



## Romania donation

TEN beds from Stamford Hospital are now being used at a TB hospital in Romania.

The donation was made possible following an upgrading of equipment allowing the old beds to be given a new lease of life.

The idea to donate them to charity came from Ross Affleck in the pharmacy department - who made contact with Tony Williams from the Laarbruch Romanian Organisation.

Tony and Flight Sergeant John Young from RAF Wittering collected the beds, at no cost to the Trust, and delivered them to their new home in Romania.

Tony told Pulse: "The beds and mattresses were very gratefully received by the staff in Romania. The mattresses were a great bonus as it is more usual just to receive beds."

Some of the beds were put into immediate use, having been sent to an intensive care unit in the north of the country. Five other were transferred to the main Baia Mare hospital, which is in desperate need of better facilities.

# Spare beds offer much needed relief

OVER 100 surplus hospital beds are now benefiting patients thousands of miles away in the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

We are very happy to be able to provide surplus equipment to areas of the world that have a greater need

Charities working for the ill and needy in Iraq and Bangladesh have sent the old trust beds to the countries' hospitals, along with other unwanted equipment.

Four 40-foot container lorries collected the cargo from Peterborough a few weeks ago.

The Human Relief Foundation, based in Bradford, received beds for Iraq to help hospitals that have been hit hard by the war over the last couple of years.

Yousaf Razaq, project co-ordinator at the Human Relief Foundation said: "We are extremely grateful to the Trust for their invaluable contribution towards our hospital medical campaign, helping the innocent and suffering in Iraq."

Further beds were sent to the Jalalabad Disabled Rehabilitation Centre

in Bangladesh, thanks to Huntingdon-based charity Give Us A Lift.

David Ireland, assistant director, risk and occupational health, who organised the donations said: "We are very happy to be able to provide surplus equipment to areas of the world that have a greater need. If we had not donated the beds to charity then they would have been scrapped.

"We have been able to organise the collection and delivery of the beds through the help and support of other organisations, so the Trust has not incurred any costs."

As well as the surplus beds, other equipment including hoists, trolleys, bedside tables and waste bins were also given to the charities.

Due to its £1million bonus in 2003, the Trust has been able to spend around £450,000 on a replacement bed programme, enabling the older, surplus equipment to be donated to charity.