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Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Good Health

The newsletter for members of
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

INSIDE:

*Trophoblastic disease
service celebrates 50th*

*Inspiring organ donor
stories*

*Governor election
results*



Revolutionary cancer
therapy provides
lifeline for Abdi

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the first edition of the Good Health members' magazine for 2024. I do hope you were able to enjoy the festivities of the season, spending time with family and friends and I would personally like to express my sincere thanks to each and every member of our staff, for all their hard work, especially given the additional challenges of several periods of national industrial action throughout 2023. We are so very sorry that once again some patients' care has had to be postponed but please be assured that we are working flat out to catch up as quickly as possible. We have invested in more clinics, additional theatre capacity and staff and I am pleased to say that this is reducing the number of patients waiting and our waiting times overall.

Despite the challenges of the last year, our teams have not stopped pushing the boundaries of science and medicine to deliver some of the best care in the NHS. In this edition of the magazine, we have some extraordinary stories for you including the Sheffield Gestational Trophoblastic Disease Centre, based at Weston Park Cancer Centre, which is celebrating 50 years of life-changing care. There are also some truly inspiring organ donation stories and fantastic examples of patients saved by revolutionary treatments such as minimally invasive surgery and new cancer therapies.

We also bring you up to date with the results of the Governor elections. We would like to thank all the candidates for taking part, and congratulations to those who were successful. Thanks also to all our members who took the time to vote. On behalf of the Trust and Council of Governors, I would like to offer a warm welcome to our newly elected Governors.

As usual at this time of year, we see the number of flu and COVID cases start to rise and it is important that we all try to stay as well as we can, so why not take a look at our feature on which has some key winter health messages and healthcare options that are available should you need them.

I do hope you enjoy reading this edition of Good Health.

Best wishes,

Annette Laban, Chair



Did you know you can read Good Health online?

Find the current and previous editions at:
www.sth.nhs.uk/members/good-health-news

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Dates for your diary: Council of Governors meetings 2024

Council of Governors' 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 2024 are listed below. Check the website nearer the time to confirm meeting times. The agenda and meeting papers are posted on the Trust website one week before each meeting and can be accessed here: <https://www.sth.nhs.uk/members/governors-council/governors-council-meetings>

Or you can email jane.pellegrina1@nhs.net for more information.

Date 2024	Time	Venue
Tuesday 19 March	13:30	Undergraduate Common Room, Medical Education Centre, Northern General Hospital
Thursday 13 June	12:00	OEC Sheffield, Penistone Road, Sheffield, S6 2DE
Tuesday 10 September	12:00	Undergraduate Common Room, Medical Education Centre, Northern General Hospital
Thursday 12 December	12:00	Undergraduate Common Room, Medical Education Centre, Northern General Hospital

50 years of specialist trophoblastic disease service

Sheffield Gestational Trophoblastic Disease Centre has celebrated 50 years of service.

Based at Weston Park Cancer Centre, it is one of two internationally renowned specialist national treatment centres, commissioned by NHS England to provide life-changing care to patients with gestational trophoblastic disease. Gestational trophoblastic disease is a little-known group of conditions which grow from the tissue that forms during pregnancy. Before the national programme was set up in 1973, gestational trophoblastic disease was invariably fatal. But thanks to advances in care, almost all patients now survive. Treatments remain intensive, however, with women undergoing months of gruelling treatments shortly after birth or following a pregnancy.

Over the past 50 years, the Sheffield Centre, which cares for patients across the north of England, has supported more than 19,400 patients, with approximately 2,000 receiving treatment for resulting cancer to date. But the Centre's work doesn't stop there - and the team are now looking to improve care both now and in the future with:

- Reduced intensity immunotherapy treatments
- Lab research to better predict which patients will develop resistance to treatments
- An electronic personal health questionnaire to understand patients' whole experience of care - not just treatment

Director of the Sheffield Gestational Trophoblastic Centre, Dr Matt Winter said:

"Our services and research are recognised internationally as world-leading so it is fantastic that this Centre is on the doorstep for the local population."

Li Li thanks team for "saving my life"

Li Li, a 43-year-old academic, was diagnosed with choriocarcinoma, a rare cancer of the womb which affects one in 50,000 pregnancies, just six days after giving birth in 2022. Her diagnosis led her to spend the immediate months after the birth of her son, Luca, miles away from home, receiving intensive chemotherapy treatment.

"When I heard the word 'cancer' it was like boom. I was terrified. I had a newborn baby. How could I have cancer? I asked the doctors, please help me, please save my life," said Li Li.

Further investigations revealed abnormalities in her womb, liver and lungs, and an urgent transfer to Weston Park Cancer Centre was arranged, where she began intensive chemotherapy treatments within hours of her arrival.

Thankfully, gestational trophoblastic disease is almost always curable, and Li Li, who had arrived at Weston Park weak and unable to breathe, started to feel better.

But the rollercoaster didn't end there, as the cancer started to spread from her womb to her brain, causing her to suffer with life-threatening bleeding. As a result she would spend the next few weeks receiving fortnightly chemo injections in her spine.

In the meantime, her son, who had been born severely anaemic, was given the all-clear and she was able to spend time with him in hospital, with her husband, Kevin, staying in a nearby facility thanks to special arrangements made by the hospital team.

By the turn of the year, the abnormal cells decreased, and in February she was switched over to a reduced intensity immunotherapy treatment.

"Looking back, I was unlucky to have this disease, but I was transferred to Weston Park Cancer Centre so quickly. The staff at Weston Park were so brilliant and professional, I can't thank the doctors and nurses in Sheffield enough," she said.



Li Li—successfully treated at the Trophoblastic Disease Centre—with son, Luca.

Same-day Emergency Care Unit means fewer hospital admissions

An emergency care unit is enabling more than 70% of patients it sees to be treated and return home on the same day rather than having to be admitted to hospital.

The medical Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) unit at the Northern General Hospital enables clinically suitable patients to be assessed, diagnosed, start treatment and return home on the same day. These patients would otherwise have been admitted to hospital or potentially faced a wait in the Emergency Department. The service means that patients can avoid unplanned or longer-than-necessary stays in hospital and recover in the comfort of their own home, reducing the risks of deconditioning and infection that are often associated with prolonged hospital admissions. It can also help to reduce the pressure on the Emergency Department, minimise ambulance delays and free up bed capacity in hospital.

Patients can be referred to SDEC from the Emergency Department or the hospital's Acute Medical Unit (AMU), or referred directly by their GP, ambulance service or NHS 111. One patient who was treated at SDEC was Denise Naylor, 69, of Longley, Sheffield, after she suffered an asthma attack at home. A paramedic attended her home and was going to send Denise to the Emergency Department via blue light ambulance, but after discussion with the hospital decided she was suitable for referral to SDEC.

Denise said:

"I was happy with that as I thought it might mean I wouldn't be waiting as long. It looked very busy, but I was seen straight away and had all my observations done, and a couple of minutes later I was seen by an Advanced Nurse Practitioner. Straight away it made me feel better that I was called through and seen to so quickly. A respiratory doctor saw me and started me on some new tablets and arranged follow-up investigations. It was all expedited very quickly and I had a lot of confidence in them even though I was very unwell when I first went in. Within an hour I was ready to go home."



New coffee house opens at Northern General and Royal Hallamshire

A brand-new District Market Coffee House is now open at the Huntsman entrance at the Northern General Hospital. It is also coming to B Floor at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital in January. The new cafe will offer hot food to go, patisseries and a range of hot drinks, cold drinks, and smoothies. There will be a 10% discount for STH staff.



Award confirms allergy unit as leading centre

The Clinical Immunology and Allergy Unit has become the first NHS Trust in the north of England – and only the ninth in the UK – to become a Royal College of Physicians' 'Improving Quality in Allergy Services' (IQAS) accredited service. The accreditation was given in recognition of the team's commitment to delivering high quality patient care.



Help us to help you this Winter

Making the right healthcare choices will help you to stay well and help us to offer the best and safest possible care to those who need it this winter... simple things you can do to help:

Choose the right care

Please only use Accident and Emergency for genuine emergency care. It is not the right place to come if you do not need emergency care. This will enable the A&E team to concentrate on those patients in the most urgent need.

There are other options for non-emergency illness and injuries, including:

- The NHS Walk in Centre on Broad Lane
- Minor Injuries Unit at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital
- NHS 111
- Your GP
- Pharmacies
- Emergency Eye Centre at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital



You can find full details of all urgent care options online at:

<https://sheffieldurgentcare.co.uk>

Get your flu jab

You can get the free NHS flu vaccine if you:

- are aged 65 or over (including if you will be 65 by 31 March 2024)
- have certain long-term health conditions
- are pregnant
- live in a care home
- are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance
- live with someone who has a weakened immune system

Front-line health and social care workers can also get a flu vaccine through their employer. Flu can be a serious or life-threatening illness for some people. Getting the vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and others. Find out more at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/>

Get your Covid-19 booster

You or your child may be offered a seasonal COVID-19 vaccine if you are:

- aged 65 years old or over (you need to be 65 years old by 31 March 2024)
- aged 6 months to 64 years old and are at increased risk
- living in a care home for older adults
- a front-line health or social care worker
- aged 16 to 64 years old and are a carer
- aged 12 to 64 years old and live with someone with a weakened immune system

If you're eligible, you can get a seasonal COVID-19 vaccine by going to a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site, without needing an appointment. Visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/covid-19-services/covid-19-vaccination-services/>

Could you be a Patient Safety Partner?

If you're interested in helping us to improve patient safety, you may want to become a Patient Safety Partner. The people we serve should be involved in decisions about the quality and safety of the services we offer – and the Patient Safety Partner role is key in that. These voluntary roles can take a variety of forms, for example Patient Safety Partners may:

- Join us as a peer at regular meetings to contribute your thoughts and guide our thinking – these could be face-to-face or held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

- Get involved in improvement projects; helping us to identify what systems we should have in place to maximise the likelihood of things going right.
- Help us write information for patients, carers and families so that it is easy to understand.

We're looking for people with:

- A genuine commitment to developing and improving the safety of health services.
- An understanding of patient safety, or willingness to learn.
- The confidence to communicate with senior leaders and who are willing to challenge as a 'critical friend'.

We'll be recruiting to a number of roles early in the new year and if you're interested in receiving more information please email us at sth.patientexperience@nhs.net

New outpatient pharmacy

Crucible Pharmacy is now open in the Huntsman Building at the Northern General Hospital. It replaces the former Boots pharmacy and will provide outpatient prescription medicines for STH patients. It is open from 9am–8pm on weekdays and from 9am–5pm at weekends.



Proud to make a difference 5

Results of Elections to Council of Governors 2023

This year's elections ran from 29 September to 19 October. To ensure impartiality the elections were conducted on behalf of the Trust by an independent agency, Civica Election Services, in accordance with the rules set out in the Trust's Constitution using the single transferable vote electoral system. Thanks to all the candidates for taking part and congratulations to the successful candidates. Many thanks also to all our members who took the time to vote. The votes have been counted and we are pleased to announce the results:

Constituency	Elected
Patient (4 seats)	Steve Jones Shirley Sherwood Julie Taylor Gordon Wordsworth
Public Sheffield North (2 seats)	Nazia Khan Melvin Ness
Public Sheffield South West (2 seats)	Tony Clabby Sally Craig
Public West Sheffield (1 seat)	Marion Billingham
Staff Admin, Management and Clerical (1 seat)	Paulette Afflick-Anderson
Staff AHPs, Scientists and Technicians (1 seat)	Carl Walker
Staff Ancillary, Works and Maintenance (1 seat)	Cressida Ridge
Staff Doctors & Dentists (1 seat)	Liz Puddy

Governor statements

Newly-elected Governors

Nazia Khan Public Governor, North Sheffield

I have lived in north Sheffield for over 20 years and I have been connected to community volunteering in different roles. I can see that there is a need to bridge the gap between healthcare providers and our communities, for someone who has similar experiences and can help in a realistic way. Being multi-lingual and multi-cultural I believe I can be the bridge.



communication with patients and more cohesion between providers of healthcare to provide safe and effective care for all patients, looking after both their physical and mental wellbeing.

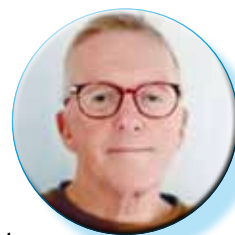
Julie Taylor Patient Governor

I have just retired after 44 years in the NHS in nursing and administrative roles. I want to continue to contribute to the wonderful NHS and excellent services we have here in Sheffield. I am passionate about improving the patient experience and ensuring patients are cared for by professional, knowledgeable and compassionate staff who understand their needs and engage with them at every stage of their care.



Melvin Ness Public Governor, North Sheffield

My career has provided me with opportunities to work in various sectors of industry both here and abroad. Over 50 years working at different levels of management has given me the skills, knowledge and experience that I bring to my new role on the Council of Governors, along with experience from my role as an NHS volunteer.



Sally Craig Public Governor South West Sheffield

My background as a retired dentist both in general practice, and within the hospital system as a paediatric dentist, has given me some insight into the workings of the NHS. I should like to see increasing use of electronic resources, improved



Marion Billingham Public Governor, Sheffield West

I am a recently retired HR professional, having worked in the public and private sectors. I stood for election because I believe in the NHS and believe that as Governors we can help drive accountability for delivery of its services to all.



Tony Clabby
Public Governor,
South West
Sheffield

I grew up with the NHS and my brothers and sisters spent their whole working lives within the NHS. Over the years I have had many reasons to be grateful to the NHS, and I hope to bring to the role my experience in senior roles within the Voluntary & Community Sectors, particularly the last few years as CEO of Healthwatch Rotherham.



Gordon Wordsworth
Patient Governor

Born in Sheffield, I've worked in the area all my life. An apprentice trained bricklayer/builder, I went on to establish and run one of the country's largest social enterprises. I've also been vice-chair of South Yorkshire Police Authority, chair of the Probation Board and chair of 'Sheffield Homes' local housing board. I want to play my part in making the organisation a good place for patients and a good place to work and train. I'd also like to support driving down health inequality, seeking to ensure all our communities benefit from our services, and to reduce the causes of ill-health.



Carl Walker
Staff Governor
Allied Health
Professionals,
Scientists and
Technicians

I have worked for the NHS for over 30 years, and there isn't a day that goes by that I don't feel proud to be part of an organisation that is representative of such amazing people.

My years working in operating theatres (now in education) taught me the importance of staff investment, quality agendas, and the need to drive high standards of care in every aspect of the work we do.

I look forward to working with you all.



Re-elected Governors

Shirley Sherwood
Patient Governor

My first term as a governor started in 2020 during the COVID pandemic, when we had to adapt and learn different ways of working and meeting patients. In 2022 governors went back on site and I've made several visits with Board colleagues. The visits give an opportunity to meet staff, discuss the challenges they have to overcome, and any new strategies that may help in the future. Why a second term? The answer is easy, there is still a great deal I want to do. Over the last three years I've gleaned a great deal of knowledge and learned that small changes can have a big impact.



Steve Jones
Patient Governor

On-going challenges affecting the whole NHS mean we have to ensure that everything possible is done to focus on the needs of patients and their families. We also need to connect with members and the community as much as possible. Part of this focus involves encouraging and supporting our committed staff in difficult times. I will press for:

- high quality care
- innovative practice and provision
- an enhanced everyday experience for patients
- close involvement with partners and communities we serve



Paulette Afflick-Anderson

**Staff Governor
for Admin,
Management and
Clerical Staff**

As a member of staff who has worked for the organisation for all my working life as well as a governor, I am wedded to the values and behaviours of our organisation. I am passionate that as an organisation, we are representative of the communities we serve and that there is inclusivity and equality in our approach to everything.



Liz Puddy
Staff Governor
for Doctors and
Dentists

I am a Consultant Anaesthetist with a career of nearly 30 years in the NHS. I will take the knowledge and experience I have gained over the years to fairly represent all. I will be seeking your views on significant issues and reporting back on any decisions made.

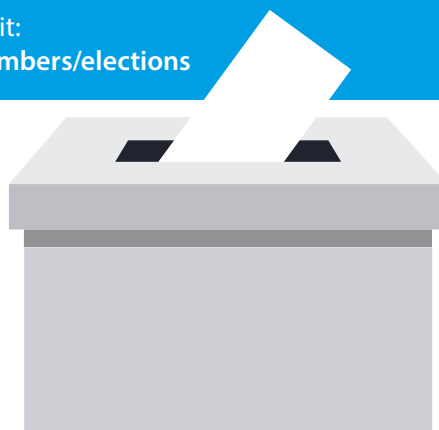


Cressida Ridge
Staff Governor for
Ancillary Works
and Maintenance
Staff

I am a domestic at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. I was first elected as a Staff Governor in 2017 and I am now pleased to have been re-elected for another term of office. I am also a Freedom to Speak Up Advocate.



For more on the elections visit:
<https://www.sth.nhs.uk/members/elections>



Minimally invasive heart surgery enables patient to recover fast for brain op

A patient who discovered he needed heart surgery when he was about to go under the knife for a brain operation has benefitted from a cutting-edge cardiac surgery technique which enabled him to recover quickly and undergo both operations successfully within a matter of weeks.

John Harper, 69, of Chesterfield, was in hospital to have a benign brain tumour removed when he informed the anaesthetist that he had been suffering from breathlessness. An echocardiogram scan revealed that John, a former miner and upholsterer, had severe aortic stenosis, which is a narrowing of the aortic heart valve, and needed to have the valve replaced before he could undergo the brain surgery. Without treatment, Aortic Stenosis leads to heart failure and 50% of patients don't live beyond two to three years.

Because of the need for John to recover quickly for his brain surgery, he was immediately referred to cardiac surgery and was assessed the next day for his suitability for minimally invasive surgery called an Anterior Right mini-Thoracotomy aortic valve replacement (ART-AVR). Sheffield is one of only very few UK centres that can perform this surgery, which requires only a 5cm incision on the right of the chest between the ribs. In the majority of patients it has a recovery time of less than two weeks, compared to a recovery time of six weeks to three months for traditional open surgery.

The operation went ahead just four days later at the Northern General Hospital and John's recovery was so fast that he was discharged three days later, and was back on his bicycle, in his allotment and at his part-time job in a shop within a week. Two and a half months later he was able to successfully undergo the brain tumour surgery. John said:

"The heart surgery was nowt, just like having a tooth out. It was fantastic. I feel like I did when I was 50."

Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Mr Govind Chetty said:

"The main benefit of the minimally invasive ART surgery is that recovery is rapid – there is no big cut, minimal bleeding and no damage to the breastbone."

Abdi given "lifeline" by revolutionary new cancer treatment

A 49-year-old NHS clinical support worker has been given the all-clear from blood cancer after becoming one of the first patients in the region to receive revolutionary CAR T-cell therapy.

The new treatment was Abdi Farah's only hope of survival following a diagnosis of aggressive non-Hodgkin lymphoma that could not be kept at bay despite two bouts of treatments, including a stem cell transplant. Unlike chemotherapy, the 'living' therapy uses re-engineered cells that attack and kill the cancer to safeguard against it coming back. A scan confirmed that the re-engineered CAR T-cells have eradicated all cancer cells from Abdi's body. Abdi said:

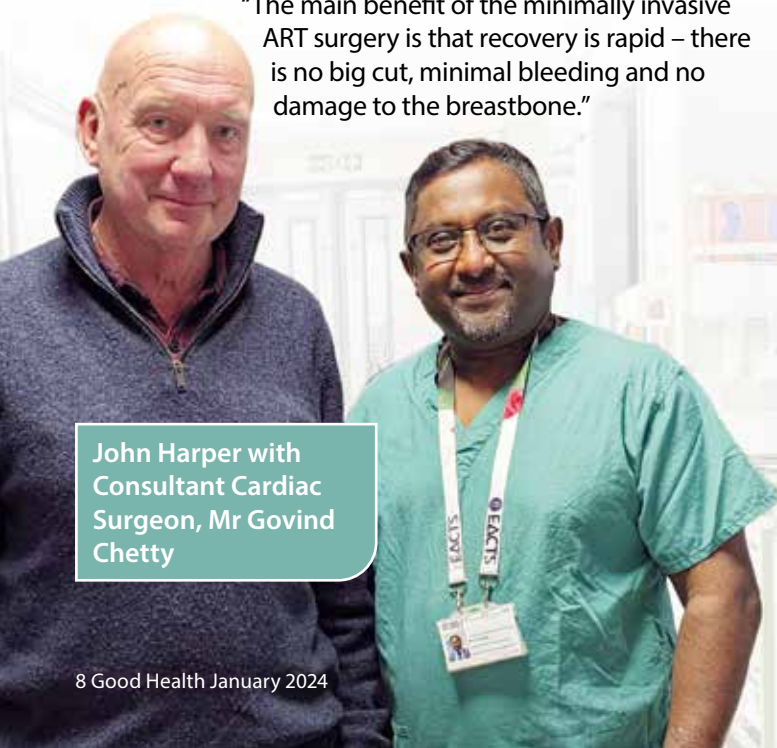
"It seemed like a miracle. I felt over the moon, and I had been given a lifeline. I had another chance to live another day. CAR-T has given me hope, and I am so thankful to the team at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital."

Normally fit and healthy Abdi first started experiencing symptoms in December 2022, and at the time could hardly manage a two-minute walk. Despite intensive chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant the cancer returned in June, and CAR T-cell therapy was the only realistic option to cure him.

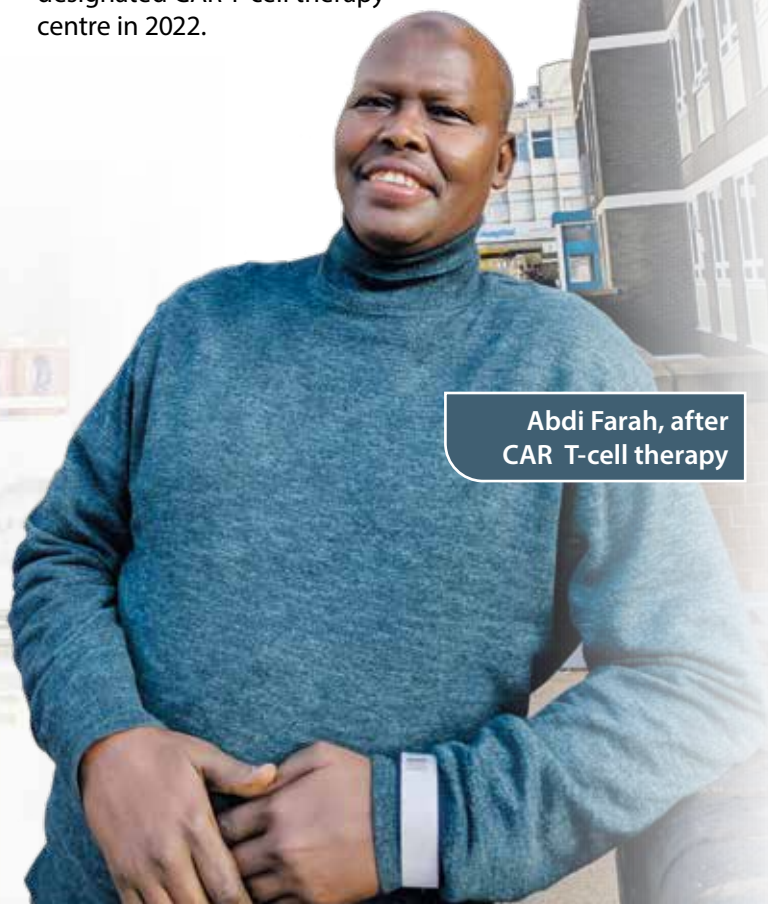
Dr Philippa Kelsey, Consultant Haematologist, said:

"CAR-T is an innovative, personalised cancer treatment and a big step forward in treatment for patients with specific blood cancers."

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals became a designated CAR T-cell therapy centre in 2022.



John Harper with Consultant Cardiac Surgeon, Mr Govind Chetty



Abdi Farah, after CAR T-cell therapy

We ended 2023 on a high, funding many wonderful projects and initiatives across the Trust. This is only possible due to the incredible support from people and businesses across Sheffield, helping us make a difference to the lives of patients and staff.

There's great ambition at the Charity to do more this year.

We've plans to raise our profile and increase our fundraising activity so that we can fund more work across the hospitals. Crucially, we're being even more intentional with our grant-making – ensuring we fund the work which will have the biggest impact.

**We're your official Charity.
We're here for you.**

We hope that you'll join us and show your support for Sheffield's hospitals in 2024.

Beth Crackles, Chief Executive



Sheffield Hospitals Charity



Let's say 'Thanks' to Sheffield's NHS!

For Christmas 2023, we partnered with Pete McKee to encourage Sheffield to send their messages of thanks to our NHS. Pete starred in a brilliant parody of Love Actually which was watched and shared by thousands. It was filmed on the Chesterman Unit at Northern General Hospital where Pete was looked after. Messages of support flooded in as well as donations to support patients and staff.



New discharge lounge opens

The Charity has funded enhancements to the Patient Discharge Lounge at the Northern General Hospital. It provides a more convenient location for relatives to collect patients who are ready to go home, and is a more warm and welcoming environment for patients to wait with refreshments and TV. Appropriate patients will be transferred to the discharge lounge by ward staff where they will be looked after by friendly nursing and support team while they await their transport. It is located close to Brearley Outpatients and is open 8am–8pm, Monday to Friday. It is easily accessible for ambulance, taxis and patients' relatives with no need to find a parking space as you can pull straight up to the door.

Find out more and get involved:
www.sheffieldhospitalscharity.org.uk

Organ donors change lives

To highlight the importance of organ donation, we have spoken to some incredible donors and their families about how their decision to donate has saved the lives of several other people.

To register your decision to donate please visit <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/register-your-decision>

It only takes two minutes but could save up to nine lives.

Husband reflects on life-saving gift from wife

David Marshall received a life-saving gift from his wife, Joanne, in the form of a kidney donation after suffering from kidney failure for six years.

David, now 49, was initially diagnosed with kidney failure when he was in his early 30's and was told that he'd eventually need either a kidney transplant or dialysis. David was referred to the Northern General Hospital and was able to manage the condition for six years. By 2009 his kidney function dropped to the point where he would need dialysis, or alternatively a kidney transplant, and so he began to proactively look for a live donor. He said:

"My father volunteered straight away to donate. Unfortunately, tests showed that he wouldn't be suitable and so my wife, Jo, came forward to donate her kidney instead."

Joanne was a suitable match and the transplant was scheduled for December of that year. Following the transplant, Joanne was able to return home within the next few days whilst David was kept on the ward to continue to be monitored. Unfortunately, his body initially rejected the kidney and so he was given a treatment plan of immunosuppressive medication to help his body adjust to the new kidney. After three weeks, he was given the all-clear to leave hospital on New Year's Day 2010.

"The care of the staff on the ward was fantastic. It was such a close-knit team and they felt more like a family."

Both David and Joanne are both doing well and continue to have regular check-ups by the renal team.

David now owns a refrigeration company in Sheffield and is also the Chair of Sheffield Area Kidney Association (SAKA), a charity that helps kidney patients and their families cope with kidney failure and raises money to support kidney research.

Dad gives the gift of life to three people

Sheffield dad, husband and retired NHS worker, Brian Stapleton, was 69 and in good health when he unexpectedly suffered a fatal cardiac arrest at home. Brian's decision to join the organ donation register prior to his tragic passing meant that he was able to give a life-saving gift to three people in need. Brian's wife Josie and daughter Megan Healy, who is a Tissue Viability Nurse Specialist at the Trust, said that Brian had been registered as a donor since its inception and they knew that his preference would be to donate.

Brian donated both of his kidneys, his liver, his corneas, and the valves from his heart and saved the lives of three different people. Megan said:

"It's comforting to see the incredible impact my dad's decision to join the register has had on so many people and their families."



David and Joanne Marshall



Brian Stapleton and granddaughter

Selfless angler is back fishing just three weeks after saving a stranger's life with a kidney donation

Angler Leigh Harrison, 52, was back winning a local fishing competition just three weeks after donating his kidney to a stranger.

Leigh made the monumental decision to donate after seeing a friend online suffering from kidney dialysis. Leigh was unfortunately not a direct match with his friend, so he made the selfless decision to join a non-directed donor chain, resulting in him saving the life of a stranger in July this year. Leigh, who has six children and luckily no serious medical conditions or history of kidney disease in the family, was aware of kidney disease as a former colleague was a donor recipient.

"Having seen the effects up close and personal these last few years, I also know just what a horrible and debilitating disease it is."

Leigh initially contacted his friend and was referred to the Sorby Renal unit at the Northern General Hospital.

"I was fit enough, and had very healthy kidneys, but was not compatible as a direct match. I was then asked if I would consider being a non-directed donor that could be matched in a chain. This would help my friend get the kidney he needed, but also potentially help many other people get theirs too. It seemed like a no-brainer to me, so I said yes straight away."

After several matching runs and physical and psychological evaluations, Leigh's operation took place in July. It went smoothly and he was discharged three days later. Just three weeks later he was back fishing and competing in a local competition.

"I won a big match on the River Trent, catching 47lbs of bream, one of the biggest wins I've ever had in my angling career!"

Of the care he received, Leigh said:

"Everything is utterly professional and absolutely world class and the whole process has been so good I cannot really put it into words. After my children being born, it's by far the best thing I've ever done in my life."

Leigh Harrison and catch-of-the-day



B Road pedestrianisation complete

Work has been completed to pedestrianise one of the busiest through roads at the Royal Hallamshire. Planting and seating gives the area a greener and cleaner feel, providing a more pleasant welcome to the hospital and nicer environment for patients and staff to take a break. Five new cycle shelters have also been installed, which together with five new shelters at the Northern General provides 200 more cycle parking spaces at the Trust. Andrew Jones, Facilities Director, said:

"B road was probably the biggest culprit for idling engines by taxis and cars waiting for patients and creating fumes which affected anyone who was passing by. It now looks a lot greener and feels much nicer to take a breather away from the wards with sitting areas surrounded by plants and flowers."

B road is now only accessible for ambulances, while drop-off provision for cars has been expanded on A road, outside the outpatients main entrance.



Did you know...

the first recorded successful Penicillin use was in Sheffield

Dr Cecil Paine was a Sheffield pathologist familiar with the work of Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin. In 1930/1931, whilst working at the Sheffield Royal Infirmary, Paine offered to treat patients suffering from resistant infections using Penicillin. He obtained a Penicillin-producing mould from Fleming which he used to treat newborn babies with eye infections. Paine noted that it "worked like a charm". Years later, the clinical notes from that treatment were discovered, confirming the chronology. Paine had also successfully treated a miner's infected eye injury with Penicillin... "it cleared up the infection like nobody's business" Paine said. A subsequent paper* detailing Paine's work, described it as the first successful clinical use of Penicillin in history.

In addition, Professor Sir Howard Florey (later awarded the Nobel Prize in 1945 for his contribution to the purification and preparation of Penicillin for clinical use) had been Professor of Pathology in Sheffield from 1932 to 1935. During that period, Florey met Paine who told him about his successful application of Penicillin. Dr David Winfield, a member of Sheffield Hospitals Group, remembers Dr Paine from the Jessop Hospital when he was a medical student, describing him as a modest man who did not claim any credit for his achievements. Penicillin has, of course, since saved millions of lives.

*Wainwright M. Swan H. CG Paine and the Earliest Surviving Clinical Records of Penicillin Therapy Medical History; 1986, 30: 42-56



Dr Cecil Paine
Article from the
Sheffield Hospitals
History Group

Chris celebrates half-a-century in nursing

A District Nurse has celebrated 50 years in nursing – Chris Hardy, 70, began her career in 1973 when she qualified as a registered nurse at the Royal Infirmary. Chris became the youngest Sister at the infirmary at that time, before moving to the newly opened Royal Hallamshire Hospital in 1979. Wanting a change in career, Chris moved into community nursing and completed her District nurse diploma. She later became manager of North Sheffield community nursing service but in 2003 returned to District nursing as she missed the patient contact, and is still working within the same team 20 years later. Chris said:

"My advice to anyone coming into nursing, would be go ahead and do it. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 50 years of nursing, feeling fulfilled in my career and still want to carry on at 70 years-of-age."



Chris Hardy and (inset) on the ward, earlier in her career

Free membership

Becoming a member takes a couple of minutes here:

<https://www.sth.nhs.uk/members/become-a-member>

Nearly 12,000 people have already become members of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Membership is open to anyone who has been a patient with our hospitals or who lives locally. All you need to do is register with us. As a member you will:

- Receive our free members' magazine 'Good Health'.
- Receive invites to exclusive members' events, including health fairs and open evenings
- Have your say through taking part in surveys and contact with Governors
- Have the opportunity to vote in Governor elections for or stand for election yourself

Sheffield's legendary John 'man-with-the-pram' Burkhill has signed up as a Trust member. John has raised over £1m for Macmillan Cancer since beginning his fundraising in 2007. He signed up at a carers' event in Sheffield Winter Gardens.

John 'man-with-the-pram' Burkhill with Public Governor, Steve Barks

