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Stunning horse sculpture

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Four page event supplement inside

News from around the John Radcliffe Hospital, Horton General Hospital, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Churchill Hospital
Foundation Trust update

Oxford University Hospitals (OUH) is applying to become an NHS Foundation Trust. The Trust is working closely with the Trust Development Authority (TDA) who will be assessing its application.

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In July, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) announced it would change how it inspects acute hospitals. This meant a national halt was called to the process for assessing all NHS Trusts in the ‘pipeline’ to become Foundation Trusts.

The OUH has asked for its inspection under the new regime to take place as early as possible in 2014. The CQC’s Chief Inspector of Hospitals, Sir Mike Richards, began using a new inspection regime in September 2013 and confirmed in late October that OUH would be inspected during January to March 2014.

The Trust is updating its business and financial plans for consideration by its Board in March 2014. This would allow the Trust to submit an updated FT application in April and for it to be formally considered by the TDA’s Board in May.

If all these milestones are met and the TDA’s Board approves the application to go forward, OUH will be able to establish its Council of Governors to operate in shadow form by the autumn. The earliest we would expect elections can take place is June or July.

This timetable could change if the Chief Inspector of Hospitals’ report is not received by early April. It is also reliant on the Trust achieving an overall rating of Level 3 (‘Good’) or Level 4 (‘Excellent’) following the inspection.

Another possible risk to this timetable is the Trust agreeing a contract with its commissioners on plans for 2014/15 and beyond which are consistent with recent years’ trends.

During 2013, the numbers of people treated for planned care, emergency and outpatient care at Oxford University Hospitals have all continued to grow at levels consistent with previous years’ growth.

The NHS Trust Development Authority continues to support the approach taken by the Trust during 2013 to provide care which meets NHS standards of quality, timeliness and cost.

To find out more about the Trust’s application to become a Foundation Trust and what it means to be a member visit the website at www.ouh.nhs.uk/ft

Changes to OUH Divisional Structure

The new configuration of the clinical divisional structure came into effect on 1 November. The changes involve reducing the number of clinical Divisions from seven to five, and a number of services are being realigned within these five Divisions.

The five Divisions are:

- Neurosciences, Orthopaedics, Trauma and Specialist Surgery
- Medicine, Rehabilitation and Cardiac
- Children’s and Women’s
- Surgery and Oncology
- Clinical Support Services

You can view the new structure on the Trust website at www.ouh.nhs.uk/about/structure/divisions

An invitation to be part of our future

We want you to be part of our future. The Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust is applying to become a Foundation Trust. By becoming a member you can help us become a more responsive organisation with an improved understanding of the needs of our patients and local communities.

To find out more visit www.ouh.nhs.uk/ft

Your views welcome

Welcome to the newsletter of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust.

We hope you will continue to contribute your news and articles from your teams, departments and divisions and look forward to publicising them in the newsletter.

All items for publishing should be sent to Kelly Whitehead in the Media and Communications Unit, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital 01865 231471. Alternatively email kelly.whitehead@ouh.nhs.uk

Designed by Oxford Medical Illustration 01865 220900.

www.ouh.nhs.uk
Celebrating 50 Years of Play in Hospitals

Oxford Children’s Hospital celebrated National Play in Hospitals week by displaying photographs which show how play in hospitals has changed over the last 50 years.

National Play in Hospital Week was founded by the National Association of Health Play Specialists (NAHPS) and raises awareness of the benefits of play and recreation for children and young people who are patients in hospital, hospices or receiving medical care at home.

Christine Turner, a Senior Play Specialist at Oxford University Hospitals, said: “In the last 50 years the role of the Play Specialist has evolved and changed dramatically. It’s developed from a group of women who provided toys, to professionally-trained staff who use their skills to facilitate play.

“They make sure this is done in a positive and accommodating way to ensure that the children and young people they work with are able to face and deal with their hospital experiences, which can sometimes be traumatic and frightening.”

Fifty years after the first ever Hospital Play Staff were employed by the Save the Children Fund at London’s Brook Hospital, Abingdon mum Vanessa Roberts has praised Play Specialists in Oxford.

Vanessa, whose eight-year-old daughter Jessie Roberts was recently admitted to the Oxford Children’s Hospital with appendicitis, said: “The time and care the play specialists spent with Jessie when she was admitted with tummy pains was brilliant. They kept her busy with activities and nothing was too much trouble.

“They made her stay so much easier and more comfortable, and just having them there took a lot of pressure off us as parents. It was reassuring to know that our children were in safe hands, I don’t know how I would have survived without the play specialists – they are truly worth every penny.”

Quilters gift for baby unit

The Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) at the Horton General Hospital has received a donation of almost 100 hand-made quilts from a local quilting group.

The Middleton Cheney Quilting Group started in 2010, and the 24 quilters and craftswomen meet on a weekly basis.

The quilts were donated so that parents can choose one for their baby to take home with them when they leave the unit following treatment.
New hospital inspection regime

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator of health and social care in England. It makes sure health and social care services provide people with safe, effective, caring, well-led and responsive care and they encourage care services to improve.

The CQC monitors, inspects and regulates services to make sure they meet fundamental standards of quality and safety, and they publish what they find to help people choose care.

The CQC’s new hospital inspection regime will enter its second phase in January 2014 with 19 acute trusts named as the next trusts to be inspected.

The Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust welcomes the fact that it has been selected to be inspected in wave 2, as an aspirant Foundation Trust (FT). In September 2013 Monitor announced that it would not receive any applications from aspirant FTs unless they had been inspected under the CQC’s new inspection regime.

OUH Chief Executive, Sir Jonathan Michael, said: “We asked the CQC to consider our Trust in this next round as we would like to continue with our application for FT as soon as possible. A lot of work has gone into preparing the organisation for this process and we are happy to welcome the CQC inspection teams from 24 February 2014.”

More details of the CQC’s new intelligent surveillance model can be found by visiting www.cqc.org.uk

RCN conference at OUH

Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, welcomed people to a conference run by the Royal College of Nursing at the John Radcliffe Hospital in October.

The conference focused on the important issue of getting hospital care right for people with learning disabilities.

Sir Jonathan is pictured delivering his welcoming speech.

New electronic appraisal system

The Electronic Learning Management Appraisal System (ELMAS) is now live on the Electronic Learning Management System. When staff log on to their training record they will be able to see when they had their last appraisal and when they are due to have the next one.

If staff haven’t had an appraisal in the last 12 months they will need to speak to their line manager about arranging one as soon as possible.

OUH staff will be able to navigate the ELMAS by following the Appraisee User Guide. To access a copy please visit the ELMAS section on the Learning and Development pages of the OUH staff intranet.

A Senior Radiographer at the Churchill Hospital has learned sign language so that she can better communicate with patients who are deaf.

Karen Titchener passed BSL (British Sign Language) Level 1 in the summer and is now moving on to Level 2. She explained that she originally attended an introduction to sign language course in Cardiff about seven years ago. She decided to train with BSL while organising deaf awareness sessions at the Churchill Radiology Department.

Karen said: “I have always considered it important to ensure every patient has equal access to care. Witnessing situations where it has not been possible to have an interpreter present for deaf patients encouraged me to learn basic greetings and to fingerspell. Now I am studying further so that communication and patient care for deaf patients can continue to improve.

“Since starting my studies, I have met quite a few patients who use BSL sign language. Although it’s not a huge proportion of all patients, it makes a difference to know I have helped those people who do.”
Head and Neck Cancer services were moved to the Blenheim Ward at the Churchill Hospital in March. One unit’s patient was invited back to share his experiences of being on the ward.

James Alexander Gordon, who is famed for having one of the most recognisable voices in British broadcasting from reading the classified football results, was treated at the Blenheim Ward in June of this year after being diagnosed with cancer of the larynx. Mr Gordon retired from a 40 year career with the BBC and underwent a total laryngectomy and is still receiving treatment.

After his time as a patient on Blenheim Ward, Mr Gordon is able to detail first-hand the importance of having all surgical, chemotherapy and radiotherapy services delivered on one site, and the excellent care he received at the Churchill Hospital.

He said: "My broadcasting career of 40 years at the BBC ended in May when I was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx. It was a great shock but the care and consideration of the team on Blenheim Ward, under the guidance of ward sister, Heather Talbot, was exemplary. It is no ordinary ward – it is a happy place to be with staff full of great humour and warmth. Their caring attitude is second to none and they filled me with hope for the future. I cannot praise my surgeons Mr Silva and Mr Potter enough.”

Neil Cowan, General Manager of the Neurosciences, Trauma and Specialist Services Division at OUH said: “Receiving such positive feedback from Mr Gordon and his praise of the staff in our new integrated service is most gratifying and we wish him well in his continuing recovery. The unit has received tremendous support from patient groups, including HeadsUp, Heads2Gether and the Laryngectomy Club.”

A garden party took place in September to mark the official opening of the unit.

Voice of sports broadcasting treated at the Churchill

"it is a happy place to be with staff full of great humour"

OUH Staff Survey 2013

Thank you to all employees who have taken part in the staff survey this year. Your feedback will now be collated by our survey administrator, Picker, and reports will be communicated back to the Trust.

These reports will form the basis of action plans to be put in place, to improve the working lives of staff across the Trust.

The annual staff survey is an invaluable resource in understanding what is actually happening in the Trust and is only worthwhile when honest feedback is received from as wide a range of employees as possible. Thank you again for taking the time to complete the survey. Divisions will be reporting feedback and action plans devised in response to your comments during early 2014. Further information on our new staff survey can be found via the Human Resources section on the Trust’s intranet.
Trust hosts café event for dementia carers

Carers and relatives of people with dementia were able to get advice and information at a café-style event at the John Radcliffe Hospital on October 29.

The event, opened by the OUH Chair, Dame Fiona Caldicott, provided an opportunity to gain access to information, advice and support about dementia from Age UK, Guidepost Trust, Carers Oxfordshire, the Alzheimer’s Society, and teams from the Trust who care for patients with dementia.

Pauline Brown, Interim Deputy Chief Nurse at OUH, said: “This was a great opportunity for those who care for people with dementia to find out what help and support is available, and to meet other carers.”

Job applications now on TRAC

Job applications for positions across the Trust are now being dealt with using the TRAC Application Management System. All vacancies, both medical and non-medical, will be posted on jobs.ouh.nhs.uk as well as the NHS Jobs website.

It is hoped that the introduction of TRAC will significantly reduce the workload for both recruiting managers and the HR team. The system offers flexibility on the type of application form used for vacancies, and the option of receiving CVs from candidates. It offers managers real-time tracking of applications, and a single port of call shared by all involved in recruitment, which will improve knowledge-sharing and communication between HR and recruiting managers, as well as prospective employees.

Once the system has been up and running for a while, the recruitment team will be able to publish information about the time it takes to recruit new staff. For further information contact Nicola Sowden, Resourcing and Contract Manager on ext. 43471.

Award for Sobell House volunteers

Volunteers at the Sobell House Hospice, located on the Churchill Hospital site, have won the ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ at the Oxfordshire Charity & Volunteer Awards.

The nomination had specifically focused on the commitment and passion of all Sobell House volunteers who have supported the work of the hospice across a multitude of roles. The charity has a substantial number of volunteers who have dedicated up to 30 years to Sobell.

Pictured with the award are Vicky Baker – Day Services Volunteer, Rebecca Norris – Head of Voluntary Services, Sylvia Wilson – Bereavement Service Volunteer, and John Bunyan – Volunteer Driver.
A new facility has opened at the Churchill Hospital’s Haematology Ward offering a new way of caring for some transplant patients. It provides them with outpatient rather than inpatient care, enabling them to go home more following transplant.

The Ambulatory Care project has been introduced to allow ‘relatively well’ patients the chance to remain at home for the first part of their treatment that, historically they would have been admitted for. It is hoped that this new way of caring for patients will encourage a better dietary intake, an improved psychological state which in turn, should encourage them to recover more quickly following their bone marrow transplant.

This approach has already been tried by a number of other haematology and bone marrow units across the UK, with positive feedback.

Rachel Miller, Clinical Haematology Ward Sister, said: “Our ambulatory care area has been created in what was once an under-used space on the ward. It has a bed and a chair, and will be staffed for 12 hours a day by a ward nurse who will deliver chemotherapy, bone marrow transplant conditioning therapies and stem cell/bone marrow infusions.

“The patients will return home each evening and will have access to the ward staff 24/7 for advice or readmission.”

Doctors and nurse specialists identify those patients who are suitable for this type of treatment, and they are given lots of information so that they can decide whether ambulatory care is right for them.

The first patient to be treated in the new facility was Helen Chambless. She said: “While the ward care is fantastic and it has its place in many situations, any opportunity where a patient like me can be enabled to go home is so important. To be at home and still have access to the ward care was brilliant, and allowed me to be reminded of what I was fighting for. This facility has the potential to positively impact on so many patients over the coming months and years.”

Cancer patients at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH) reported improved satisfaction with their overall patient experience according to results published by NHS England.

More than 1100 OUH patients responded to the National Cancer Patient Experience Survey which reported the views of cancer patients in 155 NHS Trusts that provide cancer treatment.

A spokesperson for NHS England Thames Valley Area Team said: “It is excellent to see improvements in the quality of care experienced by cancer patients.

“Other hospitals can certainly learn from the excellent examples at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and we will work with them and other local trusts to facilitate sharing best practice across the region.”
Prime Minister meets families at Oxford Children's Hospital

Prime Minister David Cameron met families and staff at Oxford Children’s Hospital on a visit to announce a further £400m for cancer drugs in England.

Joined by his wife Samantha, Mr Cameron was greeted by Trust Chief Executive Sir Jonathan Michael and Divisional Director for Children’s and Women’s Dr Anne Thomson.

Children’s Matron Angela Houlston and ward sister Clare Jamieson introduced the Prime Minister and his wife to staff and families on Kamran’s Ward, including Johnson Kyeswaj of Carillion. Among the families they met were Scarlett, 9, and her mum Bryony Clarkson; Chase, 16, and her mum Mandy Howie; and Simon Hall and his daughter Francesca.

During his visit in September, Mr Cameron announced a £400m extension to the Cancer Drugs Fund. The fund allows patients to get fast access to cancer drugs which would not routinely be available on the NHS – but which their doctors believe are right for them.

President of Malta visits Oxford

President of Malta, Dr George Abela, visited Oxford in November to see first-hand the excellent surgery and treatment some Maltese citizens receive in the UK, as part of a reciprocal health care agreement.

Joined by his wife Margaret, Dr Abela began his visit to Oxford at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre. The President was keen to see the units where some Maltese patients are treated for complex orthopaedic conditions. At the NOC he was given a tour of the Gait Lab, Orthotics Workshop and the Bone Infection Unit. The second part of the tour included a stop at the Children’s Hospital at the John Radcliffe Hospital to meet staff and patients on Tom’s and Robin’s ward, where children are treated with plastic and orthopaedic surgery.

The UK has a long-standing reciprocal agreement with Malta to provide health care and treatment. OUH medical director, Professor Ted Baker said: “It has been a pleasure to host the President and his wife on a short tour of our hospitals and we look forward to continuing to offer our expertise in orthopaedic reconstruction and plastic surgery in the future.”
Anne Thomson retires after 24 years

After 37 years of practising medicine, Dr Anne Thomson retired from her post as a consultant paediatrician and Divisional Director for Children’s and Women’s Services in November. Dr Thomson joined the Trust in 1989, having trained as a paediatrician in London and Leicester.

As a specialist in paediatric respiratory medicine, she has seen huge advances in the field of children’s medicine, notably in the treatment of Cystic Fibrosis (CF). “When I was in training, generally this was a disease where children died in childhood,” she said. “Now you can expect that more than 90% of children with CF will be transferring over to the adult service, and in this country there are now more adults with the disease than there are children. This is due in part to new treatment regimes, drug developments and a better understanding of how to control infection.”

Dr Thomson’s proudest achievement came in 2007 with the opening of the Oxford Children’s Hospital, a project which she played an important role in driving forward. It was the culmination of many years’ planning to consolidate children’s services in one, purpose-built location. She said: “It actually gave children’s services a real recognition within the Trust, and highlighted the importance of care and treatment for children in the right kind of environment.”

As well as an interim post with the Thames Valley Strategic Network, Dr Thomson is looking forward to travelling, gardening, and pursuing her interest in medieval landscapes.

Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive thanked Anne on behalf of the Board for her fantastic contribution to children’s care and to the NHS over the 24 years that she has been in Oxford. He said: “Although I have only had the privilege to work with Anne for the last three years, I have witnessed her total dedication to the care of children in the Trust and her major contribution to the development of our clinical management system in the Trust.”

New NICU now fully operational

The final phase of the new Newborn Intensive Care Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital has been completed, with the opening of the new entrance.

The first of two nurseries opened in July. Now, both nurseries, Acorn and Blossom, are fully operational. The unit is now accessed from a new purpose-built reception opposite the High Dependency Unit.

The £5.5m extension will double the number of intensive care cots available (from 10 to 20), 16 of which will be housed in the new unit, as well as increasing the number of high dependency cots.

Dr Eleri Adams, Clinical Director for Newborn Care Services, is pictured in the new entrance with Ward Clerk Alison Brown.
On the anniversary of his mother’s death, Richard Mayon-White (pictured right) set sail with the aim of raising £40,000 for Sail 4 Cancer and Sobell House. Richard left Gibraltar on Friday 25 October and is embarking on this sail in memory of his mother who died at Sobell House at the Churchill Hospital. The money raised for Sobell House will be used to help friends and family to look after patients at home, and the project will see an Occupational Therapist employed to give training to them. This could involve getting the patient into the garden, going to the shops, or even having a shower. The goals are chosen by the patient and their loved one and are tailored to their needs.

To follow Richard’s journey or support Sobell House visit www.sobellhospicecharity.org.uk

Striking artwork at Oxford Children’s Hospital wins award

‘KIDS, a stunning five storey high wall painting by world-renowned artist Michael Craig-Martin, has won a Small Projects Award from the Oxford Preservation Society. On receiving the award, Ruth Charity, Arts Co-ordinator for the OUH, said, “Many people were involved in helping to fund-raise for this spectacular wall painting, but in particular I would like to thank the friends and family of Felicity Waley-Cohen because, without their inspiration and support, this project would not have been possible. Recognised in the Small Projects category, the wall painting can be seen in the spectacular atrium of the Children’s Hospital and West Wing at the John Radcliffe Hospital. It is a superb example of dramatic contemporary art on public view and is seen by tens of thousands of patients, visitors and staff each year.”

For further information on artlink, the arts and music programme for the OUH, please contact Ruth Charity on 01865 222509 or email her at ruth.charity@ouh.nhs.uk

New initiative to evaluate liver radiotherapy in Oxford

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust is one of 10 cancer centres to be named as a provider of Selective Internal Radiotherapy (SIRT) by NHS England. This new £4.8 million initiative is aimed at increasing access to specialist radiotherapy services as part of a programme called ‘Commissioning through Evaluation’.

SIRT, a specialist form of radiotherapy used in the treatment of cancerous tumours in the liver, is the first treatment to be evaluated in this national programme. “On behalf of our patients who have been waiting for several difficult months for this news, we are delighted by this announcement,” said Dr Ricky Sharma, Consultant Oncologist at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, who leads the SIRT team. “The list of centres published today means that we can offer SIRT to a large number of eligible patients. Some of these patients currently have no other treatment options available.”

The Churchill Hospital in Oxford is one of the busiest centres in England for SIRT therapy. Since 2008, Dr Sharma’s very experienced team of clinicians and scientists have been offering this treatment to patients with primary liver cancer or cancer that has spread to the liver from other organs. Pictured above: one of the specialist cancer team at the Churchill Hospital, Dr Phil Boardman, consultant interventional radiologist.
Meet the Team: Oxfordshire Hospital School

The Oxfordshire Hospital School provides access to education for children while in hospital. The nine-strong teaching team work in classrooms and at patients’ bedside at the Children’s Hospital, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Horton General Hospital and Helen House Hospice.

As well as academic subjects, there are a wide range of opportunities for young patients to take part in the creative curriculum through storytelling, music and visits.

The school’s Assistant Head in charge of the Hospital Sector, Helen White, said: “Our priority is long-stay and recurring patients, but we teach all pupils up to the age of 17. Teaching is personalised, and we work with the patients’ home schools in order to meet individual needs.”

Last year, the school, which is administered by Oxfordshire County Council and follows its normal term dates, taught more than 800 pupils. It is fully regulated by Ofsted, the national education watchdog, and is a registered exam centre, with pupils even taking GCSE exams in hospital, often at very short notice. This year, the school transferred 19 GCSE exams.

There are specialist teachers at each key stage and for SEN (special educational needs) as well as for subjects such as mathematics, art, music and languages.

For more information about the Children’s Hospital Teaching Sector, contact Helen White, 01865 231584 or Helen.White@ohs.oxon.sch.uk

Horton promotes all things healthy!

Three ‘Healthy Hospital’ events were held in November at the Horton General Hospital in Banbury organised by the Trust’s Centre for Occupational Health and Wellbeing together with Horton staff.

Health promotion stands were in the main entrance and restaurant as well as stands from external organisations such as Oxfordshire Mind and Walking for Health. The events also provided the opportunity for staff to have a health MOT, attend a RCN stress management workshop and take part in health walks on site.

The health and wellbeing of our staff is important in delivering compassionate excellence to our patients and the Healthy Hospital Days that had been arranged aimed to raise awareness and support health and wellbeing amongst OUH staff.

In July the Trust organised the first Healthy Hospital event on the John Radcliffe Hospital site, which saw over 1,000 visitors, patients and staff attend. Further Healthy Hospital Days will be planned for 2014 at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Churchill Hospital.

For more information on Health and Wellbeing contact Anna Hinton on 01865 223334 or email anna.hinton@ouh.nhs.uk
THOUSANDS of Oxfordshire residents are set to take part in a 10-year study to improve treatment of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

The Oxford Renal Study (OxRen) will recruit 6,000 people, aged 60 and over, to better understand the condition estimated to affect about one in 10 people.

CKD is a long term condition and in some cases can lead to complete kidney failure, leaving sufferers dependent on dialysis or requiring a kidney transplant.

Researchers hope increased understanding will lead to new ways of preventing, diagnosing and treating CKD.

The study is supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Oxford Biomedical Research Centre – a partnership between Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and the University of Oxford. Visit www.phc.ox.ac.uk/research/kidney-disease/studies/oxren

To find out more visit oxfordbrc.nihr.ac.uk or follow us on Twitter @oxfordbrc
Equine sculpture finds new home at the NOC

A stunning steel horse has found a new home at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre thanks to a generous donation by talented trainees.

The magnificent sculpture, installed outside the Botnar Research Centre, was donated by the award winning craftsmen and their apprentices at the Camelia Botnar Foundation in West Sussex.

Trainees at the foundation, which also provided the hospital Sunflower sculpture, come from difficult home situations and are in a two year residential work experience programme in various trades such as ironwork, carpentry and horticulture.

The donation was organised by The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre Appeal – an independent charitable trust raising funds for the NOC and its research.

Jeanette Franklin, Director of the NOC Appeal, said: “The Camelia Botnar Foundation does a fantastic job in helping young adults embark on a useful career path. The talent and skills they have are amazing and I hope they will be able to provide more artwork for the hospital in future.”

Trust appoints first Nurse Consultant for Heart Failure

Helen Jackson has been appointed as the Trust’s first Nurse Consultant for Heart Failure.

Helen, who was formerly Advanced Nurse Practitioner for Heart Failure, will divide her time between research and education, and clinical responsibilities. An important element of her role will be nursing leadership, supporting nurses both in professional development and research.

The role of Nurse Consultant ensures that highly experienced nurses continue to work directly with patients, on the wards and in clinics. Helen will be identifying areas where services can be improved, and seeking patients’ views on that, and working with relevant teams to ensure the improvements are made.

Helen said: “It’s a way of promoting nursing, and what nurses are capable of, and working in innovative ways to improve the quality of care for patients.”

Helen, who joined the Trust in January 1998, added: “The benefit of this role is that where there are gaps in heart failure services, a large part of what I am doing will be addressing that, which will be enormously satisfying.” She will also be taking a particular interest in end-of-life care for patients with heart failure.
News from Charitable Funds

Hospital abseil raises over £40,000

A sunny September day saw 150 people taking part in our hospital abseil, raising over £40,000 for various hospital causes. The hospital radio team kept the tunes pumping and a crowd cheered throughout the day, as two by two, the fundraisers descended the 100 foot wall at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

First on the ropes were staff and supporters of the Transplant Development Fund. 74 year old Sylvia Franklin said: “This has always been on my bucket list! I thought I’d be really nervous, but once I got over the ledge I actually really enjoyed it and the view was fantastic.”

Consultant, Niki Petrie and a team of staff from the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery dressed in decorated bras as they abseiled with patients and family members.

Many abseiled for the Children’s Hospital and children’s causes, including Emma and Steven Radley who organised a team of 22 people to abseil for the Newborn Intensive Care Unit. The family are now close to having raised £50,000 in memory of their son William.

Head of Community Fundraising, Graham Brogden, said: “This was one of the busiest abseils we’ve ever had, and we are delighted that so many people managed to conquer their fears to show their support for the hospital causes closest to their hearts.”

A lasting legacy

Legacies have helped fund many hospital projects over the years, in fact, every day patients benefit from improvements made possible by legacies left to Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Charitable Funds.

Oxford’s first hospital, the Radcliffe Infirmary, was founded in 1758 thanks to a £4,000 legacy from John Radcliffe to fund a hospital for Oxford. Similarly, the Horton Hospital in Banbury is named after its first donor, Mary Ann Horton.

Today, legacies have supported areas across our NHS trust, including the Children’s Hospital, the Oxford Eye Hospital and pioneering cancer and cardiac research projects.

Although many people give to charity on a regular basis, currently just 7% of the UK population includes a charity in their Will. It’s one of those things many of us intend to get round to, but never quite reaches the top of our ‘To Do’ list.

If you would like to discuss supporting a particular hospital area in your Will we would be very happy to help you. Please call Janet on 01865 743443 or email janet.sprake@ouh.nhs.uk.

Raise Big Smiles when you Run Five Miles!

The annual Oxford Mail OX5RUN at Blenheim raised an amazing £98,000 for the Children’s Hospital and children’s services across the Trust in 2013. You can help make the 2014 event just as successful by signing up for the 5 mile run. The date for your diary is Sunday 30 March, it’s Mothering Sunday so why not run with your Mum then treat her to a nice lunch to celebrate the day and your support of the Children’s Hospital? Read more or sign up at www.hospitalcharity.co.uk/ox5run

Support Your Hospital Charity

Whichever hospital cause is closest to your heart your support and generosity will make a difference – helping to provide pioneering medical research, even more comfortable facilities and advanced medical equipment. Find out how you can help at www.hospitalcharity.co.uk, email charity@ouh.nhs.uk or call 01865 743444.
The Major Trauma Centre at the John Radcliffe Hospital celebrated its first anniversary after it became fully operational in October 2012. A central part of the Thames Valley Trauma Network, the Trust has seen more than 760 major trauma patients admitted for specialist care from across the region and beyond.

The Clinical Director of the Thames Valley Trauma Network is Syed Masud, pictured outside the John Radcliffe Hospital’s Emergency Department with the Clinical Director of the Major Trauma Centre, John McMaster.

In June 2013, NHS England reported that major trauma networks had resulted in a 20% improvement in survival for patients sustaining life-threatening trauma which is equivalent to around 1,000 lives saved.

Recently a specialist consultant in rehabilitation has been appointed. This means that as well as being assessed at the scene of the accident and then transferred directly to the John Radcliffe for highly specialist treatment, patients admitted to the Major Trauma Centre also benefit from the integrated Rehabilitation services on-site.

The Rehabilitation team, led by Rehabilitation Consultant, Dr Josephine Hillan, ensures the early assessment and management of patients’ rehabilitation needs. This early intervention ensures patients are supported in their recovery to achieve their optimal functional status, including returning to work or education where possible.

Dr Hillan said: “It has been a very rewarding first year, and there have been clear improvements in approaches to holistic patient care. By combining the latest surgical techniques with the comprehensive Rehabilitation Medicine approach, I am confident we will continue to build on the firm foundations we have made as a multi-disciplinary team in our first year.”

Changes to the way we keep our staff informed

Helping to keep staff informed about what is happening throughout the organisation is an important part of corporate communications. There are a number of ways in which we do this including: Senior Manager’s briefing sessions with the Chief Executive, the bi-monthly written Team Brief, the intranet, the Trust website, global emails and face to face All Staff Briefing Sessions.

We’ve been asking for feedback on how to improve this information sharing and make it more relevant and timely. In response we will run the all staff briefing sessions in the New Year on a quarterly basis. The sessions will include a small amount of corporate information on current Trust priorities and then a presentation on a topic which is relevant to the majority of staff and directly affecting patient care.

The first of the new sessions, geared towards all staff, will be held towards the end of January. Dates, times and locations will be available via the Trust intranet under the Corporate Communications section.

We hope you can find the time to attend one of the new briefing sessions. For more information contact media.office@ouh.nhs.uk

New Director of Organisational Development and Workforce

The Trust has appointed Mark Power as the new Director of Organisational Development and Workforce. Mark will be taking up his appointment on 19th February 2014. He is currently Director of Workforce and Human Resources for Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Yeovil Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

We would like to welcome him to Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust.
OUH Chief Executive, Sir Jonathan Michael, has helped boost the Trust’s annual flu campaign which, at the end of November, saw over 58% of frontline staff vaccinated against the flu virus.

Sir Jonathan said: “Last year 6604 of staff received the vaccination and this year we are aiming for 8000. Only by ensuring the majority of staff are vaccinated can we reduce the risk of flu spreading from staff to patients, colleagues and their families.

In 2008, fewer than 10% of staff in the Oxford hospitals had a flu jab; in 2012 it increased to more than 58%. That is a fantastic improvement and I am delighted at the increasing commitment my colleagues are showing to protecting the health of their patients, their colleagues, their families and themselves. I hope even more will take part this year”.

The OUH runs one of the biggest staff immunisation programmes within the whole of the NHS. We have a very large headcount and are vaccinating more and more staff each year. We delivered the fifth highest number of vaccine doses in the NHS in England last year.

For more details on clinics in your ward area, see the flu pages of the OUH intranet.

Flu jabs for pregnant women

The Trust is also offering pregnant women a flu jab when they attend for ultrasound scans and outpatient appointments at the John Radcliffe or Horton General hospitals.

The initiative is part of a larger three-month campaign run by Public Health England which recommends for all pregnant women to have the flu vaccine, which can help protect their baby from flu in the first few months of life.
OUH raises awareness of pressure ulcer prevention
The OUH and Oxford Health promote Stop the Pressure Day

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust has signed up to a national NHS campaign, Stop the Pressure, to raise awareness with its staff, patients and visitors of how to prevent a pressure ulcer.

In November staff at the John Radcliffe Hospital were onboard the NHS Health Bus offering advice and demonstrations to raise awareness as part of the national ‘Stop the Pressure’ day.

The Trust’s campaign was organised by OUH Tissue Viability Nurse, Ria Betteridge, who was on hand to show a wound care model known as ‘Seymour’. The model looks and feels like the bottom of an older patient and illustrates the various colours and grades of pressure ulcers – just as you would see on a patient.

The ‘Seymour’ model is also used in Ria’s training and education of junior nurses as part of pressure ulcer education throughout the Trust which highlights what to look for when assessing a pressure ulcer and learning how to dress such wounds.

Five simple steps to prevent and treat pressure ulcers:

- **Surface**: make sure your patients have the right support
- **Skin inspection**: early inspection means early detection. Show patients and carers what to look for
- **Keep your patients moving**
- **Incontinence/moisture**: your patients need to be clean and dry
- **Nutrition/hydration**: help patients have the right diet and plenty of fluids

Avoidable pressure ulcers are a key indicator of the quality of nursing care, and preventing them happening will improve care for vulnerable patients.

Ria said: “Pressure ulcers can be extremely uncomfortable and can be prevented. I have been working with my colleague Sarah Gardner, Thames Valley lead for Oxford Health, and we hope the day raises awareness among our colleagues and also members of the public on understanding how to prevent a pressure ulcer.”

The national campaign aims to reduce pressure ulcer prevalence by 50% throughout the winter as 700,000 people nationally are affected by pressure ulcers every year.

Trust signs up to Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Charter

The Trust has pledged its continuing support for people with Motor Neurone Disease by signing up to a national initiative.

The OUH has added its name to the MND Association’s MND Charter, a simple five-point document to ensure that people with MND receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

The Charter’s five points are:

1. People with MND have the right to an early diagnosis and information;
2. People with MND have the right to access quality care and treatments;
3. People with MND have the right to be treated as individuals and with dignity and respect;
4. People with MND have the right to maximise their quality of life;
5. Carers of people with MND have the right to be valued, respected, listened to and well-supported.

The OUH is already a centre of excellence for MND care and treatment, with the Oxford MND Centre at the John Radcliffe Hospital. The clinic is run by two Consultant Neurologists: Professor Kevin Talbot and Dr Martin Turner. The Clinic Coordinator is Rachael Marsden, Specialist Nurse and Jenny Rolfe, Occupational Therapist.

The clinic has more than 400 patient visits per year (over 120 of which are new referrals), and sees people from all over the UK as well as the Oxford area.
Black History Month celebrated at OUH

An event to celebrate Black History month was held at the John Radcliffe Hospital in October and was organised by the Oxfordshire NHS BME Network.

The event welcomed three speakers; Elizabeth Anionwu, Professor of Nursing at the University of West London; Owen Williams, Chief Executive of Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust and Ariel Lanada, Senior Charge Nurse at OUH.

Financial support the event was given by the JR League of Friends, Unison and the RCN.

A call for Equality and Diversity Champions

The Trust is committed to the provision of high quality and safe care for all members of the communities that we serve and the development of a culture where people are valued and respected for their individual differences.

We believe that all patients and staff should be treated with respect and dignity and treated as individuals with different needs.

If you are interested in being an Equality and Diversity Champion for your Division, to provide advice and support to meet the needs of patients and other employees please contact Jan Cottle on jan.cottle@ouh.nhs.uk

This role is to be undertaken alongside your normal duties and you will be provided with training and on-going support.

‘Every Person Matters’

“Every person matters”. “Everyone smiles in the same language”. “People Recognizing Individual Diversity and Equality”. “There is strength in our differences”. “Diversity makes me feel happy”.

These are just a few of the many slogans displayed in the staff room of the Adult Intensive Care Unit (AICU) during a celebration of October’s Black History Month.

In October AICU hosted an International Lunch attended by staff working in the Unit originating from 28 different countries. Food from around the world was shared and some people attended wearing their national costume.

For AICU, this is just the beginning of more dynamic and cohesive events showcasing our love of diversity and our total commitment to equality.

Security Awareness –

Don’t leave anything to chance this Christmas

The safety and security of our patients, staff and visitors is very important and we urge people to be security aware.

Although every effort is made to keep theft to a minimum, we must all do our bit to ensure we don’t give thieves the opportunity to act, particularly with the holiday season fast approaching.

If you are buying and sharing gifts; don’t leave presents and valuables on view in your car or unsecured in your office/staff rooms.

It’s up to all of us to take responsibility for security in our own areas by being security aware. Always ensure that valuable items are out of site and locked away wherever possible and at all times.

For further advice please visit the Security Intranet site, or contact Rachel Collins, Trust Security Manager via OUH email or ext 23313.
Listening into Action moving forward

The Trust’s goal for LiA has always been that it just becomes ‘the way we do things around here’, and a way of hearing different views and ideas when planning service improvements or looking at challenging situations. With the first wave LiA project teams’ experience we showed it helps staff feel engaged and involved in changes being made, as well as being a great way to improve things for patients.

The second wave project teams are now established and updates from some of the teams are set out below.

• The Neurosciences Ward, led by project lead Ruth Linighan, held an event in November for a wide multidisciplinary group to share ideas on how to improve their discharge planning.

• The Resuscitation Team led by project lead Catriona Flemming, are building a business case for a simpler, safer and more cost-effective way of replacing equipment on resuscitation trolleys. They are planning staff LiA events on different sites over the coming weeks.

Call for LiA Champions

To help establish LiA more widely within the organisation we are now actively seeking individuals to become LiA Champions. If you have been part of a project team, organised or participated in an LiA event and would be interested in sharing your experience and knowledge to support colleagues, we would like to hear from you. To express an interest in becoming an LiA Champion please contact Hazel Murray, Project Manager on hazel.murray@ouh.nhs.uk

Award for e-Rostering team

The project team responsible for implementing e-Rostering has won an award. The award was presented by Allocate Software which supplies the e-Rostering software HealthRoster. The ceremony was held at the Victoria Park Plazza Hotel, London, in October. The awards were judged and presented by an independent panel.

The system allows the team to track all shifts and ensure the Trust is compliant with the European Working Time Directive. Managers are aware when staff are working too many hours, and can ensure they are rested adequately to provide the best care.

The award recognises the efforts of a team which has implemented and continues to support the roll-out of e-Rostering software HealthRoster.

Pictured at the award ceremony are Dora Barta, Dr Phil Hammond, David Foster, Deputy Director of Nursing, Department of Health, Sandra Harding-Brown, Daphne Sutherland, Allen Swann, Sales Director, Allocate Software, and Jenni Middleton, Editor, The Nursing Times.
Jean’s half-century in Horton Radiology

A member of staff at Horton General Hospital has reached an incredible landmark in her working life – 50 years in the same department.

Jean Butler joined the Radiology Department at the Horton in 1963, and celebrated her 50th anniversary in September of this year. She joined at a time when there was no CT (computed tomography) Department, no Ultrasound Department and a part-time radiologist who was also a Senior Partner at a local surgery.

Jean worked full time from 1963 to 2011 and became the Department’s Office Services Co-ordinator as staff levels grew. In 2011 she dropped back to working as Medical Secretary two days a week, to allow more time to pursue her many outside interests, including golf, gardening, bell ringing and her family.

During her time at the department, she has witnessed a whole host of technical advancements, including the advent of ultrasound scanning, and the introduction of the automatic development of films.

She said: “Many things have changed over the 50 years, mostly for the better, and I remain as ever deeply committed to the NHS and the service it provides for our population, and also I am grateful for its expertise, both on a work front and on a personal family level.”

Viv’s farewell after 33 years

Viv Drohan, the Team Lead Physiotherapist for Cardiothoracic Surgery, retired from the Trust in September. Viv worked for the Trust for 33 years, starting as a physiotherapist in January 1980.

She said: “I will miss it massively, including my many friends at the Trust.” She plans to spend her time ‘chilling’, travelling, and training her new black Labrador puppy Baldrick.

Paying tribute to Viv, Catherine Stoermer, Enhanced Recovery Facilitator, Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery, said: “Viv is a character and all who meet her tend to remember her! She will be greatly missed by all who have worked with her over the years including the physiotherapists, nurses and doctors.”

Barbara Gray Retires

Before retiring in September Barbara Gray had enjoyed a career spanning 35 years working for the Trust.

Barbara started working at the John Radcliffe Hospital in 1977 as a Secretary in the Administration Offices and later went on to work in various departments across the Trust before moving to Human Resources in 2002.

Before she retired, Barbara said: “It’s not where you work, but the people you work with that makes the time so enjoyable. I’d like to sincerely thank everybody that I’ve worked with over the years and thank them all for the wonderful retirement gifts I received. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working at the Trust; it has been very special”

Barbara is already enjoying retirement and plans on spending more time with her two daughters and her grandchildren.

OUH News – your bi-monthly newsletter with news from around the John Radcliffe Hospital, Horton General Hospital, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Churchill Hospital.

Look out for the next edition of OUH News which will be out in February 2014.

If you have any news from your team or department that you would like to be featured please contact Kelly Whitehead in the Media and Communications Unit on 01865 231471 or email kelly.whitehead@ouh.nhs.uk Deadline for copy is 27 December 2013.

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