



The Old Manor Hospital League of Friends, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Founded 1959
Registered as a Charity

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The publication of this booklet has been made possible by the generosity of a well-wisher who is interested in the work of the League of Friends at this hospital. It is hoped to convey to you, through this kindness, a little information on the functions of the League—together with a few details of the hospital itself.

The hospital is situated in Wilton Road, Salisbury, about three hundred yards from the junction with Devizes Road and is served by a frequent 'bus service from the City. It is a centre, serving Salisbury, south-east Wiltshire, and the Fordingbridge–Ringwood areas, for the treatment of all types of nervous and mental illness. All modern methods are used to facilitate the speedy improvement and recovery—thus minimizing the length of stay in hospital—of all those who require treatment. There are over 600 beds; A new feature of the Hospital is the Female Admission Department—which includes even a Mother and Baby unit—this department caters for the 'Short Term' patient and has everything to encourage a quick return to home and family. Out-patient Clinics are held daily and patients may be treated satisfactorily in this way, obviating the necessity of admission. It is also possible for

certain patients to attend as 'day patients'. The majority of patients entering the Old Manor Hospital do so on an informal basis—that is to say, admission procedure is the same as that to any general hospital or nursing home—being referred by their family doctor, usually through the Out-patient Department. Personal items such as toilet requirements, clothing and small articles for current use may be taken into hospital, but possessions of any significant value are not advised, because the Management Committee cannot be held responsible for any loss that might occur. A small amount of cash is useful for purchases from the Hospital Shop, and arrangements are made for funds to be held in the office on a patient's behalf—to be drawn upon as required. Leave is allowed, but adequate notice, naturally, must be given. On discharge from hospital all arrangements are made with the Ward Doctor.

All facilities—such as letters for posting, pensions, occupational activities, family and personal matters, entertainment, and religious ministrations for all denominations—are catered for by various trained members of the staff and departments of the hospital.

There is also a well-stocked and up-to-date Library, a shop (selling most commodities) and a delightfully modern hairdressing salon staffed by a professional hairdresser. All wards are equipped with radio and television sets and cinema shows are given weekly. Other pastimes include tennis, badminton, football, cricket and croquet. In spite of the National Health Service there is still an immense amount of good work that can be done in hospitals by voluntary effort. The Old Manor Hospital League of Friends was founded in 1959. Its main objects are, by personal service, to provide a link between the hospital and the public it serves, and to foster the interest of the public in the patients and the work of the hospital. The essential feature is the personal element which the members bring to the patients and the hospital—rather than methods of raising funds and providing more material comforts. Examples of the way in which members of the League are helping are by visiting patients who have no relatives, entertaining patients who are both able and unable to go out, and by the organization of forms of entertainment such as theatre parties, concerts, coach outings, etc. Pianos and wireless sets have been presented to Wards and to the

Occupational Therapy Departments. When the tennis courts were renewed the League was responsible for the complete replacement of the wire-netting surrounds. Recently a garden has been laid out, affording much pleasure to the elderly patients of Highland Ward, and—for the benefit of all patients in the Hospital—a Projector complete with screen and stand has been purchased. Presents are given at Christmas time and at Easter to those patients whose names are put forward by Matron and the Chief Male Nurse. The League requires the fullest support of the general public, and anyone who is at all interested in the hospital and its work—and in promoting education about mental ill-health and psychiatric hospitals—may obtain information about becoming a member from the Secretary, whose address is on the first page of this booklet. It is only by such interest and help that this League is able to undertake and fulfill the worthwhile job it has undertaken.

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