

April 2023
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Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Good Health

The newsletter for members of
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

INSIDE:

State-of-the-art
Orthopaedic Surgery
Centre

Sheffield delivering
revolutionary cancer
therapy



National recognition for rapid-response cleaning team

Welcome to the Spring edition of Good Health

We started 2023 with some significant challenges as we endeavour to continue with our Covid-19 recovery plans, as well as managing a number of industrial action days. I know how tirelessly our staff are working to care for our patients and I would personally like to express my sincere thanks to each and every member of staff, for all their hard work.

In this edition we update you on the most recent Care Quality Commission visit and highlight some of the fantastic developments that are underway, including a new Elective Orthopaedic Centre at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. We also feature some incredible patient stories and spotlight a few of our research activities which are changing how we deliver care in the future.

You can also read about one of the Trust's biggest investments we have made in recent years which is the procurement of a new Electronic Patient Record system.

Our first Sustainability strategy was launched last year and I am really pleased we are making good progress in changing how we work, buy goods and having a positive impact on our environment.

Finally I am delighted that our domestic services team have been recognised for their incredible efforts supporting our ward teams and that the Trust has been ranked as one of Stonewall's top 100 employers, achieving a gold award which recognises our commitment to supporting LGBTQ+ staff and patients.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Good Health.

Annette Laban, Chair



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www.sth.nhs.uk/members/good-health-news

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Dates for your diary: Council of Governors meetings 2023

The Council of Governors meets throughout the year. The meetings are held in public and Trust members and members of the public are welcome to come along and observe the meetings, the dates for the remainder of 2023 are listed below. The agenda and meeting papers are posted online one week before each meeting and can be accessed here <https://www.sth.nhs.uk/members/governors-council/governors-council-meetings>

Date 2023	Time	Venue
20 June	12–2pm	Sheffield United Football Stadium
19 September		Undergraduate Common Room, Medical Education Centre, Northern General Hospital
12 December	10am–12 noon	

Hold the date:

28 September Annual Members' Meeting – more details to follow

All inadequate ratings lifted by Care Quality Commission following significant improvements

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has lifted all previous inadequate ratings at the Trust, including maternity services, following a re-inspection which showed there had been significant improvements.

The Trust's overall rating for the Caring and Effective domains in the inspection also both increased to Good but Chief Executive Kirsten Major stressed that there is no complacency and improvement work will continue as a priority to return all services back to a Good rating or better. Overall the Trust is rated as Requires Improvement but with many services now rated as Good or Outstanding.

The CQC required significant improvements to be made following publication of its inspection report in April 2022, including in maternity services. They re-inspected in September 2022 and the findings were published in December.

The improvements they found meant that none of the Trust's services are now rated as inadequate across the five inspection domains – **safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led**.

Sarah Dransfield, CQC head of hospital inspection, said:

It was promising to see that several improvements had been made. Throughout our inspection we saw staff treating patients with compassion and kindness and delivered care which respected people's individual needs.

In maternity services, CQC previously identified that there were difficulties requesting additional assistance when women deteriorated. During this inspection we saw a specific emergency bleep number had been created for staff to respond to deteriorating women, which had improved response times and intervention. In urgent and emergency services, people's observations were undertaken in a timely manner, and we observed good multidisciplinary team communication.

It is promising that trust leaders and staff have begun to make improvements which have improved patients experience of care at the trust. We will continue to monitor the trust and expect to see the improvements have been sustained and embedded, and that the trust has addressed the areas where further improvement is still needed, by the next time we inspect.

Kirsten Major, Chief Executive, said:

"We are not complacent because we know we have more to do, but we are on the right track and determined to go even further to embed the positive changes."

Key points the CQC raised were:

- Most services had enough staff with the right qualifications, skills, training and experience to keep patients safe from avoidable harm and to provide the right care and treatment.
- Staff assessed and managed the risk to patients including the risks due to deterioration in patients' physical or mental health.
- The Trust had implemented new and regular audits and reviews to ensure care met fundamental standards.
- Leaders had reviewed and improved governance systems and oversight of risk, issues and performance in frontline services.
- Staff supported and involved patients, families, and carers to understand their conditions.

Areas where further work is underway:

- Training more staff to ensure physical restraint of patients who require it for safety or clinical reasons can be undertaken safely and appropriately.
- Storage for medication and oxygen cylinders.
- Reducing waiting times so that patients can access services when they need it and receive care promptly.
- Further strengthening processes for identifying and reporting serious incidents and expediting investigation and learning.
- Embed the requirement that all patients who have Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards must have a recorded capacity assessment or decision recorded in their best interest.
- Improved physical health monitoring after administering rapid tranquilisation.

The full CQC report can be accessed on its website: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/provider/RHQ>



Our plan to be a sustainable organisation

Being proud to make a difference in everything we do is our mantra, and this is never more so than in our drive to make an impact on our environmental footprint. To reflect this, we have adopted “creating a sustainable organisation” as a sixth corporate aim in our new corporate strategy.

We have been successful in reducing emissions that contribute to climate change in the past, but we know that there is more we can do to improve the environmental, social, and financial impact of our organisation.

To achieve this, we will focus on energy and water use within our buildings, the prevention and management of waste, the procurement of goods and services, business, patient, visitor, and staff commuting travel and transport as well as models of care. We will further develop our approach to embedding sustainable practices and where possible act as an exemplar to our communities, other NHS Trusts, and partners. Our passion, ambition and plans are reflected in this document which we have shared widely to engage and involve our staff, patients, communities, and partners in this important work.

You can read the full plan on our website:
Our sustainability plans (sth.nhs.uk)

We have invested in a low-temperature hot water system at the Central Campus to replace old steam-generating boilers with gas condensing boilers.

We have installed solar panels at the Northern campus to generate our own electricity during the day. Further panels are being installed in 2023.



Rapid response team hope to ‘clean up’ at awards

A rapid response cleaning team who ensure ward beds are available for patients as quickly as possible during times of high demand have been nominated for a national healthcare cleaning award.

The Domestic Services Rapid Bed Cleaning Team was originally set up as part of a trial to help patient flow through the hospital, free up nursing time and ensure ward beds are ready for the next patient as quickly as possible. The team have been praised by ward staff and described as ‘invaluable’ in meeting the increased demands since the pandemic.

The team are now one of three teams across the country in contention for the Healthcare Cleaning Team of the Year at the My Cleaning Awards, which are run in association with NHS England. The Awards aim to shine a light and raise the profile of healthcare cleaners and the work they do.

The hospital cleaning team were responsible for rapidly cleaning and making up beds across seven wards at the Northern General Hospital. As well as performing additional cleaning duties normally undertaken by clinical staff, the team took responsibility for updating the bed clean status on the ward whiteboards so that there was real-time information about bed availability. This meant that patients could be transferred from A&E as soon as the bed was ready.

At one point they did a phenomenal 598 bed cleans in one four-week period, with the bed being ready within less than an hour of a patient’s discharge.



State-of-the-art Orthopaedic Surgery centre at Hallamshire Hospital

Opening at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital this year, the Sheffield Elective Orthopaedic Centre is a new multi-million-pound state-of-the-art surgical centre for planned orthopaedic surgery.

This new facility will be the home for planned lower limb, foot and ankle, shoulder, elbow and knee surgery – with emergency orthopaedic and trauma care, spinal and limb reconstruction continuing to be delivered at the Northern General Hospital.

The Sheffield Elective Orthopaedic Centre will be a self-contained unit where patients can be admitted, have their surgery, recover, and be discharged – all from one purpose built area.

The centre will feature high-spec facilities, including:

- Four operating theatres, including recovery areas
- Dedicated admissions ward, day case unit and inpatient ward
- An Enhanced Care Unit
- Therapy treatment facilities

For our staff there will also be training and meeting rooms, and pleasant rest areas for breaks.

Kirsten Major, Chief Executive, said:

“This is a major investment in the way we deliver orthopaedic surgery across the Trust. The facility is already taking shape and will play an important part in our recovery of the orthopaedic operations which had to be paused due to the pandemic. The unit will house its own theatres, recovery and inpatients wards, meaning a better experience and less disruption for patients, as they won’t need to move floors before and after their operation. For staff, this offers a brand-new facility to deliver the best possible care and smooth running of services. There is also a significant investment in training and development, with a dedicated training room and clinical educator, which will provide opportunity for career progression.”

Enhanced Care Unit



Ward bay



Staff room



Therapy room



Gold award for being a leading LGBTQ+ inclusive employer

The Trust has been ranked as one of Stonewall’s top 100 employers, achieving a gold award which recognises its commitment to supporting their LGBTQ+ staff and patients. The Trust was praised in particular for its work creating a workplace where LGBTQ+ employees can bring their full selves to work. Kirsten Major, Chief Executive said:

“We want everyone to have a voice, to feel they belong and to be equally valued and important. Valued staff are happier staff and that contributes to providing the best care for our patients. The work of our LGBTQ+ PROUDER staff network and our teams and services across the organisation is all helping to create a culture where staff feel supported and are encouraged to be themselves with their colleagues and our patients.”



PROUD TO make a difference

Investment in new Electronic Patient Record system as part of an ambitious transformation programme

The Trust is investing in a major transformation programme which includes a new Electronic Patient Record system. Kirsten Major, Chief Executive explains:

"Our current Electronic Patient Record System contract expires in late 2024 and so we have spent the last three years listening to our staff and determining our future needs post-pandemic so that we could procure a new EPR which will support the continued delivery of efficient, high quality patient care.

"We have visited other Trusts to learn from their experiences and only after a very rigorous clinical and financial evaluation have we chosen Oracle Health as the provider for the new Electronic Patient Record system. We were successful in securing national funding and preparatory work is now underway to support a go-live in 2024.

"This is one of the biggest investments by the Trust in over 20 years and it



is one of the most important. Along with the rest of the NHS, our teams are working hard to recover care paused due to the pandemic as well as meeting new demand. Ensuring our staff have the tools they need to help them deliver safe, timely and good quality patient care is key. The EPR system is just one part of a wider transformation programme to change our processes and pathways so that

we can get maximum patient benefit from a new integrated EPR. We will reduce the number of different IT systems currently in place to make it easier and quicker for staff to access a single, contemporaneous and accurate source of information. We also want to introduce a patient portal in future phases of the system's implementation to enable patients to access their medical records and book/manage their appointments.

"Another key consideration in the procurement of the new system was also the potential for the integration of other systems and interoperability with other NHS partners in the future given the increasing emphasis on system working and collaboration."



New artificial intelligence tool speeds up diagnosis for heart patients

An artificial intelligence tool measuring the heart's function in seconds could improve future heart disease care. The technology automatically performs tasks that would normally involve lengthy manual analysis to provide fast and accurate measurements of the heart's function when reporting on MRI heart scans.

It has a high degree of accuracy tested on thousands of images, and validated in over 5,000 anonymised patient scans in Sheffield. Researchers have shown that it aids earlier diagnosis by giving accurate and comprehensive analysis of the heart's function in seconds in a significant proportion of cases. Developed at the Trust and the University of Sheffield, the tool automatically detects chambers of the heart on images taken from MRI heart scans and measures cardiac function and volume – a task which is normally time-consuming and resource intensive. The technology can save doctors and expert imaging specialists up to 30 minutes per scan, aiding a faster diagnosis and freeing up resources.

Breakthrough test offers simpler and more rapid way to diagnose adrenal insufficiency

Researchers from the Trust and the University of Sheffield have found that an at-home test which uses saliva rather than blood provides a faster and more convenient way to diagnose adrenal insufficiency.


The at-home test works by detecting 'waking' cortisol, a naturally occurring steroid which peaks in the morning, in saliva rather than the blood. This avoids the need for patients to have a lengthy screening procedure in the hospital where bloods are taken and measured once and then 30 minutes later.

The research team now hope to seek further funding to make the test available to the wider NHS.

Would you like to join our Patient First Group?

Our Patient First Group helps us continually improve the care and experience we provide to patients by sharing their feedback and ideas at a monthly meeting. The group meets virtually, for an hour, once a month. If you are interested in joining and sharing your experience as a patient email jane.pellegrina1@nhs.net





Dr Nick Morley (centre)
with the specialist CAR-T
cancer therapy team

Delivering revolutionary CAR-T cancer therapy to patients

The Trust has begun delivering a revolutionary treatment, using the patient's own genetically modified cells to find and kill cancer cells.

The pioneering treatment, known as CAR-T (Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell) therapy, will be used in patients with specific types of blood cancers. The highly complex treatment – which takes place over several weeks – works by reprogramming immune system cells called T-cells to locate and destroy cancer cells.

The treatment involves drawing a patient's white blood cells, and these cells are then separated from the rest and given new DNA instructions to act as CAR-T cells – cells which do not exist in nature. It can take weeks for the newly re-engineered CAR-T cells to multiply and grow in the laboratory. The cells are frozen and then reinfused into the patient. During this period patients are given a course of chemotherapy to increase the chances of the new cells working when they are

ready to be given back to the patient. Sheffield Teaching Hospitals is the eleventh Trust in the country to deliver the treatment to adults, and the first in South Yorkshire. Dr Nick Morley, said:

"We are delighted to have become a national specialist centre for CAR-T therapy centre. CAR-T therapy is an intensive, but exciting and innovative new treatment, which has shown amazing results in some patients with blood cancer."

World first Gamma knife arrives

Derry Crighton has become one of the first patients to receive treatment using a new state of the art Gamma Knife at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. The hospital is home to the National Centre for Stereotactic Radiosurgery which was the first and is the largest centre for gamma knife stereotactic radiosurgery in the UK. Gamma Knife technology uses a focused array of intersecting beams of carefully measured gamma radiation to target lesions in the brain with sub-millimetre precision, meaning that there is less risk of damage to surrounding healthy tissue and thus fewer side effects. The new machine will enable more patients to be treated using the highest levels of precision and improved comfort. Derry said:

"I could not have had regular brain surgery because it would have been too complex and at a minimum would have left me blind in one eye. It was fantastic to be able to have the gamma knife treatment. It is invisible and painless and I was awake through the whole thing."



New state-of-the art machine enables faster, less invasive treatment for kidney stones

Patients being treated for kidney stones will benefit from faster, non-invasive treatment thanks to a new state-of-the-art machine. The Urology outpatients department has installed a new lithotripter machine to deliver shock wave lithotripsy. This involves using ultrasound and/or X-rays to pinpoint where a kidney stone is, and then breaking it up into smaller pieces with very low frequency, high-power sound waves so it can be passed out naturally in the urine. The procedure is non-invasive, meaning patients don't require any anaesthetic or sedation. The new lithotripter also avoids the need for patients to attend radiology for x-rays, as these can now also be done on the new machine.



Former miner says surgery to straighten leg has 'given me my life back'

A former miner who lived with major injuries to his legs after being involved in a serious accident has thanked the limb reconstruction team for treatment which has left him with a straight left leg again for the first time in 34 years.

Graham Parker, 60, of Greenhill, Sheffield, underwent treatment at the Northern General Hospital which involved fitting a specially constructed frame to his left leg to re-align his ankle, so it was directly below his knee. Graham said:

"I will never forget the first day I stood up on two legs that were the same length for the first time in nearly 34 years. I knew something amazing had happened."

The accident which left Graham with life-changing injuries happened in 1988 on the pit lane in Mansfield where he worked as a miner. He was standing behind his car when another vehicle ran into it, snapping his legs. It was 12 years and 30 operations before all the initial damage from the accident was repaired, but it left him with a bowed left leg that was significantly shorter than the right. Despite this, Graham managed to get back to living an active life. He played rugby and completed challenges including a parachute jump from 3,000ft and the climb to Machu Picchu in the Andes.



appropriately to 'correct' the bone as it healed. Graham said:

"Once the frame was removed, the steady process of learning to walk again started. I can now walk with hardly any limp, for significant distances and all without the regular, daily pain that I had before or having to put a wedge insole in my left shoe to stop me stooping."

One target Graham set himself was to be able to run again, which he achieved at the end of 2022. Graham said:

"Putting it simply, the care I have received has given me my life back, and for that I will be eternally grateful."

However, his left knee began to wear out and he was referred to the limb reconstruction unit at the Northern General and consultant orthopaedic surgeon Simon Royston.

Mr Royston proposed fitting a special frame, called an Ilizarov frame, to Graham's leg – a treatment in which Sheffield specialises. The surgery involved deliberately breaking the tibia, realigning it and letting it heal. Graham was given two spanners and taught how to tighten and loosen the frame

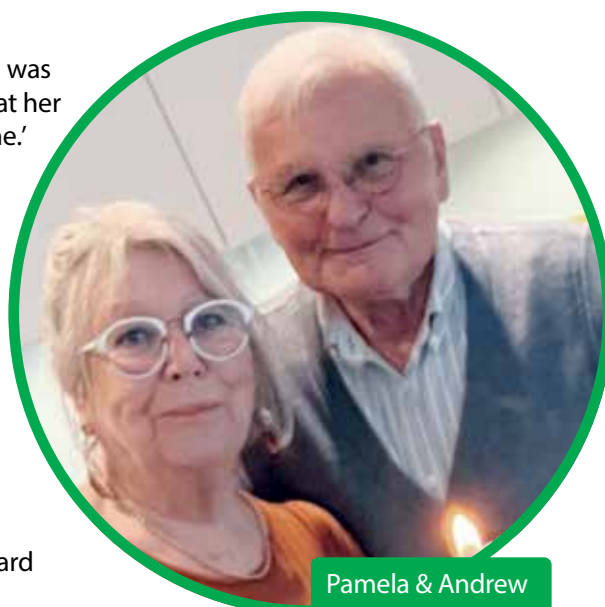


Praise for A&E

A pensioner has praised Accident and Emergency staff after her husband was admitted with breathing difficulties. Pamela Haddon, 86, said the care that her husband Andrew, 77, of Dore, Sheffield, had received was 'second-to-none.' Pamela said:

"I have never rung 999 in my life before, you try to be stoic and carry on with things, but it was evident he was very poorly and we needed some help. He was seen very quickly in A&E and tested there and then, and then taken to a ward where we found out he had tested positive for influenza A. The atmosphere was quiet and calm and I want to pay tribute to all the staff who were wonderful – bright, smiley, kind and patient. The nurse and the young doctor who looked after him were really excellent. I was also given a cup of tea and a sandwich and everyone was very friendly and helpful which helped to make the experience less stressful than it might have been."

Andrew was treated with medication and stayed on the acute medical ward overnight, before he was able to return home the next day.



Mother of twins eternally grateful to maternity teams

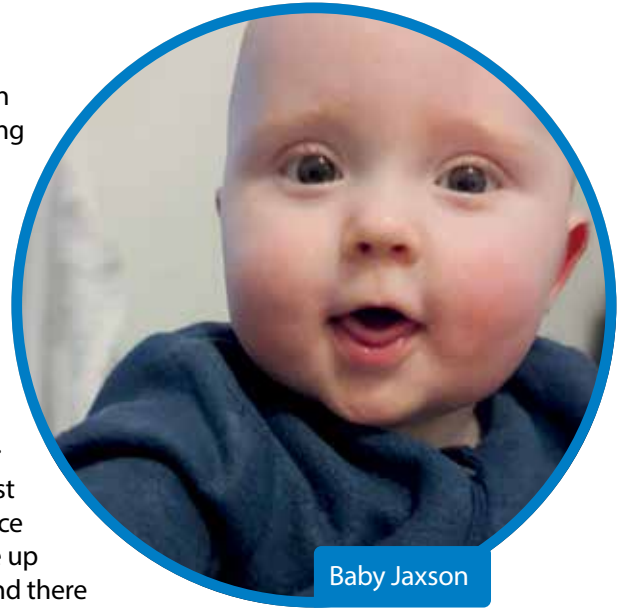
Amanda Glastonbury, 31, from Doncaster, and her partner Andrew Unwin have praised the maternity teams at the Jessop Wing in Sheffield following the birth of their twins, Leo and Jaxson.

Amanda was referred to the Feto Maternal Unit at the Jessop Wing, a specialist regional referral centre that cares for high-risk pregnancies, after scans showed that one of the twins had the rare genetic disorder Bilateral Renal Agenesis, which means that the baby will usually only live for a few hours after birth. Amanda continued to have scans at the Jessop Wing every three weeks to closely monitor her pregnancy and was scheduled for a planned caesarean. This however quickly changed when Amanda went into spontaneous pre-term labour at only 33 weeks.

"Everyone on the labour ward was brilliant. They kept an eye on me whilst the steroids had chance to work and give Jaxson the best possible chance of survival. On Monday I requested if one of the consultants could come up to do the caesarean, as I had seen her for a couple of scans previously and there was something about the way that she cared that made me feel so at ease. She was apparently meant to be in a meeting elsewhere but within 10 minutes she was in my room and was already helping to calm me down. The neonatal team were also incredible, they went above and beyond and came to see me several times to help explain what might happen. Although they couldn't guarantee what would happen with Jaxson, they knew what would happen with Leo and helped prepare me for that."

Following the caesarean, Amanda and Andrew were given time with Jaxson before he was taken to the Neonatal Unit for intensive care. Sadly, Leo died shortly after birth.

"The team took us back to our room on the labour ward and gave us two beautiful hours with Leo before he passed. They didn't rush us at all and let us take our time with him. The bereavement team were absolutely brilliant and really did make all the difference with regards to what happened with our little Leo. As difficult as that was, it was a massive help and relief that the team were so accommodating. Jaxson is really flourishing, and I really don't think that would have been possible without the love and care he received at Jessops."



Baby Jaxson

Mum has rare cancerous tumour removed

A mum-of-two who had major surgery to remove a cancerous tumour has thanked doctors and nurses for the care she received. Lisa Wolff, 52, says she had no idea that the "agonising" pain she was suffering in her pelvis and lower legs was in fact a rare malignant tumour, called a liposarcoma, which was growing from the fat cells in her pelvis. An MRI scan revealed that she had a large tumour, 13cm by 9cm in size. However, no pathological reason for the tumour's location could be found and Lisa was referred to the specialist sarcoma team at the Northern General Hospital.

"We'd been looking at gynaecological reasons, so to be told it was sarcoma, a rare form of cancer, it was really frightening."

said Lisa, who was now finding it impossible to walk or do day-to-day tasks. Lisa, who lives in Royston, was told by the sarcoma team there was no choice but to remove the tumour completely, and underwent a five-hour operation. The operation wasn't straightforward, as a third of the liposarcoma had grown through Lisa's sciatic notch (the small hole in either side of the pelvis), which meant that the tumour had wrapped itself around the nerves that control mobility in the lower leg and foot, with the surgeons having to sever the nerves during the surgery to free the tumour. Lisa continued:

"The thought and planning that went into that operation was just incredible. I can't express how I felt when they took the tumour out. The surgeons were so wonderful, and the nurses, health care assistants, tea lady and specialists second to none. I have no words for what they did for me and my family. I owe them everything."



Lisa Wolff

Heart-warming moment for Pete...

Artist Pete McKee returned to the Northern General Hospital to give thanks to the staff who cared for him after heart surgery and to officially cut the ribbon on a refurbished theatre admission day room, thanks to funding from Sheffield Hospitals Charity.

The refurbishment of the room has created an environment for patients to be relaxed and calm before undertaking specialist cardiac surgery, and post-surgery it offers them a chance to take a breather away from the ward environment. The project was the idea of Ward Matron Jane Paggett who was passionate about offering a stress-free environment to her patients. It was designed to be a home from home by specialist architects Grosvenor Interiors, in collaboration with the hospital estates team. It marks the start of various ambitious enhancement fundraising projects for Sheffield Hospitals Charity.

During the visit Pete met staff from the ward and those who cared for him during his treatment at the hospital. He presented the team with a copy of his recent painting 'The Handover.'

The painting, inspired by a stay on the ward in 2021 following a heart valve replacement, shows a group of nurses in the process of doing a handover from the night shift to the oncoming morning staff. Pete said:

"Every time I meet any nurses it is always humbling experience; they do amazing work and I will always be eternally grateful to them. It is an honour to be asked to open this room, which I had first-hand experience of using as a patient. The work done by Sheffield Hospitals Charity is truly amazing and it will enhance the lives of patients for years to come."

Find out more about Sheffield Hospitals Charity and the difference they make at www.sheffieldhospitalscharity.org.uk



Sheffield Hospitals Charity



Secret Garden taking shape

Work to create a Secret Garden for patients and staff at the Northern General Hospital is nearing completion.

The garden will transform a piece of previously derelict land close to Vickers Corridor and the Peter Moorhead Dialysis Unit into a stunning outdoor sanctuary. It will provide a safe, quiet, relaxing space that they need whilst they work or recover on our wards.

Chris Morley, Chief Nurse, said:

"A garden such as this, which gives patients and staff somewhere to access nature, spend a period of calm and enjoy the outdoors is so important. This is such an exciting project that will make a huge difference to so many people."

To find out more about the project, please visit:
Secret Garden Project/Sheffield Hospitals Charity





New Midwives join the Jessop Wing team

We have welcomed twenty new midwives to the Jessop Wing over the past few months.

Pictured here on a non-clinical training day, the newly qualified Midwives have each undergone three years' training to earn their degree in Midwifery and have completed an intensive induction period.

Newly-qualified Midwife, Hafsa Deria said:

"I wanted to work at Sheffield after completing my training at Jessop Wing – the staff have been very supportive and welcoming. Being able to advocate for women and be a part of a new family beginning is such an honour and privilege."

A new Patient app is coming

NHS
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Update your email address and mobile number with a member of the team today.

What is MyPathway?

MyPathway is a secure communication app using your smartphone, tablet or computer.



When will it be ready for me to use?

We are inviting Patients to sign up for MyPathway in 2023. In the meantime, please update your email address and mobile number with a member of the team today so we can send you an invitation to start using the app as soon as the department looking after your care starts to use MyPathway.

PROUD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST



MyPathway rolling out across the Trust

My Pathway is a patient app providing an electronic contact point between the patient and our services. It is personal to the user and allows you to interact with your care team and check details of your care and appointments in a digitally secure environment.



Check out our new fortnightly Jobs Bulletin

We now have a jobs bulletin which gives details of jobs available across the Trust each month including apprenticeships. The bulletin can be found on our website:

brilliantplace.sth.nhs.uk

and on our Facebook page

@SheffieldTeachingHospitals

The Way Things Were: 'Maudie' – a curious object

Sheffield Hospitals History Group contacted Antiques Roadshow after seeing what was described as a 'Birthing Stool' on one of the programmes. We recognised the item as almost identical to Maudie (pictured), which currently resides in the Heritage Centre.

In the 1970s Maudie was rescued by Professor McEntaggart, professor of microbiology in Sheffield who was an external examiner at Liverpool medical school. He spotted her there in the waste disposal area outside the Obstetrics Department which was being refurbished and he brought her back to Sheffield.

So who/what is Maudie?

Maudie is a life-sized model, sometimes called a manikin or phantom, in this case carved out of an oak tree trunk to represent the female abdomen and pelvis. A hinged leather cover simulates the anterior abdominal wall. Obstetric (midwifery) manikins have been used for centuries, their purpose to act as teaching aides for medical students or midwives enabling them to assess the position of the baby within the pelvis and how to successfully deliver it at childbirth. Other manikins were made

of leather, wicker, wax, textiles, plaster, metal, and even human bone. A baby manikin may even have contained a real foetal skull! Some had detachable organs and mechanical touches mimicking for example birthing waters, attempting to provide as near a real-life experience without the risks to real-life women and babies. Judging by photos found of other manikins, Maudie is probably Victorian, but other than that we don't know much about her origins.



However, there is an article in the British Medical Journal dated July 9th 1921 written as a tribute to Henry Briggs, Professor of Midwifery and

Gynaecology in Liverpool from 1898 to 1921. The article described the practical classes for the teaching of obstetrics using a dozen manikins made of oak and teak and carved to the measurements of various pelvises. Professor Briggs played an active part in the carving of the wood. It is therefore likely that 'Maudie' is one of these manikins.

How did Antiques Roadshow respond?

They were very interested in Maudie and agreed with our view that their example was probably a teaching aid rather than a birthing stool. They came to take their own photos of her and Maudie may appear in a 'What Happened Next' feature of the show so we'll be looking out for that. In the meantime Maudie is currently resting in the Heritage Centre at the Northern General Hospital. We will be open during the Heritage Open Days event in September so come for a visit and you can practice your own midwifery skills in safety.

You can contact the Sheffield Hospitals History Group on sheffhkg@gmail.com

Become a Member of the Trust

Please register me as a member of the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Title ☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Dr ☐ Other:

Family name: First name:

Address:

Postcode: Telephone:

Email: Date of Birth: | |

I would describe my ethnic background as: White British ☐ | White other (non-British) ☐ | Asian or Asian British ☐

Black or Black British ☐ | Mixed/Multi-heritage ☐ | Other not stated ☐

I declare that I am eligible and would like to become a: Public Member ☐ | Patient Member ☐

Signed:

Members will not receive any preferential access to health services as this would be contrary to NHS principles.

Post to: Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS FT, FT Office, Clock Tower Building, Northern General Hospital, Sheffield S5 7AU

Or register online at: <https://www.sth.nhs.uk/members/become-a-member>