

Health Matters

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



Meet the millionaire kid

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Issue 152, Friday, October 27, 2017

Welcome from the Chief Executive

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



It's been a busy couple of weeks and we are delighted to launch our new flu video. Blackpool Teaching Hospitals has a reputation for innovative ways to encourage staff to get their flu jab and this year is no exception.

Our Communications team, who make the video, have taken their inspiration from Hollywood and re-enacted some famous movies to get their message across.

We have also been pleased to see a number of our health staff named as winners in The Gazette's Best of Health Awards and I am delighted to add my congratulations to them.

Charity is never far from home at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals and we reports featuring staff helping others from putting together shoeboxes for children to baking cakes to help raise money for patient care.

We are also introducing our new Head of Fundraising for our Blue Skies charity who is determined to increase both funds and awareness.

**Wendy Swift,
Chief Executive**

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WE HAVE launched our new flu awareness video — and this year it has a Hollywood theme

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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: the Communications Department, on 01253 953059, 956875 or 953538 or email communications@bfwh.nhs.uk

Blackpool consultant helps boy beat odds

KEANE Phillips is a highly intelligent 10-year-old who has become one of Blackpool's first book millionaires, despite having Aspergers.

And mum Kerry and dad Shayne are delighted that Keane has beaten all the odds to excel in a national reading programme.

Keane has become the first child at Marton Primary Academy school to complete the national Million Word Reading Challenge – and he achieved the goal in record time.

And school assistant principal, Mrs Alice Coyle, has praised Keane for being a model pupil.

Mum Kerry explained that health issues had plagued her son from before birth. "We were aware there was a problem with our baby when I was pregnant," she explained. "A 20 week scan showed he had a cystic lung.

"When Keane was born we did not know whether he would survive and be able to breath unaided. Just, six months later he had to undergo major surgery to remove a third of his left lung."

He was referred to Blackpool Victoria Hospital paediatric consultant, Dr Nigel Laycock, who immediately realised that Keane was a very interesting and intelligent child and diagnosed Asperger's Syndrome.

"Dr Laycock spent two-and-a-half hours with us explaining everything to us," said Kerry. "He was amazing and very forward looking. He gave us hope for the future.

"If it was not for Dr Laycock I don't think Keane



Kerry Phillips, right, with Keane and Alice Coyle. Inset, Dr Laycock

would have progressed as well as he has. He has had belief in what Keane could achieve and he has fought his cause throughout.

In February Marton Primary introduced the accelerated learning initiative. The idea behind the challenge is for children to read a novel and then take a test to ensure they have read and understood the book. If they pass the word count of that book is added to their total – the challenge is to read 1,000,000 words.

Keane became the school's first millionaire in September having read more than 1,000,000 words and was treated like a king for the day by the school.

Dr Laycock said he was immensely proud of what Keane had achieved. "He has worked really hard on his language skills and this is a testament to his hard work. He has overcome so many barriers and when I hear about success like this it makes my job worthwhile."

Putting a smile on children's faces during Christmas time

Danielle's shoebox quest

SWITCHBOARD operator, Danielle Perrett, is determined to ensure Christmas is a time for children.

And she is hoping members of staff at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals will help her in her quest.

Danielle, above right, who is based at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, has bought 100 shoe boxes, out of her own money, which she hopes staff will fill with gifts to send to deprived children across the world to spread the real spirit of Christmas.

The shoebox appeal is co-ordinated by Samaritan's Purse who collate and ship the boxes to children in need worldwide.

This will be the third year that Danielle has been involved in the charity. "It's really important to me," she explained. "I think Christmas is about going out of your way for an act of kindness. Christmas is about giving and this is a way that disadvantaged children from all over the world can benefit and receive a gift."

Danielle said: "It's such a nice charity. It doesn't cost a lot to do a box. Nowadays a lot of kids get huge amounts of presents but that's not really what Christmas is about. There are children out there with nothing. If they get a box with a cuddly toy in it they are so excited. That's what



Christmas is really about – giving to others."

To help Danielle in her challenge staff are asked to donate £5 to cover project costs, including shipping. They are then asked to fill their box with such items as toys, school supplies, toiletries and clothing and secure the box with an elastic band. The boxes will then be returned to Danielle by November 17 and she will organise delivery to the distribution point.

Danielle added: "We are hoping that staff will get involved to help this worthwhile project. My colleagues from the Switchboard are helping me and we have received quite a lot of interest already about the appeal.

"Staff can either use one of my shoe boxes or one of their own. Shoeboxes should be medium sized and contributors can choose to give a gift to a boy or a girl.

"If people want to get involved they can contact either myself or my supervisor Laura Peel on switchboard and we will give them full details about what they can and cannot put in the boxes. We filled 200 boxes last year and hope to fill even more this year."

Silver screen inspires staff to get the flu jab

THE Trust's annual flu video, aimed to encourage staff to get vaccinated, is ready to view!

This year, the theme is going to the 'Fluvies' in a homage to classic film scenes but with a flu twist!

The team have taken ten scenes from famous movies and have replaced the original actors with Trust staff flu stars. See how many movies you recognise? View here! <http://bit.ly/2gvYU19>

The video is just one part of the campaign to raise awareness of the importance of the vaccinations, especially for frontline staff.

This year, the southern hemisphere has been hit hard by the flu virus. Luckily, the vaccination for the coming season combats the H3N2 strain which has been causing the problem.

A new vaccination is required each year as the virus can mutate and would not be recognised by the antibodies made in response to the previous vaccines.

It takes 14 days to become immune which is why staff and vulnerable patients are urged to get vaccinated early.

The NHS has a duty to protect itself, the health and wellbeing of its staff and its patients. Getting the vaccination remains the best way to help prevent staff and vulnerable patients becoming unwell with flu and also stop the spread of the infection throughout the hospital.

Our new flu video hopes to encourage staff to get vaccinated before the deadline at the end of December.



Lots of staff took part in the latest flu video including Director of Nursing and Quality, Marie Thompson (right)





A recipe for success



Cancer Services Team, Top, Ward 11



AMU's Clair Watson and Emma Wiper

HEALTH staff across Blackpool Victoria Hospital have been slaving over hot ovens to raise cash for patient care.

Ward 11 staff baked through the night to raise vital funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Tasty treats and raffle prizes helped staff, visitors and patients raise £211 for the cause.

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A 'Cake Off' competition and coffee morning also raised funds for Macmillan through an event organised by the Cancer Services team and hospital volunteers.

And the hospital's Acute Medical Unit put their cooking skills to the test to help raise money to refurbish the area's relatives' room.

And the winner is....

EXCEPTIONAL staff members from Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust were winners in The Gazette newspaper's annual Best of Health Awards.

Gillian Parkinson, editor of The Gazette, said: "These awards celebrate all of the people who make a difference to their patients in all the disciplines of our health services and we are delighted to highlight them for their incredible work."

"All of the winners and runners-up went the extra mile and fully deserve the recognition they have received."

Wendy Partington from the Trust's Extensive Care Service in Lytham was the winner of the Nurse of the Year award.

Amy Barnes, who is based at Blackpool Victoria Hospital, won the title of Midwife of the Year.

The Hospital Doctor of the Year award went to Mr Nidal Bittar from the Lancashire Cardiac Centre.



Amy Barnes, left, with Debbie Whisby



Above: Mr Nidal Bittar with Barbara Cummings and right, Wendy Partington with Dr Zuber Bagasi



Kila is a woman on a mission

MICHAELA Redfearn - known as Kila to most people - is the new head of fundraising for the hospitals' charity, Blue Skies.

And she is a woman on a mission to support and develop Blue Skies so it can help Blackpool Teaching Hospitals become 'world class' in patient care.

She also wants to recruit an army of volunteers to help raise funds and the profile of Blue Skies to improve the experience for patients, visitors and staff at the Trust.

Born in Blackpool, mum-of-four Kila is a true Sandgroun and is passionate about the area having lived on the Fylde coast all her life. She worked for the Winter Gardens for 31 years in various roles from junior clerk typist to Company Auditor before specialising in events as Sales Manager.

Kila has always had an active interest in community and is currently a director for Blackpool Football Club Community Trust and a committee member of the Queendens Charity.

She was a director for the award winning Park View 4 U in Lytham and helped raise more than £1.7m to turn an old boggy field into the country's first 3 Generational Park, winning the Big Society Award in 2012, presented by the Prime Minister.

Kila also takes part in numerous local fundraising and charity events including Race for Life, Colour Splash and The Big Sleep Out.

"I am committed to ensuring that everyone is



Kila Redfearn

aware of what Blue Skies is all about and making sure our brand is prominent in the community so it can help the Trust become world class," Kila explained. "Brand awareness is so important, we want people to be emotionally engaged with us and know us as compassionate and caring.

"I would love to recruit an 'army' of Blue Skies volunteers to help with events, brand awareness and distribution of information.

"Research has found the more people volunteered, the happier they were. Volunteering can also help people feel healthier and happier, bring fun and fulfilment to lives and advance career prospects.

"Together we can make Blue Skies shine. Please contact me on 01253 957766 or by email at kila.redfearn@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk"



The Butterfly Ball 2017

The perfect night for your Christmas Party
Winter Wonderland theme

Friday 1st December 2017 – 7pm til late – The Hilton Hotel Blackpool
 Three course dinner, DJ, Photographer, Games & Raffle
 Dress Code: Black Tie or Lounge Suit / Ball Gown or Cocktail Dress



Live Music from
 Blackpool's
 premier band
Touch the Pearl



Tickets: £40 per head
 inc. entry into exclusive
 prize draw

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: 1061570