More and more families in York and Scarborough are saying yes to organ donation but there is still an urgent shortage of donors. This was highlighted by this year’s Organ Donation Week (2 - 8 September).

During Organ Donation Week the Trust joined forces with NHS Blood and Transplant to urge people to talk to their families about organ donation to increase the number of people whose lives can be saved or transformed by an organ transplant.

Dr Rob Ferguson is the Trust’s clinical lead for organ donation and, alongside the specialist nurses in organ donation, is responsible for ensuring the processes involved in organ donation is done as professionally and empathetically as possible.

Part of this role is increasing awareness of the process and is an important part of the activities during organ donation week. Rob said: “Statistically, you’re much more likely to need an organ yourself than to be in a position where you can become an organ donor. Sadly, many opportunities are lost every...”

Continued on page 2

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
Rocking horse relic rescue

A well-loved rocking horse that has lived in the child development centre for over 20 years has found a new home in York’s Castle Museum.

It had become such a fixture that many parents who visit the centre remembered it when they were a child. Unfortunately, due to infection prevention constraints, it had not been used for a couple of years.

Too beautiful to dispose of but unable to be used, the team struggled to find it a new home.

Katie Holmes, Staff Nurse in the Children’s Development Centre, explained: “The rocking horse is a treasured item in the centre and we were reluctant to say goodbye but it wasn’t until Mike Fresson, Cardiac Specialist Nurse from Leeds, came for clinic that we realised we could find it a better home. Mike made it his mission to find somewhere that our lovely rocking horse could be appreciated.”

Mike contacted the York Museum Trust who were happy for it to become part of their playroom in the Castle Museum.

Mike added: “Every time I came for my monthly visits I noticed the horse - it is such a beautiful creation and part of the history of York. Retiring the rocking horse to Castle Museum means it can continue to give joy to adults and children for years to come.”

Anyone visiting the Castle Museum will find the rocking horse in pride of place in the Toy Stories play area destined to become a loved toy for future visitors to use.

Organ Donation Week

Continued from page 1 >>

year because families don’t know if their loved one wanted to be a donor or not. Organ Donation Week is the perfect opportunity to get people talking. Speak to your family about organ donation today.

“Fewer than half of families support donation going ahead if they are unaware of their loved one’s decision to be a donor. This rises to over nine out of ten when the decision to be an organ donor is known.”

Next year, the law around organ donation is changing in England. From spring 2020, all adults in England will be considered as having agreed to donate their own organs when they die unless they record a decision not to donate or are in one of the excluded groups.

Rob added: “Even after the law has changed, families will continue to be approached before organ donation goes ahead. Knowing what their relative wanted helps families support their decision at a difficult time.”

Trust Chair, Sue Symington, said: “The Trust board, collectively, are long term supporters of the work of our organ donation team. In our own Trust we recognise the vital work of the team and nationally we recognise the hugely important role of organ donation. We know that on average three people die every day in need of a transplant. Individually we each have an opportunity to do something amazing - one donor can save or transform up to nine lives!”

For all of these reasons our Trust remains very firmly committed to the work of the Organ Donation Team and the transformative contribution they make.”

Earlier this year the chief executive received a letter of thanks from the Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation for the contribution the Trust has made to organ donation in the area. During 2018/2019 the Trust facilitated 11 out of 12 consented donors resulting in 27 patients receiving a transplant.
Message from the Chair

What a buzz on Scarborough and York sites this month as we hosted Open Days on both sites!

First, my thanks go to all staff that made both days so special and so successful. Your efforts were greatly appreciated both internally and also by the many people who visited the hospitals. We have a lot to be proud of in our hospitals, and it is vital that we share our pride, our expertise and our commitment with those we serve. I was particularly pleased to see groups of students visiting the Open Days too.

As well as engaging with the general public, I was also struck by the benefits for our staff in attending Open Days and learning more about what goes on in their workplace and the work of colleagues. It’s so easy to come to work and ‘get your head down’ in your own small area of work, it was great to see so many staff look up and look out and learn more about the Trust as a whole.

Managing and maintaining our own health and wellbeing, while undertaking challenging roles at work, can be difficult. Our own health and wellbeing is hugely important - at the very least, our patients need us to be on top form to enable them to be on top form, not to mention our families and friends.

If you are over 40 you can have a completely free health check with Occupational Health. I did this in early August, it was really helpful - very reassuring but also thought-provoking. Make your own health and wellbeing a real priority and make the most of this free benefit. You can find out more by contacting the Wellbeing Team.

On a similar theme, my inbox is starting to fill with messages about flu vaccinations in the autumn months. The vaccination is free to all of our staff and another very important way of prioritising your own health and wellbeing.

Recently I have become the Chair of York Teaching Hospital Charity. This is a wonderful resource for all areas of our Trust. If you have a project, no matter how small, that you know would benefit the experience of our patients and you need some funding to help make it happen, please contact York Teaching Hospital Charity on 7724521. The charity would love to hear from you and wherever possible will help you to improve the service you can offer your patients.

There is a lot of talk about organisational culture in the NHS currently, particularly the importance of the ways we work together, and the way we serve our patients and engage with the general public.

Sue Symington
Chair

Please turn to pages 6-7 for more on the Trust Open Days

Mouth care matters – improving oral health

The Palliative care service has led a multi-disciplinary team in the launch of a new initiative to improve oral hygiene. The team noticed that many patients reaching the end of life did not routinely have mouth care products available, and that mouth care has often seemed a minor consideration in their overall hygiene needs.

Mouth Care Matters is a Health Education England programme designed to improve oral health, and how it impacts on general health and quality of life. It’s aimed at anyone who provides personal care to patients.

Research has shown that receiving poor oral care increases patient risk of complications, such as hospital acquired pneumonia, stroke, diabetes, dental decay and loss, and heart disease. There is also evidence to support a deterioration of oral hygiene in hospitalised patients.

Julia Wise, Specialist Nurse in Palliative Care, said: “We are rolling out a pilot of Mouth Care Matters across the Trust for all adult patients irrespective of diagnosis or stage of illness, starting with a small group of pilot wards in York Hospital - G1, ICU and ward 32, York Community - White Cross Court, and Scarborough Hospital - Stroke Unit and Graham Ward.

“Our specially trained ‘super trainers’ will support staff on wards to deliver the best mouth care. Alongside this we have introduced new and more effective mouth care products.”

Patients will receive an assessment within 12 hours of coming in and guidelines have been produced in line with national advice. Staff will be able to use a mouth screening assessment tool which will be kept with patient’s notes.
Julie Ackerley, Cystic Fibrosis Specialist Nurse, York Hospital

Nominated by a patient with cystic fibrosis, Julie is described as being “a complete rock and support” over the last four years. The patient has little family support and Julie has accompanied her to various appointments and even came in on one of her days off bringing her daughter with her as there was no one else to help. Described as having a huge amount of kindness and compassion, Julie has been praised by the patient for her level of support when she has pushed her in a wheelchair from the ward to the car park when she has been very unwell due to treatment or intravenous antibiotics. Julie has provided a shoulder to cry on even though she was extremely busy when the patient didn’t have anyone – “she’s got me through some very, very difficult times and I can never thank her enough”.

Judith Seagrave, Palliative Care CNS, Community

Judith was nominated by the relative of a patient who had been told she had a non-operable aggressive brain tumour. The family wanted to discuss the level of steroids prescribed with their mother’s consultant and GP but were disappointed to find there was no time for discussion or individual patient consideration. Judith was the only one to listen to their concerns and established they all wanted the same thing – the best possible quality of life for as long as possible but without prolonging the suffering. Her professional manner, empathy and understanding and honest and open discussions gave them the strength and ability to care for their mum to the end. Judith’s concern for the wellbeing of the wider family unit, giving additional time for reassurance and discussion helped prevent any family discord at a very difficult time.

Chris Robinson, Operating Department Practitioner, Bridlington Hospital

Chris’s calm and organised approach saw her nominated for a Star Award after a patient undergoing a urological operation bled postoperatively. The patient needed transferring to Scarborough Hospital to go back to theatre and to be monitored overnight. Chris helped the anaesthetist stabilise the patient and arrange the transfer, accompanying them in the ambulance in what was her first ever transfer. On arrival, the Scarborough ODPs on call were both occupied, and Chris stayed behind to start the emergency procedure, despite the fact her shift had finished more than one hour before, and that she needed to get a taxi back to Bridlington to collect her car and belongings before she could go home. She offered to do so without a second thought and demonstrated only care and commitment to the patient.

Kim Hartnett, Midwife, Scarborough Hospital

The maternity ward and Hawthorn ward at Scarborough are both praised for their support for a family in incredibly distressing circumstances that should have been happy but were also heart-breaking. Kim was nominated for her care on a day when two babies were born in the same family within one hour of each other. One mum went into unexpected labour at home and the baby was tragically stillborn. The other was born a healthy baby in hospital. Both mothers were on the same ward which meant a very emotional visit for the family. Kim’s understanding of the vast range of emotions the family were going through – the celebration of gaining a nephew from one side to losing a nephew on the same day – and her support and empathy for the bereaved mother helped them all cope – “you are the heroes to pick us up when we have fallen”.

Scarborough Endoscopy Unit nursing team, Scarborough Hospital

Staff shortages saw the endoscopy nursing team come under pressure to cancel patient procedures when unfortunate circumstances meant there was no one available on the unit to coordinate the team. There were also a number of nursing and support staff on sick leave. The team are praised for their excellent team work for pulling together so that they did not have to cancel any patient procedures and made sure the unit was run efficiently and a high standard of care was maintained throughout. The unit provides a vital service for very sick inpatients as well as a high number of elective cases every day and the team had the patients’ best interests in mind when making sure they did not have to postpone any procedures.

Chelsea Myerscough

Judith was the one to listen to their concerns and established they all wanted the same thing – the best possible quality of life for as long as possible but without prolonging the suffering. Her professional manner, empathy and understanding and honest and open discussions gave them the strength and ability to care for their mum to the end. Judith’s concern for the wellbeing of the wider family unit, giving additional time for reassurance and discussion helped prevent any family discord at a very difficult time.
A revolutionary approach to outpatients that gives more power to the patient is being piloted at the Rheumatology department.

A Patient Initiated Follow-Up (PIFU) pathway has been developed at the Trust that offers an alternative to traditional face to face clinic appointments.

Currently, patients on a routine follow-up plan are reviewed by having a fixed appointment to see their clinician. This can sometimes result in a patient attending clinic at a time when they are not experiencing any problems. The new focus is to promote self-care where the patient is in control of making an appointment when they need it most, such as experiencing a flare up.

Nicki Rodgers, Service Improvement Facilitator, said: “We are changing the emphasis to improve care so that appointments provide patients with direct access to guidance when they decide they need it.

With the introduction of PIFU, we hope to reduce the number of unnecessary visits for patients and the added anxiety, travel and time they often experience when attending regular follow-ups. This reduction in visits will allow capacity to be optimised, reducing backlogs for routine patients and shorter waiting times for those patients that need it most.

“Importantly, it will also encourage patients to take more active care of their own conditions and manage their own health.”

The pathway, launched this month, is being piloted in Rheumatology across the Trust for the next 12 months and suitable patients will be selected by their clinician.

Mark Quinn, Rheumatology Consultant, said: “This scheme should improve the appropriateness and timeliness of outpatient appointments for our rheumatology patients whose condition remains stable, without any negative impact. The real benefits to patients will be to increase accessibility for anyone experiencing a flare up or problem with their condition, and avoid unnecessary visits to the clinic.”

The project worked closely with the systems and networks team to develop the Trust’s IT system to incorporate a ‘safety net’ so that any patient who has not been seen within a certain timescale will be contacted to check they are OK.

Nicki Rodgers with the new outpatients poster

Centre coffee morning raises over £2,000

THE Cancer Care Centre at York Hospital once again held its legendary coffee morning to raise funds to provide information, support, complementary therapies and a listening ear for local patients with cancer and their families.

The Cancer Care Centre was opened over 10 years ago with funds raised from an appeal by York Against Cancer and the York Press.

Michelle Kirkman, administrator at the Cancer Care Centre, said: “Thanks to the generosity of our own staff and local people, we had over 600 tombola prizes and our army of bakers created a bumper feast.

“We were blown away with the amount raised – a staggering £2,224 which has beaten our previous record of £1,800. Thank you to our wonderful supporters, they are all amazing and every penny goes back into offering cancer support to the local community!”

Local Counter Fraud Specialist Outreach

NHS Fraud is something that affects us all, whether we realise it or not.

The scale of the problem is huge with the latest cost to the NHS estimated at £1.27 billion per year. This is enough money to pay for over 40,000 staff nurses, or to purchase over 5,000 frontline ambulances. It is taxpayers’ money that is taken away from patient care and falls into the hands of criminals.

The Trust’s Local Counter Fraud Specialist (LCFS) team are based in Park House, on the York Hospital site. They offer advice to all staff on recognising how the NHS is targeted, and how to report any concerns.

Marie Hall, Local Counter Fraud Specialist, said: “Whatever your area of work, we are interested in getting to know departments and teams. Staff working in the Trust can be of enormous value in helping us fight fraud and we are keen that people understand how they can help.

“Our team can visit for an informal chat about our work and the latest scams targeting staff and we have a range of presentations that we can tailor to suit the area of work and specific needs of your team. We would also love to discuss how your team can help us to crack down on NHS fraud.”

The team are part of a national authority which investigates the most serious, complex and high-profile cases of fraud, and work closely with the police and the Crown Prosecution Service to bring offenders to justice.

The Counter Fraud Authority’s specialist financial investigators have powers to recover NHS money lost to fraud, and have a forensic computing team who collect and analyse digital evidence.

• For more information about the Counter Fraud service, please visit their page on Staff Room where you can also find their latest newsletter. If you would like to arrange for an LCFS to visit your team contact 7725272.
THIS YEAR open days returned to the Trust with teams at Scarborough and York Hospital showcasing their services to the public and to colleagues. Information stands from clinical and corporate teams and tours offered an exclusive insider look at some of the hospital departments.

People were encouraged to discover more about the daily workings of the hospital and the services provided. Interactive tours and seminars gave people a rare opportunity to find out what goes on behind the scenes within the hospital, not normally seen by the public.

Tours were extremely popular including the boiler house, laboratory medicine, the mortuary at York.
Hospital, arts, neurophysiology and the diabetes department. Thank you to all the staff who took time out of their day to make these so successful.

For those interested in opportunities and careers in the NHS, there were recruitment and specialist staff on hand to offer advice, as well as on the day interviews for registered or newly qualified nurses.

Simon Morritt, chief executive, said: “It is great to see the enthusiasm from large numbers of our staff who put together displays, planning tours, and opening up their work areas for the public.

The open days provided a fantastic opportunity to discover more about our hospital, and the wider Trust.”
Proving that exercise does not have to be onerous, staff from Bridlington Hospital recently competed in a rounders match alongside six other local businesses from Bridlington.

It was organised by fitness company Acitvfirst to get more people interested in being active and having fun in the process.

Carol Dickinson, Health Promotion Advisor, said: “Becoming more active really can be as simple as playing a game of rounders on the beach or any other open space. Team sports are great for increasing your physical activity and mental wellbeing. You don’t need to be good at them, just have a go!”

Activfirst will also be providing free circuit and yoga classes for staff at Bridlington Hospital in the Wellbeing Space on Waters Ward from October. To find out more about the classes, please see the posters displayed in the Wellbeing Space. Staff are encouraged to sign up for these classes - otherwise they will be cancelled.

Opportunity to talk about menopause

It’s a normal, natural life event for women, yet many women are still worried about going through menopause. World Menopause Day (18 October) highlights the subject and gives people the opportunity to talk about it.

With a high percentage of female workers in the NHS, talking about how symptoms may affect women in the workplace is important.

It’s about staff supporting each other, managers creating an environment where such conversations can take place and providing support where appropriate.

The Wellbeing Team has provided resources on the menopause to support women who are going through it, those who would like to be better prepared for it when their time comes, and for managers (male and female) who would like to increase their awareness.

• Seminars and workshops on the menopause can be booked via the Learning Hub. The next menopause seminar is at Scarborough Hospital on 4 December.

• Menopause resource packs are available in the Trust’s Libraries and in Bridlington Hospital’s wellbeing space on Waters Ward.

• A short video is also available on the Occupational Health and Wellbeing pages / Supporting Staff Health on Staff Room.

Raising awareness of staff wellbeing services at Trust

The wellbeing team were out and about last month talking to staff about the wellbeing services that are free to Trust staff.

Look out for them at future dates at York Hospital and at Scarborough, Bridlington, Malton and Selby during 2019/20.

Information on wellbeing services is available on Staff Room / Occupational Health & Wellbeing / Supporting Staff Health.

If you would like more information on health checks, workshops, or the Step into Health distance learning course, please email wellbeingteam@york.nhs.uk
Spot the signs of sepsis

Sepsis is the number one cause of preventable death worldwide. To celebrate World Sepsis Day on 13 September staff across the Trust got involved to spread the word, raising awareness of sepsis.

Lisa Green is an Advanced Clinical Practitioner in the Emergency Department (ED) and is also Chair of the ED Sepsis Delivery Group at Scarborough Hospital. Lisa said: “Members of the ED Team in Scarborough marked World Sepsis Day by wearing ‘Stop Sepsis Save Lives’ t-shirts, supported by other departments such as pharmacy and patient safety who have been working closely with us on sepsis awareness.

“The ED team have been working hard over the last couple of years to achieve best practice in the recognition and treatment of patients with sepsis and have had great results by working together. This can be challenging in what can be an exceptionally busy emergency department.

“Sepsis Day is a great opportunity to reinforce awareness amongst staff, patients and relatives. We gave out educational material about sepsis as well as the recently launched adult sepsis screening tool, which was developed in-house by leadership fellow and paediatric registrar Dr Gemma Williams to ensure that all staff know what best practice looks like.

“Thanks to York Teaching Hospital Charity for funding our t-shirts and all those who have raised funds, especially Lisa Pinkney from patient safety, who held a fundraising event and has had new ‘Sepsis Flags’ designed and delivered in time for the World Sepsis Day. The flags are used to prioritise time-critical treatment to patients with sepsis.”

Early symptoms of sepsis may include:
- a high temperature (fever) or low body temperature
- chills and shivering
- fast breathing
- nausea or feeling sick
- feeling confused or feeling not yourself
- feeling dizzy
- feeling very tired or very weak
- being very thirsty
- feeling cold
- feeling sweaty
- feeling very hungry
- remembering things poorly
- feeling sleepy
- feeling confused

Dementia-friendly room for Oak Ward

OAK WARD at Scarborough Hospital had a special celebration recently when Chief Nurse Heather McNair officially opened their new quiet room, funded through the Inspire scheme.

The ward cares for up to 33 older people all aged over 78 years, who have been admitted to hospital with acute illness. Many of them have long term conditions such as dementia or Parkinson’s disease which can be exacerbated by a spell in hospital.

Ward Housekeeper, Tanya Barber, was keen to create a quiet room on Oak Ward that could be used by patients but was particularly dementia friendly. Tanya applied to York Teaching Hospital Charity for funds to improve the environment for those with dementia and they were lucky enough to be accepted as part of the Inspire project.

Ward Sister, Emma Brady, said: “For many patients, the noise and busyness of a ward can intensify confusion caused by dementia, Parkinson’s disease or delirium and a quiet space provides respite from that.

“The quiet room provides patients with some space away from the ward with comfortable armchairs in a calming green, and pictures of Scarborough on the walls. There are books, games, a digital retro radio and other resources such as colouring pens, word games and colouring books. It feels totally different and even the windows show restful forest scenes when the blinds are opened.

“Many thanks to Tanya for all the hard work she put into getting this dementia friendly initiative off the ground.”

Taking infection prevention back to basics

Everyone across the Trust is being urged to get ‘back to basics’ in a new campaign being launched by the Infection Prevention Team at the beginning of October.

The campaign will focus on key elements that are known to help prevent the spread of infection. This includes effective hand hygiene, clinical staff adhering to the bare below elbows policy, the cleanliness of commodes and the availability of disinfectant gel at the point of care.

Nick Mitchell, Associate Practitioner for Infection Prevention, said: “Stopping the spread of infection begins with good hygiene and cleanliness – it’s really very simple. That’s why we’re asking everyone to go right back to the basics that they first learned when they came into healthcare. Hand hygiene is key to preventing the spread of infection so we will be reminding people of the correct method and appropriate glove use.”

The team will also be asking staff to be vigilant when it comes to spotting anything but the highest standards of cleanliness and to take action if they see any problems.

Nick continued: “All of us can check areas for cleanliness, it doesn’t have to be just one person’s job. One of our key clinical priorities is to protect our patients, visitors and staff from the risk of healthcare-associated infections and this is where everyone can play their part.”

The Infection Prevention Team will be visiting wards and departments from Tuesday 1 October onwards promoting their ‘back to basics’ message.

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Dementia Friendly Room funded by the Inspire Scheme

- Quiet room designed for patients with dementia
- Comfortable armchairs
- Calming green walls
- Pictures of Scarborough
- Books, games, digital retro radio
- Colouring pens and books
- Restful forest scenes through windows
York Hospital Radio quiz night has famous host again

WELL-KNOWN BBC personality Alan Dedicoat - the voice of Strictly Come Dancing - will be returning to York in November to host a fundraising quiz night, for York Hospital Radio.

The event will be held at Acomb Conservative Association, off Front Street in Acomb, on Friday 29 November at 7.30 pm.

It will be a team quiz, with a maximum of four people per team, and entry will be £10 per person, including a quiz sheet and pie and pea supper. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available now by emailing studio@yorkhospitalradio.com.

Ian Clennan, chairman of York Hospital Radio, said: “After the huge success of our previous quiz nights with Alan, we are delighted that he has agreed to come back and do it all again! The evening will be great fun for all quiz fanatics and will help us to raise much-needed funds as well. “Alan Dedicoat is patron of York Hospital Radio, and we are delighted and honoured that he is bringing the event to York once again.

“I hope that lots of teams of friends and work colleagues will come and take part and support us, while having a great night!”

The radio station can also be heard online at www.yorkhospitalradio.com

Success on the quiet

A recent patient survey has revealed the Trust has scored as one of the worst in the country for too much noise at night caused by staff and other patients.

This results in patients not being able to sleep which in turn can affect their health and recovery. Noise at night is not a new problem, and on some wards it is inevitable due to the type of patient and level of activity.

Having previously identified noise as a recurring theme in patient feedback, the Patient Experience team launched the Night Owl project in 2016 and are once again calling on staff to renew or to make a new pledge to reduce noise.

Originally around 40 wards developed their own pledges to reduce noise at night which were made into posters and displayed on the wards. The Patient Experience team also created free sleep packs for staff to hand out to patients with earplugs and a sleep mask.

Linda Smith, Patient Experience Project Manager, said: “We are asking those wards to review their pledges and consider any new ways they can help make it easier for patients to sleep on a night.

“People have already come up with new ideas and one of them is to use a ‘night voice’.

“Staff on ward 25 at York Hospital have been promoting the ‘night voice’ after Deputy Sister Rachel Boyer became aware of the effects of the noise level on their very busy ward.

Rachel said: “We have admissions 24 hours a day on our ward, it can be as busy through the night as it is in the day. Some of our patients have delirium which means they can be very vocal due to confusion. When people are just getting on with their job they don’t always realise it is the middle of the night and people are trying to sleep. Something as simple as a ‘night voice’ where everyone speaks quietly can have a big impact on noise levels.”

At Scarborough Hospital Oak ward asked to repair a banging door that kept people awake and Chestnut ward has pledged to apologise to patients when nights are unavoidably disturbed.

Sleep packs are also available for staff to hand out to individual patients containing a sleep mask and ear plugs.

Linda added: “Several wards have introduced night owl champions, some work night duty so they are well placed to remind colleagues about noise levels as well as coming up with ways of reducing noise in their specific ward environments. Often the simplest things can make a difference, such as staff keeping their voices down during the night, turning off lights as soon as possible and using soft closing bins.

“We are asking everybody to think about how they could find effective ways of reducing noise on the ward and make their own pledges so that we can develop a poster for their ward.

“Sleep packs are still available from the Patient Experience teams at York and Scarborough hospitals. Staff tell us that many patients like the packs and find them really useful.”

• Anyone who would like to know more about the night owl project or have any suggestions about reducing noise at night can email patient.experience@york.nhs.uk

Flu campaign comes around again – time to act

AS THE last flush of summer turns to autumn, the prospect of winter pressures and the impact of the flu virus all too soon rears its head.

Flu is an unpredictable virus that can cause severe illness and death each year. The flu vaccination remains the best protection against flu. This year’s flu campaign launches with super clinics commencing on 7 October 2019 for all frontline healthcare workers.

In the first instance, frontline staff will receive a personal letter inviting them to one of the vaccination clinics. The clinics are scheduled to maximise protection against the virus and minimise disruption to services and staff.

Last year a meal voucher was provided after vaccination and this will be offered again. The national target this year is to vaccinate 80 percent of all clinical staff. Thank you to all staff last year who made the effort to get to a clinic or their peer vaccinator – please help us once again to reach our national target.
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

STAFF BENEFITS

Home Electronic Scheme launch

An exciting new staff benefit scheme is now available - the Home Electronic Scheme.

Salary sacrifice means that you agree to give up part of your salary in exchange for products, in this case home technology. The benefit of this is that you will make savings on your national insurance and pension contributions. The scheme opens from Tuesday 1 October.

For more information, or to register your account, visit www.homeelectronicssolutions.co.uk

York Teaching Hospital NHS Trust staff use VPD code 419 and York Teaching Hospital Facilities Management staff use VPD 419x

Gym improvements

Over the past 12 months staff have seen an improvement to the gym at Scarborough Hospital with newly painted walls, new flooring and changing rooms and recently three new cardio machines.

New cardio machines have been purchased thanks to the York Teaching Hospital Charity and the Staff Lottery. Two treadmills, one cross trainer and a new bench for exercising with free weights has been added to the gym.

Membership is only £5.95 per month and can be deducted from your salary. Staff and family can use the gym 24/7.

For more details visit the Staff Benefits pages on the Trust website or email staffbenefits@york.nhs.uk

Disability Confident Employer status awarded

Once again the Trust has demonstrated its commitment to ensuring that disabled people and those with long term health conditions have the opportunities to fulfill their potential and realise their aspirations.

Disability Confident Employer status has been granted until 2021 as the Trust is recognised as an organisation that will go the extra mile to make sure disabled people get a fair chance. The Disability Confident scheme supports employers to make the most of the talents disabled people can bring to the workplace. Polly McMeekin, Director of Workforce and Organisational Development, said: “We are delighted to have retained this status, and we are committed to offering inclusive and accessible recruitment. As an organisation we are serious about equal opportunities for disabled people and keeping and developing our staff.”

Take saving off your to-do list...

...Put it onto ours

Let us make saving simple for you: sign up for payroll deduction to save direct from your salary so you have a pot put aside for the things that matter.

Find out more about payroll deduction via Leeds Credit union visit www.leedscreditunion.co.uk/yorknhs

Staff shop reminder

Staff shops are now asking people who are in the staff lottery to show their card if they want to receive the 10 percent discount. If you need a replacement card please speak to the shop staff and they will order you a new one.

Christmas markets

Christmas markets are once again coming to your workplace selling a range of gifts with something for all budgets.

Save the dates - York Hospital, main foyer outside Amigo shop on Wednesday 13 November 11am – 2pm and Scarborough Hospital, Haldane Ward, Thursday 28 November 11am – 2pm.
Butterfly Grand Raffle

The Butterfly Grand Raffle is being launched across the Trust with over 25 exciting prizes to be won including a seven night stay in a Leisure Resorts luxury lodge at Ullswater or Aygarth for up to six people.

There is also a £500 holiday voucher for two people for Great Rail Journeys and a cookery school voucher for two at the Grand Hotel, York. There are also prizes such as afternoon teas, spa vouchers, family day passes to local attractions and vouchers for local restaurants, along with many more prizes.

The raffle will raise funds for the Butterfly Appeal to improve maternity bereavement facilities at York Hospital.

Raffle tickets cost £1 each and will be available from both York and Scarborough fundraising offices.

There will also be various stall dates booked for raffle ticket sales throughout September to November across sites. Tickets can be sent to departments for anyone who would like to sell them.

For more information, please visit www.york.nhs.uk/butterfly or call 7724521 or 7716210.

The prize draw will be held on Friday 29 November 2019.

Scarfborough Coronary Care Unit garden refresh

The Coronary Care Unit at Scarborough Hospital has a garden area for their patients to enjoy, however it needed a bit of a refresh.

Thanks to the Tesco ‘Bags for Help’ scheme, Reighton Nurseries, Harry Clark, Richard Ogden and the local cardiac support group, the garden has had a wonderful makeover with new plants, bedding areas and new benches.

Thank you to everyone who made this possible.

Donate your foreign coins

Did you know we also accept foreign coins?

As the summer holidays have drawn to a close, we would like to remind all staff that we accept donations of foreign coins.

If you have been abroad and have returned with spare currency from your trip, please think about donating this to York Teaching Hospital Charity. You can visit either the York or Scarborough fundraising offices or simply put your change in a donation point or collection tin within any of the hospitals.

Last year we raised over £200 from foreign coins that were donated which is fantastic and goes a long way towards helping patients.