

Friends of the Grange



supportthe@friendsofgrange.org.uk

www.friendsofgrange.org.uk

Newsletter

Issue 1 | January 2012

Fun day is huge success

THE GRANGE BIRTH Centre's Fun Day at the Petersfield Hospital was a great success. Angela from Baby Sensory and Lyndsey from Fiddlesticks Music entertained families and visitors together with face painting, hooking ducks and other games and activities.

Our lovely stall holders added to the great positive atmosphere - Mel from Phoenix Cards, Zoe from Stemp Designs, Livvy from Livvy Portraits and Jo from Rare Moments



Some Grange babies attending the fun day

Photography. Several families commented on how lovely it was to catch up with the midwives who had cared for them when pregnant and in labour.

We raised an amazing £429!

Thanks to all our great helpers and their families on the day—especially Polly, Ros, Emily, Natalie, Ela, Alison, Maria, Trish and Dawn.



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Fundraising for a pool

FRIENDS OF THE Grange are supporting the midwives' fundraising for a new plumbed in birthing pool at the Grange Birth Centre.

Around 80% of women who book a birth at the Grange book a water birth, often for labour and sometimes for delivery as well. Labouring in water has amazing natural pain relieving effects, reducing the need for drug based

painkillers and intervention.

At present, the midwives have to fill, top up (to keep the water at an even temperature), and empty the birthing pool by hand, which is both time consuming and hard work.

With thanks to a generous pledge of £10,000 from the Friends of Petersfield Hospital, over half the total cost of £23,000 has now been raised.

The Grange Birth Centre will be running monthly raffles, and continues to run a guess the name of the doll and the numbers on a £50 note competition

Donations to the fund or entry requests to the raffles can be sent c/o Dawn Phillips, Birth Centre Manager, Grange Birth Centre, Petersfield Hospital, Swan Street, Petersfield.

We are also grateful to the following donors for their gifts:

- First Steps Montessori Nursery, Hawkley Village Hall
- Rare Moments Photography
- Blueberry Clinic
- Little Impressions

An example of a plumbed-in birthing pool





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Birth facts and figures

THE COMMITMENT and excellence of the midwives at the Grange Birth Centre was recognised when Life in Petersfield gave them a Highly Commended Award in April 2011.

From 1 September 2010 to 31 August 2011, 92% of women who began their labour at the Grange went on to have a normal unassisted

delivery. The number of women who had a caesarean was 4% (compared to a national rate of 28.4% for April 2010 to March 2011).

96% of women who were in labour with their second or subsequent child gave birth at the Grange, while 81% of first time

mothers delivered their baby at the Grange.

For first time mothers who were transferred in labour the primary reason was the length of labour.

For more details please see the Friends of the Grange website.

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To talk to a midwife about booking your birth at the Grange, please contact:

Grange Birth Centre, Swan Street, Petersfield, GU32 3LB
Telephone: 01730 262415

Nurturing in maternity

PORTSMOUTH Hospitals NHS Trust have a two year maternity development programme called "Nurture" which started in 2011.

Nurture has three priorities for all expectant mothers:

- 1) Giving one to one care for all women in labour wherever they are, promoting home and birth centre births;
- 2) Delivering efficient antenatal services; and
- 3) Offering extra care for vulnerable

mothers.

Friends of the Grange understand that the full implementation of Nurture can only benefit the Grange. The Trust has confirmed publicly that it wants to keep the Grange open and increase the number of births there by ensuring that midwives are able to go to where the women are in labour.

The Trust is also building up its postnatal care—it has increased the number of maternity support workers by 14 so that

if mothers and their babies are well they will be supported at home as soon as possible after birth.

There will always be at least a maternity support worker at the Grange Birth Centre day and night who can be contacted by phone in the first instance.

Friends of the Grange are really looking forward to seeing the results of Nurture. We are very excited by the benefits we understand Nurture will bring to the Grange!