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WELL DESERVED RECOGNITION FOR OUR STAFF – see page 10 for all staff awards
Delivering Compassionate Excellence

The Trust has recently published its Integrated Business Plan which sets out the services we provide, our long-term objectives, and how we will operate as a legally-constituted NHS Foundation Trust over a five year period to March 2018.

As a financially viable and a well-governed organisation our focus is on quality of care, innovating and continuously improving our services.

Our vision: to deliver excellence and value in patient care, teaching and research within a culture of compassion and integrity

Our Values: Excellence  Compassion  Respect  Delivery  Learning  Improvement

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<th>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</th>
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To be a patient-centred organisation providing high quality, compassionate care with integrity and respect for patients and staff.

To be a well-governed organisation with high standards of assurance, responsive to members and stakeholders in transforming services to meet future needs.

To meet the economic challenges and changes in the NHS by providing efficient and cost-effective services and better value healthcare.

To provide high quality general acute healthcare to the people of Oxfordshire including more joined-up care across local health and social care services.

To develop clinical networks that support the delivery of services through a regional network of care to benefit our partner organisations and the people they serve.

To develop durable partnerships with academic, health and social care partners and the life sciences industry to facilitate discovery and implement its benefits.

High Level Priorities

- Improve access to services and reduce delayed transfers
- Improve quality, safety and patient experience year on year
- Involve patients in service development.

- Achieve compliance with national standards
- Develop robust governance and assurance systems
- Establish Council of Governors and membership.

- Make savings and internal efficiencies such as weekend working
- Better use of our PFI estate
- Deliver clinical efficiencies through EPR.

- Work with GPs and trusts to improve pathways
- Patients are cared for in the best place for them
- New models of care outside hospital.

- Expand specialist services through strengthening of clinical networks e.g trauma, stroke, vascular
- Develop regional partnerships with provider trusts.

- Deliver translational research to drive improvements in clinical services
- Partner in Academic Health Science Network – joint work on key themes such as dementia.

Listening into Action – Pass it on Events

Good progress has been made by the ‘First Ten’ pioneering teams who have initiated change within their own areas. The First Ten teams are taking forward ideas to improve patient experience, quality and safety. Work is also being undertaken to generate improvements to induction, appraisal, communications and other supporting systems.

The experiences and stories from the First Ten teams and system change teams will be showcased at a series of ‘Pass it on Events’ which are planned to take place during March. These events will help to share good practice, show the differences these changes have made to improving patient care and help to inspire other teams.

“The First Ten teams are taking forward ideas to improve patient experience, quality and safety.”

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 Dodgson in the Media and Communications Unit, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital 01865 231471. Alternatively email kelly.dodgson@ouh.nhs.uk

 Copies of OUH News are circulated widely throughout the Trust via special news vendor stands. Individual copies can be sent on request.

Designed by Oxford Medical Illustration 01865 220900.

News about the John Radcliffe Hospital, Horton General Hospital, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and Churchill Hospital.

The next edition published in April 2013.

www.ouh.nhs.uk
Royal visit to Churchill Hospital

The Duke of York visited the Churchill Hospital in December to mark the official opening of the new building.

His Royal Highness visited the Radiotherapy Department, Theatres and saw how robotic surgery works before meeting patients on the Jane Ashley Ward. The Duke of York, with the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, was accompanied around the hospital by Trust Chairman Dame Fiona Caldicott, and Chief Executive Sir Jonathan Michael, and by Professor Andrew Hamilton, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

Dame Fiona said: “We were absolutely delighted to welcome The Duke of York to our hospitals today. Our staff, patients, fundraisers and volunteers all help to make the Churchill the fantastic hospital that it is, and we were very proud to be able to show His Royal Highness our new hospital building and the way in which research and education informs and improves our patients’ treatment.”

Following the tour, His Royal Highness was introduced to staff from the Trust, University of Oxford and invited guests. The Duke then unveiled a plaque commemorating the opening of the new building at the Churchill Hospital.

OUH midwife named regional winner in the Royal College of Midwives ‘Midwife of the Year’

Congratulations to Pauline Ellaway, a community midwife based at Wallingford’s midwifery-led unit. Pauline has been announced winner of the Johnson’s Baby Mums’ Midwife of the Year Award 2013, part of the Royal College of Midwives Annual Midwifery Awards, for the South & Midlands region.

Nominated by mum Emily Townsend, Pauline went above and beyond the call of duty to deliver exceptional care before, during and after the birth of Emily’s son, Douglas, in May 2012.

The Johnson’s Baby Mums’ Midwife of the Year Award recognises the incredible work carried out by particularly outstanding midwives across the country. It is the only award which allows mums to nominate midwives who they feel provided exceptional support.

Pauline narrowly missed out on winning the overall national Midwife of the Year Award, which went to a midwife from Liverpool.
Doctors launch 'healthy' network for hospitals

Have you ever thought hospitals could be healthier? For example, by having healthy food in canteens and shops, exercise and relaxation opportunities for staff, or smoke-free worksites? One group of doctors (Tom Kelley, F2 doctor, Will Do, fifth year medical student, Helen MacMullen, F2 doctor, and Oliver Mytton, public health registrar) think this is important and want to improve things.

Tom explained: “We have healthy schools, which nurture and support health not only in what they teach, but in the bigger messages and examples they set in terms of how the school is run. Why not a healthy hospital? After all, health is core for all hospitals.”

The four of them are establishing a wide network of healthcare professionals (nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, managers and more) who share their vision. They want to learn from good practice elsewhere. Crucially it is about working with staff. “This is not about top down change, it is about encouraging and supporting staff to make changes they want,” explained Oliver.

They are looking to use NHS Change Day in March to showcase good practice. Helen explained: “We want to focus on what can be done – the small changes that staff can make.” Will added: “For example, one of the physios is planning to open the gym up to staff; and also keep an eye on the stairs – there will be some posters promoting stair walking as a great way to get exercise.”

So if you are interested, drop them an email (kelleyta@me.com). And watch out for the fruit and vegetable van in the hospital forecourt!

Choose Well this Winter – Do you really need to go to A&E?

As the number of people across the country attending A&E departments and calling 999 increases each year, the NHS is appealing to the public not to go to A&E departments this winter unless they genuinely have a very serious or life-threatening health problem.

During winter, hospitals face increased pressures, and at such a busy time the Choose Well campaign aims to encourage people to find a more appropriate service for minor injuries and ailments by directing patients to the service best suited to their illness or condition.

The Choose Well campaign aims to encourage people not to default to A&E if they have a less serious health issue, but choose from a variety of other services that are available to help them to ensure they get the best possible treatment at the right time.

- For very minor problems such as a hangover, indigestion, or a grazed knee, people should self-care.
- For minor infections, coughs and colds, advice can be given by local pharmacies.
- For ailments such as stomach pain and vomiting, a persistent cough or ear pain, call your GP surgery, visit your local walk-in centre or your Minor Injuries Unit.

Details can be found at www.nhs.uk

Choose well.

Children’s Party at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre

Children being treated by the Prosthetic Service, at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, were invited to a party to meet members of the London 2012 GB Sitting Volleyball Paralympic teams in November.

GB Sitting Volleyball Paralympians Julie Rogers and Charlie Walker talked about their experiences in the Paralympics in a bid to inspire the young patients to achieve their potential.

The children came along with their parents and friends to the Oxford Centre for Enablement (OCE), where they took part in activities such as; exploring a fire engine and police van; enjoying various crafts, games and face painting, and meeting animals such as armadillos and meerkats.

The party was organised by Senior Occupational Therapist, Anne Marie van Es, and her team, and aimed to get children with prosthetic limbs together and give them the opportunity to talk to families in similar situations.

Anne Marie van Es said: “The prosthetic service covers a wide geographical area and patients often don’t know anyone else in the same situation as them which can sometimes be quite isolating. By providing a party the service hopes to enable children and their families to get together in an informal, enjoyable atmosphere, create bonds and share knowledge and experiences.”
Since the beginning of October the Trust has been encouraging staff to get their flu vaccination in a campaign aimed at protecting against the main strains of flu before the season started.

At the end of 2012 the campaign had successfully vaccinated 58% of OUH frontline staff and in total more than 6,500 vaccines were given to the 11,000 strong workforce. This figure saw 500 more frontline staff being vaccinated than the 2011 flu campaign.

Well done to all staff who have been vaccinated and for doing what you can to protect yourselves, patients, colleagues and services from flu – this has been a tremendous effort by all involved.

As a final push, a health bus visited all four hospital sites in December offering those staff who had not yet had the flu jab a chance to get themselves vaccinated. OUH vaccinators travelled on the bus and also handed out credit card sized information cards which encouraged patients and visitors to ask staff ‘Have you had your flu shot this winter?’

Staff Nurse, Margaret Shoniwa from the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre said: “I decided to have the vaccination as I wanted to make sure I didn’t get flu this year and I also didn’t want to pass it on to my patients.”

Dr Tony Berendt, Deputy Medical Director at OUH, said: “For the majority of people who catch it, flu is very unpleasant. For some, it can lead to chest infections, severe complications and even death. Globally, seasonal flu accounts for about three to five million causes of severe illness annually and between 250,000 and 500,000 deaths.

“The campaign isn’t just about keeping the individual staff member safe; it’s about protecting patients, colleagues and families too.”

Wantage MLU re-opens

Wantage MLU re-opened for births at the end of November, having been closed since February for building works and re-staffing.

Head of Midwifery for the Trust, Jane Hervé, was pleased that women in Wantage were able to choose the unit again. She added: “The benefit of the Wantage MLU is that it is focused on care in the community, and that it is so close to home.”

By Christmas, seven babies had been born in the re-opened facility.

The Trust currently runs midwifery-led units at community hospitals in Wallingford, Chipping Norton and Wantage, and also the Spires Unit based in the John Radcliffe Hospital.
Patients shape up in hospital’s gym
The delivery of acute rehabilitation for Major Trauma patients at the John Radcliffe Hospital

by Dr Louisa Stacey and Mrs Rupali Alwe

Oxford has been a leading centre in developing Major Trauma care for the past 20 years. The John Radcliffe Hospital became fully operational as a Major Trauma Centre (MTC) on 1 October 2012, bringing with it an increase in the number of patients with complex injuries. Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust has invested in new staff, including a clinical lead for Acute Trauma Rehabilitation Services and rehabilitation co-ordinators.

An integrated team of physiotherapists and occupational therapists utilise the gymnasium on Level 2 of the Trauma Unit for one-to-one and group therapy sessions. Liz Mowbray, the new Head of Therapies and Rehabilitation in the Trust, said: “The therapy strategy is multidisciplinary patient goal planning, with therapists working in an integrated way putting the patient at the centre of high quality care. We are also working alongside academic partners to provide the evidence that rehabilitation in the acute specialist setting is essential to patient recovery.”

There is a spacious, open plan gym which accommodates a range of exercise equipment and assessment stations. Equipment includes a plinth, parallel bars, assessment stairs and steps, weights, gym balls, a balance and wobble board, a cryotherapy machine, and an assessment kitchen. In addition, various pieces of modern technology are used for training, including the Nintendo Wii, Apple iPad, and the internet.

Professor Keith Willett, appointed as the Department of Health’s first National Clinical Director for Trauma Care, and Honorary Consultant Orthopaedic Trauma Surgeon at the JR, said: “The Trust has responded to the NHS Clinical Advisory Group’s report on rehabilitation assessments for trauma patients. This physiotherapy gymnasium redesign is a great example of giving priority, and reacting as early as possible, to the recovery needs of patients surviving serious injuries.”

In addition to acute rehabilitation, each patient receives a Rehabilitation Prescription that provides a centralised record of rehabilitation assessments, goals, and interventions during the patient’s acute phase of care.

Oxford Head and Neck Team commended in Oncology Awards

Congratulations to the Oxford Head and Neck Team who were commended in the 2012 Quality in Care Excellence Oncology awards last year.

Members of the cancer team from Oxford were commended in their ability to provide and implement evidence-based clinical guidelines on appropriate post-operative enteral tube feeding routes following head and neck cancer surgery.

The Quality in Care (QIC) Programmes are an initiative developed to recognise quality and productivity, in line with the Department of Health agenda around QIPP (Quality, Innovation, Productivity, Prevention). The series of programmes aims to identify, commend, evaluate and share good practice in patient care within specific treatment areas.

Each QIC Programme highlights good practice and collaboration between the NHS, patient groups and the industry in specific therapy areas.
New state-of-the-art research facilities in Oxford will help enhance the treatment of musculoskeletal injuries, strengthen the fight against bone cancer and improve arthritis care.

Research teams moved into the £6m “phase 2” of the Botnar Research Centre, based on the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre site, in January.

It makes the University of Oxford research facility one of the largest musculoskeletal research centres in Europe, doubling its size to ensure it continues to compete with leading institutions on the world stage.

Phase 2 is the culmination of a seven year fundraising campaign by the NOC Appeal, the same independent charity that previously raised more than £5m to build the original Botnar Research Centre.

NOC Appeal director Jeanette Franklin, who was made an MBE for her fundraising work, said: “This is a dream. It started back in the early 1990s when we set a target of raising £1m towards building the first phase of the Botnar. That became £5m and the centre opened its doors in 2002. Our vision always included a second phase and it is wonderful to see research teams moving in.”

The Botnar Research Centre now comprises 4,000sq m of custom built research facilities including state-of-the-art laboratories, flexible office accommodation and dedicated “write up” areas.

It can house up to 250 scientists, clinicians and support staff, carrying out pioneering research into conditions such as osteoporosis, osteoarthritis and cancer. Research will include genetics and cell biology, orthopaedic engineering and surgery, clinical research and epidemiological studies.

It will also house research carried out by the National Institute for Health Research Oxford Biomedical Research Centre (Oxford BRC), a collaboration between Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and University of Oxford to accelerate innovation in musculoskeletal research.

Professor Andy Carr, Divisional Director at the NOC, Director of the Botnar Research Centre and the NIHR Oxford BRC said: “Since it opened in 2002, the Botnar Research Centre has established itself as a world leading centre for musculoskeletal research. This extension will strengthen our efforts and provide our researchers and clinicians with the best possible facilities.”

The Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology will open its new building at the University’s neighbouring Old Road campus. The institute, founded in 1965, transferred to University of Oxford in 2011.

The Kennedy Institute, the Botnar Research Centre and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre will bring together world class basic research, translational research and NHS treatment at one location.
**Give blood – the gift that costs nothing**

In November the John Radcliffe Hospital hosted the regional launch of a new national campaign to attract more blood donors. NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is aiming to recruit 100,000 new donors.

Elise Sykes, pictured left, needed 23 units of blood after suffering complications after giving birth to her son Harrison by emergency caesarean. She said “It is amazing to think that an hour of somebody’s time saved my life and I can’t thank donors enough for their generosity. I’d say, if you’re thinking about donating, just go for it, it’s not much to give, it’s free and you can end up saving people’s lives.”

Every year 225,000 new donors are needed to replace existing donors who drop out of the system. This year the need is more urgent, following a dramatic decline in the number of younger donors signing up.

To find out if you are eligible to become a blood donor and make a date to donate, visit www.blood.co.uk or call NHS Blood and Transplant on 0300 123 23 23.

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**NHS Forest – plant a tree on our site**

The NHS Forest is a pioneering programme to engage people with the common ground between their personal wellbeing and wider environmental concerns. Specifically, the NHS Forest aims to improve people’s access to green space by planting trees and holding community activities on NHS sites across the UK.

To support the NHS Forest, why not sponsor a tree to celebrate a baby being born, thank staff for your care in hospital, commemorate someone’s life or say thank you for their hard work on retirement. For just £10 you could give a long lasting sustainable gift, with the native tree being planted at one of the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust sites.

You can buy one at the League of Friends shop on the John Radcliffe site.

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**Who’s in your department?**

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

Thieves can operate around our Trust by taking advantage of the open nature of the hospitals and the volume of people on our sites day-to-day.

We can all help to reduce the risk of theft by being security aware; wear your ID badges at all times, make sure secure doors close behind you and do not allow people to follow you into secured areas.

If you are in any doubt as to who or why somebody is in your department contact the Trust security teams on site who will investigate for you.

Further security advice can be found on the Security intranet site, via the Estates and Facilities pages, or from Rachel Collins, the Trust Security Manager/Local Security Management Specialist via OUH email or extension 21503.
Trust wins Health Service Journal award

The Trust’s Electronic Patient Record (EPR) and Positive Patient Identification (PPID) technology – a system that enables clinicians to identify patients at the bedside by barcode scanning of their wristbands – has won a second major award.

The Trust triumphed in the HSJ Awards, winning the Improving Care With Technology category. Earlier in 2012, the Trust won the National Patient Safety award for Technology and IT to improve Patient Safety for their innovative design of the electronic radiology and laboratory medicine order communications system.

This award winning system means that clinicians simply scan the patient’s wristband barcode with a small hand held device, which then generates an instant test request label at the bedside.

On the busiest days, the labs at the OUH can be sent up to 1,500 requests, and in January alone, more than 35,000 were received from areas of the organisation using the system. The aim of this new system is to improve the process for requesting tests by swapping the paper forms and replacing them with an electronic requesting and labelling system. This can reduce the risk of samples being mislabelled and also reduces the amount of time lab staff spend querying incomplete information.

Emma wins local Dignity in Care award

Congratulations to nurse Emma Sanders who has won a local award for ‘Dignity in Care’ in a new scheme set up by Age UK Oxfordshire.

The Dignity Every Day awards have been set up to highlight the exceptional care practice displayed by many people every day in Oxfordshire.

Emma is a staff nurse at the long stay oncology ward at the Churchill Hospital. She was nominated for the award by a relative of a patient that she cared for during the last few months of their life.

Congratulations Oxford Medical Illustration

Congratulations to two members of the Trust’s Medical Illustration team who won silver at the Institute of Medical Illustrators’ Awards in September 2012.

Jackie Love and Emma Hawke were awarded silver for their graphic design entries. Emma’s entry which demonstrated how to redesign nursing documentation to make it easier and more efficient for nursing staff to complete was also awarded the Gabriel Donald award for innovation. Emma said: “I love the fact that my graphic design skills can have a direct impact on patient care. I worked intensively with nursing staff to redesign the documents and make real service improvements. It’s great to have our work recognised at such a high level.”

Oxford Medical Illustration, an OUH department based on Level 3 at the John Radcliffe Hospital, provides a comprehensive graphic design, photography and video service for OUH, other NHS organisations and external customers.

This year’s ceremony was held in Glasgow where awards were given for submissions that demonstrated outstanding application of technique in the fields of photography, graphic design and video in healthcare.
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust is proud to recognise the contribution our staff make to the success of our organisation through Delivering Compassionate Excellence.

The OUH strives to be an organisation that staff would recommend to others for their treatment, and be an organisation that lives and puts into practice its values of compassion, excellence, respect, delivery, learning and improvement.

Delivering Compassionate Excellence supports improvements in the quality of patient care through the process of engaging employees to ensure that aspects of patient care, patient safety, clinical effectiveness and patient experiences, are embedded in the practices and behaviours of everyone who works for the Trust.

The inaugural annual celebration for the Staff Recognition Awards in December provided a great opportunity for celebration and thanks to all those staff who had gone that ‘extra mile’ and made a contribution far ‘over and above’ what was expected of them in their role.

Over 240 nominations were received from staff for these awards, and all of the nominations were carefully considered by a panel of stakeholders including a Non-executive Director and a member of staff-side.

The event recognised and celebrated achievements in seven categories:

- **Excellence** – awarded by Chief Executive, Sir Jonathan Michael
- **Compassion** – awarded by Chief Nurse, Elaine Strachan-Hall
- **Good thinking** – awarded by Chairman, Dame Fiona Caldicott
- **Leader** – awarded by Medical Director, Professor Ted Baker
- **Innovator** – awarded by Non Executive Director, Chris Goard
- **Volunteer** – awarded by Non Executive Director, Geoff Salt
- **Team** – awarded by Director of Workforce, Sue Donaldson

The evening saw people from across the organisation come together to hear how and why they were nominated. The front page of this newsletter features the Gold Award winners.

Thank you to all staff involved, those that took the time to nominate individuals, and those that attended the fantastic event. If you know someone who has gone ‘that extra mile’, or someone who deserves to be recognised, remember you can nominate them for future staff recognition events.

**Maxine Saxton, Senior Ward Housekeeper, Silver Award, Excellence**

**Svetlana Galitzine, Consultant Anaesthetist, Bronze Award, Compassion**

**Yvonne Wall, Care Support Worker, Oncology, Silver Award, Compassion**

**Ian McKenzie, Head of Workforce Education, Bronze Award, Innovation**

**Hayley Smith, Matron, Oncology, Silver Award, Leader**

**Presana McGurk, Senior Staff Nurse, Bronze Award, Excellence**

**Kay Day, Occupational Therapist, Bronze Award, Good Thinking**

**Carol Hutcheson, Senior Receptionist, Senior Receptionist, Silver Award, Compassion**

**Anne Stares, Tissue Coordinator, Silver Award, Innovation**

**Svetlana Galitzine, Consultant Anaesthetist, Bronze Award, Compassion**

**Yvonne Wall, Care Support Worker, Oncology, Silver Award, Compassion**

**Ian McKenzie, Head of Workforce Education, Bronze Award, Innovation**

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**Anne Stares, Tissue Coordinator, Silver Award, Innovation**

**Svetlana Galitzine, Consultant Anaesthetist, Bronze Award, Compassion**

**Yvonne Wall, Care Support Worker, Oncology, Silver Award, Compassion**

**Ian McKenzie, Head of Workforce Education, Bronze Award, Innovation**

**Hayley Smith, Matron, Oncology, Silver Award, Leader**

**Presana McGurk, Senior Staff Nurse, Bronze Award, Excellence**

**Kay Day, Occupational Therapist, Bronze Award, Good Thinking**

**Carol Hutcheson, Senior Receptionist, Senior Receptionist, Silver Award, Compassion**

**Anne Stares, Tissue Coordinator, Silver Award, Innovation**
Award for Excellence
This award is for the person or team who consistently demonstrates excellence through their care.

Finalists:
- Jenny Morton – Senior Radiographer – Gold Award
- Maxine Saxton – Senior Ward Housekeeper – Silver Award
- Presana McGurk – Senior Staff Nurse – Bronze Award
- Sue Adams – Clinical Support Worker
- Karen Fenn – Ward Sister

Award for Compassion
This award is for someone whose work we want to recognise because of the quality of the compassion they demonstrate.

Finalists:
- Luke Souter – Therapies Assistant – Gold Award
- Carol Hutcheon – Senior Receptionist – Silver Award
- Dr Svetlana Galitzine – Consultant Anaesthetist – Bronze Award
- Philippa Raey – Radiology
- Dr Maria Isabel Leite – Consultant Neurologist

Award for Good Thinking
This award recognises the contribution of a team or individual to significant improvement in the quality of a service, patient safety or experience.

Finalists:
- Helen Doling – Health Care Assistant, Haematology – Gold Award
- Yvonne Wall – Care Support Worker, Oncology – Silver Award
- Kay Day – Occupational Therapist – Bronze Award
- Marion Elliott – Advanced Nurse Practitioner
- Lucy Parsons – Accreditation Manager

Award for Innovation
This award is for an individual or team who has made a major contribution to improved quality, learning, innovation and development through research or system creation.

Finalists:
- Jennifer Floyd – Specialist Cancer Pharmacist – Gold Award
- Anne Stares – Tissue Coordinator – Silver Award
- Ian Mackenzie – Head of Workforce Education – Bronze Award
- Shirley Henderson – Consultant Clinical Scientist
- Adrian Taylor – Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

Award for Leader
This award is for a manager or team leader who consistently supports their staff and provides excellent leadership. They will be a good role model who encourages a spirit of respect and teamwork.

Finalists:
- Helen Scarfe – Superintendent Radiographer – Gold Award
- Hayley Smith – Matron, Oncology – Silver Award
- Geraldine Yebray – Acute Stroke Unit – Bronze Award
- Sarah Curtis – Sister, Oncology
- Heather Wilson – Lead Nurse for Pain

Award for Volunteer
This award is for a volunteer who has a positive attitude to volunteering and who makes a vital contribution to service delivery and the team.

Finalists:
- Simon Cruden – Children’s Division – Gold Award
- Brian Green – Patient Gardening Group – Gold Award
- Patrick McCarthy – Help Desk Volunteer – Silver Award
- Breast Reconstruction Awareness Group – Bronze Award
- Graham Churchill – League of Friends

Team Award
Phil Street and Keith Hicks – Porters, Radiology Department – Gold Award
Nurse Immunisation Team – Silver Award
Ward Housekeepers, Oncology Ward, Churchill – Bronze Award
Trust consults on the vision for the Horton General Hospital in Banbury

The Trust will launch a consultation in March on its vision for the Horton General Hospital, setting out proposals for the future provision of services and expanding the range of services available for local people. The vision encompasses a secure future for paediatrics, obstetrics, trauma and the Emergency Department at the Horton General Hospital and an expansion of outpatients and routine and short stay day surgery. The public, patients, staff and stakeholder organisations will be invited to give their views as part of the consultation.

Abdominal surgery
The proposals will also include a recommendation to transfer emergency abdominal surgery to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. This proposal is based on the national recommendations from the Royal College of Surgeons that emergency surgical patients should have the same level of access to suitable specialist surgeons as currently provided to patients seen on a planned basis.

In order to ensure that patients are treated by a surgeon with the relevant specialist skills, emergency abdominal services need to be centralised. This service already exists at the John Radcliffe where there is a critical mass of patients requiring emergency abdominal surgery to warrant a full range of specialist emergency surgical staff rotas.

Because of some unexpected changes in medical staffing personnel, there are no longer enough consultants with the required expertise in major abdominal surgery within the surgical team at the Horton to ensure that patients requiring emergency assessment and surgery can be cared for safely. The Trust has therefore taken a decision to suspend emergency abdominal surgery at the Horton and transfer the small number of patients requiring such surgery to the John Radcliffe. This took effect from 18 January.

Paul Brennan, Director of Clinical Services at Oxford University Hospitals, explains: “We are committed to providing the best possible services for our patients. The proposals we are putting forward will increase the number of services available to people at the Horton. In particular we will expand the number of outpatient clinics and day case and short stay elective surgery available at the Horton.

“We have listened and engaged extensively with local people in the Banbury area and the vision we are proposing is designed to build a strong future for that hospital and will not affect the ongoing provision of obstetric and paediatric care or the trauma services and the Emergency Department at the Horton.”

Diabetes weight management service
The Trust runs a weight management service for people with diabetes who would like advice and support with managing their weight. The service is run by a team of specialist diabetes dietitians who have experience in supporting people both on an individual level and within specialised groups.

These groups have been running in Oxfordshire for over four years. Each group is limited to eight people, meets weekly over a period of four weeks for two hours each week and is run by a diabetes dietitian. The course offers education about different eating plans to lose weight, and the team will help pick the plan most suited to you and your lifestyle.

If you would like to attend either a clinic or group please speak to your GP or Practice Nurse who will be able to refer you if appropriate.

Don’t miss out on bowel cancer screening
Don’t pass up the invitation to be screened for bowel cancer – that’s the message going out to people aged over 60 in Oxfordshire.

The Trust runs the county’s bowel cancer screening clinics, and is urging people not to miss out on the opportunity to be tested when they receive a home testing kit as part of a national scheme to offer routine screening every two years. David Munday, the Trust’s Lead Nurse for bowel cancer screening, said that many people in the 60-75 age group are ignoring their invitation to complete a home testing kit.

Around one in 20 people in the UK will develop bowel cancer. It is the third most common cancer and the second biggest cause of cancer deaths. However, bowel screening can detect bowel cancer in people that have no symptoms, and when diagnosis is made at an early stage, bowel cancer can be cured in over 90% of cases. The later a diagnosis is made, the more difficult bowel cancer is to treat.

The method used by the NHS Screening Programme to screen for bowel cancer is a simple test which detects blood hidden in the small samples of faeces. You complete the test over the course of a few days, in the privacy of your own home. Once complete, you simply return it in the post to a central laboratory for testing.

The test does not diagnose bowel cancer but will identify any possible blood in the faeces. A positive test will trigger an invitation to see the screening nurses and have an investigation to find out what is causing the bleeding.

David Munday said: “Our concern at the moment is that only half of the people we invite to do the test at home actually complete and return it. Completing this free and simple test at home can identify pre-cancerous polyps and help prevent the disease from developing in the first place.”
Christmas at OUH

There was plenty of festive cheer for the young patients of Oxford Children’s Hospital with visits in December from Father Christmas and the First Team squad of Oxford United.

Santa had hoped to arrive by helicopter from nearby RAF Benson, but freezing fog meant that he came by minibus with servicemen and women from 230 Squadron to give out presents in the wards.

The following week, Oxford United stars, including Michael Duberry and James Constable, were joined by mascot Olly the Ox to spend a couple of hours chatting with children and their parents and giving out Christmas gifts (pictured above).

Senior Play Specialist, Christine Turner, said: “It can be particularly hard at Christmas for children spending time in hospitals, so we try to make it as enjoyable as possible. All of us here at the Children’s Hospital Oxford would like to give a big thank you to Santa and all at 230 Squadron [pictured below], as well as all the other visitors we receive during December and throughout the year.”

Other visitors to the Children’s Hospital included motorcyclists from the popular bikers’ meeting place H Café, near Berinsfield, and another visit from Santa, this time with the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance.

New Year Babies

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust was pleased to welcome a number of New Year Babies to the world in 2013 with Louis Muir the first baby to be born at the John Radcliffe on 1 January.

Baby Muir was born a month prematurely at 1.17am and weighed in at just over 5lbs. The first child to Ross and Ruth Muir, an Orthopaedic Surgeon and GP respectively, the couple were delighted with the new addition to the family.

Proud dad, Ross, said: “It was a bit of a surprise that he was early but we are so thrilled that he is healthy and happy and wonderful, just wonderful.”
New imaging could improve lung disease treatment

A PIONEERING lung imaging technique that could improve diagnosis and treatment of conditions such as asthma has moved a step forward in Oxford.

Researchers at the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre will begin patient trials of xenon imaging this spring.

The main advantage of xenon imaging over existing imaging methods is its ability to detail how the lung is functioning, as well as its structure.

It could allow specialists to identify the most effective treatments, based on how individual patients respond to a drug, or to target radiotherapy in cancer patients, sparing normal healthy tissue.

Volunteers needed to investigate how exercise can help the ageing brain

AN NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre study investigating how physical and mental exercise can affect the ageing brain is recruiting volunteers.

The Cognitive Health in Ageing project aims to provide valuable insights into how the brain can adapt and change during ageing.

Dr Claire Sexton said: “We hope these studies will help us to understand the extent to which we can minimise cognitive decline in ageing with simple daily activities such as computer tasks or physical activity.”

Researchers are looking for volunteers aged 60 or over to take part in either the exercise or brain training arm of the project.

For more information visit www.oxfordcognitivehealth.org

A “revolution” in tackling TB

New genetic sequencing techniques can map the “family tree” of a Tuberculosis (TB) outbreak, allowing the spread of disease to be tackled quickly and effectively.

Researchers, led by the NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre, have pioneered the whole genome sequencing (WGS) method that compares the genetic information from TB germs of patients to show who has given the disease to whom and help identify “super spreaders”.

Co-investigator Dr Philip Monk, at the Health Protection Agency, described the research as a “revolution in TB control”.

Public talk

Dr Adam Mead will give a talk on how pioneering genetic research in Oxford is advancing the diagnosis and treatment of leukaemia and other blood diseases.

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 6.30pm - 7.30pm.
Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, lecture theatre.

The talk is free and open to all.

The NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre is a partnership between Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and the University of Oxford. It is improving healthcare through research and innovation. It is funded by the National Institute for Health Research. In April 2012, in recognition for its outstanding contribution to healthcare research, that funding was renewed for a further five years and increased to £95m.

Follow @oxfordbrc on Twitter for the latest research news and events
Raise big smiles when you run five miles

The biggest fundraising event of the year for the Oxford Children’s Hospital and children’s causes across the Trust is back. The Oxford Mail OX5RUN will take place at Blenheim Palace on Sunday 10 March.

Julia Spargo, a local mum of two, is taking part in the five mile run again this year. She explains:

“My daughter Beth was born a year ago, prematurely with a cleft palate, dislocated hips and respiratory problems. Until you’re part of the community that uses the Oxford Children’s Hospital you don’t appreciate how long some children spend there. Nor do you realise how many of the homely facilities and pioneering pieces of medical equipment have been paid for through fundraising and donations.

“Beth has taken every medical scan, examination and operation with a loud protest and a cheeky grin, she can now breathe independently and has just started to make speech sounds. So, running five miles around the beautiful grounds of Blenheim is the least I can do. I hope some of you reading this will join me.”

It costs £10 to enter the run and we ask people to aim to raise £100 or more in sponsorship. You need to be aged 16 or over to take part. You can run (or fast walk) on your own or set up a team of five or more. Visit www.ouh.nhs.uk/ox5run or call 01865 743445 to find out more about the event or sign up to take part.

To find out more about any of these events or to discuss your fundraising ideas please call the fundraising team on 01865 743444, email charity@ouh.nhs.uk or visit the website www.ouh.nhs.uk/charity
Trust now implementing ‘Friends and Family’ Test across all sites

The Friends and Family Test will go live in the Trust on 28 January. This is a simple test which has been introduced by the Government to drive cultural change and continuous improvements in the quality of care experienced by patients.

Patients will be given a comment card on discharge with the simple question “How likely are you to recommend our ward/department to friends and family if they needed similar care or treatment?”

There is a scale of response options, ranging from ‘extremely likely’ to ‘extremely unlikely’, with an opportunity for patients to comment further on the care they have received. There will be a display on each ward showing both positive comments and what the issues are and what is being done. Results will be reported nationally, and also in more detail locally.

If you would like to find out more, email FriendsandFamilyTest@OUH.nhs.uk

Linda goes to great lengths

The Churchill Hospital has been chosen to pilot a unique innovative cancer patient care programme, which, if successful, will roll out across the rest of the country.

‘Linda’s Great Lengths’ hair loss support workshops have been created by cancer patient Linda Mayhew, in association with the National Cancer Action Team, and are designed to improve patient experience and care. The OUH’s Lead Cancer Nurse, Karen Mitchell, will be running the workshops in Oxford.

The workshops bring patients, their families and carers together with experts to give them advice on managing hair loss, as well as support in choosing the perfect wig. The team includes multi-award-winning hairdresser Anne Veck, who can also trim and personalise existing wigs, scarf-tying and head covering experts from The Way Ahead team from the League of Jewish Women, and Gill Ashwin, from Jacqueline’s Wigs.

Karen Mitchell said: “The workshops are designed to give information as well as being interactive. Feedback from participants has been very positive. Individuals have appreciated the opportunity to explore hair loss and its effects with fellow patients in a safe and reassuring environment. The experience has helped boost self-confidence and morale.

“The input from the hair and beauty experts is invaluable, and we thank them for their time and commitment to the workshops.”

The National Cancer Action Team’s Associate Director, Paula Lloyd-Knight, added: “The workshops have been developed to complement NHS Trusts’ existing hair loss services. The Churchill Hospital demonstrates perfectly how existing cancer patient care can be further enhanced through the workshop experience.”

Pictured are Gill Ashwin from Jacqueline’s Wigs and Lead Cancer Nurse Karen Mitchell

Christmas stockings donated to the Children’s Hospital

Young patients who spent Christmas Eve at Oxford’s Children’s Hospital received extra special Christmas gifts this year when more than 100 handmade Christmas stockings were donated from countries all over the world.

The stockings were hand-sewn and decorated by volunteers Dr Sylvia Rueda and Val Mitchell, with the help and donations of many sewers from countries across the world, including: Canada, Mexico, Finland, Belgium and Spain.

Senior Play Specialist Christine Turner said: “The Christmas stockings that Sylvia and her team donate are truly wonderful. Each year we are able to give one stocking, filled with a gift from Father Christmas, to every child who spends Christmas Eve at the hospital.”
The air ambulance now carries blood

Air ambulance now carrying blood

Lessons learned in war zones are set to benefit seriously-injured patients being transported to the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

From Tuesday 18 December, Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance began to carry two units of blood, in a special refrigerated box developed by the military, to allow transfusions at the scene of the accident, instead of waiting until arrival at hospital.

Dr Syed Masud, HEMS [helicopter emergency medical service] Consultant for the charity and Trauma Consultant at the John Radcliffe Hospital, said: “Trauma is the leading cause of death and disability in children and adults worldwide.

“About half of all deaths are due to bleeding or complications resulting from it. Injury, shock and blood loss all contribute to a failure of the body’s normal blood clotting mechanisms, which then leads to more bleeding.”

“Research stemming from military surgery and resuscitation from places such as Afghanistan, has helped clinicians understand that the best replacement fluid for victims of major trauma is blood. The major issue has been carrying blood and delivering it to patients as close to the point of injury as possible. The invention of the specialised ‘blood cool box’ allows the TVACAA to carry and store blood for 72 hours. Blood not used will be recycled within the hospital so there is no wastage.

Doctors and technicians from the blood transfusion service at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, have worked closely with the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust, to become only the second HEMS Air ambulance in the country to carry this life saving initiative.

OUH consultants named in The Times top 100 doctors list

Six consultants from Oxford University Hospitals have been listed in a supplement produced by The Times newspaper.

At the end of last year The Times produced a magazine supplement titled Britain’s Top 100 Children’s Doctors which highlighted the leading paediatric specialists working for the NHS in the UK.

The Trust’s consultants listed were:
Julie Edge – Consultant in Paediatric Diabetes
Peter Sullivan – Honorary consultant in Paediatric Gastroenterology
Mike Pike – Consultant in Paediatric Neurology
Kate Wheeler – Consultant in Paediatric Oncology
Tim Theologis – Consultant in Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery
Nicholas Wilkinson – Consultant Paediatric Rheumatologist

Dr Anne Thomson, Divisional Director for the Children’s and Women’s Division, said: “I’m delighted that our paediatricians have been recognised for their expertise to the children of Oxfordshire, Thames Valley and beyond. Our Children’s Hospital is a centre for excellence and provides a range of specialty services by paediatricians and surgeons with particular paediatric specialist interests, but also provides a general paediatric service.

“It’s wonderful for the Trust to be featured so prominently in a national role call such as this. We featured the second highest number of recognitions. Our colleagues are truly worthy of recognition for being among the top 100 children’s doctors in Britain.”
LGBT History Month
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) History Month is celebrated in February each year and celebrates the lives and achievements of LGBT people. For a thought provoking timeline of LGBT events through history go to www.help.northwest.nhs.uk/lgbt_timeline/timeline.html

A confidential email address is available to provide support to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender staff working at the OUH. The email account (LGBT@ouh.nhs.uk) is supported by dedicated members of the OUH LGBT staff and not by HR or any other corporate function.

Date for your diary – event in Oxford
Wednesday 6 February
LGBT History Month Lecture at the University of Oxford
A talk by author Val McDermid titled ‘A Queer-Like Smell’
Booking is essential. For more information visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/sexualorientation/lgbthistorymonthlecture

LGBT community organisations in Oxford
• Oxford has hosted an annual Oxford Pride event since 2003 – www.oxford-pride.org.uk
• Oxford Friend is a voluntary organisation running free and confidential information, support and counselling services for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals – www.oxfordfriend.co.uk
• First Sunday is a positively inclusive Christian fellowship for LGBT and questioning people in Oxford. You don’t have to be LGBT or Christian to come along – www.firstsunday.info/
• Oxfordshire’s Homophobia Awareness Liaison Team is a multi-agency initiative that works to challenge and eliminate all forms of homophobia and transphobia in the county – www.oxhalt.co.uk

Bullying and Harassment – support to staff
The Bullying and Harassment Support Colleague initiative was re-launched last month.

If you think you are being bullied and would like to contact a Bullying and Harassment Support Colleague, a full lost of contact details can now be found on the Trust’s intranet site.

Brain surgery documentary on the BBC
A new one-hour three part documentary will be airing on the BBC from Wednesday, 6 February about some of the brain surgeons and doctors from OUH.

As well as looking at the amazing work they do, the documentary will also look at the challenges faced by the patients and their families.
Dedicated Radiologist
Anne Dunbar receives Honorary award

Radiologist Anne Dunbar has been awarded an Honorary Master of Science by the University of Hertfordshire in recognition of her outstanding dedication and contribution to radiology.

Anne has worked in radiology for 30 years, 23 of which were spent at the John Radcliffe Hospital where in 2003 she became Radiology Manager. During her career Anne has experienced many changes in radiology services, including the introduction of digital equipment for imaging. After retiring in March last year Anne has since returned to work at the John Radcliffe Hospital as a Clinical Radiographer.

Debbie Tolley, Radiology Manager at the John Radcliffe Hospital, has worked with Anne for many years and said, “Anne is a dedicated and wonderful colleague. We are very proud that she has been awarded the honorary degree in recognition of her services to radiology which is well deserved. I have been very lucky to have worked alongside Anne and I am delighted that she has returned to the Trust.”

What is a STEM Ambassador?

Sandra Richards, a Biomedical Scientist in Cellular Pathology at the John Radcliffe Hospital, joined STEMNET as an active NHS Healthcare Science Ambassador.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Ambassadors are volunteers who work in the STEM industry. The role of an ambassador is to meet with children in a variety of settings such as primary and secondary schools with an aim to change the misconceptions of who a scientist is, what kind of person they are and who gets to be one.

As an ambassador Sandra particularly likes to spend time with teenagers who are facing their GCSE choices and thinking about their future careers. She said: “I particularly like to spend time with children that are less academic and who need the most encouragement and support. I find most of them generally like science but don’t always see its relevance with the real world and therefore don’t consider it as a career option.”

The role allows Sandra to inspire, mentor and encourage young learners to enjoy the STEM subjects and to allow them to learn about career opportunities within biomedical sciences and the NHS as an employer. She also helps with CV writing, interview skills and University personal statements.

For more information visit www.stemnet.org.uk

Trust scientist spreads the word about her job

Trainee scientist Katharine Kenny was featured in the Daily Mail’s careers section in December, aimed at increasing recruitment in the field.

Katharine, a physics graduate with a Masters in radiotherapy drugs, told the paper: “As a trainee healthcare scientist in medical physics, my job includes monitoring patients who have had radionuclide therapy, and advising them about safety.”

She continued: “I can use my physics knowledge and work with advanced technology, but I’m also rewarded by knowing I’m helping people get well.”

Many people don’t realise about the breadth of healthcare science jobs in the NHS. The Trust recently hosted a visit by the Chief Scientist for the NHS, Prof Sue Hill who was impressed by the Trust’s training programme for scientific careers.
Generous benefactor and Director of the Oxford Kidney Unit Trust Fund retires

Richard Barnes (Dick) has been a staunch supporter of the Kidney Unit for 45 years. His first visit to the Renal Unit was in 1966, with his wife Barbara who became a patient of Dr Desmond Oliver, the founder of the Renal Unit. In 1990 Mr and Mrs Barnes made a donation of £100,000 to set up a Barnes Fellowship to support doctors from overseas to work for a year in the Renal Unit on clinical duties. Barbara died in 1994 and left a bequest of £50,000 to the Barnes Fellowship. Dick continued to support the Kidney Unit and became Director of the Oxford Kidney Unit Trust Fund in 1995. He has donated a substantial sum to the Trust Fund every year, reaching £500,000 this year. He retires with our deep gratitude for his generosity and support for other kidney patients.

The mystery deepens for SSNAP!

The SSNAP charity (Support for the Sick Newborn & their Parents) recently held a murder mystery dinner to raise funds for the treatment of sick and premature babies at the John Radcliffe Hospital. The evening was one of a series of events that was held in 2012 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the charity. Previous events included a family fun day, pamper evening and an abseil down the side of the JR building. SSNAP is currently raising funds for improved family facilities in the new Intensive Care Nursery which is currently under construction at the Newborn Intensive Care Unit. For further information visit www.ssnap.org.uk

NOC staff raise funds for Help for Heroes charity

Staff from the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre organised and performed a unique version of the classic Little Red Riding Hood titled Little Red Riding Hoodie to raise funds for Help for Heroes. Some of the team involved are pictured presenting a cheque for £1000 to Dave Lewis, who is the Oxfordshire County Coordinator for Help for Heroes. Dave expressed his thanks to Ward Manager Gloria Bone and all the team involved for their kind donation.

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 April 2013. If you have news from your team or department that you would like to be featured please contact Kelly Dodgson in the Media and Communications Unit on 01865 231471 or email kelly.dodgson@ouh.nhs.uk Deadline for copy is end of February 2013.