Welcome to our latest Barnsley Hospital News.

As I’m sure many of you are aware by now, this will be my final edition as my time at Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust’s Chief Executive comes to an end.

I am leaving the Trust at the end of March to start a new adventure as Chief Executive at the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust. I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of staff for their hard work and support during my time here.

I would also like to thank our patients, the public and partner organisations for making me feel so welcome during my time as Chief Executive.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Barnsley Hospital, I am from Barnsley so it has been absolutely lovely to work in my hometown hospital.

I am leaving with some very fond memories.

Staff have spoken with me about my achievements at Barnsley but I want to make it clear that these achievements would not have been possible without our wonderful staff, who have embraced changes positively and with enthusiasm.

I have not made the decision to move on lightly. Barnsley Hospital will always hold a very special place in my heart and I really will miss the staff and patients.

Dr Richard Jenkins, currently our Medical Director and Deputy Chief Executive, will be stepping in as Interim Chief Executive from April 2017. I am confident that Richard will excel in leading our organisation; he has a wealth of NHS knowledge and experience and has recently completed the Aspiring Chief Executive Programme run by the NHS Leadership Academy.

Richard brings continuity to the role of Chief Executive, as he understands our organisation, the challenges we face and fully supports and lives our values, visions and objectives.

Richard became the Trust’s Medical Director in January 2015, he has practised medicine for over 20 years, becoming a consultant in 2002 specialising in diabetes and endocrinology. In 2006, he was awarded a Health Foundation Leadership Fellowship. After holding various medical leadership roles, he became Medical Director at Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust in 2012, a post he held for two years before coming to Barnsley.

I’d like to once again say thank you for making me feel so welcome, Barnsley Hospital will always have a special place in my heart and I look forward to reading the next edition of Barnsley Hospital News and hearing about the continued success of the Trust.

Goodbye for now, Diane.

Local legend helps appeal reach half way mark

Celebrity and local legend Dickie Bird OBE has shown his support to Barnsley Hospital Charity’s Tiny Hearts Appeal by donating to the cause for a second time.

Following on from his generous donation last year, Dickie has made another huge £35,000 donation to the cause taking the appeal past the £500,000 half way point.

The legendary former cricket umpire, Harold Dennis “Dickie” Bird OBE, was born in Barnsley and is a much loved celebrity in the local area and beyond. Dickie has chosen to back the Tiny Hearts Appeal for a second year running and his donation will be a giant step forward for the appeal meeting the target of £1million.

The Tiny Hearts Appeal was launched to support the development of a brand new state of the art neonatal unit for babies who need special care. The unit will be situated alongside our Barnsley Birthing Centre which means that the babies will not have to be exposed to different environments and different temperature changes, nor will they have to be taken into an elevator.

The Charity and Hospital Chairman, Steve Wragg, said: “We are absolutely delighted that Dickie Bird OBE has chosen to support our Tiny Hearts Appeal again. “We are extremely grateful for Dickie’s second, very generous donation of £35,000. This money has taken the Tiny Heart’s Appeal running total past the half way mark of £500,000 which is absolutely fantastic!”

Dickie said of his donation: “I am delighted and honoured to be involved with Barnsley Hospital Charity’s Tiny Hearts Appeal. Barnsley is my home town and the appeal is raising money for a tremendous cause for the people here. I have been and visited the ward and seen for myself the great work of the staff caring for the premature babies and I felt very humbled – it brought a lump in my throat and a tear to my eye.

“I sincerely hope that everyone will put their hands in their pockets to support this worthy cause and I’m sure it will give people the same sense of pride as I feel to be involved in this. If everyone in Barnsley donated just £1, it would be a massive boost to the appeal, taking us towards the £1million target.”

Dickie presented his donation to Barnsley Hospital Charity and staff from the neonatal unit at a special cheque presentation ceremony which took place at Barnsley Hospital on Thursday 26 January.
Cancelling and rearranging hospital appointments
If you are unable to attend a pre-booked appointment please remember to contact us to let us know you are cancelling or to rearrange the appointment.
We have made it easier to cancel and rearrange the majority of our appointments, all you need to do is call our dedicated appointments team on 01226 434343. This telephone line is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Please note there are certain appointments we are unable to rearrange via this line but please contact this number in the first instance and the team will refer you to the relevant area if they can’t deal with your request themselves.

Tell us your views
Your feedback and suggestions are very important to us. If you have feedback on this magazine or on our hospital and the services we provide, we would love to hear from you. Please send us an email to communications.barnsley@nhs.net to share your views.

Contacting the hospital
Switchboard 01226 730 000
24/7 Appointments 01226 434343
Patient Advice and Complaints Team 01226 432 430

Useful numbers
Call 111 when it’s less urgent than 999
Information on GPs and dentists 01226 327 176
Stop Smoking Service 01226 737 077

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Barnsley Hospital NHS Membership Form

By becoming a member, you have the opportunity to have your say in how Barnsley Hospital is run, express your support for the Trust and work with us to deliver the best services we can.

We recognise the importance of a membership that is representative of all the communities we serve; it would be helpful if you could complete the following:

White: Black or Black British:
- British
- Caribbean
- African
- Other
- White or Black Caribbean
- Other

Mixed:
- White and Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- Any other mixed background

Other:

What is your religion or belief?
- Hindu
- Buddhist
- Christian
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Jewish
- Other

What is your gender identity?
- Male
- Female
- Other

Please indicate whether you have a disability:
- Yes
- No

If you answered yes, please indicate your disability and any support needs you require:
- Sensory
- Physical
- Intellectual
- Learning

For your protection
This data will only be used to contact members about the NHS Foundation Trust or other related issues and will be stored and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Please indicate if you do or do not wish your details to be included in the public Register of Members.

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Non Executive Directors appointed

In January we welcomed two new Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) to the Board of Directors; Keely Firth and Philip Hudson.

They have joined five other NEDs on the Board and help oversee the activities of the hospital which, with input from the Council of Governors, sets the direction for the future of the hospital.

Keely, who is a former Barnsley Hospital employee, is a qualified accountant, who brings with her over thirty years of experience in the NHS and in the private sector. She is currently the Chief Finance Officer of Rotherham Royal Hospital.

Philip Hudson is a lawyer whose experience is in commerce and industry. He is currently General Counsel at Broker plc., PowerGen plc. and Kelda Group plc.

He has spent the last 17 years working in the county and most recently was Director of Corporate Affairs and Group General Counsel at Drax Group plc. His current roles are as Chair of Trustees of the Drax Foundation and a director of Electricity Pensions Limited, a trustee at National Energy Action and Chairman of the Board at Warm Zones CIC. He is also a consultant with Armstrong Bonham Carter, the corporate governance consultancy firm.

Stephen Wragg, Chairman of Barnsley Hospital, said: “It is with great pleasure that we welcome both Keely and Philip as our two new Non-Executive Directors to the Board. “There is always great interest in these vacancies from some very high calibre candidates and Keely and Philip bring a wealth of experience to the role. They’re both very proud to live and work in the region, which is really important.”

Welcome, Keely and Philip!”

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Hello, I'm Annie Moody, Lead Governor.

This is my first update in Barnsley Hospital News as Lead Governor. Having been elected by the Council of Governors in December 2016, I commenced my new post at the start of January 2017 and I have been thoroughly enjoying it so far.

I have been a Public Governor since January 2015, and have taken over as Lead Governor from Joe Unsworth who stepped down after eight years as Lead Governor and 12 years as a Public Governor. I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Joe who dedicated lots of time and effort to the role. Joe will be missed on the Council of Governors and I wish him all the best for the future.

I am delighted to have been appointed as Lead Governor, it is very flattering that my Governor colleagues have elected me to this position and I hope I do them proud.

I am starting my new position on the Council of Governors at an interesting and very challenging time for the Trust so I am really looking forward to getting stuck in and using my work experience in the Civil Service in HR and training to help along the way.

In January five new Public and Staff Governors were elected to the Council of Governors - Michelle Bailey, Andrew Bogg, Helen Dixon, Alan Higgins and Karen Kanee. I would like to welcome them all and I hope they find their role as interesting and informative as I have.

The Council of Governors holds general meetings every two months and all the meetings are open to the public so you are very welcome to come along. All meetings are held in the Hospital's Education Centre between 5.30 – 7.30pm, the next session is due to take place on 19 April 2017. You can see a list of future dates on the hospital's website.

As you will see on the front page of this magazine our Chief Executive, Diane Wake, is leaving the Trust for pastures new at the end of March. We will very much miss Diane at the Council of Governors meetings; she generally comes to every meeting and has always been very informative and open with us all. I know Barnsley Hospital staff will be sad to see her leave the Trust. I had the pleasure of presenting her with a card and some flowers from all the Governors at her final Council of Governors meeting in February, and we wish her all the best for the future.

The hospital Chairman, Steve Wragg, welcomes Governors' help with the process of appointing a new Chief Executive. Governors are responsible for final approval of this important appointment. We have been invited to join in a stakeholder's forum, so we will get a chance to see candidates in action and this is very much welcomed.

As Lead Governor, I am responsible for the management and implementation of Barnsley Hospital's strategy. I am leading on the delivery of a number of key projects, including the development of the new Barnsley Hospital. I am also responsible for the day-to-day running of the Trust, ensuring that it meets the needs of its patients and staff, and that it is financially sustainable.

The Trust has appointed five brand new Governors to the Council of Governors. Michelle Bailey, Andrew Bogg, Alan Higgins and Karen Kanee have been appointed as successful candidates to the role of Public Governors and Dietetics Manager Helen Dixon is the Staff Governor for Clinical Support.

Jacky O'Brien and Tony Dobell also renewed their terms as Public Governors to another three years. Each year up to a third of seats for public and staff Governors go to election. They include six seats in the Barnsley Public Constituency (public and patient members living in the borough of Barnsley), one out of area public seat, one for the Barnsley Public Constituency (public and patient members living in the borough of Barnsley), one out of area public seat, one for the Clinical Support staff constituency and one for Nursing & Midwifery staff.

The Council of Governors act as the voice of the local people and are responsible for helping to set the direction and shape the future of the hospital based on members' views.

Steve Wragg, Chairman of Barnsley Hospital, said: "It is with great pleasure that we welcome our new Governors to the their roles within the Trust. All of the people on the council have Barnsley Hospital at heart."

While the Trust is managed by the Board of Directors, the Board is accountable to the Council of Governors. The Council of Governors regularly meet to discuss business and performance of the Trust.

Governors support a range of activities across the hospital from representing patients, staff and public, improving access and patient communications to providing consultation and involvement and focussing on environmental issues and hospital resources.

Annie Moody, Lead Governor

**New Governors’ Appointed**

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We were overwhelmed by all the fantastic festive fundraising in the run up to Christmas, see below just a handful of our Tiny Hearts seasonal supporters

**Halifax (Barnsley)**
Our local branch of Halifax in Barnsley Town Centre raised a fantastic £1016.91 with their Christmas Fundraising in branch which included a raffle with a grand prize of a TV!

**XPO**
Our cheerful mascot Cheerio visited XPO Logistics staff on their Christmas themed day where they held a tombola, bake sale as well as a ‘dress the desk’ competition. They raised a fabulous £568.79 on the day!

**Les Cadeaux**
Our wonderful supporters Les Cadeaux organised a Santas Grotto this Christmas donating all the proceeds to the Tiny Hearts Appeal. They made a brilliant £228.57 on their grotto as well as selling magical reindeer food

**Mill House Green Male Voice Choir concert**
The Millhouse Green Male Voice Choir put on an absolutely fantastic concert in December in aid of the Tiny Hearts Appeal. The concert was a huge success and they raised an impressive £700!

**Barnsley V-Dubbers**
We want to give Barnsley V-Dubbers a huge High Five for their Christmas Fundraising raising £345 at their event at Pugneys Country Park.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

The Rainbow Dash is back once again this summer!
The event will take place on Sunday 18th June 2017 at Locke Park and registrations will be open soon!

**To pre-register, please visit our website:**
www.barnsleyhospitalcharity.co.uk

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**Is Skydiving on your Bucket list?**

With a skydive being high up on many peoples bucket list, why not consider jumping for Barnsley Hospital Charity? We are giving you the opportunity to take part in a Tandem Skydive on Sunday 21st May or Friday 14th July at Hibaldstow to raise money for the cause.

A tandem skydive allows you to enjoy that minute of adrenaline-fuelled freefall harnessed to the front of a BPA qualified instructor, so no need to fear about being alone.

All funds raised from this event will be used to enhance the care and facilities at Barnsley Hospital, helping thousands of patients each and every year.

This is open to anyone 16 and over.

For more information and to register your interest please go over to the Barnsley Hospital website at www.barnsleyhospitalcharity.co.uk or contact a member of the team on 01226 431650.
Thank you to our Hospital Heroes...

Royal Antediluvian Order of the Buffalos

Massive thank you to the Major Jack Clarke lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of the Buffalos. The lodge chose to support the Tiny Hearts Appeal in their year of fundraising with various fundraising events. The raised a fantastic £1000 over the course of the year.

Barnsley Golf Club

Last year Barnsley Golf Club chose the Tiny Hearts appeal as their charity of the year. Fundraising activities included their members Paul and Phil taking on 6 rounds of golf in one day as well as another member Dougyne running the iconic London Marathon bringing their total to £2091.

Will Grainger

Young Tiny Hearts supported Will Grainger who selflessly asked for donations to the Tiny Hearts Appeal instead of birthday presents for his 6th Birthday. His wonderful, kind thoughts meant he brought in an amazing £340! Such a kind & thoughtful young man, he really is an inspiration! Thank you Will!

Denby Dales Lions Beerfest

Huge thank you to Denby Dale District Lions who raised a fantastic £2000 for the Tiny Hearts Appeal with their Beer Fest in Penistone. This comes just a couple of months after they raised an amazing £3000 for the Breast Cancer Unit.

Great North Swim

Our wonderful supporters Robert, Thomas, Steve and Sam braved the waters of Lake Windermere to take part in the Great North Swim for the Tiny Hearts Appeal. They met with our Chairman Steve Wragg to bring in their offline sponsorship of £962.30, which with their online fundraising this takes their total to a swimmingly superb £1452.30! Well Done guys!

Galaxy Food Bar

Galaxy Food Bar ran a social media fundraiser and brought in a fabulous £850

Sophia and Ella

Friends Sophia and Ella raised a fantastic £125 selling their lovely baked goodies, painting nails and glitter tattoos. They even brought some lovely Christmas biscuits for our own special NeoNatal nurses!

Interested in any of our events? Need more information? Would like to request a fundraising pack? Contact us today!

Call 01226 431650 Email Barnsleyhospitalcharity@nhs.net

Yorkshire 3 Peaks challenge 2017

The Barnsley Hospital Charity is launching it’s Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge for the chance to tackle these iconic peaks and support the charity. The challenge is being co-ordinated with Kuta Outdoors to stage this event on Saturday 1st July 2017.

This 24.5 mile trek takes you up and over the stunning Yorkshire countryside including the majestic peaks of Pen-Y-Ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough. Why not join forces with your family, friends or work colleagues to raise a team to take on this challenge together and blast through your suggested fundraising target together.

Have you already completed this challenge in the past? Then why not join us and attempt to beat your previous time!

To take part in this event the registration fee is £30 and this includes an event T-Shirt and professional, experienced support before and during the walk from the Kuta Outdoors team. The suggested minimum sponsorship for this challenge is £100 although we really hope you will blast through this target to help make our event a fantastic success!

Interested in any of our events? Need more information? Would like to request a fundraising pack? Contact us today!

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Honey Pot Café

Our lovely supporters at the Honeypot Community Cafe took on a sponsored walk on World Prematurity Day. They invited us for a fabulous Christmas lunch to present us with their fantastic fundraising of £1840 which brings their Tiny Hearts fundraising total to £3840, Well done guys!
Meet the Author

On 2 March we celebrated World Book Day in our Library and Resource Centre by holding a ‘Meet the Author’ session. Current and aspiring midwives met Sarah Stables, Consultant Midwife, who has co-edited the latest volume of the Oxford Handbook of Midwifery.

Sarah, who has been a practising midwife since 2004, hoped that her involvement in the book would inspire people to either pick up a copy or write a journal or case study themselves.

In 2011 Sarah became the Lead Midwife of the award winning antenatal ward here at the hospital and later became a Senior Lecturer in Midwifery at Sheffield Hallam University. She continues to have the privilege of working clinically within the Barnsley Birthing Centre. In 2015 Sarah won the Royal College of Midwives award for innovation after developing a novel way for midwifery staff to communicate with each other securely over Facebook.

All attendees to the World Book Day event were invited to ask their questions to gain a further understanding of the handbook and of the practice of midwifery.

Rebecca Shreef, Senior Library and Resource Centre Assistant, said: “We had a great day celebrating World Book Day. It was really great of Sarah to come along and talk about her experience in editing the handbook, it was a very interesting and informative day.”

The handbook itself has just been released and will be available online. The book is described as “The essential one-stop guide to the key principles of the care and management of pregnancy, birth and beyond.”

Parents help shape Maternity Service

Barnsley Maternity Services Feedback Group is a group of parents who meet bi-monthly to give their feedback, opinions and suggestion on how our Maternity Services can be improved for the benefit of our patients.

The group is led by mum, Sarah Calvert, and is attended by parents, midwives from the hospital, health visitors, family centre manager, infant feeding manager, maternity volunteers and a representative from our Patient Experience Team.

The aim of the group is for our Maternity Service to gain valuable feedback from real service users on how we can improve all aspects of maternity care. The group also review literature such as patient information leaflets and website content to ensure this is relevant to the target audience.

Sarah Calvert, Group Lead, said: “The feedback the Maternity Services Feedback Group provides to the hospital really does make a difference. Just one example of how our feedback has made a positive impact is the recent updating of signage in the Emergency Department directing women to the Birthing Centre. It was raised by members of our group that they were unable to locate the Birthing Centre when attending the Emergency Department in labour late at night when the Women’s Services entrance is closed. Thanks to our feedback new signage is now in place.”

From 2017 the sessions will be held at Tesco Community Room, Stairfoot, Barnsley. If you are a parent or parent-to-be and would like to share your experiences and help us to improve our services, come along to the next session on Wednesday 3 May 2017, 10am – 12pm.

For more information please contact Sarah Calvert via the group’s Facebook page www.facebook.com/BarnsleyMaternityServicesFeedbackGroup.

“A don’t just natter, movements matter”

We are supplying all women who are 24 weeks pregnant with purple wristbands to remind them to check their baby’s movements during pregnancy.

Provided by local charity, Jaxon’s Gift, which raises money to help families grieve for babies and children, midwives will explain the use of the band and help reinforce the usual advice about foetal movements. If the baby stops moving, women should either go to hospital or contact their midwife as this could be a potential sign of problems.

Midwives Sarah Stables and Kerry Bushell initiated the need for wristbands to act as a reminder to expectant mothers and a competition for a slogan to adorn the wristbands was launched.

Midwife Jill Wyke’s slogan: “DON’T JUST NATTER, MOVEMENTS MATTER” was chosen by founder of Jaxon’s Gift, Louisa Frewell.

Consultant Midwife, Sarah, said: “Twenty-four weeks is usually the time at which movements can be monitored. Thanks to Jaxon’s Gift, we have 3,000 wristbands with Kerry’s slogan on which acts as a practical reminder for mothers to take extra care and ensure that all is okay with their baby.

“It also acts as a visual prompt to help raise awareness of the fact that women attend this hospital with reduced foetal movements.”

Ophthalmology Overhaul

In Summer 2016 our Trust was awarded a contract by Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group to provide a full Ophthalmology Service, the new contract started on 1 February 2017.

Although we have had an Ophthalmology Service on site at Barnsley for almost 20 years this service was previously provided and managed by The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. The service is now fully managed by our Trust and staff.

This year we are investing significantly in the service in order to deliver a more efficient one-stop service, this will be in partnership with other local providers.

The full service redesign and implementation is expected to take up to 12 months to deliver, but promises a better patient experience going forward with current patient feedback being used to enhance the future service.

The Ophthalmology Department provides services for people with visual problems such as cataracts, cysts of the eye, age-related macular degeneration, laser surgery, squint surgery, and minor operations are also carried out.

From diagnosis through to surgery and treatment, the department deals with both planned surgery (on a day case only basis) and emergency cases.

“A friendly service delivered by highly skilled professionals”

Ophthalmology is a friendly service and highly skilled professionals, patient feedback is always positive. Ophthalmology’s policy is to provide quality, best care for Barnsley.

Beverley McGeroge, Ophthalmology Service Manager, said: “We are delighted that we have been awarded this contract. We are already making changes to the way the service is delivered. The new service model will see a shift from consultant delivered activity to a more consultant-led service, increasing the involvement of Nursing staff and other professionals such as Orthoptists and Optometrists in delivering care.

“I would like to take this opportunity to say a big welcome to the staff who have joined the Ophthalmology Service since the change of contract.”

You can find more information about the service on our website www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk/services/opthalmology/.
Barnsley Hospital shortlisted for prestigious award

We have been shortlisted for a prestigious Health Service Journal (HSJ) Value in Healthcare Awards. The HSJ Awards recognise and reward outstanding efficiency and improvement by the NHS.

Our Directors have pledged their support to making the town and the region a smoke free environment by the year 2025. The team have taken to social media to promote the Breathe 2025 campaign by making sure that our staff are aware of the health risks and consequences of smoking and that they’re aware of the health benefits of stopping. We want Government action to reduce the number of children who smoke.

According to figures from breathe2025.org.uk:

More than 7 million UK smokers started smoking before the age of 18. Half of all long-term smokers will be killed by their lethal addiction. 100,000 people die of a smoking-related illness every year in the UK.

Two-thirds of smokers report that they took up smoking before the age of 18 and over 80% before the age of 20.

Two-fifths (40%) had started smoking regularly before the age of 16. Among children who try smoking it is estimated that between one third and one half are likely to become regular smokers within two to three years.

In a recent poll, most of us (85 per cent) want Government action to reduce the number of children who smoke.

Director of Marketing and Communications, Emma Parkes, explains: “I’m pledging to the Breathe 2025 campaign by making sure that our staff and patients have lots of access to information and resources to help them stop smoking and live happier, healthier lives.”

Meanwhile fellow directors commented: “The hospital is already a Smokefree site and it’s important that we continue to ensure staff can pass on to other people the dangers and consequences of smoking and how bad this can be for your health.

“Smoking is one of the biggest killers across Barnsley. We want patients and staff to give up smoking by making sure that they’re aware of the health risks and the resources are available to help them stop.”

For more information go to: http://breathe2025.org.uk/.

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Meet the team...
Research & Development Team

In each edition of Barnsley Hospital News we will be introducing you to one of our teams, departments or wards so you can find out more about what each area does across the Trust.

In this edition we will be talking to Emma Godwin, Head of Research and Development and Mishell Cunningham, Lead Nurse for Research and Development to talk about the Research and Development (R&D) Team does.

Hi Both, thanks for meeting with us today. First of all can you explain to us what the R&D Team does?

Mishell: There is two elements to the work we do; we support research that is being conducted by medical teams across the Trust and we also grow and develop commercial research supported by pharmaceutical companies.

Emma: Our aim with commercial studies is to bring income into to the Trust which we will reinvest back in to patient care. We also undertake academic studies at the Trust in partnership with universities and other organisations.

What types of roles do your team members have?

Emma: We have a wide range of specialists in our team from a number of professions. Also we have recently had a restructure and have welcome new staff members in the department.

Mishell: Staff in our department include nurses, doctors, governance facilitators and clerical staff. Everyone has a different role to play in supporting the objectives of the department.

So a varied team then! Please can you give us some examples of the work you are doing at the moment?

Mishell: We have a diverse range of studies on going at the moment. One of the pharmaceutical studies we are working on at the moment is a new drug to treat type 2 diabetes, this is in the third phase of the study.

Other areas we are supporting in their research includes rheumatology, dermatology, urogynaecology, breast cancer, deep vein thrombosis - just to name a few!

Emma: We are working on several funded collaborative academic studies including a project examining shared care for patients on Haemodialysis, funded by The Health Foundation, in collaboration with The University of Sheffield and Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. We have also recently secured funding from The General Nursing Council Trust, for a six month research project examining the information and communication needs of patients attending the Emergency Department at Barnsley. We have just finished collecting some baseline data from 200 hospital staff on the challenges and barriers that surround aspects of fluid balance and AKI monitoring. This data will help inform a collaborative research project with Bradford Teaching Hospitals and Leeds Teaching Hospital later in the year.

Thanks for meeting with us; it’s been great getting to know you!

Both: Thank you!

If you would like to speak to the Research and Development about research opportunities in the Trust you can contact them on 01226 431067 or barnsley.research@nhs.net.

For more information about the team please visit www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk/services/research-development/.

Nominate your star of Barnsley Hospital

Nominations are now open for Barnsley Hospital’s eighth annual Heart Awards.

The Heart Awards gives both staff members and patients the opportunity to recognise the hard work and dedication of staff and volunteers.

Since 2014 patients have been able to nominate an individual or a team for the Patient Choice Award. This gives patients (past or present), or their representatives, a chance to nominate a member of staff, or a team, who they feel has made an outstanding contribution to their care. Patients can nominate any individual or team, from a volunteer to a surgical team.

Chairman, Steve Wragg, said: “We added this category to give patients the opportunity to contribute to this year’s awards. We have received some fantastic nominations from patients over the past two years. I encourage anyone who has experienced excellent care in our hospital to nominate the members of staff that provided that care, to give them the recognition they deserve.

“It doesn’t have to be clinical staff you nominate, any can nominate anyone. It could be the receptionist that went that extra mile to make you feel relaxed and showed you where to go, or it could be the surgeon that removed your appendix and saved your life. It’s really up to you!”

Staff can nominate their peers in a number of categories including innovation, patient safety and a new charity category to name a few.

The winner will be selected by a panel of judges at the Hospital, and will be presented with their award at the Heart Awards on Thursday 1 June 2017 at the Holiday Inn, Dodworth, Barnsley.

If you are a patient or member of the public and would like to make a nomination please visit www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk/patientchoice where you will find the nomination form. If you are a member of staff please visit www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk/heartawards.

Barnsley Hospital seeks volunteers for special role

We are seeking volunteers to take on the rewarding role of End of Life Companion.

The role of the End of Life Companion is to provide comfort and support to patients, their families or carers at their time of need. It is not always possible for relatives or carers to be with patients when they are in hospital and sometimes patients may not have any close friends or family at all.

End of Life Companions step in when relatives, friends or carers are unable to. Their role includes sitting with patients at the end of their life, providing companionship, listening to their needs, showing understanding and compassion and communicating concerns about the patient to the ward nursing team.

End of Life Companions may also be called upon to help family or carers during in the difficult time as their loved one comes to the end of their life.

Diane Wake, Chief Executive at Barnsley Hospital, said: “We are calling for people to volunteer for this challenging yet very rewarding role. The role of End of Life Companion is a new voluntary position that we are introducing to the Trust.

“The End of Life Companions will provide a very important service to patients and their families when they are at their most vulnerable. They do not provide any medical or nursing care but do provide valuable companionship and comfort at a very difficult time.”

To find out more information, or to apply, please contact our Voluntary Services Team on 01226 434979 or email barnsley.volunteers@nhs.net.

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