An update on
Trust news
Year of recognition for Trust Macmillan support service
Governors’ Surgery Success
Get in shape with our Reshape programme
Volunteers and Charity year in review

The magazine for Members of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Welcome to our latest edition of Your Choice, our dedicated newsletter for Members of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

It has been a busy year so far for the Membership Team and there have been some exciting developments.

As the clocks go forward and the days get longer, many of us are renewed with a new found burst of energy as the long, cold winter days are firmly behind us! There has never been a better time to make some small steps to a healthier lifestyle in the run up to the summer months and you will find a wealth of inspiring ideas on page 9.

Spring also heralds another busy period for our team as the Governor Elections get underway; Members in eligible constituencies will shortly be receiving their voting packs. Look out for yours if you live in Rotherham North, Wentworth Valley and Rother Valley South constituencies.

As part of our Membership communications plan, we have recently installed a new Membership database, making it even easier and quicker for us to stay in touch with our Members.

The Rotherham Hospital Charity continues to work hard to enhance patient care and experience here at the Trust. For an update on our work and how we're continuing to help patients young and old, please see pages 10 and 11.

We hope that you enjoy this issue of Your Choice and would love to hear from you if you have any feedback or would like to suggest ideas for future articles. We’d also be grateful if you would spare a moment to complete our short questionnaire, this will help us to get a better understanding of our members. Everyone completing a questionnaire will be entered into a prize draw, for more information, see page 5.

We wish you an enjoyable spring and summer.

The Foundation Trust Office.

Get connected online to receive the latest news about The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust!

For timeliness of information and in a bid to reduce our carbon footprint, electronic communications are still our preferred method of contact for members, so you will notice an increase in email newsletters.

If you’d like to keep up to date with Trust news, be sure to provide us with your email address if you haven’t already done so by calling 01709 427800 or emailing foundation.trust@rothgen.nhs.uk.

Don’t forget to check out our Trust Twitter and Facebook accounts for Member related news and events. If you have a Twitter or Facebook account then please follow us at @RotherhamNHS_FT and like us at www.facebook.com/TheRotherhamNHSFoundationTrust to receive all the latest photos, news and events.
An update on Trust news

Following a number of engagement sessions in 2013, the Trust Board considered the strategic options plan and agreed a way forward. The decision was taken at the end of December for the Trust to pursue Option 1 to continue to operate as a standalone entity, whilst clearly recognising that we have to become more efficient in the current environment. This will require us to continue to deliver significant quality and cost improvements each year.

The Board discounted Option 2; a form of service integration with other services, such as Social Services and GPs. In terms of Option 3, although we have not ruled out a merger with another acute healthcare provider in the long term, this will not be pursued currently. However, recognising the challenges we face in the NHS, in addition, we will be working with our commissioners to develop effective collaboration arrangements with other providers as appropriate.

Feedback from a range of stakeholders including Trust staff, our Governors and NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group representatives were all taken into account in discussions and the Board would like to say thank you for their continued support and commitment. The financial challenges we face are significant, but with continued commitment, ambition and focus on quality, the Board will strive to deliver our plan for the benefit of our patients.

Chris Edwards, Chief Officer of NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group, said: “We are pleased that the Trust has made the decision to continue in its current form. Our key priority is to continue to provide high quality, safe, hospital and community services as close to Rotherham patients as possible. We will work closely with the Trust, and other local partners, to continue to improve the quality of services whilst delivering the necessary efficiency savings.”

The Board of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust is delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Louise Barnett as substantive Chief Executive of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

Martin Havenhand, Chairman at the Trust, said: “Louise has been appointed following a rigorous recruitment process which resulted in a strong field of candidates from which the Appointments Panel was able to make its choice. Throughout the process, the Trust Board has been clear that it was looking for a compelling and inspirational leader that would bring clarity of vision and purpose to lead the organisation at this critical time. The Appointments Panel strongly believes that Louise brings the experience and skills that the Trust needs.”

Louise Barnett said: “I am thrilled to have been appointed as the substantive Chief Executive of the Trust. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to continue working with dedicated Trust staff, Governors, health and social care partners and the local community to ensure our patients receive the high quality health care they deserve.”

Louise has been the Trust’s Interim Chief Executive since November 2013 on secondment from Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, where she has worked for several years, recently as Interim Chief Executive.

The Trust has appointed a new Chairman, Martin Havenhand, who joined us on 1st February. Martin has broad Executive and Non-Executive experience from both the public and private sector and he has previously successfully served in Chair and Governor roles.

Louise Barnett, Chief Executive at TRFT, said: “Martin brings a wealth of experience and a great knowledge of the South Yorkshire community to the Trust and this will be invaluable to us as we continue to develop and enhance health care services for the future.”

Martin was appointed following a robust recruitment programme led by the Trust’s Governors. Lead Governor, Jean Dearden, added: “Martin’s previous experience and leadership within similar roles and the passion he shows for local services and Rotherham residents will be instrumental in supporting the Trust in the continued provision of high quality services.”

Reflecting on his appointment, Martin commented: “I am looking forward to working with the Governors, fellow board members and the Trust’s dedicated staff to continue to provide the very best healthcare to the people of Rotherham.

“I know Rotherham well from a previous role as Chief Executive of Yorkshire Forward and Chairman of the Performance Review Board for European Funding, which has contributed to regeneration projects throughout Rotherham over the years.”

Trust welcomes new Non-Executive Directors

The Trust has welcomed three new Non-Executive Directors to its Board of Directors. Following a competitive selection and interview process, Lynn Hagge, Barry Mellor and Joe Barnes were appointed as the Trust’s new Non-Executive Directors in September 2013.

Barry has had a rewarding career in both the private and public sector helping large complex organisations through transformational changes. He is professionally qualified in marketing, IT, change management and procurement and logistics.

Lynn has been involved in the NHS for over 25 years. She was Chair of Sheffield Children’s NHS Foundation Trust for nine years and more recently served as a Non-Executive Director at Leeds Teaching NHS Trust.

Joe spent almost nine years as a Non-Executive Director at Doncaster and Bassetlaw NHS Foundation Trust. Joe spent most of his career with British Coal and the Coal Pension Funds; he is a qualified accountant and provides consultancy services to businesses and pension funds.

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The day was an opportunity for the Governors to meet their constituents, members of the public and of course the staff. Visitors were invited to find out about what the Governors do for the Trust and how they represent the views of their constituents at Board level.

The Governors sought views from people attending the hospital about their visit and answered questions from members of the public and staff who came to visit them in the Community Corner area of the hospital.

Public Governor for the Rother Valley South constituency, Bridget Dixon, said: “As a Public Governor, I want to get feedback on how the Trust is doing in the eyes of its customers and get these comments back to the management and front-line staff. The Governors’ Surgery was a first in the history of the Trust and we are feeling our way. Governors in some other Trusts organise their own surgeries, but we haven’t found a way to do this until now.”

Public Governor for the Wentworth North area of Rotherham, Cynthia Shaw, agrees: “I do feel the Surgery was a great way of opening up previously unexplored avenues in seeking the opinion of the public. It was a fantastic opportunity for anybody visiting the hospital, a patient, a relative, or a visitor just passing through that day to be allowed to have their say about what their visit to the Trust has done for them, in a relaxed and informal setting.”

Bridget said: “In the course of my surgery time I spoke to people who were mostly visiting or collecting relatives but many also had experience as patients. Everyone was really helpful and willing to give their views.”

The day was a productive start for the Governors and in keeping with their role to represent the views of their constituents and members of the public at board level, the feedback received was highlighted to the Trust’s Executive Team and senior staff.

Chief Nurse, Tracey Mc-Erlain Burns, said: “The Governor’s Surgeries will provide another useful tool to allow us to ‘temperature check’ opinion of Trust services. It will help us to support positive change or highlight praise for teams or departments.”

“Thanks to feedback collected at the Governors’ Surgery, we will now be monitoring noise levels on inpatient wards during the night using our regular night-time ward visits which we implemented in July last year.

“Comments were also received about the positive attitude of the staff at the Hospital’s Gynaecology ward, highlighting the hard work and dedication shown by the staff working there. This was reflected on a recent routine patient safety visit, which showed the ward to be a well-managed clinical area.”

Following the success of its first Governors’ Surgery, the Trust will now be holding regular Surgeries where Governors will be showcasing their work and providing opportunities for members of the Trust, public and staff to come and see them in person, please refer to the events calendar on page 13.
Did you know our Council of Governors meetings are open to the public? Why don’t you come and share your views at one of our meetings this year?

- Wednesday 16 April 2014
- Wednesday 16 July 2014
- Wednesday 15 October 2014

These public meetings will commence at 5pm and are usually held in the PGME Lecture Theatre, D Level, Rotherham Hospital, all details are listed at www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk

To allow us to accommodate members of the public, please book a place to attend by contacting Corporate Governance Manager, Dawn Stewart on 01709 427022 or by emailing dawn.stewart@rothgen.nhs.uk

You can make a difference…
make your voice heard!

Nominations have now been made for this year’s Council of Governor Elections and soon voting will open for Members like you to decide who will become the next Governor to represent your constituency.

Only Members of the Trust get the privilege of voting in the new Governors and all members of the constituencies below will soon receive their voting card so make your voice heard and return your vote!

Council of Governor Elections 2014
If you belong to one of the public or staff constituencies below, watch out for your voting pack which you will be receiving in the near future.

- Rotherham North (Kepple, Rotherham West & Wingfield)
- Wentworth Valley (Hellaby, Maltby, Wickersley)
- Rother Valley South (Anston & Woodsetts, Dinnington & Wals)
- Support Staff to Health Professionals

You can make a difference.

We have included our annual survey with your 2014 edition of Your Choice as we are keen to find out what we could improve upon when communicating with our Members. This year everyone who returns a Membership Communications Survey will be entered into our free prize draw and be in with a chance of winning one of the following great prizes.

First prize is a one month free pass to the Carlton Park Hotel Spa on Moorgate Road, Rotherham.

The Carlton Park Spa is the gym for those ‘don’t do gyms’. Facilities include a Grecian-themed interior, starlit swimming pool, rejuvenating whirlpool, sauna and steam room.

The spa is also equipped with a gymnasium, brand new cardiovascular machines, multi-gym resistance station and flat screen televisions.

Carlton Park Spa are also pleased to offer our Trust Members and staff an exclusive discount. You can join today for only £25 per month with no joining fee*

For your chance to win, you must be a Member of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust and we must have received your paper or electronic copy of the survey by Friday 16th May 2014. *Valid NHS ID or a copy of this magazine to be produced on joining. Terms & Conditions apply. Must join on direct debit scheme for a minimum 6 months or pay up front for 3 months. Call 01709 849955 and quote ‘NHS Offer’ www.carltonparkhotel.com

For second prize, you can get your hands on a signed football from The Millers!

Rotherham United Football Club and the Trust’s Charity have been working in partnership over the 2013/14 football season to raise awareness of the Dr Ted’s Children’s Appeal and to raise funds to help benefit the children using the Children’s Wards throughout the year.

The third prize is a set of passes for a family trip (for up to 4 people) to one of three DC Leisure centres at Rotherham, Astoncum-Aughton or Maltby. Have a fun day out with the kids, with access to a great range of health and fitness activities, from swimming, to climbing, badminton and a variety of children’s activities.

For your chance to win, you must be a Member of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust and we must have received your paper or electronic copy of the survey by Friday 16th May 2014. *Valid NHS ID or a copy of this magazine to be produced on joining. Terms & Conditions apply. Must join on direct debit scheme for a minimum 6 months or pay up front for 3 months. Call 01709 849955 and quote ‘NHS Offer’ www.carltonparkhotel.com

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DC LEISURE

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In October 2013 a National survey showed that cancer patients at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust are receiving some of the best support and care in England. According to new analysis by Macmillan Cancer Support, based on research commissioned by NHS England, Rotherham came fourth in a league table measuring patient experience across England.

The league table compares the performance of hospitals across England based on measures of patients’ experiences while being treated in Hospital such as: whether their diagnosis and treatment options were explained clearly to them; whether they felt supported in their care; and whether they felt they were treated with respect.

Fay Scullion, General Manager for Macmillan Cancer Support in Northern England, said: “We congratulate The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust for achieving some of the best results in the recent patient experience survey. We know that the support and care people receive is as important as their actual treatment, and can make all the difference between coping with cancer and finding it a real struggle. For example, being told about financial help that is available, or being provided with high quality information about their cancer and its treatment.”

Since 2013 the Trust has been working collaboratively with Macmillan and local providers on a new project, which is building on the work currently being undertaken by the National Cancer Survivorship Initiative.

Sue Wake, Macmillan Project Manager, told us: “Some cancer patients and their carers tell us that they feel quite lost once their initial treatment has ended and find it hard at times to access health and social care services. This project will look at finding ways to provide co-ordinated after care for our patients and their families as they look to move on with their lives following initial cancer diagnosis and treatment.”

The project will run for a further 18 months. During this time patients and their carers will be invited to take part in a series of participation events that will help us to find better ways of meeting patient and carer needs much closer to home.

The MQEM is a detailed quality framework used for assessing whether cancer care environments meet the standards required by people living with cancer. To receive the award, cancer care environments have to score highly in areas such as use of space, comfort and atmosphere, personal and social interaction and health and well-being; all areas highlighted as really important by people living with cancer who helped develop the award.

Angela Eyre and Paula Lowson, joint Macmillan Information and Support Managers, said: “We are delighted to receive recognition for efforts made to ensure that our area meets the needs and standards of our clients. The aim of the MQEM is to ensure that the space is sensitive in design, with space to chat in confidence; whilst making a real difference in helping people cope with their diagnosis.”

In November 2013 the Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service was awarded the Macmillan Quality Environment Mark (MQEM). Run in partnership between The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust and Macmillan Cancer Support, the centre is based at Rotherham Hospital and provides free information, support and therapies for anyone affected by cancer.

Governor and Trust Volunteer supporting the service, Ann Ashton (left) with Macmillan Support Managers Angela Eyre and Paula Lowson
The Governors of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust are on the front line when it comes to spending time with patients and staff.

A group of senior staff and Governors regularly visit areas around the Trust in order to be further informed about patient experience, to make certain that staff’s opinions are acted upon and to ensure that high levels of care are consistently delivered.

The newly-named ‘Quality Assurance Walkabouts’ visits replace the former Senior Nurse Walkabouts and are a rolling programme of 10 area visits per month across hospital and community settings incorporating wards, day areas, departments and community clinics.

The walkabouts give the Trust’s Review Team the chance to observe how areas operate in order to flag opportunities to enhance services or to make processes more efficient. The visits also promote sharing best practice.

June Lovett, Assistant Chief Nurse at TRFT, said: “I’m really proud that we have revitalised the walkabout process. It helps us to bring fresh eyes to areas and allows us to share and celebrate best practice. The visits also mean that we can collect direct feedback from patients and let us see services from the perspective of staff so that we can get a first-hand view of the way our teams operate.

“We’re committed to delivering high quality, patient-centred care that provides a positive patient experience and we believe that the walkabouts will enable another opportunity to promote further assurance of the very high levels of care our staff give.”

Public Governor for Wentworth Valley, Graham Jenkinson has been involved in the new Quality Assurance Walkabouts: “As a Governor, I find it interesting to be able to communicate with patients whilst they are in a ward environment and share their views on the treatment and quality of care they are receiving.

As part of the refreshed walkabouts, a briefing and debriefing process has been established to ensure that actions are followed up as a result of the visits. In addition, feedback is provided in each area reviewed so that Trust services can engage directly with the review process and act quickly on any actions required.

The Trust has been awarded funding for care for pregnant women and new mums at Rotherham Hospital.

Rotherham’s maternity services are proud of the high praise received from its patients and the £191,110 of capital funding from the Department of Health’s Improving Maternity Care Settings Fund will further enhance the experience for patients.

Audra Muxlow, Head of Midwifery at the Trust, commented: “Maternity services here are already excellent; however, we constantly seek to become even better.

“We will use feedback from patients and their relatives to make the enhancements and are very excited and grateful to the DoH for this support.”

The funding will enable the Trust to ensure that even more specialised and built-for-purpose areas are available for planned Caesarean sections and focus on further enhancing privacy and dignity, in particular when it comes to the post-natal care and supporting breastfeeding, so that the Trust can continue to improve the experience for new mums and their families.

The enhancements to maternity care are expected to be in place before the end of 2014 and follows funding awarded to the Trust in 2012, which was used to transform Rotherham Hospital’s post-natal maternity areas. Work included relocation of the ward, enhanced accommodation for patients such as en-suite bathroom facilities and the development of a fully equipped infant feeding room, amongst other improvements.
Staff at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust and the Rotherham Titans rugby team helped mark National Obesity Awareness Week in January with a ‘scrumptious’ cycle challenge at Rotherham Hospital.

The Titans’ star players and staff from the Trust have been helping to raise awareness of obesity by taking part in a bike-blender cycle to make healthy fruit smoothies! The event, held in the hospital’s Community Corner, was a great success, helping to raise awareness of healthy living and the variety of services available in Rotherham to tackle obesity.

Reshape Rotherham, the Trust’s free, local weight management service and the Rotherham MoreLife Club, for overweight and obese children and their families, were present at the event to provide information about the services and support they provide.

“\nThe bike-blender cycle was a really fun way to engage with members of the public about obesity and healthy living, whilst also raising awareness of the weight management services available in Rotherham. I would like to thank everyone who took part and to the Rotherham Titans for supporting us.\n”

Alyson Fedak, Weight Management Team Leader for Nutrition and Dietetic Services at TRFT

Do you want to make a change but don’t know where to start? Alyson has provided us with some Reshape approved healthy living tips for you to follow this Easter!

• Get out this Easter and do a bit more exercise than normal, walking, swimming, cycling or take the grandchildren to the park. If you do an Easter egg hunt for the kids, why not join in the hunt too?
• To save you from over-indulging on Easter eggs, why not try freezing some for later or sharing with a friend?
• Be mindful of what you are doing whilst eating these treats; are you watching television, reading or waiting for the kettle to boil? Keep hold of those empty chocolate wrappers so you know how many you have eaten!
• If you are having the family over for a meal and cooking spring Lamb, ensure you trim all the fat off and do not use the excess fat to make gravy. Substitute mint sauce on your new potatoes instead of using butter, or why not try a lighter meat for your Sunday lunch such as chicken or turkey.

For further information on Reshape Rotherham and details on how to join, please contact a member of the team on 01709 427694.

Reshape Rotherham, the Trust’s free, local weight management service and the Rotherham MoreLife Club, for overweight and obese children and their families, were present at the event to provide information about the services and support they provide.

Remember following these useful little tips can have great benefits not only for your weight but for your overall health as well:

• Stick to three meals a day.
• Eat slowly and enjoy every mouthful. It’s true that a little bit of what you fancy does you good! Make sure it is a little treat.
• Think about your portion sizes. One portion of meat is about the size of the palm of one of your hands (not both!).
• Drink plenty of fluids, aim for about two litres a day… it can be tea, coffee or water. This will help hydrate your body and stop you feeling tired.

Take the Reshape Challenge
Only have a treat if it’s less than 100Kcals per portion!
That’s equivalent to:

2 Satsumas (42Kcals)
Light hot chocolate drink (43Kcals)
Low-fat chocolate mousse (60Kcals)
Diet yoghurt (less than 100Kcals)
1 fun size bar chocolate (100Kcals)
The past 12 months have been busy for the Trust’s Volunteers and Charity. Here we take a look back over the past year and see what the generous people who fundraise for, or donate their time to the Trust have accomplished.

April 2013
In April 2013, Trust Volunteers supported the launch of ‘My Guide’ volunteering, a Guide Dog Association scheme. ‘My Guides’ support those who are blind or visually impaired to help give them confidence to get involved in social and leisure activities and establish relationships with others in the community. For information call 0845 372 7424.

May 2013
At the end of last season, the Charity launched its ‘Perfect Match’ partnership with Rotherham United Football Club (RUFC) to help raise awareness of the Trust’s Dr Ted Children’s Appeal. The appeal became RUFC’s chosen charity for the 2013/14 season. Trust volunteers spent the day collecting funds from generous supporters.

June 2013
During the first week of June 2013, the Trust celebrated Volunteers Week to acknowledge the amazing work done by our volunteers. The Trust has over 170 volunteers working across a range of departments, supporting patients and staff, both in the hospital and in the community.

June 2013
On 29th June 2013, the Charity held its first Dr Ted’s Charity Dinner Dance and raised over £6,500 towards Dr Ted’s Children’s Appeal with a charity auction and raffle. The night was sponsored by Wilmott Dixon who have worked with the Charity to help improve the Special Care Baby Unit over the past year. The funds raised provided two new ventilation units for SCBU at the Hospital.

July 2013
In July 2013, the Charity entered into a partnership with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) to raise the profile of the Trust’s Charity by displaying big thumbs-up banners across its fleet of council vehicles. The banners have details of how people can donate by texting TRFT13 to 70070.

August 2013
On 19th August 2013 the Charity officially opened its second Purple Butterfly Suite at Rotherham Hospital, where patients who are unable to spend their last few days at home, can be cared for with the support of their relatives, carers and friends. The suite was paid for with £60,000 of funds from the Charity’s Purple Butterfly Appeal, which provides funds to enhance end of life care throughout the Trust. The opening was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Rotherham as well as generous supporters of the Purple Butterfly Appeal.
September 2013
The Mayor of Rotherham attended a celebration day to recognise the efforts of the Trust volunteers. Volunteers had the opportunity to attend training sessions and meet up with other volunteers working for the Trust.

October 2013
The annual staff Proud Awards, which celebrates the success and dedication of Trust staff was held in October 2013. The Volunteer of the Year award was won by Peter Coxon who has volunteered for the hospital for eight years.

October 2013
The Trust’s patient library volunteers promoted the Mood Boosting Books event for World Mental Health Day on 10th October 2013. They also raised awareness of their ward trolley service and how people can donate books, DVDs and magazines.

December 2013
The festive period was a busy one for the Trust’s Charity and volunteers, who spend time raising funds and making sure the Trust’s patients feel included in the festive time of year:
• Dedicated volunteers were in the main entrance of the hospital in the run up to Christmas selling a range of Christmas goodies and made £3,000
• Our annual Christmas Fayre raised £1,700
• Hallam FM donated over 400 toys to the Trust, which were distributed among children on the hospital wards and in the community
• Our Christmas Elf, a member of staff, collected over £500 by doing the rounds at the Hospital
• Kimberworth Male Voice Choir, Maltby Brass Band and the children from the Trust’s Busy Bees nursery, played and sang in Community Corner in the run up to Christmas for patient staff and visitors
• Local radio station, Redroad, donated toys to the Children’s Ward and came to hand them out dressed as Power Rangers and Thunderbirds

February 2014
On Valentine’s day the volunteers supported a Trust Charity cake bake in the Community Corner area of the Hospital and raised £200 for the Charity.

April 2014
On 16th April this year the Charity will hold its annual Easter Fayre in the main entrance of the Hospital site. Come along to help support the Trust Charity!

How are the funds spent?
Charity funds go towards enhancing patient care and facilities. Funds are spent on things like comfort packs with essentials such as toothpaste for people who come into hospital unexpectedly, play packs for children in the Emergency Department, refurbishing patient areas and providing staff with extra equipment that will benefit patient care.

Kath Copp of Rotherham, has been awarded an MBE on the 2014 New Year’s Honors List for services to charity and to the community in Rotherham.

For the last three decades Kath has worked tirelessly to raise funds for the Trust’s charitable appeals and most recently she has chaired the Trust’s Purple Butterfly Appeal’s Special Events Committee which raises funds for end of life care.

Kath commented: “I feel quite humbled being awarded this MBE. I have been fundraising for over 30 years. I’m overwhelmed at this recognition and over the moon my good work will still continue for the benefit of the people of Rotherham. I would like to express my gratitude to my fellow committee members and fundraisers.”

Louise Barnett, Chief Executive at TRFT, added: “This is an amazing achievement and a real credit to Kath in her dedicated fundraising efforts. Along with my colleagues at the Trust, I wish to publicly say a huge congratulations and thank you to Kath.”
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TRFT launches Alcohol Liaison Service

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust has recently developed a new Alcohol Liaison Service, to support adults attending hospital with an alcohol related problem.

The service, which went live on 1st February 2014, is available to adults with an alcohol related problem or condition, who have attended the Accident and Emergency Department or who have been recently admitted to Hospital. A team of Specialist Alcohol Nurses are available seven days a week, between the hours of 9am and 9pm, offering comprehensive assessment and advice to help patients address their Alcohol use, with safe and realistic options for reducing intake and giving up alcohol.

Where appropriate, the service can offer patients community based support to help identify the issues that are impacting on their drinking and advise the family and others concerned on addressing possible problems. Referrals can also be made to other agencies that will provide additional support and encourage recovery.

Working in close collaboration with other Trust services and community organisations, the Alcohol Liaison Team can offer the best possible care options to assist recovery and in improving the patient journey.

For more information on the Alcohol Liaison Service, please contact a member of the team on 01709 426637.

Dates to remember

Here are just some of the events we have coming up in our Community Corner and Health Information areas of Rotherham Hospital in the next few months, all are free to attend, so drop by anytime!

Pakinson’s Awareness Week: 8th – 10th April 2014
Our Trust staff will be in Health Information from 8th until 10th April for Parkinson’s Awareness Week with advice and information to help those suffering from or caring for people with Parkinsons.

Governors’ Surgery: 9th April 2014
Come along and speak to your Trust governors in Community Corner. If you have ideas for improvement on any of our Trust services, come and speak to them face to face!

Volunteering Event: 10th April 2014
The Trust Volunteers department and Voluntary Action Rotherham are getting together between 10am and 4pm to publicise volunteering opportunities in our local area. They will be in Community Corner again on 6th May 2014.

Head and Neck Cancer Support Group: 14th April 2014
The Head and Neck Cancer support group based in the Rotherham Community Health Centre are having a cake Bake in Community Corner to raise awareness of the service and raise funds to help patients.

Easter Fair: 16th April 2014
The Trust will be holding its annual Easter Fair. Come along to support the Trust’s Charity, with a tombola, book and bun sale and name the bunny competition.

Bowel Cancer Screening Programme: 28th April 2014
Staff from Sheffield’s Northern General Hospital’s Bowel Cancer Screening Programme will be on hand in Health Information to provide information and raise awareness of the programme.

Book Sale: 1st May 2014
Volunteers will be selling books in Community Corner on the first Thursday of every month between 10am and 2pm to raise funds for the Charity.

Save Lives: Clean Your Hands: 8th May 2014
Our Infection Prevention and Control Team will be in Community Corner 10am until 4pm for the World Health Organisation’s ‘Save Lives: Clean Your Hands’ annual event to promote good hand hygiene and the role it plays in helping save people’s lives.

Action for Brain Injury Week: 12th May 2014
Headway Rotherham will be in Health Information during Action for Brain Injury Week from 10am until 2pm to raise awareness of brain injury and the services they provide to help patients.

Fibromyalgia Support: 13th May 2014
Rotherham Fibromyalgia Group will be in Health Information between 10am and 4pm to raise awareness of Fibromyalgia and give support to people who are diagnosed and their families and carers.

Deaf Awareness Week: 19th May 2014
From 10am until 2pm, staff from the Trust will be in Health Information for Deaf Awareness Week, providing information and advice.

Dementia Awareness Week: 19th May 2014
On the 19th, 20th and 21st Trust staff will be in Community Corner with the Trust’s ‘Dementia Champions’, Alzheimer’s Society and other organisations to raise awareness for Dementia Awareness week.

Governors’ Surgery: 9th July 2014
We hope to see you in Health Information at our next Governors’ Surgery date in our calendar of events!
Available through shared ownership, formerly NewBuild Homebuy.

Prices start from £36,250 for a 25% minimum share.

Working in partnership with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

For further information, contact Jephson Housing Association: 01422 313782
For viewings, please contact local estate agent, Reeds Rains: 01709 363152

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Located just outside Rotherham city centre, and a stone’s throw from the hospital, Moorgate Care Village values the importance of exemplary elderly living and care services that cater for a wide range of needs.

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  • Spacious, beautifully appointed rooms •
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Our doors are always open to guests so please call in or contact us on 01709 838531
email: info@parklanehealthcare.co.uk or visit www.parklanehealthcare.co.uk.

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www.parklanehealthcare.co.uk
Would you recommend the Trust to your friends and family?

That’s the question we are asking our patients as part of a national initiative, which requires that all patients leaving our care are asked whether they would recommend the care or treatment they have experienced to their friends and family. The Department of Health introduced the Friends and Family Test across all hospitals across the country in April 2013.

The test has so far been rolled out in the organisation’s adult inpatient wards, maternity areas and our Emergency Department at Rotherham Hospital. The Trust’s outstanding efforts with issuing the survey have been commended by NHS England.

Hospitals score between -100 and +100, a score greater than zero means that patients would recommend the Hospital, but the higher the score the better. The score is calculated using the proportion of patients who would strongly recommend minus those who would not recommend, or are indifferent.

The latest Friends and Family figures show that our score for those patients leaving an inpatient setting was 73, for those leaving our Emergency Department it was 69 and for our patients leaving a maternity setting it was up to 82. As part of the survey, patients also have the opportunity to write a comment about the care they have received.

The test is an important opportunity for patients to provide feedback to the Trust on the care and treatment they have received and help us to make positive changes to further improve patient care and experience.

To view our results, please visit www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/telluswhatyouthink/

Recent comments left by patients include:

“Every single member of staff we spoke to was polite, approachable, friendly and in the case of medical staff were explicit in what they were doing and why. I felt safe and looked after.”

“Very supportive midwives and doctors, clean facilities. Made to feel safe throughout. Would highly recommend the ward and the Hospital to family and friends.”

“Very helpful, even when extremely busy. Nothing was a problem. Couldn’t have been better.”

“Helpful staff - very supportive and gave information without jargon. Food excellent, just everyone made being in hospital a positive experience. NHS at its best.”

“Staff really kind could not do enough to help. Student nurse very helpful and lovely. A bit noisy at night though.”

“I was involved in all that was going to happen to me and was dealt at all times with privacy.”

Being admitted into Hospital?

Remember to take all medicines that you use including:

- Prescription medicines
- Medicines you have bought
- Alternative medicines (eg herbal medicines)
- GP prescription list

Hand your medicines to staff on admission