of care they should encounter daily.



The Values we live each day are:

Compassionate Care

Respect

Integrity

Safety

Team

Excellence

**Celebrating Christmas:** With Christmas only a few weeks away we have started to prepare for the festive season. The activities team will be leading on our patients' social calendar including Christmas games, Christmas party, Christmas poems, Carolling ...and so much more.

**From us to you .....**

We are so very fortunate to have The Friends supporting the hospital. Your devotion to our patients is greatly appreciated. It is with our heartfelt gratitude we wish you all a very joyful Christmas and good health and prosperity for the new year ahead.



2024 has been a fantastic year for fundraising, not only have there been events organised by the Friends of Holy Cross but also events organised by other friends; Matt Delar who organises the Boxing Day Fun Run (next: Boxing Day 2024!), and Lucy and Lottie Ross. Their mother Katie has been a long-term resident at Holy Cross and they organised a sponsored run/cycle to celebrate her 25 years. I have attached Lottie's very moving account at the end of the newsletter.

**Sponsored walk 8.9.24.** £1675 raised.



It started at Camelsdale School under grey skies but the rain held off until lunch at the Prince of

Wales, necessitating a swift move indoors. The group enjoyed as many weathers as views as they walked up and down hill and through woods and heath. Thank you very much to Sue and Nick Mitchell for organising the walk.



Shottermill Pond, close to the end.

**Golf Day 10.9.24** £3000 raised.

A very enjoyable and successful golf competition and meal organised by Phil Craig at the West Surrey Golf Club. The winners of the John Wharton Cup were a team from Grayshott Pottery, who have been supporters of The Friends of Holy Cross for many years. Thank you to Phil and all the staff at the West Surrey Golf Club. If you would like to take part in next year's September competition, please contact Phil ([phil.craig0@gmail.com](mailto:phil.craig0@gmail.com)).



Grayshott Pottery team and Phil Craig (centre)

**Winemans Bluff 16.11.24** £3351 raised. A change in venue, catered by the hospital and new faces on the panel but the atmosphere and laughter remained the same. The raffle was very successful with donations from Clarendon Fine Art, Grayshott Pottery, Crossways Fruitters, Space NK, Youngs Brewery, Between the Lines and Heylen Herd. Many thanks to Richard and Jenni Royds who chose and 'bluffed the wines', the kitchen staff at Holy Cross for the delicious food and helping set up the room and members of the committee for all their help.



The winning team: Grockles

### **Lucy and Lottie's Fundraising**

On Sunday 17th November, joined by friends and family, we celebrated the 59th birthday of our mum, Katie Ross, in a particularly special way. As many of you know, the Holy Cross Hospital has been a significant part of our family's life for the past 25 years. They have provided unwavering care and support to our mum who was left quadriplegic after a tragic car accident in 1999.

To mark Katie's 25th year at the Holy Cross, and in acknowledgement of the amazing things the team do, Lucy and I laced up to take on the hills of Haslemere and lead a 25km run around the Devil's Punchbowl, 1km for every year since our mum's accident. We were overwhelmed with the amount of support for our challenge, with over 30 people participating in the day in some shape or form; we had 13 runners and 6 cyclists cross the finish line at the Holy Cross, encouraged by a host of family and friends on the final stretch up the Holy Cross driveway. It was particularly special for Lucy and I to be able to push Katie over the finish line together, in the company of our friends and family.

While the forecast in the run up to the event was looking almost as daunting as the elevation of the Haslemere hills, we were blessed on the day by brilliant sunshine and clear blue skies - we can only think this is the work of several absent friends who would have loved to have been with us on the day.

We celebrated Katie's birthday and the completion of our challenge with homemade birthday cake made by our aunties (Katie's sisters) as well as prosecco, sandwiches, teas and coffees in the Holy Cross Activities room. We raised a birthday toast to our mum, but also to our friends, family and the Holy Cross who continue to provide such invaluable support to us all, for which we are so grateful.

The Holy Cross team has gone above and beyond during Katie's time at the hospital and have ensured our mum remains an integral part of our lives. From regular home visits to attending Christmas masses at church, front row seats at the Olympia Horse Show, and many beach trips to Selsey. We are so grateful for this and are exceptionally proud to have raised £4,843 + gift aid (to date!) throughout this challenge, in recognition of their work. We would like to say a particularly thank you to Joanna and Fernando (and his catering team) who helped facilitate the day and make it such a success.

We've shared some of our favourite photos of the day and hope that we can mark Katie's birthday in a similar fashion for years to come!

With love,

Lucy & Lottie (Katie's daughters) x