

# Health Matters

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



## Celebrating Success

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Issue 151, Friday, October 13, 2017

## Welcome from the Chief Executive

**HELLO and welcome to your latest edition of Health Matters newsletter.**



We have been Celebrating Success this month and I have been overwhelmed by the quality and quantity of applications received for our NHS awards.

It is humbling to read reports of the care and expertise our staff give to patients both in the hospitals and in the community.

And what a wonderful way to honour the staff who were shortlisted. Inside this edition you will see three pages of pictures from our Celebrating Success, Heroes in Health awards at the stunning Tower Ballroom.

We are delighted to be able to congratulate our workforce in this way and are grateful to our generous sponsors who support this event allowing us to pay tributes to such innovative and caring staff.

And talking of caring staff. Cardiac ITU charge nurse, Luke Sumner, has just completed a gruelling challenge to raise much needed cash for our Blue Skies charity.

**Wendy Swift,  
Chief Executive**

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

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# A night of glitter and awards for NHS staff



IT and Health Informatics celebrate winning the Non-Clinical Team of the Year award



Volunteers Jean and Denys Barber

HUNDREDS of NHS staff gathered at an awards ceremony at Blackpool Tower to honour colleagues who have shown extraordinary levels of care, compassion and innovation to ensure the best possible care for patients.

More than 500 nominations were received in just seven categories for Celebrating Success 2017 and the judges had a tough decision drawing up a shortlist.

The awards, presented by Radio Wave's Andy Mitchell and Hayley Kay and kindly financed by sponsorship from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust partners, had a heroes theme reflecting the work done by staff both in the hospitals and in the community.

The Patients Award was won by surgeon Mr Joseph Zacharias and his Cardiac team. They were nominated by a number of patients who commented on the professionalism, compassion and care shown by every member. Many said they had been given their lives back

and were able to have the chance to enjoy family life again thanks to the excellent treatment received.

Runners-up in the category were rehabilitation therapists, Sheila Dryden and Joanne Tomlinson, the Neonatal Unit and Ward 16 at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

Haematology was named as Clinical Team of the Year for improving both the physical and psychological wellbeing of their patients. Runners-up in this category were the Acute Medical Unit (AMU) and the Acute Response Team.

Following the cyber attack earlier this year, IT and Health Informatics were awarded the Non-Clinical Team of the Year for the way the entire team responded to the situation and ensured business continuity was maintained and systems brought back on line.

Communications and Voluntary Services were named as runners-up in this category.



Staff congratulate Sarah Darville

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An inspirational nurse was named as **Unsung Hero**. Linda Broadbent, ward manager of Clifton Hospital Ward 1, was commended for her work on dementia.

Runners-up in the category were Dr Ned Rowlands and Health Care Assistant, Christine Heginbotham.

The Innovation and Service Improvement award went to Clifton Outreach Support Team who safely bridge the gap between hospital and home ensuring patients have a seamless transfer between services.

Physiotherapist, Simon Hayward and the Nurse-Led Intravenous Therapy Service were named as runners-up in the category.

Volunteers do a tremendous job enhancing patient experience and the award of Volunteer of the Year went to husband and wife, Jean and



Neonatal Unit are named winners of the Chairman's Award



Mr Zacharias' Cardiac Team

Denys Barber, who put in countless hours to help patients, visitors and staff at Blackpool Victoria. Runners-up were named as Jim Hatfield and Jane Roberts.

Employee of the Year went to special surgery pre-assessment manager, Louise Thompson who was described as having an excellent relationship with both patients and staff. Nursing sister, Sarah Darville and Pathology IT Manager, Jake Castle



Ward Manager Linda Broadbent's team pay tribute in their own way

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took the runner-up places.

The final honour, The Chairman's Award, was presented to the Neonatal Unit for being forward thinking and innovative in the way they care for their patients and families in often difficult circumstances.

Wendy Swift, Chief Executive Officer of the Trust, praised the work done by all staff within the Trust saying: "We have been overwhelmed by the quality and quantity of applications received and it is humbling to read reports of the care and expertise our staff give to patients both in the hospitals and in the community.

"We are grateful to our generous sponsors who support this event allowing us to pay tribute to such innovative and caring staff."



Haematology win the Clinical Team of the Year award



Innovation winners, Clifton Outreach Support team



Presenters Andy Mitchell and Hayley Kay

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# Gemma dances her way to a new career

THE first Assistant Practitioner (AP) to become a Research Nurse at Blackpool Victoria Hospital's Clinical Research Centre says she is delighted with her career choice.

Gemma Brown grew up in London and moved to Blackpool when she was 18 to be a dancer at Pontins.

However, when Gemma moved to the resort she took on a job at a care home in Cleveleys and then became a Health Care Assistant in Dermatology at Clifton Hospital.

Gemma went on to become the first AP in the Research and Development Department and has recently qualified as a nurse having completed her degree at the University of Central Lancashire.

Gemma is coming back to Research & Development and is being supported in her newly qualified role to develop her nursing skills by being seconded into the Emergency Department.

Gemma said: "I am excited to be back in research and am looking the challenge of working in the Emergency Department.

"After my time in the ED, I am looking forward to being a Research Nurse in the Acute Medicine Cluster, which will include research in A&E, Stroke, the Women and Children's department, Microbiology and Anaesthetics. Research can make a big difference to patients.

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**Gemma Brown**

"From simple questionnaires asking patients how they found their treatment and seeing if we can improve our care, to complex clinical trials testing new drugs in areas such as oncology and haematology, it does make a difference.

"I am very grateful to have been seconded to be allowed to do my nurse training and I am looking forward to working as a Research Nurse."

Michelle Stephens, Manager of the Research and Development Department, said: "We are very proud of Gemma who has worked so hard to complete her nurse training and to graduate with an honours degree.

"I am sure her time in the Emergency Department will help her develop her nursing skills."

# Find the service you need at the click of a button...

FYLDE coast residents will be able to find local health, social and community services information within the click of a button thanks to the launch of new, unique local directory.

The new FYI Directory, which has been developed jointly by the local NHS organisations and councils across Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre provides a comprehensive list of over 3,000 local services, support groups, childcare providers and activities.

Listings range from statutory health and social care services to local sports clubs, community support groups and volunteering opportunities, plus much more.

Accessible online at [www.fyidirectory.co.uk](http://www.fyidirectory.co.uk), the directory is the first of its kind in the country and includes a number of intelligent features, some of these are:

- A simple postcode search, allowing people to find the services nearest to them. You can also view search results on a map and get directions thanks to connectivity with Google Maps.
- A free text messaging service which allows anybody using the directory to send information listings directly to a mobile, at no cost.
- A shortlist function, similar to an online shopping basket. This means you can collect a number of chosen listings at a time to view or print later.



Dr Tony Naughton

- An events calendar, find out what's happening near you in the coming days.

Dr Tony Naughton, a Thornton GP and clinical chief officer at NHS Fylde and Wyre CCG, said: "Often people don't know where to start when they're looking for information about local services or groups. The directory is our answer to trying to simplify that."

"We've done lots of testing of it with members of the public and professional groups, taking on board their feedback to improve it further. We're really pleased to be able to launch it and let people start to feel the benefit of accessing this comprehensive resource."

IT WAS a summer of fundraising and community events for the children's diabetes team from Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

The events supported by the team included a walk with JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund) in Stanley Park in Blackpool, a golf day with the Bamber family at the De Vere Village Hotel, Lancashire School Sports Day and an abseiling event in aid of the Trust's charity, Blue Skies.

The team includes consultants Dr Mohammed Ahmed, Dr Rabin Mohanty and Dr Peter Curtis; paediatric diabetes specialist nurses, Ismail Dalal and Sandra Singleton and diabetes specialist dietitian, Caroline McNicholas.

Caroline McNicholas, a Dietitian for the Paediatric Diabetes Team at the Trust, said: "These events are all about raising awareness about what is going on around Blackpool in terms of diabetes. We also want people to know there are organisations and events being held raising money for diabetes research.



The Children's Diabetes team

"As a team we wanted to demonstrate that we are not just doing our jobs working in diabetes – we genuinely do care about what our patients and families are living with.

"Engaging in activities outside the clinical environment and taking our own families along to the walk at Stanley Park helped us to improve communication, build trust and gave us the opportunity to show that we have real empathy and compassion.

"One of our patients, four-year-old Gabriella Wills from Poulton who has Type 1 diabetes, raised more than £1,000 for JDRF.

# Raising funds for diabetic research

"The Bamber family, whose son has diabetes, very kindly hosted a golf day at De Vere, to raise money for JDRF."

Caroline added: "The entire Bamber family had various roles and levels of responsibility and were kept busy throughout the day. This was a well-attended event and it was lovely to see that everybody involved enjoyed themselves and raised a significant amount of money, £3,500, for the charity."

Specialist Nurse, Sandra Singleton, added: "We have been able to highlight the needs of children and young people with diabetes and offer valuable training resources."

# A grand trek for Luke

A BLACKPOOL Victoria Hospital Charge Nurse has just completed an epic charity trek.

Luke Sumner, who works on the Cardiac Intensive Treatment Unit (CITU), embarked on a five day trek in the Grand Canyon to raise money for Blue Skies Hospital Fund, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals' charity.

Luke, and other fundraisers from different charities, descended around 3,100 feet into the Canyon. Walking 10 to 15 miles a day, Luke wanted to quit many times.

He said: "I was anxious enough at the thought of being with 24 strangers, but when I found out that there would also be rattlesnakes, tarantulas and scorpions, I was really apprehensive."

The trekkers walked for most of the day accompanied by specialist guides. Pack horses carried supplies such as food and water. The group camped in tents on the Canyon floor, washed in rivers and had to use the most basic of toilet facilities.

But there were some amazing parts of the trek too. The group walked to five different waterfalls along the route which were an oasis of lush green foliage and beautiful crystal blue water.

Climbing back out of the Canyon was the hardest part of the trek.

Luke said: "Coming out was just hell. My feet were blistered and bruised. It took every single ounce of muscle power to just get up one step.



CITU Charge Nurse, Luke Sumner

"But once we had reached the top, we were all so relieved and amazed, we broke down in tears. But after all we endured, we have made some lifelong friends and I came out realising that if I can get through that, I can take on the world – I never expected to feel like that."

Interim Head of Fundraising for Blue Skies, Ann Hedley, said: "Luke, and our other trekker Craig Holland, have been tested to the limit. I am full of admiration for them and so humbled by their achievement. They really have gone the extra mile for Blue Skies."

Luke has raised £3,600 so far and has a target of £4,000.

You can still sponsor him by visiting: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cardiacitu>  
For future events for Blue Skies Hospitals Fund, you can keep up to date on their Facebook page: @BlueSkiesHospitalsFund; Twitter: @BlueSkiesFund and Instagram: blueskiesfund.



Luke admires the Canyon



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