

FRIENDS OF BOTESDALE HEALTH CENTRE REPORT 2019

During 2018 one of the major events was the rise of the building extension at the back of the Health Centre. This was a project that Dr Cooke had been nurturing and he was delighted when agreement for it was given by NHS England.

Although not quite ready for occupation, the shell is complete, the lift installed – which had to be large enough to take a bed – electrical installation and alarm system synchronised. It is hoped that within the next 4-6 weeks the finishing touches will be made so that internal decoration and work can be commence.

The Friends have been raising funds during 2018 for this building as most of the equipment, furniture and accessories will have to be provided outside the NHS budget. It is intended that regular clinics such as the Baby Clinic, MacMillan visits, Family Carers, etc. will be held in the new building – which may be named after a patient who left a very generous legacy to the Health Centre. This has not been finalised yet – we'll all have to wait and see. Additional groups could be added such as one for people suffering from leg ulcers, diabetes and meetings currently held in part of the Health Centre will also move over.

So, 2019 will also be another busy year, Dr Cooke will be retiring in April and other changes may occur – who knows? The Friends will continue to support the Health Centre in its work to the best of our ability (and bank account) and we hope that everyone in the Practice and the Community will benefit.

Carole Fitt - Secretary of the FoBHC