

Your Hospital

Foundation Trust Members Newsletter

August 2010 | Edition 9



Sarah Joyce, NCT member; Mr Naren Samtaney, Consultant Obstetrician and Staff Governor; Ann Tasker, Midwife and Mary Rush, Friends of Airedale volunteer with the new birthing pool.



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This month's Message from the Chair

Welcome to your latest edition of the 'Your Hospital' newsletter – exclusively for members.

You will all know by now that on 1 June we became a Foundation Trust. We have a strong group of Governors, an able Board and management team and a clear vision for the future so I am sure Airedale will succeed.

Our Director of Nursing, Bridget Fletcher, has taken on the role of Interim Chief Executive until we appoint a new Chief Executive later in the year.

We have a challenging year ahead of us, but Bridget and the Executive Directors are a very strong and experienced team in which we can have complete confidence.

Our new Council of Governors have had their first Council meeting and are already starting work on duties, with one of their future tasks being their involvement in the appointment of the new Chief Executive. They are also involved in recruiting new members and organising the annual open event and other member's events. We also have opportunities for you to meet your Governors at the open event and before all of our Focus events in the Autumn programme. You can also contact your Governor by email and all addresses are detailed on the back page of this magazine.

In future issues we will have a special section in the magazine where your Governors can tell you what they have been doing.

Please do come join our birthday celebrations at our annual open day on Thursday 2 September between 3pm and 7pm, there will be lots to see and do for you and your families and all ages are welcome.

Colin Millar, Chairman

Holiday Greetings – Eid Mubarak and L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu to all our members of the Muslim and Jewish faiths.

Meet the Chairman Events

Our Meet the Chairman events are back for the Autumn with a range of featured talks. This is your chance to meet our Chairman, ask questions and find out about the latest developments at the hospital. We also provide free food and refreshments. If you are interested in becoming a Governor in the future come along and find out more:

- **Monday 11 October**
10.30am to 12.30pm
Patient Choice – Your right to choose
- **Monday 22 November**
5.30pm to 7.30pm
Being a Governor
- **Monday 6 December**
10.30am to 12.30pm
GP Referrals – how it works from referral to treatment

News Update

Childcare team claims top spot

The Bradford and Airedale Childcare Support team, which includes Airedale General Hospital, has gained national recognition for its innovative approach to working parents and carers in the NHS.

The support service claimed the top prize for the 'Most effective benefits strategy for working parents and carers' at the prestigious Employee Benefits Award ceremony in London. The effective benefits strategy includes schemes such as 'Keep in touch', which consist of maternity workshops where women can meet colleagues who are also pregnant, attend free weekly pregnancy exercise classes and baby massage sessions once the baby is born.

The trusts, which also include NHS Bradford and Airedale, Bradford Teaching Hospitals and Bradford District Care Trust, communicate with parents regularly to let them know what support is available. This is done through bi-monthly newsletters, drop-in sessions, road shows, and internet and intranet sites.

As a result of the award winning strategy, the proportion of parents returning to work after maternity leave has increased from 75% in 2002 to more than 90% in 2009, a statistic the award judges found to be particularly compelling.

New staff join the team

The Trust has recently employed a number of new clinicians across a range of specialities.

Dr Juhi Siddiqui, has joined the Trust in July, as a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist.

Dr Christine Corrin, has been appointed as a Colposcopy Hospital Practitioner, and joined the Gynaecology team on a part time basis in June.

Janine Ashton, is the Trust's new full time Tissue Viability Nurse and also joined the Trust in June. Her role will be to provide expert advice, assessment and education for complex wounds that are not progressing in a timely manner, including pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers and cellulitis.

Quality Account

The Trust has produced its first Quality Account, which is a new report that

hospitals now published once a year to inform patients and the public about how they are performing on quality of care.

Our Quality Account is published on our website at <http://www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk/About/corporateinfo/publications.html> and also on the national NHS Choices website www.nhs.uk.

Independent inquiry

The Independent Inquiry report concerning events at Airedale NHS Trust between 2000 and 2002 was published on 8 June.

The Trust welcomes publication of this report and offers our sincere condolences to all those affected by the events eight years ago. We regret these events and hope the report will bring some comfort by shedding light on the circumstances.

The Trust takes the findings of the Independent Inquiry and its recommendations very seriously and since 2005 has taken many steps to make changes and improvements to our procedures. We are also sharing the Inquiry report with all our staff to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to further reflect on how we can make additional improvements as we strive to provide the safest care possible.

The report complements the current arrangements at the hospital, particularly its leadership, governance and safety systems, and in fact highlights much of what we do as good practice for others to follow. However, we are never complacent about safe care and always strive to learn and improve for the best interests of our patients.

As part of our new status as a Foundation Trust, we will be working closely with our Council of Governors to develop publications, such as our Quality Accounts, to ensure we further enhance the safety, experience and outcomes for our patients.

On behalf of the Trust and all our staff we would like to reassure both patients and the local community that patient safety is, and always will be, our highest priority.

If anyone would like to see a copy of the full report, it is available via our website – www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk

Focus on... Voluntary Services



Eileen Stovold and Mary Rush, Volunteers with Mr Basit Khan, consultant surgeon and Julie Blackburn, senior sister, Endoscopy

Airedale's thriving bank of volunteers contribute over 1,300 hours per week in over 30 different types of services at Airedale Hospital. They:

- Provide transport for almost 3,500 patients covering around 40,000 miles
- Loan over 2,000 books from the patients' library service each year
- Guide and provide information to over 15,300 patients and visitors each year

Airedale NHS Foundation Trust would like to thank all volunteers for the vital work they do to support patients, staff and visitors.

Here are some examples of the work they do:

Donations

The two charities, Friends of Airedale and Airedale New Venture, contributed over £235,000 last year, the main fundraising areas being the two shops and the car boot sales, held in the grounds of the hospital. The money is used to buy extra equipment such as two new monitors for the endoscopy unit at a cost of £2,500 each (pictured above) and 13 patient trolleys at a cost of £1,300 each.

Real Time Patients' Survey

This programme collects data from patients about to go home. The survey involves patients completing questionnaires, with the help of volunteers, to find out what kind of experience they have had during their stay. Volunteers visit each of the medical and surgical wards on a daily basis. The answers to the survey questions are inputted at the bedside into a laptop 'tablet' computer and are completely confidential. The aim is to find ways to improve patients' care and treatment and the overall results are fed back to ward staff quickly who are

then able to act on suggestions to improve patients' experiences.

Audiology at Home

Working with the Trust's Audiology department, voluntary services have been able to extend a home visiting service in the Settle area, for patients with hearing aids. The initiative provides a home visit service, to replace batteries, for patients who are unable to visit the hospital. The service has been operating for 12 months, but initially only had two volunteers, which made sustaining the service on a regular basis difficult. Thanks to an appeal in the local paper, voluntary services has recruited a further four volunteers and the service can now provide the much needed home visits on a monthly basis.

Radio Airedale

The hospital's radio station was completely refurbished during 2008 and now transmits to wards around the hospital 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The station is about to launch a series of new programmes, which will include the two chapel service broadcasts on Saturday and Sunday and a 'thought for the day' on week days. The programmes have been developed to encourage elderly patients to have an interest whilst in hospital. The introduction of the new services has been possible due to the recruitment of five new presenters.

Saturday Social

The Saturday Social events are very popular with patients but the lack of volunteers for this event has meant it has had to be cancelled for the foreseeable future. The Social is a very worthwhile event and gives patients a couple of hours away from the ward, with entertainment provided. New volunteers would be very welcome – even if it was only for the occasional Saturday morning, initially – and it would be great to have enough help to start the event regularly again later in the year.

Want to get involved?

If anyone is interested in volunteering at the hospital, or would like to find out more about the different services that volunteers work in, please contact the Voluntary Services Manager on 01535 295316 or email voluntary.services@anhst.nhs.uk or visit www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk.



New birthing pool offers more choice to expectant mums

Expectant mums can now experience a water birth at Airedale NHS Foundation Trust, thanks to the fundraising efforts of local volunteers, Friends of Airedale.

Midwives at Airedale Hospital are delighted about the installation of a brand new birthing pool on the Labour Ward.

Ann Tasker, midwife, says: "We are absolutely delighted that we can now offer local women the choice of a water birth and the option of labouring in water.

The benefits of using water immersion for labour and birth are well documented and include improved relaxation, a reduced use of analgesia, a feeling of well being and improved freedom of movement.

The maternity unit, which delivers around 2,600 babies every year, worked with local members of the National Childbirth Trust (NCT) and representatives from their maternity users' group on the proposals to offer water births.

Sarah Joyce, a user representative and NCT member is also working with the maternity team on further ways to improve maternity services for the future.



In December 2010, the hospital will officially be 40 years old, following its opening on 11 December, 1970, by Prince Charles.

As one way to mark this anniversary, we are planning to create a stand for the Annual Open Event on Thursday 2 September 2010 to highlight the last 40 years of the hospital.

If anyone has any memorabilia from the last 40 years, from the 1970s through to now and relating to the hospital, we would like to hear from you. We are hoping to display a range

of photographs showing how the hospital has changed but would like to include other items such as old text books, uniforms and even small items of equipment – we are happy to receive any other suggestions.

In addition, we would like to speak to both current and former colleagues and patients of the hospital, about the changes they have seen and any comparisons between then and now. If you can help please get in touch with Denise Raven, Communications Manager on 01535 294541 or e-mail: denise.raven@anhst.nhs.uk

Membership News

Contacting your Public Governors

All public Governors are now contactable by email at the following addresses. If you are unsure which constituency you are in, please contact the membership office and we will be happy to tell you.

Area and Constituency name	Governor name	Governor email address
Area 1 (covered by Bradford Metropolitan District Council)		
Bingley	Mark Haw-Wells	mark.haw-wells@nhs.net
Bingley Rural	Pat Thorpe	patricia.thorpe@nhs.net
Craven	Valerie Winterburn	val.winterburn@nhs.net
Ilkley	Sheila Paget	sheila.paget@nhs.net
Keighley East	Shirley Shields	shirley.shields@nhs.net
Keighley Central (2 seats)	Adrian Mornin	adrian.mornin@nhs.net
	Mohammed Nazam	mohammed.nazam@nhs.net
Keighley West	Anne Medley	anne.medley@nhs.net
Wharfedale	Peter Beaumont	peter.beaumont@nhs.net
Worth Valley	John Roberts	john.roberts1@nhs.net
Area 2 (covered by Craven District Council)		
Skipton (2 seats)	Peter Allen	peter.allen1@nhs.net
	Barbara Pavilionis	barbara.pavilionis@nhs.net
Settle and Mid-Craven	Alan Sturgess	alan.sturgess@nhs.net
South Craven (2 Seats)	Dr Neil Boyle	n.boyle@nhs.net
	Dr Alan Pick	alan.pick@nhs.net
Area 3 (covered by Pendley Borough Council)		
West Craven (2 seats)	Chris Nolan	chris.nolan@nhs.net
	John Wickham	john.wickham@nhs.net
Pendle East and Colne	Ray Tremlett	ray.tremlett@nhs.net
Area 4 (covered by Leeds City Council)		
Lower Wharfe Valley	Terry Gudgeon	terry.gudgeon@nhs.net
Area 5		
Rest of England	John Osborn	john.osborn@nhs.net

Governors will also be available at drop in sessions before our member's events – please check your events programme to see which event your Governor will be at.

Other events where you can meet Governors:

- Membership stand, Airedale Shopping Centre, Keighley, Tuesday 27 July, 9am to 4pm
- Membership stand, Bingley Show, Sunday 8 August, 9am to 6pm, Myrtle Park, Bingley
- Public Annual Open Event, Thursday 2 September, 3pm to 7pm, Education Centre, Airedale Hospital

Switch to email for a greener planet

We now have the facility to email you a copy of our newsletter and events programme.

This is greener option – better for the environment as it also saves on printing and postage costs.

If you would like to receive future copies by email please just contact us in the Membership Office on 01535 292727 or email members@anhst.nhs.uk with your preferred email address.

Member discounts

NHS Discounts – has launched a new web link for Foundation Trust members

www.nhsdiscounts.com/foundation

Just log on and register to start receiving discounts. When registering your details on the online form provided select 'NHS Trust' as 'organisation type', select 'Foundation member' as 'job category' and enter the Trust postcode 'BD20 6TD' as the organisation postcode.

You will then receive online access to hundreds of discounts.

Latest Discount – Members receive up to 40% discount off an adult ticket at Alton Towers by phoning 0871 222 4001 and quoting the discount code: NHSDiscounts – Offer valid until 6.11.10



Keep safe in the sun

It is vital to protect your eyes and skin from the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays.

Sun damage happens when the sun's UV rays penetrate into the skin and damage cells. You cannot feel it happening, and it can occur even when the sun doesn't feel very hot. Exposure to UV rays can also damage your eyes.

Sun damage increases the risk of

skin cancer, and speeds up the skin's natural ageing process so the most important thing to protect your skin is to make sure you do not burn.

Protect your eyes and skin by staying in the shade when the sun is at its strongest (between 11am and 3pm in the UK), covering up with clothes, sunglasses and a hat, and applying sunscreen to exposed skin.

Contact Us

Foundation Trust Membership Office, Airedale NHS Trust, Airedale General Hospital, Skipton Road, Steeton, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 6TD. Tel: 01535 292727

Email: members@anhst.nhs.uk • Website: www.airedale-trust.nhs.uk

If you need this newsletter in another format such as large print or Braille or in another language please contact us at the membership office.

It is important that we have your latest details so we can stay in touch. If you change your name, address, phone number or email please let us know.

'Your Hospital' is printed on paper from sustainable forests.

