



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



***We're on the Move!***

***to Level 4***



Since the formation of  
Torbay Hospital League  
of Friends, we have raised  
over **£20 million** for  
the Hospital.



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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  
**Email**.....info@thlof.co.uk

## With Special Thanks

We would like to thank all of you who have contributed to making the Torbay 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.

*Designed and Printed by* [www.frankman.co.uk](http://www.frankman.co.uk) *Edited by - Dave Rogers & Kathryn Westaway*



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)



## We're on the Move

**We hope that very soon our new base on level 4 will be ready. The hospital estimate that it will be ready between February and March 2022.**

We are holding our famous Christmas Draw in the area that has been designated for us on level 4. When our Office sales area is ready, we shall be there for League information and to point you in the direction required.

The Torbay Hospital League of Friends was formed in 1954, so is now over 67 years old. Its whole ethos is 'Helping to Care' Over all these years we have donated £20m to Torbay Hospital.

### Support to the Hospital

During 2009, the League was able to donate £1.72m to the new Horizon Centre – our centre for Research, training and Digital advancement.

In 1967 The League provided funds for a building and equipping an Intensive Care Unit at Torbay Hospital. However in 2013 plans were made to build a brand new unit at a cost of £14m, which included specialised ICU equipment.

The League was able to provide the £1.6m required to equip the 14 bays in the new Unit with the most modern and state of the art equipment in time for the opening in 2017.

In 2019 The League was able to donate £1.3m to provide 34 new high definition endoscopes and three video processing units to re-equip the busy Endoscopy Department which undertakes some 11,000 procedures each year. Again, this was the League its long term commitment for a vital service having bought the original equipment that started the Endoscopy Services in the 1980's. Please do not think that we only fund large projects- we listen to requests from the Hospital from all Departments and they choose what items they feel are most needed by them, which could be funded out of NHS budgets.



### Membership

The League has over 300 members many of whom volunteer from time to time to help with various events or attend at the Hospital.

Other volunteers choose to join the Linen League. They are all expert seamstresses and meet regularly to make a wide variety of specialised garments for wards and departments, many of which are unobtainable through normal supply channels.

There is also a Junior League attached to Torbay Girls Grammar School who also hold events to raise money for the League.

We were so proud therefore that in Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Anniversary Year, the League was honoured by the award of the 'Queens Award for Voluntary Services' which is regarded as an MBE for voluntary groups. This award truly reflects the commitment of so many volunteers working selflessly for the benefit of others in the community.

Because we are all volunteers, we are very proud to be able to say that on average for every £1 donated to us 95p is spent on the hospital - a fantastic achievement.

To become a Friend of the League – or to simply make a donation, please visit our website – [www.thlof.co.uk](http://www.thlof.co.uk)

## Where has our E-News been?

Since March the League has not published our monthly E-News due to the self-isolation. It is now back in publication and will be published on a bi-monthly basis. If you would like to receive our e-news then please message us on [info@thlof.co.uk](mailto:info@thlof.co.uk) and you will be put on the mailing list.

## Pennies in Plastic

**Pennies in Plastic is now nearing £6,000, please do keep saving your loose change in plastic bottles.**

**When they are full, either keep them until we are ready or email us on [info@thlof.co.uk](mailto:info@thlof.co.uk)**



**£5581 Raised (So Far)**

**Thank You**  
**For all your Help & Continued support**



## Local Minister Supports League Of Friends

**Minister Kim Moore-Cullen has presented a cheque for more than £600 to Torbay Hospital League of Friends as a thank you to the hospital for helping save the life of her husband, Richard, who unknown to anyone had been born with a defective heart valve.**

The first either he or Kim knew about this was when, aged 59, he suddenly collapsed at the gym. Tests and scans at Torbay Hospital were followed by surgery in Plymouth and a long period of convalescence throughout the lock down.

Kim, along with friends and colleagues held a fund-raising event at the Preston Conservative Club which involved self-healing meditation with four guest speakers, and a raffle with gifts and donations from the local community and beyond.

The grand total of £633 was raised and presented to the Torbay Hospital League of Friends outside the hospital's Heart Unit.

Kim said "Richard means the world to me so when we had the all-clear on his follow up scans, I wanted to raise money for the

League of Friends to be used in the Heart Unit in Torbay Hospital"

In accepting this generous donation Patricia Roberts, President of the Torbay Hospital League of Friends said "It is so good to have a 'good news' story after so much bad news and I wish Richard all the very best for the future.

"We are delighted to accept this donation on behalf of the Hospital and will ensure that it is put to good use by the Heart Unit"

the Endoscopy Services in the 1980's. Please do not think that we only fund large projects- we listen to requests from the Hospital from all Departments and they choose what items they feel are most needed by them, which could be funded out of NHS budgets.



## Message From Our Chairman

*I feel honoured to be elected Chairman of Torbay Hospital League of Friends.*

We continue to work in challenging times but I am hopeful that over the next few months we will return to normality.

Our new office and retail counter will be completed in March 2022. It will be constructed in the level 4 entrance area. We will use tables in that area to sell tickets for our Xmas Draw and Christmas cards.

We have provided the hospital with Bariatric stair climbers, Laparoscopic ultrasound equipment, Comfort packs for patients, and gift packs for front line staff.

We will be providing medical equipment for the new Acute Medical Unit.

This is our next large fundraising project. There have been no social events this year but we hope to resume some activities in the Spring.

Thank you all for supporting us this year and we hope to see you on Level 4 in November and December.

*Yours sincerely,  
Mr Roy Tuttle*



## Meet The Team

### Linen League

**I moved here from just north of Manchester in 1998, I had been used to helping and volunteering before I moved to Torquay, it was no surprise that when I met Rachel Evans I joined her group of Ladies known as The Linen League.**

Tuesday afternoons were spent in the Boardroom with our sewing machines. Rachel was the co-ordinator for these ladies, the Group being part of The League of Friends.

Over the years I have been involved in making various items, all of which have been asked for by the wards. To mention a few - theatre gowns, under-arm cushions, syringe bags, ice pack covers, tabards, especially red ones for the Mealtime Helpers.

Several years ago Rachel moved to Henley-on-Thames and I became the Co-ordinator. This entails having contact with the various wards, also purchasing any materials that were needed. Percy's in Newton Abbot has been a lifeline for materials etc and served the Hospital for many years.

All expenses are paid by The League of Friends which over the years has saved the Hospital money. I also attend the monthly Management meeting of The League of Friends where I report on what items have been distributed and progress that has been made.

Originally meeting in the Boardroom, the Ladies now meet in rooms in the Kitson Buildings.

Along with the Linen League ladies I have also been involved with making items for our pre Christmas stall with all monies going to the League of Friends.

Needless to say, none of this has been able to carry on since March 2020 due to Covid restrictions but in September 2021 the ladies were back at their sewing machines looking forward to supporting the hospital.

Another of my volunteering jobs has been with the Chaplaincy Team at the Hospital. Every Wednesday morning, I have visited Patients on the wards, having a chat and hopefully helping to cheer them up.

During my free time I am a member of the Central Church and once a week I hold a preschool group. I enjoy playing the piano, walking and eating out with friends. During lockdown I kept myself busy knitting squares for the Leonard Stocks Centre and making cloth shopping bags for FACT.

*Barbara Lawton*



### President

*Having lost our café and shop on level 2 we do seem to be in limbo at present.*

However, being optimistic we are hopeful that we will be having a presence on level 4 main entrance when the extensive building at the hospital progresses further. We are still supporting the hospital, as we have for over 60 years, purchasing equipment and supporting projects which would not to be funded by NHS. So, any donations are gratefully accepted and we can guarantee that any money will be used for the benefit of patients and staff.

*Patricia Roberts*



## From the Trust

### Building a brighter future together.

**We are delighted to have been chosen to be one of the seven trusts in the south west which will be part of the government's new hospital scheme which forms part of the wider Health Infrastructure Plan.**

This is a long-term programme of investment in health infrastructure, including money for new hospital buildings, investment in the latest technology and funding to make improvements to existing buildings.

This is fantastic news and a once in a lifetime opportunity to make a real difference in how we deliver services with, to and for our people.

For us, this is not just about building a better hospital in Torquay. It is about exploring opportunities to deliver our services in ways that provide better outcomes for patients and better working environments for staff across all the communities that we serve.

This means reviewing patient pathways for different specialisms to offer the right care in the right place for people, providing care as close to home as possible and supporting people to stay well and live well in their communities. When hospital is the right place for care, this will be provided quickly and effectively and people will be supported to get home and recover safely.

The new hospital programme offers us the opportunity to further build on our integrated approach to service delivery while supporting us to take advantage of new technologies and the latest improvements in health and social care, planning not only for the needs of our people today but also for the future. To that end, we are calling our programme Building a Brighter Future.

We submitted our strategic outline case for investment at the end of July 2021. This describes our case for change and the benefits the investment will bring for our patients and our people. Once this has received national approval, we will begin work on our outline business



case. This will describe the investment we need to help us deliver our ambition. Funding could then be available from 2025.

As we are in the early stages of developments, no firm decisions have yet been made about changes to services, buildings or care pathways. Our plans are being led by our clinical experts and are directly informed by the latest data and evidence bases (including patient experience feedback). We are committed to working in partnership with patients, carers, partners and local communities as we develop our plans.

We will be holding virtual information sessions for patients and our local communities to find out more about our early ideas and to give feedback over the coming months.

We will also be sharing information and opportunities to ask questions and give feedback through our website, our social media channels and our newsletters.

We will work with all our League of Friends to make sure we hear from as many people as possible. There will be exciting opportunities for our League of Friends to support us making a real positive difference to patient and staff experience and the care we provide.

For more information visit [www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/developments](http://www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/developments) or contact us at [tsdft.nhp@nhs.net](mailto:tsdft.nhp@nhs.net)

*Dr Joanne Watson,*  
Health & Care Strategy Director

## Ultrasound model to train Surgeons

### From across the UK funded by Torbay Hospital League of Friends

**South Devon Upper Gastrointestinal (GI) Unit is extremely proud to start using a new ultrasound model, made possible thanks to the generosity of Torbay Hospital's League of Friends**

The laparoscopic bile duct ultrasound model will be used for training surgeons from around the UK in this technique. The advanced model replicates body tissue and allows highly realistic training to be delivered.

Laparoscopic bile duct ultrasound improves both patient care and efficiency in the management of gallstone disease.

Over many years, South Devon Upper GI Unit has developed a national reputation for delivering high quality courses and forging the introduction of this new technology. The donation from the League of Friends

will enhance the unit's training offer and ultimately result in a better patient experience.

Stuart Andrews, Clinical Director of Surgery at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, said: "This ultrasound model is an extremely valuable resource for training biliary surgeons in a new and effective technique, so the addition of this equipment will help surgeons improve patient care. We are extremely grateful for Torbay Hospital League of Friends for making this possible with their kind donation."

Patricia Roberts, President of Torbay Hospital League of Friends, said: "High quality training of the next generation of doctors is essential so the League of Friends was proud to be able to provide this state-of-the-art training equipment. The donation will enable our hospital to build on the excellent reputation for training it already enjoys."



**Although we publish a newsletter in Spring and Autumn we also send out a update monthly by e-mail, to receive this e-news message us on [info@thlof.co.uk](mailto:info@thlof.co.uk)**



# Torbay Hospital League of Friends fund Stair Climbers

**Torbay Hospital League of Friends' generous fundraising has paid for two stairclimbers, which will help people with limited mobility travel using patient transport.**

The two bariatric stair climbers will be used by Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust's Patient Transport Services to ensure that people are safely helped up and down stairs and into vehicles. The stair climbers are specifically designed to help people with limited mobility.

These will result in a more comfortable and easier journey for people who need help getting to and from hospital and healthcare sites for appointments and treatment. The CR230 stair climber produced by manufacturer AAT is able to support those who weigh up to 230kg, which is over 70kg more than the limit of the current equipment.

Torbay Hospital League of Friends had previously supported Patient Transport Services by funding 11 stair climbers which are in place in all of the team's double crewed ambulances.

Louis Nicholls, Patient Transport Officer at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, said: "The new stair climbers will not only help our team to support people with limited mobility, but more importantly will

allow us to be able to offer a higher level of service for people across Torbay and South Devon which means the world to me."

We thank the kindness and generosity of the League of Friends and the massive support they have given us. It was brilliant to be able to show the League how the equipment is used every day, and it is great to know that they are there to listen to any ideas we have that will help the community.

*"This type of equipment helps our organisation continue to provide quality care to the people of Torbay and South Devon, so a big thank you to everyone who has kindly supported the League of Friends to help bring this and other initiatives to fruition."*

Roy Tuttle, Chairman of the Torbay Hospital League of Friends, said: "We can all imagine how difficult it would be to transport a sick or injured person to and from hospital when several flights of stairs are involved. We were delighted to be able to help Patient Transport Services to acquire two fantastic bariatric stair climbers which we know will make the patients journey less stressful and, at the same time, make the job of everyone in patient transport a little bit easier."



# Two paediatric ventilators for the hospital's Emergency Department

**Torbay Hospital League of Friends has funded two paediatric ventilators for the hospital's Emergency Department which will help the team provide lifesaving ventilatory support.**

This type of ventilator is the only device available that can be used for all age groups; from neonatal to adults. It also offers many different types of ventilation modes suitable for children of all ages.

A certain number of children who need ventilation may also require time-critical transfer to specialist centres (e.g. Bristol, Plymouth, London). The ventilators are also portable to support these time critical transfers.

The same type of equipment is also used by dedicated children's hospitals and the critically ill children's transport team, which means the transfer process becomes more seamless and helps us provide the highest quality care possible.

We are exceptionally grateful to the League of Friends for this kind and generous donation which will enhance and further support the excellent care delivered in our Emergency Department.

Roy Tuttle, Chairman of the Torbay Hospital League of Friends, said: "We all want the absolute best for our children, especially when they are sick and even more so when it's an emergency.

*When we heard there was a need for this type of equipment we were more than happy to provide the necessary funds to enable the children's Emergency Department at Torbay Hospital to acquire these brilliant ventilators to support critically ill children."*





# League Of Friends Christmas Cards

We have our Charity Christmas cards in stock and they are great value at **£4.00** per pack of **10**

There are four scenes 2 from Torquay Harbour, Cockington and Brixham.

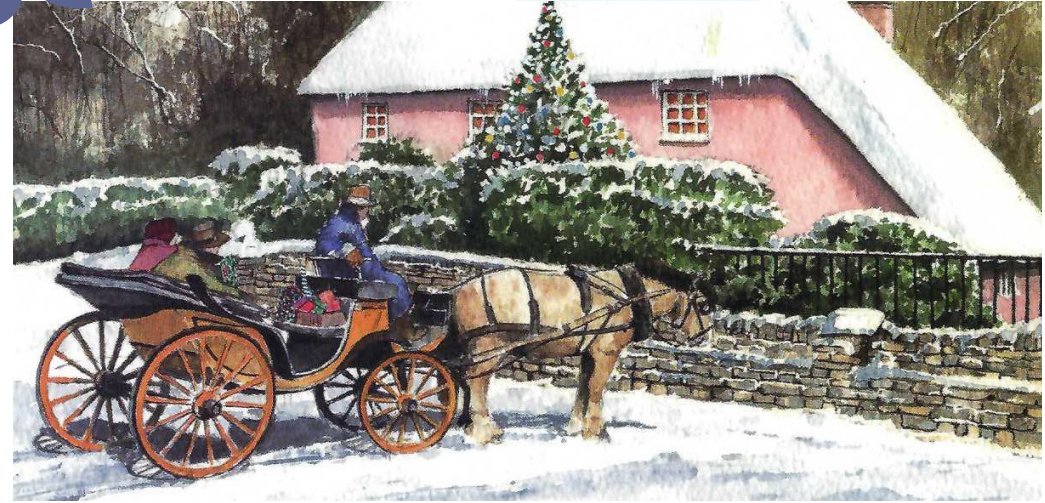
They will be available from our area on level 4 main entrance Torbay Hospital from the 1st November

Or contact your local committee member on [info@thlof.co.uk](mailto:info@thlof.co.uk) and we can arrange either collection, delivery or postage at **£1.60** per pack or **£3.20** for 2 packs or more.

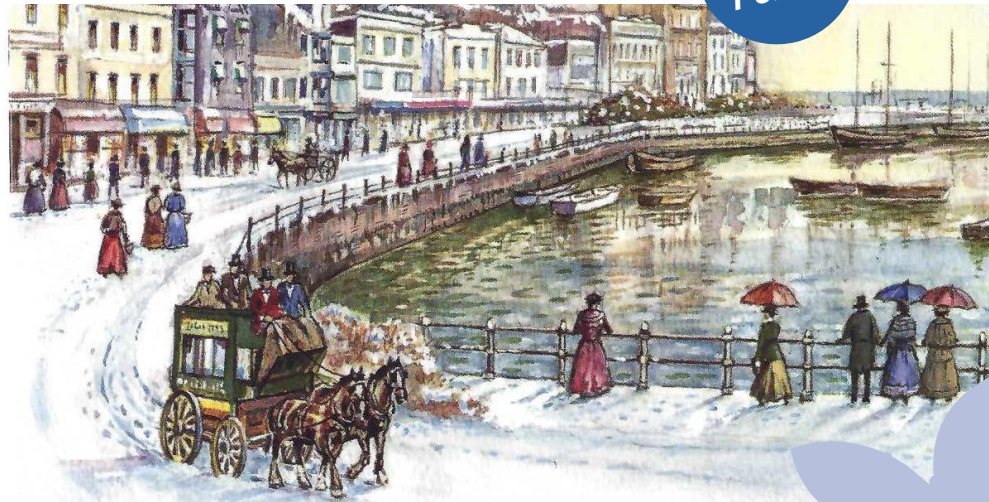


Torquay Harbour

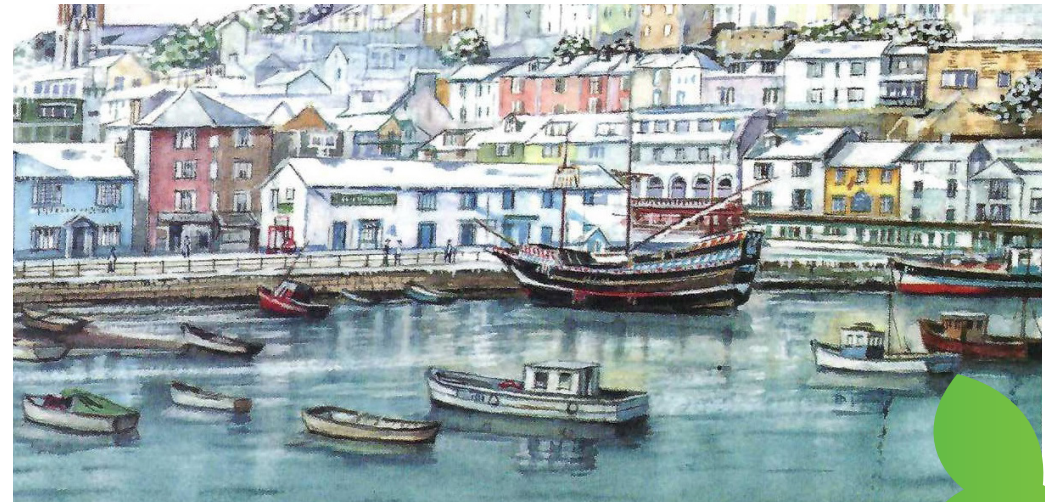
£4.00  
Per 10



Cockington



Torquay Harbour 2



Brixham



# How you can help...

Visit our website [www.thlof.co.uk](http://www.thlof.co.uk) 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](mailto:info@thlof.co.uk) if you are interested.

## Thank You Donations...

Donations can be sent to our secretary **Phillip 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

Even a couple of hours a week can make a real difference. If you would like to become a more active member of the League of Friends, such as helping with Fund raising or with League events, please contact the Hon Secretary Philip White

## 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.*

## Support us through Amazon

There is much more online shopping at the moment so if you shop on Amazon you can make a difference: Simply shop at [smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/200905-0](http://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/200905-0) or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app, and AmazonSmile donates to - The Torbay Hospital League Of Friends.



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

## Future Events

***We are not planning any future events at this difficult time, when times return to normal events will be announced in e-news.***

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](mailto: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.***



**95p in every £1**  
*Donated goes directly to supporting our charitable causes.*

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



Registered Charity No. 200905