

# Health Matters

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



## Marking past and future

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Issue 124, Friday, September 30, 2016

## Welcome from the Interim Chief Executive

HELLO and welcome to our latest edition of the Health Matters newsletter.



It has been a case of honouring the past and welcoming the future over the past fortnight with a host of memorable events.

We were delighted to welcome the High Sheriff of Lancashire to open our new Outpatients department and at the same time plant a new tree that has been planted to mark the 80th anniversary of Blackpool Victoria Hospital. This issue is filled with pictures to mark both those events which were well received by our staff and visitors.

Another of our areas celebrating a memorable birthday this year is the National Artificial Eye Service which is 100 years old this year, a magnificent achievement for a fantastic, national department. It was also great to see how our staff are using new, innovative techniques to help patients. A new lung ultrasound technique is being learned by physios to provide better results for patients while therapist Veronica Southern must be congratulated for winning a national award for her work to pioneer new technology.

**Wendy Swift,**  
Interim Chief Executive

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Health Matters is also available online at [www.bfwh.nhs.uk](http://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](http://www.bfwh.nhs.uk/healthmatters)

Any comments ideas or suggestions? Please contact: Ingrid Kent, Communications Department, on 01253 956 875 or [communications@bfwh.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@bfwh.nhs.uk)

# Honoured for cutting technology boundaries

**A BLACKPOOL therapist has scooped a major award for her use of technology to improve patient care and outcomes.**

Speech and Language Therapist, Veronica Southern (pictured), has been honoured by the North West Skills Development Network for her outstanding work in cutting across traditional boundaries with the use of IT leading to better patient care, better patient experience and improved efficiencies in her organisation.

From a shortlist of five, Veronica, who is now Clinical Lead in Telesolutions at Blackpool Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, won the Clinician in Informatics 2016 Award at the Network's conference.

The award is given to a clinician who has excelled in the use of technology within their organisation or health economy.

Veronica said she was thrilled to receive the award and the recognition it brings to the work she is doing to encourage healthcare workers to evolve and modernise their practices using technology.

Veronica designed, developed and delivered, with the help of Trust IT technicians and her Speech and Language Therapy colleagues, the Teleswallowing approach.



Teleswallowing is an innovative use of telemedicine allowing a therapist, using a tablet, laptop or computer, to remotely, rapidly and accurately, assess a patient's ability to swallow without the need for face-to-face assessment.

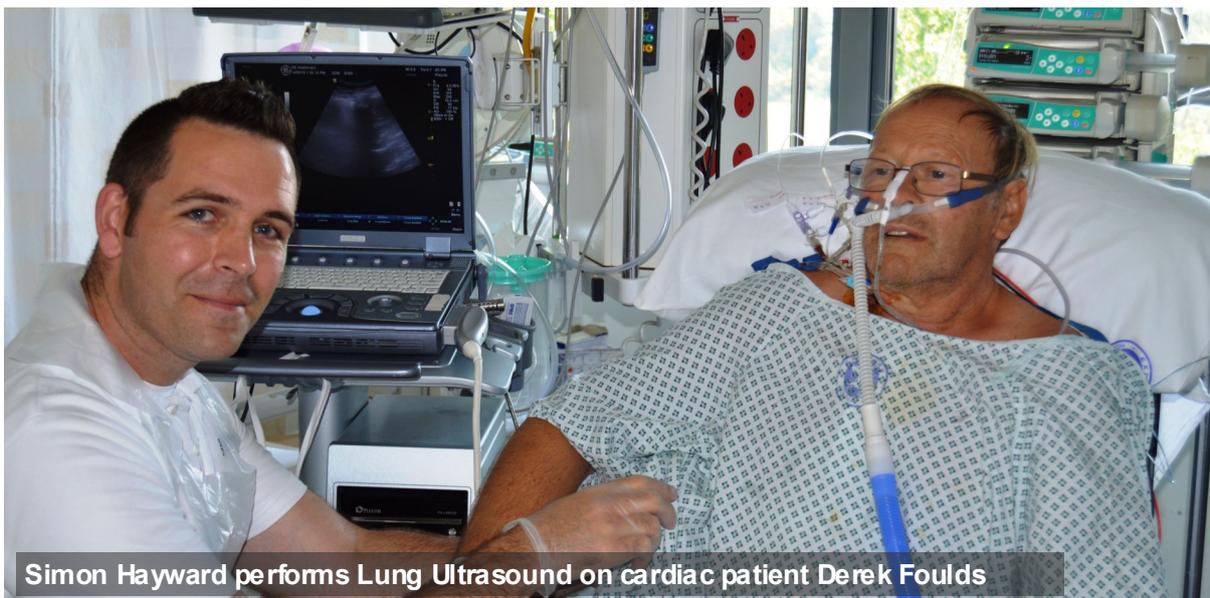
Veronica explained: "Swallowing difficulties can cause pneumonia, malnutrition and poor rehabilitation.

"Delays in the identification, assessment and management of the condition can cause the deterioration of a patient's health and possible hospital admission which could have been avoided if it had been assessed and managed earlier.

"Our patients can use their phones, tablets and even their watches now to access goods and services. We need to be ready to deliver our healthcare services, where appropriate, using technology."

Earlier this year Veronica and her IT colleagues also won one of NHS England's Challenge Prizes for their innovative technology ideas in a bid entitled "The Workplace of the Future: It's not where you go, but what you do."

# Ultrasound makes waves in Blackpool



Simon Hayward performs Lung Ultrasound on cardiac patient Derek Foulds

## ALL eyes are on Blackpool as one of the leading lights in Physiotherapy-led lung ultrasound.

Physiotherapists on the Intensive Care Units at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals are being trained to use this innovative technique which is giving more detailed results than traditional chest x-rays.

This is improving patient outcomes and helping get people off ventilators and out of Intensive Care.

Critical Care Physiotherapist, Simon Hayward, has been at the forefront of the Lung Ultrasound programme.

He said: "On a chest x-ray a lot of fluid and tissue looks white, but with lung ultrasound you can differentiate between fluids and tissues and even between different types of fluids and tissues.

"That's where the advantages come in. It changed the diagnosis of one of our patients who had been deteriorating rapidly. The ultrasound showed excess fluid around the lung which was then drained allowing him to be taken off a ventilator within a day."

And Blackpool's use of the ultrasound in critical care is making waves of its own in the world of physiotherapy.

Simon explained: "I believe that we could be the first team of physiotherapists in the country using this technique and we are being asked to give talks to introduce the system and concept to physiotherapists up and down the country. We are even speaking at the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Respiratory Care conference. We are presently training physiotherapists to use the equipment and hopefully this new way of working will improve patient care."

# Hospital marks 80th birthday

**VINTAGE** photographs and memorabilia were featured in a special exhibition to mark the 80th anniversary of Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

The exhibition was displayed on the hospital's mezzanine from September 26 to 30 and proved extremely popular with patients, visitors and staff.

One of the visitors to the exhibition, clinical nurse specialist, Julie Spencer-Bennett, said the exhibition reminded her of when she first started training as a nurse in the early '80s.

Julie said: "I've loved seeing the exhibition. You can still see some of the old parts of the hospital when you walk around.

"We used to wear capes like the one worn by the skeleton. I used to love wearing mine. I liked wearing the hats as well!"

As part of the week-long celebrations, tour guide and hospital volunteer, Denys Barber, led historical tours of the site.

Denys, who also runs regular tours as part of The Friends of Layton Cemetery, conducted the tours for four days.

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**Volunteer, Peter Cross, and exhibition organiser, Alma Stewart-Gee, with the display**

The route encompassed original features and described how the hospital has changed over the years.

The hospital's restaurant staff did their bit to mark the anniversary by creating a 1930s-themed menu on Wednesday, September 28, and making cupcakes with the BTHat80 logo on them.

A tree, kindly donated by Barton Grange Nurseries, was planted to mark the anniversary.

High Sheriff of Lancashire, John Barnett, planted the tree near the hospital's new Outpatients' area.

**See Page 7 for more on this story**



Exhibition organiser, Alma Stewart-Gee, with a cushion covered in old nurses' badges from the display



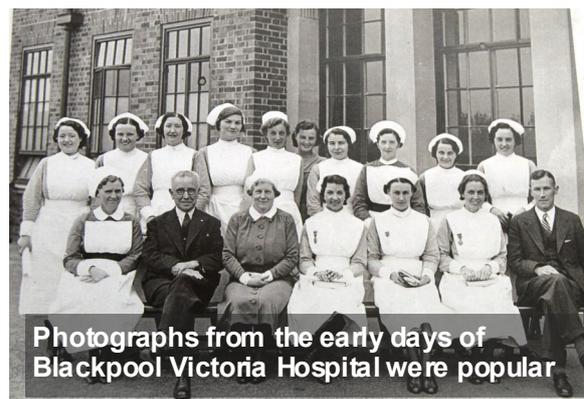
Clinical nurse specialists (from left), Simon Cook, Christina Brookes and Julie Spencer-Bennett enjoyed seeing the old uniform



Items from the Museum of Lancashire and the Pathology Lab at Blackpool Victoria Hospital provided a slightly disturbing view of medical care in the past



Outpatients manager, Elaine Fishwick, looks at the anniversary mural at the original hospital entrance



Photographs from the early days of Blackpool Victoria Hospital were popular



Unveiling the plaque are Trust Chairman, Ian Johnson, High Sheriff John Barnett and his wife, Danielle

# Past marks our future

**STAFF, volunteers and VIPs helped the Trust celebrate a number of milestones as the hospital marked its 80th anniversary and opened both a new Outpatients area and shop.**

The High Sheriff of Lancashire and his wife, John and Danielle Barnett, joined Trust Chairman, Ian Johnson, in performing the opening ceremonies. Mr Barnett, MBE DL, told onlookers that he was immensely proud of his local hospital and said the new Outpatients area was a fabulous modern, open space which would help patients feel more relaxed and confident about their visit.

Chief Executive (Interim) of the Trust, Wendy Swift, thanked all the staff and hospital volunteers who had been involved in the £408,000 Outpatients development. She also thanked local companies; JE Harrison, Media Print, Lytham Embroidery and Lancashire Cash Registers for their support. She said the project had been a success of partnership working.



Voluntary Services staff Paul Davies and Jess Dowd at the new shop



Wendy Swift cuts the anniversary cake



Trust Chairman, Ian Johnson, joins John and Danielle Barnett to plant an anniversary tree, kindly donated by Barton Grange. Far left, the original hospital dome has been exposed in the new Outpatients area. Left, Sister Jo Dyer and Outpatients Manager, Elaine Fishwick, by the ceremonial plaque

# Butterfly ball tickets

**TICKETS are selling well ahead of a charity ball to enhance dementia care, and now people are encouraged to get their raffle tickets early to be in with a chance of winning top prizes.**

The Butterfly Ball will take place at The Hilton, Blackpool, on Friday, October 21, and all proceeds will go to Blue Skies Hospitals Fund's Peace of Mind

dementia appeal, which aims to enhance care for patients with dementia across the Trust.

Billed for the night is top Blackpool band Touch the Pearl, as well as Local DJ from Revolution, DJ Paul O Brian, who will be the compere for the evening and the Blackpool NHS choir which will welcome guests. There will also be a photo booth and the grand raffle.

Organiser Francesca Maria Chiappe Hall, a Dementia Champion for the Trust, has secured an array of raffle prizes including overnight hotel stays, shopping vouchers, hair and beauty vouchers, watches worth up to £100, an outdoor activity hamper worth more £100 and even Notarianni's ice cream vouchers.

Beaverbrooks the Jewellers has also provided a raffle prize, signed up for a whole table and boosted its support for the ball by making a further donation of £700 to the Peace of Mind Appeal.

Pat Bohanna, supervisor at Beaverbrooks Blackpool, said: "This donation was made on behalf of the Blackpool branch of Beaverbrooks the Jewellers. Each year, money is allocated



Francesca Maria Chiappe Hall, right, and Blue Skies Hospitals Fund's Hazel Preston, left, with Pat Bohanna from Beaverbrooks, Blackpool

from The Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust for employees to present as a team to a local charity of their choice. During 2016 this amount is £100 per employee and we are pleased to announce that the Blackpool branch chose the Peace of Mind appeal for their charity for the year."

Francesca, who has helped transform the Care of the Elderly Wards at Blackpool Victoria Hospital through her fundraising for Blue Skies, said: "We are extremely grateful to all at Beaverbrooks, not only for their support of our Butterfly Ball, but also for their very generous donation towards Blue Skies Peace of Mind appeal.

"The ball has been inspired by the Butterfly Scheme, which is a national initiative to identify patients living with dementia in a sensitive and discreet way. We're so pleased its founder, Barbara Hodgkinson, will be there on the night."

Fran and her team of helpers will be selling ball and raffle tickets, as well as a selection of cakes, at Blackpool Victoria Hospital's main entrance on Thursday, September 22, between 11am and 2pm. Alternatively, raffle and ball tickets can be purchased by calling Blue Skies Hospitals Fund on 01253 957381.

## Artificial Eye Service bury anniversary time capsule



National Artificial Eye Service Production Manager, Ken Barratt, buries the time capsule

# Staff mark 100 years

**STAFF at the National Artificial Eye Service in Bispham have marked the organisation's centenary by burying a time capsule.**

The service, the only one of its type in the country, opened in 1916 and was originally known as 'The Army Spectacle Depot' but as injured soldiers returned from the front the focus changed to the provision of artificial eyes for wounded and blinded men.

As part of the centenary celebrations the capsule was buried this week. The capsule contained a host of items chosen by staff members including individual staff photographs, current newspapers and magazines, centenary memorabilia and eye care related items.

Production Manager, Ken Barratt, performed the ceremony.

He said: "We have run a number of events to mark the 100 year anniversary of the service but

we wanted something that would be a long lasting reminder of the work we do here for future generations.

"Staff were asked to give us their views of what should put in the capsule and we had a variety of ideas sent to us.

"It was a very popular idea and hopefully it will be a long lasting legacy of what we do here. This is a service we are proud of and long may it continue, hopefully for another 100 years."

Until shortly after the Second World War the provision of artificial eyes was only available to service personnel and war pensioners, but with the arrival of the National Health Act in 1948, the specialised treatment involved was extended to all qualifying NHS patients.

Teams of technicians take the wax models and specifications provided by the Orbital Prosthetist (OP) and turn them into an artificial eye which matches the patient's natural eye.



The Charity for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals  
Registered Charity Number 1051570

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Enhancing care for  
patients of Blackpool  
Teaching Hospitals NHS  
Foundation Trust

# Join us for this year's Walk The Lights Friday 7th October, 7.30pm

Blue Skies Hospitals Fund invites you to take part in this year's Walk the Lights event—a five-mile walk from Bispham to Starr Gate along the famous lights of Blackpool Promenade.

This is a great opportunity to come along with friends and family for a leisurely stroll along the Illuminations, while raising funds to enrich patient care across Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.



**Entry is £5 (although we'd be delighted to receive your donations or sponsorship too!).**

**Kids walk for free.**

For further information, or for an entry pack, please email [blueskies@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk](mailto:blueskies@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk) or call us on 01253 957381.

 [www.bfwhnhs.uk/blueskies](http://www.bfwhnhs.uk/blueskies)

 [www.facebook.com/blueskieshospitalsfund](https://www.facebook.com/blueskieshospitalsfund)

 [www.twitter.com/BlueSkiesFund](https://www.twitter.com/BlueSkiesFund)



# The Butterfly Ball

Friday 21st October 2016  
The Hilton Hotel Blackpool  
7pm til late

Three course dinner, DJ, Photobooth, Prize Raffle  
Live music from Blackpool's premier band



Tickets: £35 per head, or £300 for a table of 10



For more information and tickets call  
Blue Skies Hospitals Charity on 01253 957381



Raising money to support the Blue Skies' Peace of Mind Dementia appeal, enhancing care for patients with Dementia

Charity number: 1051570