

# Health Matters

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



## Tepee triumph

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## Welcome from the Interim Chief Executive

**HELLO and welcome to your Health Matters newsletter.**



If you have visited Blackpool Victoria Hospital's main entrance over the last few days you will have had quite a surprise.

A huge tepee has been set up in the main entrance as part of a special scheme designed to bring people together and to encourage kindness and companionship. It's the first time in the UK that any hospital has done this and we'd love you to come along and get involved.

In partnership with the 'Camerados' social movement, we have set up a 'Public Living Room' where people can meet on good days and on bad. Being a Camerado means 'I help you and you help me'. It's very simple concept in a way, but we want to show everyone that kindness can make all the difference to patients and staff. I hope lots of people will get involved and make a difference to each other.

In this issue we also have news of our Poppy Appeal, details of two awards for the Trust and we are welcoming two new non-executive directors.

**Wendy Swift,  
Chief Executive**

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**A stunning tepee has been erected in the main entrance of Blackpool Victoria Hospital as part of a special initiative. Trust volunteers, Linda Howarth and Kath Menzies, are pictured enjoying a brew in the tepee. Full story on Page 3**

**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: the Communications Department, on 01253 953059, 956875 or 953538 or email [communications@bfwh.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@bfwh.nhs.uk)**

# Tepee Living Room a first for Victoria site

THE Trust has worked with a leading social movement to open a 'Public Living Room' in a tepee in its main entrance.

The Trust has been working with the Camerados group to produce a unique campaign that is the first of its type in a hospital setting anywhere in the world.

Founder of Camerados, Maff Potts, travelled from Oxford for the opening which sees the tepee act as a Public Living Room.

He said: "People having tough times can make a change together. Problems can be solved by connection and friendship.

"Bringing our Public Living Room to Blackpool Victoria is ground-breaking. We want to show how people coming together in a shared space can work in a hospital environment and show other hospitals how they can do the same.

"Huge thanks must go to the Trust's Patient Experience Lead, Andrew Heath, and Chief Executive, Wendy Swift, for having the vision to try the Public Living Room here."

The idea behind a Public Living Room, is that it provides a comfortable place where anyone can come, on good days and bad, to be around people, make connections and enjoy being out of the house, office or ward for a while.

Andrew Heath said the Trust fully supports the Camerados ethos. He said: "It is a great opportunity to work with an organisation such as Camerados.

"Patients, visitors and staff will hopefully get something from it during the three weeks that it is



here. We can then assess and identify needs for the future."

Camerados started with a belief in a simple but powerful idea: that you beat tough times by getting two things: Friends and Purpose. They've discovered that the best way to get these two things is to look out for each other. People in tough times helping others in the same boat, as equals, a two-way thing.

Sarah Mortimer, Development Manager for Camerados, who has been working closely with Blackpool Victoria staff for the last two weeks, said: "I have been overwhelmed with the response from staff and volunteers in the hospital – they just get it.

"I brought in 2,000 badges and they have all been distributed. It has all been so positive."

Bolton's Big Chief Tepees have installed the tepee. They have previously supplied tepees for The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, Michelle Keegan and Mark Wright's wedding and for the Glastonbury music festival.

The tepee will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week until July 24.

# Simon set to shine at South Africa congress

A SENIOR Trust physiotherapist is enjoying the trip of a lifetime.

Simon Hayward is in Cape Town, South Africa, this week to deliver a presentation in front of physiotherapists from across the world at the World Congress for Physical Therapy.

Simon, who has worked at Blackpool Victoria Hospital for five years, will be discussing his research into diagnostic lung ultrasound techniques, something he has become a national specialist on over the past couple years.

He said: "I am delighted to be able to promote the work we do at Blackpool to specialist physiotherapists from across the world.

"I prepared a poster about the technique that was accepted for the congress which was a huge honour. The poster is about the training programme we have developed at the Trust for this type of technique which is very much an up and coming field of study within my profession.

"It is a privilege for me and I am really looking forward to it. As well as talking about my own research, I am sure I will learn so much from other leading figures at the three day congress and bring some of what I learn there back here."

Talking about his specialist field he said: "The use of lung ultrasound in physiotherapy is innovative within the NHS, and we are being asked to give talks to introduce the system and concept to physiotherapists up and down the country. By using the machine, physios are able to get more specific information to help with diagnoses. 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



Simon Hayward

even between different types of fluids and tissues. That's where the advantage comes in. We have had a few instances where this equipment has made a big difference to patients."

Nick Lane, Head of Therapies at the Trust, said: "We are in a very fortunate position to use funding from a research internship Simon has been participating in to allow him to attend the WCPT Congress in South Africa. This will enable Simon to promote the forward thinking approach he and his colleagues are taking in upskilling the Acute Physiotherapy Workforce at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals.

"It's an excellent opportunity for Simon and also promotes that we are a great place to work by empowering our staff to push the boundaries in developing their skills to improve patient care."

The WCPT Congress is held every two years by the World Confederation for Physical Therapy.

The last congress, held in Singapore in 2015, attracted 3,500 physical therapists from 114 countries.

# Can YOU help our knitted Poppy call?

THE Trust's Chaplaincy Department is calling on members of the public, staff, patients and volunteers to get knitting or crocheting Red Poppies for Remembrance Week, 2018.

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust hopes to receive at least 30,000 handmade poppies which will be used for an innovative art installation at the hospital to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War One next year.

Trust Chaplain, Rev Jonathan Sewell, said: "This project is an ambitious one but it has already received a great deal of interest from local voluntary groups.

"We really want to mark the centenary in a special way at Blackpool Victoria Hospital and would love to hear from as many people as possible.

"There are a number of ways to get the patterns from the internet but we really want people to be artistic, creative and inspired so will be happy to receive any patterns."

You can help with this event in the following ways:

- Knit poppies yourself using any of the patterns widely available or take a copy of a pattern and information on where to get materials from the main entrance reception at Blackpool Victoria Hospital or Clifton Hospital or the Chaplaincy Team.
- Participate in a knitting circle by providing your contact details to the main reception or the Chaplaincy team at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.
- Donate wool for this project to the main entrance at Blackpool Victoria or Clifton hospitals or the Chaplaincy Team.

The poppy patterns (to crochet and knit) are available free of charge on [www.TheKnittingNetwork.co.uk/poppy](http://www.TheKnittingNetwork.co.uk/poppy)

Participants (or their families/carers) need to enter the code POPPY at the checkout to download a pdf of the free patterns to print themselves.

For further information on the appeal please contact Rev Sewell on Tel 01254 953876 or e-mail [Jonathan.sewell@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk](mailto:Jonathan.sewell@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk)

# Trust receives quality mark for information

THE Trust has been certified as a provider of high quality health care information after achieving a national quality standard award.

The organisation has been awarded the Information Standard quality mark which can be displayed on literature and the Trust website to demonstrate to the public that their information is safe and reliable.

The Information Standard is an accreditation programme available to all organisations producing evidence-based health and care information for the public.

Any organisation achieving The Information Standard has undergone a rigorous assessment to check that the information they produce is clear, accurate, balanced, evidence-based and up-to-date.

Head of Corporate Assurance for the Trust, Matthew Burrow, said: "It is essential that our patients get accurate written information about their condition, operation and procedure in a format they can understand.

"This accreditation is important to us as it shows we have demonstrated we have the necessary processes and systems in place to ensure all patient information we publish meets the rigorous



**Margaret Forrest, Procedural and Document and Leaflet Co-ordinator; Non-Executive Director, Mark Cullinan and volunteer, reader David Bradbury**

criteria of The Information Standard. Our leaflets are important for carers and families as the information we provide keeps them better informed helping to allay any fears or concerns they may have."

The hospital is helped by a team of volunteers who proof read all Trust patient information leaflets and booklets.

Matthew added: "We are extremely grateful to our panel of readers who highlight any mistakes in spelling or grammar, but also highlight words or phrases that may not be easily understood by the general public."

# Kitchen staff provide a five-star service

CATERING staff at Blackpool Victoria Hospital are celebrating after winning a five star food rating for the seventh successive year.

The award comes after an unannounced visit by Environmental Health inspectors from Blackpool Council to check the kitchens, food preparation, cooking, food hygiene systems and temperature records.

Kitchen manager, Darren Cadwell, said the news was a major boost for staff and patients.

He said: "To have the five star rating again is absolutely fantastic but for me anything less is not a second thought.

"As a hospital we have to have five stars and it really does make all the hard work that goes into making 3,000 meals a day worth it."

"We regularly have 700 patients in the hospital on one day who require breakfast, dinner and tea, as well as all the staff who work here and visitors.

"Hygiene is vitally important to us and we carry out daily, weekly and monthly inspections to ensure our kitchen is top class and all our staff are given hygiene training.

"I am very proud of the achievements we have received.

"This is a first class kitchen with first class staff."

Senior site services manager for the Trust, 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.



**Kitchen manager, Darren Cadwell, with members of his team and their five star hygiene certificate**

"Patients, visitors and staff 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."

# New Non-Executive Directors for Trust

THE Trust has appointed two new Non-Executive Directors.

Steve Finnigan, who has recently retired from his role as Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary and Keith Case, a former senior executive with several high profile national companies, will take up their posts in August 2017.

Mr Finnigan was a police officer for 41 years in the Merseyside and Lancashire forces, with the last 12 years being spent as the Chief Constable of the latter.

Under his leadership, Lancashire has been in the top five of the 43 forces in England and Wales for the past 12 years, a feat that was recently commented on by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC).

He was also the National Performance Lead for policing for the past eight years and has recently been appointed as the Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire.

Lord-Lieutenants are Her Majesty The Queen's personal representative in a county. Their prime duty is to uphold the dignity of the Crown, through tasks such as escorting royal visitors, and presenting medals and awards on the Queen's behalf.



Mr Keith Case (left) and Mr Steve Finnigan, newly appointed Non Executive Directors at the Trust

Mr Case, who has also recently retired, worked at Director and Senior Manager levels in the nuclear and public utilities industries with roles covering governance, planning and financial responsibilities and designing and implementing strategic and operational plans for major industries.

Trust Chairman, Ian Johnson, welcomed the appointments.

He said: "I would like to welcome Steve and Keith to the Board of Directors at the Trust and I look forward to working with them.

"Both candidates have a huge amount of experience at very senior levels and they will bring valuable skills to the Board and help us progress in the future."