

the bulletin

staff magazine | Spring 2024

NHS
The Leeds
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust

Welcoming Sir Keir Starmer



A new SDEC and ED front door p4



Awards presented to Support Workers p7



TRS Awards p12

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Double Award Win for Consultant Pharmacist in Cardiology and Cardiovascular Research

A great end to 2023 was celebrated by double award winner Dr Rani Khatib, Consultant Pharmacist in Cardiology and Cardiovascular Research.

Dr Khatib was elected Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology, an international recognition of all the hard work he leads at Leeds Teaching Hospitals to tackle cardiovascular disease.

The title 'Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology' (FESC) honours individuals who have distinguished themselves in the cardiovascular field, with the ESC Fellowship programme recognising excellence and lifetime achievement.

Dr Khatib leads the Innovative CardioRenalMetabolic Medicines Optimisation service at the Cardio-Respiratory clinical service unit. The service offers better access and use of innovative therapeutic options and person-centred approaches to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease. The multidisciplinary team includes cardiologists, pharmacists, nurses, researchers, diabetologists, amongst

others and spans across secondary and primary care.

The second award came from the Pumping Marvellous Foundation, a national heart failure charity. The award is in recognition of the hard work and dedication to heart failure. The charity said: "You are a role model and an ambassador for the whole heart failure community... for your own personal experience (as a patient) ... and our unending respect for your drive, determination and understanding, we award you the highest accolade the charity can give."

Dr Khatib said he was thrilled to be awarded the Black Patient Educator badge, which is awarded to a finite number of people each year who are recommended by patient educators, the operations team and the Trustee Board. There is no higher accolade the organisation can give.

Congratulations to Dr Khatib and his team by association.



Welcome to the Spring issue of Bulletin

Over the last few months, the Trust has dealt with a myriad of incredible challenges. From the longest ever period of industrial action by Junior Doctors, to the winter pressures on clinical services and bed availability and everything in between. I want to start by thanking each and every one of you for your commitment, your initiative, your teamwork and your tireless approach to delivering the best possible experience for our patients and our colleagues.

However, in the face of often difficult circumstances there have been a lot of fantastic achievements we can be proud of. Some patients are still waiting for long periods of time for procedures but our progress in improving this has been remarkable. Our delivery of emergency and unplanned care continues to be some of the best in the NHS. As I look back on my first year as the Chief Executive of Leeds Teaching Hospitals, I can honestly say that I only get more and more impressed by the work that we do and am immensely proud of the way we work together in the Leeds Way.

Many of our recent achievements are featured in this issue of Bulletin magazine where you'll find stories including a high-profile visit by Leader of the Opposition Sir Keir Starmer, progress in delivering our 7 Commitments and news of accolades for staff in the shape of the King's New Year Honours.

The responsibility the Trust has in providing the highest quality specialist and integrated care is a great one, but I am continually inspired by the way we rise to meet our challenges and exceed expectations.

Kind regards

Prof. Phil Wood
Chief Executive



A new SDEC and ED front door

A brand new medical Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) and a new front door to the Emergency Department opened in December 2024 which will hugely improve the experience for our patients visiting and staff working in the department.

Both of these projects are part of a £5.5m capital scheme designed to maximise patient pathways in the Emergency Department and provide a modern, purpose-designed environment for both patients and staff. This is the culmination of months of planning and collaboration across teams and departments.

The location of the Emergency Department itself has not changed but access is now through the main entrance of Chancellor's Wing. New signage has been installed to make the new entrance clear.

Patients will be checked in via the new reception area and then we aim for a front door assessment to take place within 15 minutes of arrival to decide which service the patient requires so they can be moved onwards in their journey.

The new front door will provide a vastly improved environment helping to maximise direct-to-assessment area pathways. This will enhance flow through the department and provide a better patient experience overall.

Trust Chair Dame Linda Pollard and Director of Estates and Facilities Craige Richardson went to visit the newly opened facilities to see first hand the impressive difference and to greet some of the staff.

Craige said: "It's fantastic to see everyone's hard work come together, especially as we move into our busy winter period. I want to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped get us here."



Stop Smoking Service celebrates its first year

The Trust's Stop Smoking Service was launched at the beginning of November 2022 and celebrated its first anniversary late last year. The team supports inpatients and maternity patients who are smokers to quit.

The service initially launched on three inpatient wards and in seven of the most deprived areas of Leeds with the highest smoking status for maternity patients. Just one year later the service has expanded to operate across 42 inpatient wards and all maternity patients in Leeds who smoke can now receive support from the team.

In its first year, the service received almost 4,500 inpatient referrals. The team supported these patients in a variety of ways including offering very brief advice, supporting them with a range of nicotine replacement therapy products and tailored advice during their hospital stay. Then, if required, patients received an onward referral to community services for ongoing support following discharge. So far, 21% of patients who agreed to receive support have quit smoking. This is the equivalent of one patient quitting per day since the service launched. The inpatient service is currently funded by Yorkshire Cancer Research and now receives up to 530 referrals per month.

The maternity pathway of the service is funded by the West Yorkshire ICB. For maternity patients, of the 517 patients referred to the service, 77 reported they had quit at their 28 day follow up which is helping to reduce our Smoking at the Time of Delivery (SATOD) figures. The maternity stop smoking service now receives up to 110 referrals per month.

This Stop Smoking Service has a highly important role to play in positively



affecting patient outcomes. Smoking is the largest avoidable cause of premature death and disability, and the single largest driver of health inequalities in England. Tackling such health inequalities is a priority for the Trust.

Smokers who quit have:

- Significantly better treatment outcomes from various diseases and conditions
- Lower risks of heart and lung complications and post-operative infections
- Improved wound healing
- Reduced readmission to intensive care
- Reduced readmission to hospital.

The service works in a collaborative way with a range of external partners

and contributes to a system-wide approach to helping patients stop smoking and reduce both the health burden and health inequalities within our local communities.

In December 2023 Chief Executive Prof. Phil Wood, Trust Chair Dame Linda Pollard and Chief Medical Officer Dr Magnus Harrison signed the NHS Smokefree Pledge. The pledge outlines the Trust's commitment to treating tobacco dependency among patients and staff who smoke, supporting them to quit and working collaboratively with partners locally and nationally to reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities.



The Knife Crime Emergency

In May 2023 Leeds Teaching Hospitals' A&E Navigator team organised the UK's first A&E Navigator conference. A&E Navigators work with young people aged 11-25 who have been admitted as a result of serious youth violence or are vulnerable. The event brought together Navigators, Youth Workers and other stakeholders all working to try and prevent vulnerable young people from ending up in hospital as a result of serious youth violence. By chance, the event coincided with reporting of the trial following the fatal stabbing of 15-year-old Khayri Mclean in Huddersfield. These two events combined piqued the interest of both the local ITV and BBC news teams who contacted us to see if we would consider giving them access to our Emergency Departments to shine a light on the reality of dealing with knife crime.

After an extensive explorative process, the Trust decided that the issue of knife crime was too important to shy away from. Teams indicated that they felt it was a worsening problem, with injuries becoming more and more severe. This was an opportunity for us not only to showcase the incredible work we do but to contribute to an important discussion around the issue.

Filming for ITV Calendar took place over a day in October 2023. They chose to focus on the work of our A&E Navigators for their filming with us and subsequently released a series of four special reports on knife crime. The series took a deep dive into knife crime from exploring possible causes and the personal impact, to organisations such as Leeds Teaching Hospitals taking a proactive approach to try and reduce instances of young people being injured in such attacks. The special reports were subsequently turned into a 30-minute documentary titled 'Investigation: How youth service cuts coincided with a rising



tide of violence'. This can still be viewed on the free ITVX streaming service.

The BBC film was a larger project. Filming took place between October and December 2023 predominantly in the Emergency Department at Leeds General Infirmary, Ward L10 and The Place 2 Be. The crew spent eight night shifts over three weeks observing the teams in action in A&E waiting for the shrill of the red phone. Each weekend of filming brought with it at least one victim of knife crime. The patients they captured aged from 14 years to a couple of victims in their 30s showing the breadth of the problem amongst different age groups and communities. They also spent time speaking to staff in ED and in our A&E Navigator service to get an insight

into their experiences dealing with the reality of knife crime on a weekly, and sometimes daily basis.

The result of the BBC filming was a shocking and graphic 18-minute dedicated documentary 'On the Front Line: The Knife Crime Emergency'. It was released on 16 January 2024 by BBC iPlayer and attracted a lot of attention across TV, radio and online media. You may have seen or heard representatives from the Trust speaking about the film on BBC Breakfast, BBC Look North, BBC 5 Live and BBC Radio Leeds on its release day. The documentary is available to view on BBC iPlayer now.

It took a lot of teamwork and time to deliver these two major filming projects but the outcome has been worth it. Although injuries from knife crime continue to be something we see with regularity in our Emergency Departments, the public only hear about the worst cases in the media. This was our chance to offer a glimpse into the daily reality of knife crime in our region.



Prestigious Chief Midwifery Officer Awards presented to Leeds Maternity Support Workers

Four maternity support workers have been recognised with Chief Midwifery Officer awards for their service to maternity support worker excellence.

At a surprise awards ceremony at St James's Hospital, they were presented with their awards by Rabina Tindale, LHT Chief Nurse and Tracey Cooper, Regional Chief Midwife. They are the first Maternity Support Workers in West Yorkshire to receive these prestigious awards.

Kalliste Thomson works alongside specialist midwives and doctors in the specialist preterm team. She received the 'commitment to quality of care' award for providing exemplary emotional support to her patients, acting as an advocate and striving to allay their fears during consultations and operations. Patients under the care of the preterm team are often highly anxious and still grieving from previous losses so Kalliste works to understand their pregnancy history so they don't need to re-tell their

story. She is proactive in giving advice to promote the best outcomes for families including supporting patients with expressing maternal breastmilk when their preterm babies are born.

Sue Baron works in the Rothwell community team and she was recognised for her contribution to exemplary maternity care with the 'compassion' award. She has a wealth of experience and consistently goes above and beyond, taking the time to ensure families feel listened to and able to make informed choices about infant feeding and preparation for parenthood. Her cheerful disposition makes her a delight to work with and this is reiterated by the positive feedback that she consistently receives.

Nicola Smith and Lucy Brown work in the Gestational Diabetes team and they received the 'working together for patients' award. Nicola and Lucy ensure patients are confident in managing their gestational diabetes and optimising their health during pregnancy. They provide

education sessions and consistently go above and beyond to phone and check in with patients, taking a personalised approach and ensuring extra support is available at appointments. Nicola and Lucy also ensure the team have the data they need to evaluate care and interventions which is pivotal in helping the service develop to meet the needs of the local population.

Rebecca Musgrave, Head of Midwifery at LHT, said: "We are delighted that Kalliste, Sue, Nicola and Lucy have been recognised with awards for the dedication they show to the families they care for. We are proud to have them as part of our team and I would like to say a huge thank you to them for their continued hard work across our maternity service."

The awards have been developed to reward the significant and outstanding contribution made by maternity support workers in England and their exceptional contribution to maternity care.



Great progress against our 7 Commitments



In Bulletin, we're continuing our look at achievements against our 7 Commitments, with a mix of stories in this edition that showcase the breadth of our achievements.

Our 7 Commitments are the seven things we have prioritised to deliver during 2023-2024. They have been developed by the executive team and link back to our multi-year goals, strategic priorities and our vision. Everyone across the Trust can contribute to the delivery of these commitments through their individual objectives.

Championing sustainability and reducing costs

Against a backdrop of external increasing energy costs (up 174% year on year), the Trust was successful with two bids to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme which will save 5,500 tonnes of CO2e and £527k a year.

The funding was invested into a number of energy efficiency, carbon



saving schemes, which included on-site generation technologies; air and water source heat pumps and solar panels, high efficiency LED lighting upgrades, connection to Leeds PIPES district heat network, building fabric upgrades and a large scale innovative project to develop a low-carbon heat network at SJUH, showing our commitment to investing in new energy sources.

The Leeds PIPES district heat network, which supplies heat into the SJUH low-carbon heat network, is powered from the combustion of 100% of LTHT's general and offensive waste processed at the city's recycling facility, driving forward a circular economy (we don't send any waste to landfill).

Reducing length of stay in General Internal Medicine

General Internal Medicine (GIM) is helping us achieve our commitment of 'Reducing length of stay by 0.5 days per patient'.

The project follows the principle of every patient deserves the same standard of care, provision of a sustainable workforce, and GIM care being shared out across the medical consultant workforce.

This has led to a significant reduction in the number of GIM patients being placed outside the service's bed base, and a

Reduce healthcare associated infections





reduction in length of stay on the GIM ward itself (J29).

Positive improvements include a more dedicated, motivated workforce focusing on patient care and improvement, improved continuity of care and the enhancement of the Multi-Disciplinary Team – all leading to reduced length of stay.

Reducing Healthcare Associated Infections

Estates and Facilities (E&F) are supporting reducing the risk of healthcare-associated infections. The team play a key role in helping to ensure the risk of healthcare-associated infections (HCAIs) is kept as low as possible, and they work closely with the Infection Prevention and Control team to provide a clean and safe environment for staff, patients, and visitors.

The Facilities team provides a comprehensive cleaning service, from routine and periodic cleans to HPV decontamination and enhanced cleaning. They work alongside Estates who manage the risks associated with water and ventilation systems in the healthcare environment and the delivery of compliant decontamination and waste management services.

They continue to invest in preventative maintenance of our assets and explore innovative ways of reducing HCAIs, which includes the latest HPV decontamination technology and Karcher Kira robots, which you may have seen cleaning communal areas at LGI and St James's.

Robotic surgical systems

Robotic surgical systems are being effectively used to improve patient

outcomes. Recent investment in our robotics programme has seen leaps and bounds in the number of patients who are able to be treated using our three da Vinci surgical systems, which now includes eight surgical specialties. The expansion in adult oncology has meant we have seen the number of patients receiving robotic-assisted surgery double over the space of a year, with our 5,000th patient being treated last month.



Working together to support Digital Transformation

Digital is central to the future of our hospitals, and our DIT colleagues have developed some new ways to work together, share ideas and keep up to date with the work we're doing.

The Digital Advocates scheme aims to support digital transformation across the Trust. Paediatric Nurse, Claire Dawson, became our first Digital Advocate last

year and since then, we've had over 135 colleagues volunteer to join the community. We want to involve an advocate from every service and specialty, so every team is represented by someone with local expertise and a passion for digital to effectively collaborate with our colleagues in DIT.

You'll be supported through monthly

virtual meetings and quarterly face to face meetings, and you'll also have access to chat with colleagues on our Digital Forum on Viva Engage (formerly Yammer). If you'd like to join the Digital Forum and connect with other colleagues working on Digital projects, email the implementation team - leedsth-tr.implementationteam@nhs.net



Whenever I've reached out to the group, I've had really positive responses. I feel empowered to ask questions about the gaps in my own knowledge so I can learn to provide even better help with the digital issues people ask me about.



MESHA WILLIAMS-CROCKWELL
DIGITAL ADVOCATE, CLINICAL GENETICS



Every ward needs a Digital Advocate who can contribute to the development of digital systems. We work on the shop floor, so we understand what's needed and where improvements can be made.



CLAIRE DAWSON
DIGITAL ADVOCATE, LEEDS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



The advocate scheme is such a great way for anyone who is enthusiastic about digital transformation to become more involved. It's really useful to be able to make connections across the Trust so that we can better support colleagues to access and use the tools they need.



BETH TAPSTER
DIGITAL ADVOCATE, TRUST LIBRARIES



Digital is our future. This is also an opportunity for us to make improvements based on listening to the feedback of colleagues and actually implement those improvements, not just talk about them. That's what I'd like to see happen and that's what I'm hoping to achieve as a digital advocate.

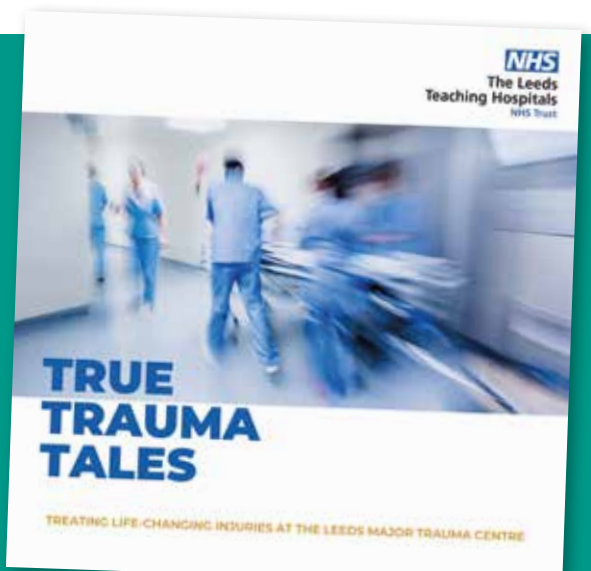


SARAH NDIDI
DIGITAL ADVOCATE, ADULT THERAPIES



New Podcast Out Now!

Listen in to True Trauma Tales for stories from real patients and the staff who cared for them at the Leeds Major Trauma Centre following life-changing injuries. Find our new podcast on Spotify.



Four Leeds Consultants recognised in the King's New Year's Honours

Four leading Consultants from Leeds Teaching Hospitals were recognised in the King's New Year's Honours list this year, a timely recognition of their contribution to patients' lives in Leeds and further afield.

Professor Paul Emery, Lead Clinician of Rheumatology and Head of the Rheumatology Department at the University of Leeds since 2018, was awarded a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) the highest order below a Knighthood, for his prominent role in bringing sensitive imaging (MRI) into rheumatology practice.

Professor Mark Wilcox, Consultant/Head of Microbiology Research and Development at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, and Professor of Medical Microbiology at the University of Leeds, was honoured as an Officer of the British Empire (OBE).

The award recognises work for services to Healthcare, particularly during Covid-19, when he acted as National Clinical Director for Infection Prevention and Control, NHS England and Chair, Scientific Advisory Group of Emergencies (SAGE) Sub-Committee on Hospital Onset Covid Infection.

Professor Wilcox was Head of Microbiology at Leeds Teaching Hospitals for 15 years and heads a Healthcare Associated Infection research team at the University of Leeds. He said: "It's an honour to be nominated to receive an OBE from the King for the work I do in the NHS. The pandemic was a time of great uncertainty and great pressure for the scientists I worked alongside, and it's very pleasing to see this work recognised."

Professor Peter Giannoudis, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Leeds Teaching Hospitals for more than 30 years and founder of Day One Trauma Support, received a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) recognition for his work. The Leeds Trauma Centre marked 10 years last year and is the second busiest trauma centre in the UK. Day One was established in 2014 and helps to rebuild lives of people who have been in catastrophic injury by providing practical and emotional support.



The Medal of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) was given to Mr Shekhar Biyani, Consultant Urological Surgeon, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, for services to Medical Education.

Mr. Biyani joined Leeds Teaching Hospitals in 2015 and launched the Leeds Urology Simulation Boot Camp the same year. This event was created to support new trainees in their urology career. It is an innovative and hands-on course, providing simulation training on curriculum-based urological skills in addition to training in areas such as dealing with stress and becoming an effective leader.

Mr. Biyani said: "I am very pleased to receive the recognition for the work I have led with the urology bootcamp, a programme that enables surgeons from across the UK to

welcome urology trainees to Leeds for an innovative simulation-based course. Having access to hands-on training is vital to achieving the very best quality of consultant that we possibly can and raising awareness of this prestigious facility is excellent. I'm very grateful."

Clare Smith, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Chief Executive of Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust said: "It's wonderful news for our colleagues to receive these nominations and for very different specialist areas. We have some incredibly talented colleagues leading the way here at Leeds Teaching Hospitals and I'm proud to be a part of an organisation that champions colleagues for the work they do to deliver the very best care. These awards are wholly deserved."



TRS Awards



Ward L22 team won Clinical Team of the Year



Oliver Stevens with his mum, Vicky Mara and stepdad John Mara



Lily-Mae and her brother Elliott handing over toys to Play Leader Katy Inman

The Trauma and Related Services annual awards recognise the fantastic work the teams have achieved throughout the last year.

The awards held this year were a little bit different as it was the first time it was a joint celebration with the charity Day One Trauma.

Awards were presented by a number of hosts, including our former Chief Executive Sir Julian Hartley, Day One Trauma Chief Executive Lucy Nickson, alongside Day One founder and LTHT trauma and orthopaedic surgeon Professor Peter Giannoudis.

Well done to everyone who was nominated or shortlisted for an award. Here are the winners:

- Non-Clinical Staff Member – Kennedy Sarpong, Ward Environment Porter
- Non-Clinical Team of the Year –



Rachel Pitts, Clinical Support Worker won Unsung Hero award



Michelle Baker, Clinical Educator won Matron's Choice award



Lucie Maguire with her mum Sue



Kennedy Sarpong, Ward Environment Porter – won non-clinical staff member award

Housekeeping team on ward L34

- Unsung Hero – Rachel Pitts, Clinical Support Worker
- Matron's Choice – Michelle Baker, Clinical Educator
- Clinical Team of the Year – ward L22
- Clinical Staff Member of the Year – Claire Rudd, Sister on ward L15

Awards were also presented to Day One fundraisers who have all suffered a major trauma, been treated by LTHT and supported by Day One Charity.

Day One awards:

- The Day One Champion – Lucie Maguire, in recognition of her amazing awareness-raising following 518 days at LTHT after being hit by a tractor and dragged along the road under its 10-tonne trailer. Lucie spear-headed

Day One's Christmas Appeal by sharing her story and helping to raise £45,000.

- Inspirational Fundraiser – Oliver Stevens, who suffered a traumatic brain injury when a car he was a passenger in crashed with a 40-tonne lorry in July 2022. As part of his rehabilitation, he took on a fundraising walk and inspired an 'army' of people to join him and raise more than £3,000.
- Young Fundraiser – Lily-Mae West, after raising £2,000 from a lemonade stand outside her grandma's house. Lily-Mae broke 15 bones in her skull in a freak zorbing accident and was cared for at Leeds Children's Hospital where her family were supported by a Day One caseworker. At Christmas, Lily-Mae and her brother Elliott also handed over books, toys and games for other injured children based at the hospital.

Welcoming Sir Keir Starmer to Colorectal

We were very pleased to welcome Sir Keir Starmer, Leader of the Opposition, and Wes Streeting, Shadow Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, to St James's University Hospital.

They had a really interesting conversation with colleagues in our Colorectal team about their successes with weekend working to help to reduce waiting lists. Our visitors were really impressed with who they spoke to and Sir Keir mentioned how positive they were, with such a can-do attitude, approaching weekend working to deliver the best possible service for patients.

Since 1 April 2023, Colorectal has completed 1,046 operations Mon-Fri out of a total of 1,237. In this financial year so far we have done 592 elective operations at a weekend (predominantly Saturdays); 423 are at St James's University Hospital (SJUH) and 191 were colorectal patients. Their weekend working accounts for 15.5% of their total planned care activity.

Sir Kier passed on his thanks to colleagues he met for the opportunity to discuss weekend working. He also commented on how helpful it is for him and his colleagues to be able to directly hear from us so Labour can better understand some of the challenges that we face.



Our visitors were initially welcomed by Prof Phil Wood, Chief Executive, and Dr Magnus Harrison, Chief Medical Officer. They were able to have a chat about how things are going at the Trust at the moment more generally, as well as our successes and challenges.

Thank you to everyone involved in making the visit a success, it's really appreciated.



Colorectal at LHT

We are one of the largest centres for Colorectal surgery in Europe. The John Goligher colorectal unit is a major referral centre for diseases of the small and large bowel, the rectum and anus.

We receive around 10,000 referrals per year and about a third of our patients have surgery.

The conditions managed in our service include:

- Colorectal cancer
- Inflammatory Bowel disease
- Conditions of the anus such as piles and haemorrhoids
- Problems with continence

We have developed expertise in and become a centre of excellence for:

- Treating advanced and recurrent colorectal cancer
- Minimally invasive and robotic surgery
- Complex pelvic floor surgery
- Academic research - linked to regional (Yorkshire Cancer Research Network) and national (NIHR HTC-Colorectal Therapy) bodies

Research & Innovation Conference 2024

The Research & Innovation Conference showcases the best research and innovation enterprises from across Leeds Teaching Hospitals every year.

From cutting-edge innovations, to pioneering research, the event is a programme of the best ground-breaking transformative approaches being pioneered at LTHT.

At the Trust's third annual R&I conference, taking place 15 May at Cloth Hall Court, attendees can look forward to hearing from expert invited speakers, network with colleagues and connect with the latest innovations at the Trust.

Following from 2023's theme of 'Research is for Everyone', this year's conference will focus on the real-world improvements to services and care research can unlock.

"Our theme for 2024's event is 'Enhancing Patient Care at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust', explains Dr Ai Lyn Tan, LTHT's Director of R&I.

"We will be celebrating the successes of colleagues and showcasing the benefits for patients from research and innovation."

This year's conference is also part of the Trust's established 7 Commitments, to "inspire a culture of research and



innovation", an outlook celebrated in a setting which encourages all staff to see research, studies and improvements to services as key parts of their work.

"It's heart-warming to see so many colleagues engaging to support our culture of research and innovation as part of the 7 Commitments, says Dr Tan.

"This conference is for everyone, and epitomises the dedication, and innovative drive of colleagues and partners to collaborate in enhancing patient care at our hospital and beyond".

R&I's Business Development Manager Richard Evans agrees, highlighting that research and innovative new ways of working are key in improving patient care.

"The conference is not only a showcase of all the exciting work from researchers going on across a broad spectrum of specialities and professions, but also about how research and innovation is being embedded into patient care across the Trust", he notes.

"I am looking forward to attendees getting to hear about how new technologies like AI are being explored and deployed in services like Radiology, and hearing from patients involved in research studies and understanding their perspectives."

Save the date: R&I Conference 2024, 15 May, Cloth Hall Court, Leeds.

LIBRA: First National Breast Cancer AI Trial Begins at LTHT

The Leeds/Wakefield Breast Screening Unit has begun trialling artificial intelligence (AI) in a first-of-its-kind study in the UK.

The LIBRA (Leeds Investigation of BReast screening AI Trial) is looking at the game-changing potential of AI to increase early cancer detection rate, reduce unnecessary call-backs for patients and ease workforce pressures in breast screening.

The trial aims to screen around 7000 women with an AI from Kheiron Medical Technologies called 'Mia' alongside traditional human reading methods to see how it performs in reading x-ray images.

Normally, mammograms (breast x-rays) are looked at by two qualified healthcare professional 'readers', to decide if more tests are needed. In this study Mia will look at mammograms alongside the two readers to see how



the AI performs in spotting cancer, as well as the wider impact of introducing AI into breast screening.

The trial is headed by Dr Nisha Sharma, director of Breast Screening.

"The LIBRA study is the first trial in the UK evaluating the role of artificial intelligence in breast screening. This study is important because for the first time we can see the outputs from the AI algorithm in real-time", Dr Sharma said.

"The data collection is integrated within the national breast screening database, and we will also be exploring patient and healthcare staff opinions

about AI in this setting".

"This trial will help pave the way for future multicentre trials. I think AI will play an important role in the way we work in the future, but we need evidence to support clinician and patients to support this change."

With a 30% shortfall in breast radiologists nationally, utilising the power of AI in breast screening programmes could address the most pressing challenges in this area and help to create better outcomes for both our clinical colleagues and our patients.

LIBRA is funded by the AI in Health and Care Award from a group of government research bodies: the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), the Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC) and NHS England (NHSE).

This supports the vision of LTHT to be a leader in driving innovation to improve quality of healthcare.

Operational Transformation

A heart valve surgery technique is being pioneered in West Yorkshire

Thanks to pioneering surgery in Cardiology at the LGI, patients who have leaky valves that are too wide, allowing blood to flow back to the heart, can now have a replacement one fitted.

The valve used – JenaValve Trilogy – is a genuinely ground-breaking technology for treatment of aortic valve disease (specifically leaking aortic valves), which Leeds became the second only place in the UK to use. The valve is also made in Leeds, at a facility in Swillington.

The surgery is performed via keyhole surgery. Patients receive sedation and painkillers but otherwise stay awake throughout the operation.

Consultant cardiologist Professor Dan Blackman explains how it works: “The valve is small enough to squeeze into a tube that will fit in the artery in the groin. Once the valve is inside that tube, we can pass it up from the artery in the groin up to the heart under X-ray guidance. When in position, essentially, we’re pulling the tube back to release the frame and then the frame blinkers itself in position. The old valve is squashed behind the frame and the new valve takes over.”

A brilliant effort from the team, and so much to be proud of!



LTHT Cardiology staff and Jenavalve colleagues marking the first successful Trilogy System operations.



Spreading the word about improvements at Wharfedale Hospital

We welcomed a couple of local councillors at Wharfedale Hospital for an update about our work building a £10 million Elective Care Hub at the site.

Cllr Sandy Lay and Cllr Ryk Downes joined colleagues to talk through our plans, which underline our commitment to long-term investment in Wharfedale. The group walked the site and also chatted about how we can encourage increased patient referrals to services at the hospital.

This development demonstrates the Trust’s vision of maintaining Wharfedale Hospital as an important and integral part of its hospital estate and delivering patient care.

The Elective Care Hub is currently under construction, and includes two new operating theatres, a recovery area, admissions, and discharge area. The investment is within the existing building footprint of the hospital and is aimed at reducing waiting times and protecting space for planned operations to take place. It is expected to open in October 2024.



The Hub will provide space for operations including cancer procedures, urology and benign gynaecology. These are operations where a post-operative stay is required. As part of the development there will be some other changes at Wharfedale Hospital with the day unit and phlebotomy services moving into refurbished areas and a dedicated a hysteroscopy treatment suite. Overall, the clinical footprint of the site will increase.

The Phlebotomy and Anticoagulation area was completed at the beginning of February, and the same for the new theatre staff rest, change and storage area.

The new admissions area is currently being created - new waiting area, toilets, consultant room, new staff room, etc which is expected to complete at the beginning of March.

The Trust is currently working on a targeted recruitment campaign and scoping out some key areas to focus on, looking at how we promote Wharfedale Hospital as a place to work, what kind of work is available, the team set-up, and Otley as a place to be (to live or come to).

Holmfirth ‘gangster granny’ first in Yorkshire to receive new heart valve and ‘get life back’

Barbara Walker is 80 and lives in Honley, near Holmfirth. She is married with four daughters, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Barbara is used to getting out and about and enjoying the nightlife with her friends – the Gangster Grannies’ of Honley. But the last twelve months have put her life on hold, and she was unable to toast her birthday last year.

Barbara suffered three years living with breathlessness, which has been

monitored on yearly follow-ups since she was first referred to see a cardiologist. A scan picked up a leaky valve in Barbara’s heart.

Barbara underwent her procedure in October 2023, which her clinicians have said was a resounding success. Several weeks later, Barbara was already seeing improvements, with her breathlessness no longer holding her back as much as it used to.

“I’m taking one day at a time as I don’t want to go too fast too soon,” she said, “but my breathing is much improved compared to how I used to be. Things like making the bed and visiting the shops I really struggled with before – it’s been so much better not having to worry about the small things.”

Inspiring the talent of the future

The Building the Leeds Way (BtLW) Programme team helped inspire high school children from across Leeds by offering the chance to sample different careers at a unique event in the city centre.

The BtLW Programme team are committed to supporting the personal, social, and educational development of young people in the region. As part of our Social Value workstream, the careers simulation day saw external specialist suppliers and Trust staff working with Year 9 and 10 students from six Leeds schools.

Pupils learned about critical job roles and careers in design, construction and healthcare. The young people took part in activities, workshops and challenges on design, site planning, healthcare planning, finance, communications and project management.

Information on further education was also made available by the Leeds Health and Care Academy, Leeds College of Building and Leeds City College.

BtLW Programme Director, Mike Bacon, said: "We're bringing together industry professionals and Leeds students to help



Students from Cockburn Academy, Leeds taking part in the careers simulation day.

them understand and experience, in a simulated environment, future career options related to some of those key skills needed to design and deliver the new hospitals in Leeds."

Javed Hussain, Transport Planner at Arup, said: "It was great to see students think through a project brief, be naturally inquisitive and work collaboratively – important qualities needed to address tomorrow's challenges."

A teacher from Bishop Young Academy, Mr. Williams said: "Students had the opportunity

to collaborate to solve real world problems and justify their solutions. This event has given a background into the different routes for students to gain professional experience."

One of the students, Tavongwa, aged 14, of Bishop Young Academy said: "It was an interesting experience as I got to see some of the different roles people play in the NHS and in designing the new hospitals and how it can help with career choices."

This was the first of many similar events that the Trust will run as part of the BtLW Social Value workstream.

Schools that attended the Careers simulation day: Mount St. Mary's, Carr Manor, Bishop Young Academy, Cockburn Academy, Co-op Academy and Leeds East Academy

Partners that deliver the event: Arup, Arcadis, Identity Consult, Perkins & Will, Archus, KD Health, MJ Medical, Leeds College of Building, Leeds City College and Leeds Health and Care Academy

VIP Visits - Showcasing our Programme to vital stakeholders

Dame Sue Hill visit

In January, Dame Sue Hill, NHS Chief Scientific Officer for England, came to St James's University Hospital. Dame Sue was accompanied by the outgoing President of the Institute of Biomedical Science, Debra Padgett, and the new incoming President of the Institute, Joanna Andrew.

The Pathology Leadership Team provided a guided tour of the Centre for Laboratory Medicine (CfLM). Our guests were impressed by the state-of-the-art spaces which will allow our teams to deliver a more efficient service in a leading-edge working environment.

The CfLM will become operational in 2024, following installation of new equipment and launch of a new Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS).

Dame Sue, Joanna and Debra also met with the Trust's Chief Scientific Officer, Professor David Brettle to



L-R LHTH Head of Profession, Pathology, Steve Stephenson; Dame Sue Hill; Trust Chief Executive, Prof Phil Wood; incoming and outgoing presidents of the Institute of Biomedical Science, Debra Padgett and Joanna Andrew; Clinical Director, Pathology, Rotimi Olorunda and General Manager, Pathology CSU Mike Philpott.

discuss scientist training, before visiting the Genomics Labs in Bexley Wing. As Senior Responsible Officer for the NHS Genomics Programme, Dame Sue was

keen to meet members of the North East and Yorkshire Genomic Medicine Service, see our systems and share her vision for the future expansion of the service.

Andrew Stephenson MP

The Trust welcomed Andrew Stephenson MP, the new Minister of State for Health, to Leeds Teaching Hospitals in December.

It was a great opportunity for us to showcase innovation across the Trust. The Minister tried out some of the fantastic developments created by clinicians working with entrepreneurs and tech industry leaders at our Innovation Pop Up. He also witnessed the wonderful intricate work carried out by our Cardiac Catheter team.

The BtLW Programme team took the chance to share plans for our new hospitals. We emphasised the focus to make our new facilities Digital by Design - integrating the latest technologies to ensure more efficient and sustainable services, providing the best care possible for our patients.



Andrew Stephenson, Minister of State for Health joins our Cardiac Catheter team at the LGI

Representatives of our new strategic partners, Johnson & Johnson, joined the discussions with

Mr Stephenson to share our joint commitment to accelerate health innovation in Leeds.

Building the Leeds Way – Westminster Engagement Event

We returned to Westminster in November to thank stakeholders for their support in our plans and celebrate the funding approval we secured for our scheme.

Held at the House of Commons at the end of last year, along with partners, it was a crucial opportunity to share an update on our new hospitals and Innovation Village plans, along with an exciting new partnership to announce and a request to maintain support as we push to accelerate our new hospitals build.

In the capital, we engaged directly with the Government's New Hospital Programme Team (NHP), politicians, journalists, influencers and healthtech industry leaders.

Leeds MPs Hilary Benn and Stuart Andrew jointly sponsored the event, with several other MPs attending, including the Shadow Health Secretary, Wes Streeting.

Lord Markham, the health minister in charge of the NHP, opened proceedings with an endorsement of our approach to put innovation, regeneration and addressing health inequalities at the heart of our proposals. Rousing speeches from Stuart Andrew, Hilary Benn and Trust Chair Dame Linda Pollard - all committed to working together to realise

the once in a generation opportunity that our new Hospitals and Innovation Village will bring.

Trust Chief executive, Professor Phil Wood, then announced our new strategic partnership with Johnson and Johnson MedTech (J&J). J&J's MedTech origins are here in Leeds, and they have a wonderful innovation facility in Beeston. This agreement can make a lasting difference to health outcomes and addressing health inequalities, not just in Leeds, but potentially on a global scale.

Our Innovation Pop-Up Expo gave guests the chance to experience the groundbreaking new technology already developed by our Pop-Up members. Using virtual reality, artificial intelligence and communications technology we are already turning promising ideas into

real-world healthcare.

A new video fly-through of our Innovation Village demonstrates our ambitious vision and passion to help regenerate our city. A vision shared by Leeds City Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Key political stakeholders now also share that vision - that the people of West Yorkshire will benefit from the jobs, homes and improved wellbeing our Innovation Village will provide.

We are in a fantastic position to be at the forefront of the NHP schedule going forward. We have a fantastic design for digitally enabled, sustainable, state-of-the-art new hospitals to deliver world-class healthcare. We're ready to build our Hospitals of the Future.



Hilary Benn MP testing latest healthtech from Innovation Pop Up member Brainlab at the Trust's recent stakeholder event at the Houses of Parliament

Team Spotlight

Name of the team:

Ophthalmology
Outpatients
Department

CSU:

Head and Neck

Number of colleagues: (approximate)

45

Site(s) worked at:

St James's and Seacroft



How does your team make a difference at LHTH?

We help visually impaired patients and through our care we aim to make their lives a little bit easier. We have an Eye Clinic Liaison Officer and low vision clinics who can offer support and resources to help with their day to day lives. We see patients from many different specialities, who need ophthalmic tests and imaging prior to commencing specialist treatments.

What are the different roles within the team?

We are a nursing team with approximately 45 members ranging from band 2-8. The nursing roles varies from clinic to specialist roles. We work cross site at both St James's and Seacroft. At Seacroft we work closely with the glaucoma monitoring team and practitioners who assess and inject macular degeneration patients. We also work really closely with the imaging team at both sites.

There are over 30 ophthalmologists within our department and four Advanced Clinical Practitioners. We all work closely together and work well together. We have been working along side our registered nurses to upskill them; we have scrub trained two nurses and are training two nurses in assessment and presentation of acute patients. We have trained nurses to pre

assess and to compete biometry, and have trained two health care assistants to assist with imaging.

What happens on an average day?

Every morning we have a team meeting and plan for the day. We discuss how many clinics and what type of clinics we have, and anything else that needs to be done that day. We then clean down all equipment and prepare everything for the morning session. Patients start attending the department from 8.15 am.

We check the vision and eye pressure on every patient we see. The majority of patients need eye drops so the doctors can have a clear view of the back of the eye. The nursing team assists with injections and acute procedures as required. After all the morning patients are through we split lunch breaks in half and then prepare for the afternoon, to do it all again.

What is the most surprising thing about your team/your work?

Our staff go the extra mile every single day to offer care to all patients, often resulting in them staying behind after their shift has finished. Everyone that visits our department is surprised by the wide variety of specialist skills we

have within the nursing teams that are required to diagnose and treat eye conditions and that make our department run smoothly every day. Everyone is also surprised by how closely we work within the MDT and how many of us there are.

Stats and figures:

- seen 58,000 patients, 11,000 of them in acute referral clinic
- welcomed 16 new members of staff
- celebrated 2 staff retirements
- 5 staff nurses have progressed within Ophthalmology Outpatients Department, within the MR service and research
- we have trained 2 nurses for the cataract pathway, (biometry, pre assessment)
- 2 nurses for acute referral clinic
- 4 staff have completed the band 5 conversion
- 2 nurses have achieved scrub competency
- 2 HCA have achieved Optical Coherence Tomography competency

Are there any recent achievements/milestones or plans for the future?

We want to continue to develop our nursing team's skills and the plan for our next achievement is to complete sub specialty training packages for all of our nursing team. We are creating this 'in house' with support from ACPs, uveitis, Medical Retina, refractive nurse specialists and optometrists.

Our recent achievements include: staff nominated multiple times by patients for IRIS awards; we have one nursing associate who has started her training to become a staff nurse; and we have supported four healthcare assistants through their OSCEs to become nurses registered with the NMC.

What do you enjoy the most about working in the team?

We enjoy building our ophthalmic team, we work closely with the MDT and learn a lot from each other to develop our knowledge.

A lot of our staff haven't been with us for many years and came with no ophthalmic knowledge or experience. We enjoy teaching and training them, and helping them develop their knowledge and skills.

We also enjoy our audit sessions where we have planned teachings but our staff take this opportunity to show their cooking skills and bring in food from their native countries.



Dame Linda Pollard and Craig Richardson at the official opening of the new Eye Clinic in December 2022.



Johnson & Johnson Medtech Innovation Partnership

In December, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Leeds based, Global Healthcare company, Johnson & Johnson MedTech (J&J), agreed a new strategic collaboration to drive forward health innovation plans in West Yorkshire.

With an ambition to drive lasting improvements to health outcomes in Leeds and across the region, and prioritise a focus on addressing health inequalities, the first stage of delivering this partnership has seen our respective organisations commit to a significant agreement which will see our organisations collaborate in several ways.

Bringing together our clinical and health innovation expertise with J&J's innovation capabilities, our aims are threefold; to drive forward innovation, research and development and new MedTech for the benefit of all patients with a focus on improving health equality; to promote skills, talent and jobs in innovation; and to deliver

increased efficiency within the healthcare supply chain including climate benefits.

This partnership agreement follows recent news that West Yorkshire has become the UK's third designated 'Investment Zone'; boosting the city's ambition to deliver innovation that creates a healthier, greener and inclusive future for Leeds and the wider region.

The investment in digital and healthtech will accelerate plans for the Leeds Innovation Arc, kickstarting the development of the Innovation Village on the Leeds General Infirmary site with the refurbishment of the Old Medical School to create a HealthTech innovation hub.

The Trust is already leading the way and putting a strategic focus on health innovation with the Innovation Pop-up which is at the heart of plans to create an Innovation Village. Set up just over two years ago and to date working across 15 countries, the Innovation

Pop Up has helped build and support a thriving community of health technology businesses and entrepreneurs, working with hospital clinicians to turn new ideas and emerging technologies into real world healthcare solutions for the benefit of Leeds and beyond.

The Trust had funding and plans approved in May 2023 to build a new home for Leeds Children's Hospital, a new adults' hospital and one of the largest single site maternity centres at the Leeds General Infirmary (LGI) before 2030.

The development of the Innovation Village on the site of Leeds General Infirmary and as part of the city's Innovation Arc is expected to bring direct and wider economic benefits of up to £13billion in net present value terms to the city, along with around 4,000 jobs and 520 new homes.

For more information visit; <https://www.leedsth.nhs.uk/about-us/btlw/>



Inside three Virtual Wards at Leeds Children's Hospital

Leeds Children's Hospital has recently undertaken a pilot project to establish Virtual Wards (VW). The project has presented a fantastic opportunity to innovate and do things differently in our Children's Assessment and Treatment (CAT) Unit, Chronic Ventilation Service and Haematology and Oncology Unit.

VWs support patients who would otherwise be in hospital, to receive the care, monitoring and treatment they need, in their own home. A VW is a safe and efficient alternative to bedded care, enabled by technology with the potential to prevent avoidable admissions into hospital and support earlier discharge.

Most children are happier and recover better at home. VWs allow families to return to their familiar environment quicker; reducing the anxiety, stress and cost associated with stays in hospital. So far feedback from families and colleagues has been extremely positive and plans for further VW pathways are already underway.



Healthier@Home – the CAT Unit Virtual Ward

Delivered from within the Children's Assessment and Treatment (CAT) Unit, the Healthier@Home (H@H) virtual ward is for patients requiring further observation. Children attending the CAT Unit who meet H@H criteria are offered the opportunity to continue a period of observation in their own homes, rather than staying in the unit. Video consultations are used to assess and monitor these patients up to a maximum of four hours. 190 patients have been admitted to the H@H virtual ward with an average length of stay of 3 hours and 51 minutes.



Non-Invasive Ventilation Virtual Ward

The Non-Invasive Ventilation (NIV) virtual ward has transformed the way the service initiate children onto overnight mask ventilation. Previously children came into hospital for five days to start ventilation with some waiting up to 193 days for a bed to become available.

Now patients meeting VW admission criteria can avoid the hospital admission and start ventilation at home. The VW pathway starts with a nurse-led clinic appointment where patients are fitted with a mask and have a chance to try the ventilator while parents are taught how to use it. Patients start using their ventilator at home that night.

Care of these patients is facilitated by the latest ventilator technology, enabling the team to remotely monitor and adjust ventilation settings, with additional support through phone calls from Nurse Specialists.

The NIV virtual ward has facilitated a reduction in waiting times to start ventilation from up to 196 days to around 34 days.

Feedback indicates that children are happier getting used to their new ventilators at home, in a quieter and familiar environment. Children are more likely to maintain compliance with their treatment when established at home than those initiated in hospital.

One parent said:

"I am aware that prior to the (VW) programme my son would have needed to stay in hospital for a week with me which would have been more difficult to organise and manage. He struggles being on a ward with other children especially if they get distressed and it would have meant I was away from my

younger son. Doing the training at an appointment and then being able to go home caused no upheaval and was very convenient for us. It also meant that my son was wearing the mask at home from the start and being on a ventilator was not associated with staying overnight at hospital."

Haematology and Oncology Virtual Ward

The children's Haematology and Oncology virtual ward supports children and young people to be at home during their treatment. There are VW pathways for patients in particularly intense periods of treatment, those receiving antibiotics for febrile neutropenia, and some bespoke pathways tailored for individual patients to facilitate early discharge.

Families complete an online form each day which is reviewed by the VW team who act on any issues or concerns. At the time of writing, 20 patients have been cared for on the VW since October 2023.

Patient Hasan is receiving chemotherapy treatment that can require him to be an inpatient for up to one month. His admission to the VW has allowed him to enjoy more time with his family and be at home between coming in for treatment.

The ambition is to continue to grow the numbers of children in VW beds, supported by a VW hub, to provide an efficient and safe alternative to a hospital bed.



my job



Alexander Booth

Clinical Leadership Fellow – Leeds Teaching Hospitals and has worked at the Trust for six years

Q What are the main aspects of your role?

I'm currently on a fellowship role for a year taking a change from my physiotherapy job. My role is very varied, mainly I work with the Shape Up 4 Surgery team developing the work that is going on to help those on waiting lists to become as healthy as they can before their operation. At the moment, we are trying to engage people within different local communities around the city. I also do some corporate work for the Trust which includes helping to organise Advanced Health Practitioner day, Junior Doctor and Dentist week and helping with recruitment. I am also doing a qualification in Leadership and Management at Lancaster University.

Q What else have you done in your career so far?

I started working when I was 16. Throughout my life I've been a lifeguard, a shop assistant, a barman and prior to my current role, a physiotherapist. After doing my junior rotations at Leeds Teaching Hospitals, I specialised in Elderly Medicine, Acute Medicine and Oncology.

Q What's the best thing about your job?

For me I really enjoy going out to meet patients within our local communities and helping them to engage with the resources that we have available. It's something new and different but is exciting and feels like it is making a positive impact on people's health.

Q What is the one thing you would change at LTH to help you do your job better?

I would love to see the Trust branch out to some non-conventional comms, like tik tok to engage with different audiences. This could help promote more awareness of what we can offer to patients.

Q What's your best advice to a new starter at the Trust?

Networking! Leeds Teaching Hospitals has some amazing people with amazing stories and great opportunities!

If you are interested in being featured for 'My Job' in a future edition of Bulletin, please email the Communications team at communications.lth@nhs.net

farewell

A fond farewell to our long-serving staff

Helen Payne

Helen Payne worked in the Trust for almost 40 Years and during her nursing career she worked at the LGI, Cookridge Hospital & St James's sites covering many areas including Lymphoma, Breast and most recently within Bladder, Prostate and Renal Oncology Research. Helen's vast experience and knowledge has been passed onto the team, and she will be missed by all her colleagues and friends. We would like to say a huge thank you to Helen for all her hard work and wish her well in her new adventure and retirement.



Julie Evans

This year we sadly had to bid a fond farewell to Julie Evans, our esteemed Head of Nursing for Research & Innovation, as she embarks on a well-deserved retirement after nearly 13 years of dedicated service with Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

We celebrated her invaluable contributions to the Trust at the Research and Innovation Centre, and particularly with Research & Innovation. We wish her all the best for her exciting new chapter ahead.



Jay Wray Kent

Jay joined LTHT in 2006 and was one of the first Maternity Support Worker's to be recruited specifically to work in Community, supporting parents in the postnatal period. Back then training was extensive, she spent months rotating round all areas of maternity services and by the end of 2007 had completed an NVQ in Maternal and Paediatric support.

Jay has always worked in Northwest of Leeds and is well known by all the Teams covering that area. She will be really missed by the team of midwives she has worked with and now calls friends. In 2017 Jay was the winner of Maternity support worker of the year which was a huge achievement for her.

Jay plans to spend her retirement enjoying more time with her grandchildren, relaxing and enjoying a much-needed spa day! Thank you, Jay for your dedication and hard work.



A fond farewell to our long-serving staff

Leeds Hospitals Charity news

Rob Burrow Leeds Marathon 2024

Following on from the huge success of last year's event, the 2024 Rob Burrow Leeds Marathon and Half Marathon will once again see over 10,000 participants take on a 26.2-mile route through Leeds, starting and finishing at the home of Leeds Rhinos, the iconic Headingley Stadium.



The marathon is not just for long-distance runners, it's for us all. Every step taken, whether you want to walk, run, skip or jump, is a step towards hope and support for people who need it most in our hospitals across Leeds. Your presence at the starting line, surrounded by people from all over Leeds will demonstrate just how strong the power of our community really is, and we would love for you all to join us.

You can Run for Rob to support The Rob Burrow Centre for MND Appeal or simply run to help us make a real difference across all Leeds Hospitals for our staff, patients, and their families.

This is an event that truly is for everyone, and we welcome all abilities to join us on the 12 May 2024. You can secure your place now for this very special event. It's not about how you cross that finish line, it's about the incredible people you'll be crossing it with!

Ally Whelan, specialist physiotherapist took part in the first ever Rob Burrow Marathon last year and knows first-hand why raising funds for the new MND centre is so important for patients and families.



"I am a keen runner and have always said I would run a marathon one day. But before this, I had never run further than a half marathon distance. When the announcement came out that the Leeds Marathon was going to be in Rob's name, I knew this was the one I had to do and that I would always regret it if I didn't."

I am so proud to work for this amazing team but the facilities we have currently don't come close to meeting the needs of our wonderful patients. I want them to have a place they can come that's fit for purpose and one that makes them feel at ease at the most challenging time of their lives."

The Rob Burrow Centre for MND

In December, Kevin Sinfield completed his fourth epic fundraising challenge, raising over £1 million for five charities supporting people living with motor neurone disease (MND), including the Leeds Hospitals Charity Appeal to build the Rob Burrow Centre for MND at Seacroft Hospital.

Thanks to Kevin's incredible efforts, and the thousands of others who have generously supported the appeal so far, the fundraising total to build the specialist MND centre has now passed £5.3 million of the £6.8 million target.

You can join us on our journey to opening the doors of a new centre, via our online blog which peels back some of the layers you don't see in the creation of a new building.

We have been sharing insights



from many different specialists who are part of the project, as well as hearing from patients, carers, families, and practitioners who will all be using the space.

One of the main visions of the new MND Centre is to create a place for the MND community to come together to support one another, and this will remain at the heart of the project. Francesca Mutch, Interior Designer

from architects Corstorphine & Wright said, "It's important to create a space that works for everyone's needs and somewhere that feels comfortable and homely. The aim is to reduce anxiety in what can be a stressful situation. We also want to provide areas that can either encourage conversation or provide privacy depending on the user requirements."

Ian Flatt who was diagnosed with MND in 2019 said, "There has been a massive shift in dynamics over the past 12 months in that we've been encouraged by the specialist nursing team to get out more and to do more. We don't just come to clinic now to have our routine check-ups, we come to see each other. It's a social event and this has totally transformed our clinic sessions."

Find out more about the Leeds Marathon and follow the progress of the MND Centre here: leedshospitalscharity.org.uk/mnd

60 seconds

Rabina Tindale



Chief Nurse and has worked at the Trust since January 2024

Q What do you do to wind down and relax after a hard week at work?

I generally go hiking or walking with my very energetic Cocker Spaniel, followed by an evening with friends, eating beautiful food and drinking Prosecco.

Q What is your ideal holiday destination and why?

It is so difficult to choose one. I love travelling, but I have been to Australia several times and it has everything from active to chilled, and the beaches are to die for.

Q What is your favourite food?

Anything spicy, but I love Thai food.

Q What did you want to be when you were growing up?

A lawyer.

Q What is your favourite film?

Love Actually. I've lost count of the number of times I have watched it.

Q Who would you most like to meet and why?

Amal Clooney. She's an amazing role model for women and girls around the world...also, there is a chance she would bring George along!

Q What is your favourite book?

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini. An incredibly moving story, I read it twice and cried both times.

Q Tell us something we don't know about you ...

I ran the London Marathon a few years ago. I'm particularly proud given when I first took up running I nearly collapsed five houses down the street, so never in a million years did I think I would ever run a marathon.



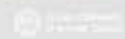
Rabina Tindale meeting some of the midwifery team in the Snowdrop Bereavement Suite

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It creates safe, supportive spaces where you and your carers can join in a variety of activities in your local community and at your own level. We offer plenty of different activities and events for people aged 55+ in Meanwood, Chapel Allerton and Roundhay.

If you would like to become a member of Royal Voluntary Service or sign up for the newsletter please get in touch.

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PACY & WHEATLEY
INTERIORS

Refurbishments



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Sheffield Children's Hospital

Refurbishment

Client: Sheffield Children's Hospital

Sector: Healthcare

Type: Refurbishment

Procurement Method: Tender

Location: Sheffield

Project Value: £3.5 million

Project Description:

A 12-month refurbishment project of Ward 6 at the Sheffield Children's Hospital creating a newly transformed Cancer and Leukaemia ward. This involved a complete strip out taking the building back to a concrete shell. We also built an extension at the back of the ward to form new doctor office with kitchens and places for the staff to relax on their breaks, In the new ward area we created ensuite bespoke bedrooms, interactive playrooms, school rooms and more for the children, to make the stay as comfortable as possible. Around the back of the hospital in between 3 building we manufactured and installed a steel mezzanine plant deck at roof level, on this 2 new AHU and 2 new chillers were built servicing all ward 6 and the ED department sending fresh filtered air in the ensuites.

Our works included new mechanical and electrical installations, new partitioning and ceilings, replacement of all external windows on the entire hospital and roof coverings, all the joinery in the bedrooms was bespoke making the new rooms bright and welcoming, it is now a more comfortable place to stay.

The Solution:

Working a tricky shaped building can sometimes cause problems, luckily our teams knew how to solve problems quickly so as not to cause any hold ups. Biggest issue was the size of the void above the ceiling and fitting the vast ducts up there whilst also getting electrics and pipe work underneath, all the teams working hand in hand, so they all had enough space.

The design and build steel plant deck at roof level connects to three different building on four different elevations. The steel had to be crane lifted over the roof of the main hospital building and assembled from a crash deck in the void between all four buildings. This deck had to be designed and installed in phases this was subject to road closure restrictions to the main road in front of the hospital and the installation was completed while operations continued in all four of the adjacent hospital buildings.

Testimonial:

Project was very successful, work was done to the scheduled program and completed with respect to the hospital's requirements. A safe and welcoming safe space was created for the children, along with quiet and calming space for the parents and staff.





9.7

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