

health matters

members' newsletter

*Sept 2011
issue 8*

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Welcome from the Chairman & Chief Executive

Welcome to the September edition of Health Matters. In the last issue we outlined the position of the Trust after having successfully completed our Turnaround Plan, ensuring that the Trust was once again a financially viable organisation, providing excellent, safe care for our patients.

The government has made it clear that, with an ageing population and the development of more expensive drugs and treatments, the cost of healthcare is going to rise, and to ensure the future of the NHS, all NHS organisations must adapt to meet the challenges of the next three years.

Against this background, the Trust is now moving forward, working in partnership with NHS Berkshire and Clinical Commissioning Groups (the new GP Consortia), to continue to develop the Trust in this changing healthcare environment with substantial reductions in funding. NHS Berkshire and Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust have established a joint strategy and programme board to work in partnership to shape the future of healthcare locally. The board will develop a programme exploring all aspects of healthcare provided currently, to ensure the best model of care

for east Berkshire and south Buckinghamshire residents.

Proposals for changes will be developed over the coming months, and any that could result in significant service changes would go out for full consultation with all stakeholders and the local community. As the programme progresses, we will issue regular updates to ensure members are kept up to date with developments.

Although the way forward will be challenging over the next few years, we believe that the outcomes for the local community will be extremely positive, with safe and effective healthcare delivered in the most appropriate setting, in a way that ensures the sustainability of services for all. This is an exciting time and we look forward to working with our health colleagues and the local community to plan the way forward.



Christopher Langley
Chairman



Julie Burgess
Chief Executive

Recruitment Open Day - Saturday 17 September

The Trust is holding a recruitment open day, and whether you are qualified or unqualified, experienced or just starting out in healthcare we would like to talk to you, so why not come along and find out for yourself at the Post Graduate Medical Centre, Wexham Park Hospital from 10 am - 3 pm

We have a number of exciting opportunities available:
Qualified Nurses – Bands 5 & 6
Healthcare Assistants (no qualifications required)
Operating Department Practitioners
Phlebotomists

**If you are interested in learning about vacancies at the Trust, please visit our website:
www.heatherwoodandwexham.nhs.uk**

Announcement of two new staff governors

From April to June the Trust held elections for two staff governors, for non-clinical staff governor and nursing and midwifery staff governor.

Reverend Peter Blackshire was appointed as non-clinical staff governor. Peter has been with the Trust as a chaplain for approximately two years, and has been a minister for 22 years. With a passion for staff wellbeing, Peter has a Masters degree in psychotherapy and counselling, and an advanced diploma in integrative psychotherapy and has worked as an independent therapist for five years.



Sandra Walden was appointed, uncontested, for a second term as nursing and midwifery staff governor. Sandra has worked for the Trust since 1983. She is a qualified enrolled nurse who is passionate about motivating staff, and ensuring the delivery of the highest level of nursing and quality care. Sandra is currently working on her Masters dissertation.

Arctic challenge in aid of Special Care Baby Unit

Jacqui and Chris Newell faced one of the most gruelling challenges of their lives and raised an incredible £11,148 for the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) at Wexham Park Hospital in memory of Jessica and Ashley, their twin daughters who died following their premature birth in August 2010. The couple who have run a variety of fundraising events, including BBQs and poetry and musical evenings to raise money for the SCBU, completed their epic challenge of crossing the Arctic from Norway to Sweden earlier this year. They set off in April and covered an amazing 250km in six days on sleds being pulled by huskies.

Chris and Jacqui visited the unit at the end of and following the presentation of the cheque Chris said, 'Jay and I were so

inspired by the nurses, doctors and consultants, and the work they do is truly amazing.' Denia Alexopoulou, Consultant Paediatrician who received the cheque said, 'On behalf of the whole neonatal team I would like to sincerely thank Chris and

Jacqui for their determination and focus on raising this incredible amount. It was lovely for us to see them again and hear about their trip first hand after following their journey on Facebook and through Chris' blog.'



Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust named as one of the CHKS 40 Top Hospitals 2011



For the sixth year running, Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has been rated one of the CHKS 40 Top Hospitals. The CHKS Top Hospitals Programme is now in its tenth year and it is the only data-driven set of awards in the UK using analysis of nationally available data sets to determine winners in each category.

The winners were announced at an awards ceremony in London hosted by CHKS, the UK's leading independent provider of healthcare intelligence and quality improvement services.

CHKS celebrates excellence across the UK with the 40Top Awards. These are based on the

evaluation of 21 key performance indicators, covering safety, clinical effectiveness, health outcomes, efficiency, patient experience and quality of care.

Julie Burgess, Chief Executive, who collected the award on behalf of the Trust said: "This is a testament to the staff at the Trust who work tirelessly to provide the best patient care possible. We have had an extremely tough year, yet despite all the financial difficulties that have affected the organisation, the staff continue to strive to deliver excellent patient care, and I was proud to accept the award on behalf of all the staff here at the Trust. The award truly belongs to them in recognition of the work they do".

Would you like to see behind the scenes at the Trust ?

The Trust is inviting members to come and join us for a tour of two areas at Wexham Park Hospital on 27 September, commencing at 11am.

The tour of our Angiography unit will give you an insight into the techniques available for heart-related illnesses and heart attack victims. The department was the first centre in the world to use intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) technology which enables physicians to see images inside the heart and arteries.

The tour of our new state-of-the-art simulation unit (WexSim), which is home of SimMan 3G, a simulation mannequin which exhibits many lifelike functions. The simulator, affectionately known as 'Freda', is extremely realistic and can breathe, talk, has a pulse, take fluids and even urinate.



The combined tour of both areas will last approximately 30 minutes, followed by an opportunity to meet members of our Council of Governors for an open discussion and to give your feedback. *Please note that places will be limited, and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to join us on this tour, please contact our Membership Officer on 01753 633566 or email: foundation.trust@hwph-tr.nhs.uk.*

Trust introduces safer footwear

In hospital falls account for a large number of reported patient safety incidents. To help reduce preventable falls causing harm, we have recently implemented a number of safety measures as part of our falls prevention programme, including actively promoting safe footwear for our patients. Thanks to the introduction of double-grip non-slip slipper socks on the wards, we are able to offer suitable footwear to patients who are admitted without their slippers to help reduce the risk of slips, trips and falls.



Designed for single patient use, the washable red socks are available on all wards and provide extra safety for patients who might be at a higher risk of falling. They are also a visual reminder for our staff that patients may need assistance, without compromising their dignity.

Used in conjunction with new falls awareness posters that remind everyone of easy interventions that can reduce the risk of falls, and the introduction of falls champions at ward level to roll out training on the wards and promote falls reduction initiatives at a local level, these simple measures are an effective way of improving patient safety.



THINK



Falls history & assessment



Always review medicines



Leave the environment safe



Let others know the risk



Safe footwear & promote good foot-care

National falls awareness week

To mark national falls awareness week, the Trust has been urging local residents to 'watch their step' and take part in local activities to reduce the risk of falling.

This year's focus is on highlighting the simple interventions that can reduce the risk of falls, such as having an eye test and taking part in regular strength and balance exercise. Reduced vision can affect balance, co-ordination and mobility so it is important to take precautions as soon as possible.

During the week, the Trust's practice development team displayed a range of information and leaflets at Wexham Park Hospital, promoting the importance of falls awareness and offering support and advice for patients and the public.

Acute Stroke Unit Service



Wexham Park Hospital continues to provide intensive care, and early rehabilitation and therapy for stroke patients. In the past year the unit has introduced a number of service improvements to enhance the care already provided to its patients. These include the establishment of a three bedded Acute Stroke Assessment Unit within the existing stroke unit which enables direct admission of stroke patients to a stroke specialist bed; screening for difficulties with swallowing within four hours of admittance which reduces the length of time before a management plan for the provision of adequate nutrition is identified; and the introduction of a dedicated Acute Stroke Co-ordinator to facilitate the stroke pathway from the time a patient arrives in A&E, ensuring that essential activities are carried out within the right timeframes.

Stroke patients in Buckinghamshire and east Berkshire are now able to receive 24/7 thrombolysis and specialist hyper acute care following the launch of a joint service in June 2011 by Heatherwood & Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust.

treatment round the clock seven days a week, along with intensive care, rehabilitation and therapy for up to three days following a stroke. The unit will receive all stroke patients from across Buckinghamshire and east Berkshire who are diagnosed within four and a half hours of symptom onset. If more than four and a half hours have elapsed since symptom onset, patients will be taken to whichever hospital is closer to their location.

The Thrombolysis and Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (HASU) service, based at Wycombe Hospital, is staffed by consultants from both Trusts. It provides thrombolysis

The Acute Stroke Unit at

The Stroke Rehabilitation Unit at Heatherwood Hospital continues to provide longer term rehabilitation for medically fit stroke patients following their stay in the Acute Stroke Unit.

Members Event 11 May

The Trust held an event in May, for our members to hear from senior management and clinicians at the Trust about recent developments and our plans for the future. The event was well attended, and gave members an opportunity to talk with Governors and Trust staff, ask questions and give their feedback.



If you would like the opportunity to talk to our Governors and some of our senior management, our next event will be on 27 September. For more details see page 5, contact our membership officer on 01753 633566 or email foundation.trust@hwph-tr.nhs.uk.

'Protect your birthday suit'

The Trust and NHS Berkshire are uniting in their approach to preventing and managing the issues around pressure ulcer damage. The Pressure Ulcer Task Force at the Trust will be holding a week long campaign promoting awareness of conditions affecting the skin with particular emphasis on reduction of pressure damage.

Pressure ulcers are a major cause of sickness, reduced quality of life and morbidity for the public whether in hospital or at home.

This awareness week will include patient information stands in the front entrance at Wexham Park Hospital to provide advice and education to the public each day between 2pm and 4.15pm

Later in the year there will be additional staff training on aspects of wound care and skin management, including practical workshops. Community nurses and nursing home staff will be invited to attend.



TRY THE SAVER



**WP1 Direct Service Between:
Wexham Park Hospital
&
Slough Bus & Rail Station**

Bus Service

Every 15 minutes

Excellent Public Service
in and out of Slough Bus & Rail Station

£2.90 Return



* Peak times are between 0800-1000 and 1530-1800. During off peak times the journey between Wexham Park Hospital and Shaggy Calf Lane is 6 minutes and from Slough Bus Station to Shaggy Calf Lane is 3 minutes. All journey times particularly during peak times may be affected by traffic conditions.

Your Governors

Public:

Sam Hagan
David Maxwell
Vacant
Vacant
Joan Jones
Tania Pell
Paul Henry
John Elliott
John Glasson
Michael Hogg

Brian Huggett

Vacant

Malcolm Twitchett
Vacant

Representing:

Bracknell Forest
Bracknell Forest
Bracknell Forest
Slough
Slough
Slough
Buckinghamshire
Buckinghamshire
Buckinghamshire
Windsor &
Maidenhead
Windsor &
Maidenhead
Windsor &
Maidenhead
Outer Catchment Area
Outer Catchment Area

Staff:

Michael Jacobs
Mr Philip Reginald
Reverend Peter Blackshire
Sandra Walden

Representing:

Clinical
Medical
Non-Clinical
Nursing & Midwifery

Appointed:

Cllr James Walsh

Cllr Marc Brunel-Walker

Cllr David Hilton

Cllr Trevor Egleton
Nasreen Bhatti
David Lunn
Tracey Morgan
Robin Weathersbee

Vacant

Representing:

Slough Borough
Council
Bracknell Forest
District Council
Royal Borough of
Windsor &
Maidenhead
Bucks County Council
Berks East PCT
Buckinghamshire PCT
Age Concern
WRVS &
League of Friends
Local Medical
Committee

Meeting dates

Council of Governors Meetings

The Council of Governors meetings are held quarterly in the Post Graduate Medical Centre at Wexham Park Hospital, and are open to the public.

Meeting dates for 2011 are:

14 September – 5 pm
9 November – 5.30pm

Annual Members Meeting

The Annual Members Meeting is open for all public to attend. It is an interesting and informative meeting, reviewing the past year and looking forward to the future for Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. This will be held in the Post Graduate Medical Centre at Wexham Park Hospital on:

2 November – 2pm - 5pm

Board Meetings

Trust Board meetings that are open for the public to attend are held quarterly in the Post Graduate Medical Centre, Wexham Park Hospital or in Forest Lodge at Heatherwood Hospital. The next meeting date for 2011 is:

Thursday 27 October

Details of all our public meetings can be found on our website at www.heatherwoodandwexham.nhs.uk.