LIVEX18: testing times

Over 400 staff, from doctors, nurses, support services, allied health professionals, porters, security staff, to volunteers took part in LIVEX18 – giving both Scarborough and York’s hospital teams the opportunity to test their response in the first and largest exercise of its kind. Both sessions ran over seven hours with a total of 184 simulated patients who were processed as they would be in a real life incident.

This included moving patients through the x-ray and scanning departments, and issuing approximately 200 simulated units of blood and blood products for their treatment.

Full story: pages 6-7

Happy 70th birthday NHS!

On 5 July the Trust joined the rest of the country in celebrating the 70th birthday of the NHS. It was a remarkable occasion generating a huge amount of warmth and affection for the NHS from across the nation. Thank you to everyone who joined in the celebrations with selfies, cake or simply a smile, and those who gave up their own time to hold tea parties for staff and patients. Read all about our birthday celebrations on pages 2-4.

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: Elaine Vinter, Media and Communications Officer: elaine.vinter@york.nhs.uk

Or email staffmatters@york.nhs.uk
Happy birthday

Church celebrations
TWO lucky staff members joined the special service at Westminster Abbey after their names were picked at random. Sally Broad, Operational Manager Cytology and Sharon Rhodes, Healthcare Assistant, were chosen following a call in May for people to put their name forward. A number of staff attended the choral service at York Minster, hosted by Linda Nolan with an introduction by Jeremy Hunt. Sharon and Sally are pictured outside the Abbey.

York maternity welcomes NHS70 baby
HEAD of Maternity, Liz Ross, along with staff from the maternity unit, gave one local woman a very special birthday on 5 July. The team welcomed Jennifer Walker, who was born at York Maternity Hospital exactly 70 years before, to help celebrate her birthday with the NHS. Jennifer relates the story of her mum being in hospital a week before she was born when she had to pay – much to her displeasure – and the week after when she didn’t!

Photo courtesy of The Scarborough News.
We kicked off the NHS70 celebrations at the start of the year with a campaign to collect 70 faces of the NHS and showcase them on social media and on the Trust’s website.

Thanks to all those who have taken part so far, it’s given us a fascinating insight into the different roles offered in the NHS and has positively radiated how much people love their jobs!

A call to the public for their stories of the NHS resulted in emails (and even letters!) from residents across the region coming forth with their experiences as staff and patients which we have been featuring in Staff Matters.

York Hospital lit up blue for the whole week and staff celebrated with around 20 Tea parties across the Trust in support of York Teaching Hospital Charity. BBC Look North filmed at St Monica’s, the region’s smallest hospital, and BBC Radio York broadcasted their breakfast show from York Hospital on the day, featuring interviews with staff and patients. York Hospital Radio interviewed staff about their roles and covered York Teaching Hospital Charity’s Sparkling Seven Tea party at the Hospitium in York.

The fun continued, and on Saturday 7 July Bridlington Hospital celebrated its 30th birthday, as well as NHS70, with the chance to look behind the scenes. Selby Hospital held an Open Day for the local community which raised over £2,000.

And…the inevitable selfie frame went on tour to help people celebrate!

Our Celebration of Achievement event will continue the NHS70 theme and we will be rounding off the year at our annual York Minster NHS Carol Service, a unique opportunity for NHS staff, past and present, to gather to take time out from their busy duties to give thanks and rejoice.
Happy birthday

Nurses revisit their past
IN THE same week, seven of our former nurses paid a visit to York Hospital. Each of the nurses started their careers 40 years ago at the hospital and spent the day touring the site and reminiscing.

NHS STORIES

Bill’s story

In this issue we have the bitter-sweet story of a much loved father and husband who was the first baby to be born in Scarborough under the NHS. Earlier this year colleague Tracey Boddy from Scarborough sent us news of her dad, Bill Webber’s claim to fame with a cutting from the Scarborough Evening News from the NHS’s 50th birthday. Unfortunately Bill, pictured left, has been in poor health recently and the family were concerned that he was unlikely to see his 70th birthday.

Thankfully Bill was around just long enough to mark the NHS and his own 70th birthday. On behalf of the Trust, our thoughts go out to his family and thank you to Tracey for continuing to share this story with us all.

Major John’s story…

PEOPLE feel strongly about the future of the NHS and Major John Jessop from York got in touch to share his memories and praise for the NHS:

“I am old enough to remember the beginning of the NHS – in fact I was 17 when it was introduced. I am an ardent supporter and find it very difficult to maintain my composure with the endless criticisms one hears these days. In fact, my Australian and American friends just shake their heads and tell me ‘You don’t know how lucky you are to have the NHS.’”

“I first came to York in 1978 when I took a sabbatical from the Army and went to the University of York as a 47-year-old undergraduate. It was then I found our excellent District Hospital when unpacking our household effects, I literally ‘fell off the back of a lorry’ damaging my right wrist. This was to be the first time I had to rely on the District Hospital – and over the years it has never let me down.

“When I returned to York in 1987 I became heavily involved in the local hockey scene. Umpiring a game, one of the players was hit in the mouth literally bending all her upper teeth backwards. I immediately stopped the game and took her to the hospital where they moved into top gear immediately. The dental surgeon, away at home, was sent for and he came post-haste. Staying with the patient I saw him gently bend the teeth back into their right position. The player took it in her stride, but I must say I flinched.

“Over the years I have had a knee replaced, received treatment for a heart that doesn’t beat regularly, had numerous X-Rays and scans for my ancient joints, had sonic guided inoculations into my left hip and am currently on a continuing checking of my blood at the anti-coagulant clinic. Whenever I am in the hospital I cannot but admire how everyone copes. One gets the impression the hospital should have more staff, the staff should be better paid and not have to put in the incredible hours they do. I have never received anything but the best of caring and efficient treatment from them. Long may it continue.

“As I said before we do not know how lucky we are to have this excellent service. It is run by dedicated, professional and caring staff for whom nothing is too much trouble. We should all be aware of what we have at our disposal and we should fight when anything arises which can be perceived as a threat to the existence of the NHS. I know I do.”
May finalists

Star Award
Recognising and celebrating the achievements of our staff and volunteers

Katie Appleby, Staff Nurse ward 17, York Hospital
Katie was nominated by fellow nurse and mother of 10 year old Sammy Jackson, who wanted to do something special for Katie for looking after him so well. Katie is praised by Sammy’s parents for her friendly and caring nature, ‘I was truly overwhelmed by the care and compassion she showed’. At the start of each shift Katie gave them a plan of the night time routine when drugs and observations were due so Sammy knew what to expect. She was described as having an amazing rapport with Sammy and knew just how to communicate with him on his level, as with all the children in her care. ‘I know as a nurse myself the ward was busy but she made you feel like you were the only family on the ward and that she had time for you... it means the world to know your child is cared for and safe - there is no greater gift to give.’

Sophie Truby, Lindsey Taylor, Ann Kershaw and Amy Gains, Community Services, York
A colleague nominated Sophie Truby, Lindsey Taylor, Ann Kershaw and Amy Gains for assisting an end of life patient with his wish to leave hospital and go home. The patient had complex social issues including his house being in a poor state of repair, needing a full care package and no next of kin to assist him. Everything from getting a survey on the property to ensure it was safe, to securing a care package despite huge constraints on packages of care being available at short notice was made possible by Sophie. Ann took delivery of equipment as there no family members to do this and sourced some bedding for the patient as he did not have any. Lindsey and Amy both gave up a large amount of their time for a discharge home visit despite this patient not being part of their caseload. During this visit they discovered he had no food and his phone was broken. Together they were able to negotiate all the constraints and achieve a good outcome, ‘it was about what could they do to be helpful’.

Tracey Cleminson, Play Team, Scarborough Hospital
Nominated both by a colleague for giving 100 percent all of the time, and by the mother of five year old Kiera who needed to have a cannula fitted for a scan on her kidneys, Tracey was described as ‘fantastic’ with her and all of the other children. She was praised for getting the normally shy Kiera involved and playing, and readily offered her assistance with distraction during the cannula fitting even though the play room was busy. ‘Tracey made Kiera just as welcome as a day patient as the children who were in-patients’. Tracey was praised for her ability to get all the children playing, giving it a real ‘family’ atmosphere in the playroom and the way she facilitated conversations between the children to help build friendships and understanding between them. ‘Kiera’s first day at hospital was so positive that she asked when she could go back!’

Amy Meek, Community Therapy Team, St Helens Rehabilitation Unit
Amy works as a generic assistant carrying out physiotherapy and occupational therapy treatments with patients. She was nominated by colleagues for going above and beyond every single day, always listening to each individual patient and responding to their needs and wants. Amy is praised for being so consistent and trustworthy that the whole team knows that if she is asked to do something it will be done as asked. From improving their equipment ordering system to getting to grips with System One and supporting another team to be more effective, Amy is also recognised for her friendships and working relationships with other community teams. She plays a ‘skillful and sensitive’ part in the team’s patient wellbeing group and is described as a ‘wonderful’ asset to the team, ‘she believes she is doing her job like anyone else but we recognise she is someone special’.

Karen Wiley and the ward clerk team, Mandy Jones and the renal admin team, York
The teams were nominated by a colleague as a shining example of teams working together for the greater good, despite whose job it was. When Mandy introduced a streamlined new system for the renal admin team to scan dialysis documentation on to CPD instead of manual filing, they were held back by the backlog of filing from the past few months which was daunting. Mandy discussed the problem with Karen knowing that she had very successfully integrated scanned records in to the acute floor for ambulatory care. On hearing of the situation Karen volunteered the services of her team and over an eight day period she and the ward clerk team collected, scanned and disposed of the entire backlog. The actions of the ward clerk team, led by Karen, have helped another team to be more effective, supporting good patient care, ‘it was about what could they do to be helpful and they really went at the job with enthusiasm’.

LIVEX18 was biggest

The Army Medical Services Training Centre (AMSTC), part of the Army's 2nd Medical Brigade, supported the Trust in delivering a live training exercise to test the Trust's Major Incident Response Plans.

LIVEX18, was an immersive simulation exercise based in AMSTC’s hospital trainer, which is used to train the military’s medical response to major incident and conflict situations - ranging from the response to the Ebola epidemic to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The partnership offered a unique opportunity to test the Trust’s reaction to a mass casualty scenario, within a full-scale reconstruction of the emergency departments and supporting areas.

Live actors with Hollywood-standard make up, simulation bodies, mannequins, explosives and other effects were used to create as realistic an environment as possible. Injuries ranged from head traumas, internal bleeding, loss of limb, massive blood loss and burns. Doctors and nurses from the emergency department had to ‘treat’ the casualties as they would in real life, transferring patients to theatres for surgery as needed.

Dr Phil Dickinson, Consultant Anaesthetist at Scarborough Hospital, Network Lead Clinician for Major Trauma, and the exercise clinical director, explained: “It is vital that the Trust plans for, and responds to, a wide range of incidents and emergencies that could affect health or patient care. This means we need to be ready to deal with a major incident whenever it happens - whether it’s a flood, fire, bomb blast or bus crash. In order to cope in these circumstances when we’re under intense pressure, it’s vital that we exercise our plans to ensure we can carry on providing safe, high-quality care to all our patients.

“Our emergency departments in York and Scarborough are designated as trauma units and deal with serious injuries every day, but this exercise was an opportunity for them to practice dealing with multiple, severely injured people coming to hospital on mass. It meant staff could test their skills in a high pressure scenario, getting a real feel for what it would be like - but in a safe, simulated environment.”

Mark Hindmarsh, Head of Strategy and lead for emergency planning added: “Training and exercising staff so that they have experience of working in this uniquely challenging situation, and are familiar with how to put into practice the Trust Incident Response Plan, is an important part of being prepared.”
exercise of its kind

WHAT THEY SAID

Wendy Taylor, casualty volunteer (pictured below): “What a great experience – it really opens up your eyes to the work everyone does here. I’m very impressed with what I’ve seen, the make-up is incredible – I’ve got cuts, shotgun and burns injuries!”

Councillor Paul Doughty – Conservative Councillor for Strensall ward, Chair, Health and Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee, City of York Council: “…it is testament to the York Health Trust and the Army that they aim to help their dedicated staff be as prepared as is realistically possible and to give us civilians the best possible support and care should we ever be caught up in such horrors.”

Mr Rob Marsh – Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon & Clinical Lead for Major Trauma at Scarborough Hospital: “LIVEX provides a unique opportunity for us to test the whole system, rather than traditional training that focuses on the skills of individuals”

Dr Steve Lord – Consultant in Emergency Medicine & Clinical Director for York Hospital Emergency Medicine: “Being able to train in a safe environment, where you can make mistakes, but in a realistic scenario is the most useful training you can ever do. This is what the military do with every team before they are deployed in hospitals around the world, so that if we face this scenario in reality we’re able to do the job for real.”

Nicole Winship – Staff nurse, York Emergency Department: “The injuries look amazing – incredibly life-like. This makes it easier to practice and play the role when you can see the injuries like this yourself”

Lt Col Richard Chadwick – Chief Instructor, 2nd Medical Brigade: “The beauty of LIVEX is that we can test the hospital plans in a realistic but safe environment”

William Young – Paramedic Clinical Supervisor, Yorkshire Ambulance (via Twitter): “Amazing experience… taking part in a real-time mass casualty major incident exercise. Well done team from Yorkshire Ambulance”

John Garvey – Emergency Medical Technician, Yorkshire Ambulance:

“Was very proud to be part of this event on Tuesday. It was a fantastic learning opportunity and was amazing to see everyone work so hard”

Sarah Freer – Matron, Scarborough Hospital (via Twitter): “Super proud to be part of Scarborough team. Absolutely Amazing”

Sandra Tucker-Quinn – Clinical Skills Lead, York NHS Trust: “A fantastic opportunity for learning”

Jo Arundel – Audio Typist in Paediatrics at York Hospital (and loggist at LIVEX): “Lots to take in, great to see how York Hospital and our fantastic staff would react to a major incident. Love working with such a fantastic bunch of people”
The summer of 2018 is turning out to be memorable - not least (at the time of writing) for 48 consecutive days of sunshine and the World Cup! But it’s not just the sunshine and football we will remember about the summer of 2018 in our Trust. I was delighted to be invited to attend the VIP launch of LIVEX18 on 2 July at the Army Medical Services Training Centre, home of the 2nd Medical Brigade of the British Army. LIVEX18 was a remarkable collaboration between the British Army and the Trust providing an immersive simulation based in the Army’s training hangar. You can read more about this incredible event in this issue of Staff Matters. LIVEX18 was hugely successful for everyone involved and special recognition must go not only to those who were able to hone their vital skills, but also to those whose organisational skills enabled the whole event to run so smoothly and well. The Board wish to extend their thanks to everyone involved. 

Alongside LIVEX ran a week of very special celebrations as the NHS celebrated its 70th birthday. Once again, collaboration between staff, volunteers, friends and governors ensured that these were birthday celebrations to be remembered. I was delighted to attend The Governors Birthday Tea Party in Malton (delicious home baking!), York Teaching Hospital Charity’s Sparkling Afternoon Tea at the Hospitium in York, and the very special 70th Birthday Choral Concert at York Minster. A birthday event at Bridlington Hospital celebrated not only the NHS’s birthday but also the 30th Birthday of the hospital. Very special celebrations took place at Selby Hospital too and I know this is only a few of the events during the birthday week. Making something special happen requires effort and hard work, a generosity of spirit and real commitment. Thank you all. All these events had one shared theme - a genuine celebration of the people who make our NHS possible, the NHS without its remarkable staff would mean nothing. So, never mind the sunshine and forget about the football, it’s the NHS and those that work in it and support it that are our real heroes this summer.

Susan Symington

Saying goodbye and hello

THE BOARD says goodbye to three long serving members at its meeting in July - Sue Rushbrook, Director of Systems and Networks retires after more than 40 years in the NHS. Libby Raper and Mike Sweet leave the Board after completing their maximum term of nine years’ service as non-executive directors. We thank all three for their individual commitment to the Trust and their hard work, and wish them all healthy and happy retirements. Welcome to two new non-executive directors Dr Lorraine Boyd, a retired GP, and Lynne Mellor, a senior executive with BT who join us as non-executive directors, as well as Polly McMeekin, Acting Director of Workforce and Organisational Development, and Lucy Brown, Acting Director of Communications. We welcome all to our Board and look forward to their contributions to the leadership of the Trust.

Susan Symington

Dr Lorraine Boyd

Lynne Mellor

Open visiting reviewed

LAST year’s change of visiting times to allow visitors to the hospital wards between 11am and 8pm has been a success according to a recent review. Feedback revealed there was a lot of support for having a more open style of visiting but concerns were raised about giving wards the chance to complete morning activities, including personal care, ward rounds, environmental cleaning and medical ward rounds. Following the review, the start of visiting time has been put back to 1pm which will ensure some space for lunchtime medication and lunches to be eaten whilst the wards are quieter. Patients and relatives will continue be supported with flexible visiting outside of the set hours at the discretion of the nurse in charge.
Counselling to suit you

Counselling can be beneficial in many ways, whether it’s support given over the phone, face-to-face, or over email for those who like to write things down. For anyone who feels as though they have no other place to turn, counselling can be a lifeline at a difficult time.

Health Assured, the Trust’s employee assistance programme, offers a variety of counselling where staff can talk to trained professionals about any struggles that they may be facing in the workplace or in their personal lives. They currently have an extensive team of in-house counsellors and advisors, who are members of governing bodies including BACP, UKCP and BPS.

Telephone counselling
This type of support is beneficial to employees who may prefer to get help while in a familiar setting, such as the comfort of their own home. It also offers more flexibility, as the sessions can be scheduled at an agreed time and do not require travel.

Face-to-face counselling
These intimate counselling sessions can be better for people who prefer face-to-face interaction. It also creates a separate environment that is only for their counselling and it allows the counsellor to pick up on certain details of the situation, including signs indicated through body language.

Secure online and email counselling
These services are available for those who may prefer the flexibility of being able to have a counselling session that they do not have to attend in person but still require support. Email counselling is often used as a method to give an individual more confidence by familiarising them with counselling and can eventually lead into a more personalised approach. In 2017 alone, Health Assured conducted 1,061 sessions of online counselling.

To access counselling from Health Assured call 0800 030 5182

Stress Less workshop for staff to be held in York
A new workshop to help manage stress will be held in York on Thursday 30 August.

Are you struggling with juggling everything you have on your plate? Finding work or home life stressful? This ‘bite size’ introductory workshop is brought to you by the Trust’s Wellbeing Team.

It will help you to understand stress, what it is and how it impacts on you and offers a range of hints and tips on how to manage stress and further steps you can take to learn how to stress less.

Booking is available through the learning hub.
LGBT+ network

The Trust’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT+) network is looking for new members.

Membership is open to all Trust staff who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and those with a positive interest in driving forward diversity and inclusion with the Trust as an employer.

The LGBT+ staff network aims to help create a safe, inclusive and diverse working environment that encourages respect and equality for all, and a space that values and recognises the differences between sexual orientation and gender identity.

Steven Clark, Chair of the staff network, explained: “The network was created to work proactively to raise awareness of LGBT+ staff issues and be a safe point of contact for staff should they need to talk. We provide first level support to LGBT+ staff and we are looking to influence NHS policies and strategies that may impact on LGBT+ staff and patients alike.”

- To join the network please email LGBTStaffNetwork@york.nhs.uk

Recent statistics from Stonewall

• One in five (19 percent) lesbian, gay and bi employees have experienced verbal bullying from colleagues, patients or service users because of their sexual orientation in the last five years
• One in eight (13 percent) lesbian, gay and bi employees would not feel confident reporting homophobic bullying in their workplace
• A quarter (26 percent) of lesbian, gay and bi workers are not at all open to colleagues about their sexual orientation
• Nearly half (42 percent) of trans people are not living permanently in their preferred gender role because they are prevented from doing so as they fear it might threaten their employment status
• Over 10 per cent of trans people experienced verbal abuse and six per cent were physically assaulted at work. As a consequence of harassment and bullying, a quarter of trans people will feel obliged to change their jobs

Park for free with Liftshare

THE TRUST has signed up with Liftshare, a car sharing scheme, to help reduce travel costs for staff. Staff who sign up and share journeys with a colleague can park for free at York and Scarborough hospitals as long as they have a current parking permit.

Dan Braidley, Travel Planning Co-ordinator, said: “We encourage and increase car sharing for staff, it’s a great way to save money and it cuts congestion and pollution. Car sharing makes journeys to work less stressful and it’s more flexible than people think – simply share when you can, even if it’s for one day a week.”

To use the specially designated spaces staff must sign up to the Trust Liftshare scheme and display a minimum of two parking permits in their car. To sign up to the Trust Liftshare scheme visit www.yorkhospitals.liftshare.com.

Further benefits of car sharing can be found at www.liftshare.com/uk/community/faqs

There will be 22 Lifsharing spaces at Scarborough Hospital which will be available from the end of July. These are located opposite the visitor car park and are signposted. At York Hospital car park A is designated for Liftshare users with 32 spaces available.

Mental health wins funding

A NEW cubicle specifically for people with mental health problems will be provided at York Hospital Emergency Department (ED) thanks to government funding. The £4,900 award comes from the Department of Health and Social Care’s Beyond Places of Safety Fund.

The bid was made in partnership with the mental health liaison team from Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys Foundation NHS Trust who are based in York. ED and sees patients who are considered to require a mental health assessment.

Mike Lee, ED Operational Manager, said: “The Emergency Department is a busy and highly pressurised environment, which isn’t suitable for patients who have mental health problems.

“This funding means that we can create a more suitable, safe environment which will ensure they get the best support we can offer.”

RESEARCH NEWS

Trial set to reduce HIV cases

CONGRATULATIONS to the sexual health and pharmacy teams on successfully recruiting 24 patients at York and nine patients at Scarborough hospital to a study that assesses the impact of a treatment for patients with a high risk of contracting HIV.

The PrEP Impact trial is a ground-breaking preventative medication which, when taken routinely alongside contraception, has been proven to reduce the risk of contracting HIV by over 90 percent.

Lydia Harris, Head of Research and Development, said: “PrEP treatment, whilst expensive, could bring significant cost savings to the NHS by greatly reducing the burden on Sexual Health and genitourinary medicine (GUM) clinic resources by reducing the HIV positive population. The study aims to document this impact and help implement this hugely beneficial treatment for all patients. It aims to recruit 10,000 patients nationally.

“The trial has involved a lot of organisation by the teams due amount of medication and geographical locations of the sexual health clinics. However, Dr Ian Fairley, Angela Aylett and Poppy Cottrell-Howe have handled this seamlessly – resulting in us fully recruiting to the trial well before the closing date. Well done!”

Laptop Loan scheme

A loan a laptop scheme for mentors and practice educators currently supporting a pre-registration student has been launched by the Practice Education Team.

The laptops can be loaned for up to two weeks and can be used within York and Scarborough hospitals. They are aimed at helping connect mentors and practice educators with their student if they are having difficulties in accessing IT facilities, to aid learning or to view electronic assessment documents.

Laptops can be delivered to and picked up from placement areas by your allocated practice education facilitator. Manager’s consent is required prior to the loan being processed.

Anyone wishing to take out a laptop loan or find out further information regarding the terms and conditions of the loan please speak to your Practice Education Facilitator or contact the Practice Education Team via email: PracticeEducationTeam@york.nhs.uk
STAFF BENEFITS

A regular section provided directly for you by the Staff Benefits team bringing you the latest benefits as a staff member of the Trust. Whether you are looking for a better work-life balance, want advice in making healthy lifestyle choices, or just to see what discounts are available to you. For all of your benefits go to the staff benefits section on www.york.nhs.uk/staffbenefits or call the team on 01904 721170 or 771 5262. Follow staff benefits on Twitter and Facebook @YHstaffBenefits StaffBenefitsYHFT

Join the Staff Benefits Committee
Have you ever wondered what goes on at the Staff Benefits Committee? We are always looking for new members, from all staff groups. We meet bi-monthly and would love more staff to join us. You don’t have to come to every meeting, although we would love to see you there - once or twice a year would be great. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact helen.hardwick@york.nhs.uk or call 01904 721170.

Desk calendar competition
Plans are already under way for the 2019 Staff Benefits Desk Calendar and once again we are holding a competition for entries. In the 70th year of the NHS we want to celebrate the diversity of our workforce by showcasing the ‘Gems of our Hometowns’. Staff are invited to send in their image of their hometown - wherever in the world it may be! It could be a photograph, drawing, painting or illustration. Creativity is encouraged and we are looking forward to seeing skylines, landscapes, buildings, houses, people and animals – in fact anything that shows your favourite view of your home town! The competition opens on Wednesday 1 August and closes on 31 August. Full details and an entry form can be found on the Staff Benefits webpage.

Genomes exhibition celebrates 70
Local artist and Art and Design Development Manager at the Trust, Griselda Goldsbrough, has collated artwork inspired by the Genomes project which will sequence 100,000 genomes from around 70,000 people in collaboration with the NHS Genomic Medicine Centre. Participants are NHS patients with a rare disease, plus their families, and patients with cancer. The aim is to create a new genomic medicine service for the NHS – transforming the way people are cared for.

The exhibition runs across the 70 year anniversary of the NHS and reflects narratives, images and the shaping of genomics from the past 70 years. Griselda said: "Many ideas were explored around DNA, genomic medicine and treatments. Artwork was created in a variety of media, including 3D, painting, drawing and creative writing. The often complex and challenging subject matter lends itself well to the very different perspectives of how people view genomic medicine."

Honorary fellowship for Louise
ADVANCED Clinical Specialist Renal Dietitian, Louise Wells, was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the British Renal Society (BRS) at their recent conference in recognition of her work to improve the treatment and experience of renal patients.

Berencice Carter, Professional Lead Nutrition and Dietetics, said: "Louise has worked as a dietitian in renal services for over 30 years and in that time has made an enormous contribution to renal dietetics, not only within the Trust, where she has been responsible for developing a renowned and nationally recognised renal dietetic service, but also on a far wider scale. "Louise has held a number of voluntary positions on the BRS Council over a number of years, including co-chairing the programme committee for two BRS and Renal Association conferences and education and workforce planning committee membership. Until recently she held a three year post as the BRS Vice President for Clinical Development. It was a great honour for the Trust that Louise was elected to that post, not only for the renal multi-disciplinary team, but also as a champion for all allied health professions, as Louise was the first AHP and dietitian ever to be elected."

The award of honorary fellowship recognises Louise for a lifetime commitment to the renal community, promoting research and developments in renal services both locally, nationally and internationally.
Your hospital charity

To get in touch with the charity team, please email charity.fundraising@york.nhs.uk or call 01904 724521

< Yorkshire Three Peaks

Thank you to all the staff members who took part in the 24 mile Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge at the end of June and helped raise more than £7,000 for York Teaching Hospital Charity.

It was a tough challenge but everyone enjoyed taking part in the glorious sunshine with other supporters from Harrogate Hospital Charity and Yorkshire Ambulance Service Charity.

“It was a very satisfying challenge, you really knew you had worked hard and earned all your sponsor money!”

“It was great to challenge myself, raise money for a good cause and spend time with my work pals.”

If you’re interested in taking part in this challenge next year please get in touch with the Charity Team for more information by emailing charity.fundraising@york.nhs.uk or by calling 772 4521.

“It was a very satisfying challenge, you really knew you had worked hard and earned all your sponsor money! It was great to challenge myself, raise money for a good cause and spend time with my work pals”

‘7Tea’ celebrations raise funds

Throughout July, lots of wards, departments, local businesses and supporters joined York Teaching Hospital Charity to celebrate 70 years of the NHS and to help raise money for the charity.

On and around the official birthday on 5 July, several wards and departments across our Trust hosted their own Big 7Tea parties. The tea parties helped to celebrate the birthday with staff, patients, families and visitors and it was a fantastic opportunity to share stories and memories of the NHS. Thank you to everyone who joined in with the celebrations and has helped to raise more than £1,500 so far.

York Teaching Hospital Charity also hosted a Sparkling Afternoon Tea at the Hospitium in York which featured a fabulous speech from Professor David Purdie and a performance from poet Dave Jarman. Thank you to everyone who came and to Kier for sponsoring the event. Over £2,000 was raised which will help care for our family of hospitals.