

### **Potted History (from old records):**

- 1875** Elfin Grove Villas in Teddington was given by Thomas Chappell (of the piano firm) for a hospital for the poor and destitute of Teddington who formerly had to attend Richmond Infirmary. It had four beds, and patients paid 1/-d a day (now 5p). In the ensuing years, money was raised by annual subscriptions, donations, bazaars, fetes, concerts, and theatrical performances.
- 1914** Beds were increased to 24 but the Elfin Grove site was too small for the growing population and there was no more space for expansion.
- 1919** The Medical Committee now began to look for possible sites where a new hospital and health centre could be built as a living war memorial with an obelisk outside. The old nursery land on which the present hospital stands was acquired for the price of £2,000 from Messrs R & D Anderson, and a member of the family gave a donation of £1,000 to the building fund.
- 1875 – 1924**  
According to the Annual Reports, the patients treated at the Hospital from 1875 – 1924 totalled 12,731. Casualties averaged 400 a year.
- 1924 – 1934**  
The money to build the new hospital was raised entirely by voluntary and charitable efforts. The Swan and Stag Volume is a collection of magazines which was published annually in aid of the fund and the whole volume is held at Twickenham Library. The Swan and Stag became the hospital emblem.
- 1928** Lord Dawson of Penn (Royal Physician) laid the foundation stone that is embedded in the side return wall by the front door. Buried at the back of the stone are all the benefactors' and donors' names. The ground at the back of the Hospital was the Hospital's kitchen garden where fresh fruit and vegetables were grown and used for patient and staff meals.
- 1929** The new hospital – known then as the Teddington, Hampton Wick and District Memorial Hospital – was opened for patients.
- 1933** An Operating Theatre was built as a memorial to Dr. I. Coalbank (a well known GP) followed by a Children's Ward and single rooms for Private Patients.
- 1939** The Hospital became a Casualty Clearing Station with 40 beds held ready for all war-time emergencies and casualties. A bomb blast wall was built in front of the Hospital, which saved it from severe damage when the church on the opposite corner received a direct hit.
- 1948** The Hospital was taken over by the National Health Service, and was the largest General Practitioners' Unit under the North West Regional Board and assigned to the South West Middlesex Group of Hospitals. Subsequently, the Hospital was managed by the West Middlesex Hospital and Hounslow and Spelthorne Health Authority.
- 1954** **The League of Friends was formed.** Voluntary services included practical help on the wards, with the library trolley and canteen services and many fund raising activities. From then until now it has experienced milestone events, successes and many **achievements**. The early years of the League was geared to raising as many funds as possible and to encourage membership through annual subscription.
- 1962** Chappell Ward Day room was added – financed by ex-patients and partly furnished by the League of Friends.
- 1964** Physiotherapy Department opened – financed by the people of Teddington and surrounding districts and sponsored by Teddington Rotary Club.

- 1965** Grace Anderson Ward Day Room added. This too was financed by ex-patients and the League of Friends.
- 1968** Male Ward Day Room Built as a result of Teddington Hospital Improvement Scheme campaign and hospital fete.
- 1971** A records room was built onto the existing Out-Patient Waiting Room, financed by voluntary contributions.
- 1972** Solarium on Male Ward upgraded and furnished by the League of Friends. Extension of two surgeries for Consultants opened as a memorial to Dr. Godfrey Morgan and were financed by voluntary contributions.
- 1973** A large area of the Hospital grounds was required by the Local Health Authority for the building of the Teddington Clinic.
- 1975** Centenary year of original building – Elfin Grove Villas – commemorated by various events including a concert and barbecue.

**1975 – 1978**

The League of Friends purchased equipment totalling £7,646.30, the money for which was raised by numerous events including the Winter Wonderland and Festive Fayre bazaars, coffee mornings, tea parties and a Michlemas Supper, together with generous donations.

- 1979** Golden Jubilee Year of the Hospital on its present site. A new bathroom annex was built and equipped to Grace Anderson Ward at a cost of £40,000 to commemorate this occasion and was financed by the League and the local community.

**1981 Independent League of Friends of Teddington Memorial Hospital was formed.**

- 1981** A new project for the provision of a new X-Ray Department was launched by the League – subsequently held in abeyance until 1987.

- 1982** The in-patient facilities at the Hospital were threatened with closure due to financial difficulties of Hounslow & Spelthorne Health Authority, so the League organised a campaign to save the Hospital. Some 35,000 signatures were received on petition forms objecting to the proposal.

In October 1983 the League organised a 24 hour candle lit Vigil on the front forecourt of the Hospital. Over 2,000 people attended and signed the Vigil Book. A Vigil Candle burned for 24 hours and a fax was sent to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to record the event.

In November 1983, Health Minister Kenneth Clarke received a delegation headed by MP Toby Jessel. In December of the same year Kenneth Clarke reprieved the Hospital and designated 27 General Practitioner Beds.

In the years following this successful campaign to keep the Hospital open, the League mounted large appeals to raise funds for a massive programme of improvement to the Hospital - see [Achievements](#).

**1983 – 1985**

The Operating Theatre was closed in 1984.

The League launched an Appeal Fund in the amount of £285,000 to provide a new Patients Waiting Hall, League Shop, Records Room, Reception X-Ray Department, Staircase, Staff Dining

Room, Outside Brick Build Store, and complete refurbishment of the Casualty and Out-Patient Departments.

**1985 – 1986**

First turf cut for the project in December 1985 and the foundation stone laid in the front wall of the Hospital in July 1986.

In November 1986 the Patients Waiting Hall, League Shop and refurbished Casualty and Out-Patient Departments were opened.

**1987** The new X-Ray Department was completed and opened in July.

**1988 – 1990**

Appeal Fund in the amount of £300,000 launched by the League towards the building of a 22 bed General Practitioner Unit and work commenced in 1989.

The foundation stone was laid for the **Pamela Bryant** General Practitioner Unit by Secretary of State for Health, Kenneth Clarke, and Mrs Mary Baker, Director of Thames Television, opened the new Unit.

**1991** The League of Friends, with support from Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity Hampton funded and equipped a new Ultra Sound and Mammography Unit at a total cost of £150,000. (this was the first upgrade to the X-Ray Unit – a much larger one followed)

**1991 – 1993**

Teddington Memorial Hospital Action and Steering Committees were formed comprising the League of Friends and General Practitioners to explore NHS Trust Status An application for stand alone NHS Trust Status (funded by the League) was made to the Secretary of State for Health in January 1992. Following visits by Health Secretary, Tom Sackville, Toby Jessel MP, and Health Secretary in the House of Lords, Baroness Cumberlege, a decision was made by the Secretary of State to grant the Hospital shadow Trust Status from April 1993 to run as a pilot scheme for other community hospitals throughout the country before becoming fully operational in 1995.

Trust Board Chairman, Maggi Lyne, and Non-Executive Directors, Pamela Bryant MBE, John Ryan and John Symonds, were appointed by the Secretary of State and North West Thames Regional Health Authority in February. In April, Trust Board Executive Directors were appointed.

The League undertook another Appeal in April for £150,000 to further improve the outpatient facilities to include a minor surgery unit and supporting clinical areas.

**1994** Work completed on the outpatient and minor surgery extension, and the final cost in the region of £185,000 was funded by a League Appeal.

Teddington Memorial Hospital achieved full NHS Trust Status from 1st April 1995.

**1995 – 1996**

The League launched an Appeal Fund for £460,000 for refurbishment projects. Work was completed to Chappell/Anderson Wards at a cost of £160,000 followed by the refurbishment of the first floor and installation of a lift – costing £460,000.

**1997** Ted Doc out of hours General Practitioner scheme commenced at the Hospital.

**1998** The Hospital Chapel For All Faiths was completed – funded by the League at a cost of £195,000. The Bishop of Kensington, The Rt. Revd. Michael Colclough, conducted the Service of Blessing and the ceremony was attended by many religious leaders and 200 supporters consisting of

members of the community, donors, and representatives of groups and organisations. A plaque was unveiled by Trust Chairman, Maggi Lyne, to mark the official opening.

- 1999** The League donated £52,000 worth of equipment to wards and departments throughout the Hospital.

Thames Health Primary Care Group established based at Teddington Memorial Hospital.

The Hospital Trust enlarged to embrace community services from St John's Health Clinic, Whitton, Teddington & Hampton Clinics.

Hospital Trust name changed to Teddington Memorial Hospital and Community NHS Trust.

The League launched an appeal for specific donations to provide one stained glass window in the Hospital Chapel to commemorate the year 2000. The design depicts many local scenes and embraces a theme of caring.

The League donated £90,000 worth of equipment to various wards and departments throughout the Hospital.

- 2002** Teddington Memorial Hospital became part of the newly formed Richmond and Twickenham Primary Care Trust.

- 2004** The League launched an Appeal for £900,000 to fund a large project of modernisation for the Hospital which included a brand new X-Ray Department equipped with Digital and Fibre Optic Equipment and a purpose built and equipped Rehabilitation Unit. The existence of this very modern X Ray Department and equipment was a major factor in achieving the successful funding from the Department of Health to establish the new Walk in Centre.

As a major stakeholder of the Hospital, the League acknowledges its moral responsibility to safeguard the huge investment that has been made by the community through the League of Friends for the improvement of facilities and equipment since the hospital was built.

Since the completion of the X-Ray Department, the League has raised funds for a number of other items which total around £100,000. In total, approximately £8 million has now been raised through the League of Friends for improvements and equipment.