Matron is Nurse of the Year

‘Passion for excellence in nursing and patient care unmatched’, say judges

Matron Geoffrey Walker is celebrating after being named Nurse of the Year in a prestigious national awards scheme.

The British Journal of Nursing magazine handed Geoffrey the award in recognition of the outstanding contribution he has made to patients in Poole over more than 25 years of nursing.

Judges described the matron, responsible for medicine, cardiology and specialist nursing services, as “a clear winner.”

Delighted Geoffrey received the award from television personality and campaigner Esther Rantzen in late March at an awards event in Shakespeare’s Globe theatre complex, in London. He was accompanied by senior sister Shelley Pasamar.

“I feel so proud and humble,” said Geoffrey. “Nursing is a profession that I absolutely love, and the award is as much for my colleagues and Poole Hospital as it is for me.”

Geoffrey’s nomination cites the role he has played in establishing Poole Hospital’s cardiology patient support group, now in its tenth year, and the creation and development of the medical investigations unit (MIU), both at Poole Hospital.

Julie Smith, British Journal of Nursing editor and a judge of the Nurse of the Year category, said: “Geoffrey’s nomination was, for me, a clear winner.

“His dedication to nursing goes above and beyond all expectations, and his passion for excellence in nursing and developing and improving patient care is unmatched.

“It is nurses like Geoffrey who restore our faith in the profession and we are absolutely delighted to have awarded him BJN Nurse of the Year 2013.”

Trust chairman, Angela Schofield, said she was “bursting with pride” at Geoffrey’s achievement.
From this month, we’re asking all inpatients and emergency department attendees to complete a Friends and Family Test (FFT).

The FFT, a national initiative aiming to improve patient care, asks patients to answer a simple question on discharge: “How likely are you to recommend our ward/A&E department to friends and family if they needed similar care or treatment?”

The question, which is completed anonymously via an A5 sized feedback card, also asks additional questions to find out the reasons behind patients’ answers.

Vivien Booth, ward clerk on Avonbourne ward which trialled the cards before they were rolled out across the trust, said: “It wasn’t difficult to hand out the cards to patients before they were discharged, and I found that most patients were quite happy to complete them and give their point of view. “I think it’s a really positive move and I look forward to seeing what the results are.”

Results will be collated monthly and reported to the Department of Health from May, and will be published nationally on www.gov.uk and the NHS Choices website at www.nhs.uk at the end of the first quarter, in July 2013. This will allow the public to compare hospital performance and services, identifying the best performers as identified by other patients.

Amanda Colman, head of patient experience, said: “FFT will provide staff with an excellent opportunity to gain near real time feedback on how our wards or departments are performing in the eyes of patients. “We will use the results to identify where we can make improvements, and make sure these are implemented in a timely fashion. Results will also help us understand what we do well already.”

To find out more about FFT, visit the website at www.poole.nhs.uk

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S COLUMN**

Welcome to the spring edition of Grapevine – our first of 2013. It seems fitting that as we enter a season symbolising regeneration and new beginnings, the institution of the NHS is getting set for a breath of fresh life and overhaul of its culture.

At the time of going to print, the board and clinical leaders in the trust are digesting the implications of the Francis Report. The government response is likely to have a significant impact on the future direction of the NHS.

However, we can’t rely on regulators and government to lead the change – we have to continue innovating for the good of patients and staff. We must build on our unique Poole Approach, which promotes friendly, professional, patient-centred care with dignity and respect for all. The Poole Approach has been embedded in our organisation from the way we choose our staff to the way we interact with patients and each other, and is an asset we’ve been cultivating for more than a decade.

Now more than ever our philosophies and more importantly, our actions, should be our priority. That’s why we’ve decided to republish the Golden Rules on page 9.

We know our staff set us apart from other hospitals, so we’ll be holding some listening events in relation to the Francis Report in April. We also know it’s important to celebrate staff successes, so I was especially pleased to attend the staff awards and hear about the excellent work by staff at all levels and in all areas of the trust. For full coverage, go to pages 6-7 and the long service awards on page 3.

We are currently in the middle of our merger inquiry being heard by the Competition Commission – whilst this was expected we find ourselves, all parties, in new territory. We do endeavour to make the best of the situation, and still expect to have the outcome at the end of June.

Chris Bown, chief executive
In January, 30 staff members were recognised for their long service milestone of 25 years NHS service.

Staff, who represent a wide range of roles and departments, were presented with a framed certificate and pin badge by Angela Schofield, trust chairman, and Chris Bown, trust chief executive.

Angela also presented Sarah Morris, a pre-operative assessment nurse, with a special NHS Heroes certificate, signed by the chief executive of the NHS, Sir David Nicholson, after she was nominated in a new national recognition scheme run by the Department of Health.

Sarah was put forward by a patient, who wrote: “I would like to nominate Sarah Morris for all her hard work and the care and attention she gives me on my visits to the hospital. She is so pleasant, helpful and reassuring and goes more than that extra mile and deserves this nomination. Thank you so much.”

Angela told recipients: “Presenting long service, and the special NHS Heroes, awards is one of the most pleasurable things I get to do as chairman each year. “It is a tremendous achievement to give so much to the NHS, and on behalf of Poole Hospital this outstanding contribution is noted with great thanks.

“I am also delighted to be able to help recognise our first ever NHS Hero, in Sarah Morris, who was nominated by a grateful patient and who clearly delivers above and beyond expectations.”

The awards are made based on the number of years employed by the NHS as at 31 December.

In line for recognition in this year’s long service scheme is Isabel Moore, who marked 25 years’ service in February. Isabel started her career as a housekeeper at Poole Hospital in 1986 and later took on the position of occupational therapy assistant in 1988.

Ruth Martin, clinical specialist OT, said: “Wherever Isabel works she gives complete dedication and commitment - she has been such an asset to the therapy department and all those who work with her.”

STAFF NURSE SUE REFLECTS ON A CAREER IN NURSING

There is nothing like a leaving do to set off discussions about the good old days. After working at Poole Hospital for 37, staff nurse Sue Hill reflected on her time here before she retired.

She said: “Following in my mother’s footsteps, I always wanted to be a nurse, first dabbling as a school girl with volunteer work on a children’s ward in Penzance. Family holidays were at the forefront of my mind in choosing to do my training in Bournemouth.

“Lots has changed over the years; eight-on and six-off night pattern for three months each year; an expectation by the sister that you knew all the patients, conditions and treatments by heart, no paper handover sheet – everything in your head.

“What turned out to be my greatest love in nursing was waiting for me on D block and Durlston ward in haematology and oncology – what a place to spend 20 years of your working life.

“People often think it would be depressing, but I have always thought it’s the opposite. The work is fantastically important and fulfilling, and with such a wonderful team of people Durlston is a very special place to work.

“I have come to realise that it is the truly great staff that make the real difference here and I have been lucky enough to work and play with amazing people who work so hard to make that difference.”

FOND FAREWELL TO SUSAN

Susan Merner left the trust at the end of March, after taking a promotion to become deputy head of library services at Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust.

Susan has worked as a librarian at Poole since 1993 in which time she was actively involved as an administrator for the regional library management system, has contributed to the British Nursing Index and has taken responsibility for selecting and cataloguing the printed books.

Alison Day, principal librarian, said: “Susan will be missed for her detailed searches locating information to assist with patient care and clinical decision making; training trust staff to make best use of the plethora of electronic resources and assisting students to find “that book” to assist with last-minute assignments.”

OUR LONG SERVICE RECIPIENTS:

Susan Allibone
Lee Anderson
Liz Brown
Tracey Chafe
Linda Charlesworth
Carol Crisp
Andrew Crocker
Sandra Darker
Jacqueline Edgar-Murray
Maureen Godfrey
Philip Gold
Sheila Gold
Pippa Goudge
Debra Hardwicke
Lynne Harris
Janet Hawes
Angus Hickish
Paul Horn
Linda Patten
Rosemary Powsey
Debbie Reeves
Janet Rice
Isabel Rigby
Teresa Rosen-Theakston
Sally Smith
Gillian Tyler
Brian Whitlock
Helen Williams
Michelle Wilson
Kate Thomas
Staff across the hospital played their part in Britain’s biggest climate change campaign, Climate Week, in March.

The trust’s sustainability manager, Laura Dale, arranged a series of events throughout the week to raise awareness of sustainability issues at home and throughout the hospital.

Staff were able to take part in a lunchtime or evening guided walk around Poole Park, find out more about Poole Hospital’s car share scheme and more about recycling by Poole Borough Council, as well as enjoy a sustainable dish from the Dolphin Restaurant.

Staff and visitors were also able to sign a banner throughout the week, committing to play their part in making the trust greener.
Improving care for medical patients

Medical wards and departments have been reorganised to support improvements to patient care and streamline services at Poole Hospital.

The changes include an expansion of the medical investigations unit (MIU), which now includes the relocated and enlarged discharge lounge, and the creation of newly laid out medical wards.

Patients on the new wards will benefit from enhanced privacy provided by an increase in side rooms with en-suite facilities, while the number of beds also increases.

The expansion of the nurse-led MIU means more patients have access to day case treatment from nurse prescribers, who are responsible for providing a number of treatments including administering intravenous antibiotics and drug infusions, biopsies, blood transfusions and PICC line insertions.

Six cubicles with beds, as well as seating areas, are now available in the expanded discharge lounge, so patients can be transferred to the area as soon as a date to leave hospital is identified, with any medications, food and care organised prior to leaving.

Geoffrey Walker, matron in medicine, cardiology and specialist nursing services, said: “It has always been the ethos of medicine to ensure high quality patient care with dignity and respect for all, and these changes will allow us to continue on that important principle with this new and innovative service.”

Joy Peeke, sister in MIU and the discharge lounge, said: “Patients love the relaxed and friendly atmosphere in the MIU, and the ability to have their treatments as day patients when, in the past, they would have had to stay in hospital overnight.”

Poole Hospital’s MIU is one of the few across the UK led entirely by specially trained nurses, who assess patients with diagnosed or undiagnosed conditions and make decisions about the clinical care they need, including prescribing medication.

In June 2012, nurses in MIU became among the first in England to prescribe blood and blood products on a non-emergency basis – a service previously delivered by doctors. Six months later, they have prescribed more than 200 units of blood for patients between them.

The nurse-led MIU has proven so successful that it has allowed the team at Poole to support the opening of a similar unit at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, including seconding trained senior staff to manage it.

The team in the medical investigations unit

The discharge lounge team

“Non-executives do walkabouts, we speak to staff and the executive team, we study board reports. “I’ve been very impressed with the commitment shown by staff in providing high quality care.”

Nick was appointed a non-executive director at Poole Hospital in August 2011, and will serve in this role should the proposed merger with The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust take place.

Nick has held similar roles at a strategic health authority and community health trust after a successful executive career.

“Each organisation I’ve worked in has been different, and this has been the most engaging role as a non-executive I have undertaken - it is far closer to the patient,” he said.

“A non-executive director holds the executives of the trust to account, and ensures good governance arrangements are adhered to, and ultimately, that patients are at the heart of what we all do here.

“Non-executives provide trusts with different perspectives, as we are from a range of different backgrounds. People sometimes accuse the NHS of being too inwards looking - non-executives help to ensure the bigger picture is seen.

“I have a passion for the principles of the NHS and a recognition that it needs to continue to be a patient-focused organisation providing high quality care that is free at the point of delivery.

“A key challenge we will face is to be more effective without losing these fundamental principles.

“The Francis Report has shown us all that clinical performance and patient care is critical, and that in meeting these challenges we must never forget our top priority.

“Non-executives do walkabouts, we speak to staff and the executive team, we study board reports.

“I’ve been very impressed with the commitment shown by staff in providing high quality care.”

Find Grapevine online at: www.poole.nhs.uk/publications
Moving tributes from patients and their families took centre stage at Poole Hospital’s annual awards event in late March.

With nominees in categories including fundraiser of the year, patient care (team) of the year and employee of the year, more than 130 invited guests at The Haven Hotel, Sandbanks, heard about the reasons each was nominated before the final positions in each category were revealed.

Forest Holme, which provides end-of-life care to patients of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, was named winner of the patient care (team) award. Their winning nomination, submitted by a patient’s daughter, read:

“Nothing is too much trouble. My father and all their patients could not be better cared for in any other facility, anywhere in the world. He is treated holistically, with privacy, dignity and respect, together with friendship from everyone at Forest Holme. I cannot praise them all highly enough.”

Carol Sherman is the sister at Forest Holme, and said she and her team were delighted to have been recognised.

“We always strive to achieve the highest standards for patients and their relatives – the whole family is very important to us in palliative care and involving the patients’ family and friends enables us to be able to provide the best care we can,” she said.

Other winners on the night included Dr Prem Fade, consultant geriatrician, honoured for her “advocacy for older people [which] has led to the services provided to this group of patients to flourish,” and Juliet Hately, skin cancer specialist nurse, named as serviced improvement (individual) award winner, for “positively transforming the pathway and cancer experience of patients with melanoma and advanced skin cancer in Dorset.”

Trust chairman, Angela Schofield, said the annual awards event highlighted the ‘staggering difference’ Poole Hospital staff, volunteers and fundraisers make to patients’ lives.

It is the 16th consecutive year that local engineering firm Meggitt has kindly supported the hospital’s awards scheme.

Patient care (individual) award winner, Dr Antoinette McAulay, with Martin Smits, director of nursing and patient services

Employee of the year was presented to winner Dr Prem Fade by Sarah-Jane Taylor, director of HR and organisational development

Meggitt bursary award recipient, Nigel D’Souza, with Philip Green, from Meggitt
**POOLE HOSPITAL AWARDS**

**FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR - INDIVIDUAL**
Highly commended - Eoin Scott
Runner-up - Penny Jarvis
Winner - Karen Adams

**FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR - TEAM**
Highly commended - Forest Holme fundraising team
Runner-up - Poole Runners
Winner - Jackie Fuggle, Sue Saxby, Penny Jarvis and Carole Ingham

**SERVICE IMPROVEMENT - INDIVIDUAL**
Highly commended - Gaynor Shakesheff
Runner-up - Kerry Porter
Winner - Juliet Hately

**SERVICE IMPROVEMENT - TEAM**
Highly commended - The endoscopy department
Runner-up - Stroke early supported discharge team
Winner - British Red Cross assisted discharge service

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**
Runner-up - Sheila Danks
Winner - Sandra Ingle

**SAFER HOSPITALS AWARD**
Highly commended - Mark Hardwicke
Runner-up - Graham Whittaker
Winner - Tracey Marsden, Jayne Butler, Christopher Jones

**PATIENT CARE AWARD – INDIVIDUAL**
Highly commended - Jo Spurgeon
Runner-up - Nicola Nicholas
Winner - Dr Antoinette McAulay

**PATIENT CARE AWARD - TEAM**
Highly commended - Oncology department
Runner-up - Critical care unit
Winner - Forest Holme hospice

**EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**
Highly commended - Sally Sheppard
Runner-up - Emma Woodcock
Winner - Dr Prem Fade

**MEGGITT BURSARY AWARD**
Nigel D’Souza

**CHAIRMAN’S AWARDS RECIPIENTS**
Eve Hall
John Ingram
The trust held its first health talk for foundation trust members in February. Understanding Dementia featured presentations from Dr Prem Fade, consultant physician and dementia clinical lead, Val Horn, matron for older people’s services, and Kate Jones, dementia nurse specialist.

During the presentations, staff explained more about dementia and talked about the care offered at Poole Hospital, and changes that have been implemented to help dementia patients across the trust. Karen Cosgrove from the Alzheimer’s Society also took to the stage to join the panel for the Q&A session.

After the presentations, attendees had the opportunity to browse a series of information stands to find out more about the health information centre, the trust’s Human Touch and Dignity in Dementia campaigns, nutrition and dementia, and the Alzheimer’s Society.

The event was attended by more than 100 trust members and 64% of those who completed feedback forms rated the event as ‘excellent’, while a further 32% rated it ‘good’. Comments from those attending included:

- “Very enjoyable talk - much appreciated.”
- “It was an excellent event - very informative.”
- “Extremely informative - it has really added to my understanding of dementia.”
- “The event was excellent and we look forward to the next.”
Dementia patients get hands-on with new menu

An initiative to help dementia patients make more of their meals is being rolled out across Poole Hospital in the next few months.

Dietitians and ward staff worked with the hospital catering team to create a finger food menu, which will help patients with dementia – who can have trouble eating more traditional prepared meals – enjoy a balanced diet.

The new menu features bite-sized portions of nutritionally balanced foods, such as mini pasties, mini fishcakes, mini meatballs, toastie fingers and vegetable sticks, and allows patients to nibble as required throughout the day.

Debbie Reeves, nutrition nurse specialist at Poole Hospital, said: “We know that patients with dementia can have issues focusing for long periods of time and sometimes struggle with cutlery due to the loss of vital coordination skills.

“We also know that patients need the right nutrients to recover quickly, so designing a menu to fit individual patients’ needs mean they are more likely to maintain a balanced diet and finish what they’ve been given.”

Kevin Bailey, catering services manager, said: “The menu enables our patients to feed themselves – this helps to maintain their independence and boosts their self-esteem and confidence at meal times.”

Patients who have tried the new menu commented that the choice was good, that they ate more than normal and that they enjoyed the food and looked forward to having it again the next day.

Sandra Ennis of Corfe Mullen, visiting the ward, said: “There’s a very good selection on the menu, particularly for mum, who has never eaten big meals.”

Val Horn, matron for older people’s service said: “We are working with families and carers to ensure that there is a continuity of care when people go home – if this menu works for elderly patients in hospital there is no reason that it won’t be a success at home.”

The menu, which proved a huge success when it was trialled on Poole Hospital’s Brownsea ward for three months, will be rolled out across the medicine for the elderly wards in the next few months.

FOLLOW THE GOLDEN RULES TO BETTER PATIENT CARE

The Golden Rules, part of the Human Touch campaign, were launched after media coverage highlighted failing standards in the NHS, and the inability of some hospitals to simply get the basics right.

The Golden Rules are a simple set of instructions and guidance that can help us get it right for our patients, every time. From remembering to be observant and look out for issues, to understanding how your behaviour may seem to others, the Golden Rules apply to everyone.

THE GOLDEN RULES

Never walk by any patient who needs help or is in distress without giving or seeking help.

On every contact with every patient ask, observe, check, and follow the Golden Rules:

Greet the patient and find out how they are feeling
Observe the patient - do they look comfortable, do they have adequate pain relief?
Listen to the patient and their relatives, and address their wishes and concerns
Drink - always ensure the patient can reach a drink and the call bell before you leave
Explain what you’re doing and ensure the patient understands why you’re doing it
Never walk though closed curtains without asking permission first
Respect for all - regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual preference or ability
Understand how your behaviour, language or attitude may seem to patients or colleagues
Look out for problems and take ownership – don’t assume someone else will
Empathise with patients and colleagues – what is it like to be in their shoes?
Share good practice so that everyone can benefit

Find Grapevine online at: www.poole.nhs.uk/publications
Kind donations from the local community are benefitting cystic fibrosis patients at Poole Hospital.

Following an appeal by respiratory nurse specialist Nikki Lopez, John Lewis in Branksome donated a PlayStation 3 (PS3) console to the patients on Arne ward. A further appeal and coverage in the Daily Echo resulted in a member of the public anonymously donating an additional PS3.

Nikki said: “Our cystic fibrosis patients come to us between three and four times a year, for around ten days to two weeks. Each visit requires them to stay in their rooms so they don’t pick up other infections while they are in hospital.

“We really need to engage these patients while they are with us for such long periods of time, and that is why donations like this one are so important. We have been able to use charitable funds to buy things like a TV but having a PS3 means we can now get our patients a DVD and games library.”

Robert Burrows, a patient from Portland, was one of the first to benefit when John Lewis representative Lisa Clarke dropped in to hand it over. He said: “Because of where I live it’s a really long way for family and friends to come and visit, so having this PS3 will give me something to do other than just sitting around.”

Arne ward, an acute medical ward specialising in respiratory medicine, treats patients from across Dorset between the ages of 16 to 50. Many of these patients suffer from cystic fibrosis – the UK’s most common life-threatening inherited disease, which affects internal organs by clogging them with mucus.

Mark Allenby, consultant on the ward, said: “We treat a large number of patients from all across Dorset. Because of advances in treatments, such as physiotherapy, medication and lung transplants, life expectancy for these patients has improved hugely, and hopefully it will continue to improve.”

**CHARLEY’S SWIM CHALLENGE FOR DREAMFLIGHT**

A young patient took to the water in February to complete a remarkable challenge in aid of the charity Dreamflight.

A regular on the children’s ward, 14-year-old Charley Way, organised the challenge in a bid to raise nearly £2,000 for the charity, after he was fortunate enough to go on their once-in-a-lifetime trip.

Each year 192 children from across the UK are chosen to go on Dreamflight holiday – a trip to Orlando, Florida, without their parents. The aim of these holidays is to allow children an opportunity to discover independence, confidence, and a whole new outlook on life.

Charley went away in October 2012. He said: “I decided that I wanted to do something to help raise money for other children to go on this once-in-a-lifetime trip, because when I went it was really fun and I made some really good friends. As well as going to theme parks, we got to swim with dolphins, which is something I’ve always wanted to do.”

His mum Tracy Way, a nursing auxiliary in the dermatology department, said: “Dreamflight is an amazing charity and does great work for sick children, those with life-limiting illnesses and disabled children.”

Charley has raised more than £1,000 so far by swimming 192 lengths of the Dolphin Swimming Pool – one for every child the charity helps each year.

Sian Jenkins, matron for children’s services, said: “He completed 192 laps in three hours, and didn’t stop once, even when he felt tired – he was determined that he was going to finish.”

**SKY IS THE LIMIT FOR FUNDRAISING SISTER**

Ali Greene, deputy sister on Elmwood ward, took a terrifying leap of faith by taking part in a charity skydive to raise funds for Dreamflight in March. She has worked for the charity for eight years in her own time.

She said: “I thought I was going to be terrified but I surprised myself with how calm I was on the day. It was a cold, snowy day and the free fall part of the jump was exhilarating.

“I feel it’s important to fundraise so we can help the children when they want to fundraise.”

Ali’s skydive raised £1,100 for Dreamflight.

If you would like to organise a fundraising event, or raise funds for a specific area, call the fundraising team on 01202 448449 or email fundraising@poole.nhs.uk.
Retiring club captain, Steve Rowall, presented a cheque to Poole Hospital Charity, saying: “We’re thrilled to have raised such a great amount for the Ladybird Unit, which we chose because the sister of one of our members was treated there.”

New club captain, Richard Smith, added: “We have decided to continue to support the Ladybird Unit for 2013, because we know first hand the tremendous care they give.”

RUNNERS UNITE FOR GOOD CAUSE

Years of crime fighting has set Batman and Robin in good stead to take on the mean streets of London – pounding 26 miles and 385 yards of pavement in a bid to raise funds for Poole Hospital Charity.

The duo, otherwise known as Suzanne, sister on the critical care unit, and her partner Jon Charles, will be joined by six other runners – each aiming to complete the London Marathon while raising £1,500 each for their chosen ward at Poole Hospital.

Among them is local policeman, James Porritt (pictured) who is running to raise funds for the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), which looked after his daughter Teagan when she arrived a month early.

He said: “While Teagan was in NICU it was a very emotional and taxing time, but the care the staff gave her was second-to-none, and the fact that she is so happy and healthy today is thanks to them.”

Suzanne is looking forward to a challenge of running as Robin as well as a bit of fun. She said: “I am inspired every day by the patients and my work colleagues so I thought I would raise some much needed funds for my department, Critical Care Unit.

“The furthest I have run before is a half marathon so this is going to be an exciting personal challenge.”

Other runners who gained a place through the charity are:

- Jerry Smith, estate agent with Symonds and Sampson
- Derek Richardson, lettings manager for Connells
- Mark Roworth, from the IT department at Poole Hospital

If you would like to sponsor the runners call the fundraising office on 01202 448449.

POOLE FESTIVAL OF RUNNING

Children at St Mary’s School officially launched the 32nd annual Poole Festival of Running by participating in a cross-country event in March.

They were joined by representatives from Poole Runners and the Borough of Poole who organise the running festival, as well as sponsors and fundraisers from Poole Hospital Charity.

The festival, which takes place in Poole Park on Sunday 2 June, features eight races throughout the day, as well as stalls, refreshments and children’s activities.

Why not get involved by taking part in one of the races?

- Minithons (10am)
- Dorset Cancer Centre 5k (11.30am)
- Poole 10k (2pm)

This year’s named charity is the Dorset Cancer Centre, which will benefit from sponsorship money raised from all the races.

DRAGON BOAT RACE

Why not sign up for the energetic charity Dragon Boat racing event held in Poole Park, Sunday 14 July.

The charity is looking for 30 teams of between 11-17 people to sign up now and take part in the event, and raise funds for Poole Hospital Charity and Diverse Abilities Plus.

Why not enter with colleagues, involve the whole family or get a group of friends together to make a team?
NEX T ISS U E
Grapevine is now published four times a year, in the winter, spring, summer and autumn. The deadline for the next edition is Friday 10 May 2013.
Poo le Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Long fleet Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 2JB

THANK YOU
THE TRUST RECEIVES HUNDREDS OF LETTERS EACH YEAR FROM GRATEFUL PATIENTS AND RELATIVES REGARDING THE CARE THEY HAVE RECEIVED AT POOLE HOSPITAL. HERE ARE JUST A FEW.

“During my stay I received the most attentive medical and nursing care from the hardworking staff who, in addition to their very compassionate care, had the most reassuring manner and displayed such good sense of humour. I felt very much that I was in a safe and secure environment.”

“From the moment of my first contact with the first paramedic, through A&E and the nurses and doctors there to TAU, red ward, with all the nurses, carers, physios, consultants, registrars, radiographers, those responsible for CT and MRI scans, porters, everyone – they were all absolutely great. Polite, caring, friendly, professional – an absolute credit to the NHS.”

MOTHER’S DAY
Mum’s with babies on the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Poole Hospital celebrated mother’s day with a tea party on the unit.
The event, organised by Carol Fowell, deputy sister on NICU, aimed to give those mums a chance to celebrate the special day.
Daniel Lockyer, neonatal services matron, said: “Carol regularly bakes cakes for parents to celebrate their babies reaching 1kg or 100 days, and she wanted to organise this day to remind mums that it is a special day and they are special people.”

HOSPITAL BOARD
MEMBERS OF THE HOSPITAL BOARD TOOK TO THE ELDERLY CARE WARDS IN MARCH TO SERVE UP PATIENT LUNCHES AS PART OF NUTRITION AND HYDRATION AWARENESS WEEK.

Members of the hospital board took to the elderly care wards in March to serve up patient lunches as part of nutrition and hydration awareness week.

Chief executive Chris Bown, chairman and voluntary mealtime companion Angela Schofield and director of nursing and patient services, Martin Smits, delivered lunches to elderly patients and took the chance to have a chat with them.
The delivery kicked off the hospital’s nutrition and hydration awareness week, a national Patient Safety First initiative.
Emma Sweeney, dietitian at Poole Hospital, took the lead on organising events across the trust in aid of the awareness week.
She said: “Keeping our patients well fed and watered is fundamental to their recovery – poor nutrition and hydration could lead to increased risk of infection and delayed wound healing.
“Awareness weeks and days support the work we are doing every day to keep nutrition and hydration in the spotlight for staff.”

Other initiatives already in place across the trust include protected meal times on all wards, the introduction of volunteer meal time companions, and a new finger food menu which is now being rolled out across all elderly care wards in the hospital.
In addition to the special delivery lunch, there was an information stand in the restaurant providing essential facts about patient nutrition and hydration along with a top tip each day. Several wards also created interesting and informative displays for patients and visitors, including Portland ward, pictured above.

Poole Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

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NEXT ISSUE
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