An update on Trust news

Governor Elections

Experiencing hearing loss over 55?

New Community Health Meetings

Charity news

Rotherham family urge women to take up mammogram invitation
Welcome to the latest edition of Your Choice, the annual magazine for Members of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.

Since our last edition we have been busy expanding our programme of events for our Members to give you more opportunity to be involved in the life of the Trust. Alongside our quarterly Governors’ Surgeries (of which you can find information about on page 5), we will also now be running Community Health Meetings throughout the year.

These meetings will give Members of the Trust and the public an opportunity to find out about a variety of health areas, where to find help and support, the opportunity to meet our Governors and to hear about the future plans for the Trust. Please see page 7 for more details of upcoming events.

Spring is also the start of another busy period for our Membership office as the Council of Governor Elections are approaching. See page 4 for details of the Governor vacancies available this year, more about the role and activities of the Governors and how you can apply to support the Trust.

The Trust’s Charity works hard to enhance patient care and experience both within Rotherham Hospital and the community, for an update on its work, please see page 10.

The Trust works hard to recruit talented qualified individuals and foster development of young people seeking a career in the NHS. You can find out about the work we do with the students of Rotherham College on pages 9 and 11.

Not yet a Member of the Trust?

Anyone aged 16 or older can become a Trust Member, it’s free!
Simply log onto www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/members/ or call 01709 427800 for details.

Get connected to receive the latest news about The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust by signing up to our e-newsletters!

In our bid to reduce our carbon footprint, electronic communication is our preferred method of contact for Members. Members who provide us with their email address receive a free monthly e-newsletter with details of events and news all year round. We are also able to provide more timely information, such as consultation surveys and workshop invitations, giving you more opportunity to become involved!

If you’d like to keep up-to-date with Trust news, be sure to provide us with your email address. If you would prefer to just receive electronic newsletters rather than an annual printed newsletter, please do let us know by calling 01709 427800 or emailing foundation.trust@rothgen.nhs.uk.

Did you know the Trust is also on Twitter and Facebook for Member related news and events? If you have a Twitter or Facebook account you can follow us at @RotherhamNHS_FT and ‘like’ us at www.facebook.com/TheRotherhamNHSFoundationTrust to receive all the latest photos, events and real-time updates about the Trust.

Follow us on Twitter
Tweet us @RotherhamNHS_FT

‘Like’ us at
www.facebook.com/TheRotherhamNHSFoundationTrust
TRFT Strategic Update

The Care Quality Commission (CQC), the independent regulator of health and social care, will inspect services at the Trust between 23rd and 26th February 2015. This is the first ‘new wave’ inspection carried out at the Trust by the CQC and it will involve inspection of community and hospital services. The visit will involve a large team of inspectors, clinicians and experts who will assess our services to ensure they are safe, effective, caring, responsive to needs and well-led. We are currently preparing for this visit, which provides an opportunity for us to share the things that we are really proud of in each of our areas and also the areas we are working to improve and make changes.

During our inspection the CQC will observe care being delivered, carry out a series of interviews and facilitate a number of focus groups. In the two weeks preceding the inspection the Trust will be required to make comment cards available to patients and families using our services and posters will be displayed providing further details on how the inspection will be conducted. As part of the inspection process the CQC will also advertise a listening event which Trust Members will be able to attend. Details can be found on the CQC website www.cqc.org.uk/yourviews.

Further details on how the CQC conducts its inspection can be found on the CQC website www.cqc.org.uk. Members will note that the CQC conduct announced and unannounced inspections; it is important to recognise that an unannounced inspection will almost certainly take place shortly before, or after the dates above.

Following the inspection the Trust will receive a draft report which it will be entitled to check for factual accuracy before publication on the CQC website.

TRFT Strategic Update

Local NHS organisations and Care UK work together to open ground-breaking new Emergency Centre

A first-of-its-kind Emergency Centre is set to provide Rotherham patients with responsive and high quality services, when they need emergency or urgent NHS care.

The Trust has been working with the NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Care UK, patients and staff to develop a new integrated model for urgent care that will make it easier for patients to access the care they need, all under one roof.

Staffed by highly-skilled trained nurses and doctors, experienced in assessing and treating patients’ needs, the centre will be located on the Rotherham Hospital site providing care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Walk-in Centre will maintain its current service at Rotherham Community Health Centre (RCHC) until the opening of the Emergency Centre, when it will then move to the new centre. Other health services will continue to be provided at RCHC in the future.

Work on the Emergency Centre will start early in 2015 with the new building currently anticipated to fully open in 2017.

Would you recommend the Trust to friends and family?

The Friends and Family Test is a national NHS initiative, where patients leaving our care are asked whether they would recommend the treatment or care they have experienced to their friends and family.

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

The test has been rolled out in the Trust’s adult inpatient wards, maternity areas, Emergency Department and outpatients services. The Trust has plans to further roll out the initiative to more services this year, giving more patients than ever the chance to provide us with feedback about their care.

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

New appointments at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust has recently announced the appointment of three new Executive Directors; Chris Holt, as Chief Operating Officer, Simon Sheppard, as Director of Finance and Lynne Waters as Executive Director of Human Resources.

Chris Holt joined the Trust in October 2014 from Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust where he had worked since 2011 with responsibility for ensuring the safe and effective day-to-day operational performance of the organisation.

With experience from the private sector and from working across both primary and secondary care in England and Scotland, Chris is passionate about improving hospital experience and care for patients.

Simon Sheppard joined the Trust in November 2014 from the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust where he was Acting Director of Finance. Prior to that he was Deputy Director of Finance and Procurement. Simon has almost 20 years’ experience at a senior level in large, acute teaching hospitals, such as Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust.

Lynne Waters joined the Trust in November 2014 and over 20 years has had a varied and successful HR career in the private sector. She lists leadership development, people and change management and employee engagement amongst her key skills.

Lynne said: “Since joining the Trust in the substantive post of Executive Director of HR, I have been inspired by our dedicated colleagues who are passionate about patients and their care. The key in an organisation of this size is to ensure all colleagues are aware of the key priorities and how each individual can play their part. Employee engagement and accountability will be a key theme during 2015 and I am looking forward to meeting more colleagues and contributing to the achievement of the Trust’s objectives during the coming months.”
The Foundation Trust structure was originally established to give the local community a say in how their local healthcare services are managed. Governors play an essential part in this structure by speaking on behalf of patients, the local community and staff members. Governors regularly meet with members of the Trust Board to share the views of those they represent and to take part in activities to support this work.

No previous experience is required as we will provide full training, support and information packs to assist newcomers in the role.

If you would like to hear more about the role, or to ask any questions that you may want answered, we will be holding a session that we are inviting you to attend. It will be held at 2pm in the Board Room at Rotherham Hospital (Level D) and will last for approximately one hour. Please contact Rebecca Ferguson, Membership and Corporate Affairs Officer on 01709 427800, or email foundation.trust@rothgen.nhs.uk to confirm your attendance as soon as possible. Nomination forms will also be available on the day.

The vacancies available this year are listed below:

**Rotherham North** - 2 vacancies  
(Kepple, Rotherham West, Wingfield, Thorpe Hesley, Kimberworth Park, Greasborough and Masbrough)

**Wentworth South** – 1 vacancy  
(Rawmarsh, Silverwood, Valley, Kilnhurst, Thrybergh, Hooten Roberts, Ravenfield and Dalton)

**Rother Valley West** – 1 vacancy  
(Brinsworth & Catcliffe, Holderness, Rother Vale, Treeton, Thurstoft, Brampton, Aston and Aughton)

**Wentworth Valley** – 1 vacancy  
(Hellaby, Maltby, Wickersley, Flanderwell, Bramley and Listerdale)

**Rest of England** – 2 vacancies  
(covers all areas not within Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council boundaries)

On Wednesday 18th February 2015, nominations for our Council of Governors Elections 2015 will open for one month. During that time, we will be looking for Members of the Trust who are passionate about healthcare and who want to do something to support the future of their local Trust, to consider becoming Governors.

Cynthia Shaw, Wentworth North

Cynthia Shaw has been a Public Governor for the Wentworth North area of Rotherham since 2010. During her career, Cynthia worked in the coal industry and served as a Magistrate on the Rotherham Bench. Upon retirement she decided to stand as a Public Governor for the Trust to help make a difference and contribute to the accessibility and public awareness of health facilities in the local area. Here Cynthia explains what being a Governor is really all about and what is has meant to her…

“Governors role is primarily to represent the interests of the general public and to promote the Trust. They are active in the community and are able to act as a conduit between the Trust and the public.

“A Governor is in a position to put forward suggestions from the public which may help to make the Trust and its services, in the hospital and the community, as good as they can be.

Some members of the public I have met in the course of my duties have been under the impression that I am a paid member of staff at the Trust. However this unique role is possible because the Governors are not gainfully employed by the Trust; they are volunteers who act as independent communicators.

“Commitment and on-going application is necessary to fulfil the role of a Governor. Adherence to procedures and regular attendance at Council of Governor meetings, Governors sub-committees and the Annual General Meeting is essential. Governors legally participate in some appointment procedures and work with the Trust’s Board of Directors in the development of forward planning for the Trust.

“It is a rewarding role and brings with it a sense of pride in being instrumental in the future of the Trust and its services.”
You can make a difference…
Nominate yourself to be one of our Trust Governors!

Our Council of Governors meetings are open to the public and staff. Members of the Trust and public are invited to attend these meetings and there is an opportunity at the end to ask questions about any of the items discussed. The dates of our meetings for this year are:

• Wednesday 8th April 2015
• Wednesday 8th July 2015
• Wednesday 14th October 2015

These public meetings start at 5.15pm and are usually held in the PGME Lecture Theatre, D Level, Rotherham Hospital.

All details are listed on our website at www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk and the public agenda is available at the meeting.

To allow us to accommodate you, please book a place to attend by calling 01709 427800 or by emailing foundation.trust@rothgen.nhs.uk

Jan Frith has been a public Member of the Trust since 2008.

Jan said: “Being a Member of the Trust has been a valuable experience. You get to find out about opportunities and become involved, for example, clinical talks, volunteering opportunities and sitting alongside the Governors when they are holding the Board to account.

“You have the opportunity to contribute to the big Trust discussions which are taking place, whether it is at a Members’ meeting or even attending the public part of the Board meetings.

“The regular e-newsletters keep you abreast of Trust events – these are mostly positive newsworthy items, but they offer you an informed opinion when you are talking about health matters. It helps you to find out for yourself a balanced picture of what is happening, rather than taking for granted the publicity in the local newspapers. There’s always an angle to a story!

“What I like about being a Member of the Trust, is that your opinion counts for something and you have the opportunity to make the services the Trust provide a better experience for patients.”

In 2008, Jan also stood to be the Public Governor for the ‘Rest of England’ constituency and served on the Council of Governors for six years.

“I have definitely found being a Member and a Governor a rewarding experience. I thought that it would be a really interesting thing to do at a local level where I could make a difference for the benefit of my local community.

“After having a year out of the Council of Governors elections for personal reasons, I will be nominating myself again for one of the vacancies in my constituency in this year’s Council of Governor elections and look forward to getting back into the swing of things, should I be successful.”

Governors’ Surgeries

Our Governors’ Surgeries are an opportunity for Members of the Trust and local community to come and meet the Trust Governors.

The surgeries allow our Governors to listen to the opinions, concerns and experiences of those who use our services. This feedback is then fed through various Trust forums - which means that those who care about their local health services are able to influence the Trust decision making process.

We take your feedback seriously and where we can, take your comments and put them into action.

The Governors’ Surgery sessions are held between 9am and 11am, and then again from 3pm to 5pm, both in the main entrance of Rotherham Hospital and in the reception area of Rotherham Community Health Centre on Greasborough Street, near to the town centre. Dates for the surgeries this year are:

• Wednesday 29th April 2015
• Wednesday 19th August 2015
• Wednesday 28th October 2015

Anyone is welcome to come along find out about the work our Governors do, talk to them about Trust service developments and what they want from Trust Membership.

If you cannot make it to any of our surgeries, you can email your questions, comments or ideas for improvement to your Trust Governors. Members can email public.governors@rothgen.nhs.uk and staff can email staffgovernors@rothgen.nhs.uk.

Please state the name of your constituency or name of the Governor you would like to make contact with (if you know) in the subject line of your email.

Member Profile:
Jan Frith, Public Member, Rest of England

“I have definitely found being a Member and a Governor a rewarding experience. I thought that it would be a really interesting thing to do at a local level where I could make a difference for the benefit of my local community.”

Jan Frith, Public Member
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Join us at our new Community Health Meetings

This year we are expanding our programme of Membership events, to give our Members and members of the community, the opportunity to meet our Governors and find out latest news from the Trust with talks on a variety of health topics. All the meetings are free to attend, but as places are limited, we would ask that you call us to confirm that you would like to attend. Details of the meetings are below:

‘Diabetes in old age’ presented by Consultant Physician, Dr Ahmed Hafiz. Tuesday 31st March 2015 from 12.30pm until 2.30pm at Springwell Gardens Community Centre, Eastwood View, Springwell Gardens, Rotherham S65 1NG.

‘Parkinson’s and management of prescriptions’ presented by Consultant Physician, Dr Bijoy Mondal. Friday 15th May 2015 from 12.30pm until 2.30pm, venue to be confirmed.

‘The significance of Lung Disease locally and the positive things that can be done with treatment’ presented by Gail Miles, Respiratory Nurse Consultant and the British Lung Foundation. Wednesday 29th July 2015 from 12.30pm until 2.30pm, venue to be confirmed.

‘Coping with Cancer’, hosted by our Macmillan Support managers and Cancer Services Team. Venue, date and time to be confirmed.

And the winners are...

Back in November the Trust announced the winners of its annual staff PROUD Awards and cover stars of this edition of Your Choice! 269 nominations were received during the build up to the awards, which celebrate and thank exceptional individuals and teams across the Trust who have made a really positive contribution to delivering high quality care to our patients.

For the first time, the Trust worked with the Rotherham Advertiser and introduced a ‘Public Recognition’ category for our PROUD Awards. With the Advertiser’s support, an amazing 108 nominations were submitted from Members of our Trust and public.

Winners and runners-up were recognised in each of the 12 categories. In addition, two special Chief Executive’s Awards and a Chairman’s Award were presented.

The official winners and runners-up were:

**Outstanding Individual, Respect Award**
Winner: Jeanette Davies - Community Occupational Therapy
Runner Up: Patricia Morton - Outpatients, Patient Access

**Our Top Leader Award**
Winner: Joanne Mangnall - Continence Service
Runner Up: Elizabeth Webster – PGME

**Outstanding Individual, Together Award**
Winner: Jayne Griffiths - Library Services
Runner up: Steve Guest - Volunteer Service

**Unsung Hero Award**
Winner: Sarah Briggs - Heart Specialist Nurse
Runner Up: Maria Palmer - Dementia Care

**Outstanding Individual, Responsible Award**
Winner: Sarah Jackson - Community Occupational Therapy
Runner Up: Mark Skelly - GU Medicine, Clinical Support Worker

**Lifetime Achievement Award**
Winner: Derek Bainbridge - Critical Care Outreach
Runner Up: Philippa Coffey - Clinical Radiology

**Outstanding Individual, Right First Time Award**
Winner: Estates and Facilities
Runner Up: Peter Coxon - Volunteer Service

**Public Recognition Award**
Winner: Wendy Manterfield - Stroke Unit
Runners Up: Bev Belcher - Health Care Assistant - Keppel Ward, Sarah Briggs and Angela Duffy - Heart Specialist Nurses

**Chief Executive’s Awards**
Infection Prevention and Control Team
Maxine Dennis - Director of Operations

**Chairman’s Award**
Jaye Bolton - Community Stroke Team
The Central Admin Team at RCHC won Team of the Year. They said:

“We were absolutely delighted to have won, but really shocked. It is really nice that as an admin team we were recognised for this award. We will carry on providing the best service we can, and winning this award shows appreciation of our dedication.”

The Trust would like to extend a huge thank you to all members of the public who nominated individuals and teams for the PROUD Awards. The overwhelming support from the local community for the ‘Public Recognition Award’ has been highly valued and again highlights the appreciation that our community has for those providing health care services.
Certificate of excellence awarded to pacemaker team for introducing new high-tech treatments

The Pacemaker Team at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust has been active since 2004. Pacemakers are the only effective treatment for patients whose hearts beat too slowly and are implanted for life, so follow-up of these patients is especially important.

Pacemaker care at the Trust is Physiologist-led and based in the Cardiology Suite at Rotherham Hospital. The team has recently celebrated one of their biggest achievements; the introduction of a remote-monitoring system which enables the Physiologists to monitor pacemaker function whilst patients are at home. The Trust now has over 140 patients using this system, where a small monitor at the side of the bed transmits pacemaker data to a secure website. Physiologists access the secure website on a daily basis to read a patients data, so any abnormalities are identified and treated early.

The Trust is now the seventh largest centre in the UK using the Biotronik Home Monitoring system and in recognition of this, the team was presented with a Certificate of Excellence at the annual Heart Rhythm Conference in October 2014.

Lead Pacing Physiologist for the team, Lucy Broadhurst, said: “In addition to improving patient safety, remote-monitoring of patients is especially important as it can reduce the amount of hospital visits, keeping patients independent and giving them peace of mind. It is also particularly useful for identifying an irregular heart rhythm, known as atrial fibrillation, which if left untreated can increase the risk of stroke.”

The service, headed by Consultant Cardiologist Dr Simon Smith, has rapidly developed and the team now performs approximately 140 new pacemaker implants and performs over 1,400 follow-up assessments a year.

Since summer 2014, routine pacemaker implants are now being performed as day case procedures, reducing the amount of time patients need to stay in hospital and in November 2014, we became the first centre in the UK to implant a new model of pacemaker, called the Eprya 6 which is also manufactured by Biotronik. This pacemaker can monitor heart failure status and enable patients to get early treatment, before they become unwell.

Lucy said: “The Pacemaker Team has worked hard to improve patient experience and quality of life for those suffering with cardiac problems. Over the past year we have introduced many improvements in pacemaker care and with our close links with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust we hope to keep expanding our local services to introduce more advanced pacemaker devices.”

The ‘one-stop shop’ approach is the service’s latest innovation designed to further improve the patient experience and reduce waiting times. In a single appointment, patients have their ears checked and cleared by a Nurse if necessary, followed by a hearing test with an audiologist and where appropriate, a new hearing aid can be fitted.

The service was the result of the combination of the Trust’s Primary Ear Care Centre and the Audiology Department three years ago. It benefits patients by uniting two services with reputations for excellence and has resulted in an integrated and close-knit team.

Head of the service, Linda Mills, said: “We are continuing to improve and develop the service, introducing new initiatives to complement ‘normal’ Monday to Friday clinics which are available by appointment. Clinics are now held on Saturdays and Tuesday evenings - for those people who work all day.”

The service has also set up a tinnitus self-help group over the past year, providing a programme of sessions for patients covering topics such as what tinnitus is, coping strategies, dealing with stress and sleeping. Whilst offering support and advice, the group is also helpful as patients can connect with others in the same position.

The Ear Care and Audiology Service also sells ear care instruments and state-of-the-art private hearing aids are now available.

You can also find information on the Ear Care and Audiology Service website at www.earcarecentre.com. The website provides information and advice to both healthcare professionals and patients. Patients can find useful information such as when and where to collect their hearing aid batteries.

For information and appointments, the team can be contacted on 01709 423207 or 01709 423145 if your query is regarding a hearing aid.

Are you over 55 and experiencing mild hearing loss?

If you are aged 55 or older and are having problems with your hearing, you can now refer yourself to our Ear Care and Audiology Service based at Rotherham Community Health Centre on Greasbrough Road.

The service has also set up a tinnitus self-help group over the past year, providing a programme of sessions for patients covering topics such as what tinnitus is, coping strategies, dealing with stress and sleeping. Whilst offering support and advice, the group is also helpful as patients can connect with others in the same position.

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Rotherham College and The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust have joined together to implement a new and exciting Apprenticeship scheme to recruit 18 new Clinic Health Care Assistant (HCA) Apprentices to support patients at the Trust.

The Apprenticeship aims to provide the skills and knowledge required to become competent in supporting health professionals – such as Doctors, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals and Healthcare Scientists – to provide clinical healthcare.

Over 250 people of all ages applied for the Apprenticeships and 18 excellent candidates were selected and offered positions as Apprentices. They will divide their time between classroom learning at Rotherham College, while benefiting from practical work experience at the Trust.

Apprentice Kirsty Louise Bellamy, said: “I applied for university this year, but decided to follow an alternative route to get where I want to be. The Apprenticeship Scheme really appealed to me because it will provide me with the opportunity to gain a unique experience working for the NHS.”

Apprentice Emma Foster, said:
“The practical work experience element is what attracted me to apply for the Apprenticeship. It has already given me ideas of what career paths I want to pursue within Nursing and I have aspirations to specialise in a certain subject of Nursing.”

Charles Grayson, Senior Business Consultant at Rotherham College, said: “We’re delighted to be working in partnership with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust to support our region’s young talent into industry-led Apprenticeship training.

Louise Johnson, Practice Learning Facilitator for the Trust, said: “The recruitment of 18 HCA Apprentices as a cohort is a brand new and exciting initiative that recognises the future workforce of the NHS and allows Apprentices to learn as they work. This will play a key role in improving the patient experience and care in terms of safety and clinical effectiveness.”

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Nurse recruitment

“Are you looking for an alternative to working in a large, faceless organisation?”

Would you like to work in a friendly and supportive integrated Foundation Trust enabling delivery of care that is efficient and responsive to patient need?

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust is at the forefront of developing an exciting new NHS healthcare proposition, providing innovative integrated services, investing in its workforce and implementing the next evolution of emergency care design. The organisation is ambitious and is reaching new grounds in terms of the care it provides for its patients. A vibrant place to work, the Trust is proud of its dedicated workforce who embody the Trust’s values and make it a truly friendly place for both patients and colleagues.

We are currently recruiting for a number of nursing roles across the organisation within both our Medicine and Surgery Directorates. We are accepting applications from nurses who qualify within the next 3-4 months and experienced nurses, including those wishing to return from retirement and those wishing to return to practice.

For general enquiries about the nursing posts available, please telephone the Trust’s HR Recruitment Team on 01709 424508 or email recruitment@rothgen.nhs.uk

If you are interested in becoming a nurse at the Trust, please register your interest by completing the online application form at www.jobs.nhs.uk

#thereallyfriendlytrust
The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

Exciting changes to our Trust

Rotherham Hospital Charity’s annual

Dr Ted’s Dinner Dance

Our annual Dr Ted’s Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday 28th March 2015 from 7pm and you are cordially invited to join us for an evening of live entertainment, dancing and a charity raffle!

Along with major sponsors, Willmott Dixon and the Rotherham Advertiser, the Trust’s charity will be raising money for Dr Ted’s Children’s Appeal. The appeal aims to enhance the quality of life for children receiving treatment at the Trust, by encouraging donations, no matter how small, to help make things better for them and their families.

The evening will include a two-course dinner, chocolate fountain and fabulous live entertainment. Funds raised will refurbish the children’s facilities to further improve environments, ensuring we have the very best medical equipment and improving the quality of care we can provide for children in the community and at the hospital.

Tickets are £30 and you can reserve your space by calling Charity Development Officer, Tracy Williams, on 01709 427589 or emailing tracy.williams@rothgen.nhs.uk

Our Charity has moved!

At the beginning of the year the Rotherham Health Foundation, the formal name for the Rotherham Hospital Charity, will be going through some exciting changes to make it more accessible than ever for you and our colleagues.

The area around the welcome desk at the hospital will be transformed and re-decorated as our Charity makes this its new home. This will make it is easier for anyone to pop in with donations or questions about our Charity’s work and to see our Charity Development Officer, Tracy Williams or Charity Assistant, Zoe Woodhead.

The Charity also has a brand new website at www.rotherhamhospitalcharity.org, where you will be able to see the latest news and donations to the Charity.

The run up to the holiday season is a busy one for the Trust’s Charity as, helped by our Trust’s Volunteers, we strive to make Christmas an enjoyable time for everyone and raise funds which go towards enhancing patient care and facilities. Here are just some of the activities that were held at the Trust over the festive season.

- The children from St Mary Magdalene Primary School, Herringthorpe Community Choir and our Chaplaincy sang in Community Corner in the run up to Christmas for patients, staff and visitors at our Annual Christmas Carol Service
- Staff at the Trust got into the Christmas spirit by supporting the Trust’s Charity and making a donation to dress up in Christmas jumpers
- Hallam FM’s Help a Hallam Child appeal generously donated over 400 toys to the Charity, which were distributed to children in Rotherham Hospital and our local community
- The Charity’s annual Christmas Fair held at the beginning of December raised over £750
- Our Volunteers were out in force in the run up to Christmas selling Christmas merchandise to support the Charity, raising an amazing £2,500
- ‘Christmas Comfort Boxes’, with small gifts donated by Trust colleagues, were distributed by the Charity to the wards

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The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust

Volunteers at special afternoon tea with Chairman of the Trust

In November 2014, we hosted a special celebration event in recognition of the commitment of our Volunteers. The Trust’s Chairman, Martin Havenhand and members of the Trust’s Board of Directors hosted an afternoon tea to express their thanks to the Volunteers for their hard work, dedication and support for the Trust and the people of Rotherham.

The Trust has over 100 Volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds, and ranging from 17 to over 80 years of age, all of whom offer their time in the hospital and community. Volunteers give up their free time to support patients, their families, visitors and staff by taking on a variety of roles in a range of departments; helping patients with their menu choices, providing a mobile library service and by helping patients to continue their falls prevention exercises at home.

The Trust’s Chairman, said: “Our Volunteers greatly enhance the patients’ experience by being a smiling face, a helping hand or a person to talk to. We recognise how important our Volunteers are and really appreciate their support and all they do for the Trust and our patients. The afternoon tea provided the opportunity to formally say thank you to our Volunteers and recognise how they continue to play an important role in our services.”

Art and Design students from Rotherham College have been given the opportunity to enhance patients’, visitors’ and Trust colleagues’ experience on the Orthopaedic Wards and Clinics at Rotherham Hospital and other areas of the Trust.

Level 2 First Diploma in Art and Design students from the college have had some of their artwork displayed in Rotherham Hospital, in particular on the Keppel Orthopaedic Ward and the ward’s large dining room. The college received a contribution from the Rotherham Hospital Charity to support the cost of canvases. The artwork will be displayed for a year and then sold to raise funds for the Trust’s Charity.

The Trust has a long standing relationship with Rotherham College and Ward Charge Nurse, Lee White contacted them to see if they could help brighten up and enrich the environment for the benefit of the patients, relatives and colleagues and to showcase the wonderful talent that we have in the local area.

Lee said: “I wanted to try and brighten up our fracture and orthopaedic clinics, as the walls are plain and the only artwork we have is very old.”

“When we viewed the artwork, the standard was so high that we decided to take even more and will have enough to distribute throughout the hospital.”

“We are very excited to be working in partnership with our local college and students. Their fantastic work will make a big difference to patient experience and we hope our partnership will continue for many years.”

In the picture is Art and Design Tutors, Lee White, Ward Charge Nurse for Orthopaedics, Chris Holt, Chief Operating Officer, and Louise Barnett, Chief Executive at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
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Practical and emotional support is in reach for those in Rotherham diagnosed with an eye condition.

Common eye conditions, such as age-related macular degeneration and glaucoma, can lead to a decline in sight over time, often causing worry and loss of confidence.

Through a dedicated Action for Blind People Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) based at Rotherham Hospital, people can access a wealth of advice, information and practical support where appropriate. This can range from providing emotional support at any point in the eye care journey, to providing referrals and signposting to partner organisations.

For some people, a referral to the ECLO can be for something as little as receiving a phone number for the bus pass office, but for others it can involve a complex assessment of needs and multi-agency working.

Michelle Swann, Rotherham Hospital’s ECLO, commented: “Being diagnosed with an eye condition can be a very difficult and emotional time for most people. The people we see often comment that they find our support and information invaluable at this challenging time in their life. By normalising their situation and showing that support is available throughout their eye care journey, most people feel reassured and less alone.

“We really want to get the message out there that we can help! From providing simple things like devices to tell you when the kettle is full; to support with matters that can be more complex, such as finances, there is always somebody who can help.”

The ECLO offers time outside of the patient’s appointment with their clinician, to talk about their condition, share any worries or concerns and go through empowering practical steps, if necessary. Should patients require extra support, the ECLO can refer to specialist providers such as Royal National Institute for the Blind Emotional Support Counselling Service.

Rotherham’s ECLO, Michelle Swann, is based on Level C of Rotherham Hospital and appointments can be made on 01709 427983 or by emailing michelle.swann@rothgen.nhs.uk

A mother and daughter from Kimberworth have teamed up with Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust to help promote the importance of breast screening for women across Rotherham.

61-year old Pat Mann and her 32-year old daughter Kaye responded to an appeal by the Trust for local women to come forward and volunteer to be local champions for breast screening and to join the other champions from Barnsley, Bassetlaw, Doncaster and Sheffield.

Pat first went for screening for breast cancer when she was 53, but was not initially going to go for her mammogram as she “didn’t realise the importance of it”.

Fortunately she did attend and her scan revealed a cancerous mass that saw Pat treated for the disease. Fortunately, she beat the cancer and now, eight years later, wants to encourage women across Rotherham to take up their screening invitation.

“Initially I wasn’t going to go because I was going on holiday and had lots to do. I didn’t really realise the importance of it and it was actually my husband Harry who persuaded me to go.

“I am obviously now very glad that I did go. The scan was quick and easy and nothing to be afraid of so I would urge every woman who receives an invitation to just go because you never know. I feel it has saved my life.”

Pat’s daughter, Kaye Mann, volunteered to be a screening champion, as she knows first-hand the impact that a breast cancer diagnosis can have on not only the sufferer, but also on her family and friends.

“If it wasn’t for breast screening my mum might not be here today and she might not have met her grandson. Breast screening is very important. We all have busy lives but we need to make time for something as important as this and there really is no reason not to have it done.”

Breast cancer screening is currently available to women aged between 50 and 70 years of age, and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust are urging eligible women across South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw (Barnsley, Bassetlaw, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield) to make the time to attend their screening appointment when they receive their invitation, every three years.

Early detection offers a better chance of successful treatment and full recovery.

If you have missed your last breast screening appointment or have not been screened within the last three years, you can telephone the Rotherham Breast Screening Unit on 01709 424807 to make an appointment.
There has never been a better time to benefit from a Biomass boiler due to the introduction of the RHI scheme. You can have a return on investment of between 25 and 40% per annum, but don’t think about it for too long as the money will soon dry up.

Expertise, professionalism, qualifications, experience and a passion for perfection

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I am the owner and technically director of the company and have been in the renewable’s industry for a number of years. The quality of components and the correct installation is the most important aspect of a biomass installation. Why shouldn’t it be, as a customer you require an installation that is going to last 20 years!

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If you are getting paid for 20 years then you would want to install the best components from the world leading manufactures. We won’t install cheaper products as they won’t last the 20 year term of the RHI. Never has the saying “buy cheap, buy twice” been so true! You will find our installations start from only £10,000 so if you would like a return on investment of over 25% per annum which is tax free and index linked then a biomass boiler is for you.

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Renewable Heat Incentive Payments: The current rate is 8.4p per kW of heat generated by the system, these payments are for 20 years and are indexed linked. Typically a 200 kW biomass boiler will earn £22,075 every year for the next 20 years.

Fuel Savings: The current rate of fuel are - natural gas @ 4.2p, oil @ 7.5p and LPG @ 7.8p per kWh, compare this against logs @ 2p, wood chip @ 3p and pellet @ 3.8p per kWh. So on a 200 kW system the fuel savings are between £2,600 & £11,000 per year.

“With the benefit of one year’s hindsight I am pleased to say our experience is as we would have hoped, the rewards as anticipated and we are delighted with the result.” – Rotherham Golf Club
A true care environment for life!

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. As the region’s leading retirement village, we offer three levels of the very best, most up to date care and facilities. As a true care environment for life we are the number one choice for those looking for some additional support, right through to around-the-clock care.

We have three options to choose from, all of which will ensure the highest quality of life for you.

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- Moorgate Lodge provides unrivalled, residential and nursing care for 56 people, 48 of them in single en-suite accommodation.
- Moorgate Hollow brings together a unique combination of the facilities required to provide the ultimate in fulltime care for those suffering dementia and other related illnesses.

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www.parklanehealthcare.co.uk
Spell out your decision on organ donation

Transplants are the best possible treatment for most people with organ failure and are one of the most miraculous achievements of modern medicine. They involve the donation of organs from one person to another and enable thousands of people to take on a new lease of life in the UK every year.

On average, three people a day die in need of an organ transplant in the UK.

In the last year, 18 South Yorkshire residents have died due to the shortage of organs and there are currently 219 people in South Yorkshire waiting for a transplant.

NHS Blood and Transplant is asking people to spell out their decision to donate by joining the NHS Organ Donor Register and by having a conversation with their family and friends.

“I would encourage everybody to consider spelling out their donation decision; potentially this could be one of the greatest gifts you could give to anybody.”

Joanne Cheetham Specialist Nurse, Organ Donation at NHS Blood and Transplant

Please have the conversation. Spell it out.

To register as an NHS Organ Donor, or for further information on organ donation, visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk or call 0300 123 23 23

If you need help this winter and it’s not an emergency do you know where to go?

Your Pharmacy, GP, or local NHS Walk-in Centre at Greasborough Road, Rotherham, can help if you are feeling unwell. Therefore, please only use emergency services, like A&E, in cases of real emergencies such as serious illness and major injuries.

Remember if you need fast but non-urgent care or advice, NHS 111 is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and you can call free from both landlines and mobile phones.

It is a fast and easy way to obtain the right care; the service is staffed by a team of fully trained advisers, supported by experienced nurses and paramedics.