

## CHAIRMANS REPORT

2010 saw the League of Friends give 30 years of service to the patients and staff of Burton Hospitals. 30 years in which the funds raised have increased year on year and now total well over £3.2 million pounds

The fact that after 30 years we should still be around should not be underestimated and something which all League volunteers, past and present, should be very proud.

Donations to the hospital have changed dramatically from the early days. During 2010 we set up a display of photographs through the years and I was reminded of not only the many and varying items we have purchased for the hospital – fish tanks in waiting rooms for instance would not be acceptable now – but also the change of items. I have lost count of how many TV's we have purchased over the years. and nowadays it is mainly equipment that will benefit both the patients and staff, sometimes taking away the need for intrusive surgery and speeding up the diagnosis for the patients.

Personally 2010 also marked my 30 years as a member of the League and 20 years since my appointment as Chairman. a position in which I have been very privileged to represent the volunteers. One of the highlights was being invited, along with Rita Ross our secretary, to meet with Prince Andrew at St. James Palace along with many other members of League of Friends from around the country. Another was the presentation of Diamond awards to our long service members by ATTEND. I was also presented, on behalf of the League and Phoenix, with a certificate from the Chairman of South Derbyshire marking our service in volunteering for the hospital and the community.

I am constantly surprised at the never ending generosity of members of the public to support their local hospital and I know that without the committed work of the volunteers this would not be possible – my thanks to all of you - as was said to me recently 'The League is always there, through thick and thin times' it will be interesting to see where the next 30 years takes us.



The Diamond Awards which took place in Collegiate Church of St Mary's, Stafford with Mike Forest, Pauline Spratt, Bill Spratt, Rita Ross and Ces Dawson.