

Health Matters

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



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Issue 86, Friday, April 17, 2015

Welcome from the Chief Executive

HELLO and welcome to our Health Matters newsletter.



As spring approaches, we've been on a recruitment drive at the Trust. Some of our members of staff have been to recruitment events so that we can build up our workforce even more. We're always happy to receive applications, so if you'd like to work for us, please get in touch.

Last week we had the official opening of a new unit in our Cardiac Centre which will make the hospital experience much more comfortable for people coming in for heart and lung operations. This new initiative was driven by ward staff. They are living our core values of being people centred, positive, compassionate and committed to excellence. Well done to them.

I'm delighted that we're featuring the Trust's new Public Health Facilitator, Frances Carbery. She is working on new initiatives which will benefit patients and staff.

It's also wonderful to report that four of our patients, who have been fitted with a pioneering new type of hearing implant, are to have their devices turned on next week. I wish them all the best.

Gary Doherty, Chief Executive

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

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

Any comments ideas or suggestions? Please contact: Ingrid Kent, Communications Department, on 01253 395 6875 or communications@bfwh.nhs.uk

Trust keen to recruit more medical staff



NEW recruits for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals are being sought by the Trust.

Earlier in April the Trust went to the Royal College of Nursing's annual careers event at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow.

Trust employees were on hand at the event to tell possible new recruits about the many career opportunities within the Trust.

Gastroenterology Matron, Sue Roberts, Charge Nurse in Theatres, Mark Hatch (both pictured on our front cover) and Ward Manger on the Stroke Unit, Rachel Bailey, attended from Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

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Representatives from the Trust in the north including Sister, Louise Sutcliffe and District Nurse, Emily Salisbury, also went to the event.

New recruitment posters have been created promoting different types of job opportunities within the Trust.

The Trust has also been encouraging former nurses to think about returning to the NHS. A Return to Practice course has been devised and one of the first to do the course was Karen Smith who is back working as a staff nurse at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

If you or any friends and family members would like to apply for jobs at the Trust, please go to www.nhs.jobs.uk

Amanda's fun run for dementia appeal



Amanda Bennett (centre), with (from left) Ian Collins, Rev Steve Haskett, Mike Crowther and Marcus Beasley who are raising money for the Peace of Mind dementia appeal

BLACKPOOL Teaching Hospitals' Head of Fundraising has signed up to this year's Beaverbrooks Blackpool 10k Fun Run and will be raising money for Blue Skies Hospitals Fund's Peace of Mind dementia appeal.

Amanda Bennett, who is seconded from Blackpool Council and sits on the Fairness Commission, has pledged to help enhance dementia care on the Fylde Coast by supporting the appeal, led by Blue Skies Hospitals Fund, with a team of Fairness Commission colleagues.

Amanda said: "The Peace of Mind Appeal is a very important one for Blue Skies and we are all doing what we can to make it a success.

"I am not what you would call an accomplished runner, but I am determined to complete this Fun Run and raise as much money as I can to help enhance local dementia care."

Peace of Mind aims to raise £30,000 to enhance dementia care across Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre.

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Current projects include creating a secure and interactive garden at Clifton Hospital and a memory corridor for patients to reflect back to their earlier years.

Doug Garrett, chairman of the Charitable Funds Committee at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals, said: "We are so pleased that Amanda, along with members of Blackpool Fairness Commission, is raising this money for our important appeal.

"I know that while some members of this team are accomplished runners, others are not so every effort this team puts in to complete 10km and raise money for Peace of Mind means so much to us. We wish them all the best with their training and for the run."

The Fun Run, which is organised each year by Trinity Hospice, takes place on Sunday, May 10, along Blackpool Promenade.

To sponsor Blackpool Fairness Commission visit www.mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/fairnesscommission.

New unit will improve heart patients' care



Staff at the official opening of the new unit and (inset, left) Maria Mallon cuts the ribbon at the opening event

A NEW unit designed to improve care for heart and lung patients was this week officially opened at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

The 'Same Day Admissions Unit' means patients don't have to spend the night in hospital before operations and can relax at home.

One of the main instigators of the project was Maria Mallon, a Healthcare Assistant in the Cardiac Division of Scheduled Care for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

As a 'thank you' for her hard work, Maria officially opened the unit on Tuesday, April 7.

Justine Ince, Ward Manager on Ward 38, said: "This bespoke area has been six months in the planning.

"I'm very pleased with how it has turned out. It

was a collaborative idea. It's something they're already doing elsewhere.

"The unit avoids the need for patients to be admitted the night before surgery. It's better for patients and their friends and families. It also frees up beds in the hospital.

"Maria took the project on as her own baby. She is brilliant with the patients and is great fun. She's a national institution!"

Unfortunately, due to ill health, Maria is unable to work on the new unit at present.

The unit has two waiting lounges with chairs instead of beds. There is also a treatment room and an office. Family members are welcome to wait with patients. Healthcare Assistants, Dawn Charlesworth and Kim Small and Assistant Nurse Practitioner, Denise Bretherton, will also be working on the unit.

Trust appoints new head of Public Health

FROM working in prisons and in a local council to leading NHS initiatives, the Trust's new Public Health Facilitator has a wealth of experience which she intends to put to good use in her role.

Frances Carbery has been in her new post with the Trust for a few weeks and is enjoying the challenge: "The Trust is very interesting," said Frances.

"I'm looking forward to finding out more about what happens here and to making plans for the Public Health team.

"We have a very good skill set in our team and I would like to develop the team further to support health improvement in the hospital."

Prior to working at the Trust, Frances worked for Bury Council as a Health Improvement Specialist.

Frances first started working for the NHS in 2001. She began working for the council when Public Health teams were moved into local authorities two years ago.

Before working in the NHS, Frances was a primary school teacher in Blackburn. She has also worked as Prison Health Project Manager in Rochdale and for the Regional Offender Health Team as North West Healthy Prisons Coordinator.

As a highly skilled professional, Frances is delighted to be in her new post: "I wanted to get back into the NHS and I had heard lots of good things about Blackpool Teaching Hospitals.



Frances Carbery

"My new role enables me to use the experience I have gained and the skills I have specialised in over the last few years."

One of Frances' main tasks is to manage the Trust's Inpatient Tobacco Specialist Service.

She said: "Our Tobacco Liaison Service staff are very experienced in delivering stop smoking support to patients and staff.

"They conduct brief interventions and offer specialist support to staff and patients to help them remain smoke-free whilst on site."

Frances said her role will provide many new opportunities: "There are real opportunities for us to work more closely with community services in order to offer the best care for patients."

Also on Frances' team are a Health Education Practitioner, who delivers staff training in tobacco, healthy weight and alcohol advice, and a volunteering specialist who coordinates the British Heart Foundation Volunteer Health Mentors scheme.

Frances added: "Everyone has a role to play in delivering public health outcomes."

Queen gives doctor's work seal of approval

A BLACKPOOL consultant who specialises in treating patients with cleft lips and palates has received a royal seal of approval for her work.

Dr Joanna Dancer, Consultant in Orthodontics for the Trust, attended a reception at Buckingham Palace, hosted by Her Majesty The Queen to mark the 50th anniversary of Sir Winston Churchill's death.

The Queen, who is patron of The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, hosted the event to mark Sir Winston's living legacy. Joanna was a Churchill Fellow in 1996 which gave her the chance to visit Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and China to look at the care provided in university and hospital units for children born with clefts.

She was introduced to The Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Phillip and had the opportunity to tell Her Majesty about her fellowship which took her to the Far East to look at the care of children with clefts of the lip and palate.

In her training Joanna worked with the Cleft Palate team at Birmingham Children's Hospital, and she now treats cleft palate patients with the North West Regional Cleft team at Blackpool Victoria Hospital. Joanna is currently Chair of the Lancashire Orthodontic Clinical Network, which brings NHS clinicians and commissioners together to improve Orthodontic services for Lancashire.

After the reception Dr Dancer said: "This has been a most wonderful occasion to honour the memory of Sir Winston Churchill in whose name the travelling fellowships were set up.



Dr Joanna Dancer meets Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace

"My own fellowship in 1996 was such an incredible opportunity to broaden my own experiences and bring new learning and understanding to our own ways of working. Meeting Her Majesty The Queen really has been a great reminder of what an honour it is to be a Churchill Fellow and of how Churchill's legacy still continues to contribute to the improvement of our own communities 50 years after his death.

"Cleft lip and palate affects approximately one in 800 children and treatment can be complex and take many years, involving a range of specialisms including plastic surgery, speech therapy and orthodontics (braces).

"Part of my work is treating patients with cleft lip and palate with the regional cleft teams from Alder Hey and Manchester. As I am at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, we are able to provide the orthodontic treatment for these patients locally rather than them having to travel to Liverpool or Manchester every six weeks."

For more information about the Travelling fellowships visit www.wcmt.org.uk

Find out how to beat cancer of the bowel

THE fight against bowel cancer will be highlighted during events in Fleetwood and Blackpool.

Members of the Lancashire Bowel Cancer Screening team will take a 2.4m high walk-through inflatable replica of a human colon to the North Euston Hotel in Fleetwood on Wednesday, April 22, and the Talbot Road branch of Sainsburys in Blackpool on Monday, April 27, from 10am to 3pm.

The inflatable colon will enable people to see the inside of a bowel and learn about preventing cancer.

Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in the UK and when it comes to cancer deaths, it's the second biggest killer. It affects men and women, particularly those who are over 60. However, the sooner it is diagnosed, the better the chances of survival.

The inflatable bowel will give visitors a chance to learn about the signs and symptoms of bowel cancer.



The large inflatable walk-through colon



Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in the UK

Trained staff will be on hand to talk about the condition and promote the National NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme which is available to everyone aged 60 or over and registered with a GP in England.

Dr Mark Hendrickse, Clinical Director for the Lancashire Bowel Cancer Screening team, said: "It is a great opportunity for local people to see what the inside of the bowel looks like and learn about ways to reduce the risk of developing bowel cancer."

Bowel cancer symptoms to look out for are a change to your normal toilet habits to softer or looser poo, going to the loo more often or blood in your poo.

If you recognise these symptoms and have had them for three weeks or more, make an appointment to get checked out by your GP.

Anyone aged 70 or over can request a home screening kit by contacting 0800 707 6060. For more details, please visit the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme website –

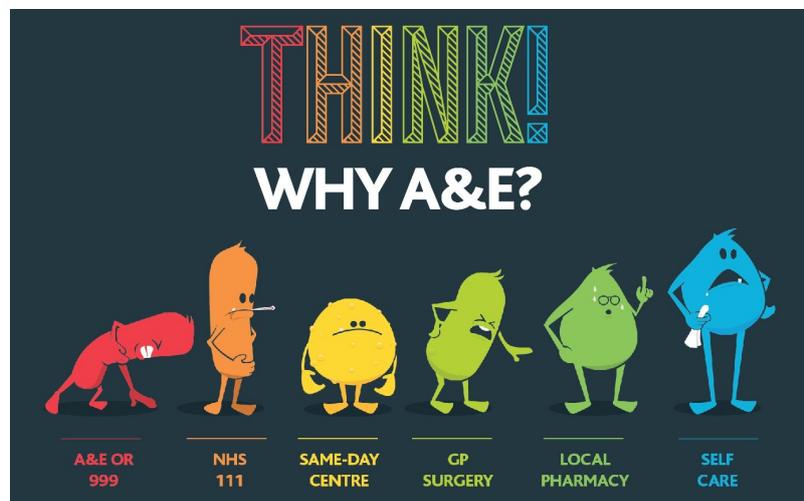
www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/bowel

Video boosts campaign to ease A&E pressures

SIX ailing cartoon characters have been created to help in the battle to ease the pressure on over-burdened A&E departments.

The quirky animation has been launched across the Fylde coast as part of the 'Think! Why A&E?' campaign.

It features a remake of the classic YMCA song by The Village People with the six characters suffering a range of ailments.



The campaign is the brainchild of NHS Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) working in partnership with Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Fylde and Wyre CCG.

Health officials in Australia have praised the campaign and expressed the need for a similar initiative.

Closer to home, other NHS organisations, universities and businesses have adopted the characters and the campaign.

Since Think! Why A&E? began in October 2014, more than 760,000 Twitter fans have checked them out.

Thousands of people have also visited the specially designed www.WhyAandE.nhs.uk website to download information posters and other materials.

The cartoon characters which feature in the new Think! Why A&E? campaign video

Dr Amanda Doyle, Chief Clinical Officer at NHS Blackpool CCG, said: "The message behind our campaign is clear: A&E is for emergencies and life threatening illnesses only.

"We aren't asking people to avoid A&E when it is necessary, but to think carefully about when it is and isn't appropriate.

"There are often more appropriate alternatives which can help people get the right treatment more easily and quicker.

"With support from the public we can make sure that people who need emergency and urgent care get it."

You can view the animation for yourself at the following link: <https://youtu.be/ZHeFgK2CtKE>

New implants set to give hearing back

THE first patients to be fitted with a new type of hearing implant will have their devices turned on for the first time on Tuesday, April 21.

Four patients at Blackpool Victoria Hospital have undergone surgery to have the hearing implant.

The technology uses magnets to attach the device to an implant in the patient's skull. This removes the need for an abutment (bolt) which protrudes from the head.

Mr Vikas Malik joined the ENT department of the Trust in 2014 and is able to install the implants.

Mr Malik said: "One magnet is implanted behind the ear under the skin and the external hearing aid has the other magnet.

"This allows passage of sound from the hearing aid straight to the inner ear, bypassing the outer and middle ear completely.

"The implant is completely

invisible so when the external device is taken off there is no sign that the patient has an implant at all. Hair can even be allowed to grow back over the implant."

What makes the device extra special is its use of wireless technology to connect it to other devices. The device can be connected to a smart phone, effectively turning the device into a mobile phone headset. It can also be connected to televisions and conference centre equipment so sound is sent directly to the person's ear without the need for volume to be increased.

One of the patients, Mrs Margaret Craven from Newton-with-Scales, said: "This device is a little miracle.

"I've been reading up about it and the technology it uses. It can do all sorts that I'm really looking forward to trying.

"I think my husband is going to be happy to not have to stand in front of me to talk to me, or to have the TV on so loud. It's going to be life changing and I can't wait."



Mr Vikas Malik



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) or go to www.bfwh.nhs.uk