Royal seal of approval for our loyal Trust volunteers

Hundreds of volunteers who selflessly give up their time to support the work of our Trust have been recognised with a Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service. The group of around 500 volunteers were personally approved by Her Majesty the Queen to receive the award, which is known as the MBE for volunteer groups. It recognises the great impact and contribution our volunteers make in the way they support our patients, visitors and staff.

We have volunteers working in more than 80 roles across the Trust, ranging from supporting our bereavement services to delivering newspapers to wards. They range in age from 17 to 90.

Dr Nigel Sturrock, Executive Medical Director for the Trust, surprised volunteers by revealing they had won the award at their annual volunteer breakfast. He said: “This represents a tremendous achievement. All our volunteers should feel immensely proud of the recognition this award represents. They embody the highest standards of the Trust’s values and behaviours, and play an invaluable part in the smooth running of our hospitals day in, day out. We are immensely proud of all of them and of their achievement.”

To mark the special occasion, volunteer Mary Payne joined Jackie Marriott, Assistant Head of Facilities, at the Queen’s Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

Mary said: “It was an incredible day. I felt very honoured, and very excited to be chosen to go. I felt as if I was representing all of us. It was wonderful.”

• Read more about our amazing volunteers on page three.

In this issue...

Celebrating our diverse workforce  Page 4 & 5
Developing our cancer services  Page 7
Meet our apprentices  Pages 12
Reaching out to patients  Page 14

Taking pride in caring
Welcome
It is now six months since I started at Derby, and the time has flown by. I’ve met so many inspiring people – both patients and colleagues – and I’m starting to learn just how special Derby Teaching Hospitals is as a Trust.

I’ve spent a lot of the time since I arrived establishing myself, getting to know everyone and learning the ropes. I feel like I’ve settled in now, and like I can get my teeth into some of the projects which can carry our Trust into the future. I’ve been concentrating on clarifying our long-term strategy and the necessary steps to achieve our ambitions over the next five years. We are developing a series of aims based on our PRIDE framework, which lay out our vision for how to develop the Trust over the coming years.

I’ve also been building on our external partnerships. We are working with partner organisations in Derbyshire to develop a plan to improve the health of communities and deliver better care in a more efficient way. We have also been concentrating on our growing relationship with our neighbours in Burton, to develop acute hospital services which deliver high quality care for the people of Southern Derbyshire and East Staffordshire.

Getting to know his patch
From the moment he arrived in Derby, our new Chief Executive has thrown himself into life in the Trust. His ambition when he started was to make sure that each of our 8,500 staff had seen his face – and he seems to have achieved that.

Through trips to London Road Community Hospital and visits to our wards and departments at the Royal Derby Hospital, he has been given a flavour of what life is like across our hospitals.

To mark the anniversary of the death of BBC Radio Derby presenter Colin Bloomfield, he attended a Staff Skin Cancer Education Event run with the charity Skin, which offered a chance for our staff to speak to our dermatology experts about any concerning moles.

As a self-confessed ‘cycling nut’ he has spent time championing a life on two wheels, supporting Cycle 2 Work week and Derby Hospitals Charity Pedal in the Peaks event.

Gavin says he has experienced a warm welcome from our friendly stuff, and after six months he is now fully embedded in the life of the Trust.

He said: “I knew Derby was special before I stepped foot in the Trust, and that has been confirmed time and time again since I arrived. All of our staff, patients, families and visitors come together to create a truly wonderful Trust, and I am proud to be at its helm.”

Celebrating our army of volunteers
We have a true army of volunteers ready to spring into action at any time to help our hospitals run smoothly in a variety of ways.

Between our Trust volunteers, our Leagues of Friends groups, Macmillan volunteers and Sight Support, there are around 800 people of all ages who give their time freely to support the services we provide for patients.

Each one has a story to tell about why they got involved and the incredible work they have done since arriving here.

Roger Blount, 75, is one of the buggy drivers at the Royal Derby Hospital. In the six years since he started volunteering he has delivered newspapers, helped in the Medical Assessment Unit, and now works on the haemorrhage desk, as well as buggy driving. He said: “I have a philosophy in life that if I get up and put my feet on the floor in a morning, it’s a good day. Every time I see someone struggling, I think ‘there but for the grace of God goes me’. I know I’m lucky, so I want to help people who need a bit of help. I’m so grateful that I’m fit and healthy at 75 that I want to give something back.”

Chief Executive Gavin Boyle said: “We’re so fortunate to be so well supported by our volunteers of every type. It’s fantastic to see our community giving so much to support the work we do.”

60 years and still going strong for our Leagues of Friends
It’s a diamond year for three of our Leagues of Friends groups, as they mark 60 years of support for our hospitals.

The groups which support the Royal Derby Hospital, London Road Community Hospital and Derbyshire Children’s Hospital all mark the milestone this year.

They celebrated with a party at the Hallmark Midland Hotel in Derby, where they reflected on some of their achievements over the past six decades – including raising millions of pounds to support services within the hospitals.

The Friends groups run tea bars and shops across all three of our hospitals, in much the same way they have since the 1950s. All profits go to purchase equipment for each of the hospitals.

Geoff Salt, Chairman of the Children’s League of Friends, said: “We’ve been involved in many different projects, from the sublime to the ridiculous. We provided Maltesers for one of the physiotherapists who had trouble with little ones trying to swallow the marble she had been using, and tubes of bubbles for children who have breathing difficulties.

We’ve also bought equipment for various departments, including a piece of equipment for audiology which was the first of its kind.”

There are more than 300 active volunteers working with the Leagues of Friends.

John Archer, Chairman of the Royal Derby Hospital League of Friends, said: “It’s demanding, but rewarding. I’m proud to have a team who work so hard to achieve results so we can buy equipment for our wonderful hospital.”

The Friends of the Baby Unit, which supports our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, has also passed a milestone this year, celebrating 40 years of fundraising.

The group was set up by Kate Repton in 1976, following the sad death of her premature baby girl, who lived for just a few hours.

Kate and her supporters have raised more than £1.5 million for the unit.

Senior Sister Angela Merry said: “This charity really is phenomenal. We’re incredibly grateful for all that they do.”

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Celebrating the diversity of our workforce

Derby Teaching Hospitals is extremely proud to have such a culturally diverse workforce, with staff from all over the world working together for our patients.

Among our 8,236 colleagues, we have staff from Australia, Russia, Angola and Guyana, and 61 other countries, who work in a huge number of roles, including nurses, doctors, hostesses, administration staff, cleaners, porters and many more.

In total, we have 200 staff from EU countries outside the UK, and 500 from the wider world, who all come together to make one workforce.

Chief Executive Gavin Boyle said: “The importance of our multi-faceted and diverse workforce is something we both recognize and value. We appreciate the contribution that everyone makes to our services for patients, wherever they come from. What matters is how we come together as one workforce, bringing with us our particular skills and abilities, for the benefit of the communities we care for.”

Searching the world for colleagues

As a Trust we have always been proactive in growing our workforce by seeking staff from all over the world. We have recently recruited five nurses from Spain and another nurse originally from Portugal, and we are working with a number of further nurses in Europe and also from the Philippines to support them to move to Derby over the coming months.

How does it work?

There is an issue with a shortage of trained nurses nationally, and Derby is feeling the effects of this as much as anywhere else. That is why we’re being so proactive in looking for the best staff in other parts of the world.

But it is much more complex to recruit staff from overseas. After finding potential candidates, we interview them over Skype. Some nurses are able to visit the Trust as part of the application process.

Suitable candidates from further afield are subject to rigorous employment checks, which allow them to come and work in the UK.

All our staff from overseas are supported personally and professionally as they begin their careers in Derby. We have developed a programme to help them settle in over their first few months, focusing on their individual needs and clinical skills.

Professional Development Advisor Sue Allen said: “It’s great that our overseas colleagues are able to bring their skills and expertise into our hospitals, so they can share their experiences as existing staff share theirs. It’s good for all our staff and our patients.”

Christelle Ogouliguende, Nurse in Day Case theatres

“Bonjour, je m’appelle Christelle! I moved to England from France to study nursing and learn English. I did a placement in Derby and I loved it. I fell in love with the city. I love my job, especially first thing in the morning when there is a real buzz of anticipation in the corridors.

“The staff and patients are very open-minded and accepting. The UK may have just voted to leave the EU, but people are still so welcoming to people who have come from the EU. The staff have been incredibly supportive. We all enjoy sharing our cultural differences, it seems to bring a new twist to the theatres and it’s a source of constant amusement to share certain words and gestures from our languages.

I enjoy working here a lot. I like the ward and I like the support which is provided for staff. I’ve not looked back since I started here. I feel welcome. I think my previous nursing experience has really benefited my work here as my different approach to nursing adds a fresh and positive influence within the team.

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Queilidenia Araujo, Staff Nurse in the Medical Day Case Unit

“I come from Cape Verde, but completed my nurse training in Portugal. I worked in a private clinic in Cape Verde before moving to Portugal. When the opportunity came to work in the UK, I thought it would be good for my son, and good for me.

I enjoy working here a lot. I like the ward and I like the support which is provided for staff. I’ve not looked back since I started here. I feel welcome. I think my previous nursing experience has really benefited my work here as my different approach to nursing adds a fresh and positive influence within the team. I was used to treating a wide variety of patients in Cape Verde, and I think this has also helped. My colleagues say it is great to see my different way of doing things, as it brings an opportunity for us to share our knowledge and learn.”

Joey Lim, Senior Charge Nurse on Ward 5, at London Road Community Hospital

“I moved to the UK from the Philippines in 2002. My wife Arlene had been working here since 2000. I was a nurse in the Philippines, and got a job as a care assistant at a nursing home in Derby. I managed to get on a nursing adaptation programme with the Trust, and began working on the same ward as my wife. I worked my way up from being a staff nurse, and I am now a Senior Charge Nurse.

“I find it inspiring working in Derby, because I’m able to talk to lots of different people and help them. Coming from somewhere else means I can share different viewpoints. It’s an opportunity to share the nursing culture. You can teach other people and learn from them. It gives me great satisfaction – it’s why we do what we do.”

Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

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Working together for all
Supporting our patients in their communities

Improving care in the face of rising demand and limited resources is a challenge faced by the whole NHS and in Derbyshire we’re no exception. An ageing population, an increasing number of people with long-term conditions and fewer resources are leading to increased pressure not only on our hospitals, but on services in the community.

But we are taking a proactive stance to meet these challenges as we work with our partners to create a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

At its heart this plan aims to help people to remain well and stay out of hospital if they can. We know it is better for our patients if they can be at home – and even better if they can take steps to prevent becoming unwell in the first place.

By working with our health and social care partners across the county, we will be able to help people stay fit and well and ensure that if they do need to access care, they can do so close to home. We can also make sure that if patients do have to come into hospital, they are provided with the best clinical care.

We want to help people living with long-term conditions to become more independent and take more responsibility for their care, making sure that if they do need medical care, they can access it in the right setting at the right time.

We plan to do this by looking at four priorities:

Place-based care: Working to involve all health and social care organisations to create ‘joined up’ health and care services which meet the needs of our communities.

Prevention: Providing support and information to help people to avoid becoming unwell.

Urgent Care: Managing demand for urgent care and ensuring services are available to meet the urgent care needs of the community.

Systems management: Working behind the scenes to make sure that the system is effective, efficient and supports working in this ‘joined up’ way.

We are currently working on a draft of the five-year STP, and work is continuing to make sure we get it right. There is a lot of work ahead to make sure we can meet the challenges over the coming years, but we think that by developing this plan with our partners, we will be able to meet these challenges head on.

Hundreds of patients who use the services said they thought the care was ‘very good’ when they were asked as part of the National Cancer Patient Experience Survey. The survey also found that more than 90% of the patients who responded said they were always treated with dignity and respect, 95% said they knew who to contact if they were worried, and almost 90% of patients said they had been given the name of a Clinical Nurse Specialist who would support them through their treatment, and felt it had been easy to contact them. These figures compare favourably both locally and nationally.

Cathy Wirkfeld, the Trust’s Chief Nurse and Director of Patient Experience, said: “I’m delighted to see so many of our cancer patients telling us they are pleased with the high standards of care they have received from us. We know there are always areas for improvement and we will look carefully at these results to see how we can further improve the care we offer.”

But we know we can always improve, and that is why we have put our five-year cancer strategy, to guide and develop our services from now until 2021.

Crossing counties to build better healthcare

We have a long history of collaborating with our partners across the county border in Burton.

Working with Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust we support staff to provide clinics for patients in a number of specialities. We also provide specialist and complex services in Derby for patients from the Burton area.

We are now looking to strengthen this partnership, and we are working with Burton to improve the quality and choice of healthcare available to patients across southern Derbyshire and East Staffordshire.

We are working together to share expertise, best practice and resources. Clinical leaders across all specialties and across both Trusts have held a number of workshops to consider how we can better work together to ensure we provide the right services for our communities now and into the future. Our shared vision is to deliver outstanding care for all.

At this stage, we don’t know what the future will bring, but what we do know is that any decisions made involving our Trust and Burton will be made for the right reasons – to make sure we continue to provide the best care for local people.

Meet the needs of our patients

By 2020, it is predicted that cancer will affect half the population of the UK, so it is more important than ever to make sure we have the right services in place to support this growing number of patients.

This summer we launched our new Cancer Strategy, which focuses on improving services for patients now and in the future.

It will help us provide the best possible service to meet the changing needs of our patients and carers by delivering patient-centred care which is safe, effective and responsive.

We are doing this by encouraging better prevention, swifter diagnosis and better treatment and support for patients living with and beyond cancer.

Some of our plans have already been completed. We have reconfigured our wards to make hospital stays better for patients, and introduced a number of new schemes, including telephone consultations, to ensure that our cancer patients have a better experience.

We are working with our partners in Burton to help staff there to develop local cancer services supported by our Oncologists, which will create a better experience for patients living in East Staffordshire.

We have also improved our End of Life services, by developing 24/7 access to a specialist palliative care advice service, and opening 11 enhanced care home beds for patients who are at the end of their lives. Much of this has been achieved with the ongoing help of Macmillan Cancer Support and our cancer pledges

• Improve our approach to prevention – provide information where possible about healthy lifestyles.
• Diagnose cancer earlier – we want most of our patients to have a definitive diagnosis within four weeks of being referred from their GP.
• Make sure our patients’ experience of care is seen to be as important as their safety and the results – support our patients to be empowered to make decisions by providing them with all the information they need.
• Provide better support for patients living with and beyond cancer – every patient should have a tailored recovery package and follow-up care which responds to their physical, psychological, social, emotional and financial needs.
• Work with partners to enhance care in the community – we will continue to work closely with Macmillan Cancer Support, our commissioners and community partners to enhance our services as close to our patients’ homes as possible.

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Our award-winning Macmillan Information Centre provides free information, financial, emotional and practical support for families affected by cancer. In the past year, it has helped thousands of people through their cancer journey.

The centre, on the ground floor of the Royal Derby Hospital, is a free drop-in service. It is usually open from 8.30am until 4.30pm Monday to Thursday, and 11.15am and 1.30pm on Fridays. Times can vary, however, so please call ahead on 01332 786008, before you make a special journey.

Lisa Freeman, who manages the service, said: “Cancer is the toughest fight most of us will ever face, and nobody should go through it alone. We are here to provide the right kind of information and support, at the right time, through a confidential drop-in service provided for patients at all stages of their cancer journey.”

Did you know?

Last year we saw 5,700 cancer patients
We delivered 9,500 chemotherapy treatments
Delivered 28,500 radiotherapy sessions
We are one of only 50 sites in England which provides radiotherapy services
We have four inpatient wards for cancer patients

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Taking pride in caring
Spotlight on our... Cardiac Catheter Suite

Our Cardiac Catheter Suite at the Royal Derby Hospital sees more than 3,000 patients a year, all of whom need tests, treatment, or care for their heart. Like many parts of our hospital, it is a place where life-saving procedures are performed each and every day. Mr Blount was one of 400 patients each year who undergo Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) for a major heart attack in our Cardiac Catheter Suite.

A heart attack happens when one of the coronary arteries becomes blocked with a blood clot, and this non-surgical procedure is performed by using a thin tube, a catheter, and a balloon to insert a stent to open up a blocked artery and restore blood flow. By doing this promptly, the consultants are able to limit the chance of damage to the heart. That is why there is a team constantly on call, who are available whatever time of day a patient becomes unwell, typically, the team is able to unlock the artery within 40 minutes of the patient arriving at the hospital. Dr Kamal Chitkara, who carried out the procedure for Mr Blount, said: “This was a serious heart attack. We usually see less than 10 people with this type of heart attack each year - 70% of those do not survive. We performed the procedure within 47 minutes of Mr Blount arriving in A&E, and that meant we were able to save his life.”

Mr Blount was one of 400 patients each year who undergo Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) for a major heart attack in our Cardiac Catheter Suite. It is a place where life-saving procedures are performed each and every day.

Mr Blount had no indication that he was unwell. He was rushed to the Royal Derby Hospital, he is still here to tell the tale. He said he had disappeared up in pain, the ambulance, arriving in hospital and then nothing else until I woke up. The doctor said it had been touch and go whether I was going to make it. It was a massive shock for me, as I’d had no warning signs. It’s still in my mind that I’ve nearly been to meet my maker. I’m so grateful to the consultants, the paramedics, the nurses – everyone. I can’t think them enough for what they did.”

For Geoffrey Blount, the consultants in the Cardiac Catheter Suite are life-savers. When he suffered a serious heart attack at home in Ilkeston, he could have died, but thanks to the quick work of paramedics and staff at the Royal Derby Hospital, he is still here to tell the tale. He said he cannot thank the staff here enough.

As he told the story, Mr Blount had not had an indication that he was unwell. But when he collapsed on the stairs with crippling chest pain, it was clear that something was wrong. Dr Kamal Chitkara, who carried out the procedure for Mr Blount, said: “This was a serious heart attack. We usually see less than 10 people with this type of heart attack each year - 70% of those do not survive. We performed the procedure within 47 minutes of Mr Blount arriving in A&E, and that meant we were able to save his life.”

We have increased the number of MRI scanners in our Trust to cater for the rising number of patients who require this kind of scan.

A new MRI Suite has opened at the Royal Derby Hospital containing two new machines. The addition of these scanners boosts us on-site capacity considerably, taking the number of scanners running across both our hospitals from three to five.

The two new scanners were delivered in a large-scale operation, in which they were craned in through a door in the roof of the suite. They are a different kind of scanner to those already in use in our hospital, and will allow us to cater for a wider range of patients.

For Mr Blount, said: “I remember being doubled up in pain, the ambulance, arriving in hospital and then nothing else until I woke up. The doctor said it had been touch and go whether I was going to make it. It was a massive shock for me, as I’d had no warning signs. It’s still in my mind that I’ve nearly been to meet my maker. I’m so grateful to the consultants, the paramedics, the nurses – everyone. I can’t think them enough for what they did.”

New radiotherapy machines provide a better service for our patients

A programme to replace our radiotherapy machines has now begun.

Three machines are to be replaced over the next 18 months as part of our Equipment replacement programme. The first is now up and running.

The new machines provide rapid treatment, which can deliver radiotherapy at specific angles. It can reduce the amount of time patients spend in the machines, and possibly reduce side-effects for patients receiving the treatment.

It increases our capacity to perform intensive radiotherapy, a type of treatment in which the intensity of radiation can be altered throughout the session.

We see around 110 patients a day in our Radiotherapy department at the Royal Derby Hospital, including patients from Burton.

New radiotherapy machines provide a better service for our patients

Improving services for everyone

Boosting our capacity in MRI

We are making big changes to the way we care for patients undergoing breast surgery, by relocating theatres to improve the service we provide.

We have made a significant investment in our Gynaecology Day Case and Theatres to allow us to perform breast surgery in a dedicated theatre space, and care for patients before and after they have cancer surgery or breast reconstruction.

The change has created a hub where surgery can be carried out for cancers which affect mainly women. It means that patients who previously had to visit a number of departments on the day of their surgery will now have a more streamlined experience.

Patients will either report to the Gynaecology Day Case department, or to the nearby Breast Unit, and then receive their treatment in the Gynaecology Day Case Unit.

The multi-disciplinary team is based on our neuro-rehabilitation ward at London Road Community Hospital, but can be alerted to new referrals through the electronic whiteboard. This means that they will be able to receive a direct message informing them that a patient is in need of support, and they are able to respond accordingly.

Creating a better experience for our patients

If you have spent any time on our wards recently, you may have noticed the big screens in our wards and patient rooms.

Harnessing the power of technology in our wards

We use these to help our staff across all disciplines to communicate effectively everything related to the treatment of each patient.

They are used to display the expected date of discharge, any important information about the condition of a patient, and the referrals which have been made to different departments.

One example is the neuro rehabilitation in-reach team, which has recently been established to provide specialist advice and assessments for patients on our wards who have neurological conditions.

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Patients will either report to the Gynaecology Day Case department, or to the nearby Breast Unit, and then receive their treatment in the Gynaecology Day Case Unit.

Miss Carol Ann Courtney, Assistant Clinical Director for Breast Surgery, said: “This change will make a big difference to our patients, who are often understandably anxious when they come in for their surgery. It creates a smoother and simpler journey for our patients, which may make the process a little easier.”

Around 1,000 patients went through breast surgery last year.
**News Round Up**

**Hospitals in top 10 ‘most improved’**

A survey by the Care Quality Commission showed that our Trust was the fifth most improved in the country.

The 2015 National Inpatient Survey questioned patients about 16 different areas. Our patients have rated us amongst the top 10 in the country.

A survey by the Care Quality Commission showed that our Trust was the fifth most improved in the country.

**Improving care for patients with mental health issues**

Earlier this summer, a coroner criticised the Trust for failing to ensure the safety of a patient who was brought to the Royal Derby Hospital after an overdose.

An inquest at Derby Coroner’s Court heard how in September 2014, Nicky Hill left the Medical Assessment Unit after asking a nurse if he could go outside for a smoke. The plan was to be driven into a car, but the car was not available.

In the longer term, we hope to be able to build a multi-storey car park for patients and visitors, but these proposals are still at a very early stage and any development of this sort is several years away.

We want to thank you for your continued patience; we know how frustrating these parking issues are and we want to assure everyone who uses the Royal Derby Hospital that we are doing everything we can to help resolve these issues.

**Sculpture is a lasting tribute**

A new sculpture created in memory of four former colleagues has been unveiled at the Royal Derby Hospital.

The Butterfly sculpture was designed and made in memory of Ann Johnson, Rachel Gibbon, Andrea Allcock and Joan Hunt, all of whom sadly passed away between 2004 and 2014. They worked on the Intensive Care Unit for many years.

**Friends and Family feedback**

There are lots of ways for you to tell us about the care we provide across our services. We always welcome feedback as it helps us to understand how we can keep on improving your hospital experience.

Here are a selection of some recent comments from patients and their families:

**Dear Senior Coroner, Dr Robert Hunter:**

I just wanted to say how thrilled and grateful I am for what happened.

I was very touched by your letter and the way you handled the case. 

The care I received was exemplary and I feel very lucky to have met such a kind and caring person.

Thank you for your compassion.

I am writing to express my thanks to all the doctors, nurses, nursing staff and all theatre staff for their care and attention during my stay.

I would recommend hospital

I was recently admitted to the Royal Derby Hospital for a total hip replacement, and would like to express my sincere gratitude for the treatment and care I received during my brief stay. My consultant, his assistant, all the nursing staff and theatre technicians were very kind, caring, and compassionate. They did everything they could to make sure I was comfortable and helped me through the low points when I was experiencing a lot of pain. They all worked together to make sure my stay was as positive and relaxing as possible.

The enhanced recovery programme is particularly beneficial. I would certainly recommend my friends to choose the RDH.

Staff were cheerful and caring.

I am writing to express my thanks for the care I received in hospital.

I stayed wholly on Ward 403 moving to Ward 203 after my operation. Despite being time-pressed attending to the needs of patients, the nurses and care assistants were always cheerful and made my stay as pleasant as possible.

Thank you for your fantastic care and compassion.

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Please help us to help you by -

- Completing the Friends and Family postcard on wards, in maternity, A&E and in some outpatient clinics.
- Tweeting @DerbyHospitals
- Completing a feedback form on our website at www.derbyhospitals.nhs.uk

Thank you for your time.

Royal Derby Hospital

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Taking pride in caring
Celebrating our workforce of the future

Growing our workforce for the future is one of the most important things we can do to support our patients over the coming years, and our apprentices are helping us to do that.

We have 29 apprentices working in the Trust at the moment, in roles ranging from Health Care Assistants and administration assistants to Pathology workers and Theatre staff. A further 16 apprentices will be starting at the Trust in September.

In the future we are planning to expand the scheme by introducing apprentices into our Emergency Department and increasing the number of apprentices working in Pathology.

Apprenticeships are a great way for us to nurture young people who are keen to begin a career in the NHS, as it offers an opportunity for them to get a foot on the ladder.

Nessa Meymott, Vocational Training Co-ordinator, said: “By developing apprenticeships, we will remove the ‘glass ceiling’ for healthcare workers who want to develop their career. It gives us the chance to engage with young people and to grow our own workforce for the future. By supporting apprentices we are making sure that we have the right staff, with the right skills in the right place. It is an investment in our future.”

Getting to know our apprentices

Our apprentices are a vital part of our workforce and we value the diverse roles they fill in our Trust. Here, we meet some of our apprentices working in our hospitals.

Beth Thacker
Apprentice Health Care Assistant in Gynaecology Theatres

“I’m completing a level 2 diploma at the moment. I chose an apprenticeship because it allows you to get knowledge from working in the area, but also to get a qualification at the end of your first year, which helps if you want to go to university in the near future. I absolutely love my job. Every day is different, the staff are lovely and the patients are lovely as well. My role includes preparing and setting up for surgeries and making sure the scrub rooms have everything they need. I also work on reception, checking patients in and making sure they are ready for surgery. Doing an apprenticeship has opened my eyes to what I want to do in the future. I now know I would love to become an Assistant Practitioner in Theatres.”

George Ramplin
Clinical Support Apprentice in Pathology

“I initially worked in Trauma and Orthopaedics on a temporary contract, but I spotted the opening for an apprenticeship and went for it. I enjoyed the work, and this is a good way to learn and get a qualification while I’m doing it. My main duties are folding mail and taking it to the post room, collecting patient notes from Health Records and taking details of admissions to the wards. The apprenticeship has benefitted me a lot because I have gained experience of being in a working environment within the NHS. I think it will make it easier for me to get a job in the future. It has given me experience of working life and the opportunity to learn in a practical way.”

Hannah Connolly
Apprentice in Medical Administration in Trauma and Orthopaedics

“Apprenticeships are a great way for us to nurture young people who are keen to begin a career in the NHS, as it offers an opportunity for them to get a foot on the ladder.”

Celebrating our staff who go the extra mile

Our staff go the extra mile every day to make sure our patients and visitors have a positive experience when they visit our hospitals. From porters and reception staff to consultants and therapists, we’re proud of all our staff who work so hard to provide the best care possible. Congratulations to all staff who received one of our Pride of Derby awards, and all those recognised with nominations — we received 1,122 nominations in total!

Best Inspirational leader
Dr Harry Pick
Registrar in Respiratory Medicine, for displaying exceptional leadership on a night shift when several staff members called in sick.

Best Inspirational leader
Dr Kathleen Holding
Lead Clinical Trials Nurse in Research and Development, for her proactive attitude and approach to encouraging and motivating other staff.

Best Team
The Histopathology Team, for showing exceptional teamwork in performing a life-saving process on a colleague who suffered a cardiac arrest.

Best Team
The Clinical Support Team at London Road Community Hospital, for helping an elderly man when he arrived at the hospital in pain and in distress.

Best Team
The Research Team at the University of Nottingham, for their tireless work on a project that could potentially save lives.

Best Team
The Pharmacy Team at the Royal Derby Hospital, for going the extra mile and delivering excellent care or service by visiting patients in hospitals.

You can nominate one of our staff or a team for going the extra mile and delivering excellent care or service by visiting www.derbyhospitals.nhs.uk/about/awards/pride-of-derby/

Celebrating our staff

www.derbyhospitals.nhs.uk facebook.com/DerbyHospitals twitter:@DerbyHospitals
Meet our Governors

Rob Bradley, a staff nurse on Sunflower Ward in the Children’s Hospital, was elected as a Governor in the recent elections. “I was based at Derby when I was a student with Nottingham University, and came back to work here as a staff nurse in 2009. I was keen to become a Staff Governor for a number of reasons. I think the role provides a link between the staff of the Trust and the members of the Trust Board. I think this will help to ensure we provide the best care for patients and their families. I’m one of the Trust’s Care Makers, and I’m passionate about the values listed in the care, compassion, competence, communication, courage and commitment. I feel that being a Governor is a good way to speak on behalf of the patients.”

For me, the role is about embracing positivity and change. By gaining a better level of knowledge about the Trust, I can support staff to engage with new ideas, and guide developments myself as part of the Council of Governors. I think that by having clinical staff on the Council of Governors it helps non-clinical members to gain an insight into life on the ‘shop floor’.

Welcome to our new Governors

Derby City
- Shirley O’Sullivan (re-elected)
- Bob MacDonald
- Eric Boston

Staff
- Rob Bradley
- Alison Booth (re-elected)
- Andy March

Other changes are Andrew Loades, who as the next highest polling candidate takes up the seat in Amber Valley following a recent resignation and Councillor Jangir Khan who is the new Appointed Governor representing Derby City Council.

Justine Fitzjohn, Trust Secretary, says: “The role of a Governor is instrumental in supporting the Trust to put the needs and expectations of our members and the public at the forefront of our decision making processes. I’d like to warmly welcome our new and returning Governors and also say thank you to our retiring Governors who have given up their time supporting the hospitals.”

Meetings

Join us at our Annual Members Meeting – Tuesday, 27 September

Foundation Trust members, both public and staff, are invited to our Annual Members Meeting, which will take place at: The Roundhouse, at Pride Park, Derby, on Tuesday, 27 September.

The event is a chance to hear about our achievements over the past 12 months, and learn about some of the challenges we face. It is also an opportunity for staff to gain an insight into life on the ‘shop floor’.

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