

**The Friends of the NeoNatal Unit at St George's  
(Registered Charity number 1072500)**

**Principal and registered office  
The Neonatal Unit,  
Lanesborough Wing,  
St George's Hospital,  
Blackshaw Road.  
London. SW17 0QT.**

**Trustees Report for the Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009**

The Friends of the NeoNatal Unit (FNNU) was established in September 1997 (Registered in November 1998) by parents of babies on the ward and the FNNU staff. Each year over 500 babies and their families from South West London and the South East of England receive specialist treatment and care in the unit. The FNNU is concerned with;

*"The relief and treatment of premature and sick new babies in the neonatal unit at St George's Hospital by providing and assisting in the provision of specialist equipment and improved amenities and facilities, and to support and assist the families of such babies who are or who have been on the ward"*

The charity received £122,304 (unaudited) in donations, consistent with previous years.

The main sources of income are

- Personal giving (36%)
- Corporate Sponsors (22%)
- Personal Events (31%)

The Charity takes great pride in the fact that the majority of its income is raised by those who have directly benefited from the work of the unit and the charity. Over the last year the charity has continued its main function, to fund the purchase of medical equipment, (augmenting that acquired by the NHS Trust), to increase the capability of the unit to bring wellbeing to babies in its care. Total expenditure on medical equipment for the year was £65,471 (unaudited) 60% of total expenditure. Significant purchases included: physio equipment, wall mounted monitors, incubators and Sipap machines.

During the year the charity also funded training for nurses, support for families visiting their babies on the ward and the babies directly through the purchase of sundry toys and clothes.

The total costs of fundraising and administration totalled £34,765; 28% of total income for the year. The Charity still had two part time members of staff working a combined 20 hours per week.

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**Friends of the NeoNatal Unit at St George's Hospital Tooting.  
Trustees Report for the Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009**

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The FNU has held assets in cash, either in current or deposit account throughout the year. The FNU does not have any interest in real estate property or possess any marketable securities and thus has no financial market exposure. Much consideration was given during the year to the security of the funds on deposit in the light of the Banking Crisis. It is felt that with funds on deposit with one of the major High Street Banks that is now over 70% Government/Taxpayer owned the position is fairly secure. This will continue to be monitored.

The FNU financed its activities entirely with funds raised. Total assets, by way of cash in the bank at year end totalled £157,538.

Decision making and management of the FNU has been the responsibility of the Trustees in the first instance with reference to a cross section of parent/staff input when required. Minutes are taken formally at regular Trustee meetings and general day to day business is conducted through the medium of memoranda circulated by the FNU Director and Co-ordinator eliciting responses from the Trustees.

During the year the following served as Trustees and remain in office:

Nicola O'Connor (Chair)  
Jeannie Walls  
Sandy Calvert  
Mary Goggin  
Achim Vocht  
Nicola Eastwood

There were no transactions with Trustees.

During the year the Trustees undertook a detailed review of the charity and resolved to change the name of the charity to 'First Touch' at a meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008. A huge amount of work has been completed on this during the year ended March 2009 with the project continuing. The formal launch of this is planned for sometime during the summer/early autumn 2009 once all of the formalities are complete.

In June 2008 Charlotte Price left the staff, due to family circumstances and Sonja Timpson joined the staff as our new Charity Co-ordinator on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

The Trustees would like to place on record the considerable debt of gratitude owed to Sarah Collins (Charity Director) Charlotte Price and Sonja Timpson (Charity Co-ordinators) for their vision, enthusiasm and commitment. Their contribution to the charity is the single most significant contribution to the FNU and it the catalyst that in turn allows the FNU to make contributions to the life and well being of babies on the ward.

The Trustees look forward to another exciting year ahead.