

Health Matters

Keeping you informed about the news and views of Blackpool Teaching Hospitals



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Welcome from the Chief Executive

WELCOME to the latest edition of our public newsletter, **Health Matters**.



This edition features a really positive lead story about the recent £9M investment that the Trust has made in its radiology services. This is a massive boost for the Trust and for its patients as radiology is such a vital part in the treatment pathway made by so many of our patients. The new state-of-the-art equipment will be well used by many members of the community.

There is also a lovely story this week on one of our clinicians, Dr Falalu Danwata, who has received a fantastic honour from a Kenyan school run by a Blackpool woman. A scholarship has been named after him as he is seen as an inspiration to many

Don't forget you can sign up to receive our electronic bulletin directly to your inbox by completing a short form via the [following link](#) or you can access it from our website, Facebook page or through Twitter. We would also urge you to pass the newsletter on to your friends or colleagues so they too can keep up to date with what is going on. We would welcome your comments at communications@bfnh.nhs.uk

Gary Doherty
Chief Executive

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Diary Date

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Every month we hold members' seminars on a range of health topics. To book a place contact Jacinta Gaynor, membership officer, on 01253 306673.

Date & Time:	Venue:	Details:
Monday, May 19 th 2014, 2 – 3pm	Room 1, Education Centre BVH	Chief Executive's Question Time — everyone welcome

Health Matters is also available online at www.bfnh.nhs.uk

You can sign up to receive our fortnightly news bulletin directly to your inbox by clicking on the following link: www.bfnh.nhs.uk/healthmatters

Any comments ideas or suggestions? Please contact:

The Communications Department on **01253 306941** or communications@bfnh.nhs.uk

£9M radiology boost for Trust

PATIENTS across Blackpool and the Fylde are to benefit from a £9 million investment in radiology equipment.

The Trust has almost completed the installation of more than 100 new pieces of state of the art radiology equipment. These include a new CT Scanner, housed within the cardiothoracic unit providing general imaging but is also cardiac enabled to enable imaging of the heart on the coronary arteries. Further equipment includes mobile X-ray units, digital X-ray rooms, a new X-ray screening room and a new vascular intervention lab.

In addition to the new medical imaging equipment a new reporting system has also been installed to allow more efficient reporting by Consultant Radiologists. Several new offices have also been built to accommodate new consultant appointments to manage the ever increasing demand for imaging of patients.

Dr Roger Bury, Head of the Radiology Department said: "Medical imaging is a vital part most patients experience of healthcare, the more availability and efficient we are in this area the better it will be for patients.

"The new equipment will provide faster and more accurate diagnosis and treatment for patients and improve the patient's journey."

The Trust has now taken delivery of five "image intensifying" x-ray machines and two mobile kits that will produce top quality images to ensure the best possible diagnoses of a patient.

The Trust has also refurbished five of its x-ray rooms at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, two of which are connected to the A&E department, to ensure that instantly viewable, high quality digital X-rays are used where they matter most.



Radiographer Lauren Jones with one of the new machines.

The new Imaging rooms can also undertake the full range of trauma examinations required by the referring clinicians including the full range of Orthopaedic examinations.

Lesley Stanney, Radiology Clinical Manager, said: "On average we X-ray 170 patients per day through the Emergency Department alone. Much of the equipment in radiology had reached or was approaching end of life and the new technology will future-proof the services we are able to offer.

"The Emergency Department imaging rooms now have the most up to date technology in terms of general x-ray imaging and feature numerous advantages over our previous x-ray rooms, for both staff and patients.

"The robustness and reliability of the new systems is evident and this was a priority reason for its selection for the Trust which requires 24/7 Imaging cover."

The Trust has also purchased two mobile digital machines which can be taken to wards. These use wireless technology to send images from the detector back to the machine and mean patients don't have to get out of bed as consultants can view the x-ray image on a screen in seconds whilst standing next to the patient.

New defibrillators could save lives

BLACKPOOL Victoria Hospital has become one of the first in the North West to install public access defibrillators.

The hospital's resuscitation department has purchased two of the potentially life saving devices which have been placed in prominent places on the site.

They will be available for use by trained staff, the CRASH team and any suitably trained members of the public who can use the machine until the hospital's emergency team attend.

Anthony Freestone, Head of Resuscitation at the Trust, said: "Defibrillators save lives because they instantly treat life threatening cardiac arrhythmias through the application of electrical therapy, allowing the heart to re-establish an effective perfusing rhythm.

"They are vital because the chance of survival after the heart stops falls by around 10% for every minute that passes without defibrillation and early intervention saves lives.

"We have had cardiac arrests among our Patients, Visitors and even Staff and every second is vital. We do have a dedicated emergency response team who will respond anywhere in the hospital and immediate grounds within a few minutes but anything that helps us improve response times even more is invaluable."



Tony Freestone with one of the new public access defibrillators at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

"Defibrillators are vital because the chance of survival after the heart stops falls by around 10% for every minute that passes without defibrillation. Early intervention saves lives."

Tony Freestone

He added: "We have embarked on a major training exercise into how to deploy the machines with Healthcare Assistants and we have a bespoke training program in place for our security teams to make sure as many people as possible are comfortable to use the machines in a cardiac arrest situation."

The defibrillators also link into the North West Ambulance Service's Chain of Survival project which highlights the need to recognise the symptoms of a cardiac arrest and early access to resuscitation and defibrillation.

International honour for oncologist

A GRATEFUL patient is honouring the specialist who treated her at Blackpool Victoria Hospital by giving his name to a scholarship scheme to educate impoverished young people in Kenya.

Nigerian-born oncologist, Dr Falalu Danwata gave charity champion Sue Hayward hope and focus during 18 months breast cancer treatment which meant prolonged separations from the home and family she has created at her Happy House Children's Home in Watamu.

Former Blackpool hotelier Sue, founder of the charity Children of Watamu, said: "Dr Danwata was so kind, positive and supportive of me during my treatment. He told me to focus forward, that I was an individual and every person was different. I took his advice, acknowledged the fact I would be away from my children for 18 months, and generally accepted my life as it was at that time.

"I can never thank him enough, or those people who educated him and made him into the person he is."

Since making a full recovery and returning to Kenya in September, Sue has taken her Happy House forward. Her family has grown to 82 children, aged from a few months to 17, who are also educated in the Happy House School, along with another 130 day pupils from the local community.

Education is supposed to be free in Government schools that have 70-80 children per class but parents must pay for uniform, shoes, and books and is often beyond their means and

their kids can't go to school.

Sue is honouring her doctor, who came from humble circumstances himself, by calling the scheme, the Dr Danwata Scholarship. Dr Danwata grew up in a Nigerian village. His family, their friends and relatives realised he was a bright child and all made financial contributions to his education in a local primary school before attending a Government boarding school.

He graduated in medicine and science from Ahmadu Bello University, followed by pre-registration junior medical practice at the University's teaching hospital. He came to the UK on a World Health Organisation Scholarship for further training at the Christie Hospital, Manchester in 1996, where he spent four years.

He has been at Rosemere Cancer Trust, Preston since 2000 and Associate Specialist in Clinical Oncology at the Centre since 2008 and works at Blackpool Victoria Hospital as the peripheral clinic. His specialist areas of interest are in Breast Cancer, Colorectal Cancer and Genitourinary cancers.

He is delighted to be giving his name to the school's Dr Danwata Scholarship Scheme.

"I was surprised to hear that Sue and her charity have decided to honour me with naming a scholarship scheme for disadvantaged children in Kenya after me. It is an honour and privilege for me and I have gladly accepted. I'm happy to associate myself to this noble cause which will hopefully enable many children to achieve their full potential."



Dr Falalu Danwata.

Five star award for Hospital's kitchen

FOR the fourth year running, Blackpool Victoria Hospital has scooped the top 5 Star rating for its kitchen.

Kitchen manager, Darren Cadwell, said: "We are delighted to receive this award again, it would be unacceptable for our kitchen to get anything less than five stars.

"Hygiene is vitally important to us and we carry out daily, weekly and monthly inspections to ensure our kitchen is top class."

The certificate is awarded by the local Environmental Health Enforcement Officer and reflects the standards of food hygiene found on the date of inspection or visit by the local authority.

The kitchens at Blackpool Victoria serve around 3,000 meals a day to patients, visitors and staff.

Darren explained: "The visit from Blackpool Borough Council is completely unannounced and an Environmental Health Officer checks the kitchen, how we prepare and cook the food, the food hygiene systems, temperature records and also talks to staff.

"Our kitchen regime is based around hygiene. When the day starts at 5.30am all the fridge temperatures are checked and the emphasis on safety is kept up all day with the last job being to ensure everything is labelled and sealed.

"All staff undergo basic hygiene training with chefs taking both Level 2 and 3 hygiene courses and supervisors attending advanced courses."



Kitchen manager Daren Cadwell, far right, with members of his team.

In fact Darren is so confident about the high standards in his kitchen that he says he would welcome anyone who wished to take a tour of the department. "I am very proud of the achievements we have received. This is a first class kitchen with first class staff," he added.

Senior Site Services Manager, Yvonne Widdows, said: "This award is a real achievement when you think about the amount of food we produce here every day, but it's important to us that we stay on top of our food safety requirements all the time.

"Patients can continue to have confidence in the standards of catering services they are receiving and that we produce food in a safe manner. We know how important meals are to our patients and it can often be the highlight of their day.

"I'd like to say thank you to the team for all their hard work; it really is a team effort to achieve these results."

Bowel Cancer Screening Programme

Are you aged **60-74?**

Take the test and reduce your risk of
Bowel Cancer!



- If registered with a GP you will receive a free bowel screening test kit every 2 years
- The kit detects early signs of bowel cancer before any symptoms appear
- If caught early, the better chance of survival

For advice or to request a screening kit call:

800 707 60 60 or for more information visit
www.nhs.uk/bowelcancer

Be **Clear** on Cancer!

Did you know that Bowel Cancer is the

3rd most common cancer?

If you have any of the following symptoms for 3 weeks or more:

- Looser Poo
- Blood in your poo
- Unexplained weight loss

Then please visit your GP straight away, it could
save your life!

Former Mayor keeps promise to surgeon

A FORMER mayor has kept his promise to the consultant cardiac surgeon who saved his life.

Leonard Jolley pledged to support his surgeon's Big Heart Bike Ride in Jordan which raised money for Blue Skies Hospitals Fund's Heart of Gold charitable fund to benefit patients of the Lancashire Cardiac Centre at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Father of two, Mr Jolley, a former Mayor of Wyre, was rushed to Blackpool Victoria Hospital in June 2013 after his aorta artery tore away from his heart, potentially leaving him just moments from death.

His life was saved by the medical expertise of a surgical team, led by consultant Mr Nidal Bittar, who undertook a rare and complex eight hour operation.

"My life was in their hands and they gave it back to me," said a grateful Mr Jolley of The Stand, Fleetwood.

"The consultant and his theatre team did an excellent job and now I have a future to look forward to. I wanted to give something back to them, so when I heard about the bike challenge I saw this as a great opportunity to help."



Left to right: Mr Andrew Duncan, right, receives the cheque from Mr Len Jolley.

Cardiothoracic consultants, Mr Andrew Duncan and Mr Bittar took part in the 350km Big Heart Bike Ride in Jordan this November to raise money for Blue Skies Hospitals Fund to benefit patients of the Lancashire Cardiac Centre.

Accepting the cheque for £1,500, Mr Duncan said: "This money will go towards increasing the innovative work we are doing and help keep us as one of the leading cardiac centres in the UK."



How you can get all the latest news and views from the Trust

The Trust's official Facebook page can be found at:
www.facebook.com/BlackpoolHospitals

The Trust can also be found on Twitter
[@BlackpoolHosp](https://twitter.com/BlackpoolHosp)