

FOUNDATION TALKBACK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FOUNDATION TRUST MEMBERS

ISSUE 7

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Poole Hospital **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust



Chairman's welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of *Foundation Talkback*, our regular bulletin for members of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

As reported in the last edition our former Chief Executive Sue Sutherland left the Trust in March to enjoy retirement. We all wish her well for the future and thank her for all her hard work and achievements since joining the Trust in August 2005, one of the most significant of which was achieving Foundation Trust status in November 2007.

I am very pleased to report that Chris Bown has now joined the Trust as Chief Executive, as of 1 April 2010. It is going to be a challenging start for Chris, as all NHS organisations feel the effects of the economic climate and the changes imposed with a new government.

As some of you will be aware, the Trust had to report a substantial deficit to Monitor, our independent regulator, at the end of the financial year 09/10. You can read more about this on page 2.

It is election time again for the Trust. Our next round of elections will be held at the end of September this year, when there will be six public seats up for election, along with two staff seats too. When you receive the voting papers in due course can I please urge you to use your vote to ensure your views are represented in the future development of Poole Hospital. Turn to page 3 for full details on how to get involved in the process.

I am delighted to tell you that the Trust was commended in the Outstanding Achievement in Healthcare category in the Health Business Awards 2009 in December. We were just one of five hospitals in the country to be shortlisted in the awards, which recognised excellence in the provision of NHS facilities.

Thank you as always for your continuing support of the Trust.



Peter Harvey

Peter Harvey
Chairman, Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

New high-tech digital screening service launches for women in Dorset

A new state-of-the-art digital screening service was officially launched at Poole Hospital's Dorset Breast Screening Unit on Friday 4 June. The launch of the new 'Full Field' digital technology will mean improved image quality and a faster, more efficient service for the 98,000 Dorset women currently eligible for screening through the DBSU.

The launch event, which also marked the 20th anniversary of the Dorset Breast Screening Unit (DBSU), was attended by best-selling crime writer Minette Walters, who praised the work of the screening service over its 20 years.

The unit is one of the first in the UK to go fully digital, and the investment is part of the DBSU's expansion to provide routine screening for both younger and older women. Currently, women aged between 50-70 years are invited for screening every three years, with ladies over the age of 70 able to invite themselves for screening if they wish, but within the next three years, the DBSU is hoping to expand the programme to include women aged between 47-74 years.

The move to digital technology will support the screening of younger women, as the equipment provides better images for women with denser breasts.

Since it opened its doors in 1990, the DBSU has carried out over 420,000 screening examinations and detected more than 2,900 cancers. Thanks to the screening service, many of these cancers were picked up at an earlier stage than would otherwise have been possible, often meaning less invasive surgery for patients and improved survival rates.

Dr Michael Creagh-Barry, Consultant Radiologist and Director of the Dorset Breast Screening Unit said: "We are delighted to be one of the first units to be able to offer a full digital service to the women we screen. The DBSU has been at the forefront of screening since it launched in 1990, and this new digital technology allows us to continue to improve the quality of the screening programme for women in Dorset."



Consultant Radiologist Dr Michael Creagh-Barry, author Minette Walters and Poole Hospital Chairman Peter Harvey cut a cake to celebrate 20 years of the Dorset Breast Screening Unit



A radiographer examines images captured by the new state-of-the-art screening equipment. On the right are images taken using the old analogue system

Dignity in Dementia project launches

An exciting project to help and support hospital patients with dementia has been launched at Poole Hospital. Dignity in Dementia is part of the national Enhancing the Healing Environment programme, and will look at how improvements can be made to the physical environment on Lulworth Ward to benefit patients.

A visit to hospital can be a frightening and disorientating time for people with dementia, but research has shown that improving aspects of the environment such as colour and lighting can significantly reduce levels of anxiety and distress. Improving a patient's surroundings can also make a big difference to their speed of recovery, as well as supporting regular sleep patterns and encouraging appetite.

The Dignity in Dementia project will focus on aspects of the environment such as decor, colour and lighting, as well as the use of art and music, and consider how these can be improved or implemented to enhance patients' well-being.

The Hospital is very privileged to have received a grant from The King's Fund to support this work, but the team are also embarking on a major fundraising project to raise further funds and would love to have your support! In addition, members of the local community are also invited to get in touch to share their views and ideas. To find out how to have your say, get involved in fundraising or simply make a donation, visit www.poole.nhs.uk/dignity_in_dementia



The Dignity in Dementia team at the project's official launch. Clockwise L-R: Louise Jenkins, Jill Legg, Karen Hollocks, Emma Lever, Charlotte Day

**Dignity
in Dementia**

Improving the quality of care at Poole Hospital

A message from the Chief Executive

I'm sure that many of you will have read reports in the local press regarding the financial situation at Poole Hospital.

I thought it might be helpful if I were to put these reports in the context of what we are doing at Poole Hospital to try to improve the quality of service while implementing an ambitious financial recovery plan.

It is important for you to be aware that, nationally, we are now working within an overall contraction in public spending. The NHS will not survive the impending spending squeeze unchanged. It is clear that incremental improvements to systems are important but not enough to close the financial gap, and the need for radical quality and efficiency improvements is greater than ever before.

Locally, Poole Hospital ended the financial year with an operating deficit of around £4.5m. We have negotiated a contract for acute services for 2010/11 with NHS Bournemouth and Poole (PCT) as our lead commissioner, but funding available to PCTs is limited this year and in coming years.

The Board of Directors commissioned a review of existing savings plans in March 2010 plus some additional support to work up further ideas for cost reduction and service improvement. Since then, we have worked with managers and clinical staff to develop cost saving ideas. We now have a robust recovery plan, which is needed to deliver savings of

around £10m this year, as the cost of providing health care in its current form outstrips available funding.

Improvements in clinical quality, productivity and new models of care to enhance services to patients are central to this plan.

Some of the efficiency programmes revolve around reducing unnecessary length of stay and pre-operative waits; improving utilisation of theatres and the outpatients department; economies of scale for functions such as procurement; electronic rostering; bank and agency spend; staffing reviews; and a range of smaller cost improvement programmes.

Financial recovery is vital if we are to realise our ambitions, such as much-needed capital developments like a new maternity unit and improvements to our Emergency department.

The Board of Directors is keeping the Council of Governors – your elected representatives – fully informed of the progress we are making and the steps being taken to satisfy the requirements of Monitor, our regulator.

I would like to assure members that we are working with our staff to support the changes required, while continuing to deliver the high quality of care that our local population deserves.

Chris Bown, Chief Executive

Build a better future for Poole Hospital by representing our members

GOVERNOR ELECTIONS 2010

Poole Hospital will be holding elections for seats in Poole (4), Bournemouth (1) and Purbeck, East Dorset and Christchurch (1) constituencies which will take place in September.

Public Governors are elected by you – our members – they are there to represent your views on the Council of Governors, so every vote counts!

WHO CAN STAND FOR ELECTION?

You must be a member of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and you must be aged 16 or over. Public Governors must live in the geographical area that they wish to represent.

Staff and volunteers cannot stand as public Governors while they are employed by the Trust. However they can stand as candidates for a staff Governor role.

WHAT DO THE GOVERNORS DO?

Primarily the Council of Governors form links between the Trust and its members/local organisations.

The Council meets formally at least four times a year including an Annual Members' Meeting. The Council have one formal sub-committee which is the Nominations, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee which assists in carrying out the specified functions relating to the appointment of the Chair and Non-executive Directors; the review of the structure, composition and performance of the Board; and the remuneration of the Chairman and Non Executive Directors.

There are also three non-formal reference groups that report into the Council of Governors. These are; Future Plans and Priorities, Fundraising and Membership Engagement and a Staff Communications and Engagement group.

WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME AS A GOVERNOR?

As a minimum you will be expected to attend the Council of Governor meetings including the Annual Members Meeting. You will need time to prepare for each meeting and to deal with any queries you might receive from those you represent.

You will be asked to attend an induction session and development opportunities will be open to you to attend (these may not be local). You will be expected to put your name forward for one of the reference groups of the Council. The Trust also has a membership strategy with membership engagement and recruitment plans detailed within that the Governors are expected to support.

Governors will generally serve a three year term of office beginning on 1 November 2010 and ending on 31 October 2013.



Governors are unpaid. However, we will reimburse travelling expenses for attending general meetings or other relevant business authorised by the Company Secretary.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The official notice of elections will be on the 22 July 2010 where full details will be found on the Trust's website and notice boards across the Trust. Members wishing to put themselves forward for election will be required to fill in nomination forms and return them as detailed on the notice by Monday 9 August 2010.

Those of you that have already expressed an interest in becoming a Governor on your membership form will be written to shortly asking if you would still like to stand for election and inviting you to attend a Governor Workshop prior to submitting your nomination forms.

If you are interested in standing for election to become a Governor or you have any questions in regards the elections please contact Anita Bonham, Membership Business Manager at anita.bonham@poole.nhs.uk or 01202 448723. Alternatively, contact Pauline Malins at Pauline.malins@poole.nhs.uk or 01202 448745.



Fundraising update

Poole Hospital's charity The Wish List has enjoyed some fantastic support from the local community over the last few months...

Festival of Running

On Sunday 6 June, over 1,500 people took part in Poole's annual Festival of Running. The event included a 10k, 5k and one-mile race, plus minithons, and was a huge success in spite of soaring temperatures, with amateur and professional athletes all putting in a fantastic effort in the adult races. There was plenty of family fun, too, with kids of all ages taking part in the minithon challenges. Special mention must also go to the many Poole Hospital staff who took part, including a team from the Trust's Estates department, who took the term 'fancy dress' very literally on the day...

Harry Paye Fun Day

The Wish List was also one of two charities to benefit from the fantastic support of the Pirates of Poole this year, whose annual Harry Paye Fun Day took place on Saturday 19 June. The event was held on Poole Quay, and included a pirate's parade, street entertainment, live bands, parade of decorated boats, morris dancing, a tug of war



A team from the hospital's Estates department took part in a sponsored bed push as part of the Festival of Running

and fireworks! A huge thanks to the Pirates for their ongoing support of our charity, and to the residents of Poole for making it such a fantastic day!

Call for volunteers

Can you spare a few hours to help the hospital's charity? We are desperate for more volunteers to help us at events such as those above, or by supporting us in the Fundraising office or the Wish List shop in the Hospital. We can promise you lots of fun and the opportunity to meet new people in exchange for just a few hours of your time! If you would like to know more, please get in touch with our Fundraising office by calling 01202 448449 or emailing fundraising@poole.nhs.uk

Diary Date

Look out for us at the Poole Park Fest on Sunday 29 and Monday 30 August!

New children's palliative care area opens

Generous support from local community leads to creation of special family area

A new palliative care area has been officially opened in Poole Hospital's Children's Unit thanks to generous support from members of the local community.

The area – named 'Gully's Place' after its major benefactor, Diane Gulliford – will provide specially tailored accommodation for children who stay in hospital during the terminal stages of illness. It includes two bedrooms – one clinical and one non-clinical – a living area and modern kitchen facilities, and will provide patients and their families with a comfortable, private space in which they can spend time together.

Diane Gulliford donated £10,000 to the development of the new area, raised through many years of productions at the renowned Diane Gulliford School of Dancing. Originally established in 1960, the School became a centre of excellence for the teaching of ballet, tap and modern dance in Poole, and its shows involved in excess of 300 young people in every performance. Over the course of 40 years, the productions of the Diane Gulliford School of Dancing have raised over £33,000 for the Children's Unit at Poole Hospital.

Diane said: "I am very proud and honoured to support Poole Hospital's Children's Unit, and the creation of Gully's Place. We felt it was appropriate that the efforts of pupils, parents and staff in the Diane Gulliford School of



Pictured L-R: Helen Parker, Diane Gulliford, Jackie Nicklin, Karen Fernley and Sue Power officially open 'Gully's Place'

Dancing shows were put to good use helping other children needing the treatment and support of the Hospital. The money was raised by children, for children."

As well as comfortable furnishings and décor, Gully's Place also boasts two flat-screen televisions, a games console and laptop, which were generously donated by Annie and Alan Symes. Further support was given by Hobbycraft, The Range and Mark Robins Carpets in Blandford, and the area has also been decorated with sea-themed canvases kindly provided by the Poole Art Group.

Karen Fernley, Sister on Acrewood Ward said: "We are incredibly grateful for Diane's generous donation, which has made the creation of Gully's Place possible, and for the support of others in providing additional furnishings and facilities. The new area will make a huge difference to patients and their families."

The new area will also be used for other purposes on occasions; for example, as a 'step-down' area for children with complex needs who are getting ready to go home, to allow patients and their families to prepare to leave the Hospital.

Diary dates

Here are some of the events that the hospital is involved in over the next few months

- 22 July** Official Notice of Election will be placed around the Hospital, on the Trust's website and staff intranet
- 9 Aug** Final date for delivery of nomination papers to the election company from prospective governors
- 29-30 Aug** Poole Fest, Poole Park, raising funds for our Hospital charity The Wish List
- 3 Sept** Postal votes are issued from our election company – support the Trust by making your vote count!
- 17 Sept** Last date for postal votes to be received at the election company
- End of Sept** Election results available on the election company and Hospital's websites
- 2 Oct** Charity Choral Concert at The Lighthouse
- 7 Oct** Council of Governors Meeting, The Lighthouse. Members welcome to observe; check out the Trust website (www.poole.nhs.uk) for the agenda and supporting papers before the event. This will be followed by the Annual Members' Meeting.

Need larger print, audiotape or a translation? Call us on 01202 448499