

# Special Bulletin

Dear colleagues,

At the St Barnabas House and Chestnut Tree House AGM on 20 November 2018, Derwyn Jones stepped down from the role of Chairman of Trustees and we welcomed Patricia Woolgar as the new Chair.



## Thank you Derwyn



We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Derwyn, who has headed up the Board of Trustees for the past three years. His leadership and energy have been instrumental in taking the charity forward in its aim to provide more care and support services for adults, children and their families in Sussex and South East Hampshire.

Derwyn joined the Board of Trustees in 2011 after becoming aware of the charity through his wife, Gillian, who has been a volunteer at Chestnut Tree House for ten years.

Derwyn said: *"I was very proud to take on the role of Chairman and I have enjoyed*

*every moment of my tenure. I would like to thank everyone for the support I have received as a Trustee and as Chair.*

*The charity is fortunate to have loyal and dedicated staff, a huge army of wonderful volunteers and a strong management team who all work together to provide the very best care to local children and adults.*

*It has been a humbling experience to work with everyone and to see the marvellous work they do and I hope that I have in some small way helped to make a difference too as Chairman and Trustee.*

*We are on the brink of the next evolution with exciting new developments at St Barnabas House and the expansion of Chestnut Tree House. I know that Patricia will be an excellent leader for our Board of Trustees and will make sure that the charity continues to move forward to enable us to reach out to more people in our local community who desperately need our help."*

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## Welcome to Patricia

Patricia joined our Board of Trustees in 2014 and served on various committees and has been Chair of the Income Generation Committee. She has undertaken the Nominated Trustee role for both Chestnut Tree House and St Barnabas House and participated in a Chestnut Tree House strategy project group.



Patricia has recently retired as partner of solicitors, Irwin Mitchell, originally joining the Worthing branch of the firm, then known as Bowles and Stevens, over 30 years ago. Former senior partner, Dick Stapleton, was one of the inaugural Trustees when St Barnabas was established in the 1970s, and Patricia was keen to continue the firm's long association with the charity.

In her working life, Patricia was involved in the management of her firm for over 20 years, as well as providing personal legal advice to individuals and their families. She held numerous personal appointments as Executor, Trustee and Court of Protection appointed Deputy. Working with the elderly and vulnerable clients for many years has made Patricia aware of the difficulties they often encounter, their need for support, and their increasing dependence on the voluntary sector.

*Patricia says: "I know how much the people cared for and their families appreciate the tremendous support they receive from the hospices. Over the years I have watched the incredible growth and development of St Barnabas House and Chestnut Tree House in awe and I hope that the skills and knowledge I have acquired over the years will be of benefit in meeting the challenges still to come."*

Patricia's chairmanship comes into immediate effect following her appointment at the AGM on 20 November 2018. Derwyn will fulfil his diary commitments until Christmas and Patricia will take over all appointments from January 2019. He will be stepping down from the Board of Trustees completely but will still be involved in supporting both hospices in a personal capacity.

All communications with Patricia and the Board of Trustees are via Julie Dixon on 01903 706308 or email [julie.dixon@stbh.org.uk](mailto:julie.dixon@stbh.org.uk).

If you have any questions at all, please contact your line manager or any of the Senior Management Team.

Thank you