

Winter 2024/25

together

for staff and supporters

Improving our
cardiac care

Winter
wellbeing

A smoke
free UHD



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New beginnings

A brighter future for our maternity services

Welcome from our Chief Executive, Siobhan Harrington



Welcome to your latest edition of *Together*; our magazine for Trust members, colleagues and patients, as well as the public, our volunteers and supporters.

I feel a huge sense of pride in all our amazing staff have achieved over the past year. From national accolades to pioneering projects, staff awards and successful sustainability schemes, we are working tirelessly every day to provide you with excellent care, to ensure our hospitals are a positive place to work, and to be part of a thriving health community that has patients at its heart.

Turning our attention to wellbeing this winter, it's vital that you look after yourself and others over the next few months. Please look out for family and friends, make sure your medications are up to date, and make sure you have your vaccinations as these will give you the best

chance of protection, not to mention reducing your risk of developing severe symptoms. Head to page 10 to find out more.

So what's in store for 2025?

Our major building and service development work continues at pace with the £500m investment in our hospitals ensuring patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time. Head to pages 6 and 7 for all the latest transformation news, including exciting news for expectant parents ahead of our new Maternity Unit opening in the BEACH Building next April.

Please stay informed about the changes across our hospitals - the changes we are making are to improve the care we can offer to you. You can come along to one of our engagement events, or visit our website and social media channels for all the latest news and updates from Team UHD. If you have an event which you would like us to come

along to, please let us know by emailing engagement@uhd.nhs.uk.

Looking ahead to March and UHD will be joining the hundreds of other hospitals across England to offer a smoke free environment for our staff, patients, and visitors. Find out more about this on page 9.

I know there will be many other positives to come in 2025, and I also expect we will be faced with many challenges. But we are dedicated to making improvements so that our NHS is better tomorrow than it is today for patients and staff.

I'd like to wish you all a very happy and healthy festive period. Thank you for your support and the many contributions you have made to our hospitals, I hope we can continue to build on such strong engagement over the coming year ahead.

Siobhan

Memories of St Mary's

After more than 60 years of service, we'll be saying a fond farewell to St Mary's Maternity Unit in April 2025 ahead of our Maternity and Neonatal Team moving to the BEACH Building in April 2025. We asked local families to share their photos with us on social media recently, and here are a few of the highlights. Watch this space for more to come!



Born at the 'BEACH': Exciting news for expectant parents

Big things are happening in April 2025 at University Hospitals Dorset, as a brand new Maternity and Neonatal Unit is set to open at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital's BEACH Building.

This state-of-the-art unit will replace St Mary's at Poole Hospital, bringing the latest amenities and exceptional care to expecting parents in east Dorset.

The new space will offer everything parents need for a smooth journey from pregnancy to birth and beyond, and our colleagues are focused on making sure parents-to-be and their families feel comfortable, safe, and well taken care of.

With cutting edge equipment and a dedicated team, the Maternity and Neonatal Team are ready to welcome over 4,400 babies a year into this modern, welcoming environment born in the BEACH.

Here's what you can expect...

- Comprehensive care - full range of maternity services, including antenatal, birth, and postnatal care.
- Expertise - a dedicated, experienced team providing personalised care.
- Family-centred approach - emphasis on involving partners and families in the birthing experience.
- State-of-the-art facilities - modern amenities ensuring safety and comfort.
- Personalised experience - tailored services to meet individual needs and preferences.

The move is part of the plan to focus all emergency care at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, providing better, faster care for everyone. This will mean fewer patient



transfers between hospitals, less stress on the county's ambulance service, and better outcomes for expecting parents and their babies.

Kerry Taylor, UHD's Head of Midwifery, said:

"We know our expecting parents have been waiting a long time for this, and we're so excited to bring these new services to the Royal Bournemouth Hospital."

"It will be sad to leave our current site at St Mary's, but from April 2025, we will have a brighter future in our new enhanced, modern, and updated birthing environment."



▲ UHD's Head of Midwifery, Kerry Taylor, with colleagues Christine and Caroline from the Maternity Team.

To support the move, NHS Dorset has launched a new marketing campaign, 'Born at the BEACH', to keep the public informed leading up to the opening in April 2025. Stay informed with the latest updates at <https://maternitymattersdorset.nhs.uk/beach> or on the UHD website: www.uhd.nhs.uk/about-us/future

Bloomin' brilliant

Forest Holme Hospice recently scooped the top prize in Poole in Bloom's 'Loving Care Homes' category for the second year running.

The award was in recognition for their wonderful volunteer gardeners, David, Viv, Petula and Simon, who were awarded the plaque and certificate during the presentation evening at Compton Acres.



Support for families

Our Bereavement Team have put together special packs for our ward teams to give to families whose loved ones die in our hospitals. Inside is a condolence card, tissues, a notebook and pen, and advice on the next steps.

Thank you to our UHD Charity for funding the packs, as well as matching property bags for staff to use to hand back the patient's belongings.

Angie Green, our Bereavement Manager, said: *"These might be little changes but the feedback we have received so far shows it clearly means a huge amount to our bereaved families."*



A "shining example" for her profession

Congratulations to assistant practitioner, Kerry Horley, for scooping a highly coveted accolade at the Royal College of Midwives Awards 2024.

Described as a "quiet and compassionate leader" by colleagues, we can't think of a more worthy winner for the Maternity Support Worker of the Year award, which Kerry recently received.

"The ceremony was an uplifting experience with so much positivity, and it was great to hear how other MSWs have contributed to maternity care services nationally."

"When you feel all of the pressures of work, this award has really highlighted how worthwhile it is to be recognised for your efforts, and it's been so lovely to know how much of a difference my role has made to the Maternity Support Worker Team."



Bikes' new lease of life

Abandoned bicycles left around the Trust have been donated to local charity, New Forest Bike Project.

Some 19 bikes were collected from the Royal Bournemouth Hospital and will now be repaired and reallocated by the charity to help people build on their road confidence and skills. It also provides a good opportunity to educate on vital bike maintenance and sustainability issues.

Alison Walters, from the UHD Travel Team said:

“It’s great to see these abandoned bikes being recycled with a local community project. Many of our colleagues travel on bikes, so finding a new home for these abandoned ones means we have more space available so new cyclists can make the change to a sustainable mode of travel.”



Project Director from the New Forest Bike Project, **Luis Bonney**, said:

“We’re really pleased to be working with our local hospitals to recycle their unused bikes, and want to help people ride safely while encouraging sustainability.”

Providing for our patients

New activity trollies are doing the rounds at Poole Hospital and the Royal Bournemouth. They have been kindly coordinated by Mel Hartley, Lead for Patient Experience and Engagement, and generously funded by UHD Charity’s supporters.

Containing a variety of resources including board games, puzzles, colouring books and drawing materials, the trollies are taken around wards by our volunteers, providing company and entertainment to patients.



If you’re interested in supporting this heart-warming service, please visit our volunteer page: www.uhd.nhs.uk/about-us/volunteer to learn more.

Chief honour

Congratulations to consultant physiotherapist, Matthew Low, who was awarded the ‘**Chief Allied Health Professions Gold Award for Excellence**’.

Announced on Allied Health Professionals Day on 14 October, recipients are honoured for their “**outstanding and exceptional contribution to their work.**”

Matt said: “I’m very proud and honoured to have received this award. It means a lot to me to be recognised at a national level and be one of the 22 well-deserving recipients across our diverse AHP workforce. Receiving this accolade would not have been possible without my colleagues and friends at UHD, and this award is as much for them as it is for me.”



RBH breaks ground on new £91m 'Coast Building' - enhancing patient care and facilities

The Royal Bournemouth Hospital has started the main construction phase on the £91m Coast Building. A state-of-the-art ward and catering block is set to expand patient capacity and elevate the hospital's services as part of the national New Hospital Programme.

The Coast Building will feature 110 new beds across four levels, a larger kitchen and catering facility, and modular, adaptable spaces designed to meet evolving healthcare needs. Spanning 10,800 square metres, the facility also reflects a commitment to sustainability, with renewable energy supported by photovoltaic panels.

The Coast Building captures the spirit of the Trust's coastal identity, representing a welcoming 'hospital by the sea'.

At the ground-breaking ceremony in November, Siobhan Harrington, UHD's

Chief Executive, welcomed guests and extended special thanks to the hospital's principal contractor, Darwin Group, along with local MP Tom Hayes and Darren Crook CBE, Programme Delivery Director of the New Hospital Programme.

Siobhan said:

“This project is an exciting step forward for our hospital and the community we serve.

“The Coast Building will not only increase our capacity to care for patients but also reinforce our commitment to providing a modern, adaptable, and sustainable healthcare environment.

“We are deeply grateful to everyone involved in bringing this vision to life.”

Darren Crook CBE, Programme Delivery Director of the New Hospital Programme, said:

“It has been an absolute privilege to mark the official start of construction works for these important new facilities - a huge thank you to all those involved in helping the Royal Hospital Bournemouth, including those within the wider New Hospital Programme, achieve this important and major milestone.”

Nick Dawe, Director of Strategy and Transformation, Darwin Group, added:

“It's been a pleasure to witness the first spade in the ground at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital and to hear about the positive impact these new facilities will bring to patient care and staff experience.



“We're excited to continue our close collaboration with the Trust to complete this project successfully.”

The Coast Building is a key component of a broader £500m transformation across University Hospital Dorset's sites. The project is comparable in height to the landmark BEACH Building on the Royal Bournemouth site and will support the hospital's commitment to sustainability and carbon reduction.

The construction work has been designed to minimise disruptions over the duration of the project. The Coast Building is planned to open towards the end of 2025.



Our transformation timeline

A £500m investment in our hospital sites will ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time, and as this timeline shows, it's been a year of incredible development. Here are some of the highlights as well as what to look forward to in 2025/6.

Fast Facts

- £500m invested in local health services
- New top-class patient facilities
- Royal Bournemouth Hospital as a major emergency centre - faster, better specialist emergency care when you need it
- Poole Hospital becomes the biggest major planned care centre in the UK - reducing waiting times
- Investment across our sites, in community services, access, and travel
- On track with carbon reduction and UHD Green Plan
- Already delivering transformation benefits, with more up to 2026

Already achieved

Cardiology and stroke

Patients are now receiving time critical, lifesaving treatment sooner, with patients from Poole and Purbeck areas being treated in approximately one third of the time compared to before the changes, meeting national targets

Poole 'barn' theatre open

Increasing efficiency meaning that patients are seen sooner



The BEACH Building

'Topping out' ceremony with Lord Markham, CBE, former Minister for Health



New ward catering at RBH

Offering improved choice and quality



Dorset Pathology Hub opens, improving diagnostics for patients

BORN at the BEACH

'Born at the BEACH' launched

A new campaign to keep the public informed ahead of the April 2025 opening of the new Maternity and Neonatal Unit

Haematology Team moved to RBH

Treatment Investigation Unit (TIU) moved to Poole

New ward and catering block - our Coast Building
Construction underway at RBH

Looking ahead*

March 2025: RBH based Critical Care Team move into the BEACH

April 2025: RBH new main entrance and shops open
Maternity Team moves into the BEACH

Summer 2025: Endoscopy Diagnostic Hub at Poole opens

Autumn 2025: Surgical Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC) completed
New haematology and oncology wards

Winter 2025: Emergency services move to RBH, Poole becomes planned care hospital

New RBH ward and catering block, Coast Building completed

Summer 2026: Enhanced Post-Operative Care Unit (EPOC) open, Urgent Treatment Centre at Poole, Acute Medical Unit (AMU) and Rapid Access Consultation and Evaluation Unit (RACE) at RBH

October 2026: Children's outpatients move to RBH

January-March 2027: Full-service reconfiguration complete

* these are approximate times and subject to change

Art to enhance and inspire

Together with UHD Charity, we're thrilled to announce that the south coast studio, Orakel Workshop, has been chosen to create an art display on the exterior of the Royal Bournemouth Hospital's new BEACH Building.

Orakel Workshop was selected following a public vote and detailed selection process by the local community and NHS staff. The studio is led by graphic artist and designer Jac Seifert, who is now tasked with bringing her vision to life outside the BEACH, a new six-storey building housing emergency services, critical care, maternity and children's units.

Jac is known for creating vibrant digital designs inspired by people and places that can be produced in any material.

UHD's Arts Manager, Laura Joy, added:

“Appointing Jac has been a labour of love involving our NHS staff, local cultural and heritage professionals, and wider community members. Art has the power to transform spaces and lift spirits, which is precisely what we aim to achieve with this commission.

“Due to be installed in Spring 2025, the BEACH Building artwork is a planning requirement of the new building and has been made possible by funding from both the Charity and Trust capital costs, ensuring that no money is taken away from frontline care.

“This exciting project is part of a broader arts strategy which will include initiatives with regional artists, schools, colleges and universities, providing more opportunities for patients and staff to participate in visual art, music and dance activities, which have been proven to support wellbeing and reduce recovery time.”



If you'd like to be part of this beautiful creative partnership or get involved in future art projects, please get in touch with Laura Joy at laura.joy@uhd.nhs.uk.

The People Pod Your UHD podcast

Our UHD podcast, 'The People Pod', delves into the untold and inspiring stories of the people at the heart of our hospitals; our colleagues.

In each episode, we'll meet a variety of guests from across our hospitals as they share their story about their work or home life, challenges they have overcome or their moving experiences. From patients and visitors to staff and volunteers, join us as we discover and celebrate the people that bring #TeamUHD to life.

Leadership and Legacy

In our second episode, we're introduced to Senior Workforce Matron, Clarence Moore, Specialist Nurse Practitioner, Fardowsa Ahmed-Timms, and Cardiovascular Research Nurse, Pabalelo Pule. We join them as they compare their journeys to UHD and the significance of being Black in the UK. They also discuss topics such as the importance of representation, allyship, communication barriers, and the legacy they aspire to leave behind.

You can find the podcast on Spotify. [Leadership and Legacy - The People Pod | Podcast on Spotify](#)





smoke free UHD

Malcolm's story

We are committed to providing a healthier environment for all and our hospitals will be completely smoke free from March 2025. Colleagues and patients will be supported to quit for good as we work together for a Smokefree UHD...

From 12 March 2025 - National No Smoking Day - UHD will be joining the hundreds of other hospitals across England to offer a smoke free environment for our staff, patients and visitors.

We know smoking related diseases kill vast numbers of people and as a healthcare provider we want to ensure we support people to quit smoking and don't put colleagues or vulnerable patients at risk of passive smoking.

The smoking of cigarettes or other tobacco products will not be allowed anywhere in the Trust grounds on any of our sites from March 2025. This applies to our colleagues, patients, visitors and contractors.

Vaping will continue to be permitted outside, but we ask people to respect patients and colleagues and vape away from buildings and windows and dispose of vapes responsibly.

“My mantra has been that if people are prepared to support, encourage, and give me the time and tools to assist me to quit there are absolutely no excuses not to do so...”

Meet Malcolm, electrical craftsman who has worked at UHD for seven years. Here's his smokefree story:

“I had smoked full strength Benson and Hedges Gold at a rate of 15-20 a day for the best part of 40 years. I knew that smoking would eventually be the death of me, but realisation dawned that I wanted to delay that event as much as possible.

“When I saw the stop smoking service in the hospital newsletter, I thought ‘let's give it a go’. They supplied all the support and tools with the offer of nicotine patches, vapes, inhalator, and lozenges, as well as an app to chart my progress.

“I am now over eight months in and am still determined not to return to my old habit. Without the support and encouragement of the Tobacco Addiction Team this would not have been possible. The journey has had its almost overwhelming tempting moments, but the health benefits are profound.”



Supporting you to quit

Patients can get support from our fantastic Tobacco Addiction Care and Treatment Service and Smoking in Pregnancy Teams. You can also access free services from Live Well Dorset on **0800 840 1628** or **www.livewell Dorset.co.uk** or from Smokefree Hampshire at **www.smokefreehampshire.co.uk**.

Stay well this winter

Anyone can become unwell if they get too cold, and low temperatures can make some health problems worse, or even result in further complications, especially if you're over 65 or living with a long-term health condition.

Getting vaccinated every year will top up your protection and reduce your risk of developing severe symptoms.



How to get your flu vaccine:

- Book an appointment at a pharmacy online or in the NHS App (if you're aged 18 or over)
- Find a pharmacy that offers NHS flu vaccination (if you're aged 18 or over)
- Contact your GP surgery to book an appointment

For the winter Covid-19 vaccine, you can:

- Book a Covid-19 vaccination appointment online or in the NHS App
- Some people may be able to get vaccinated through a local service, such as a community pharmacy or GP surgery, or a care home if they live in a care home.

You may also be eligible for other vaccinations, including the:

- Pneumococcal vaccine (if you're aged 65 or over)
- RSV vaccine (if you're pregnant or aged 75 to 79 - if you turned 80 on or after 1 September 2024, you're also eligible for the vaccine until 31 August 2025)

These vaccinations help protect against serious illnesses that are more common in the winter, including pneumonia.

Winter research - could you be involved?

Norovirus is one of the most common causes of stomach bugs in the UK, and there's currently no vaccine to protect against norovirus infection. Wessex Research Partners is looking into ways they can protect people against symptoms caused by the norovirus stomach bug with an investigational mRNA vaccine.

for participants to take part in the Nova 301 Trial to see if an investigational vaccine (a vaccine that is being studied) may be able to protect people against the

symptoms caused by the norovirus stomach bug. The vaccine will be compared to a placebo jab (an inactive substance). The trial will last for up to 25 months, and participants must be willing to attend up to seven scheduled clinic visits over that time.

Get in touch with your nearest research hub to find out more: uhd.bournemouthresearchhub@nhs.net and **0300 019 6686**

Researchers at hubs in Portsmouth, Bournemouth, and Weymouth are recruiting



Improving our cardiac care

The Cardiology Team at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital is the first outside of London to use a revolutionary new technology to treat patients with atrial fibrillation (AF).

AF is the most common heart rhythm abnormality seen in the UK, and can be an extremely disabling condition, commonly causing symptoms such as shortness of breath, tiredness, and palpitations.

Previously, cardiologists have treated AF invasively through targeting and abolishing the electrical signals in the heart responsible for triggering the arrhythmia, by burning them away. The procedure carries a small risk of causing damage to surrounding areas, such as the oesophagus.

With the Johnson and Johnson pulsed field ablation technology system, an electrical field is applied across the heart to target irritable heart tissue thought to trigger AF. The heart is accessed using a smaller plastic tube than previously used which is inserted via the groin,

reducing the risk of injury, bleeding, and bruising and allowing earlier mobilisation after the procedure. This technique also allows for a 3D map of the heart to be created, reducing the risk of unnecessary exposure to x-rays for the patient.

One of the first patients to be treated with this technology is Jackie Dexter, 58, from Broadstone. She said:

“I was anxious about the procedure, and I am excited it's now done. I am hoping not to have irregular heartbeats anymore, and no further damage to my heart. I have total confidence in the team and want to thank them for looking after me so well.”

▼ Some of the Cardiology Team at RBH



▲ Dr Richard Bala with patient, Jackie Dexter

Dr Richard Bala, consultant in cardiac electrophysiology, said:

“As the second highest volume centre in the country for this technology, our team has a catchment of Dorset, west Hampshire, and south Wiltshire, serving approximately one million people. This new procedure is quicker and safer for our patients, with excellent results seen globally, and we are very happy and excited to be providing this treatment for our local population.”

together for our members

An update from Lead Governor, Michele Whitehurst

As we welcome the winter season, it's an ideal moment to reflect on our accomplishments throughout 2024, and to anticipate an exciting new chapter for University Hospitals Dorset in 2025.

With major transformation works of our hospitals nearing completion, along with the official opening of the BEACH (Births, Emergency, And Critical care and children's Health) Building in spring, the future looks bright.

A key focus for our governors has been public engagement. By actively representing the interests of members and the wider community, our governors ensure that the voices of patients and members are integral to the Trust's planning and operations. Over the next couple of months we'll be out and about as our commitment to engagement continues, and we would love to meet you and hear your views, so please join us at the following events:

- GATHER, Dolphin Shopping Centre: **Thursday, 5 December, 10am to 4pm**
- Elf Dash Charity Event, Branksome Dene Chine: **Sunday, 8 December, 11am to 2pm**

We're also making plans to visit more local libraries, church groups, and community centres next year to keep you up-to-date with all our latest news. Visit our UHD website and social media channels for times and dates of these sessions, and please do share our news as widely as you can; from your friends and family to colleagues and customers, we really value your support in spreading the word.

Additionally, if you're hosting a community event that we can attend and share the latest news from UHD with your members, please drop us an email and we will do our best to accommodate: ftmembers@uhd.nhs.uk.



▲ A particularly memorable event was the Freshers Fair at Bournemouth University in September, where we connected with many students interested in future NHS careers

Looking back and thinking forward...

Meeting members at our Annual Members' Meeting in September and welcoming new Governors to the Council was a particular highlight of the year, and more recently we enjoyed an afternoon tea together which was a great opportunity to connect and relax.

On behalf of the Council of Governors, I'd like to thank you all for your continued support, and we look forward to presenting your views and keeping you informed of the latest updates from UHD.



Valuing our volunteers



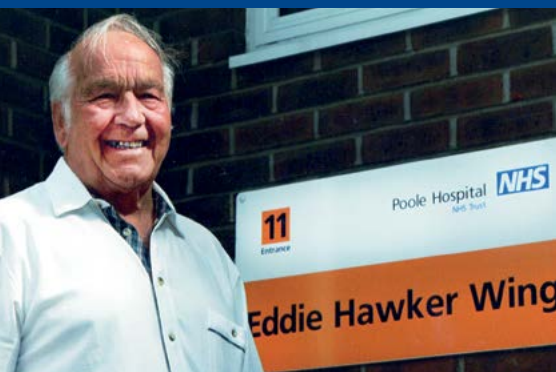
Volunteers are an incredibly important part of Team UHD. We asked Paul, a volunteer in our Health Records Team, why he took the plunge to join Team UHD...

“After 36 years in retail management, I could no longer continue and experienced a breakdown. After completing multiple courses I struggled to get a job due to lack of experience. I was then recommended volunteering with the NHS, and joined shortly after.

“What I found most fulfilling about my role was the knowledge that I was contributing positively. Even a minor contribution to the Health Records Department helped maintain essential operations behind the scenes, allowing the hospital to function effectively. This role has also been instrumental in helping me rebuild my confidence and self-esteem.”

Could you join our volunteering team?

Visit www.uhd.nhs.uk/about-us/volunteer to find out more.



Remembering Eddie

One of the main instigators of Poole Hospital's former charity, the League of Friends (LOF), has died, aged 91.

Eddie Hawker began his nursing career in 1953 in mental health, before joining Poole Hospital five years later as a student nurse.

After a career spanning 40 years in the NHS, 25

of which were spent at Poole, Eddie's links to the hospital continued well after retirement, with his voluntary work for the LOF as well as serving on the committee, holding the post of Chairman for five years.

His years of work and fundraising efforts were recognised with a regional award in 1989 for services to the NHS and the 'Eddie Hawker Wing' at Poole Hospital was named in his honour.

Eddie's daughter, Julie, said: “Dad was cared for by the incredible staff on E3 in Poole for the last couple of weeks

of his life, and I know he would have appreciated the kindness, care, and professionalism of the team who looked after him to ensure a peaceful end. While, as a family, we are all heartbroken and will miss Dad/Eddie so much, he certainly had a long and happy life.”



Together with our fantastic supporters, University Hospitals Dorset NHS Charity raised a total of £4,970,000 in 2023/24 to fund the not-so-little extras.

Here's a selection of just some of the additional items purchased with these invaluable funds...

- We raised over **£90,000 for the new robotic Tilt Table** that is already helping so many patients with lower limb weakness from brain injury thanks to enhanced early rehabilitation. By providing robotic leg movements, this equipment can help stimulate a patient's nervous system and engage the cardiovascular system.

- A new wall of mounted **LED landscape panels** was installed in the Oncology Department in Poole Hospital to provide a visual and calm distraction for patients during their radiotherapy treatment.



- **£15,100 raised by super supporter, James Keith** went towards funding the installation of a new fleet of iPads for patients recovering from strokes. Every penny raised was in memory of James' mum, Beverley, and will now help families receiving care on the Stroke Ward connect with their loved ones online. They are also equipped with specialised rehabilitation apps, games and audiobooks to help patients feel less isolated during their recovery process.



- More recently, we reached our fundraising target of **£201,000 for a new eye simulator** to train the next generation of eye surgeons across the Wessex region.

Additionally, over 30 people raised more than £20,000 in this year's Twilight Walk to support the Breast Cancer Team and improve the patient experience for those affected by breast cancer.

- Our charity events throughout the year have also been a hit with the local community. More than 170 people joined March for Men to raise £11,290 towards the cost of three ureteroscopes which greatly improve the diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancer, kidney cancer and kidney stones.



A huge thank you to everyone involved in your fundraising efforts this year - your support means so much!

Backing our BEACH

The BEACH Appeal has got off to a racing start with **£500,000** raised towards the target of £1.5m since it launched in April. This is thanks to the tremendous support received from the local community to raise funds for additional items to help enhance the care provided from the new BEACH Building at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital.

These items include an additional CT scanner in the new Emergency Department, a wellbeing garden for critically unwell patients, sleep pods for doctors in training, and much more.

The building will have new purpose-built facilities for Births, Emergency, Critical Care and Children's Health (BEACH).

It has been incredible to see so many people coming together to share our vision to enhance our local hospitals and transform healthcare across Dorset. Local bus operator, Morebus recently donated an amazing £50,000, while NHS



staff, community groups, and individuals across the region have also backed the appeal supporting us as we improve healthcare for our community.

Several dedicated NHS colleagues and their loved ones participated in the first-ever UHD Half Marathon to raise funds for an additional CT scanner in the BEACH Building's new Emergency Department. And a group of craft-loving ladies known as the 'Crafting Grannies' showcased their woolly creations to raise awareness and funds for the BEACH.

UHD Charity's fundraising manager, Jessica Tyler, said: *"Thank you to everybody who has supported The BEACH Appeal so far. Together we can ensure the BEACH Building has all the extras it needs to take our healthcare into the future - above and beyond what the NHS will fund."*

"We still have £1m to go, and your continued support is crucial, but this remarkable achievement brings us one step closer to our £1.5m goal. Every donation, no matter the size makes all the difference."

If you would like to fundraise or donate, visit

www.uhdcharity.org/current-projects/beach-appeal

Dates for your diary...

Elf Dash Sunday 8 December 2024

Join us for a 2km fun run along the beautiful Branksome Seafront to raise funds for equipment that is above and beyond NHS funds.

This year, your support will give UHD's youngest patients the gift of education, as every penny raised will help achieve our goal to fully equip the new children's classroom in the BEACH Building.

The new technology will not only enhance the children's experience while they receive hospital care, but support them with their education too.

To help get you into the Christmas spirit, you'll receive a festive elf hat to proudly wear as you enjoy the fun and get ready for a special visit from Santa in his magical grotto!

For more information and to sign up visit: **www.uhdcharity.org/elf-dash**

Contact us: uhd.charity@uhd.nhs.uk, call **0300 019 4060/8449**

or @UHDcharity on X (Twitter)  Facebook  and Instagram 

Big changes are happening across health care services

Do you know how these could affect you?



Find out more at one of our
public engagement events



Scan the QR code
for more information
or visit

www.uhd.nhs.uk/about-us/future



Transforming
Care
Together

Better for patients, better for staff