

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS



CENTENARY GATES

The last in a series of events to celebrate the centenary of Haslemere Hospital took place on the 14th November when Michael More-Molyneux, Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, officially opened new gates at the Hospital.

The dilapidated pair of wrought iron gates were discovered in a local shop in Haslemere. Realising the gates were probably made around the time of the Hospital's foundation in 1923, it was decided they would be an ideal tangible memorial for the centenary.

The League of Friends paid for the refurbishment and restoration of the gates and the brick pillars which support them. These have been placed in the area where the hospital's garden and patio meets the path to the Health Centre. As well as looking very attractive, they will provide a safe enclosure for patients and visitors who are sitting in the gardens. A brass plaque on one of the pillars records the ceremony for posterity.

As well as the Lord Lieutenant who cut the red ribbon and declared the gates open, other guests included Louise Stead, Chief Executive at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, together with Haslemere Town Mayor, Jerome Davidson, nurses and members of the League of Friends.

Town Crier Christian, rang the bell to start the ceremony after which Louise Stead congratulated the hospital and everyone concerned. Calling the gates "fantastic", she commented on the safe environment they had created. She said she always enjoyed coming to Haslemere and meeting staff and residents who were "imaginative and community-minded". The whole Foundation Trust was incredibly proud of Haslemere Hospital, and the Minor Injuries Unit there was doing wonderful work for the many patients who now use the service. Finally she thanked Rose Parry and her team for their gift and all they were doing to benefit everyone who used the hospital.

The group then adjourned inside and enjoyed cups of tea and cakes.



LEAGUE OF FRIENDS



Town Crier Christian Ashdown; the Lord Lieutenant, Michael More-Molyneux; Mayor Jerome Davidson; Louise Stead (RSCH); Rose Parry and Dr Mark Hurst.