

STEPPING UP

Summer 2022 edition

**PLATINUM
PARTY**
Celebrating
the Jubilee

New emergency care
campus on the way

Nominate a staff member for a
Making A Difference award

Canine carers help
patient experience

Quicker diagnosis
for cancer

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GET IN TOUCH

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Platinum JUBILEE party

We marked the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a variety of celebrations enjoyed by patients, staff and visitors alike.



Our Chief Executive Karen James kicked off the proceedings by helping to plant a new tree near our hospital's main entrance, part of the national 'Plant a tree for the Jubilee' campaign which is taking place across the country.



Wards celebrated the event with colourful decorations and art activities, and images of Queen Elizabeth II at various points during her reign were shown on the hospital's main glass corridor. Bunting decked the halls of the entrances and restaurant, and a colourful light showing the jubilee symbol was lit up on the hospital wall at night.



Older patients who were born in the hospital around the time of the jubilee shared their stories with others on the ward, while the parents of new born babies born on the anniversary day itself showed off their babies to the world in special Jubilee babygros which we gave away free.



Jubilee joy!
Baby Cordeiro
born on the day

COVID-care



Most of us will now have friends or family members who have been infected by COVID-19, or indeed we may have tested positive ourselves. While for many people the experience of COVID-19 has been comparatively mild, for a large minority the symptoms are both ongoing and severe, affecting their everyday life in serious and often devastating ways. This is what has become known as 'long-COVID'.

The symptoms of long-COVID can include fatigue, breathlessness, losing fitness and muscle tone. In more severe cases it can mean organ failure. What makes some more susceptible to than others is still not fully understood, and is the subject of much current research into the infection.



Our long-COVID team

In Stockport, our long-COVID clinic is based at Romiley Health Centre, and provides both face-to-face and virtual assessment and support from clinical professionals who specialise in treating a wide variety of symptoms. They provide assessment and support in areas such as respiratory and fatigue techniques, advice on self management, and support with returning to work or education. Patients are referred to the clinic direct from primary, community and hospital services.

People with long-COVID can also now benefit from a peer support group, where they can meet others for chat, friendship, advice and, above all, understanding with other people who know just what it's like to live with the condition.

The group is facilitated by Stockport Council's Public Health team, and includes online Zoom sessions every Wednesday, and drop in coffee mornings on the third Monday of each month. To find out more about the group email Marie.omalley@stockport.gov.uk or phone 07800 618570.

A STEP FORWARD FOR OUR CARE CAMPUS

Major improvements to emergency and urgent care for our patients took a big step forward following approval of plans for a new care campus on our hospital site.

The Outline Business Case for the new campus has been authorised by NHS England & Improvement and the Department for Health and Social Care, and the Full Business Case has also been approved by our Trust's Board, and has been submitted to NHS England for final approval.

The new campus means over £30 million to enhance emergency and urgent care. It will include new assessment, treatment and consultation areas for several key services including the children's emergency department, mental health, and medical same day emergency care.

Extending from the existing A&E, the new building will mean big changes to the front face of the hospital. The whole environment will be more welcoming and visually attractive, making for an improved experience for patients.

Recent years have seen a major increase the number of our emergency patients. The new campus will improve our capacity and environment, allowing us to continue to provide safe and effective care into the future.

Work is expected to start on the new campus in July 2022, and will be complete by March 2024.



QUICKER CANCER DIAGNOSIS

Our new rapid clinic means people with symptoms that could be possible signs of cancer will receive a swifter diagnosis, with more lives saved.

We've joined other hospitals across Greater Manchester in our new status as a 'Rapid Diagnostic Centre' (RDC) for cancer in the area. RDCs are designed to give patients a 'yes' or 'no' to cancer as quickly as possible, making sure those with vague but worrying symptoms get the right tests, at the right time, in as few visits as possible.



Tree tribute



Our chaplaincy team led a short tribute service in honour of those killed and injured in the Manchester Arena bombing attack to mark its fifth anniversary. We were one of the hospitals who cared and treated for those injured in the aftermath of the attack which happened five years ago.

A remembrance tree with the names of each of those lost is now in our hospital chapel.



Cleaning Up

Our HSDU (Hospital Sterilisation & Disinfection Unit) and endoscopy decontamination services received Green status, the top possible rating, for its JAG (Joint Advisory Group on GI Endoscopy) decontamination audit, confirming their high standards of safety for flexible endoscopes.



ARMY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We said goodbye and thank you to members of the Scots Guards who had been supporting us over the hard months of the winter.

Army and Navy personnel had been stationed to at hospitals across Greater Manchester to give help including portering duties, van driving and helping out on the wards during the COVID-19 pandemic. The teams provided much needed support during one of our most testing times.

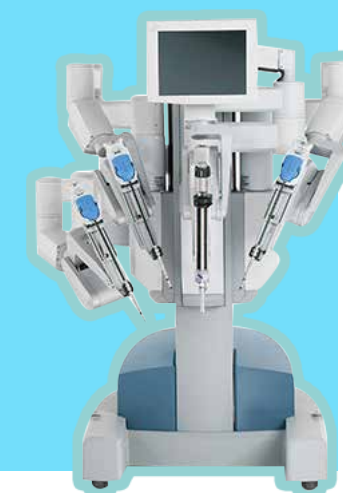


ROBOT SCORES



Our surgical team celebrated a landmark as they performed their 1000th successful operation for prostate cancer patients using a hi-tech da Vinci X fourth generation surgical robot.

The robot uses keyhole rather than major surgery, which means less anaesthesia, reduced blood loss, pain and discomfort, a lower risk of infection and faster recovery.



Action for Dementia

A whole series of events were held during national Dementia Action Week at Stepping Hill Hospital to highlight support both for people living with dementia, and those caring for them. Activities included information and wellbeing sessions for carers with mindfulness, meditation and reiki sessions to offer respite and relaxation, and a series of therapeutic and activity sessions for patients. We also re-opened our serenity room at the hospital, a reminiscence themed space for calm and relaxation.

PETS AS THERAPY



Canine carer helps patient experience

A week of events promoting positive patient experience on the ward got a spring in its tail thanks to a very special canine carer.

Therapy dog Pep was brought along by his owner Debbie Woodcock to bring a smile to patients on inpatient wards as part of Patient Experience of Care Week.

Pet therapy is a long-established way of helping patients relax with the calming effect of interacting with friendly animals. It can release endorphins, and help ease pain and reduce stress for patients who wish to interact with the pets.

It was a welcome return for our canine friend, as visits had to stop in 2020 due to the pandemic. With some restrictions now lifted, the animals are now allowed back once more, as long as infection prevention measures are still observed.

Other activities during the week included exercise sessions with the support of hospital radio station Radio Starlion, relaxation activities, a celebration meal for St George's Day, and the promotion of new storage boxes for patients to keep their belongings safe inside. Patients were also encouraged to give their feedback, and give their opinions on how experiences on the ward could be improved.



A&E mum and daughter

double degree triumph!

One of our A&E nurses celebrated receiving her nursing degree jointly with her mother – who has also worked for our A&E team.

Mitchelle Bangajena, 25, and her mum Nyembezi Muzira, 49, both completed Master's degrees in Adult Nursing from Keele University in Staffordshire, and joined together on their graduation on the very same day.

Mitchelle and Nyembezi studied on the MSc course a year apart- with mum studying from 2018 to 2020 and daughter studying from 2019 to 2021. The graduation for both was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but thankfully they were finally able to enjoy it together in April this year.

Mitchelle works in our emergency department (A&E), the same place Nyembezi worked for over a year, before moving into private care. Nyembezi has worked in a number of care settings since arriving into the UK from Zimbabwe in 2022.

Mitchelle had previously received an undergraduate degree in Criminology and Sociology and was moving towards a career in law. But while part-time working as a healthcare assistant, Mitchell came to discover that nursing was her real passion, and so she decided to follow in her mother's footsteps.



Mitchelle says she loves working and caring for patients in our A&E, and plans to stay for the foreseeable future.

Awards & ACCOLADES

Many of our colleagues are regularly recognised for their outstanding care and performance, with awards received locally, regionally, and nationally. Here's a round-up of our most recent achievements.

Our kitchen and catering teams were recognised as among the best the NHS had to offer in the whole country at the Public Sector Catering Awards.

Catering manager Duncan O'Neil won the title of 'Hospital Caterer of the Year', with the team also being shortlisted for three other awards; 'Catering Manager of the Year' (Duncan again), Head Chef Nick Roberts for 'Hospital Catering', and the team as a whole being selected for 'Team of the Year'.

Under Duncan's leadership the catering department has worked to ensure high nutritional standards and has received regular good feedback for its tasty and varied cuisine, both for the meals it provides on the wards, and for its staff and visitor restaurant too.

Together, the team have also helped organise a complete restaurant refurbishment in the past year to create a more comfortable and welcoming environment, and introduced a new electronic ordering system to improve patient choice and remove waste.



Palliative praise

Our teams who support care for those who are dying have been shortlisted for their excellent work in providing training in both the hospital and the community at this year's Student Nursing Times Awards.

The Specialist Palliative Care Service were shortlisted in both the 'Hospital Placement of the Year', and 'Community Placement of the Year' categories for their outstanding support, giving their colleagues the skills they require in managing challenging conversations, advance care planning, managing complex symptoms, and supporting families in their grief.



Top of the data set

A new IT system which has hugely improved efficiency in our HR team won them the 'Highly Commended' title at the British Data Awards.

The system has allowed information to be accessed by colleagues in a more user-friendly way, allowing reports with key HR information to be accessed and shared with clinical teams quickly and more easily. With reduced reporting pressure on HR teams, more time is freed up to make improvements, which is good for both our workforce and our patients.

Happy Birthday

NHS

WITH OUR TOP APPRENTICE

A nursing trainee working on our gastroenterology ward has received a double honour for his fantastic care.

Jordan Booth received the title of Apprentice of the Year by the University of Salford after being nominated by colleagues for his hard work, positive attitude, and caring professionalism.

Nominating colleagues said that Jordan's willingness to go above and beyond while supporting those working alongside him marked him out as a truly outstanding apprentice who is destined for an excellent career in nursing.

Later, Jordan received further recognition when he was invited with other trainee nursing associates from across the country to a special reception event at 10 Downing Street, as part of the celebrations for the 74th birthday of the NHS. Jordan and his TNA colleagues were invited as prime examples of amazing care across the health service on its special anniversary.



Marvellous midwife care

One of our colleagues who received a Making A Difference Every day award was community midwife Kristy Franklin, on behalf of her and colleagues who showed outstanding compassion and care for refugee families.

Kristy and the community midwifery team were sent to support refugees housed at hotels in Stockport, many who had suffered terrible traumas on their journeys to the country. One woman had given birth just before arrival, one was just about to give birth, and the groups had people with a whole range of medical problems.

The midwives showed the very best in care, assisting with problems beyond their usual workload in addition to their usual duties, and even helping the group with their laundry too. They forged a close bond with the refugees and are still in touch with them many months on.



Surprise award for caring Su

A case worker who had worked in the local NHS for 40 years got a surprise Making A Difference award on her day of retirement.

Su Livingstone worked for our Patient and Customer Services team who deal with queries, questions and complaints.

She received the unexpected award from our Medical Director Andrew Loughney for the excellent care she showed to a caller with cancer, one of many hundreds of people she has helped over the years.



Your chance to let our staff
know they've been

**Making a
DIFFERENCE
every day**

The public are being offered their opportunity to say a big thank you to our team members who have made a real difference to them.

You can nominate a member of staff, team or volunteer to receive a **Making A Difference Every day** award, which will be celebrated in a big ceremony later this year.

Just tell us why you feel your nominee deserves the award, focusing on how they have made a real difference. This is your chance to make your appreciation known.

To make your nomination, just follow the details on our website at www.stockport.nhs.uk - We need your entries by 6th August 2022.

Patient's choice award *(nominated by patients)*

An individual or team who has provided extraordinary patient care – demonstrating a genuine interest in patients, their dignity and care.

This award recognises employees nominated by patients or relatives for making a difference to them. This individual or team will have a passion for putting patients at the heart of everything they do.

We care

We respect

We listen

**CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS:
6TH AUGUST 2022**
Award ceremony in October 2022

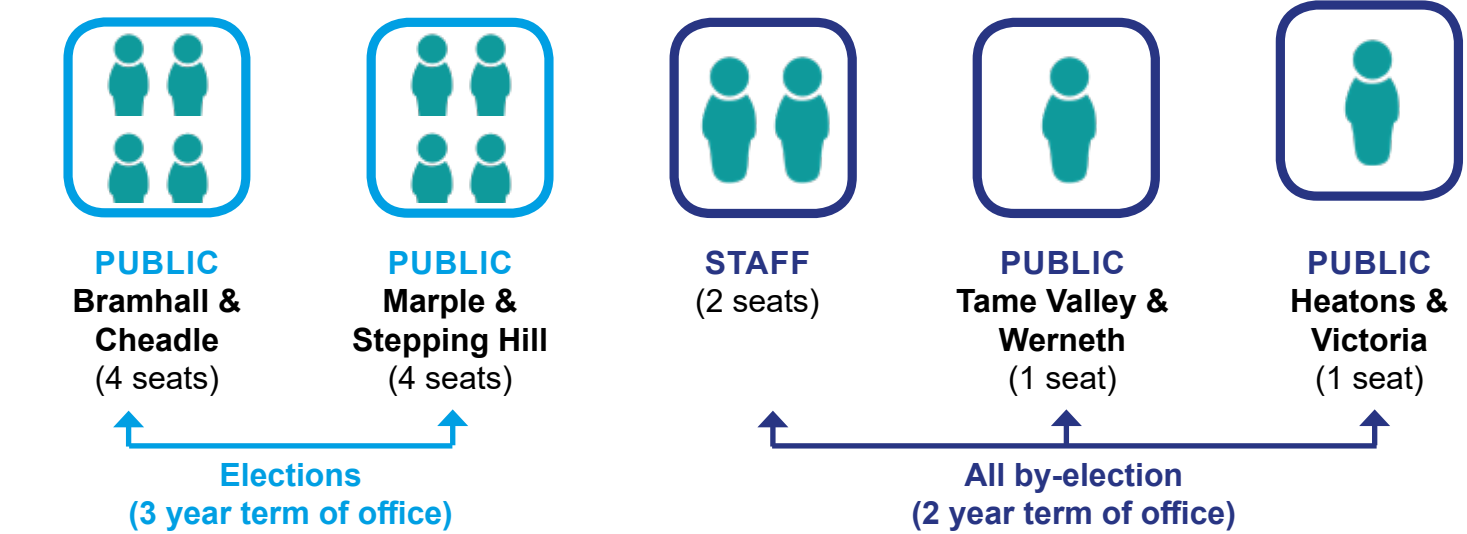
**Making a
DIFFERENCE
every day**

Help us make a difference

STAND IN OUR GOVERNOR ELECTIONS!

Our governors represent the interests and views of both our public and staff members, alongside the general public. Being a governor is very rewarding and gives an opportunity to influence how we run our Trust – from appointing our chair and non-executives, seeking assurance from our Board of Directors and helping to shape our future priorities and plans.

We are now holding our annual elections for your governors in several constituencies
Nominations open on Tuesday 26th July and close at 5.00pm on Tuesday 23rd August 2022.



How to apply

To be a governor you must be a member of the Trust.

To find out more information about the elections, the role of a Governor or to complete a nomination form online, visit: www.cesvotes.com/stockport2022 or contact the Membership Team on 0161 419 5164 or membership@stockport.nhs.uk

If you would like a hard copy nomination form, please contact the Returning Officer, Sonali Campion:
Telephone: 020 8365 8909
Email: ftnominationenquiries@cesvotes.com
Post: Civica Election Services, 33 Clarendon Road, London N8 0NW

Council of Governor meetings

Our Council of Governors meet throughout the year, with members of the Board to discuss the strategic direction and performance of the Trust. Members of the public are welcome to attend as observers. Currently we are holding meetings online via Webex and you can register for a place by emailing our membership team on membership@stockport.nhs.uk

Council of Governors' meeting dates:

- 28th September 2022, 3-5pm
- 14th December 2022, 3-5pm
- 22nd February 2023, 3-5pm

SAVE THE DATE: Annual members meeting 2022

Join us for our annual members meeting on Wednesday 5th October, 4:00pm - 5:30pm.

We are hoping to hold our first in-person event since before the pandemic. This is subject to change and will be confirmed in September.

Hear from Tony Warne, Chair, Karen James OBE, Chief Executive and John Graham, Chief Finance Officer as we present our annual report and accounts. With an interactive Q&A session, you can put your questions to our executive team and find out more about the work of our Trust over the last year.

Register your interest by email: membership@stockport.nhs.uk

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YOUR PUBLIC GOVERNORS

All governors can be contacted via the Corporate Affairs Team - membership@stockport.nhs.uk

The map shows the following constituencies and their governors:

- Public - High Peak & Dales (3 seats)**
Lance Dowson, Thomas Lowe, Janet Browning
- Public - Outer Region (1 seat)**
Muhammad Zuhedur Rahman
- Public - Heaton & Victoria (4 seats)**
Tad Kondratowicz, Chris Summerton, Vacancy, Jamie Hirst
- Public - Tame Valley & Werneth (4 seats)**
Howard Austin, Gillian Roberts, Lesley Higginbottom, Vacancy
- Public - Bramhall & Cheadle (4 seats)**
Dr Robert Cryer, Michelle Slater, Toni Leden, John Pantall
- Public - Marple & Stepping Hill (4 seats)**
Richard King, David Rowlands, Julie Wragg, Vacancy

Constituencies shown on the map include: Tameside, Stockport, High Peak, Reddish N., Reddish S., Brinnington & Central, Bredbury & Romiley, Bredbury Green & Romiley, Marple N., Marple S., Hazel Grove, Offerton, Bramhall N., Bramhall S., Cheadle & Gatley, Heald Green, Cheadle Hulme N., Cheadle Hulme S., Davenport & Cheadle Heath, Edgeley & Cheadle Heath, Heaton S., Heaton N., Heaton North, Heaton South, Davenport and Cale Green, Edgeley and Cheadle Heath, Manor, Brinnington and Central, Reddish North, Reddish South, Bredbury and Woodley, Bredbury Green and Romiley.

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We celebrated the fantastic care and support our volunteers give us all year around during National Volunteers Week.



Over 200 volunteers provide a vitally important service at the hospital in supporting patients, families, visitors and staff. Roles include helping out on wards at mealtimes, serving in our hospital shops, and greeting and guiding patients and visitors when they first visit the hospital.

One of our volunteers is Iain Jordan. Iain was a patient on our Laurel Suite which treats patients with cancer, and had 12 courses of chemotherapy over six months. During that time he saw the incredible support volunteers gave, and made the decision that once he had finished his treatment he would apply to become a volunteer himself.

During the lockdown period many volunteers were unable to come on site. Thankfully now it's 'business as usual' for most and we are delighted to have them back!

We're always on the look out for more volunteers. If you have spare time and would like to help out then please get in touch with us, call 0161 419 5400 or check out the volunteers page on our website.



Iain Jordan



Our new Charity Manager

We've recently welcomed on board Kate Leadbeater, our new Charity Manager.

If you've been involved in fundraising for our trust, or you would like to get involved, or have any ideas or queries, then Kate would love to hear from you!

Email her at kate.leadbeater@stockport.nhs.uk

