# Newslink

#### November 2024

Governors Newsletter | Issue 46

#### **NHS** Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

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#### Chair



It's been a busy few months at the hospital with some significant achievements. These include the opening of the new Imber Ward, the appointment of a new Chief Executive and the international summit celebrating our Improving Together programme.

I am delighted that the Trust has gained national recognition. Our Same Day Emergency Care and Acute Frailty Unit were finalists at the HSJ national patient safety awards, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer Fiona Hyett and Safe Staffing Matron Clare Holbrooke-Jones won the RLDatix Europe Award, for innovative quality improvement and the team are finalists at the Nursing Times Awards for our use of technology to support staffing and we are finalists at the HSJ Awards 2024 for our work with the armed forces. Jade Franklin, our Healthcare Assistant Recruitment and Retention Facilitator, was awarded the Chief Nursing Officer Award for her commitment to quality of care, our Anaesthetic Department has been accredited with Royal College of Anaesthetists ACSA scheme and we have been awarded gold by We are Cycling.

Locally our sustainability team were Highly Commended at the Salisbury Chamber of Business. The outstanding contribution from our volunteers has been recognised with Jo Maslen and David Chalk, from Stars Appeal and Roger Green from the Hospice being part of the BBC Make a Difference Awards.

#### lan Green OBE

Chair of Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust

# Lead Governor's message



As with majority of NHS trusts Salisbury has faced another extremely busy and at times challenging year with significant changes.

Six Governors stepped down from the role, four of which had completed their three terms and following elections earlier this year we are pleased to welcome

five new Governors and a new nominated Governor for Wiltshire Council. I am also happy to report the re-election of several governors across all constituencies including myself. The Council of Governors has a new Deputy Lead Governor, Peter Russell.

Governors have taken proactive steps to oversee the integrity of the process in appointing a single Chief Executive. In preparation for moving towards a Chief Executive and a group structure, the lead and deputy lead Governor have established positive connections with their counterparts from Bath and Great Western Trusts, this has created opportunities to share information and discuss emerging proposals which will lead to greater collaboration.

Governors have also played an active part in the recruitment of new Non-Executive Directors, supported Medicine for Members sessions and attended the Hospital open day to showcase the governor role and attract new members.

Jayne Sheppard Lead Governor



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Please update your email contacts to: Isabel.cardoso@nhs.net

# Thank you week

Once again the Trust thanked staff and their families with three days of events in the Cathedral Close. With generous support from the Stars Appeal and League of Friends over 2,000 people enjoyed the Family Fun Day, Comedy Night and the Annual Awards. In addition our amazing volunteers were thanked with a special lunch and the long service of staff recognised with a ceremony celebrating their 25 years service.



▲ Staff receiving their Long Service Awards



▲ Volunteers enjoying their thank you lunch



At our Family Fun Day we welcomed over 500 staff with their family and friends for some traditional fun, entertainment, activities and treats

## **New Chief Executive starts**



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▲ Cara Charles-Bark

On 1st November Cara Charles-Barks started as the new Chief Executive for Salisbury Foundation Trust, the RUH Bath and Great Western Hospitals Swindon. Cara is well known to Salisbury Hospital having previously served as CEO.

Cara said "I am delighted to have been appointed Chief Executive. As three Trusts we now have the opportunity to learn together, to tackle inequalities in access to services, to work together to remove barriers to good nealth and provide improved health outcomes for all bur communities."

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#### AGM

The Trust AGM was held on 30th September 2024. Fifty members of the community attended the event at the Guildhall led by Trust Chair Ian Green and heard from interim CEO Lisa Thomas, Chief Financial Officer Mark Ellis and Lead Governor Jayne Sheppard. Dr Russell Mellor spoke about the newly established Frailty Unit and Dr Tom Jackson highlighted the improvements within cardia care.



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### ArtCare

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ArtCare, the art service at SDH, works across the Trust with patients and staff to improve their wellbeing and experience in hospital. A major recent project was designing aspects of the new Imber Ward; selecting colours, finishes, artwork, furniture and signage to make it welcoming and less clinical. Ideas and images were created in collaboration with community groups, patients and carer input.

ArtCare are also planning and delivering patient activity sessions with crafts, history activities, reminiscence and music each week on Imber; extending their programme which takes place across the hospital each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This is made possible thanks to The Stars Appeal.



# Hospital hosts leaders summit

The hospital was proud to host Chief Executives from across the UK and Europe for an Improving Together summit. The event saw over twenty leaders join SFT staff to understand how the Improving Together programme is being delivered at the hospital and hear about the successful initiatives such as reducing falls, reducing time to first appointments and improving recruitment times.





▲ Staff during a regular Huddle meeting

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### New Imber Ward opens

The new Imber Ward within the Elizabeth Building is now up and running. The ward was made possible by investment from NHS England with additional support from the Stars Appeal. The state of the art building is proving to be very popular with patients, families and staff and featured on BBC Breakfast as a shining example of how elderly care can be provided.



#### Stars Appeal Christmas Raffle

Thanks to the wonderful support of our local community, the Stars Appeal, our hospital charity, has achieved so much this year. Generous donations, fundraising and gifts in Wills have enabled the charity to fund over £2million of enhanced care and equipment across the Hospital. This includes furnishing and equipping our new Imber Ward, providing 20 adjustable cots for the Maternity Department and an additional echocardiogram machine for the Cardiac Investigation Unit. In addition, your support has helped fund the charity's many ongoing projects including free Wi-Fi, emergency

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patient clothing, hospital chaplaincy and cancer support programmes.

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One way you can support the work of the Stars Appeal this Christmas is by purchasing the enclosed tickets for their Christmas Raffle. There's a top prize of £2,500, kindly sponsored by Wilsons Solicitors LLP. A second prize of £500, sponsored by FJ Chalke, third prize of £250 and other cash prizes are also up for grabs. Chair of the Stars Appeal Ambassadors, Consultant Surgeon Mr Graham Branagan said: "We are so grateful to everyone who supports the Stars Appeal and in doing so helps us to greatly enhance care for our patients. By taking part in the Christmas raffle you can help us achieve even more. Thank you."

To buy your tickets, please fill out and return the stubs enclosed with a cheque (payable to the Stars Appeal) in the envelope provided.

Tickets are also available online at www.starsappeal.org.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



### **Governor Brief**

An important part of a Governor's role is to ensure that the Non-Executive Directors, who are appointed by the Governors as independent members of the Board, are scrutinising, and challenging the activities and policies being pursued by the Board and the Trust's executives, and working in the best interests of patients, staff and the community.

The management of the Trust is supported by a variety of specialist Board Committees and Trust-led Working Groups,

covering for example Clinical Governance, Audit and Finance and Performance, each of which is made up of the responsible executives, and Non-Executive Directors. Governors are able to observe these Board Committees to assess the effectiveness of the NEDs scrutiny, and be directly involved, and contribute to, the Working Groups.

Governor observers and working group members then report back to the Council of Governors, where their findings are discussed, and any action recommended is communicated to the Board.

#### **Getting in touch**

Get in touch with your Governor by going onto our website: **www.salisbury.nhs.uk**, click on About Us, then Governors and then Constituencies and Governors. Once there, choose the Governor who represents your constituency, or contact us by post at the following address:

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Salisbury District Hospital, Trust Offices, Odstock Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 8BJ To help with our costs, where possible we would like to send this newsletter by email. If you are happy to receive it this way, please contact Isabel Cardoso at: Isabel.cardoso@nhs.net or on 01722 336262 ext 5479.

This document is available in large print, audio tape or another language on request.

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