Welcome to the first joint edition of Staff Matters, the newsletter for staff of York, Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals and our community services in Selby, York, Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale.

The hospitals in York and Scarborough have been forming ever stronger links, enabling us to work with optimism towards becoming a single organisation through York Hospital formally acquiring Scarborough Hospital from April 2012.

At the same time, we are working hard to integrate community services into our hospital trusts. This means that, if the acquisition goes ahead as planned, we will have a single organisation providing services across seven hospital sites and their surrounding communities in North and East Yorkshire, with almost 9,000 staff.

We have developed this single newsletter for the whole new patch, not only as a way of keeping you informed about the

Stepping out for a global challenge

Both York and Scarborough Trusts are going for gold in this year’s Global Corporate Challenge to encourage staff to increase their fitness by recording as many steps as possible in 16 weeks.

The challenge is already at the half way mark, and the competition is really hotting up. Our trusts are making a massive impact on the leader board of NHS trusts throughout the whole country for the biggest step count.

Currently at the top is York with an average step count of 15,708, closely followed by Scarborough in second place with a step count of 15,017.

With a total of 378 people in York Trust participating and 280 for Scarborough, the teams are on par and the tension is mounting.

Peta Hayward, Director of Human Resources for York and Scarborough, said, “The results so far are fantastic - everyone is making a big effort to improve their activity levels. Our trusts are practically neck and neck so it’s going to be fun seeing what a bit of friendly rivalry will do to increase people’s health and fitness.”

Teams from right across the world take part in the challenge with the aim of increasing workforce health, organisational productivity, staff morale and teamwork.

Find out how our teams have progressed in the next issue of Staff Matters.

Got a story?

If you have a story for a future edition of Staff Matters, we would love to hear from you!

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York staff recently gathered for the Celebration of Achievement Awards. See page 6 for the full story, a list of winners and more pictures.

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9 Double celebration for HR team

Chief Executive’s welcome

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Chief Executive’s welcome
integration work, but also to give everyone the opportunity to find out more about what is happening in parts of the organisation that will be new to them.

There is still a great deal of work to be done before this acquisition can be approved, however progress is being made in a number of areas.

Our clinicians are heavily involved in this work, and have met several times to look at their service areas and start to identify opportunities for collaboration. Both organisations are also working closely together on a programme of work to support the integration of nursing and midwifery and to provide consistent leadership.

Human Resources, Organisational Development and Communications are working together across both trusts. Other areas that are starting to explore how they might consolidate their plans across both trusts include IT, Facilities and Estates, and Finance. There are clearly a number of areas where working together and sharing ideas will bring great benefits to both organisations, but this is only being implemented where it will not be detrimental to either trust.

We will keep you updated on these and other developments as the work progresses. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about this process, I encourage you to get in touch. You can raise queries through each organisation’s team briefing process or through the communications team, and we will publish the answers.

Patrick Crowley
Chief Executive

Catering Manager Pat Bell was in for a surprise when the new name of the restaurant at Scarborough Hospital was unveiled by TV Chef James Martin.

Pat’s Place threw open its doors on Wednesday 29 June after undergoing a minor refurbishment as part of a BBC TV programme – James Martin’s Mission.

As well as unveiling the new name and look of the restaurant which included a lick of paint, new blinds and new artwork on the walls, patients and staff were also treated to a new menu worked up by James and hospital chefs.

James who said that this project has been the “hardest thing he has ever done” praised the “great team in the kitchen at the hospital.”

Pat said: “James and I have had our ups and downs but overall it has been a delight working with him. He went out onto the wards to speak to patients to find out what they thought of the new dishes and he is happy for us to keep in touch with him to ask for any help if we need it.”

As well as a new menu that uses locally produced food and seasonal dishes, there is a new baguette bar and salad bar, freshly ground coffee machine, and suppliers cart which displays a selection of Yorkshire-produce such as jams and biscuits.

The daily menu is now displayed on the large blackboard outside Pat’s Place and is rotated on a weekly cycle.

What was James Martin’s Mission?

- The Saturday Kitchen presenter has been working alongside chefs at Scarborough Hospital, as he strives to create a new template to change the way hospital food is created, in a week long special series for BBC One Daytime, to be broadcast in the autumn.

- Working alongside catering managers and hospital chefs, James’ aim was to show how it is possible to produce healthy, appetising meals using fresh local ingredients whilst sticking to a tight budget and improving patient and staff satisfaction levels.

Double Three-Peaks challenge

York Hospital Chairman Alan Rose, Staff Governor Martin Skelton and Biomedical Scientist Graeme Shaw are taking it to the extremes in a double 3-Peaks challenge to raise money for York Trust’s care of the elderly service.

On Sunday 10 July they ‘warmed-up’ for the main event by walking the Yorkshire 3-peaks challenge route – 25 miles in one day.

The trio will attempt to complete the national 3-peaks challenge in under 24 hours later in July. We wish them well. If you would like to sponsor them go to: http://www.justgiving.com/Martin-Skelton
Staff celebrate hospital opening

After working around the clock preparing for the opening of the New Selby War Memorial Hospital, front line staff were treated to a celebration event ahead of their recent transfer to the new state-of-the-art facilities.

Staff, along with partners, the Friends of Selby War Memorial Hospital, and members of the Hospital Trust, were given the chance to enjoy refreshments, food and music while checking out the new building before it opened for business.

Stephanie Porter, Project Manager for the scheme, who organised the event said: “We really wanted to say a big thank you to staff for their hard work in getting the scheme this far and to celebrate everyone’s achievement before the main move into the building. This was the one opportunity we had to allow staff to enjoy the building before it was open to patients.”

Since the move staff have quickly settled in and are enjoying their new environment.

Julie Corbally, Site Co-ordinator for Community Hospitals York and Selby, said: “We were a bit worried about how the move might change things but the new hospital has a lovely atmosphere. We have kept the friendly and welcoming feel and we’ve already had some great comments from the public.

“All the clinical, admin, catering and domestic staff have worked really hard to ensure patients continue to get a good service. I’d like to thank them all, particularly the reception staff and porters who have been exceptional.

“We are especially grateful to the Friends of Selby Hospital whose volunteers have been meeting and greeting people to direct them to services.”

exclusive ‘Fit Flops’ footwear and a range of complementary therapies.

Dawn Preece, Senior Human Resources Manager who leads the HR corporate team said: “We are always keen to improve staff benefits at the Trust so we used this opportunity to find out what is important to staff and what people are really interested in. Staff suggestions go a long way towards finding the right products and services.”

A staff questionnaire about staff benefits is currently being circulated to York Trust staff and people are urged to put forward their ideas. All completed questionnaires will be entered into a prize draw to win one of two £20 vouchers for the Staff Shop or four Vue cinema tickets.

The HR teams in York and Scarborough are currently sharing ideas to develop the range of benefits available to staff in Scarborough.

‘Good’ feedback for onsite nursery

KINDER PLACE – the onsite nursery at Scarborough Hospital – has been rated as ‘Good’ in its first Ofsted inspection.

Kinder Place took over providing nursery provision at the hospital last November under the leadership of former Children’s Place nursery manager, Nichole Swithenbank.

Nichole Swithenbank said: “The Ofsted inspector rated us as ‘Good’ but in their feedback they said that there were many instances of Outstanding practice.”

Areas praised in the report include:

● Effective partnership working with parents
● Parent’s confidence in the care provided
● Children’s confidence in the nursery
● Diversity is valued and respected
● The children are creative, well behaved and independent

James Hayward, Director of Facilities, explained: “I am delighted that the new créche provider has done so well in the first formal Ofsted assessment. The Trust will continue to work with Kinder Place to ensure the service provided is of a high standard and reflects the needs of the children.”

Nichole (left) with her deputy manager Vicky
Cardiac catheter lab is delivered

Last week Scarborough Hospital took delivery of a Cardiac Catheter Laboratory.

This new facility will mean that the 600 patients from Scarborough who previously had to travel to York or Hull for treatment will now be able to be treated at their local district general hospital.

The three Cardiologists at Scarborough have been driving to develop the provision of Diagnostic Coronary Angiography at Scarborough Hospital for some time and are delighted that with the support of Trust management this will now become a reality.

Cardiologist Tim Houghton said: “This is a very significant development for the Cardiology Department and indeed the Trust. “This facility will allow the Cardiologists at Scarborough to look at patients’ coronary arteries and recommend appropriate treatment.

“Currently over 600 patients travel to Hull and York to have this procedure carried out by Cardiologists from Scarborough. This is difficult for many patients, especially those who are elderly or who do not have transport, and is also a problem in the bad winter weather.

“The availability of this service locally will augment the services currently offered by the Cardiology department and avoid unnecessary travel of all those concerned.”

The Cardiac Catheter Laboratory is being temporarily sited in the car park behind Maple Ward, before moving to its permanent home next to the Coronary Care Unit (CCU) later in the year.

New bereavement support service

A NEW addition to the Bereavement Services team at York Hospital is bringing emotional support to the many women every year who are affected by ectopic pregnancy. One in 80 pregnancies in the UK is ectopic and if left untreated can be fatal.

Joanna Keogh, a local volunteer for the Ectopic Pregnancy Trust, is now on hand to offer information and support to women who have been treated for ectopic pregnancy at the hospital.

Assistant Chief Nurse, Lucy Connolly, said: “We’re always looking to improve services and Joanna is a real asset to the Bereavement Services team. Providing support for women who have been treated for ectopic pregnancy is a valuable addition to our service that is rare to find in a hospital setting. We’re delighted to welcome her.”

Joanna said: “Through my own experiences and my work and training with the Ectopic Pregnancy Trust I understand how this condition can have a massive emotional and psychological impact on a woman. It’s great to be on hand at the hospital where people who want to talk about their experiences can find me on a regular basis.”

Currently Joanna is based in the Bereavement Suite on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Appointments can be made following discharge from hospital through Bereavement Services or by email at northern.coordinator@ectopic.org.uk.

Saying farewell to colleagues

THIS MONTH we wave farewell to a number of long serving staff who are retiring from York Hospital in July.

David Pring, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at York Hospital will be retiring after 35 years’ service. Mr Pring has made a huge contribution to the women’s health directorate during his time as a consultant and all of his friends and colleagues wish him all the very best for his retirement.

Other York Hospital retirements include Chief Audiologist Richard Addis who retires after 40 years’ service. We also say goodbye to Julie Shaw, Nurse Practitioner in the Emergency Department after 35 years’ service and Susan Elliott, TSC Supervisor in Theatres after 27 years’ service.

Tony Tomczak, a maintenance assistant at Scarborough Hospital, retired from Scarborough Trust at the end of May after 29 years’ service.

James Hayward, Director of Facilities, said: “Tony is a very popular member of staff. He is a hard working person who executed his duties in a committed and dedicated manner. He will be sorely missed.”

Tony will celebrate the start of his retirement by going on a cruise with his wife, Linda.

This month Bridlington Hospital also says goodbye to Sister Viv Howes who is retiring from Outpatients at the end of July after 23 years.

James Hayward, Director of Facilities, with Tony Tomczak

Joanna Keogh

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Staff Matters July 2011
Trolley good work!

The well known saying “If you want a job done properly, do it yourself” has been taken literally by York Hospital’s Portering Manager Brenda Swales.

After searching in vain for a specialised trolley to carry mattresses, Brenda decided to design her own. With the help of a company specialising in hospital equipment she came up with the Swales Mattress Trolley – so good that they named it after her.

The trolley has now gone into production and is being supplied to hospitals up and down the country.

Brenda said: “A recent NHS campaign to prevent patients getting pressure ulcers meant that we were moving more of our patients around. It’s simple to use and can be easily operated by one person so it saves time and manpower.”

Words of thanks

POSTERS displaying words of appreciation from patients and their relatives are now being displayed at Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals. This was the idea of members of Scarborough Trust’s Patient Satisfaction Values Group who thought that such positive comments needed to be shouted about. The posters will be updated monthly to reflect the wealth of positive comments and words of thanks that the Trust receives on a daily basis.

HYMS Facebook

HYMS at Scarborough has created a new Facebook page. The team will be updating the page regularly so make sure you ‘like’ it if you want to stay connected. http://www.facebook.com/pages/Scarborough-HYMS/179792538745785

Domestic link

SCARBOROUGH’S Domestic Services team now has its own link on the Trust’s intranet which includes information on cleaning procedures and policies, quarterly trust cleanliness reports and monthly site audit scores for cleanliness at Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals.

Fraud on TV

Did you watch ‘Saints and Scroungers’ on 14 June? It featured another high profile NHS fraud where a senior NHS manager defrauded hospitals of more than £200,000 to pay for the running of a stud farm. If you have any concerns regarding possible fraud or corruption matters you can speak in confidence to your local counter fraud specialist:

- Scarborough Trust: Nikki Cooper (nikki.cooper@humber.nhs.uk)
- York Trust: Steven Moss or Glyn Thomas (steven.moss@york.nhs.uk or glyn.thomas@york.nhs.uk)

Alternatively, you may wish to contact the NHS Fraud and Corruption Reporting Line 0800 028 40 60 or www.reportnhsfraud.nhs.uk - if in doubt, speak out!

Giving a leg up to the community

SPECIALIST Community Nurses Gemma Hancock and Jeni Gatt were overwhelmed by the response to their first ever leg health check held recently at Boots in Scarborough.

Malton Hospital’s tissue viability nurse Gemma said: “We were just trying to make people aware of problems that develop. In our work we deal very much with wounds and chronic leg diseases, so we wanted to educate people on some of the things to look out for. “We had 33 people come through, all worried about their legs, it was amazing! Of those people we saw, 20 needed further assessment. Referrals were made for conditions such as eczema, varicose veins, restless legs and painful feet. “It’s really important to catch things early to prevent conditions from getting worse and we can often pick up things that GPs might not.”

The team worked with healthcare specialists Activa who arranged the 15 minute appointments. “We had a great response - it was so busy we couldn’t fit everyone in on one session. We will be holding another leg health check as we already have 27 appointments booked for next time.”
Cheers to the achievers

Congratulations and well done to all winners and nominees at York Trust's recent Celebration of Achievement Awards. The glittering event was held at the beautiful Sandburn Hall where more than 150 people gathered to see dedicated staff and volunteers rewarded for their contributions to the Trust throughout the past year. The evening was hosted by Chief Executive Patrick Crowley and Libby McManus, Chief Nurse. Patrick said: “It’s been a real pleasure to give staff and volunteers the recognition they deserve for their accomplishments. Thanks to all staff, patients, carers and volunteers who have taken the time to nominate and to the judges who had the very difficult job of choosing the winners. “The whole event has been fantastic, a great celebration of what is being achieved day in day out by dedicated people within our organisation.”

The winners are...

- **Excellence in Team Work: Clinical Award** – Ward 26 Health Care Assistants for improved food chart completions and compassion in maintaining patient dignity and respecting individuality.

- **Excellence in Team Work: Non Clinical Award** – The Ward Clerks General and Acute Medicine for commitment and positive attitude to changing working patterns and improving administrative systems.

- **Service Award** – Orthopaedic Clinic Plaster Room Team for striving to improve service and fundraising for equipment and special casts for children to avoid distress.

- **Unsung Hero Award** – Alison Cummings, Clinic Manager, for her enthusiastic and dedicated work and willingness to take on challenges within Patient Access.

- **Volunteer of the Year Award** – Murray Halliday for his positive commitment to volunteering with cardiac rehabilitation clients, sharing his own valuable experiences.

- **Innovations Award** – Sarah Anderson, Consultant Ophthalmologist, for her major achievement in working with clinicians to ensure the cataract electronic patient record system meets the needs of the department.

- **Efficiency Award** – Diabetes Administration Team and Chris Pilson, Data Analyst, for improving the efficiency of diabetes clinics and saving costs.

- **Chairman’s Award – Community Engagement** – North Yorkshire Retinal Screening Service for overcoming enormous obstacles to develop a highly regarded retinal screening service which is now recognised nationally.

- **The Florence Nightingale Award** – Sarah Atalay, Sister on ward 11, who wholly represents the values and behaviours of nursing care.

- **Achievement Award: Community Services** – Julie Corbally, Site Co-ordinator for Community Hospitals York and Selby and Jane Farley, Clinical Lead for Selby Hospital for their exceptional work in transferring community services to the New Selby War Memorial Hospital.

- **The Chief Executive’s Award** – The Vascular Surgery Team for their work in securing vascular centre status for York, which was the subject of a high profile public consultation.

- **The Lifetime Achievement Award** – Margaret Jackson – Head of Midwifery and Deputy Chief Nurse Edna Mulhearn – Staff Facilitator and former Staff Side Chair.
The Arts Council for England has awarded a £58,000 grant to Hospital Arts for North East Yorkshire (Hafney) to fund art provision for four new projects at Scarborough Hospital. The grant will fund art projects for the emergency department, the main entrance, mammography and the children’s ward. As well as funding the artists and materials, the grant will help meet the costs of the Trust’s Arts Co-ordinator, Jo Davis as well as other administration costs.

Jo Davis, Arts Co-ordinator for Hafney, said: “This is a very exciting project which will make a huge visual impact on the fabric of Scarborough Hospital. “Our intention is to create high quality visual environments and these projects will create a much more visually interesting place for people visiting and working there.”

The grant will employ four artists and two mentee artists (early career artists who are looking to produce work for public settings), and for the first time Hafney will also be working with volunteer artists.

Jo continued: “It is part of my role to find volunteer workers who will take part in the arts activities so that they can continue with arts projects in other wards and community groups after the project has ended. The benefit of this is that the volunteers gain skills which they do not currently have and which they can take into the community. This will extend the life and scope of the project into the future and spread their newly acquired skills to a wider user group.”

As the main entrance is the starting destination to all four projects, it will be the start of an arts trail at Scarborough Hospital which, through the input of Hafney, has become the biggest owner of public art in the region. As part of the arts trail a printed brochure will be produced. The idea of the brochure is to highlight the work of Hafney and the benefits of arts in a healthcare environment, to inform the users of the hospital and to explain the works which are contained there. The brochure will take the viewer through the main entrance area through all departments where art has been used to visually enhance the hospital environment, including the artwork created specifically for the maternity unit by Quentin Blake. The brochure will also tell of the performance program and will hopefully help to gain support by way of donations and sponsorship from the public.

Mike Proctor, Chief Executive of Scarborough Trust, said: “This is great news. I would like to thank Hafney for all their work on this. I think art in hospital is very important and makes a real difference.”

Look out for details of the specific projects in the next edition of Staff Matters.

Visual treat in store

York Hospital Art Exhibitions

Wednesday 13 July to October 2011 - Patrick Smith is exhibiting a collection of 12 contemporary print pieces along the hospital Main Street. All works are for sale. To purchase contact Patrick directly at nicola.harding7@ntlworld.com

Tuesday 19 to Sunday 31 July - the unique Living My Life photo exhibition showcases the issues of gender identity. It features real photos and views from the trans community as well as providing an information resource, and is displayed at Junction 6 (X-ray corridor).

Jane and Jackie did it!

TWO Scarborough staff members have completed a trip of a lifetime, raising £7000 for a hospital in Malawi. Community Midwife Jane Millar and Podiatrist Jackie Raw cycled 280 miles across Northern Malawi over five days in May. Together they raised £7000 for the maternity unit at the David Gordon Memorial Hospital, a 100-bed mission hospital situated in Livingstonia, Northern Malawi. The pair would like to thank everyone who has supported them for their kindness and generosity.

£500 raised for Macmillan

SCARBOROUGH Trust staff Carol Popplestone, Urology Nurse Specialist and Elaine Hayward, Service Redesign Manager helped raise over £500 for Macmillan by organising a coffee morning in the Grapes Pub in Ebberston.

Patient confidentiality

ALL STAFF are reminded about the importance of being vigilant when photocopying. Please check that you have not left patient or staff identifiable documents lying around and that original documents have been collected from the machine.
Both York and Scarborough Trust's monthly staff awards continue to recognise those individuals that have gone the extra mile. Scarborough staff continue to go above and beyond the call of duty. Two years since it was established, nominations are still flowing for the Trust's monthly staff recognition scheme – the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Awards (ABCD).

April's award went to Zoe Jennings, Staff Nurse on Holly Ward. Zoe was nominated by the daughter of one of her patients who wrote in her nomination form: “Zoe was very understanding that during Holy Week, it would be difficult for me, as a vicar, to visit my mother at the hospital so she allowed me open access so that I could find time to visit her at Scarborough.”

Zoe has worked on Holly Ward for two years. Prior to that she worked at Bridlington Hospital. She said: “It was a nice surprise to find out I had been nominated for the ABCD award, as I was only doing my job. Then when I found that I had won the award I felt very proud. I try to make any hospital stay as pleasant as possible for both patients and their relatives, as I am aware that any hospitalisation can be very upsetting and stressful for all concerned.”

Nicki McNaney, Director of Nursing, said: “I would like to congratulate Zoe on behalf of the Trust. It is great to hear such positive stories where our staff are responsive to the needs of our patients.”

May’s winner was Domestic Assistant Lesley Cammish who was nominated by a number of staff from the Cancer Services Department who each praised her for the way she goes about her job each morning.

Lesley who has worked at the Trust for 14 years has cleaned Trust Headquarters as part of her role for the past seven years. She explained: “I was really shocked when I found out that I had been nominated and when the girls told me that I had won I couldn’t believe it. It is lovely to be appreciated.”

As the monthly winner, Zoe and Lesley have each received a cheque for £50.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lynne Ridley from York Hospital’s Pharmacy Department who is the Star Performer for June. Lynne’s award comes as a result of many years of working to improve good practice for staff caring for patients with blood clotting problems.

Her innovative work with the Safer Patients Initiative for people on high risk medications such as warfarin and heparin has led to hugely improved systems and training. Lynne has created a highly skilled and knowledgeable team and has been the driving force behind their efforts to improve good practice over many years.

York Trust Chairman Alan Rose said: “Lynne’s dedication to putting patients first while making life easier and simpler for all staff involved in providing care is what makes her stand out. The Trust has a consistently successful record of treating patients requiring anticoagulant drugs such as warfarin because of Lynne’s hard work and commitment. “In addition Lynne’s work has had an impact both regionally and nationally which has gained our organisation the reputation as a leader in the field of anticoagulation practice.”

York Chairman Alan Rose presents Lynne Ridley with the star performer award

“Lynne’s work has had an impact both regionally and nationally.”

Lesley Cammish, centre, with staff from Cancer Services

Lynne Ridley with the star performer award
Bridlington delivers the right kind of therapy

OVER the past two years there have been significant developments in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy at Bridlington Hospital.

Investment in staff, working arrangements, equipment and facilities means that the hospital is able to deliver the right kind of rehab, ensuring that patients can return home as quickly as possible.

The hospital has two rehabilitation wards – 28-bedded Waters Ward and 26-bedded Johnson Ward. The wards cater for complex patients who often require comprehensive therapy, for example elderly patients who have been acutely ill, amputees or stroke patients.

Since January, two senior physiotherapists, a senior occupational therapist, a junior physiotherapist and a new generic therapy assistant have taken up new positions at the hospital. This investment means that there is now full time cover at the hospital. It also means that there is a wealth of experience and specialism for staff to draw from.

It is two years since occupational therapy staff transferred over to the Trust from NHS East Riding of Yorkshire. “This transfer helped develop the team spirit at Bridlington with staff from the two disciplines really working together as one team,” explained Ben Richardson, Senior Physiotherapist.

Bridlington Hospital Staff with the new hoist they hope to purchase. From left to right: Angela Wilson (Senior OT), Miranda Higgs (Student OT), Wendy Pattison (Generic Therapy Assistant) and Ben Richardson (Senior Physiotherapist)
**Ladies night approaching**

UK Entertainment in York has organised a Ladies and Cabaret night at the York Hospital Social Club in support of the York Teaching Hospital Charity.

The event takes place on Friday 29 July from 8pm until late.

Ladies are invited to attend a fun filled evening which includes a champagne and canapés reception, a performance from top Drag Queen Sandy Denny from Dixi Land, topless waiter, male stripper and disco.

Lucy Watson, Fundraising Manager for the York Teaching Hospital said: “I would like to say a big thank you to UK Entertainment for organising the Ladies and Cabaret night in support of our charity. The event will be a really fun evening and a great way to get all the girls together for a great cause!”

Tickets normally cost £25 each but for NHS staff they are available at a reduced rate of £15.

To buy tickets please call 01904 270389, email Party@itscabarettime.co.uk or visit www.itscabarettime.co.uk

**Urgent appeal to fill places on Jane Tomlinson 10k**

WE NEED your help urgently! The charity still has places left for the Jane Tomlinson York 10k on Sunday 31 July at York Racecourse.

We would like to fill as many as possible and you can help by asking friends, family, mates in the pub, sports clubs and whoever else you can think of to take part.

Due to the short notice the registration fee is waived, all we require is a minimum sponsorship of £50 which does not have to be in until 31 August.

Remember it is the taking part that counts – you don’t have to be the fittest, in fact you can walk it!

If you have any questions regarding fundraising or any of these events please contact Lucy Watson, Fundraising Manager, on 01904 721737 or email lucy.watson@york.nhs.uk

**Telehealth for heart patients**

A NEW project has been launched by Scarborough Trust to refer 100 heart failure patients to Telehealth – a new technology that enables them to monitor their vital signs from the comfort of their own home.

The project has received funding from the Health Innovation and Education Cluster (HIEC) and aims to support the referral of 100 heart failure patients for telehealth by the end of the calendar year.

The project is being led by Tim Houghton and Anwar Memon, Consultant Cardiologists at Scarborough, with support from specialist nurse Annette Squires.

Additional support is being provided by NHS North Yorkshire and York as part of their “Telehealth and long term conditions” project.

Tim Houghton commented: “This is an exciting project for the Trust which aims to prove that telehealth can be deployed successfully in both the Primary and Secondary care settings. We are hoping that this technology will enable earlier discharge of this group of patients from hospital whilst their medication doses are being increased. Telehealth will also give us the opportunity to monitor patients from a distance so that our specialist team can intervene when necessary to prevent deterioration in symptoms and alter therapies, which will mean that patients with heart failure are hopefully less likely to be admitted to hospital. “We want Telehealth to empower patients with heart failure to help us manage their condition in the best way possible.”

Telehealth involves a small electronic device being fitted in the patient’s home which is connected to their phone line. Each day, the patient uses a range of wireless devices to record vital signs such as SPO2 levels, blood pressure, weight and temperature. These readings are then sent to a central monitoring centre where any abnormalities can be identified and acted upon before the patient’s condition worsens. This can reduce the risk of an exacerbation and ultimately avoid a hospital admission.

www.nytelehealth.co.uk
Anniversary for PPU celebrated

IN JUNE, it was nine years since Scarborough Hospital’s Private Patient Unit opened following the closure of the Bupa Belvedere Hospital on Scarborough’s South Cliff. In those nine years, £3 million profit has been reinvested in the trust.

For the past two years the six-bedded PPU located on Holly ward has been used as an isolation ward as part of infection control measures however it is hoped that it will reopen in the near future for private treatment. Discussions are also underway to develop a new 12-bedded PPU at Scarborough Hospital.

In June 2002, Bupa closed the 32-bedded Belvedere Hospital, making all staff redundant. Consultants from Scarborough Hospital were passionate about being able to provide private healthcare locally, and an agreement was made with the trust for some staff to transfer and for private work to be carried out at the hospital.

Dr John Paterson and Prof MacFie were both instrumental in this agreement. Dr Paterson said: “Since the closure of the Bupa hospital in Scarborough the private patient unit has supported both medical and surgical practice in our area and this has helped maintain the quality of consultant care in our hospitals to the benefit of all patients and families.

“The willingness of the York Trust to help expand the existing facilities is a tribute to the dedicated work and determination of the staff who have run our private patients unit through some difficult years.”

Janette Nightingale, Business Administrator, continued: “Our team of 30 consultants treat patients with a wide range of conditions from orthopaedic surgery to general surgery, cardiology, urology and ophthalmology.

“Orthopaedic procedures are one of the most popular areas of private patient work with ophthalmic cataract surgery also in great demand. Our consultants are very passionate about Scarborough Hospital and about being able to practice privately in their local town. We are looking forward to getting back to our six-bedded unit and developing the service to improve profit for the Trust further”.

For more information go to www.scarboroughppu.co.uk

Double celebration for York HR team

A HUGE congratulations to the HR Recruitment team at York Hospital on winning a prestigious national Healthcare People Management Association (HPMA) award and coming runner up for a second.

The recruitment team won the Capsticks Award for Innovation in Human Resources for their cutting edge work on the HCA Generic Recruitment Project. The project, to increase recruitment and retention of healthcare assistants, involved increasing applicants’ understanding of the role prior to application and a compulsory open day so candidates could find out more about the job and show that they were genuinely interested.

The Rota co-ordinator team was a close runner up for the BMJ Careers award for Outstanding Achievement by a Medical Staffing Team.

Peta Hayward, Director of HR for York and Scarborough Trusts, was a finalist in the HR Director of the Year category, and the York HR team were ranked as finalists for the HR Team of the Year award.

Top picture: from right, Lucy Connolly, Will Thornton and Lydia Jukes collect the award for their recruitment project

Bottom picture: members of the HR team enjoy the celebrations

From left: Denise Ward (Staff Nurse), Janette Nightingale (Business Administrator), Tracy Caygill (Business Administrator), Deborah England (Patient Liaison Officer), Sharon Miles (Patient Liaison Officer) and Maxine Rackham (Sister).