

Let's talk

Tuesday 10 November 2015

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Staff from our new Intermediate Care Hub including (from left) Emma Seymour (community care officer), Gail Wolfenden (administrator), Collin Wardle (admin co-ordinator), Andrea Allanach (lead nurse virtual ward), Ann Reilly (home care senior), Mariam Afifa (sister), Liz Lodge (adult information officer) and Ewa Zalewska (community specialist practitioner).

Intermediate Care Hub heralds new era in care

THANKS to your efforts, our new Intermediate Care Hub has had a successful first week - caring for more than 70 referrals.

The service aims to treat people in the comfort of their own home, rather than admit them to hospital.

Keeping ward beds free for those who need them most this winter, while giving a gold-standard service to our most vulnerable patients, will be the key to its success.

The new centre – based on the top floor of B Block at St Luke's - is now home to our 72 medical, nursing and therapy staff from the virtual ward, as well as 15 social care representatives from Bradford District Council.

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What is the connection between this hit TV programme...and our latest initiative to improve services with your help?

Stay tuned by seeing page 5 for full story! →

Intermediate Care Hub heralds new era in care

Cover story continued...

The team was initially set up to co-ordinate the 24-hour health and social care needs of the frail and elderly, and now provides a first-rate service to support more patients at home.

The first phase of the launch focuses on providing a single point of access to GPs, community staff and social care professionals. They can refer patients who are in immediate crisis or with sub-acute illness and who, without intervention, would need to be admitted to hospital.

The second phase, which we will launch next year, will provide a single point of access for all of our ward staff to refer any patient with an intermediate care need, inclusive of rehabilitation and assessment beds.

During the assessment period, the GP will remain clinically responsible for the patient. If the person is then admitted to our virtual ward or community hospital, clinical responsibility will transfer to us for consultant-led care. If the patient is receiving social care support, responsibility remains with the person's own GP.

Lead Nurse for our virtual ward, Andrea Allanach, told me: "Research tells us that when it comes to treating older people, the best place to care for them is in the comfort of their own homes.

"This new hub represents an exciting development in elderly care as it brings together health and social care professionals from across the district in one centre, all

to our hospitals. This leaves our beds free for those most critically ill."

As you may already know, we were one of the first Trusts nationally to adopt and pioneer the innovative virtual ward scheme, which provides co-ordinated health and social care for patients who are at high risk of emergency re-admissions – such as those with long-term conditions or frail and vulnerable older people.

The virtual ward also assists patients with an early-supported discharge from hospital by enabling them to return home more quickly when supported by a multi-disciplinary team.

"This new hub represents an exciting development in elderly care..."



Decision making about what support can be offered to the patient will be rapid; within two hours (usually less), and the hub will then respond to the referrer with a plan of support.

working together for the benefit of our patients.

"Its overall aim is to provide a co-ordinated, personalised service, which prevents needless emergency admissions

Congratulations to all those involved in setting up our new hub which no doubt will be invaluable to patients this winter. ■

The magical power of green stops mums-to-be feeling blue



NEW research from our Born in Bradford (BiB) study has revealed that green spaces have a positive impact when it comes to the wellbeing of mother and baby.

Depression during pregnancy can impact on health but living in green spaces can alleviate symptoms.

And I'm delighted to be able to tell you that this important research – the first of its kind to show a beneficial relationship between green space and depressive symptoms in pregnant women - is being published in the BMJ-owned Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health.

This further underpins our “home-grown” research talent in the Trust and I am sure you would like to join me in congratulating everyone involved in this key study.

A total of 7,547 mums from the BiB cohort were questioned about how they felt when they were pregnant. In addition, the team collected detailed lifestyle information such as demographics and socio-economic status.



Rosie McEachan

Questions around mental wellbeing helped the team identify women who reported symptoms of severe

depression. Using satellite technology, BiB was able to calculate the “greenness” of the environment where they lived.



This allowed the team to look at the relationship between green space and depression, factoring out all the other important lifestyle, demographic and socio-economic factors.

The key findings revealed that 33.5 per cent of women reported at least one severe depressive symptom, whereas those living in the greenest areas of Bradford were around 20 per cent less likely to report feeling depressed. The beneficial effects of green space also appeared stronger for more disadvantaged groups.

Programme manager, Rosie

McEachan told *Let's Talk*: “This is a really important finding as it means we can make changes at an environmental level which will have a larger benefit for our communities in most need.

“Efforts should be made to increase the availability of green space at a policy level and utilisation of green space at an individual level.”

The project was funded by PHENOTYPE, a collaborative project funded through the European Commission which looks into the positive health effects of the natural outdoor environment. ■

Surgical robot celebrates 500th patient milestone



Pictured are consultants Mr Rajindra Singh, Mr Rohit Chahal and Mr Sanjai Addla with the theatre scrub team.

MEMBERS of our urological team have notched up a milestone – carrying out the 500th operation using the revolutionary da Vinci robot.

The da Vinci robot is an innovative machine which acts as an extension of the surgeon’s hands and fingers in miniature. Its technology enables advanced keyhole procedures to take place without the risk of potential human problems, such as hand tremor.

The 500th procedure has been carried out on a kidney patient by Sanjai Addla, one of our consultant urological robotic surgeons, along with Rajindra Singh and Rohit Chahal, all of whom have been formally trained to use robotic surgery at Bradford Royal Infirmary.

Retired textiles worker, 69-year-old David Graystock, of Thornton, Bradford, is now fully recovered after undergoing treatment.

Sanjai told *Let’s Talk*: “This is the least invasive type of surgery and definitely the surgery of the future.

“There will come a time when it will be rare for the patient to undergo an open abdominal operation, and just as rare to have conventional keyhole surgery. The da Vinci robot is a major and exciting advancement for urological cancer surgery here in Bradford.

“What you encounter with the robot is more accurate precision and faster procedures where the patient

suffers less pain and recovers more quickly.”

The da Vinci robot, which was installed in the summer of 2012, was partly funded by a generous £200,000 donation from our friends at the Sovereign Health Care Charitable Trust.

It allows for high precision surgery where the robot is docked onto the patient. The operation is then carried out with the help of four robotic arms that are inserted into the patient’s body through tiny incisions.

During a procedure, Sanjai sits at the robot’s computer console, which offers a clear 3D close up view of the patient’s organs, nerves, blood vessels and muscles.

Currently, Bradford is the only centre in West Yorkshire offering this advanced surgery for patients with bladder, prostate and kidney cancers. ■



500th da Vinci patient David Graystock with Sanjai Addla



Pitch your innovative ideas to us in new *Dragon's Den*-style initiative

Thanks to all of you who joined me for the latest meeting of the clinical executive team.

I AM particularly grateful to three volunteers who very ably pitched to our own team of “dragons” in our very own version of TV’s *Dragon’s Den*.

They included Veysi Veysi on behalf of orthopaedics, John Bolton on behalf of urology and a double act of Mark Pitkethly and Jill Gregson on behalf of therapy services.

Their colleagues were all very supportive of their innovative ideas and each one gained the support of the executive team who will now work with them to further develop their ideas.

Dragon’s Den will be opened up to all staff from next month to pitch innovative ideas to the executive team. More details will follow next week in Let’s Talk – so stay tuned!

overwhelming positive response that he had received from key external stakeholders when they were approached and asked to discuss how they saw the future of the Trust.

He also spoke about how we need to recognise that we are operating in a wider system of health and care, and explore in more detail the potential for greater

We need to recognise that we are operating in a wider system of health and care...



They each described how, with support from the Executive Directors, they could transform a clinical service to improve the quality of care provided to our patients, and make the service more efficient and productive.

All the managers and clinical leaders who attended the event were also able to share in a very informative presentation from Mike Farrar about a system-wide vision for our hospitals.

What was heartening was the

collaboration within Bradford and across West Yorkshire.

I will keep you updated on the next stages of this work as it progresses. ■

You've been framed! Work of young artists go on display

Young people got the chance to see their artwork displayed for all to enjoy when they visited BRI.



Bradford Hospitals Children's Charity. She said: "The work is so bright and eye-catching and so many people have told me that they think the pictures are a great idea – and I couldn't agree more.

"It's lovely that the children have really embraced the idea of being involved in the scheme - after all this is going to be their hospital.

"Many of the pictures show images of smiling nurses and doctors with the words: 'Welcome to our hospital' and 'We are here to help you'. That's a wonderful perception of our hospital for these youngsters to have!" ■

PUPILS from IQRA Academy Community Primary and Nursery School, Manningham, have been busy drawing pictures, which are now framed and hanging in the viewing gallery overlooking the hospital's new £28 million wing, as well as on the hoardings around the perimeter of the new construction site.

Eight of the budding David Hockneys popped in to see how their work looked now it is on display and how it is helping to brighten up the spaces – as well as the lives of patients and visitors.

They were accompanied by the school's learning leader, Ruby Hussain who told *Let's Talk*: "The children have loved being involved. More than 650 pupils from reception to Year 6 were given the chance to draw a picture. Everyone in the school has talent and so we were determined to include them all.

"They have loved seeing their work on display today. It has made them feel like real artists!"

The art scheme, which has involved five schools including IQRA Academy, was the idea of Hayley Collis, fundraiser for



Flu vaccine drop-in sessions continue



PLEASE remember that flu vaccine drop-in sessions continue this week at the BRI's Health and Wellbeing Centre.

For those of you who have not yet been inoculated, you can get your free flu jab:

- Today, 9.30am – 12.30pm
- Tomorrow, 12.30pm – 2.30pm
- Thursday, 9am – 12.30pm

As of Friday morning, 61.3 per cent of all clinical and patient-facing staff had already been vaccinated

This is a great result and thanks to all of you who have taken part in the campaign to date. We still need one final push to meet – and beat - that ultimate Department of Health target of 75 per cent.

It is recognised that it is sometimes not possible for clinical and nursing staff to get to our drop-in sessions at the Health and Wellbeing Centre, so every effort will be made to respond to requests for visits to clinical areas, provided numbers are sufficient.

All enquiries should be directed to Heather.Bearpark@bthft.nhs.uk or contact your local flu co-ordinator to make arrangements [Signed up Co-ordinators 2015-2016.doc](#)

For those still undecided, please



take a look at the information on the Occupational Health website <http://nww.bradfordhospitals.int:2277/Pages/Employee-Flu-vaccinations.aspx>

And don't forget to let us know if you have received the flu vaccine elsewhere as this information is required for monitoring purposes.

Any questions? Please contact the Health and Wellbeing Centre on ext 4171 for help. ■

CQC reveals follow-up inspection – and other key diary dates

WITH your help, we have taken giant strides towards further improving our services since we were inspected by the Care Quality Commission a year ago.

I therefore wanted to share with you as early as I can the date for its follow-up inspection, which will begin on Monday January 11 2016.

Although I don't have any firm details as yet, I understand the inspection may take place over three days with a full cohort of inspectors.

Please be assured that more details will follow through Let's Talk and your

management teams once I have them, so that you are kept informed and up-to-date with developments.

Once again, your support is vital in this opportunity for all of us to showcase our services to the CQC.

In addition to this follow-up visit, I would like to let you know about some other key dates for your diary that are coming up.

Tomorrow (Wednesday) – at 11am, we will be marking Armistice Day with a two-minute silence to remember all those who have died

in war. This enables all staff who are able to, and wish to, observe the silence.

Tomorrow is also an important date in the calendar of our Hindu colleagues who will celebrate Diwali, or Deepavali, which is the biggest and the most colourful Hindu festival.

Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps' and is also known as the festival of lights.

This year, the five-day event starts tomorrow and will be celebrated

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Key diary dates contd

by Hindu communities all over the world, including Britain and here in Bradford.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to wish all Hindu staff and patients every success and happiness to you and your family.

Have A Wonderful Diwali and New Year!

Thursday 26 November – from 3pm to 5pm in the Sovereign Lecture Theatre we will be staging the next in our series of staff masterclass events. The topic is risk management and there is an invited speaker. It is tailored to both clinical and corporate services, in particular matrons, ward and department managers, clinical leads, speciality leads, directorate managers, heads of nursing, divisional managers and directors.

Thursday 10 December – A Christmas event for all staff will be held in Field House between noon and 2pm. As well as showcasing many of our services and latest initiatives, there will be mince pies, chocolate logs and a raffle with free entry for all who attend – please remember your ID badge. I'm grateful to all those colleagues who have agreed to take part in the showcase event, including teams from diabetes, chaplaincy, the new hospital wing, physiotherapy, voluntary services, dementia, electronic patient records (ePR), radiology, the staff gym, health and wellbeing, transformation, bowel cancer screening and our hospital charities' department. ■

Your chance to put your questions to me at listening events

AS well as a caring organisation, I would like to ensure that we are a listening one too. As part of this commitment to reach out to as many of you as possible, I am about to embark on another extended round of staff briefings.

These will be coming to a venue near you, wherever you work across our estate, between now and Christmas. They will include twilight sessions too.

They are developed with you in mind, providing you with a first-hand insight into the challenges and opportunities that lie in front of us right now, and our future plans.

Each session will begin with a brief presentation and I'd like to encourage all staff to attend

one of the sessions that you will find timetabled below.



*Clive Kay,
Chief Executive*

It's also an opportunity to have your say, ask me a question, and put forward your own ideas and suggestions for improvement.

If you have a particular question that you would like to ask me and you think would be of benefit to your colleagues, then I would appreciate receiving your questions in advance. Please email these to communications manager, jason.joy@bthft.nhs.uk

I look forward to seeing you there. ■

Date	Time	Venue
30 November 2015	12.30pm – 1.15pm	Sovereign Lecture Theatre
2 December 2015	12.30pm – 1.15pm	Westwood Park
2 December 2015	5.15pm – 6pm	Sovereign Lecture Theatre
14 December 2015	5.15pm – 6pm	Seminar Room 3, SLH
16 December 2015	1.30pm – 2.15pm	Eccleshill
17 December 2015	12.30pm – 1.15pm	Westbourne Green
18 December 2015	12.30pm – 1.15pm	Seminar Room 3, SLH

Let's **talk** again next week – and in the meantime you can send your comments and anything you'd like to share with colleagues: lets.talk@bthft.nhs.uk

