

# Trust membership newsletter

Issue 12: November 2011



**W**elcome to this edition of the members' newsletter.

I am pleased to open my welcome by sharing some very good news with you: in

August, UH Bristol and the University of Bristol were awarded £11.5 million in funding by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) for research into cardiovascular disease and nutrition, diet and lifestyle.

I am absolutely delighted that two areas of joint research between the Trust and the University have been recognised in this way. Research and the development of new ways of treating and caring for patients is central to the work of UH Bristol and will undoubtedly benefit patients in the future.

In more research news, Professor Lord Robert Winston came to Bristol in September to officially open the CRIC (Clinical Research and Imaging Centre), a £6.6 million state-of-the-art centre that is a unique collaboration between the Trust and the University of Bristol. Research will be carried out with healthy volunteers as well as patients, and the centre will support local, national and international activity, linking directly to the implementation of the NIHR funding grants.



## Handy hints

Members and governors attending the recent Medicine for Members event on norovirus and 'flu had the opportunity to practise their hand washing with a hand glow box, guided by Carly Hall, infection control nurse

## BUILDING A BETTER BRISTOL

Work continues on the extension to the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children, as well as laying the foundations for the new Bristol Royal Infirmary block. During enabling works and the heavy plant work a number of changes to the parking facilities and the access around the hospitals have been required. Thank you for your patience during these vital and exciting improvements. Centralising all children's services in Bristol makes total sense for those patients, and their families, needing our service and care and it will enable the Children's Hospital to apply for specialist designation

in a number of areas. The new part of the BRI will enable rationalisation of the estate, particularly removing all clinical areas from the Old Building; a long awaited action. As the adage goes: 'no pain, no gain'. Please bear with us as the Trust moves closer to the provision of the buildings and facilities that will match the excellent care and compassion provided by our staff.

With all good wishes,

**John Savage CBE, chairman**

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## Reviewing the treatment of mental illness

I attended a Mental Health Governors Network study day organised by the Foundation Trust Governors' Association in London in May.

Following this, I decided to use this newly acquired knowledge to review the procedures and processes in place at UH Bristol.

It is essential that the most appropriate pathways for people with mental illness are in place when they attend hospital. Here's an example of a patient's pathway after attending the Emergency Department at UH Bristol late at night.

This is the process followed after 5pm:

- The Emergency Department nurse assesses the patient and completes a Mental Health Assessment matrix.
- If appropriate the nurse will speak to the designated nurse who is specially trained in the management of mental illness. The nurse will then see the patient.

Due to the nature of this branch of medicine an efficient service is essential and from my conversation with some of the unit's doctors the care and support provided is both professional and efficient. There is an excellent communication system in place to ensure the patient pathway is a smooth one throughout their treatment.

### There is an excellent communication system in place

- The out-of-hours doctor is then contacted and risk factors are reviewed. This ensures that the patient receives the most appropriate care.

There is a trained team of nurses led by Salena Williams, the senior nurse in Liaison Psychiatry who provide professional care and support to all

inpatients and patients who attend hospital during their working hours.

Clinic 7 is currently under review as the environment could be improved but apart from this, I have to applaud the systems in place and will continue to monitor these processes and feed back to my fellow governors regularly.



**Pauline Beddoes**  
Public Governor  
South Gloucestershire

## Joint Trust and University research awarded £11.5 million

John Steeds, governor, who sits on the Research Group, says UH Bristol is to be congratulated on two remarkably successful competitive bids for research funding from the National Institute for Health Research; £11.5 million has been awarded to fund medical research at two Biomedical Research Units.

The first is based in the Bristol Heart Institute and will conduct research into cardiovascular disease that will enable clinicians to translate new insights into benefits to patients of all ages, from childhood to old age.

The other will improve the health of children with chronic disorders, develop nutritional and lifestyle interventions in men with prostate cancer, optimise the nutrition of people undergoing surgery or other major hospital treatment, develop interventions to reduce sedentary time in people with Type II diabetes and to identify further interventions for patients.

In 2008 UH Bristol and the University of Bristol were awarded funding by the National Institute for Health Research to set up the Bristol Biomedical Research Unit (BRU) in Cardiovascular Disease, situated in the Bristol Heart Institute. This designation has been renewed and further funding awarded. The new BRU, conducting research into nutrition, diet and lifestyle, will be based in the University of Bristol Dental Hospital. Biomedical Research Units enable some of the best health researchers and clinicians to work together.

More information can be found on the Trust website.



**John Steeds,**  
Local Patient  
Governor

## Improving the quality of patient care

An update from the Quality Working Group on patient medication, transport and the environment

As governors we work in partnership with the Trust to improve the quality of patient care. The Quality Working Group meets on a bi-monthly basis, providing a forum for governors to raise specific queries or concerns relating to the quality of care received by patients.

During the past year many issues have been raised and resolved, others are ongoing. Much work has been undertaken to improve the time taken for inpatients and outpatients to receive their medication prior to discharge. We are monitoring transport arrangements

on an ongoing basis to see how further improvements can be made for outpatients, inpatients being discharged, and patients moving between hospitals or hospital departments.

### People tell us about their stay in hospital and this is used to improve patient experience

The group is involved with the Patient Environment Action Team (PEAT) inspections of the hospitals in the Trust. During these inspections, good practice and areas needing improvement are noted and action taken.

Outpatient constituency meetings are held on a regular basis. Patients, relatives, visitors and friends are asked to tell us about their visit or stay in hospital and this information is then used to help improve patient experience.

Quality walk-rounds take place when talking to staff and patients gives us a better understanding about what we do well and where improvements can be made.



**Mary Hodges**  
Public Governor  
South  
Gloucestershire

## Youth council is inspired by art



The Youth Council creative workshop held on 31 May was the first of three consultation sessions held by Willis Newson to develop the arts programme for the BRI Redevelopment and Centralisation

of Specialist Paediatrics (CSP) project.

The workshop included several creative exercises which encouraged young people to consider how they feel about being in a hospital

environment and how they feel when they are in their favourite place. As a result, the Youth Council created the patient statement for the children's health service improvements.

'We, the Youth Council of Bristol Royal Hospital for Children, would like the arts and environment of our hospital to cheer us up and create a friendly and uplifting atmosphere where we feel inspired and safe. We want the arts to be vibrant, tactile, changeable, inclusive, local and sustainable.'

The Youth Council is made up of young Foundation Trust members aged 11 to 21 years. They are involved in improving the services of the Trust and have lots of fun, too!

# 2011 Annual Members Meeting

Staff, patients, governors and the public gather to hear about the Trust's activity in 2010-11

**U**H Bristol held its Annual Members Meeting in September. This was an opportunity for members and governors to hear about work around the Trust in 2010-11.

We also heard from the chairs of the governor working groups on governor activity and from matron, Neina English about the Bristol General Hospital. This was followed by the presentation of the staff Celebration of Service Awards.

Maria Fox, membership manager, said: 'This is an important event for the Foundation Trust membership and it was great to see so many public, patient and staff members come along.'



## Dates for the diary

### Hospital carol service

**Where:** St James Priory, next to Bristol Bus Station

**When:** Wednesday 21 December 2011 1pm

### Membership Council meetings

**Where:** UH Bristol Education Centre,  
Upper Maudlin Street, Bristol, BS2 8AE  
(opposite the BRI Queen's Building entrance)

**When:** Wednesday 1 February 2012 1pm-3pm  
Wednesday 2 May 2012 2pm-4pm  
Tuesday 29 May 2012 1pm-3pm  
Monday 30 July 2012 10.30am-3.30pm  
(joint Trust Board and Membership Council meeting)  
Thursday 8 Nov 2012 1pm-3pm

### Medicine for Members events

**Where:** UH Bristol Education Centre,  
Upper Maudlin Street, Bristol, BS2 8AE

**When:** Spotlight on cancer services -  
Thursday 9 February 2012  
Patient food and nutrition at the Trust -  
Wednesday 16 May 2012

Call (0117) 342 3764 to book a place.

### Annual Members Meeting

**Where:** UH Bristol Education Centre

**When:** Thursday 20 Sept 2012 5pm-7.30 pm

**For more information on events, contact the membership office on (0117) 342 3764 or [foundationtrust@uhbristol.nhs.uk](mailto:foundationtrust@uhbristol.nhs.uk)**

**Get in touch**

This newsletter is for public, patient and staff members of University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust. If you know someone who would like to join or if you need to contact a governor, email [foundationtrust@uhbristol.nhs.uk](mailto:foundationtrust@uhbristol.nhs.uk).

If you require this newsletter in another format, for example braille or large print, please contact Maria Fox on (0117) 342 3763 or email [foundationtrust@uhbristol.nhs.uk](mailto:foundationtrust@uhbristol.nhs.uk). Membership is free.

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