Last month celebrated the first anniversary of the launch of NHS England’s national Sign up to Safety Campaign. The mission is to strengthen patient safety in the NHS and make it the safest healthcare system in the world.

The Trust marked the occasion with the very first Patient Safety Conference, aimed at supporting staff in understanding why things go wrong and how to put them right.

Diane Palmer, Deputy Director for Patient Safety, said: “The conference provided a great forum for staff to share where and how improvements can be made and to celebrate progress. We have come a long way in the last year in improving procedures around sepsis, falls and pressure ulcers which pose a huge threat to patient safety.”

Continues on page 2

For more information please contact the Patient Safety Team.

Achievements in the first year include:

- A newly designed clinical pathway for severe sepsis that ensures that patients displaying signs of sepsis can be recognised and treated quickly, thereby giving them a much better chance of recovery.
- The launch of a revised slips, trips and falls policy for adult in-patients, including a new assessment and intervention tool which has been well received in the community and will soon be available in electronic format for acute hospitals.
- The introduction of a process to hire specialist pressure relieving equipment for patients with pressure ulcers so all patients have access around the clock in urgent situations. In addition more training has been provided for staff as well as standardised wound care plans.
- Development of an open and honest approach to reporting and learning from incidents. Staff will be supported in achieving greater involvement of patients and their families in Serious Incident (SI) investigation. A revised being open policy clearly sets out our requirements relating to the new Duty of Candour on Staff Room.

The hip fracture team on ward 25 at York Hospital were finalists in the Patient Safety Awards – see page 2 for full story.

Have you got a story?

If you have a story for a future edition of Staff Matters, we would love to hear from you! Contact the communications team:

- Lucy Brown, Head of Communications: lucy.k.brown@york.nhs.uk
- Rebecca Aspin, Communications Manager: rebecca.aspin@york.nhs.uk
- Elaine Vinter, Media and Communications Officer: elaine.vinter@york.nhs.uk
- Nicola Taylor, Communications Assistant: nicola.taylor@york.nhs.uk
Sign up to safety success

Our pledges

Pledge 1 - Put Safety First
Commit to reduce avoidable harm in the NHS by half and make public our goals and plans developed locally.

Pledge 2 - Continually Learn
Make our organisation more resilient to risks by acting on the feedback from patients and by constantly measuring and monitoring how safe our services are.

Pledge 3 - Honesty
Be transparent with people about our progress to tackle patient safety issues and support staff to be candid with patients and their families if something goes wrong.

Pledge 4 - Collaborate
Take a leading role in supporting local collaborative learning, so that improvements are made across all of the local services that patients use.

Pledge 5 - Support
Help people understand why things go wrong and how to put them right. Give staff the time and support to improve and celebrate the progress.

Congratulations to the hip fracture team on ward 25 at York Hospital who were recently crowned runners up for a prestigious Patient Safety Award.

The team was shortlisted from a field of almost sixty entries in the national competition and was awarded a Highly Commended within the Musculoskeletal Care Section for the whole of the UK.

The award recognises the changes that have developed over many years and how the team consistently strive to improve the safety of patients they care for on Ward 25. It celebrates success in achieving patient outcomes which are measured against national standards.

Consultant Michael Harkness said: “This is a fantastic achievement and highlights the depth of work that has continued over many years including colleagues from multiple departments. We are delighted to be recognised and I would like to thank colleagues for their continued hard work as we do our utmost to improve the care of patients who sustain a hip fracture.”

The hip fracture team is based on a 25 bedded ward dedicated only to patients with hip fractures, caring for patients of all ages and abilities. Multidisciplinary care starts right from the ambulance call and initial review in the Emergency Department, through to discharge from hospital and continuing recovery in the community. They provide seven day a week care for all services including surgery, an important factor in reducing length of stay.

Sister Amanda Ward said: “We’re all delighted to be recognised, a lot of work has been put in by a lot of people to get to this point. It is challenging at times to provide the same consistent care for each patient, the workload can vary and many of our patients have existing physical and mental health problems. Some are very shocked and scared when they arrive especially following an accident. They will often have surgery within 24 hours and it’s amazing to see how quickly people can recover and be up and about with the right help.”

Now in its seventh year, the Patient Safety Awards continue to recognise and reward outstanding practice within the NHS and independent healthcare organisations.
Alzheimer’s chief pays a visit

Scarborough Hospital’s successful partnership work with the Alzheimer’s Society has attracted the attention of the organisation’s Chief Executive Jeremy Hughes.

The project has done so well that Jeremy Hughes visited the hospital to see for himself the excellent partnership work that is taking place. Dementia Support Worker Helen Williams has been providing in-house support since December 2014.

Jeremy was shown around the hospital by Emma Day, Assistant Director of Nursing. Emma explained: “Dementia Support is an invaluable service helping people with dementia maintain their independence, improve their sense of well-being and take control of their own lives.

“Helen has been our Dementia Support Worker since the project first started and is based at the hospital three days a week. She works with our staff to map out the care and support patients may need while they are in hospital and at home.”

Alzheimer’s Society CEO Jeremy Hughes said: “I am delighted to visit Scarborough Hospital to see for myself the partnership working that has been operating between Alzheimer’s Society and York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

“The work in Scarborough aims to improve the experience of people living with dementia when they are admitted, during their stay and on discharge – and particularly to reduce the length of time that they spend as an inpatient.”

Louise Morgan, Alzheimer’s Society Service Manager for Scarborough, Whitby & Ryedale said: “Our Dementia Support Worker Helen Williams has worked incredibly hard to build excellent relationships with the team at Scarborough Hospital which has led to better support services for people living with dementia both as patients and also when they are discharged.”

Dementia affects over 800,000 people in the UK alone and numbers continue to grow.

Food news

Eat well with the new Choose Health option

Teams from health and wellbeing, catering and dietitians have been working together to launch a healthier choices food option in Trust dining areas.

Staff may already have noticed the new Choose Health green stickers on certain foods which are designed to make it easier to identify healthier choices. The Choose Health options will include drinks with 2.5g or less of sugar per 100g and sandwiches under 350 calories. More products and foods will be included as the teams work through the menus.

The new green Choose Health stickers are designed to meet the new government standards aimed at making people more aware of what they are consuming.

Choose Health will be piloted at York Hospital before being rolled out in dining areas across the Trust.

Thumbs up from directors for patient food

Following the successful bid by Ellerby’s to provide meals for patients in house, a tasting session was held for directors and the Chief Executive.

The food sampling proved a success with directors and dieticians for the new menus that will soon be rolled out to patients.

Pictured above are Catering Production Manager Graham Hatfield, Dietician Vickie Brenchley, Director of Facilities Brian Golding and Chief Executive Patrick Crowley.
Infection prevention team raises awareness

FIGHTING the battle against healthcare associated infections is a key priority for the Trust and the Infection Prevention Team were out and about recently reminding staff of the part they can play in preventing the spread of infection.

The team were on hand at York and Scarborough Hospitals raising awareness with information stands and a mock up isolation area. The aim was to share best practice and alert staff to how the Trust was performing in controlling the spread of infections, and its impact on patient safety.

A mock isolation room was created so that staff could work through a new isolation standards toolkit with the infection prevention team to improve and ensure consistent and safe practice. Support and expertise from the clinical development team focused on safe and effective blood culture sampling to prevent contamination of samples.

From left: Astrida Ndhlovu, Annette Williams, Lynn Stokes, Paula Wilson and Anne Tateson

Online management referral tool

A NEW online tool has been produced that has changed the way managers refer staff to the Occupational Health and Wellbeing Service. It was launched on 13 July and replaces all paper copies.

The online tool was created to allow simple, secure and quick access to the Occupational Health and Wellbeing Service. All short and long term sickness absence referrals and requests for general fitness for work opinions, regardless of work attendance status, will be processed online.

The new tool enables referrers to upload, monitor and review cases via the online tool dashboard. The status of the referral can be viewed without the need for paper, email or telephone enquiry.

Karen O’Connell, Senior Nurse Manager for Occupational Health, said: “We have worked closely with our software provider to develop an online referral tool that’s streamlined, efficient and easy to use and, above all, secure.”

Managers can access the tool on Staff Room via the Hot Topic button or the Occupational Health and Wellbeing Service page. For further information email julie.walker@york.nhs.uk

Bridlington epilepsy service a huge success

A service in Bridlington for people with epilepsy has been so successful that sessions have increased from one clinic a month to two a week in just two years.

The service provides specialist advice and support at clinics along the East coast.

Epilepsy Advanced Nurse Specialist Paul Turner is based at Scarborough Hospital and runs clinics in Scarborough, Bridlington and Whitby for patients who are referred from their GP. His role is to support adults with a diagnosis of epilepsy and liaise with the GP and hospital neurologist.

Paul explained: “Epilepsy affects more than 500,000 people in the UK which means that almost one in every 100 people has the condition. It affects the brain and causes repeated seizures which can cause the brain and body to behave strangely.

“People can start having seizures at any time, often there is no obvious cause. This becomes more likely as we grow older but the good news is that we can usually control seizures with medication. “The condition can affect anyone whatever their age and background, it can be something people are born with or has come on as a result of stroke or a learning disability.”

Paul offers advice on diagnosis, medication, safety, driving, and care throughout pregnancy. He can also see people in their homes where clinic attendance may be difficult.

Paul added: “It’s very rewarding when patients see how much can be done to improve or stabilise their condition. The clinics offer individuals the opportunity for specialist advice and care and the service is very popular with local GPs. During the past two years I have seen about 300 patients but receive new referrals and discharge patients back to the care of their GP on a regular basis.”

Bridlington GP Dr Carolien Lino has been referring patients with epilepsy since the service began.

Dr Lino said: “The epilepsy nursing service provides fantastic support for patients. It means that people have extra time to discuss their condition in detail and receive expert advice. This helps them stay in control so they are much more able to manage their own condition.”

The clinics in Bridlington and Scarborough are now full and, as well as two clinics a week at Bridlington Hospital, Paul will soon be running an extra clinic in Scarborough.

To find out more about the epilepsy nursing service contact Paul Turner on 7716256 or email pturner4@nhs.net
Bridlington Hospital’s orthopaedics team has performed so well at hip and knee replacements that it has been chosen to take part in a research project. It is one of only four Trusts in the Yorkshire and Humber region chosen by the Quality and Safety research team at Bradford Institute for Health Research led by Professor Rebecca Lawton.

Bridlington Hospital has celebrated its first anniversary since elective orthopaedic surgery relocated from Scarborough Hospital last April. Since then until the end of April 2015, a total of 1,915 operations took place – that’s 817 joint (hip and knee) replacements. Over 40 percent of these patients were discharged and back at home just 24 hours after their operation.

All elective orthopaedic surgery is now delivered at Bridlington, with only emergency cases taking place at Scarborough Hospital and since relocating to Bridlington, not a single operation has had to be cancelled.

Paul Rafferty, Directorate Manager for Orthopaedics and Trauma, said: “We are delighted to have celebrated our first year at Bridlington Hospital and to have undertaken so many operations. When we made the move we hoped that having our own space away from a busy acute hospital would allow us to provide an uninterrupted service and that has proven to be the case.

“We no longer have to cancel elective operations because of the demand for beds for emergency admissions, which is providing a much better experience for both our patients and consultants. Patients can expect to come into their local hospital to have their planned operation on the day that they are booked in for.

“By relocating the service to Bridlington and creating an orthopaedic facility designed with our patients needs in mind, we have also been able to provide patients with a much better service. This is reflected in the fantastic feedback we continue to receive. “We will continue to build on the success of our first year. Our vision is to develop an Orthopaedic Centre of Excellence at Bridlington, and to use the Hospital to its full potential.

“It is great news that we have been chosen to participate in this research study and to have been highlighted for our performance in this area.”

The team on Kent Ward at Bridlington Hospital celebrate their first anniversary, by looking through their visitor’s book which is full of positive comments from patients.
Have you ever wondered what happens to the 11 tonnes of electronic and electrical waste such as old television monitors, fridges, and computers, produced by the Trust last year?

Or the 132 tonnes of general and confidential paper waste collected?

The Trust has a recycling strategy that is aimed at minimising the impact on the environment by maximising every opportunity available to recycle waste into other reusable materials.

Hugh Stelmach, Trust Waste Manager, explained: “We are continually improving our waste collection systems to maximise every recycling opportunity available to us. It’s quite a challenge with ten hospital sites and over 8,500 employees but we have a number of initiatives underway and a couple more planned which will be launched later this year.

“Our recycling strategy reflects our commitment to continuous improvement across all of our sites. In doing so we are also working towards our Trust becoming a good corporate citizen.”

Last financial year approximately 132 tonnes of general and confidential paper waste collected was recycled and converted into tissue paper.

The 11 tonnes of electronic and electrical waste was dismantled into its individual components, categorised into either metal, plastic or other materials and forwarded to specialist recyclers for conversion into other items.

Catering waste was reviewed following the refurbishment of Ellerby’s at York Hospital. Aluminum tins, cardboard, and food waste are all now recycled and converted into renewable energy by means of anaerobic digestion. This is a process where organic matter such as animal or food waste is broken down to produce biogas and biofertiliser.

Hugh continued: “Despite these initiatives, we still have much work to do to reduce the amount of waste we produce, to improve our waste collection systems and to maximise every recycling opportunity available to us.

“We are currently working closely with Yorwaste, our domestic waste contractor, to develop plans to divert the majority of the domestic waste we produce from going to landfill. From across all sites items such as aluminium drink cans, tissues and plastic food containers will all be sorted and recycled.”

Discussion is also underway to pilot a trial within the anaesthetic and main theatres at York to extract recyclable waste such as packaging and paper that currently finds its way into the clinical waste stream. If successful, it is hoped that this will reduce clinical waste volumes as well the Trust’s carbon footprint by sending less waste for incineration.

For more information or if you have any ideas about recycling contact Hugh Stelmach, Trust Waste Manager, on 772 1865 or hugh.stelmach@york.nhs.uk
Focus on sustainability – continued

Reducing carbon emissions at hospitals

THE TRUST’S strategy to reduce carbon emissions by 26 percent by 2020 is already exceeding expectations in York and is set to be rolled out at Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals.

A £4.4million investment in essential infrastructure is planned which is set to reduce the Trust annual carbon emissions by around 2,800,000 kilograms, a reduction of around 30 percent annually.

Over the next six months the already successful York projects will be delivered at Bridlington and Scarborough Hospitals.

Nigel Watkinson, Estates Manager for Scarborough and Bridlington, said: “We have been able to provide much needed investment in obsolete plant which means we can deliver significant savings across both sites that will improve year on year. The investment will see us delivering continued carbon emission reduction for our Trust for the next fifteen years. “Reducing carbon emissions reduces energy consumption, which in turn reduces costs to our Trust. We expect to reduce annual operating costs by around £520,000, increasing annually as energy costs rise.” The savings will come from a number of projects. Each site will be able to generate the majority of their electricity needs from a new combined heat and power unit and use recovered heat to contribute to the needs of the hospitals. It will also offer the ability to export electricity to the surrounding area in times of need. Improved equipment and heating controls will deliver better reliability, better comfort levels and reduced gas usage. New improved technology lighting will be fitted to deliver enhanced performance and reduce electricity usage.

Brian Golding, Energy Manager, said: “In the financial year 2014 to 2015 our carbon emissions from electricity, gas and heating oil were around 19,700 tonnes. Once the projects have been completed over the three hospital sites at York, Bridlington and Scarborough Hospitals we will have reduced our carbon emissions by 5,800 tonnes from 2013 levels. This equates to reduction of over a quarter of our 2013 emissions so we are delighted to be exceeding our targets.”

The project started on site in February this year and is expected to be completed by Christmas 2015.

Debbie is June Star Award winner

STAFF Nurse Debbie Miles from SCBU at York Hospital was nominated by a colleague. Debbie works very hard as a staff nurse but has also dedicated herself to the success and achievement of the York Special Care Baby Unit Support Group charity. She is chairperson of the support group and enthusiastically attends many of the fundraising events and often spends her own time hand writing thank you letters to all fundraisers. Debbie does this with a genuine passion for supporting parents and is appreciated by staff, parents and the babies.

Debbie said: “I would like to thank Kate for nominating me for this Star Award. I am genuinely flattered and it means a lot to me that my colleague appreciates the work and achievements of the support group. I think we are extremely lucky on SCBU. We are an excellent team and undoubtedly provide a high standard of care for our special babies. I would also like to thank all of the other members of the committee including the staff members as without their hard work too we wouldn’t have a support group, which I am very proud of. Hopefully together we will continue to support all our ‘special babies’ parents and their families for many years to come. Thank you.”

Debbie is presented with her Star Award by Deputy Chief Executive Mike Proctor

Recollect dressings and equipment

A scheme that allows dressings and equipment from people’s homes to be recycled for charity is being supported by the Trust. Local charity Jacob’s Well Appeal, based in Beverley, collects unused dressings and equipment and distributes them to hospitals throughout the developing world. This includes dressings or equipment that has expired. Jacob’s Well started life as a medical charity in 1984 and over the years has sent thousands of tons of medicines, medical equipment and consumables abroad.

Anyone wishing to recycle returned dressings and equipment should send them to Dawn Johnson in the purchasing department at York Hospital. These will be collected by the Jacob’s Well Appeal and redistributed.

For more information about the charity visit www.jacobswellappeal.org

Voting for Star Award reminder

Don’t forget you can now vote for your favourite for a Star Award!

The shortlisted nominees are posted on Staff Room where you can decide who you would like to vote for and place your vote.

Voting is only open for a week so make sure you keep an eye on Staff Room in the Star Award section on the tab on the left.
STAFF BENEFITS AND WELLBEING

A regular section provided directly to you by the Staff Benefits and Wellbeing Team where you can read more about the benefits that you are entitled to as an employee and how we support the wellbeing of our staff. For more information go to the staff benefits website www.york.nhs.uk/staff and enter the password staffbenefits1 or call 772 1170 or 771 5262. Follow Staff Benefits: Twitter @YHstaffbenefits StaffBenefitsYHFT

Financial Awareness

FINANCIAL Awareness sessions have been arranged and are free for staff to attend.

These sessions help people to understand all aspects of income, budgeting, savings, pensions and debt management. An employee financial education programme has been developed that caters for all staff. The one-hour sessions can be booked in advance by contacting Staff Benefits on 7721170 or 7724326 for York sessions and 01723 385262 for the Scarborough sessions or email staffbenefits@york.nhs.uk

Dates of next sessions:
- York Hospital – Friday 11 September 11.30am and 1pm Post Graduate Centre
- Scarborough Hospital – Tuesday 22 September 2.00pm Lecture Theatre Post graduate Centre

Attend a session and have a chance to win £25 M&S vouchers! Email Staffbenefits@york.nhs.uk

‘Buddy’ schemes

HAVE you considered using a ‘buddy’ scheme to support new starters?

We can all remember how we felt on our first day in a new job and how daunting it can be in those first few weeks. Having a ‘buddy’ scheme in place can help complement corporate and local induction programmes to increase the sense of belonging for new staff and support them to become an effective team member. The ‘buddy’ is usually an existing team member who is “there for them”.

For further information about setting up a buddy scheme, see Staff Room HR and Recruitment.

Fairs help to spread the word

THE STAFF Benefits Health and Wellbeing Fairs were held recently at York and Scarborough Hospitals. More than 1000 staff visited the fairs to find out what benefits staff receive for working at the Trust. Altogether 65 businesses exhibited which offered staff a great insight to their services and products. At the York Fair the Arts Team ran the photo booth inviting staff to have a bit of fun dressing up with wigs, hats and accessories generously provided by York Theatre Royal’s fabulous costume hire department. For more information on the hire of costumes visit www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk/page/costume_hire Pictured are Jess Sharp and Kat Hetherington from the Arts Team.

Walk to Work Week

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Trevillian from Dietetics who won the ‘Go Outdoors’ voucher for walking 27.43 miles during ‘Walk to Work Week’ in May.

Sarah said that using the pedometer was a good way to motivate her to walk more and has since built in extra walking into her daily routine.

Thank you to everyone who took part in ‘Walk to Work Week’ – you walked a total of 306 miles - the distance from York to Bournemouth.

Regular walking has been shown to reduce the risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, asthma, stroke, type 2 diabetes and helps to reduce stress and musculo-skeletal related problems.

Walking is free and ideal for people of all ages and fitness levels who want to become more active. Build walking into your daily routine and try a walk at lunch time.

Getting out into the fresh air and connecting with nature is good exercise and great for emotional wellbeing.

There are many walks in towns, cities and the countryside. For ideas on inspiring walks go to www.walkinginengland.co.uk and www.walkinginbritain.co.uk

Sarah Trevillian
STAFF BENEFITS AND WELLBEING

Fiona is lottery car winner

THE STAFF Lottery star prizes of the Hyundai i10 and the weekend spa break were drawn at the Health and Wellbeing Fairs. The car was won by physiotherapist Fiona Skelton who works at Selby War Memorial Hospital and the weekend spa break was won by Veronica Cryle who works at York Hospital.

Pictured, from left: Tony Smart, Fleet Sales Manager Minstergate Hyundai, Melanie Liley (presenting the keys), Directorate Manager and Fiona Skelton (winner) Therapy Team Leader based in Selby Community.

Tree of life celebrates lives of colleagues

A memorial ceremony and blessing has been held at Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals as colleagues, friends and family members gathered to recognise and celebrate the lives of staff members who have sadly passed away.

The Trust commissioned artist Matt Coe to create four sculptural memorial artworks. Two striking silver ‘Tree of Life’ sculptures were created for Scarborough and Bridlington Hospitals. The trees are located in memorial courtyards, off the main corridor at Scarborough Hospital and the restaurant at Bridlington Hospital, a peaceful and tranquil space where friends and family can come together to remember and reflect.

Staff and family members gathered as the trees were blessed by Trust Chaplain Chris Hayes and silver leaves with colleagues names were hung on the trees.

Leaves were hung to recognise colleagues Michelle George, Timothy Coates, Mary Malcolmson, Kathy (Kat) Underwood, Dr Jonathan Crowson and Jain Nelson.

A wall mounted ‘Weeping Willow’ has been created for Selby Hospital and a ‘Tree of Life’ wall sculpture for Malton Hospital. The sculptures were funded by the York Teaching Hospital Charity.

‘You Said We Did’ campaign leads to new scheme

AS PART of the “You Said, We Did” campaign a suggestion was made to look at an ‘Introduce a Friend’ scheme to boost nurse recruitment.

This has recently been agreed by Corporate Directors and will be trialled with immediate effect. Employees who introduce a friend who then goes on to be employed as a staff nurse within the Trust, will be provided with an additional contracted annual leave day for each person they introduce.

This will also include employees who introduce new staff to the Nursing Bank. If the trial is successful the Trust will consider using the scheme for other hard to recruit to positions.

For further details please see Staff Room under HR and Recruitment or speak to your local HR Manager.

Above: Trust Chaplain Chris Hayes with Teena Wiseman from Staff Benefits and Sue Symington, Chair. Inset: the weeping willow memorial sculpture at Selby
Ball raises a record £23,500!

A BIG thanks to everyone who attended the Viva Las Vegas Ball in June at the Royal York Hotel. We raised over £23,500 to purchase high-tech simulation manikins of a baby and young child for York Hospital’s Emergency Department.

Dust off those running shoes

THERE are still 10 places left for the York 10k, just time to apply before the deadline of 30 July to run on Sunday 2 August.

There are also limited places still available through the charity for the Yorkshire Marathon. This event is now sold out so get in touch if you want a place. The deadline date for entry is 14 Aug with the event taking place on 11 October.

Bric a brac sale

TUESDAY 18 August, 10am - 4pm, bric a brac and refreshments at St Crux Church, York. Join us at one of the most popular charity venues in York. Check out the variety of stalls selling all kinds of goodies then put your feet up with a cuppa. If you are interested in helping out on the day or you have anything to donate such as bric a brac and books please do get in touch.

Patrick flies for funds

CHIEF Executive Patrick Crowley faced his double fear of heights and flying to raise funds by gliding over the Vale of York last month. Scarborough Consultant Ophthalmologist Jan van der Hoek is an instructor at Wolds Gliding Club in Pocklington. He challenged Patrick to face his fears and raise funds for the charity. £360 plus gift aid was raised for general funds.

Be alert to computer malware - take care opening emails

ANYONE accessing a computer within the Trust is being asked to take extra care when opening emails to avoid spreading viruses.

The most common way viruses gain access to systems is via emails with internet webpage links to sites hosting malware, or have malware embedded in an attached file. Malware is an umbrella term that includes computer viruses, worms, ransomware, and other malicious programs. It can come in many forms and can have different consequences for users.

Sue Rushbrook, Director of Systems and Networks, said: “We, like most companies, are dealing with a significant increase in what are known as malware related incidents.

“Whilst we are up to date with our anti-virus software we have recently come across a brand new variant of malware every day.

“Please do take extra care when opening emails, if you did not expect to receive an email about a topic do not open it or any attachments or any links within it. If you have opened an email that you suspect is infected please contact the IT Service Desk immediately.”

If in doubt delete suspect emails, do not forward them and inform the IT Service Desk on 772 5000 immediately.
Summer placements scheme for students

York Hospital has launched an innovative scheme to give young people the opportunity for real paid work experience in a hospital environment.

It is aimed at helping younger people get into employment and make informed decisions about their future careers.

Sixteen year 11 students will earn the minimum wage in a variety of roles around the hospital this summer to get a taste of life in the NHS.

Sue Holden, Director of Workforce and Organisational Development at York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, said: “Pupils from local schools were invited to apply for a four week placement to get real work experience with pay.

Sixteen students have been successful and will be working in roles ranging from jobs on the wards and therapies to estates and human resources.

“We wanted to show the variety of careers available in the NHS, that it’s not all doctors and nurses in a hospital. As a major employer in York we hope that young people will see that there are interesting roles available for all levels of education and aspire to work for us in the future.”

The first to take up a place was Annie Whitley, 16, pictured far right, who is working on an elderly ward helping with patients, many who have dementia.

Annie said: “I want to train to be a nurse so I love being able to work on a ward. I was nervous on my first day but everyone made me so welcome I feel as if I’ve been here for ages! I am really enjoying working with the elderly. I’ve learned a lot already talking to patients about their life experiences and they seem to enjoy talking to me or doing activities.”

Search for Innovation Scouts

NEW members of the Innovation Scout Network run by Medipex are being sought to represent the Trust.

Medipex works with NHS trusts and their staff to help them to identify, protect and develop their valuable novel ideas for improving healthcare.

Damon Foster, Head of Research and Development, said: “We’re really keen to realise the potential of the innovation that exists in the Trust for the benefit of all involved – staff, patients and the organisation as a whole. NHS staff in all roles and disciplines are constantly devising innovative new ideas for medical technologies, training aids, software and service delivery improvements during the course of their everyday work to fill unmet needs. We are looking for people who can help to find ideas with potential and to spread awareness and important key messages about the protection and exploitation of intellectual property.”

Anyone with an interest in innovation can become a Scout and will receive training and full support from Medipex to carry out their new role. They will also become a member of an established peer network of national Innovation Scouts working in the NHS with access to special networking events and further training opportunities.

Applicants must be able to commit to a minimum of six days per year (half a day per month) to this role before applying. For further details, please contact Lindsay Georgopoulos (lindsay.georgopoulos@medipex.co.uk) or visit the Medipex website.

Find out about non medical prescribing

A NEW area has been created on Staff Room to provide Non Medical Prescribers (NMP) with information, advice and support as well as information for staff who may be thinking of becoming a Non Medical Prescriber.

A NMP is responsible and accountable for the assessment of patients with undiagnosed and diagnosed conditions. They are trained to make decisions about the clinical management required for a patient as well as subsequent prescribing.

As well as information on becoming a NMP, people can find out about the nursing medicines management team and view presentations, minutes from meetings, events and further information.

There is also a section for Patient Group Directions (PGDs) which are written instructions for the supply or administration of medicines to groups of patients who may not be individually identified before presentation for treatment. This is to provide staff with further information on what a PGD is and how they are used.

To find out more click on the Learning, Development and Professional Registration tab on Staff Room then click Non Medical Prescribing and Patient Group Direction.

Expo 2015

ENGLAND’S biggest health and care event of the year, the Health and Care Innovation Expo 2015, is now open for registration.

Expo 2015, held at Manchester Central Convention Centre on 2 and 3 September, is hosted by NHS England.

By registering for a ticket applicants are automatically enrolled into Expo’s unique “Pop-up University”, at which clinical experts and strategic leaders will run 45-minute interactive master-classes. Visit www.england.nhs.uk/expo/expo15/
York Hospital Radio’s longest serving volunteer celebrates 50 years of hospital radio this month.

Keith Lea, 66, of Shipton Road in York is the longest serving member of York Hospital Radio, the registered charity which broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to patients in York Hospital.

Keith said: “I can’t believe I’ve been doing this for 50 years. Hospital radio has been with me throughout my professional career as a track engineer on the railways, and now in semi-retirement.

“I still love presenting news, music and views on Saturday mornings, and really can’t imagine my life without hospital radio in it!”

Patrick Crowley, Chief Executive of the Trust, said: “I’d like to thank Keith for his many years of volunteering for Hospital Radio. He is a ray of sunshine for patients who are confined to a hospital bed and we hope he will continue to entertain patients for years to come. His hard work and commitment to providing a radio service for patients at York Hospital is very much appreciated.”

Keith first went on air in 1965, and has been an active member of York Hospital Radio ever since. During his half century, he has been a broadcaster, technical operator, outside broadcast engineer, and secretary and later chairman of the organisation.

Ian Clennan, chairman of York Hospital Radio, added: “Congratulations to Keith, who has been a mainstay of York Hospital Radio throughout almost its entire existence. He is a great example to us all, and I never cease to be impressed by his continuing commitment to the future development of our radio station.”

Keith’s 50th anniversary on 25 July was marked by a four-hour show from 9am looking back at the music of the past 50 years, with special guests dropping in to share their memories of his unrivalled time at the station.

“He is a ray of sunshine for patients who are confined to a hospital bed”

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**Trust social media success stories**

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