

Winter 2021/22

together

for staff and supporters



Emergency plans move step closer

Tackling our waiting lists

Supporting patients in crisis

Welcome

Welcome to this second edition of Together, our magazine for our foundation trust members, staff, patients, the public, visitors and supporters.

I hope you find the mix of news, views and insights of interest. Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback on the first edition - as a listening organisation, your comments are always welcome and central to what we do.

There's no escaping just how busy the NHS and of course UHD have been over the past few months. Sadly, our experience of the pandemic means that there has been no "lull" in which our staff could enjoy a much-needed break, and there is no doubt that winter is now upon us. Fortunately, within Team UHD, we all pull together to keep services going, even when the going gets tough, and it's this that gets us through.

We continue to see significant pressures at the "front door" of the hospital, and continue to experience difficulty in maintaining flow across our hospitals, with both our acute sites regularly running at over 98 per cent occupancy. Every single day is challenging - but our staff continue to provide safe, compassionate, high quality care, and our operational teams and senior leaders do a fantastic job ensuring that we use all available resources well.

Part of the challenge we face is ensuring that patients who are medically ready to leave hospital are discharged swiftly. The social care sector is also under immense pressure, which means that many of our patients end up staying in hospital for longer than is necessary, waiting for the support they need in the community to become available. This is a national issue as well as a local one, and as such, is receiving lots of attention - not just from within UHD, but from all agencies involved in commissioning or providing care within the Dorset system, and from NHS England. It is so important that we find solutions to this problem, so that all patients are able to receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

Meanwhile, the public also has an important part to play in supporting our hospitals and the wider NHS, and helping us to manage the winter well. On page 12 you will see information on an initiative, supported by every health and social care organisation in the county, which encourages us all to make a winter plan. By doing so, less

serious conditions can be effectively managed at home, with the support of GPs, pharmacists or NHS 111, for example. This approach can prevent routine health conditions becoming something more serious requiring a stay in hospital. And of course, it goes without saying just how important it is for everyone to get their vaccinations - please do make sure you get your Covid-19 and flu jabs as soon as you are offered them!

As you read this, we are about to welcome our first patients to our new diagnostic centre in the Dolphin Centre in Poole - part of our 'think big' initiative. This is just one of the ways in which we are stepping up our efforts to see patients whose care or treatment has been delayed by the pandemic and you can read about this on pages 7 and 8. All our staff are currently working "flat out" so that we can see and treat as many patients as possible. In this way, we are hoping that both waiting times and the number of people waiting reduces over the next few months.

Of course, our success in tackling long waiting times will depend so much on the demand for emergency services, and the impact of Covid-19 over the winter period. But one thing you can be sure of - with the dedication of all our staff and all the innovative new schemes that are being introduced, Team UHD will be doing its very best!

Finally, as some of you may be aware, the past few months have been a time of reflection for me personally. At the end of March 2022, I shall be retiring from the NHS after nearly 38 years' service and stepping down from my role as chief executive of UHD. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the NHS - particularly the past few years - and feel incredibly privileged to be the chief executive of such a fantastic organisation, made up of so many talented, skilled and dedicated people.

I am confident that having successfully achieved our merger and established a strong platform for our new organisation, we are well-placed to appoint a new chief executive who will take UHD through the next important phase of its journey. I shall be able to say more about this in the next edition of Together.

In the meantime, I'd like to end by wishing you all a very happy festive period, and my very best wishes for 2022!

Debbie Fleming
Chief executive
University Hospitals Dorset



Protecting our staff and patients this winter

Thousands of UHD staff are protected from Covid-19 and the flu this winter following our vaccination programmes.

90 per cent of staff have had both Covid-19 vaccinations, and as Together went to press, around half have also had their annual flu jab too.

The booster vaccination, and the flu jab, are important ways in which staff - and the public, where invited - can protect themselves and others.

"I'm delighted that so many

staff have protected their winter health," said Gemma Lynn, head of occupational health.

"It is really important to gain maximum protection against these two viruses this winter, not just for the individuals receiving their jabs, but for their families and our patients too.

"Covid-19 has not gone away and continues to circulate in the community, while flu presents an annual challenge.

"It has been great to see so many staff from across UHD come together to make these

clinics happen for the benefit of their colleagues."

The Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisation has recommended Covid-19 booster vaccinations and flu vaccination can be delivered together in hospitals, while Public Health England is urging all health and social care staff to be as protected as possible this winter, by having both forms of protection.

Staff members can visit the intranet to find details of available flu vaccination clinics.



‘Ground breaking day’ for The BEACH Building

We hosted a ground breaking ceremony to mark the start of The BEACH Building’s construction at the Royal Bournemouth in November. This was in the presence of representatives from the Trust and the main contractor, Integrated Health Projects (IHP) - the joint venture between VINCI Construction UK and Sir Robert McAlpine. The ceremony marked the preparation of the first of pile positions that support the foundations of construction.

A bagpiper led guests to the construction site, where IHP representatives gifted tankards to Pankaj Davé, chair of UHD’s transformation committee, before he and Richard Renaut, UHD’s chief strategy and transformation officer, broke the first ground on the construction site.

Commenting at the event, Richard said: “This is a ground-

breaking day in many ways as we celebrate what is a significant milestone for our local NHS and the patients we serve.

“The establishment of The BEACH Building represents significant investment and commitment by the NHS.

“It will be a modern, sustainable building, providing high quality facilities for our existing services, allowing our clinical teams to improve the way we deliver the services within it.”

The BEACH Building is planned to open in autumn 2024 and forms part of the £250m transformation of UHD’s hospitals, including investment to develop Poole Hospital as the major planned care hospital and ambitious plans for Christchurch Hospital.

For more information on our transformation plans visit: www.uhd.nhs.uk/about-us/future.

The BEACH Building name stands for Births, Emergency care, And Critical care and child Health and came from a suggestion by Lisa Stooks, a librarian in the Trust’s library and knowledge service, who took part in an extensive engagement to suggest a name for the facility.

Did you know?

- over 12,500 hours of clinician’s time went into the design process
- the building will be 23,000m² (twenty-three thousand square metres) - that’s equivalent to 115 tennis courts!
- we will be using 10,500 cubic metres of concrete and 2150 tonnes of steel in its construction
- the new critical care unit will have capacity for up to 30 beds, big enough in size to park over 50 buses
- 150,000 patients will be seen quicker through our emergency and urgent treatment departments.



New Poole theatres build picking up speed

Now that the foundation and groundworks are complete, the IHP team (our main contractor) is working on erecting the steel frame for our exciting new Poole Hospital theatre complex. Around 180 tonnes of steel and 2,500m² of concrete floor planks will be erected over the next few weeks - the structural frame will be completed in January and will be 20m tall.

See our website, www.uhd.nhs.uk, for the latest on our theatres build at Poole Hospital, and other major building works underway.



Reduce, reuse, recycle

Our UHD Green Plan aims to improve our sustainability and reduce the impact we have on the environment. The plan, available on our website, sets out a number of ways we will achieve this. But there are ways we can all do our bit for the environment, as Stuart Lane, carbon and sustainability manager, explains.

CONSUME LESS

Instead of the thrill from buying new things, foster the thrill of mending things, growing your own food, making meals from ethically sourced raw ingredients, swapping clothes with friends and family, finding bargains in second hand shops, and looking after everything you have so that they give you long service.

As a small example, we're repurposing the empty mayonnaise tubs to form battery waste bins. We are also gifting wooden pallets to a local community project which in turn is making bee hotels and bird boxes for the community.

BUY LOCAL

Buying local reduces the carbon footprint while creating a more

resilient local economy. This resilience is needed to help communities cope with the current and future impacts of climate change that are now anticipated such as more severe flooding and droughts, heat waves and even higher risk of pandemics.

In our hospitals, our procurement processes are being transformed to give additional weighting to suppliers offering goods and services that align with our social value objectives including low carbon and local supply.

USE YOUR LEGS

So many car journeys are made for short distances that can easily be substituted by cycling or walking. Active travel is not only healthier for the environment, it reduces the health risks from air pollution and provides many additional health benefits from the exercise. Try to keep non-active travel to a minimum, especially if it involves a plane!

At UHD our Cycle to Work scheme has seen take up double each year for the past three years.



SAVE ENERGY

There are so many ways to reduce the amount of energy we consume at home as well as at work. Air dry clothes, put the lid on a sauce pan or use a pressure cooker, put your fridge and freezer in a cold room or outbuilding, mark on the outside of your kettle where to fill for one cup, check and replace the seals on your fridge, open curtains and blinds to let the building be naturally heated by the sun, put a timer by your shower, turn down the heating by one degree (or more), put on an a jumper, use draught excluders, insulate your roof and walls, install LED lighting... the list is endless!

If you work for UHD and would like to join the Green UHD community, email greenuhd@uhd.nhs.uk

Chief executive to retire

Debbie Fleming, our chief executive, has announced her retirement from the NHS. She will be stepping down from her post at the end of March.

Debbie has been a chief executive for 20 years, both within the acute sector and a number of commissioning organisations. She was appointed chief executive for Poole Hospital in 2014 where she served for five years

before being appointed as chief executive to the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals. From January 2019, she led the merger of the two organisations, as joint chief executive over both.

Debbie said: "I feel incredibly privileged to be chief executive of such a fantastic organisation, made up of so many talented, skilled and dedicated people.

"I am confident that having successfully achieved our merger and established a strong platform for our new organisation, our Trust is now well-placed to appoint a new chief executive, who will take UHD through the next important phase of its development as it continues to go from strength to strength."

Welcome to our outpatient assessment clinic

As Together went to press we're looking forward to welcoming our first patients at our new outpatient assessment clinic @ Dorset Health Village. We have converted the top floor of Beales Department Store in the Dolphin Centre in Poole into a clinical area for patients. This is a completely new development, unlike anything you will have seen before, and part of our Think Big plan working with our partners to help see more patients sooner to help tackle our backlog of patients and to stop the backlog growing larger. Attendance is by appointment only.

The Dolphin Centre was chosen as such a fantastic hub for transport - with good parking and a bus and train station at the door. With a great range of shops, cafes and facilities in the centre, it will be completely different to what patients are used to when they visit us in our hospitals.

Lisa Bisset, head of Dorset Breast Screening, said: "It's a lovely space - it's light, it's airy, and it's convenient. We are hoping this will be a really positive experience for everyone visiting."

Breast screening is one of the initial services being offered, within a purpose built facility within the clinic. Lisa said that the location should help encourage more people to attend: "It's so important that people turn up for their breast screening appointment when invited to do so, as early diagnoses can make such a difference for patients with cancer. We need to do everything we can to encourage women

to have their breast screening and this central location should help with this."

So who else will have appointments at Beales? Initially, the space will be used for abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) as well as breast screening, and for patients waiting for their first hospital appointment following referral. The first specialties will be ophthalmology, dermatology and orthopaedics, but in the longer term we are planning bring a number of other specialties and services to the clinic, including community services and social care. Patients will be invited to attend the facility by appointment only - it is not a drop-in centre.

The outpatient assessment clinic has been designed by our clinicians to both improve the experience for patients, as well as ensuring that the clinicians can see more patients in a more efficient and timely way than currently possible.

Diagnostic tests will be of the same high standard as those offered in our hospitals, delivered by the same staff. As it is a purpose-built facility, social distancing required to manage Covid-19 safely has been built into the facility.

The centre is in addition to the services offered in our hospitals, and patients will only be offered appointments here where appropriate.



▼ Gathering your views: In November we set up shop in the Gather space, in the Dolphin Centre, to showcase our plans for the outpatient assessment clinic, as well as wider developments with our hospitals. Members of UHD staff and Foundation Trust governors were on hand to answer questions and collect feedback.



For further information, including details of volunteering opportunities, please visit: www.uhd.nhs.uk/think-big



Increasing our orthopaedic surgery capacity

We need to hear from you

Our new modular theatre at Royal Bournemouth will increase our planned orthopaedic surgery capacity by almost a third. Pictured on the cover of this edition of Together are (left to right) John West, general manager for trauma and orthopaedics, Cathy Cocorachio, matron for orthopaedic surgery, and Mr Paul Pavlou, consultant orthopaedic surgeon, in front of the new theatre, which is currently being commissioned and will see its first patients in the new year.

We are contacting patients via text message as part of our work to tackle the large waiting lists caused by the pandemic.

Over the last year many non-emergency operations and procedures across the NHS had to be cancelled or postponed because of Covid-19. We are working hard to prioritise our lists and will be contacting patients waiting for appointments at the Royal Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch hospitals via text message or letter to obtain further details.

If you receive one of these messages, please respond so we can help you with your care. We would like to assure you that:

- our communication will only ever ask questions relating to your care
- we will never ask for bank details or reference to money or payment
- we will never ask you for your name or address, however you will be able to update your details if they are not correct
- our message will include a unique pin and we will ask you to input your date of birth only to log in
- a business reply address in Macclesfield will be supplied - this is where our team are collating your responses

Christchurch Hospital

Our teams based at Christchurch Hospital are also working hard to keep patients away from Poole and Royal Bournemouth hospitals to help relieve pressure across our services and to protect hospital beds. Their work was recently highlighted in a BBC South Today report, with health editor Alastair Fee visiting the team.

They offer a range of services, including our day hospital where outpatients have appointments as part of their ongoing care, including in our newly refurbished gym. They also visit patients in their own homes to help care and support them so they are able to leave our hospitals when medically ready. In November, they helped keep 47 patients from staying in hospital and they also helped another 57 return from their time in hospital to their homes by offering ongoing care.

Heather Olive, occupational therapist based at Christchurch Hospital said: "If you are medically unwell and you need care from doctors and the nursing team, then hospital is the right place for you. For patients that are medically fit to leave, but need ongoing support, perhaps of rehab or maybe a bit of equipment to help them, then we know it is best to keep them in their own homes. That is what our service is doing - supporting those patients to be able to remain in their own homes safely."



together for our members



Welcome from David Triplow, lead governor

As governors, one of our functions is to act as a voice for our members and the public. One of the main ways we do this is to be a presence at different centres and talk to people who are happy to talk to us. This has been seriously affected by the pandemic, but we are just restarting and as I write have just attended the Dolphin centre in Poole in November. More events like this will occur in the new year and we will publicise them in the newsletters and on the internet.

The best way to keep up to date with the very latest news and information is via email, so if we

do not have your email address please let us know.

The new Think Big project in the Dolphin Centre is exciting and is an example of how the directors are trying hard to reduce waiting lists when the numbers arriving at A&E are large and Covid is still around. We can assure members that the staff are working extremely hard under considerable pressure and as governors we are proud of their dedication.

The building works at both Royal Bournemouth and Poole hospitals are now very visible. I was proud to represent governors at the official ceremony to mark the ground-

breaking for the new BEACH building at Bournemouth. BEACH stands for Births, Emergency care And Critical care and child Health. This is a noticeably big building and when completed will be a wonderful modern asset for the departments and their patients.

Debbie Fleming, our superb CEO, has decided to retire. She has been an excellent leader taking both Trusts through the merger and the pandemic. She has been incredibly supportive of the governors, and we wish her a happy retirement.

Two of our governors have left in the past few months. Connor Morton, the volunteer governor, and Sue Parsons, from Bournemouth constituency. We thank them for their service.

Finally, we wish you a happy and healthy new year and hope to see you at some of our events in 2022.

Understanding sudden cardiac arrest - why does it happen?

We recently ran another of our popular Understanding Health talks on the topic 'Understanding sudden cardiac arrest - why does it happen?'

Dr Chris Critoph, consultant cardiologist who specialises in heart failure, cardiac devices and inherited heart disease, talked about some of the causes of cardiac arrests, explaining what happens and early warning signs that people can look out for. He also covered treatment and the lifesaving devices like pacemakers and ICDs that can be used to help prevent future events.

To watch a recording of the event, find it in our new Health Talks Library - just search 'library' on www.uhd.nhs.uk

The library is ever-growing and includes talks on a range of health issues.



Dr Chris Critoph, consultant cardiologist

Missed out on our virtual Open Day? Catch up here...

In September, UHD hosted its first virtual Open Day and showcased an array of services and departments. Live talks and presentations, department tours and update videos on the exciting plans for the future all took centre stage, and are available to view on our website. It also included our annual members meeting. If you missed the event live you can still take advantage of the multimedia content by visiting www.uhd.nhs.uk/openday2021. Here's a run through of just some of the content you will find:

Tours



Have a look inside St Mary's maternity unit at Poole Hospital.



How many people do you think are involved in a patient's journey to theatre?



Our brand new physiotherapy gyms at Christchurch Hospital.

Workshops - have a go



British Sign Language - have a go with some help from UHD nurse, Annabel Young.



Learn how to put someone in the recovery position.



Take part in short exercise classes with our physios.

The future: how we're investing in our hospitals

Poole Hospital's new theatres

RBH and children's health

Emergency department 'fly through'

Timelapse footage of our theatres build at Poole Hospital

Developments at Poole and RBH

Sustainability.

Talks

[Our Annual Members' Meeting](#)

[Asthma, allergies](#) and the upcoming winter in children, with Dr Mark Tighe, consultant paediatrician

[Radiotherapy](#) - past, present and future, with Jonny Lee, head of radiotherapy physics

[UHD: a great place to work](#), with Danny Edwards, recruitment manager

[Childbirth](#) - a variety of stories with Jillian Ireland, professional midwifery advocate.



Welcome to Richard

Richard Ferns is your new governor for Poole and the rest of Dorset.

"I was born in Poole and have lived in Poole all my life, and am now retired. I have been a member of the Society of Poole Men and am a member of Poole Museum Foundation where I volunteer. I have been a member of St. Clements Church since the age of six and have held various posts.

"In my work I had to speak to people and

understand their needs which I then converted into action to both my company and their benefit. As a director of our own printing company we worked with social activity societies and clubs supporting them with reduced price printing. we have also sponsored some.

"I feel I have the ability to listen, both to the public and the Trust, and benefit both with my actions and opinion. My hobbies are cycling and walking, where I have raised money with sponsorship. I have cruised the world but now will spend my retirement exploring the UK with National Trust and English Heritage life memberships."

You can contact Richard through the membership office.



“It’s been a very interesting year...”

everyone in medical physics together but I’m glad that I’m able to contribute to services that I had covered more intently in my studies, specifically non-ionising diagnostic imaging,” he says.

“I’ve always been interested in the management side of things - and through my job and my governor role I’ve been able to see just how much work goes on behind the scenes and has given me a greater understanding of it.”

Choosing to apply to be a governor was a natural extension of his belief that we should all look out for each other.

“It’s in my nature to try and be an advocate for others, and for my colleagues in particular, I know how hard the staff in my constituency work, and being their governor enables me to do this in a really meaningful way.

“Working as a chef in some extremely high stress and often hostile work environments, you don’t tend to see those sorts of support or advocacy systems in the workplace, and it’s something I was committed to contributing to even more once I had left.”

The pandemic has been a great test of those support systems, and Cameron believes there is much to take away from the experience.

“It’s been a very interesting first year in my governor role, with the pandemic.

“The pandemic has meant we need to ensure, that as we get back to normality, we keep the things we know have worked well, and lose the things that didn’t.

“For example I think we’ve all realised that working to breaking point is not acceptable or healthy, and so embedding how we look after our staff’s wellbeing is paramount.”.

Cameron Ingham, 26, is the staff governor for scientific and technical staff, as well as the Trust’s allied health professionals. He joined the trust in 2019 as a healthcare science practitioner, and stood for election to the council of governors last year. In addition to the usual duties of an NHS governor, as a staff governor, Cameron has an important role in ensuring the voices of all staff, and in particular those working in technical roles, are represented to the trust’s board of directors.

In his day job, Cameron ensures that non-ionising diagnostic imaging - ultrasound, lasers, MRI and UV phototherapy - systems are safe and effective for patients.

But between leaving university and starting with University Hospitals Dorset, Cameron found time to explore another passion - cooking.

“I was a chef in professional kitchens for two and a half years,” he explains. “It was a good way to just take a breath between my studies specialising in medical physics and beginning my NHS career, and I think it has been really important in my development.

“Many aspects of physics can be intensely theoretical, and after a few years at the blackboards I really wanted to do something practical. But after a few years the time felt right to put my academic learning to use in an area of physics that I’d always enjoyed. A lot of my family members have worked for the NHS and it was a question of when and not if really.”

Cameron was attracted to UHD because of how medical physicists are recognised in their own specialties, but are also integrated into the services they support.

“A lot of departments put

Supporting patients in crisis

Each year, hundreds of patients attend our A&E departments in mental health crisis.

Alexander Clements is a senior emergency department nurse working to improve the support such patients receive, and to embed these improvements across our emergency care services.

“As the front door to health services, we see a wide range of people with mental health needs,” explains Alexander.

“We recognise the significant role it can play in why people attend A&E, and that it is a hugely complex area.

“Our A&E teams are compassionate and caring, and proud to deliver high quality care to all who need it during difficult times. My main aim is to look at how that care we

be even better care and more systematic.

“Assessing a patients’ mental health needs is part of the screening process for all those attending either of our emergency departments.

“This helps us to quickly identify and provide the right care for each patient, including making direct referrals to our colleagues in liaison (hospital-based) psychiatry who can make a more detailed assessment and address any immediate needs, and signpost support for when they have left the department so they have a plan going forward.

“Our departments also benefit from the advice and expertise of a dedicated A&E mental health link nurse, trained to be an advocate for patients presenting with mental health problems, and who oversees a range of

service improvements to ensure each patient receives the care they need.

“Our wider emergency department teams also undergo regular mental health awareness training, supported by the liaison psychiatry team led by Dorset HealthCare NHS trust, and are committed to high quality care for all patients.”

“It’s about getting it right for each individual patient, and recognising that everyone’s needs will be different. By providing a supportive structure for our teams to provide this individualised care, we can make a difference.”



Let's talk winter - what's your plan?

Everyone should make a winter plan. Here are 10 Top Tips to stay safe and well. #LetsTalkWinter

LET'S TALK
WINTER

Your Winter Plan Top 10

- 1. Get help early before your condition worsens – speak to your GP surgery, contact NHS 111, or speak to your local pharmacist.
- 2. COVID-19 is still with us so we should all carry on protecting ourselves and those around us. You can do this by testing regularly, meeting outside if you can, washing hands, letting in the fresh air when you're inside and wearing a face covering in busy places.
- 3. Get repeat prescriptions in plenty of time and have a well-stocked medicine cabinet, including a thermometer.
- 4. Help and support relatives or friends to leave hospital so that they can be more comfortable and recover more quickly at home.
- 5. Boost your immunity with your flu and COVID-19 vaccines to protect yourself, your family and the people you love.
- 6. Avoid slips, trips and falls by taking extra care in bad weather.
- 7. Keep an eye on elderly or frail friends, neighbours and relatives.
- 8. Try to heat your home effectively and safely – heat your home to at least 18°C. Take advantage of financial schemes and discounts to help you pay for heating.
- 9. Remember the five steps to wellbeing to stay well mentally and physically:
 - * connect with others
 - * be active as much as possible
 - * keep learning new skills to boost confidence and mood
 - * take notice and be in the present moment
 - * give your time and support to others.
- 10. Be kind and compassionate to those you meet, including hard-working staff who are supporting others.

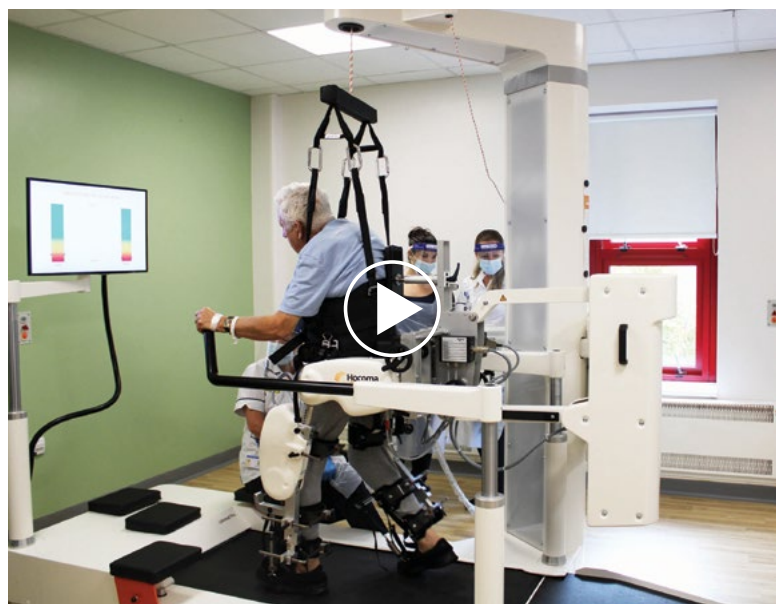
Walkerbot appeal crosses the finish line!

We officially launched the Walkerbot appeal at the beginning of 2020 with the aim of raising £365,000 to purchase state of the art walking robotics for the Royal Bournemouth Hospital Stroke Unit.

The Walkerbot helps stroke patients to take the thousands of steps needed a day to allow their brains to rewire as they relearn to walk during recovery.

Once the pandemic hit, we anticipated this appeal would be put on hold but instead, members of the public continued to donate generously, taking on challenges, and providing an overwhelming amount of support above and beyond what we'd expected during this time.

After just 20 months, the Walkerbot has been funded, purchased, installed, and is now in use, changing the lives of stroke patients. In funding the Walkerbot, we are the only NHS hospital in England to own a robotic device of this kind.



Thank you to each and every supporter of this appeal - you did it!

If you'd like to find out more about the Walkerbot appeal or any current fundraising projects please visit UHDcharity.org

- 1,179 donations received in total
- £209,000 received in legacy donations
- 11 incredible individuals took on challenges to raise funds
- 18 corporate and community group donations supported the appeal
- £55,000 received in charitable grants



Supporting our NHS Heroes

Over the past 18 months our charity has assisted in providing an enhanced wellbeing support programme to staff that not only responded to the immediate crisis, but also embeds staff health and wellbeing sustainably within UHD.

Earlier this year, we received




a £209,000 stage 3 recovery grant from NHS Charities Together, which will support staff throughout the trust as we recover from the pandemic.

Since receiving the grant we are pleased to confirm that we have now funded new physiotherapist, mental health

practitioner and psychologist roles to specifically support staff throughout the trust.

Further initiatives with the remaining funding will soon be implemented and includes access to physical activities, resilience workshops and wellbeing seminars.

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

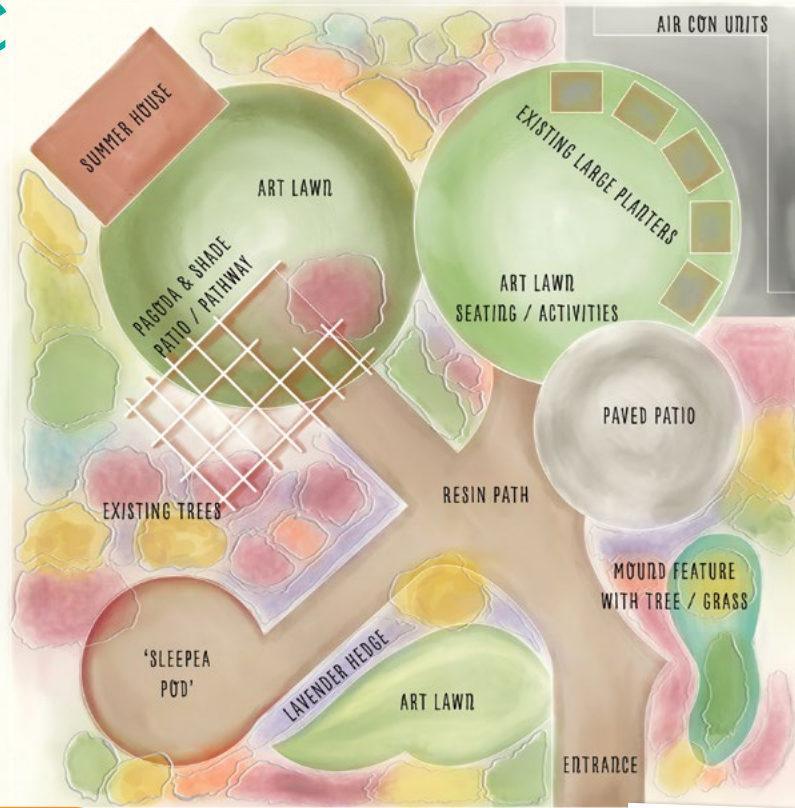
or via  Twitter,  Facebook and  Instagram @UHDcharity



Lavender Garden - a space for staff to remember, reflect, rest and recharge

We have launched an appeal to raise £35,000 to fund the Lavender Garden - a private garden area located at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital - for staff to remember, reflect, rest and recharge following the difficulties of working through the pandemic.

The Lavender Garden concept was initially proposed by the Royal Bournemouth Hospital theatres team, who identified the perfect space for a special staff garden in memory of Anna Gryga, healthcare assistant in theatres, and Tom Cameron, operating department practitioner - two colleagues who they sadly lost to cancer last year



“Anna bravely fought a long battle with cancer, never giving up. She was a warm hearted woman

always willing to help others and there to captivate the room with stories of her son and daughter who she sadly leaves behind. They truly were her world, and Anna was theirs.

“Both Anna and Tom would be so pleased with an outdoor space created in their memory, providing staff a place to remember and reflect whilst taking breaks during busy shifts. The Lavender Garden will also remind their children how loved and cherished they were by their colleagues.”

Donna Bailey,
surgical first assistant, theatres

“Tom was a natural leader and a truly fantastic person. He would have loved that this space was created in his memory, for staff to enjoy some peace and quiet when they need it most. Staff throughout the trust do such worthwhile jobs and have been through so much, I have no doubt they will find as much benefit from this space as we will.”

Maria Hayward, critical care technician



The peaceful landscaped garden will provide a private outdoor space for all UHD staff to take a break, including seating, a pagoda and summerhouse. Beautiful raised flower beds and evergreen plants will surround the area, with the addition of vibrant purple lavender in memory of Anna, which will fill the garden with life.

If you are interested in making a donation or raising funds to support the Lavender Garden appeal please visit UHDcharity.org/lavendergarden or contact the UHD charity office on **0800 019 4060/8449**.

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

or via Twitter, Facebook and Instagram @UHDcharity



Making a difference to our cancer care facilities

Over the past few months we have received an incredible amount of support in our continual effort to enhance the care of cancer patients accessing our services.

Ferndown based charity, The Fletcher Foundation, recently made an outstanding contribution to UHD, donating £10,000 to support patients receiving cancer treatment at Poole Hospital.

The funds raised by the local organisation will be split between departments providing care for breast and prostate cancer, £5,000 of which contributes directly to our fundraising effort to purchase a new breast cancer imaging machine.

The donation, along with an extremely generous pledge from long term supporter Going for Bust to provide the remaining funds needed, means that this machine has now been successfully funded.

With only one machine of this type currently in use, the Dorset Breast Screening Service at Poole Hospital will benefit



hugely from the provision of another, ensuring fast and more accurate results during the breast cancer screening process, resulting in reduced patient stress, pain and anxiety.

Our thanks also go to our fantastic community supporters, and those who held Run for Cancer 2019, and Brackenwood Open Gardens, raising funds over the past two years to make the purchase of this machine possible.

The cost of a new Faxitron breast cancer imaging machine totals £52,734 and will soon be in use at the Dorset Breast Screening Unit.

If you are interested in making a donation or raising funds to support cancer care at our hospitals please visit UHDcharity.org or call 0300 019 4060/8449.

Upcoming events



Elf Dash - Saturday 4 December from 11am

Run, walk, skip or dance your way along the promenade route at Branksome Dene Beach, followed by a visit to Santa in his grotto.

Our family friendly event is back and invites you to take on a sponsored 2km dash in aid of your local hospitals this Christmas. We'd love for you to get involved and welcome friends and family of all ages and abilities - you can even bring your four legged friends along to enjoy the festive fun!

Tickets are priced at **£10 per adult** and **£6 per child** including a free lunch, elf hat and medal. Children will also receive a gift



from Santa during their grotto visit.

To find out more please visit UHDcharity.org/elfdash or call 0300 019 4060/ 8449.

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

or via Twitter, Facebook and Instagram @UHDcharity

Dermatology team is highly commended

Our dermatology team has been highly commended by the prestigious British Medical Journal (BMJ), coming in second place in their national awards. The team was praised for creating a system for patients to electronically add photographs to their medical records, which were then examined by a consultant without the need to come into the hospital. The service was set up at the start of the pandemic and ensured all patients who needed to be 'seen' within the two-week target were



seen, with two thirds cared for completely remotely.

Dr Anjee Shah, dermatology registrar, said: "Being recognised by the BMJ for our work throughout the pandemic is truly something to be proud of.

"We are so grateful to have the opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication the whole dermatology team has put in over the past 18 months to maintain the service, meet increasing demand and support local dermatology services."

Actor unveils state of the art scanners

TV and film personality Guy Henry has proudly cut the ribbon on two new scanners at Poole Hospital.

The new machines are housed in the nuclear medicine department and allow for fusion imaging,

meaning the images can be overlaid or viewed together to give a better picture than both images being looked at separately. They will help clinicians treat a range of patients from across the whole of Dorset dealing with a variety of

issues, such as cancer or heart related problems.

The style of scanning is faster, uses smaller radiation doses and produces more accurate diagnostic information. Since the installation, the speed of cardiac imaging has already improved.

The Poole Hospital Cancer Treatment Trust charity generously donated £500,000 to the machines, with the remaining funds provided by NHS Improvement.

Guy, patron of the cancer charity, added: "I know from personal experience how important these machines are in helping patients get the best care and the earliest diagnosis. I am very proud to cut the ribbon knowing the great work this department will do."



together is your publication

We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of Together, produced by University Hospitals Dorset's communications team. If you have any feedback, a story or a suggestion for us to cover in future editions, email communications@uhd.nhs.uk