

‘Great results’ for Barnsley in latest NHS staff survey



THE 2023 NHS staff survey has revealed that Barnsley Hospital is consistently improving, and is rated by staff at the Trust as the best Acute Trust in the country for flexible working, team-working, reward and recognition, and compassionate leadership. All Barnsley’s survey scores were above the average of Trusts within the comparator group of ‘Acute and Acute & Community Trusts’, a total of 122 organisations. Hospital staff feel valued and that they are recognised for the excellent job they do, and people feel they have autonomy and control, and are trusted to do

their jobs. Colleagues ranked Barnsley Hospital best Acute Trust in the country for supporting work-life balance. The Trust is led by its values, with a commitment around teamworking to “work together to provide the best quality care”. Colleagues have rated Barnsley Hospital as best Acute Trust in the country for team working and line management, a tribute to the people supporting each other every day in the hospital. Alongside positive ratings for line management, the Trust scored best in the country for compassionate leadership, demonstrating managers and leaders in the organisation really

listen to their teams and support them. The survey involves staff answering a series of 118 questions about their experience of work, along with questions relating to staff engagement and morale. Steven Ned, Barnsley Hospital’s Executive Director of People, said: “These are a great set of results and we continue to improve. “We are the third best Trust in our comparative group and had an improved response. “Answers to 97 survey questions out of 118 were the same or significantly better than the previous year. “Our survey results reflect well

on all of our staff. There is always room for improvement, and always organisations that are going to be better than us, so we need to keep going forwards and building on this.” Barnsley Hospital Chief Executive Dr Richard Jenkins thanked everyone who took the time to complete the survey. He said: “It’s wonderful to see such positive survey results for the Trust. “We work hard here in Barnsley to provide quality care against increasing demands, and the survey results are important because they are used to improve care for patients and working conditions for colleagues.”



Barnsley Hospital CEO
Dr Richard Jenkins

‘Compassionate care’ in Barnsley

Welcome to the spring 2024 edition of Barnsley Hospital News. Since our last edition in winter 2023, we have received some fantastic results from our latest NHS Staff Survey – in fact, some are among the very best in England. One of the outstanding results for our Trust in Barnsley was for compassionate leadership. We also scored highly for supporting colleagues in their work/life balance. You can read more about this in the page 1 story alongside this column. We are delighted by the results and proud of them too. Your feedback will also help us in those areas where we know we can improve.

Great feedback about working here encourages others to join the NHS at all levels. No matter how or where you start in the NHS, there is a huge range of career opportunities available. One of these is outlined in the story about Harriet Greenwood on page 2. Harriet started as a volunteer at Barnsley Hospital and liked it so much that she is now studying medicine at Cardiff University.

We also have some inspiring stories about our hospital’s scientific achievements and how these are pushing forward our performance and efficiency. On page 2, Dr Giulia Gigliobianco talks about her work as an Operations Manager in Medical Engineering. On page 3, our medical photographers show how they are leading the way in medical camera technology, working in partnership with global electronics giant Sony. As a Trust, we are continually building on strong partnerships across our communities and beyond. As we go forward, working together with organisations like councils and those in the voluntary sector will be essential for the future of better healthcare. Greater collaboration and shared learning have already enabled us to overcome many challenges. I hope you and your families enjoy the rest of spring and look forward to a warm summer.

Dr Richard Jenkins

Hospital ramps up action against staff abuse

Incidents of ‘deliberate abuse and threats’ against staff at Barnsley Hospital fell from 115 in 2022 to 83 in 2023. Assault or abuse should never be part of an NHS worker’s job. We spoke to Barnsley Hospital Site Matron Alana Marlow about her own experiences.

Violence and abuse against NHS staff takes all forms. It can be swearing and verbal abuse, physical violence such as punching or kicking, racial abuse or sexual harassment. Some staff at Barnsley have also been spat on. Matron Alana Marlow said: “We had a patient on our ward – actually a frequent attendee – who was being disrespectful, started spitting in staff members’ faces and smashed up a cubicle. We had to call the police, and the patient ended up doubly cuffed with a spit hood on. “This was out of hours on a Saturday when these things always seem to happen. We don’t have security guards round every corner and the police also have limited resources. On this occasion, this incident went on for two hours. It took me away from my role and meant we could not give the care we would have liked to other patients. Staff are very busy as it is.” She added: “We are vulnerable. We recognise of course that these acts are sometimes committed in crisis or by patients with neurological conditions. But some patients who are abusive or violent fall between gaps in the system. They may be waiting for a place in mental health care or need an assessment for mental health capacity.” Measures in general have been strengthened to tackle abuse and

harassment against NHS workers. For example, staff in some areas at Barnsley have body-worn video. The Trust also supports the borough’s #NoPlaceforHate campaign and has a Violence and Aggression Management Group which receives accounts of any incidents. Alana added: “Staff can be traumatised by such incidents - and so can patients. We do offer counselling to colleagues after an incident and we have a break-out area for them.” Incidents have ranged from broken bones, punches and kicks to inappropriate sexual comments, swearing and shouted abuse over the phone. The hospital can offer practical training to staff in how to deal with incidents and encourages them to report incidents of hate, hostility and abuse including those based on gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, age, or disability. Staff have a right to diplomatically inform aggressive

patients that they can be escorted from the premises or treatment diverted or discontinued if their behaviour continues. This is underpinned by the Health & Safety at Work Act. The UK also has the 2018 Assaults on Emergency Workers Bill, imposing a maximum prison sentence of one year – a sentence that was doubled in 2022. NHS England has a national violence prevention and reduction standard, which complements existing health and safety legislation. Employers (including NHS employers) have a general duty of care to protect staff from threats and violence at work. Bob Kirton, Barnsley Hospital Deputy Chief Executive, said: “At Barnsley Hospital we take hate incidents very seriously. Any form of abuse, harassment or violence is not acceptable, and we need to do everything we can to address it when it happens. We are committed to ensuring that all our staff feel supported if they



experience such an incident or feel able to report it if they see it happening, because we understand that the impact this has on staff and those who use the Trust’s services is often profound.” Hate incidents are significantly underreported across society and it is no different for the Trust. Through its various Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Staff Networks, the NHS Staff Survey and its online incident reporting system, staff can report back. Bob Kirton added: “The vast majority of patients and the public show nothing but respect and thanks for the skilled care they receive at Barnsley Hospital, but the unacceptable actions of a minority have a massive impact on the professional and personal lives of colleagues providing vital services to Barnsley.”



Body-worn video captures aggression at Barnsley Hospital.

Shout-out to the Royal Voluntary Service

The wonderful volunteers from the Royal Voluntary Service (for NHS and Care Volunteer Responders programme) were caught on camera – doing their great work at our Discharge Unit. They support Barnsley Hospital through ‘Pick Up and Deliver,’ a service which helps NHS sites and people who have recently returned home after a hospital stay. The volunteers transport medication or small items of medical equipment to people’s homes from

NHS sites. They help our Discharge Unit in particular to get patients home from hospital promptly and safely, and can offer follow-up services such as doing shopping or calling people on the phone for a ‘check-in and chat.’ Among the volunteers is Melinda Anderson, 68, who worked as a midwife here at Barnsley Hospital for 23 years before retiring last year. Melinda started volunteering in January this year and does two nights a week from 6-8pm. She said: “I saw

the service advertised on Facebook and thought it would suit me, especially as I already knew my way around the hospital. “I like mixing with people and helping patients when they get home from hospital by taking out medication to them. The service is flexible for volunteers and there are lots of different things you can do. Sometimes the weather can be a bit daunting when we’re out and about but it’s easier when the evenings are getting lighter!”



Volunteers Melinda and Graham

From the Chair

Hello, and welcome to the spring edition of Barnsley Hospital News. There are signs of new growth everywhere – not least from the hospital and its partners who have some exciting plans in the pipeline. Among these is the new ‘Health on the High Street’ project. Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT) is a key member of the Barnsley Place Partnership, influencing the health and wellbeing of the community. As part of this, The Trust Board has approved an outline business case for Barnsley Hospital to deliver some

outpatient services in the Alhambra Shopping Centre. Announced publicly earlier this month, the case represents a fantastic opportunity to address health inequalities and access to health. It also has huge potential to support town centre regeneration. It’s early days yet and the Trust is still progressing its full business case, but look out for updates in the near future. On March 8, we celebrated International Women’s Day, and you’ll notice in this edition some stories about our remarkable women colleagues. The Trust’s Gender Pay Gap Report 2023-24 was also due to be published as we went to press.

At Barnsley, I’ve observed a genuine dedication to tackling visible gender disparities. All our ongoing efforts focus on fostering a workplace and care environment that is truly inclusive and welcoming. While there’s always room for improvement, Barnsley has received acknowledgment nationally for its compassionate ethos. Personally, I’ve encountered a consistently warm and friendly atmosphere from all colleagues, reflecting our shared commitment to fostering inclusivity and equality. We say a big thank you to colleagues on Friday May 24

when we hold our annual Heart Awards at the Holiday Inn, Dodworth. We thank you, the public, for your nominations. We have introduced some new categories this year: Innovation and Quality Improvement Award, Partnership Award, and Patient Care Award. Did you know you can also submit nominees for one of our ‘Brilliant Awards?’ You can nominate a staff member, whole team, or volunteer, and each month one is selected as a winner. Find out more by searching ‘Brilliant Awards’ on Barnsley Hospital website: www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk



Hospital Chair Sheena McDonnell

Hospital help for carers

Barnsley Hospital has set up a number of initiatives to help carers – including a coffee and chat group, and on-site care and support for people whose carers are attending hospital appointments.

Over 40% of carers recently surveyed told us they had missed at least one hospital appointment for their own healthcare needs, due to their caring responsibilities.

The Patient Experience and Voluntary Services team have worked with our Learning Disability and Dementia teams to ensure on-site support can be provided to those who need it, whilst their carer is attending an appointment at Barnsley Hospital.

The hospital is also keen to support people who would like to be involved in the care of their relative or friend during their time in hospital, who needs help because of their illness, frailty, disability, a mental health problem, or an addiction.

We recognise carers have a significant role in the effective and safe delivery of treatment and care of patients in hospital; this role will often cross the boundaries between the patient’s home and the hospital setting.

It is important that we identify, involve and support carers in the clinical setting to get the care of the patient right.

With knowledge, understanding and honest communication, staff and carers can work in partnership as ‘Care Partners’ to improve the hospital experience for patients, carers, and staff.

Carers who are looking after a loved one at home, and would like to chat about what help is on offer, are invited to join the hospital’s next carers coffee and chat group taking place on Tuesday April 9, 2024, 10am to 12 noon at Barnsley Library (third floor events room).

For further information about our commitment to support carers or to join our coffee and chat group, please contact the Patient Experience and Engagement Team on 01226 434925 or email bhnftpatient-experience@nhs.net



Inspiring women in medical engineering

International Women’s Day was earlier this month, celebrating inspirational women working in all sectors. Here, we talk to one female leader at Barnsley Hospital, Dr Giulia Gigliobianco. Operations Manager Dr Gigliobianco is from Italian fashion city Milan but works in a very different field – heading up our Medical Engineering and Decontamination departments.

Can you tell us about your department’s work?

We look after the hospital’s medical and surgical equipment ensuring it is working properly and is safe to use. There are thousands of pieces of equipment worth millions of pounds, from beds to MRI scanners, anaesthetic machines, operating tables and lights and surgical instruments. All of this equipment has a life cycle until we sell or auction it off, and we maintain it in-house via our team of five engineers or via managing contracts with manufacturers. We also look after the ‘decon’ or decontamination side of equipment.

This must be a huge responsibility?

Yes, even small repairs we do make a big difference to hospital efficiency and budget! Medical and surgical devices are crucial for patients, as there is not health care without them! We make sure that they are available and good for use, and we often ask: ‘can we repair it rather than replace it?’ A standard hospital bed can cost around £1,200 just for the frame, and a

more specialist bed for the Intensive Care Unit can be as much as £15,000 to £20,000. Our clinical leaders assess the hospital’s needs and we support medical and surgical bids for equipment. We work to a seven to ten-year plan and have an equipment database to help managing the assets.

Can you tell us about your teams?

Medical engineers are very skilled – with those skills becoming ever more scarce – and they come from all walks of life. For example, we have someone who started as a porter and got interested in medical equipment. Staff can do apprenticeships with us, and we have people who came from the RAF, other hospital trusts, and automotive industries. I came into it via a PhD at Sheffield University in medical engineering. Also, the Decontamination team is a pool of very skilled individuals from various backgrounds, who have developed a specific knowledge of surgical instruments. Both of my teams fall into the ‘Healthcare Scientists’

category and as such, we are bound to technically develop our expertise.

Are there many women working in Medical Engineering?

No, there aren’t – even in medical engineering teams in larger hospitals. It may be simply because medical engineering is not so widely known about. Personally, I love every bit of it, although it’s challenging! My managers have been mostly men so far but, in my own experience as a woman in a male-dominated field, that has not presented a problem. It doesn’t matter if you’re male or female – as long as you have interest in the subject matter, you put in the hours and the effort, ask colleagues for help and advice, and lead by example. At university, I was helped so much by a female mentor who was a professor. She flew all over the world for work and also had three children but she always had time for me and my questions! It’s so important to encourage women to push forward in their healthcare careers.

What lies in the future for medical engineering?



Operations manager Dr Giulia Gigliobianco

There is a skills gap in medical engineering and it’s important for hospitals to invest in these skills - or we will increasingly have to outsource. Parts of our work, such as management of surgical equipment or dealing with ‘Field Safety Notices,’ are highly regulated, hence technical ability, knowledge and experience is paramount in maintaining an acceptable level of service. Moreover, as the sustainability agenda is also growing in importance in our field, there are opportunities to make a huge difference for the planet, from energy-saving devices, to using reusable surgical instruments, rather than disposable.

Harriet goes from hospital volunteer to medical student

Just months ago, Harriet Greenwood, 19, was working as an Enhanced Support Volunteer Co-ordinator at Barnsley Hospital. Now she’s studying medicine on a five-year course at Cardiff University. She told us how much she enjoyed her time at the hospital – and how much confidence it gave her.

Harriet, from Wakefield, has always been interested in medicine and wanted to do it as a career ever since she can remember. She said: “My grandma was a midwife and studied hard to gain a PhD. It’s always appealed to me that medicine is a vocation. You dedicate your life to it, to helping people.” Her identical twin sister Emily, who also worked as a volunteer in Barnsley Hospital, is currently studying Medical Genetics in Swansea on a similar journey to Medicine – so the Greenwoods will soon be proud to have two doctors in the family.

However, it hasn’t all been plain sailing. Harriet, who went to Ackworth School, said: “I applied last year but only got one interview at Cambridge University and unfortunately didn’t get in, although I did have the required three A-levels at the top grades needed. I chose to take a gap year instead of studying biomedical science at Warwick to gain further experience.” Harriet studied biology, chemistry, maths and an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) on autism for A-levels. This year, she successfully gained all four university offers for Medicine from York, Nottingham, Lancaster and Cardiff. She started the course in Cardiff in September 2023 and will graduate in 2028.

While she was doing her medical university application, Harriet worked at Barnsley Hospital helping organise the ward volunteers’ service. She said: “Originally, I started volunteering for the Duke of Edinburgh Award and was excit-

ed to stay as part of the team when the Enhanced Support Volunteer role job came up at Barnsley. The people were kind, caring and I loved it!”

“Part of my role was recruiting new volunteers. I enjoyed going out into schools, jobcentres, and job-fair events, recruiting new volunteers. I introduced the volunteers into the team and undertook first shifts with them, engaging with patients and working with the multidisciplinary teams. I gained confidence and made lots of connections at the hospital with amazing, experienced people, who I can now turn to for advice.” Harriet is settling in well at Cardiff, a city which she describes as a ‘mini-London.’ Her parents brought her to the city and helped her move in and now she’s studying hard and making friends among the 300 people on her course. She said: “I have even met another girl on my course from Barnsley!”



Harriet Greenwood pictured right, and, left, with Barnsley Hospital colleagues.

She added: “People are very welcoming down here. The study is as hard as expected, especially with the volume of work; however I am enjoying the fast pace of it all. “We do full cadaveric dissection to learn anatomy, which was a little daunting at first, but the learning is extraordinary.”

Harriet relaxes outside study by playing tennis (she’s been playing since the age of six). She’s interested in a future career in paediatrics or neurology but says: “it’s early

days to make any decisions and I am keeping an open mind.”

Gary Francis, a Non-Executive Director at Barnsley Hospital, has contacted Harriet with congratulations on her university place. He said: “I listened with interest to Harriet’s remarkable story from volunteer to becoming a medical student. I congratulate her on this significant achievement and I wish her every success going forward. She is an inspiration to others who might wish to take a similar path.”

Welcome to our new Governors

Governors are the eyes and ears of the hospital's public, patients and staff. They help us understand and respond to what patients and members of the public expect from us. Here, four of our new Governors tell us a bit about themselves.



Dianne Mansfield, Public Governor

I was born in Dewsbury in 1944 and spent my first years in Poplar in London, then Mould Green in Huddersfield, then Thornhill in Dewsbury. My first job was in the woollen trade as a burler mender at Hopton Mills. I had a family and then trained as a chef in my 40s and moved to Exeter where I worked for Exeter Council and completed my part-time qualifications as a chef. After that, I worked as a pastry chef at an Exeter University Hall of Residence, a cook/catering manager at a hospice, and as catering manager at Exeter Cathedral Choir School. I returned north and was a home-care supervisor in Kirklees and Wakefield. When I retired, I moved to Penang, Malaysia, for ten years and was an active member of the International

Women's Organisation (IWA). Our choir regularly visited sick people and both children's and elderly people's homes. I returned to Dewsbury in 2012, serving as a volunteer and then Churchwarden at Dewsbury Minster for eight years, including holding the fort throughout the Covid pandemic. I had moved to Barnsley with my husband just before first lockdown. It has been a joy to be living in Staincross, worshipping in Cawthorne and Hoylandswaine, singing in Cawthorne Choral Society, and joining Barnsley and District U3A. I have been very impressed with the way I have been made welcome and cared for by Barnsley Hospital in particular, and feel I can bring a wealth of understanding and experience with me to listen, learn, and be proactive in driving the Trust forward.



Jenny Platts, Public Governor

I have previously been a Partner Governor for Barnsley Council at the hospital for 14 years. I recently retired as a councillor where I was the spokesperson for 'Place Health and Adult Social' care. I was born in Barnsley and have lived in Athersley South most of my life. Myself and my family have used inpatient and outpatient services at the Trust. We have a very high regard

for all the staff and the hospital. From my experience of representing St Helen's ward for 16 years, and working in the community for many more years, I have gained considerable experience in listening, working with and representing residents - which I will continue to do as a governor. I am really pleased to be public governor at the Trust and look forward to working as a team with my governor colleagues.

Roy Richardson, Public Governor

I'm Roy and I live in Darton with my partner and our little boy. I'm an avid Barnsley fan and try and get to all their games. I also watch England both at home and abroad. After spending a large chunk of my life in and around hospitals as a patient, I decided I wanted to try and give a bit back. I've been a dialysis patient since 2008. I was a patient at Barnsley Renal unit until 2015, when I started doing home dialysis which I am still doing five times a week now. I've enjoyed various roles supporting the NHS where I can, including hospital volunteer here at Barnsley for three years, patient rep-



resentative on the renal unit and helping in the training of junior doctors at Northern General through the patient as educators programme. I am hoping in my role as a public governor I can in some small way, help make Barnsley hospital the best it can possibly be.



Judy Brook, Sheffield Hallam University College of Health, Wellbeing and Life Sciences, Partner Governor

I am a Partner Governor, representing Sheffield Hallam University, where I work in the College of Health, Wellbeing and Life Sciences as the Associate Dean for Business and Enterprise. At Sheffield Hallam we educate large numbers of healthcare professionals across nursing, midwifery, social work, and biosciences, as well as a range of allied health professionals. Many of our students undertake placements at Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust as part of their programmes of study and return as qualified practitioners once they complete their courses. As such, Sheffield Hallam

University has a strong partnership with Barnsley Hospital and plays a significant part in the regional health-care economy. My background is in adult nursing, children's nursing, and health visiting, and I practiced in the NHS for 25 years before moving into higher education. I have always maintained strong links with the NHS and my PhD and associated research focuses on interventions to retain nurses and other health professionals in the workforce. I firmly believe that innovation and education, implemented through close working between the NHS and higher education, will benefit patients, and I see my role as Partner Governor as key to that ambition.



Senior medical photographer Michelle Corrie

Barnsley Hospital pioneers 'mirrorless camera' technology

Barnsley Hospital medical photographers are leading the way in new 'mirrorless camera' technology - which helps faster, more accurate diagnosis of medical conditions. The team decided to explore mirrorless cameras - a relatively new technology not in general use in the NHS - when their existing cameras needed to be replaced. Several kits were trialled and the team worked closely with Japanese representatives from Sony to feed back requirements specifically needed in a camera for use in a medical setting. Senior medical photographer Michelle Corrie said: "We went ahead and purchased Sony mirrorless cameras, possibly one of the first to do so in the NHS medical photography community, and we continue to work closely with Sony. "We began to receive enquiries from other NHS medical photography teams locally and nationally, to

understand their experiences as the NHS as a whole moves towards mirrorless technology. Our small Barnsley team have, in effect, been pioneers in this technology within the NHS." Mirrorless cameras' simpler internal mechanics enable them to shoot faster than most Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) cameras, particularly when it comes to a series or burst of images. Michelle said: "This will help more speedy diagnosis. By 2025, everyone in our region should be offering, for example, a Teledermatology service using digital images to triage, diagnose, monitor or assess skin conditions without the patient being physically present. Photography plays a crucial part in that. The huge difference it makes is that a consultant can assess about 40 patients in a day as opposed to ten."

Hospital sees the light

Barnsley Hospital has secured £420,000 for a new LED lighting project. This significant sustainability initiative will be funded by the NHS National Energy Efficiency Fund (NEEF) and enables the hospital to replace over 2,500 light fittings with energy-efficient LEDs. The scheme aligns with the hospital's commitment to environmental improvements, cost reduction, and its overarching Green Plan. Planned for completion by

the end of March, the project will cover multiple areas within the hospital, including 11 wards. Various crucial departments and sections on the ground and first floor, such as Medical Imaging, Chest Clinic, Emergency Department, Theatres, and Pathology, will see the installation of new LED fixtures. Leanne Steel, Project Manager at Barnsley Facilities Services (BFS), will oversee and coordinate the project, engaging various departments to manage access arrangements.

Prince's Trust helps break down barriers to progress

It was National Apprenticeship Week from Feb 5-11 - and we're encouraging young people to explore opportunities at the hospital. One route into health care is via The Prince's Trust programme. The hospital currently has five apprentices who came through this way. The Prince's Trust offers support when applying for jobs, securing interviews, interview coaching and financial support. Young people

have access to a mentor and a support mechanism for the first three months of employment. The scheme is open to anyone between 18 and 30 who wants to work in the health and care sector. It welcomes people who are unemployed and those who want to change careers. Alex Simon, Pastoral Mentor, Employment and Skills, Barnsley Council, said: "The Prince's Trust helps break down barriers to

young people's progress, such as an unhappy school experience, lack of a supportive family, low level maths or literacy skills, anxiety, autism, and body dysmorphia." Barnsley Hospital said excellent links and teamwork had been developed by the Trust's Apprenticeship Team and HR Recruitment Team, which enabled Alex to actively work in partnership to enhance access for young people into training and employment.



Matthew Carney, left, and Joshua Walker, both Prince's Trust Administration Apprentices at Barnsley Hospital.

Meet the team: Pharmacy (Education and Training)

The pharmacy team at Barnsley Hospital plays a vital role, while adapting to fast-moving changes in healthcare and medicine. Here we take a look at one aspect of this team's work - education and training.

Can you tell us about the team's training role? Meeting our various education and teaching commitments is definitely a team effort! Staff pictured are all involved in delivering a structured, effective training programme to our trainee pharmacists. We also provide training to apprentices, NVQ 2 and 3 level trainees, pre-registration trainee pharmacist technicians and trainee pharmacists. Additionally, we train foundation pharmacists and those undertaking prescribing training, as well as technicians doing specialist training (diploma, accuracy checking or similar).

The training is not only for trainees but for existing staff too, to ensure we all adapt to changes within healthcare and medicine. **How many people work in your team?** Judith Nicholson is the trainee pharmacist training programme director. She oversees and organises training for trainee pharmacists. The programme is delivered by a team of six, although this fluctuates and draws in staff from our various specialist areas as appropriate. Judith's colleagues Henry, Alex, Duaa and Neermala are designated supervisors guiding and supporting the trainee pharmacists. Jenny Meakin and Sarah Gubbins

are currently overseeing the NVQ level 2 and 3 training. Each area (medicine information, dispensary, aseptic service, medicine management, anti-coagulant clinic) has 1-2 staff members focussing on training within their area. **Can you summarise the different roles and the kind of work you do?** The role of the pharmacy education and training team is to: **■ Provide a structured training plan for our trainee technicians and pharmacists.** **■ Collaborate with colleges and universities.** **■ Support the students in their learning (signposting useful training resources and organising additional**

activities). Teach, train and show pharmacy processes. **■ Inspire students to proactively identify methods to reduce risks, avoid errors and minimise waste, to optimise therapies and to collaborate with the multi-disciplinary teams.** **What challenges does the team face?** Staffing can be a challenge; however, the education and training team is very flexible and creative and together we rise to that challenge. **What is rewarding about the work - and what's coming up in future?** Seeing trainees develop and gain in confidence is rewarding. Also, the team-working is very



MEET THE TEAM: The Pharmacy Education team

enjoyable and when a placement/rotation has been successful it provides a great sense of achievement. There are many changes in the roles of pharmacy technicians and pharmacists. The training of pre-registration trainee pharmacist technicians recently had a 'makeover.' It now includes the accredited accuracy checking qualification as well as medicine management training. The 2025/2026 cohort of trainee

pharmacists will qualify as 'pharmacist prescribers.' Therefore, the training programme will be adapted to incorporate clinical skills and prescribing training. The pharmacy training team is currently building relationships to Clinical Skills Educators and Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs). The advantages and opportunities achieved by this transformation will outweigh any challenges - and will benefit the Trust and our patients.

Thank you to all our supporters who have helped us make a difference ...



Our supporters choose to donate or fund-raise for us for a variety of reasons including appreciation of their or their loved one's care, to leave a lasting legacy to Barnsley in their will, challenge themselves to help a particular area of the hospital or simply as a thank you to our amazing NHS. Here are a few of our most recent supporters:

Milk from the Hills

The phenomenal Farmer James and his wife Alex from Milk from the Hills really made their fundraising count. To celebrate our NHS 75th birthday back in July 2023 they turned their flavoured milk blue with not 1 but 3 amazing flavours! This super creative idea raised a brilliant £3,208 to give a real MOOST sorry BOOST to our Make A Memory Appeal fundraising, supporting our older patients and those living with dementia. The team also sponsored a star in our first Christmas campaign Shine Bright for Barnsley campaign, which saw us light up the front of the hospital with twinkling festive stars bringing cheer to patients, their families, staff and volunteers.



Shine Bright for Barnsley 2024

We are hoping to build on the success of our first Christmas campaign with even more stars in 2024. If you would like to get involved in supporting us by sponsoring or fundraising for a star, give Jane a call on 01226 431650.



Thank you, Premier Team!

The fantastic team at Premier Foods, Carlton, started their fundraising for Barnsley Hospital Charity's Make A Memory Appeal at Easter 2023 and raised a phenomenal £10,556 in just nine months! The team worked in partnership with colleagues from The Company Shop who are based on-site to raise the funds. The team kicked off their fundraising with a huge raffle, took part in a Snowdon trek, cold water plunge and fire and ice walk, held their own staff carnival and post-Christmas celebration, Boogie Bash and a Christmas raffle to raise the funds. In addition to their fundraising efforts, Premier Foods also donated cakes for the 75th birthday of the NHS and other celebrations and were fabulous judges in the charity's Great Barnsley Bake Off competition.



Big thanks to caring colleagues and customers

A big thank you to colleagues and customers at Tesco, Stairfoot, Barnsley Norse, Universal Components UK and Cranswick Convenience Foods for donating crème eggs for our Easter gifts of knitted chickens, ducks and bunnies.



Charity Hub

Barnsley Hospital Charity hub opened in Summer 2023, and has quickly established itself as the go-to place in the hospital to pick up a variety of fabulous crafts including knitted baby items, beautiful handmade cards for all occasions and merchandise essentials such as travel mugs, water bottles and lanyards. Supported by charity volunteers the hub is open Monday to Friday 10am until 4pm and is situated on the first floor of the hospital (along the corridor from Colliers restaurant). Pop in and have a chat when you are next at Barnsley Hospital. Thank you to all our amazing supporters who knit, craft and donate. Your support enables us to keep on making a difference for our patients!



Our Upcoming Events

Are you ready for a challenge in 2024? Contact Jane Mills or Sam Bentley by email barnsleyhospitalcharity@nhs.net or call 01226 431650 to sign up today:
Sunday June 2 2024
 Skydive: take to the skies for our patients and tick off an item on your



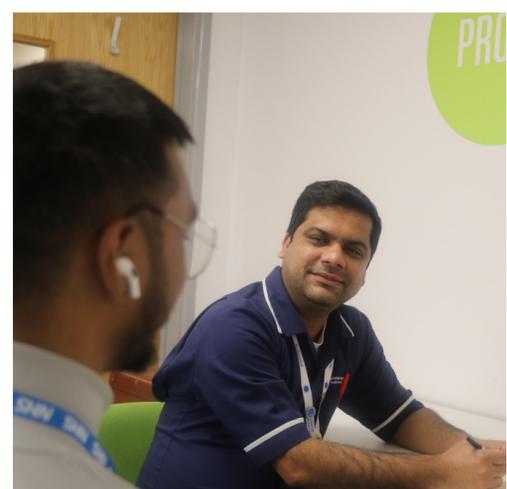
bucket list!

Sunday June 30 2024
 Barnsley 10k: put on your running shoes and join us for this amazing event.
Sunday September 29 2024
 Walk for Wards: join us in the Yorkshire Three Peaks to help raise funds for our patients.

New Nurse Advocate will help fight 'burnout'

Barnsley Hospital's Occupational Health Service is this month introducing access to a Professional Nurse Advocate (PNA), who can help support NHS colleagues. The PNA role was launched nationally in 2021 by NHS England's Chief Nursing Officer. The innovative role is aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of the nursing workforce and supporting nursing retention. PNAs are registered nurses who support the wellbeing of their colleagues. They use a model called 'restorative clinical supervision' (RCS) which provides a safe space for staff to discuss challenges they face. RCS has been effective in reducing burnout and stress for a range of health professionals. PNAs have completed a Level 7 accredited

course and their training equips them to lead, support and deliver quality improvement projects in response to what they hear from nurses. This in turn improves patient care. There are qualified PNAs in a variety of roles and departments across the Trust and further PNAs in training and they can arrange individual or group sessions to provide support. Accessing a PNA allows nurses to reflect on situations and to take forward learning, identify areas for personal and professional education, development and quality improvement. Barnsley Hospital is also planning to hold a new Nursing Career Clinic with a Professional Nurse Advocate to support career conversations.



Irfan Ahmad, who delivers Professional Nurse Advocate sessions.