

The

DCH way

Issue 20

Winter 2019

The Newsletter for Public and Staff Foundation Trust Members

Celebrating success

Dorset County Hospital has been celebrating over recent months – and with plenty of reason!

Not only were we rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission in its most recent inspection, but we also hit the £1.75million target for our Cancer Appeal and officially opened our new, state-of-the-art Robert White Centre.

The hospital was inspected last year and was given an overall rating of 'Good' with highlighted areas of outstanding practice.

Patricia Miller, Chief Executive of Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We are delighted that the efforts of our staff to provide the very best care and services for our patients have been recognised.

"The overall rating is confirmation of what I observe every day – staff consistently going beyond expectations, providing outstanding care to our patients and their families and carers.

"Every single member of staff can take credit for making the improvements necessary to raise our rating."

This good news was followed by the opening of our Robert White Centre by Martin Clunes OBE.

The £9million centre is an extension of the Poole Hospital-based Dorset Cancer Centre and means cancer patients in the north, south and west of the county can receive care and treatment in their local hospital, instead of having to travel to Poole.

The building has been funded in part by an extraordinarily generous legacy from Poole businessman Robert White, who was treated at the Dorset Cancer Centre and sadly lost his battle in November 2015.

The facility also includes a £1.75million Cancer and Haematology Outpatients Department funded by the Cancer Appeal run by Dorset County Hospital Charity. This was supported by hundreds of donations from individuals, community groups as well as Trusts and Foundations.

Mr Clunes said: "It was my privilege to be able to officially open the new Robert White Centre.

"The incredibly generous support from the community for the DCH Cancer Appeal, as well as Robert's generosity, leaves a remarkable legacy for patients with cancer in Dorset."



Celebrating a milestone year at DCH

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Outstanding care for people in ways which matter to them

Welcome

...to the latest edition of our newsletter for the public and staff members of Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.



If you have any comments on this edition of The DCH Way or would like to contribute something for a future edition please contact the communications team on **01305 254683** or **communications@dchft.nhs.uk**



NHS Strategy Director visits

We had an exciting visit from NHS England Strategy Director, Michael Macdonnell. He came to visit the Trust to understand more about some of the outstanding work happening with regards to integrated care.

He met with staff from our diabetic, acute hospital at home and care of the elderly services. They were able to share with him some fantastic examples of integration and person-centred care.



Michael Macdonnell alongside Chief Executive, Patricia Miller

Providing outstanding care for people in ways which matter to them

Our mission at Dorset County Hospital is to provide outstanding care for people in ways which matter to them.

Our Trust Strategy outlines how we will ensure we can deliver outstanding services every day in the years ahead. Working with our health and social care partners, we want to be at the heart of improving the wellbeing of our communities.

We want to see local health and social care services joined up, putting patients at the heart of everything we do. We also want to empower our staff so they have the skills and resources they need to provide the best care possible in the most effective and efficient way.



Find out more about our Trust Strategy and plans for the future on our website **www.dchft.nhs.uk** or the staff intranet.



Dancing duo crowned Weldmar champions

Our hospital's very own Jennie Fowler, who works in Critical Care Outreach, was crowned the winner of Weldmar's Strictly Ballroom 2018.

Following an intense 16 weeks of training, guided by Eileen Spracklen School of Dance, Jennie took to the stage at Weymouth Pavilion with her partner Andy to perform the Charleston.

Jennie said: "It was such a fantastic experience from start to finish. I would recommend it to anyone. It was hard work fitting in rehearsals and fundraising around my work schedule but it was worth it, even more so when Andy and I were announced as the Weldmar Strictly Champions of 2018.

"I felt privileged to work with such a great bunch of people. All of our hard work paid off as together we all managed to raise more than £23,000 for such a wonderful and essential service."



Jennie and her dance partner Andy wowed the judges with their Charleston performance and were crowned the 2018 Weldmar Strictly Champions

Placing the spotlight on our amazing staff

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Midwifery team shortlisted

We are delighted to have been shortlisted for the 2019 RCM Annual Midwifery Awards.

The awards are a unique celebration of the profession's best and brightest talent.

Gill Walton, Chief Executive of the Royal College of Midwives, said: "The standard of entries has been extremely high, so to get this far is an outstanding achievement."

"The entries show how much innovation is going on in our maternity services, and how hard midwives, maternity support workers and the wider maternity team are working to deliver safe, high-quality care to women, their babies and families."

"I wish Dorset County Hospital the best of luck at the awards ceremony in March."



The Cygnet Homebirth Team

Taking pride in healthcare

Following a lot of hard work, Paula Russ and Claire Wood were both awarded their Foundation Degree in Healthcare Practice.

Paula, a Senior Radiographer Assistant, and Claire, a Healthcare Scientist Neurophysiologist were both selected in 2015 to pilot the course whilst continuing to work in their departments and completed the course in 2018.



Paula and Claire were all smiles after receiving their degrees

Ula and Ella accepted on leadership programme

A massive congratulations to Ula Brocklebank and Ella Saunders who have been accepted onto the Florence Nightingale Windrush Leadership Programme.

As part of the NHS 70 celebrations, Health Education England partnered with the Florence Nightingale Foundation to offer an exciting career development opportunity to recognise the contribution of Windrush nurses and midwives across the 70 years of the NHS.

It offers band 5, 6 and 7 nurses and midwives from BME backgrounds bespoke leadership development to become Florence Nightingale Foundation Nurses and Midwives and develop as future leaders of healthcare.

Both Ula and Ella work as Staff Nurses at our Trust.

Ella said: "Being accepted to the Windrush Leadership Programme was a real surprise to me as I was up against so many worthy applicants."

"Since starting the programme I have met some really incredible people, from past scholars of the foundation to individuals that have made amazing achievements within their nursing careers."

"The programme has also helped us to understand our own personalities and how to use that in becoming leaders in our careers."

"The next part of the programme includes us undertaking a project within our clinical areas and a day with The Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts to coach us in things such as how to effectively talk to an audience."

"It's a really exciting opportunity that will no doubt help me in my future career."



Ula and Ella are delighted to have been accepted onto the prestigious programme

DCH Charity news



Cancer Appeal update

Last year was a milestone year for the charity.

Following its two-year Cancer Appeal, the charity hit its target of £1.75million at the end of October thanks to tremendous support from staff, donors, community groups and local businesses.

The Cancer Appeal was part of a £9million project, in conjunction with Poole Hospital, to bring radiotherapy services to Dorchester for the first time.

The Outpatients Department, funded by the Cancer Appeal, was opened to patients at the end of October 2018 and the Radiotherapy Unit, run by Poole Hospital, became operational in January 2019.

The building was officially opened in December 2018 by Martin Clunes OBE. It has been funded in part by an extraordinarily generous legacy from Poole businessman Robert White.

Robert was treated for cancer at the Dorset Cancer Centre, part of Poole Hospital, and sadly lost his battle in November 2015.



Martin Clunes unveils a plaque outside the new centre

Before his death, he had resolved to support the hospital and its county-wide cancer services to benefit others and decided that he would fund a new cancer unit, now named the Robert White Centre.



70km Challenge

To mark 70 years of the NHS, participants were asked to walk, run, cycle or swim a total of 70km in July – achieving the distance in whatever way suited them best – even using a combination of different methods.

A total of £5,762 was raised from more than 100 participants and donors, with 96 members of DCH staff taking part in nine teams. The winning team at DCH was Procurement and Logistics who raised an amazing total of £1,156.



The winning team at DCH (above) with other participants of the 70km Challenge (left)

What's next?

Chemotherapy Appeal

As a result of the success of the Cancer Appeal, the Trust now plans to upgrade the hospital's existing Chemotherapy Unit in line with the quality of outpatient and radiotherapy services now available in the new Robert White Centre.

Plans for this project are being finalised and will ensure that chemotherapy patients have access to a significantly improved environment within which to receive their treatment.

Keep an eye out for further information about this exciting project which should be available soon.



If you would like to support the Chemotherapy Appeal or raise money for another area of the hospital, please contact the DCH Charity team...

01305 253215

charity@dchft.nhs.uk



www.dchft.nhs.uk



facebook.com/DCHcharity

**Dorset County Hospital
Charity, Williams Avenue,
Dorchester, DT1 2JY**

Registered Charity Number 1056479

The importance of organ donation

Did you know a donor can save up to nine lives?

Golden Lulworth oak arrives at hospital

The creation of a unique sculpture at Dorset County Hospital has taken an exciting step forward.

A special delivery to our Trust saw the arrival of an oak tree with golden boughs.

It joins a set of railway tracks that had earlier been placed in one of our hospital courtyards and has certainly caught the attention of staff, patients and visitors of the Trust.

It is part of an ongoing project by artist Andy Kirkby to celebrate the gift of life through organ donation.

The golden tree was the final arrival for the project, with Mr Kirkby set to assemble the sculpture piece by piece this year.

As a 'tree of life', the sculpture is also inspired by the Japanese art of Kintsugi where broken ceramics are lovingly restored with gold resin to highlight their wounds rather than to try to hide them. In this way they are reused and become a thing of beauty instead of being thrown away.

Mr Kirkby sees this as a metaphor for the way in which organ donation is a gift of life that repairs the recipient. It is also why he is naming the sculpture 'Precious Scars'.

The oak tree has been donated to the hospital from the Lulworth Estate, where it died some time ago, and is now being re-born at our hospital.

The project has been the initiative of the Organ Donation team at Dorset County Hospital, led by Consultant Anaesthetist, Andy Ball, and Specialist Nurse, Helen Rose.

The team hope that this sculpture will be seen as a way of thanking previous donors and their families for their gift, but also to encourage more people to consider signing up as donors.

Mr Ball said: "As clinical lead for organ donation at DCH, I have wanted in some way to celebrate the fantastic gift that our donors and their families have made to help the lives of others.

"A restructuring of one of our hospital courtyards with essential new equipment for a laboratory has left a vacant space requiring enhancement and has provided the perfect place for this celebration of life.

"Andy had a clear understanding of what organ donation means and his resulting sculpture refers to the new life that this allows. It is urgent for us to get this message across as every day in the UK three people die while waiting for a donor organ and every donor has the potential to transform nine lives."

The project has been organised and supported by Arts In Hospital.

For more information, or to register as a donor, visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk



The golden oak caught everyone's attention at the hospital

World Transplant Games

Jon Fox, Business Manager in Family Services at DCH, will be competing in the World Transplant Games in Newcastle this year.

After his success at winning a Silver medal in badminton at the previous games held in Malaga in 2017, Jon is hoping to do one better this year on home turf.

When Jon was eight years old, he received a life-saving liver transplant. He now wants to highlight the need for organ donation.

To fund the games, Jon has set up a Just Giving page.

You can read his full story and donate at www.justgiving.com/jon-fox19



Jon in action on the badminton court

Radiographer makes a difference to those less fortunate

A radiographer from Dorset County Hospital has been making a difference to those less fortunate.

Linda Chappell, who has worked at the Trust for 19 years, travelled across the globe with the Kenya Orthopaedic Project (KOP).

Exploring Global Health Opportunities (EGHO) have been working with the charity Medical and Educational Aid to Kenya (MEAK) to deliver annual orthopaedic projects in Nanyuki, Mombasa, Kitale, Nyahururu and Marsabit since 2009.

During these projects the team have donated essential equipment and developed programmes for education and training in trauma, recognition and management of sick patients and patient safety.

EGHO prides itself on the two-way process of teaching and learning during projects, the working relationship with local hospital staff and the long-lasting friendships which have been forged.

The charity raises money through donations to provide surgery free of charge, for the large number of people in Kenya who need orthopaedic surgery often because of trauma, but who cannot afford to pay for it.

Linda travelled to Nyahururu County Referral Hospital with a small team of orthopaedic surgeons, anaesthetists, operating department practitioners, scrub nurses, physiotherapists and an administrator.

Linda said: "It's an amazing project.

"On day one we saw a lot of patients and did a lot of x-rays to try and determine which people would benefit the most from our help.

"On the second day we started operating and that continued all day, every day for the rest of the week. Some days we were working about 13 hours to help as many



Linda Chappell (left) with the team on the Kenya Orthopaedic Project


people as possible. The team saw about 150 patients and operated on 25. It was hard to have to turn people away at the end of the week, who would benefit from surgery, as we had run out of time.

"There was an eight-year-old boy who everyone fell in love with. He had fallen in a ditch and a cow had fallen on top of him dislocating his hip about six months prior. He had been found by another charity who arranged for him to travel from the north of Kenya to meet with the KOP team.

"He was such a smiley, happy boy, despite his injuries. It was a difficult surgery but the surgeons managed to relocate his hip successfully, and not long after I returned home we were sent a picture of him walking properly which was so satisfying to see.

"Surgery in that part of the world is just unaffordable to so many. They don't have the luxury of an NHS."

Linda wanted to thank Sue Tree and Sophie Jordan for supporting her trip.

 **For more information about the Kenya Orthopaedic Project, visit <https://egho.co.uk/projects/kop/>**

Catching an inside glimpse

Once again we opened the doors for our annual Open Day, allowing visitors the opportunity to catch a glimpse of what goes on inside our walls.

In another successful year, visitors enjoyed tours around the theatres and diagnostic imaging, one of the most popular features of the event, giving adults and children alike the chance to meet the people behind the masks.

To give visitors an impression of just how much equipment costs, the theatre team placed prices on a number of items and pieces of technology.

Visitors also browsed displays in the Education Centre which featured information about the hospital's charity, recruitment and volunteering, hospital membership, breast awareness and the Digital Care Record.

LiveWell Dorset offered quick 'body MOT' tests where people could find out how healthy their lungs were, and the ever-popular Teddy Bear Clinic also made a welcomed return.

A massive thank you to all the teams who took part in our Open Day, we couldn't have done it without you.



The theatre team and the popular Teddy Bear Clinic

Friends launch new fundraising initiative

A new fundraising initiative at our hospital will allow for clearer and quicker procedures for patients with pleural diseases.

The initiative is being driven by the Friends of DCH, who have pledged to raise £17,000 for a new ultrasound machine for the Respiratory Department.

A main benefit of the machine will be allowing the respiratory team to diagnose patients suffering from pleural effusion more efficiently.

Pleural effusion is a build-up of fluid between the lung and the chest wall and causes breathlessness and chest pain and can be found in conditions including cancer, pneumonia, rheumatoid arthritis, heart or liver failure and kidney disease.

Our hospital's pleural clinic already sees up to 250 patients a year. Having this equipment could benefit extra patients and reduce waiting times.

Respiratory Consultant, Dr Jennifer Graves, said: "The department does have an ultrasound machine but it is about 10 years old now.


"The new one will allow for much clearer views and a quicker procedure time for the patient.

"It will allow much clearer imaging of the patient's lungs in order for a sample of the fluid to be taken and will improve our overall service."



Respiratory Consultant Dr Jennifer Graves, Respiratory Nurse Practitioner, Nicholas Nadaf with Manager of Friends of DCH, Sharon Merritt and Chairman of Friends of DCH, Barbara Purnell

Manager of Friends of DCH, Sharon Merritt, added: "The new ultrasound machine will make such a difference to the department."

 **For more information, or to support the fundraising initiative, contact the Friends team on 01305 255896, email friends@dchft.nhs.uk or visit www.friendsofdorsetcountyhospital.co.uk**

Rewards of volunteering

This year our Volunteer Services team will be embarking on two major projects.

The first is the Volunteer Expansion Programme where there will be emphasis on increasing numbers of volunteers helping out on the wards and day rooms.

The second is the Young Volunteer Programme which is being launched as part of the #iwill campaign, following a successful funding bid from the Pears Foundation.

This is a really exciting project which will see us offering opportunities for 16 to 24 year olds to carry out a fixed programme of volunteering. It will also allow us to reach out to the local community, engaging young people through schools, colleges and youth organisations in sharing ideas about healthcare and promoting and educating around the theme of 'keeping healthy'.

One of the volunteers at Dorset County Hospital is 17-year-old Olivia Pearson.

She is currently at sixth form at Thomas Hardy in Dorchester where she is studying for A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Maths, hoping to go on to study medicine at university.


Olivia said: "I have been volunteering at Dorset County Hospital since August 2018 and I volunteer for three hours each week in one of the elderly care day rooms.

"My volunteer day starts just after 8am where I support the Occupational Therapy team with breakfast club which allows patients to enjoy a social breakfast around the table and where they do as much as they can for

themselves. I also help get everything set up and put away at the end. After breakfast club I then support the day room co-ordinator with whatever activity is on for the morning.

"Activities can range from simply sitting and chatting to patients, to making model planes or joining in with a singing session. It's great to just get involved and be an extra pair of hands in the room before I finish just before 11.30am to then get to school."

Olivia added: "Through volunteering on an elderly care ward at Dorset County Hospital, I have gained an understanding of what it can feel like in a hospital ward long term and the positive effect that small actions can have on someone's mood and wellbeing."

 **For more details about volunteering at DCH contact Louisa and Hannah at volunteering@dchft.nhs.uk or call 01305 255351.**



Olivia in the Memory Lane Dayroom on Barnes Ward

Members' events

Our **Talking about...** events are free and open to all members. They are also a great opportunity to meet other members, Governors and staff.

For more information, or if there is a topic you would like covered at one of our **Talking about...** sessions, please call our membership office on **01305 255419** or email foundation@dchft.nhs.uk

Talking about... the Digital Patient Record **Tuesday 21 May 2019, 10.30am to 11.30am, Children's Centre Seminar Room**

Come and hear from members of the Digital Patient Record team. Find out how your information is stored by the hospital and how technological advances are enabling our staff to move away from paper health records and towards digital solutions. There is no need to book for this talk, please just come along. Refreshments will be available in the Seminar Room from 10.15am.



Digital Patient Record System Manager Lee Armstrong with Clinical Systems Manager Ruth Gardiner

Welcoming new faces

In summer 2018 the hospital ran Governor elections in all six constituencies. Thank you to all those members who stood for election or voted. We are delighted to welcome to the following to the Council of Governors:

Sarah Carney (West Dorset)
"I care deeply about NHS hospital services and the people who depend on them."

Wally Gundry (West Dorset)
"I have been involved with the National Health Service in a voluntary capacity for more than 25 years."

Naomi Patterson (West Dorset)
"I wish to raise awareness of how important it is for the public to have a say on our future healthcare."

Stephen Mason (Weymouth and Portland)

"I am keen that the Trust's recent progress is maintained and determined to assist it to reach even higher standards."

Maurice Perks (North Dorset)
"My experience with modern IT systems will benefit the Trust's process efficiency, data accuracy/currency at all levels."



Naomi and Sarah at a meeting in Dorchester

Your Council of Governors

The Council of Governors represents the views and comments of the membership, and therefore plays an important part in ensuring decisions made by the Trust are in the best interests of the community and patients.

Public Governors

West Dorset

- **Sarah Carney** contact via membership office
- **David Cove** dhcove@btinternet.com
- **Wally Gundry** contact via membership office
- **Gavin Maxwell** 01308 456398
- **Naomi Patterson** naomipatterson1982@gmail.com
- **David Tett** 01308 425070

Weymouth and Portland

- **Margaret Alsop** contact via membership office
- **Stephen Mason** chadwoodhouse77@gmail.com
- **Dave Stebbing** daves.dchftgov@gmail.com
- **Sharon Waight** contact via membership office

East Dorset

- **Simon Bishop** sjhbishop@aol.com

North Dorset

- **Christine McGee** contact via membership office
- **Maurice Perks** 01258 821520 or mauriceperks@btopenworld.com

Staff Governors

- **Lee Armstrong**
- **Tracy Glen**
- **Tony James**

Appointed Governors

- **Peter Wood**, Age UK Dorchester
- **Annette Kent/Barbara Purnell**, Friends of DCH
- **Dr Jenny Bubb**, Dorset CCG
- **Kevin Brookes**, Dorset County Council
- **Davina Smith**, Weldmar Hospicecare

For more information on membership or to make contact with the Governor for your constituency, please call the membership office on **01305 255419** or email foundation@dchft.nhs.uk

Public meetings

Trust members and members of the public are welcome to attend our quarterly Council of Governors' meetings and bi-monthly Board of Directors' meetings at the hospital.

Meeting dates and papers can be found on our website www.dchft.nhs.uk or contact the corporate support team on **01305 255419** or email foundation@dchft.nhs.uk for further information.



INTEGRITY RESPECT TEAMWORK EXCELLENCE