**Newsletter for Christmas 2022**

Dear Colleagues

I am writing on behalf of all members of Management Team and Sister Kathleen.

Firstly, we would like to thank you all, again, for your resolute commitment to good patient care in 2022. We aim to carry on the Sisters’ work showing love and compassion to the weak and suffering in our society. You have demonstrated this despite all the challenges of infections, staff shortages, building work and this year’s summer heat and winter cold.

It is good to look forward at this time of year as well as reflecting on what has passed. We see no lessening in the need for our services. Financial constraints in the NHS – there are many – often make it difficult for NHS managers to find the money to spend on long-term care so we must continue doing all we can to encourage our NHS colleagues to consider our merits. We must do everything possible to retain our ranking of Excellent with the Care Quality Commission. We must be flexible and efficient in the services we offer. We must continually seek ways to improve our services.

We are very disappointed that a sudden rise in infections among patients and staff has led to the cancellation or postponement of some of the activities planned for the Christmas season. We will do all we can to make up for this in the weeks ahead. The Hospital is looking great, your creativity in decorating is really impressive. We hope that you will all find ways to enjoy Christmas both here at the Hospital and at home with your families.

Happy Christmas and a New Year full of promise of blessings to come.

Christopher Hinton

PS On a personal note, I would like to say how much I have appreciated the warm welcome I have received from all quarters since resuming in a part-time capacity last September. Thank you to all my Management Team colleagues for providing the support without which I simply could not take on this responsibility.