



NEWS RELEASE

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The Lions, the beds and the Hospice

Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice recently issued an urgent plea for support in funding 16 new beds for their In-Patient Unit. The current beds are no longer manufactured so new parts cannot be bought, nor do they have the hugely beneficial electric profiling and other modern technological features that would provide greater relief and independence for patients. The Hospice recognised the need to upgrade their beds with a view to ensuring they can be serviced, repaired and maintained for many years to come as well as offering a range of positions for maximum comfort.

But these vital new beds don't come cheap – each bed costs almost £2,500.

The Farnham Lions have been long-standing and loyal supporters of the Hospice and they immediately felt moved to ensure the Hospice could achieve its goal. It is truly fitting that they should be the organisation sponsoring the first two of the required 16 new beds, as they helped to fund the previous beds many years ago.

Outgoing president of Farnham Lions, Peter Matthews, said “having held fundraising events throughout the year and with thanks to the generosity of the people of Farnham, it is great to be able to use some of this money to help the Hospice with this very specific project which will be of huge value to both patients and staff.”

A further two of the 16 beds have been identified as specific fundraising projects for other organisations and individuals, but the Hospice is still seeking funding for the remaining 12 beds. If you, your company or organisation are able to help them bring greater comfort and relief to their in-patients, please do contact the Hospice on 01252 729446 or email peter.christmas@pth.org.uk.

“We simply cannot stress enough how important these beds are,” continues Clodagh Sowton. “Our in-patients can spend many hours of the day in bed, so making sure this is a safe, clean and cosy experience is top of our list.”

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Notes for Editors:

Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice provides Specialist Palliative Care to adult patients and their families living with life limiting illnesses in West Surrey and North East Hampshire. We aim to give excellent specialist care and support and,

through training, empower other healthcare professionals serving our community of 600,000 residents to do the same.

Every day we support over 100 patients and carers in their own homes, in the community and at the Hospice (on our In-Patient Unit, in Day Hospice, at out-patient appointments and through Patient and Family Services). We firmly believe in offering an integrated package of care that reflects both clinical requirement and patient choice.

The NHS covers less than 16% of the Hospice's costs. This means we have to fundraise 84p in every pound the Hospice needs to spend so we rely heavily on the support and generosity of our local community. All our services are free of charge to our patients and their families, but we need to fundraise over £10,000 a day to offer such an exceptional standard of clinical care and support.

Our vision is to be able to give local patients and their families both an excellent service and a choice about where they'd like to be cared for by the Hospice. We can only do this with the continued support of our community. Our Hospice Care at Home appeal has been launched to increase funding for our community-based team of specialists to care for more people in their own homes.

Please get in touch for more information on how you can support your local hospice. Please visit www.pth.org.uk/HCAH or call 01252 729446 for further information.