

OUH NEWS

February 2012

Issue 1



10th anniversary OX5RUN in aid of the Children's Hospital: 25 March 2012. Register now at www.ox5run.co.uk

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Your views welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter of the newly integrated 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 this publication.

Please send your suggestions and ideas to the media team by emailing media.office@ouh.nhs.uk.

The magazine's style and content will evolve over the coming months and your input will be very much welcomed.

The media team comprises:

- Melanie Proudfoot** – Head of Communications and Marketing
- Susan Brown** – Senior Communications Manager (Foundation Trust and Stakeholder Engagement)
- Alison Barnes** – Communications Manager (Medical Science and Research)
- Kelly Dodgson** – Communications Manager (Press and PR)
- Anne Parker** – Senior Communications Officer (Marketing and Web)
- Stephanie Clark** – Communications Officer (Assisting Press and PR)
- Frances Bonney** – Web Communications Officer

Contact us:
Tel: 01865 (2) 31471
Email media.office@ouh.nhs.uk

www.ouh.nhs.uk

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. Copies are also sent to other Oxfordshire NHS Trusts, the local media, patient groups and General Practices. Individual copies are also sent on request.

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

Junior Doctors win award for Clinical Audit

As part of their training, junior doctors are required to undertake clinical audit and quality improvement projects. Clinical audit involves comparing aspects of clinical practice to an accepted standard, analysing any gaps or deficiencies identified and putting actions into place to close those gaps. The relevant clinical processes are then examined afresh to ensure that improvement has been made.

Doctors Lizzie Maughan, Katie Eyre, Lydia Hanna and Nicola Fawcett carried out a clinical audit in Acute General Medicine to see whether the service was achieving the national target of assessing 90% of all patients for their risk of venous thromboembolism (VTE). Nationally, VTE (which includes pulmonary embolism and deep vein thrombosis) is implicated in as many as 25,000 hospital deaths each year. When they discovered that performance was not as good as it should be, they instituted a range of measures to influence the process and documented steady improvement to the desired level over several cycles of clinical audit and intervention.

Their project won the Junior Doctor Clinical Audit of the Year for 2011 and is due to be presented at the International Forum for Quality and Safety in Healthcare in Paris in the Spring.

Professor Ted Baker, OUH Medical Director, said: "I am delighted that this excellent piece of work has been nationally recognised and offer my congratulations to the doctors involved. It goes to show that clinicians in training can be instrumental in driving forward quality improvement and innovation."

New Rapid Assessment Unit opens at the JR

The Rapid Assessment Unit (RAU) is a new service provided by the Cardiac, Vascular and Thoracic Division and opened on Level 0 at the John Radcliffe Hospital on 16 January 2012.

The unit will assess patients coming in for angiograms within 24/48 hours, before they go on for treatment in cardiology or cardiac surgery.

Access to the unit can be made via the main lifts (D3 & D4) in the Oxford Heart Centre, following signs to the Cardiology Ward. On arrival at Level 0 of the Oxford Heart Centre local directional signage is in place to the RAU.

Contact details: RAU Staff Base (5) 72955 and (5) 72953

The Senior Nursing staff for the area are Nicola Meldrum (Matron Cardiac Medicine) Tel: (5) 72940 and Natasha Goswell Tel: (5) 72613 Bleep 4130.



Home for Christmas – thanks to our super docs!

Dr Oliver Ormerod and Professor Stephen Westaby helped to make history when their patient Susannah McKenzie's baby was safely delivered at the John Radcliffe Hospital in November 2011 – even though Susannah had a potentially fatal heart tumour. The story of her life-saving surgery made the headlines across the national press and TV.

Susannah, from Fairford in Gloucestershire, was referred to Dr Oliver Ormerod, Consultant Cardiologist at the JR when she was 29 weeks pregnant. An echocardiogram at her local hospital in Swindon found a 3cm tumour in her heart.

Dr Oliver Ormerod said: "This was an incredibly rare problem – none of us had ever seen a heart tumour in a pregnant woman before and we are not aware of any other case in England ever. There are only a few reports of it around the world."

Normally, a patient with a heart tumour would have been operated on straight away but at just 29 weeks pregnant, Susannah really needed to continue with her pregnancy a little longer if

possible to give baby Felix the best chance. Susannah was given a course of anticoagulation drugs until she was 32 weeks pregnant when she had a caesarean section. In addition there was a neonatology team for baby Felix and the obstetric team led by Natalya Price.

There were over 20 people in the room when Felix was born, with another 20 on standby.

Susannah named her baby Felix Oliver James McKenzie after Dr Ormerod.

Dr Ormerod said: "I can't imagine a better vote of confidence going into heart surgery than the patient having just named her baby after me. What an honour! Susannah has been an inspirational patient and we have all been privileged to get to know her and her family."

Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Professor Stephen Westaby carried out the heart surgery just five days after Felix was born. Felix made good progress and was able to be home in plenty of time for Christmas – even though he was actually due to be born on Christmas Day.

Main picture: Susannah and her husband with baby Felix, inset: Professor Stephen Westaby (standing) and Dr Oliver Ormerod. Photos courtesy of the Oxford Mail

Professor Westaby said: "This was a very unusual situation. I had never seen a heart tumour before in a pregnant woman. I was delighted to be able to carry out this operation and help Susannah to get home to her family in time for Christmas."

Susannah McKenzie said: "I am just so grateful for all the people who have made this possible. I have had wonderful care from so many doctors and nurses at both the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford and also the Great Western Hospital in Swindon. In particular, Oliver Ormerod has looked after me throughout this process and made this whole experience a manageable one."



Celebration of launch of OUH

Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive of the newly integrated Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, marked the merger between the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre NHS Trust and Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust with a tour around the four hospital sites on Tuesday, 1 November 2011.

He spoke to staff about the future direction of the new Trust and is pictured left cutting a cake in celebration.

In addition, a joint working agreement with the University of Oxford came into effect at the point of merger and supports a health science partnership that will integrate patient care, teaching and medical research to deliver the best in clinical treatment.

Moving forward, the integrated Trust is now working to become a foundation trust in 2013 and a strategic review is taking place in preparation for this. There will be a consultation with our staff, patients, stakeholders and the general public in due course on the Trust's vision and strategic direction as part of the process to become a foundation trust.

The public consultations will begin in June of this year and an application to the Department of Health is planned for January 2013.

Launch of OUH NHS Trust at the NOC



Newborn Intensive Care Unit to expand

The Trust has submitted a planning application as part of expansion plans for the Newborn Intensive Care Unit. The plan involves building an extension next to the current unit at the Women's Centre on the John Radcliffe Hospital site. The OUH has been asked by South Central SHA Board of Commissioners to expand the number of newborn intensive care cots at the John Radcliffe Hospital as there is a recognised shortage of cots in the region. The John Radcliffe Hospital is the only designated Neonatal Intensive Care Unit covering the Thames Valley (Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire).

This expansion is planned to double the intensive care capacity from 10 to 20 cots. Sixteen of the intensive care cots are planned to be in the new extension. If approved, the new facilities will enable the Trust to provide more than twice as much space around each cot, creating an improved environment for baby, parents and staff. There will also be a new secure entrance into the area, a new waiting area for families, a new reception and ward clerks' office and a couple of small rooms close by for parent waiting.

What's happening to our external websites?

Following the merger of the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, a new website for the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust is now live at: www.ouh.nhs.uk

While much of the corporate information has already been transferred to the new website, along with travel information and our new maps, information for individual departments and services is currently still hosted on the two original sites, www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk and www.noc.nhs.uk.

It will take some time to transfer all this information across manually to the new site, and it would be extremely helpful if departments could please check that their online information is as up-to-date as possible before the transfer takes place later this year: email any changes to web.editor@ouh.nhs.uk

You can also find Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust on Twitter (follow us @OUHospitals) and Facebook (search for us on www.facebook.com).



Toy-sized MRI scanner donated to Oxford Children's Hospital

Young patients needing an MRI scan in the Oxford Children's Hospital are now shown what the scan will entail using a toy-sized scanner and a dolly.

In October 2010, play specialist Sarah Browne approached the company Siemens with a request to create a miniature MRI scanner.

Children are often given general anaesthetics when they have a MRI scan, to ensure that they remain absolutely still. Play specialists are able to reduce the need for anaesthetics by helping children understand how important it is not to move during a scan in order to get the best result.

Sarah said: "We use toy figures to show children how it works and the model even makes all the right sounds. It means that the patient can ask lots of questions about what is going to happen to them and talk about their feelings. This helps us prepare children to undergo the scan."

Craig Marshall, Managing Director at Siemens Magnet Technology, Oxford,

said: "This model is an example of where we have been very innovative in improving wellbeing – in this case of children who are about to have a MRI scan.

"All credit to our Siemens staff who took this idea and made it reality. We are very happy to support our local hospital in every way we can."

Young patients needing an MRI scan in the Oxford Children's Hospital are now shown what the scan will entail using a toy-sized scanner and a dolly.

Pictured above: play specialist Sarah Browne with a young patient.

New renal dialysis unit for the Horton General Hospital

Oxford University Hospitals expands services at the Horton

A new renal dialysis unit will be opening up at the Horton General Hospital which means that patients who currently travel to Oxford can be treated in Banbury.

Mike Fleming, Director of the Horton General Hospital said: "I am delighted for local patients and their families who will benefit from this new unit. We will start work as soon as possible and expect to have the new service up and running by April 2012."

The new unit will consist of five dialysis stations to treat up to 20 patients. Space for the new unit has been identified in the old Medical Assessment Unit at the Horton. The new service will require an additional two dialysis nurses who will be recruited soon.



40-year career brings tributes for Mike

After a career spanning 40 years in the NHS, Mike Fleming, Director of the Horton General Hospital, will be leaving Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH) at the end of March 2012.

Mike has worked within the Oxfordshire healthcare system in a number of senior management roles since 1984. He was the first Board level HR Director to have been appointed in 1994 to what is now the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and became Director of the Horton General Hospital in August 2003.

During his career, Mike has worked closely with Oxford's two universities on medical staffing and training and education of nursing staff. During a period working for the former Oxfordshire Health Authority in 1985, he was the Senior Personnel Nurse responsible for the transfer of nurse education from the health authority to what is now Oxford Brookes University.

Mike said: "It has been for me a real joy and privilege to have worked in Oxfordshire's healthcare organisations with the highlights of my career being appointed as HR Director of the former Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust and more recently as Director of the Horton General Hospital. I have worked with so many brilliant and dedicated people over my career, many of whom have had a major impact on my personal and working life.

"It is the staff who work tirelessly in the pursuit of the highest possible quality of care and treatment for patients, along with teaching and pioneering research, that makes the NHS and associated academic institutions the most fulfilling places to work. I wish the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, and all those who work for it, nothing but continued success for the future."

Trust Chief Executive, Sir Jonathan Michael, said: "Mike has made an enormous contribution to both the Trust and the wider Oxfordshire healthcare system. In recent years he has played a prominent and key role at the Horton in his determination to deliver the very best for staff and patients and for the local community in Banbury and North Oxfordshire. We will miss his commitment and support but wish him all the very best for the future."

Christmas Spirit across the Children's Hospital

Throughout December the Children's Hospital received numerous visits from groups bearing Christmas gifts to give to the patients on the wards.

On Tuesday, 13 December, it was a day of double surprises when Santa gave his reindeers the day off and arrived in style in a Puma helicopter flown by 230 squadron from RAF Benson.

Santa made his way to Kamran's Ward where he met the children and delivered presents donated by the squadron. In the afternoon the first team from Oxford United, joined by their mascot Ollie the Ox, visited all the wards and the children's outpatient department handing out gifts donated by their fans and talked with the children and their parents.

Santa also made another appearance with two special helpers, children's BBC TV presenters Dick and Dom.

Armed with a sack full of presents they spent time talking with the children and their parents and handing

out gifts. The day was organised by Littlewoods.com for Pride of Britain winner George Major who has been a patient at the Children's Hospital for the past two years.

George started a fundraising campaign called George's Marvellous Medicine Fund, and has now raised over £20,000 for charities close to his heart – it is for these efforts that he won a Pride of Britain award in 2011.



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Health research open day

- Members of the public are invited to the third public research open day (Research @ Oxford – improving health) on Wednesday 14 March, from 2pm to 5.30pm, at the Churchill Hospital. Come along and meet the scientists, doctors, nurses and researchers who are carrying out translational research which benefits patients and helps to improve healthcare delivery. More than 20 interactive exhibits will be available for people to find out more about the way researchers are tackling some of the most challenging diseases and health issues of the 21st century.

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3D motion analysis facility could help prevent injuries

Jo Pavey, three-time Olympian and the first British athlete to qualify for London 2012, launched a new private running biomechanics service at the Oxford Gait Laboratory – a joint initiative by Oxford University's Department of Engineering Science and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre.

It is the first centre in the UK that offers three-dimensional motion analysis to runners of all levels of ability and experience. Athletes are charged a fee for this service which goes back to the NHS.

Jo Pavey, who was tested by the run3D team at the launch of the service in December, said: "This service is perfect timing as we're just about to go into Olympic year and I don't want to leave any stone unturned. I want to be able to train harder than ever before and really push the boundaries but I also want to know that I can do it safely without putting myself at risk of further injury."

Olympic athlete launches new running biomechanics service

The initial aim of run3D will be to identify subtle idiosyncrasies in technique that are the root cause of injuries, but it could also act as a preventative tool to minimise the chance of a person developing an injury in the first place.

With distance running, the ability to train consistently is key to an athlete's success, explains Dr Jessica Leitch who leads the run3D team.

"Understanding the way your bones and joints move is critical for avoiding and treating injury, and for maintaining an efficient running style. This 3D motion analysis provides comprehensive information and picks up subtle things like excessive rotation of the hip which can then be addressed to prevent future injury.

"Most running overuse injuries are caused by biomechanical weaknesses, which cause excessive stresses and strains to be placed on the joints, bones and soft-tissue structures of the lower limbs. By identifying these biomechanical problems, we can identify the underlying cause of a running injury and this information can be used to optimise treatment procedures."

The current video analysis facilities available to runners only record in two

dimensions and are not sensitive to the subtle biomechanical problems that might lead to injuries.

With the run3D facility, a physiotherapist attaches small reflective markers to the lower body. As the individual runs on a treadmill, 12 infrared cameras record the 3D positions of each marker 200 times a second to create a biomechanical model.

The runner's biomechanics are compared to run3D's extensive database in order to identify unusual patterns in his or her running style. This information is then used to identify the most likely cause of an injury, to recommend the best treatment and to prevent injury from recurring.

Fire safety news at OUH

Following on from the integration between the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust has now expanded its Fire Team across the four hospital sites.

John Struggles will continue his role as Fire Safety Trainer and Steve Wain will take up his new role as the Trust's Fire Risk Manager with a focus on continuing to find innovative ways to maintain and improve our fire safety provisions.

Speaking of his new role Steve said: "Over the next few months we are anticipating an increase in training activity and look forward to meeting staff as I move around the premises doing the fire safety checks.

"If anyone has any questions about fire safety in their work area please let me know and I will try to answer them. Fire safety is a real team effort and together we can make a difference."

If you are interested in becoming a Fire Marshall please contact either Steve or John to find out how you go about it on steve.wain@ouh.nhs.uk or john.struggles@ouh.nhs.uk.



Pictured below left, Dr Jessica Leitch with Jo Pavey.



Sharon Brown (left) and Monique Wilkinson who is Chair of the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre's Patient Liaison Group.

Protect Yourself and Your Baby from Flu!

An additional 194 pregnant women in Oxfordshire are now protected against 'flu, having taken the opportunity to have the 'flu jab when they attended ultrasound clinics at the Women's Centre at the John Radcliffe Hospital. The Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH) is working with NHS Oxfordshire (PCT) to raise awareness of the risks for mums-to-be if they get 'flu this winter. The campaign – supported by consultant obstetricians and senior midwives at the Trust, and funded by NHS Oxfordshire – hopes to raise the 'flu immunisation figures among pregnant women across Oxfordshire, which is around 32%.

Dr Tony Berendt, OUH Deputy Medical Director, said: "We have set up this service in collaboration with the Primary Care Trust because it's so important that pregnant women get the 'flu jab. Flu in pregnancy is serious; for the mum-to-be, whose immunity is reduced by pregnancy; for the pregnancy, with more chance of losing the baby; and for the newborn baby, which can be affected if the pregnant woman becomes seriously ill."

For fit and healthy people 'flu can be an unpleasant illness which can take more than a week to recover from. Pregnant woman who catch 'flu are at an increased risk of serious complications such as pneumonia and bronchitis. An infection in the mother affects the unborn child too, putting them in unnecessary danger.



Joint replacement patients invited back to 'school'

At the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre physiotherapists have set up a 'hip and knee school' for patients about to undergo joint replacement surgery. When a patient has been advised they will need a new hip or knee they are then referred to the 'school' for further advice and information. During their visit they will meet members of a multidisciplinary team who will help them prepare for surgery in a number of different ways.

- The consultant will provide information about how and why the surgery is being done on the patient's hip or knee.
- A pain nurse will discuss the type of medication for pain relief that will be given post-operatively.
- A physiotherapist/occupational therapist can loan crutches or other devices to practise with at home in preparation for surgery.
- A ward sister will talk to the patient about what it's like on the ward and what they might need to bring into hospital with them.

All of these preventative measures are designed as part of the Enhanced Recovery (ER) programme at the NOC as a way of improving the patient experience and well-being of patients undergoing surgery.

Sharon Brown, Patient Pathway Coordinator (Enhanced Recovery lead) said: "We believe that it is essential that patients are partners in their own care and this addition of the 'hip and knee school' to the ER programme will help patients recover more quickly so that their lives can return to normal as soon as possible. This is good for everyone involved."

Enhanced recovery is also about the most efficient use of resources, timely and practical interventions throughout the course of treatment, reducing the physical trauma of surgery, reducing hospital readmissions and fewer post-operative complications.

For patients the benefits are that they are well informed, they can make decisions based on information given and can be active participants in planning for their recovery from surgery. Many patients who have been through the ER say that it makes hospital stays less stressful as they know what to expect and what their role is in the recovery process.

Plaque honours vascular lifesaver

A plaque for The Jackie Walton Vascular Studies Unit at the John Radcliffe was unveiled in memory of the scientist, who died last February, aged 52 after a short illness.

The unit was named in honour of Jackie Walton and the work she did to establish and develop the vascular unit at the JR. A ceremony in January was led by Professor Sir Peter Morris, a former Nuffield Professor of Surgery who appointed Jackie as senior and only vascular technologist in the JR's vascular laboratory 23 years ago.

He said: "The naming of the unit is a small recognition of Jackie's contribution to vascular surgery in the Oxford region.

"She was a born leader and a brilliant young woman who achieved so much in this hospital."

Hundreds of patients have benefited from the services Jackie helped develop. Much of Jackie's work involved using ultrasound equipment to diagnose arterial and venous disease in vascular patients. Sir Peter said: "Jackie created one of the major vascular laboratories



in the country and the only credit I take is appointing her in 1987."

Jackie was also responsible for training a large number of UK clinical vascular scientists and played an important part in setting up the UK system for accrediting training in vascular technology to raise national standards.

A symposium was held at the JR on Friday, 4 January, in Jackie's honour and was attended by her husband Reg Little, pictured above, their children, relatives and staff from across the organisation.

Buns for beds

The West Wing's League of Friends has given an extra special donation of funding to the JR's Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit following an application made for the Nimbus 3 pressure-relieving mattresses.

The League of Friends shops across our hospitals are known for their tasty sandwiches and cakes but people often do not realise that all the profits go directly to our hospitals.

Departments can apply to the League for funds and the Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit did just that for 11 mattresses costing almost £3,000 each.

The Nimbus 3 mattresses ensure that patients are moved regularly to ease pressure points. This helps patients who have to stay in bed for days, weeks and months without disrupting their treatment.

David Simpson, from the League of Friends West Wing said: "The Trustees Committee decided that these mattresses would provide such an outstanding benefit to Neuroscience patients that we would fund 11 mattresses."

From steel works to RCN President – Maura Buchanan retires

Maura Buchanan started her working life as a trainee industrial chemist in the steel works of Motherwell, Scotland. After switching professions and taking up nursing in her mid-thirties Maura moved to London in 1990. From 1998 she was Chair of the RCN Congress and for four years until 2010, she was its President. Of particular interest to Maura has been how to improve patient safety as she believes that nurses hold the key responsibility for safeguarding patients. Now after more than 20 years in nursing she is set to retire.

In the Trust, Maura has held a variety of nursing and management roles. She moved from the Radcliffe Infirmary to the John Radcliffe in 1996 to run the Private Patient Unit, 5C/D and was later

responsible for commissioning a new private patient facility in the Wytham Wing at the Churchill. More recently she has taken forward a project with the Trust matrons to refresh and update the Trust's nursing standards. These standards are explicit about the behaviours and actions that contribute to the delivery of high quality patient care.

Maura said: "I am privileged to have worked with some of the most skilled and dedicated nurses who gave me the support that enabled me also to take on external responsibilities I held at national level in the RCN. I am proud to be a nurse and although I am officially retiring from the NHS, I intend to stay involved in this wonderful profession at national and international level."



Equally important to Maura is her global health work, so there will be no putting her feet up on retirement. Maura is a Trustee of the Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET) and is a supporter of a Kenyan anti-malaria project that distributes mosquito nets. She said: "There is so much to be done in poverty relief, reducing the burden of disease and preventing premature death."

Ten years of collaboration brings new hope for cancer patients

Doctors, surgeons and scientists from the HIFU unit (high intensity focused ultrasound), marked its official opening at the Churchill Hospital after a 10 year collaboration with the Haifu Company of China.

The £1.5m Oxford HIFU machine has been given to the unit on long-term loan from the Haifu Company and was recently used to treat 72 year old David Atwell, from Oxford. Mr Atwell was diagnosed with a slow growing malignant tumour in 2010 and in July 2011 took part in a clinical trial to test the effectiveness of the procedure. Within several days he was back to his usual routine of four games of tennis a week.



The HIFU uses an ultrasound beam at 10,000 times the strength of imaging ultrasound, which passes harmlessly through living tissue, and at the focal point the temperature rises to kill the diseased tissue. This can be achieved to a high degree of accuracy, without damaging surrounding or overlying tissues. This ability to cause targeted cell death in tissue at a distance from the ultrasound source makes HIFU an extremely attractive option for development as a non-invasive tool.

The HIFU unit's team is made up from doctors, surgeons and scientists across Oxford University Hospitals and the University of Oxford and is funded by the National Institute for Health Research.

Mr David Cranston, Clinical Director of the HIFU unit and his colleague Professor Wu, the inventor of the HIFU machine in China, have been working with the team for the last ten years to evaluate the effectiveness of treating tumour types such as: liver, kidney, prostate, musculoskeletal, gynaecological and pancreas.

The benefits of HIFU over existing forms of cancer treatment are that it is non-invasive and non-ionising, with the advantages for patients being that they can get their lives back to normal much more quickly, with none of the side effects of drug therapy and they will have no unsightly scars.

HR Advisor to volunteer at 2012 Olympics

Oxford University Hospitals HR Advisor, Maxine Grout, has every reason to look forward to 2012 as she was selected out of 240,000 applicants to be a volunteer in the 2012 London Olympic Games.

Maxine, who has been with the Trust for over 13 years, expressed her interest in becoming a volunteer for the Olympics online in 2005. Since then she has undergone numerous interviews and was selected to be a team leader in workforce operations and will be based at Earls Court in London.

Maxine said: "This is a once in a lifetime achievement and I'm thankful to Jo Durkin and the team for allowing me to use my annual leave to take part in this monumental occasion.

"I'm hoping my vast experience of dealing with hundreds of doctors in my current role will stand me in good stead for the challenges I will face being part of such a massive event."

Electronic Patient Record implementation

We are now several weeks into the implementation of the Electronic Patient Record at the Churchill, Horton and John Radcliffe Hospitals. This first phase introduces a new system for administration processes such as the booking of patient appointments and the generation of patient letters. More clinical functionality will come later.

This changeover to an electronic patient record is potentially the biggest operational change this Trust has ever seen. It has involved months of preparation and many hundreds of staff have gone the extra mile to prepare for the change. The new system is a local electronic patient record that will replace paper patient records. Once it is fully implemented there will be many benefits, not least the ability for clinicians to view a patient's medical record when and where they need it.

Overall, the implementation has gone well. As expected and planned for, initial inputting of data is a bit slower than usual, but staff are becoming more familiar with the software and gaining speed and confidence. Staff are receiving ongoing training and there are a number of 'super-users' who are able to advise and help staff in their areas. We are extremely grateful for the patience and understanding people have shown.



Delivering Compassionate Excellence

learning
respect delivery
excellence
compassion improvement

Trust Board Endorses Statement of Values

On 12 January, a statement of values was agreed by the Trust Board. The content came from staff across the new Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH) in autumn 2011. As well as nearly 750 staff, patients and partner organisations contributed to a conversation that led to the statement.

Why are we doing this?

We want OUH to be excellent: for our patients, for our staff and for everyone that comes into contact with us. The best organisations tend to have clear values and use them as the basis for everything they do.

Values can be important when times are hard. When difficult decisions have to be made it is important to remind ourselves and others what we stand for.

Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive, said:

“Our values guide us in delivering compassionate excellence, the kind of healthcare we would all want for ourselves and our family. Doing this – putting our values into action – depends on all of us, individually and as members of teams.”

How will we use them?

Values say what we expect from ourselves and from our colleagues. They start to set norms for behaviour and action. They are a legitimate reason for challenge when behaviour or decisions appear to run counter to them.

The statement of values is the beginning of a journey for OUH. They will be used in our recruitment and appraisal processes and will start to be used in day-to-day work.

What is distinctive about OUH's Values?

OUH is proud to be part of the NHS and our values will be shared by many other NHS organisations. What will make our values distinctive is how we 'enact' them. How we use them and apply them in practice will be for us to determine, as members of OUH staff.

How our values work in practice is therefore in our hands.

To find out more, search for 'trust values' on the OUH Intranet or contact Kate Thorpe on extension 43463 or at kate.thorpe@ouh.nhs.uk

Our Core Values

- Excellence
- Compassion
- Respect
- Delivery
- Learning
- Improvement

“We aim to provide excellent care with compassion and respect.”

We will do this by:

- Taking pride in the quality of care we provide;
- Putting patients at the heart of what we do and recognising different needs;
- Encouraging a spirit of support, respect and teamwork;
- Ensuring that we act with integrity;
- Going the extra mile and following through on our commitments;
- Establishing systems and processes that are sustainable.

“We aim to deliver, learn and continuously improve.”

We will do this by:

- Delivering high standards of healthcare based on national and international comparisons;
- Delivering the best clinical teaching and research;
- Adopting the best clinical research in patient care;
- Striving to improve on what we do through change and innovation;
- Monitoring and assessing our performance;
- Learning from successes and setbacks;
- Working in partnership across the Health and Social Care Community.



Thames Valley Cancer Network Cancer Care Recognition Awards Oxford teams recognised

The excellent work of those working in and supporting cancer care across the Thames Valley Cancer Network (TVCN) was recognised in a special ceremony at the end of November.

The Cancer Network's 10th Anniversary Conference culminated in a ceremony which recognised individual and team achievements over the past decade. From Oxford, the Radiotherapy Team, Skin Cancer Team and Clinical Oncology Director Dr Chris Alcock,

were acknowledged by their peers for their outstanding contributions to cancer care across the region.

Over 60 applications came in for clinicians, healthcare professionals, charities and patient users, nominating them in one of six categories:

- Acute and/or Primary Care Innovation
- Clinical Service Redesign
- Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)
- Clinical Quality
- Best collaborative project
- Going that extra mile

Mark is Clinical Pharmacist of the Year 2011

Mark Borthwick, Consultant Pharmacist in Critical Care at the John Radcliffe Hospital received the prestigious Clinical Pharmacist of the Year award from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society on behalf of the Critical Care H1N1 Clinical Guideline Development Group, a partnership between clinicians at the John Radcliffe, Royal Free and University College London Hospitals. The award was presented at a ceremony held at the Commonwealth Club in London on Sunday 11 September 2011.

The award was in recognition of the work that Mark and colleagues from the partner trusts had done to summarise and make available clinical information about treatments for the H1N1 flu (swine flu) after the new strain started spreading in 2009.



Maureen Cox recognised at 'champions' award

The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre's Rheumatology Clinical Nurse Specialist, Maureen Cox was among ten winners from across the UK of the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (NRAS) Healthcare Champions Award.

Maureen was honoured at a special reception held on Tuesday 1 November at the State Rooms, Speaker's House, House of Commons, where the awards were presented by The Home Secretary and NRAS patron, The Rt Hon Theresa May MP. Maureen was honoured for her excellence of care and for going that 'extra mile' when looking after her patients.

NRAS members across the UK were asked to nominate their choices of healthcare and Maureen was nominated by Sue Thwaite, a patient of Maureen's at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre and NRAS member.

Sue said: "Maureen is dedicated to her role within the Rheumatology Unit and particularly to her patients; giving them valuable listening time and helping to find solutions to the increasing problems and new challenges each time a 'flare' is experienced. It makes such a difference to know that Maureen is at hand."

Maureen has worked at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre for more than 30 years, predominantly working in rheumatology and has held her current post as Clinical Nurse Specialist for the past 9 years.

Best wishes from colleagues in the Vascular Unit

Lorraine Webb retired from the Trust in December where she worked as a Secretary within the Vascular Laboratory for 17 years and 20 years within the Trust.

She was a valued member of staff working alongside the Clinical Vascular Scientists and she was a friend as well as colleague. She combined directness with comedy moments and banter with her close associates and the team wish her well for the future.