



The Friends of the Hospital of St Cross

Report for the period July 2024 to July 2025
For presentation to the AGM on 10th September 2025

Accounts for the year to 31st December 2024
Approved by the Board on 11th August 2025



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Contents

1. Welcome letter from the President	3
2. Chairman’s Report July 2023 to July 2024	4
3. Treasurer’s report for 2024.....	5
4. Accounts for the period 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2024	7
5. Gift list for 2024	10
6. Hospital Volunteer Report	11
7. Social fundraising Report	11
8. Public Fundraising Report.....	12
9. Community Co-ordinators Report.....	13
10. Hospital Report.....	14



Front Cover photo

Members of the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme thanked The Friends for their donation of centrifuge which will be used during a research project which could increase the number of patient samples which can be processed.

Back page photo

The Mayor’s Special Appreciation Award presented to the Trustees of The Friends of the Hospital of St Cross after the AGM in September 2023.

Acknowledgements

The majority of photographs throughout this report were taken by Friends Volunteers.

1. Welcome letter from the President



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Welcome to the 70th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Hospital of St Cross.

Last year Professor Andy Hardy unveiled the strategy for the further development of the site at St Cross. The first phase of this will include re-location of the services provided in the Owen Building, Children's Out Patients and Swift House and the building of a new theatre block on the site these buildings currently occupy. These plans are starting to come to fruition and you will hear more about "Health on the High Street" during the AGM.

At the AGM you will also hear about the progress of our Platinum Anniversary Appeal which aims to raise at least £70,000 to celebrate 70 years since The Friends was founded. In March we announced that the first project that the Appeal will support is the purchase of a second ultrasound machine which will allow ultrasound scans for maternity to be separate from gynaecology services.



The biggest change which affected The Friends Volunteer services was the introduction of the Electronic Patient Record (EPR) which reduced the volume of paper records and filing which was part of the activity undertaken by our great team of Ward Admin Volunteers (a service introduced to help with the added pressures on Ward Clerks during COVID). Many of the volunteers have now been redeployed to deliver Hospital Admin services in various wards and departments.



At the AGM Doug Jones will stand down as Chair but will remain as a trustee to look after the Governance of the charity. June Witcomb, our long serving Secretary of the Board will also stand down as will Ramesh Srivastava who will continue to volunteer in the Meet and Greet and Phlebotomy

services. I am pleased to report that we are in the process of recruiting 3 new Trustees and look forward to them joining the team if they are elected at the AGM.

Last year Elizabeth Burnett received a World Class Colleague Award and was shortlisted for the Trust's Outstanding Service and Care Awards (OSCA's).

I will close with a big thank you to all our Trustees, Volunteers and the dedicated team of service co-ordinators and fundraisers and look forward to the exciting year ahead.

All the best

Willy Goldschmidt, President – August 2025

2. Chairman's Report July 2023 to July 2024



Our previous AGM, the Friends 69th Annual General Meeting, was held on Wednesday 4th September 2024 at the Benn Hall and presented reports covering the activity of the Charity and our financial accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023.

The meeting was very well attended, as in previous years, with the Mayor of Rugby Cllr Simon Ward, Sue Noyes the Chair of the UHCW Board and our guest speaker Professor Richard King Consultant FRCSed (Trauma & Orthopaedics) UHCW Trust all in attendance. This was also the launch of our 70th Anniversary Appeal and we received a donation of £500 from the Rugby Male Voice Choir to kick start the appeal. More on that at the AGM from our President Willy Goldschmidt.

Professor King gave an excellent presentation "Day case hip & knee replacement- A revolution in orthopaedics." This covered the journey for the St Cross team from visiting an established unit in Exeter to learn from their experience to delivery of this new service at St Cross. This was only possible through the collaborative work of the various teams, nurses, therapists, advanced clinical practitioners, managers, radiographers, pharmacists, theatre staff, anaesthetists and surgeons who worked to deliver at St Cross a procedure that the Lancet had described as "The Operation of the Century". That team included the Friends who financially supported this development with the purchase of ten patient trolleys at a cost of £39,824 which was one of the major areas of support that we provided in 2023 without which this could not have been delivered so promptly.

Projects such as this are only possible because of the generosity and support that all those individuals, groups, clubs, and associations provide so readily to the Friends. Last year was no exception and our income from one year to the next has remained steady. We thank them all for the financial support they have provided. It is only possible for us to achieve as much as we do because of that ongoing support of the Rugby Community.

Once again, last year saw our fundraising activities delivering consistently excellent results. Pauline Masterman and her team on Book Sales raised a great amount of money bettering previous year end results. Elizabeth Burnett and team on the Tea Bar and Ward Trolley Services should also be mentioned for all they do which I know is very much appreciated by patients and staff alike and raised a significant sum of money for the Charity too.

Special mention should also be made of Tracey Lennard who last year celebrated her 25th year as Chair of the Social Fund-Raising Committee. A phenomenal achievement that has seen Tracey and team raise more than £200,000 since 1999.

Over the years an average of four events a year have taken place raising funds to support the work of the Friends in helping to bring new services to the town and improving the patient experience. Last year was no exception with four amazing evening events across the year once again raising a considerable sum. Huge thanks must go to all who attend the various fundraising events held and to the committee, both past and present, who give their time in both organising everything and supporting the Friends so readily.

Our Public Fund Raising during 2024 continued to raise a modest amount via Rugby LOTTO.

Over the last year considerable effort has been made in the engagement of local communities and in raising their awareness of the wide array of services provide at St Cross.

Obviously, this will need continued effort and input from the Charity to build upon those relationships and explore opportunities to develop additional income streams for the Friends. If you are over 16 years of age and would like more information or indeed would like to accept this challenge then please do not hesitate to contact us, we would love to hear from you.

Requests for support from our team of volunteers continue to grow and with the planned expansion of hospital facilities both on and off site that demand will only increase. We have a steady stream of new volunteers joining the Friends, but the number of active volunteers stays constant at around 170. The collective support provided by those individuals is amazing and runs at around 1500 hrs of volunteering a month. That is a huge and invaluable contribution to the work of the Friends managed by our team of excellent Service Co-ordinators who lead voluntary activities across a wide range of services here at St Cross. What you all do so willingly and enthusiastically is amazing and the Friends could not achieve all that we do without your support. To all our volunteers both new and long serving, I thank you for your service.

We have also seen changes within the Friends Board of Trustees with three Trustees stepping down at the AGM and three new Trustees joining us. A very warm welcome to our new Trustees and we thank those that are moving on for their support and contribution to the work of the Friends. The Trustee Board is still as strong as ever with a fantastic range of talents and a wealth of experience that can be drawn upon to continue to send the Friends onto the next chapter of its already amazing history.

We have also seen changes with our key contacts at the Hospital with both Dr Jan Jayatilake Hospital Director and Hilary Lorimer Volunteer Services Manager moving on. We thank them both for their support. I would also like to formally welcome our new “Friends” Juliet Starkey Group Director of Operations Rugby and Chelly Walsma Voluntary Services Manager. We look forward to building upon our already fantastic relationship with the Hospital.

The last budget year saw fewer than usual requests for support than we would normally expect to receive. Full details of what we have done over the previous year can be found within the gift list for 2024. Income, however, has been very consistent over the last couple of years which means we are well placed to support the future developments planned both on the Hospital site and within the Town as those developments begin to take shape. More on that subject at the AGM from our guest speaker Kara Maitra – Deputy Chief Strategy & Transformation Officer.

The continued and unwavering generosity that we receive from the Rugby Community has helped 2024 to be yet another fantastic year for the Charity. As always it is only possible for us to achieve as much as we do because of that ongoing support of our magnificent volunteers and the financial support that all those individuals, groups, clubs, and associations provide so readily to the Friends.

Thank you everyone for your support.

Doug Jones, Chairman - August 2025

4. Treasurer's report for 2024



The finances of the Friends of the Hospital of St Cross remain in excellent health and put us in a great position to be able to support the exciting expansion plans that the Trust have for Rugby. During 2024, our reserves increased by just under £66,000. This was in part, due to some expenditure projects totalling £35,000, that were not complete and paid for by 31st December 2024.

Total income raised during the year amounted to £99,269, almost the same as in the previous year.

As well as the many donations from individuals, including many sent in memory of loved ones, there were significant sums donated by a variety of local organisations, reflecting the fundraising efforts of their own members and supporters.

Whilst we are extremely grateful for all financial support, no matter how big or small, notable donations of more than £1,000 have been gratefully received following a golf day in memory of Mr Peter Pryde (£4,340), and from the Sir Edward Boughton Long Lawford Charity (£1,250).

Legacies continue to be a source of significant funds for our charity. A total of £37,603 was received during 2024. We are of course very grateful that people make a bequest to The Friends when making their wills. We can assure their families that 100% of the money received by us, is spent wisely and with care in support of hospital services within Rugby.

Special mention should once again be made of a few teams of volunteers, who make a particular contribution in raising funds for the charity:

- The social fundraising team, led by Tracey Lennard, put on a programme of exciting social events during the calendar year, raising a fabulous £16,144. Thank you to all of you who supported these events – a fantastic team effort.
- The Tea Bar and Ward Trolley Service team, led by Elizabeth Burnett, once again saw a significant increase in activity, in large part due to an expansion of the ward trolley services. These services generated a profit of £14,260 – an increase of almost 25% over the 2023 level.

As anticipated, following the introduction of more secure collection tins, income from the sale of books & jigsaws has more than doubled from the previous year, and generated an income of £2,732. Thank you to Pauline Masterman and her team of volunteers for this.

The funds raised by the charity, have of course been used funding gifts for the hospital to satisfy our aims. This year this totalled actual expenditure of £30,049, plus and additional £35,050 of approved and committed expenditure where the projects were not yet completed and paid for. This expenditure covered a wide section of hospital areas and departments, including Radiology (£7,253), Bowel Cancer Screening (£6,645), Outpatients (£3,774), and Physiotherapy (£2,991). The projects in progress at the end of the year, that will be completed during 2025, included the purchase of a patient bed mover for £19,000, and a functional equipment mover for £10,000.



I would like to thank Stephen Walshaw, our Purchasing Lead, for his diligence in securing the best possible price for all the items that we have donated.

The costs of operating the charity are more than covered by earned income (Tea Bar, Ward Trolley, interest and dividends), meaning that 100% of donations are dedicated to supporting services within the hospital.

The running costs this year totalled £4,962 – considerably lower than in previous years, partly due to there being no purchase of volunteer uniforms during this 12-month period, and a refund of some bank charges that had been paid in previous years.

The running costs included; the cost of running the website, emails and IT resources (£1,357); the examination of the annual accounts (£1,032) and insurance (£1,045). We have no paid employees, so the administrative and governance costs are limited to those items essential to the smooth running of the charity.

Once again, I would like to remind you all that the most significant contribution to the life of the hospital and its patients doesn't appear in these financial statements. This is the contribution made by volunteers who support the variety of services within the hospital and vastly improve the patient experience. We are indebted to you all.

Brian Cheney, Treasurer - August 2025



4. Accounts for the period 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2024

Friends of St Cross Hospital - income and expenditure statement from 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

		Year end	Year end
Income and Expenditure	Note	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23
Income			
Voluntary income			
	Donations	20,604	43,758
	Legacies	37,603	19,376
Fund raising income			
	Social fundraising	16,144	17,824
	Public Fundraising	0	0
Investment income			
	Bank & Building Society interest	5,848	2,153
	Dividends	4,810	4,585
Trading income			
	Tea bar & Ward Trolley Service	14,260	11,416
	Income total	99,269	99,112
Expenditure			
Charitable expenditure			
	Total gifts purchased	30,049	167,300
Support costs			
	Administration and support	2,216	6,985
<u>Governance costs</u>			
	Subscription to Attend (includes insurance) & AGM expenses	2,746	2,535
	Expenditure total	35,011	176,820
Movement in value of equity investments	11	1,611	-1,464
	Net incoming/outgoing resources for the year	65,869	-79,172
	Balance brought forward at 1st January	322,455	401,627
	Balance carried forward at 31st December	388,324	322,455

Statement of financial position at 31st December 2024				
Current assets				
	Nat West Bank current account	54,561	36,147	
	Unity Bank current account	80,115	34,271	
	Coventry Building Society Charities Account	85,000	85,000	
	Hinckley & Rugby Building Society	85,000	85,000	
	M&G Charifund investment account	70,186	68,403	
	BLK Charities UK Bond Fund A Inc	8,419	8,809	
	Blackrock Charities Growth and Income Fund Class A	4,923	4,705	
	Cash in hand	120	120	
	Total assets	388,324	322,455	
Outstanding liabilities				
	Gift purchases ordered/invoiced, payments not cleared at year end	0	0	
	Net current assets	388,324	322,455	
Funds				
	Instant Access Funds	9	214,120	154,051
	Funds with 90 days' notice	10	85,000	85,000
	Funds in equity investment		83,528	81,917
	Total unrestricted funds		382,648	320,968
	Funds designated by donors		5,676	1,487
	Total funds		388,324	322,455

Notes to 2024 accounts			
Note		31/12/2024	31/12/2023
1	Donations	£	£
	Coventry Building Society (<i>St Cross Supporters account</i>)	0	9,294
	Hinckley & Rugby Building Society	0	10,000
	Organisations	4,285	6,595
	In memory	8,257	3,640
	Gift Aid	0	0
	Individuals	2,149	1,539
	Internet platforms (<i>Virgin Money Giving, Paypal Giving etc.</i>)	1,598	2,989
	Book sales (<i>stalls in St Cross and via other channels</i>)	2,732	1,344
	All other donations (<i>collecting tins & drums, regular donations</i>)	1,047	6,043
	Miscellaneous (<i>Rugby Lotto, Amazon Smile, sundry donations</i>)	536	2,314
	Total	20,604	43,758
2	Legacies		
	Michael Clueit	24,553	0
	Mary Lock	10,000	0
	Geoffrey Philip Martindale	2,000	0
	Eric Emrys Craven	1,000	0
	Barbara Phillips	50	0
	Helen Dalton Dunkley	0	18,829
	Dr John Howel Jones	0	500
	Margery Vida Rainbow (additional receipt)	0	47
	Total	37,603	19,376
3	Fund raising (<i>net of expenses</i>)		
	Social fund raising	16,144	17,824
	Public fund raising	0	0
	Total	16,144	17,824

Notes to 2024 accounts continued			
Note		31/12/2024	31/12/2023
4	Savings & investment income		
	Coventry Building Society Charities instant access account	2,463	888
	Hinckley & Rugby Building Society 90 day notice interest	3,385	1,265
	Dividends - M&G Charifund	4,290	4,076
	Dividends - BlackRock UK Bond A	356	356
	Dividends -Blackrock	164	153
	Total	10,658	6,738
5	Tea bar and Ward Trolley Service		
	Gross takings	38,547	30,730
	Less cost of sales (<i>all remaining stock has been written off</i>)	-24,287	-19,314
	Total	14,260	11,416
6	Gifts		
	Gifts & grants to NHS Trusts	29,049	166,300
	Donation to Rugby Hospital Radio	1,000	1,000
	Total	30,049	167,300
7	Administration & support		
	Office, stationery & postage	329	348
	Travel	0	284
	Marketing	0	0
	Fund raising equipment	667	677
	Uniforms	0	2,821
	Bank charges	-432	547
	Miscellaneous (including website & email costs)	1,652	2,308
	Total	2,216	6,985
8	Governance Costs		
	Subscriptions to Attend (includes insurance)	1,045	995
	Examination of annual accounts	1,032	1,008
	AGM Expenses	669	532
	Total	2,746	2,535
9	Instant Access Funds		
	Natwest current account	54,561	36,147
	Unity Bank current account	80,115	34,271
	Coventry Building Society	85,000	85,000
	Cash in Hand	120	120
	Less designated funds	-5,676	-1,487
	Total	214,120	154,051
10	Funds with 90 day notice		
	Hinckley & Rugby Building Society	85,000	85,000
	Total	85,000	85,000
		Value	Value
11	Movement in Value of equity investments	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	M&G Charifund account	70,186	68,403
	BLK Charities UK Bond Fund A	8,419	8,809
	Blackrock Charities Growth and Income Fund Class A	4,923	4,705
	Total	83,528	81,917
	Net Movement	1,611	

5. Gift list for 2024

Item	Ward/Department	Cost £
22 x Waiting Room Chairs	Radiology	£ 5,601
11 x Staff Lockers	Total £7,253	£ 1,652
Centrifuge	Bowel Cancer Screening	£ 4,953
Scope	Total £6,645	£ 1,692
12 x Chairs	Outpatients	£ 3,732
Crayons & puzzle books	Total £3,774	£ 42
Christmas Dinner (2023) for staff & volunteers	General	£ 3,645
1 x Gym Equipment Leg Extension/Curl	Physiotherapy	£ 2,791
Microwave	Total £2,991	£ 200
Bingo Prizes		£ 815
20 x Waste Bins	Ash Dialysis	£ 280
Larder Fridge	Total £1,421	£ 189
2 x Oil filled radiators		£ 99
Microwave		£ 38
2 x Rotunda with knee support	Oak & Mulberry	£ 1,368
Donation	Rugby Hospital Radio	£ 1,000
Presents for inpatients over Christmas	General	£ 850
Refreshments - Mental Health Initiative	General	£ 300
Fridge & Microwave	Orchard Centre	£ 200
4 x Wall Prints	Fern Unit	£ 288
Easter Eggs	General	£ 180
Flowers for planters + gardening tools	General	£ 87
4 x Hairdryers	Hoskyn	£ 47
	TOTAL	£ 30,049
Gifts in Progress as at 31st December 2024		
Patient Bed Mover		£ 18,965
Functional Equipment Mover		£ 10,445
Christmas Dinner (2024) for staff & volunteers		£ 5,640
	TOTAL	£ 35,050



6. Hospital Volunteer Report



Our volunteers continue to make a difference to the experience of patients, visitors and staff in an ever-widening range of services. The smart uniforms of our hospital volunteers help them to be recognised by visitors and staff as part of Team UHCW.

Our volunteers donate an average of 1,500 hours per month to support the hospital. The 180 volunteers in the hospital are led by a team of service co-ordinators who work with the local hospital management and report to the Trustees.

We continue to recruit volunteers from across the community and have increased the number of sixth form and college students from local schools and colleges who wish to pursue a career in medicine.

The notional value of the effort they delivered in 2024 was £283,000 – more than double the average value of donations of equipment and project support that has been provided in recent years.

We continue to operate the range of services reported at last year’s AGM except for Ward Admin which has been transformed into Hospital Admin following the introduction of the Trust’s Electronic Patient Record. This service includes “Calling ahead” patients to remind them of booked appointments or undertaking a variety of other tasks which assist the teams in various wards and departments throughout the hospital.

Willy Goldschmidt and Doug Jones – August 2025

7. Social fundraising Report



This report covers the social fundraising events that were held during 2024 which was a significant year for me as it marked my 25th anniversary as Chair of the Social Fundraising Committee. Four spectacular evening events were scheduled to take place at Castle Keep spread across the year.

In April, a Games Show Party Night took place which proved to be extremely popular and was attended by the Mayor of Rugby. As well as raising lots of money for the Friends everyone who attended had a wonderful time reliving Play Your Cards Right, Deal or No Deal, a Pop Quiz and Bonkers Bingo complete with a “Henry Hoover” prize!! The profit from the evening after all associated costs was £2,401.

Originally the second event was an Adele Tribute Night in July which ended up being particularly memorable as due to unforeseen circumstances on the day it ended up being a Gary Barlow Tribute. It is amazing what can be done at the last minute and under pressure. Anyway, it was an incredible evening of entertainment which everyone without exception, after the initial shock at the announcement that Adele was not going to be there, totally enjoyed. A great evening which raised a fantastic £2,051.

Next, we held an Ibiza White Party in September!! Everyone arrived dressed fully in white and Castle Keep was decorated with white to create the right look and feel for this event. Two DJ’s,

Any Rowley & Ted Nilsson provide the entertainment alongside a live saxophonist, Andy Sax, to create a truly memorable night. Thanks must go to DGM Slush who provided iced slush cocktails which were gratefully received and Balloons with Love provided a photographic backdrop for free which all added to making this an outstanding evening. The event raised £4,420 for the Charity.

The final event of the year, our Annual Black Tie, was at Castle Keep on 2nd November. This was again very well attended and both Andy Hardy UHCW CEO and Sue Noyes Chair of the UHCW Board were in attendance. Entertainment was provided by “Interesting Theatre” who provided a wonderful story portrayed through song. This was also a particularly important event to me as it marked my 25th annual black tie for the Friends which in addition to raising over £7000 on the night taking the total amount raised since 1999 by the Social Fundraising team to over £200,000.

Andy Hardy, Chief Executive Officer, and Sue Noyes, Chair of the Trust presented Tracey with a bouquet and thanked her and The Friends for all that they do to support The Hospital of St Cross.

The excellent Chefs Kitchen provided catering for all the 2024 events, and we thank Iain and Elaine Enticott for their continued support which is, as always, very much appreciated.

Four events are planned for 2025 including a Black-Tie Dinner Dance and a Dog Walk both of which have already taken place and raised £5215. An Afternoon Tea party with the Rugby Male Voice Choir will be held the weekend before the AGM and the final event for 2025 will be a Motown Evening!

As always huge thanks must go to my committee who give their time in both organising and supporting the Friends. Without their amazing contribution these events would not happen.

Tracey Lennard – August 2025



8. Public Fundraising Report



Over the last year considerable effort has been made in the engagement of local communities and in raising their awareness of the wide array of services provided at St Cross. This also gave us a wonderful opportunity to better their understanding of how the funds raised can complement the established or new facilities and services provided by the NHS at St Cross as well as helping to improve the patient experience.

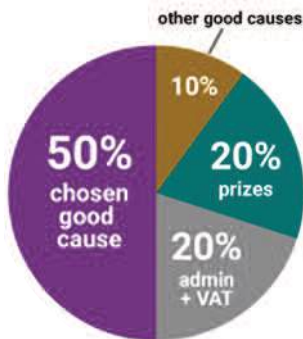
This needed the significant investment of time with over 120 hours of engagement in 2024-2025 and contact being made with around 700 members of local communities.

Local businesses contributed generously too by donating prizes for the Friends stall in the Rugby Spring Fair which helped us to raise £407 from the public and raise awareness of the Charity.

By completing a 65 km cycling challenge, 8-year-old Mitra Sathiyamurthy raised £800 - which was shared equally between the Friends of St Cross and her school raising awareness for the work of the Friends of St Cross and inspiring others to do the same.

As the members of those diverse communities across Rugby become increasingly aware of the role of the charity in supporting the Hospital of St. Cross and its services, we look forward to the level of public support continuing to grow.

Obviously, this will need further effort and input from the Charity to build upon those relationships and explore opportunities to enhance this critical area of income for the Friends. If you are over 16 years of age and would like more information or indeed would like to accept this challenge then please do not hesitate to contact us, we would love to hear from you.



Meanwhile, the Rugby Lotto continues to generate an income for the Friends and since we joined on 19th June 2019 £4,000.00 has been raised. This was achieved on 6th July 2025. Obviously, the more people that take part the greater the benefit for the Friends.

Tickets in the weekly Lotto draw are only £1. That's right, unlike many other lotteries tickets are only £1 per week and 60% of every £1 ticket goes to good causes. If you nominate The Friends of the Hospital of St Cross as your chosen cause 50 pence goes to the Friends and 10 pence goes to other causes in Rugby and there's a grand prize of £25,000 if you are lucky enough to match all 6 number!! To buy a ticket just follow this link <https://www.rugbylotto.org>

Gita Natarajan & Doug Jones – August 2025

9. Community Co-ordinators Report

Since 2018 we have increased our engagement with the Asian community in Rugby with visits to the Hindu Temple, Sikh Gurdara and Pakistani Community Centre.



Most recently Willy Goldschmidt and Juliet Starkey visited the Hindu Temple which was celebrating 50 years since the Temple was inaugurated.

We now have strong representation of the Asian community in the team of volunteers delivering services and making the Hospital of St Cross a better health centre for all.



Ramesh Srivastava, Community Liaison Lead - August 2025

10. Hospital Report



I am pleased to present this report highlighting some of the key developments, service improvements and achievements at the Hospital of St Cross between June 2024 and July 2025. For those of you who don't yet know me, I have had the privilege of working at UHCW since 1999, with the first 18 years spent at the Hospital of St Cross. I have now returned and look forward to collaborating once more with the Friends of the Hospital of St Cross and seeing how the hospital will develop over the next few years.

Central to that growth is the multi-million-pound plans to expand surgical capacity, which were approved by Rugby Borough Council in February. The new development is to include four operating theatres, two 24-bed wards and 12 recovery bays and is part of our Organisational Strategy to reduce waiting times and improve patient care. This builds on the hospital's accreditation as an elective surgical hub and we are proud to be receiving national recognition for length of stay reductions following the introduction of our Rugby Ambulatory Orthopaedic Service in January last year. This has led to us being asked to support other organisations.

University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) NHS Trust is proud of its strong research portfolio, and it got me wondering how many people are aware that research studies are undertaken at the Hospital of St Cross?

We were really pleased to secure funding from the Friends earlier this year to facilitate a research study in the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme (BCSP) looking at the effect of extreme temperatures on the test kits used to identify potential signs of bowel cancer. The programme has also expanded the age at which screening is offered, resulting in more than 39,000 people being invited to submit samples for test every week.

In a major milestone, Endoscopy and Radiology colleagues successfully completed the first Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio Pancreatography (ERCP) list in April. The introduction of ERCP (a complex procedure treating bile and pancreatic duct conditions) in Rugby is helping to improve patient access, shorten waiting times and enhance local service provision.

April also saw the introduction of dedicated rehabilitative Pilates sessions delivered in the Laurel Unit for our breast cancer patients. The programme includes a one-off education class followed by a six-week timetable of Pilates. Funded by the West Midlands Cancer Alliance, the programme focuses on supporting participants to return to daily activities.

We are proud of all the staff and volunteers working at the Hospital of St Cross, and it was lovely to celebrate Paul Francis who received the Mitie Partnership Award at the Outstanding Service and Care Awards (OSCA) and Sorna Thomas who was highly commended as one of three finalists for Excellence in Leadership at the inaugural British Indian Nurses Association (BINA) Global Awards, following her recent Florence Nightingale Award.

The next few years are set to be extremely exciting for our hospital and I look forward to sharing future developments with you.

Juliet Starkey, Hospital Director – August 2025



THE MAYOR'S SPECIAL APPRECIATION AWARD

Awarded to

*The Trustees of the Friends of
the Hospital of St Cross*

In recognition of the outstanding
support for Rugby's Hospital of St Cross and the
residents it serves

Maggie O'Rourke

Councillor Mrs Maggie O'Rourke
Mayor of Rugby
2023/24

