

members matters

The newsletter for
all public and staff
members of Liverpool
Heart and Chest
Hospital

**Further
steps 'to
be the
best'**

Robotic surgical programme looks to the future

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New technology improves treatment of coronary artery disease – pages 2 & 3

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Staff impress at member health events – pages 10 & 11

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Welcome

Welcome to the summer edition of *Members Matters*, the magazine for staff and public foundation trust members of Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital.

This edition is packed with the latest news of our services and achievements as we strive to be the best for our patients.

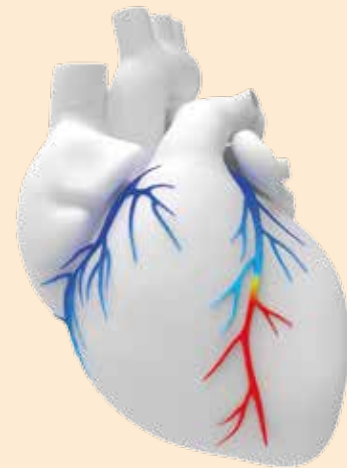
If you would like further information about any of the news in Membership Matters, please don't hesitate to contact the Membership Office on 0151 600 1410 or email membership.office@lhch.mhs.uk



Neil Large,
Chairman



Jane Tomkinson,
Chief Executive



Improving care for coronary artery disease patients

LHCH clinicians now have access to non-invasive technology that helps them identify the appropriate treatment approach for patients with coronary artery disease

The HeartFlow FFRcT Analysis is the only non-invasive technology to offer physicians insight into both the extent of a patient's arterial blockage and the impact the blockage has on blood flow.

Coronary artery disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the UK. It develops when the arteries leading to the heart narrow, often because of the build-up of plaque in the vessel walls. This narrowing can reduce vital blood flow to the heart, causing chest pain and potentially heart attacks.

Studies have shown the need to improve the accuracy of non-invasive tests used to evaluate coronary artery disease.

"The HeartFlow Analysis is the only available non-invasive technology that provides you with two results from one test. There is a reduced need for repeat tests and a more efficient treatment pathway." said Dr

Tim Fairbairn, Consultant Imaging Cardiologist at LHCH.

"We are one of the few NHS trusts in the UK using this technology and we expect it to help improve the way we manage our coronary artery disease patients. We are confident that it will be a game-changing technology."

Dr Joe Mills, Consultant Cardiologist at LHCH, added: "The HeartFlow Analysis provides a definitive understanding of both the anatomical and functional findings without any additional testing or risk for patients.

"This is likely to transform the quality of care we can provide for patients, ensuring the most accurate diagnosis and the best treatment plan as well as reducing the need for invasive coronary angiography – a procedure not without its risks."

The HeartFlow technology creates a personalised, digital 3D model of each patient's arteries using the images from a standard, non-



Dr Tim Fairbairn discusses the HeartFlow Analysis with ITV News.

invasive coronary CT angiogram. Powerful computer algorithms then solve millions of complex equations to assess the impact of blockages

on blood flow, and this information helps determine the most appropriate course of action for each patient.

Trust Chairman receives his MBE

Congratulations to Trust Chairman Neil Large who recently visited Buckingham Palace to receive his MBE from Prince Charles. Neil was awarded the honour in this year's New Year's Honours list for services to the NHS.



National Guardian visits LHCH

Liz Pritchard, Freedom to Speak Up Guardian at LHCH, said: "We were delighted to welcome Dr Henrietta Hughes, National Freedom to Speak Up Guardian, recently."

"It was a great opportunity to hear about the development of Freedom to Speak

Up networks around the country, as well as to discuss the steps that we have taken as a trust to launch and embed a culture of openness.

"We were also glad that Dr Hughes spent time visiting some of our clinical areas, speaking with staff and finding out more about the important role played by our own Freedom to Speak Up Champions."



Pictured left to right are Lucy Lavan, Dr Hughes, Jane Tomkinson, Liz Pritchard, Neil Large and Lorraine Turnell.



BBC One comes to LHCH

TV broadcaster Angela Rippon recently visited LHCH to film a new BBC One health programme about the use of aspirin with heart patients.

As well as hearing from patients before and after their procedures, the programme featured extensive interviews inside and outside the catheter laboratories with Dr Raph Perry, Medical Director, and further discussions with Danny Forrest, Deputy Chief Pharmacist, about the history, usage and prescribing of aspirin.

LHCH is **top** in the country

LHCH has been scored as the best hospital in the country to work for and receive treatment in this year's national NHS Staff Survey

95% of staff recommended LHCH as a place to receive treatment – more than any other hospital and the highest score in the country.

The figures also showed that LHCH was ranked top in the country, among similar organisations, for nine out of 32 key areas, including:

- **effective team working**
- **staff reporting good communication between**

senior management and staff

- **staff agreeing that their role makes a difference to patients**
- **staff being appraised in the last 12 months.**

Carried out in Autumn 2016, the national survey was completed by more than 1,000 staff at LHCH – the highest response rate in the country (69%).

Jane Tomkinson, Chief Executive, said: "Knowing that more staff would recommend our own trust as a place to work or receive treatment than any other hospital in the country is very pleasing.

"We are grateful to every member of staff who took time to complete the survey, and we would like to assure them that their feedback will allow us to make further improvements to our services in the next 12 months."

Awards recognition

LHCH's Pulmonary Function Team was recently shortlisted for an Academy for Healthcare Science Innovation Award at the Advancing Healthcare Awards 2017.

The team was shortlisted for working collaboratively with Addaction at their substance misuse clinics to carry out spirometry testing with hard to reach groups.



LHCH's Rob Peat and Jennifer Furlong pictured with Tara Byrne of Addaction at the awards.



Chinese clinicians welcomed

We were delighted to welcome clinical colleagues from Xi'an Taikang Hospital Management Company in China recently to discuss best practice in healthcare and surgery and to explore opportunities for sharing learning in the future.

Badminton player thanks lifesaving nurses

63-year-old Peter Ventre was playing badminton with friends at Knowsley Leisure Culture Park when he started to 'feel funny' and collapsed.

Thankfully, he was in the same building as staff from LHCH who were running their weekly community cardiac rehabilitation session.

Peter said: "All I remember is being convinced it was my partner's serve, before waking up in an ambulance and being told I'd had a heart attack."

Lisa Devitt, LHCH Cardiovascular Disease Nurse, was running the cardiac rehabilitation programme



Peter, centre with Liverpool FC football shirt, thanked LHCH staff.

and was one of the nurses to care for Peter.

She said: "As soon as we were made aware that Peter had collapsed, we immediately rushed to help. Our years of experience and cardiac training took over as we were able to care for him until the paramedics arrived.

After being taken by ambulance

for emergency treatment at LHCH, Peter added: "I can't believe what happened to me. I feel like I've got a second chance and I'm so thankful to the lovely amazing people for what they did."

The Liverpool FC fan is now back at the leisure centre with the same nurses who saved his life, undertaking a course of cardiac rehabilitation.

Surgical expertise shared

LHCH welcomed colleagues from Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in Cambridgeshire recently to provide specialist off-pump cardiac surgery training.

As part of a proctored training programme, LHCH Consultant Cardiac Surgeons Mr Mark Pullan and Mr Andrew Muir, teach colleagues about off-pump surgery. This is a technique which, evidence indicates, offers lower risk surgery for higher risk patients with as good a result if not better than traditional on-pump surgery.

Mr Pullan said: "We were contacted by clinicians at Papworth after they decided they needed this expertise within their unit. They contacted LHCH as we are the most prolific off-pump cardiac unit in the country, and we are in a unique position of being able to provide this specialist training."

"In the past 12 years, we have run similar courses to train consultants from around the UK which have

been successful in introducing off-pump cardiac surgery to many units around the country."



Mr Pullan and Mr Muir are pictured with colleagues from Papworth Hospital.

Towards Tomorrow

The robotic surgery programme at LHCH

A recent World Health Organisation report has shown that heart and lung disease remain the major cause of death and disability in the world today

In the UK, over one quarter (28%) of all deaths are attributed to either heart or lung disease and it is believed that the economic burden to the country exceeds £10 billion annually. Sobering statistics indeed.

As one of the largest specialist centres for the treatment of complex heart and lung problems, LHCH is constantly striving to provide the very best and most cutting edge care for our patients.

We are already a leading centre for

minimally invasive surgical procedures, but we are at the absolute limit of the numbers of these procedures that can be performed without further investment.

So we are now preparing to lead the way, both regionally and nationally,



Mr Mike Shackcloth (left) and Mr Paul Modi



with the introduction of a cardiac and thoracic robotic surgery programme.

Mr Paul Modi, Consultant Cardiac Surgeon at LHCH, said: "The benefits to our patients of this new programme will be enormous. We can significantly increase the numbers who can undergo minimally invasive surgery. We will be able to reduce their post-operative pain, lower the risks of infection and ensure that their stay in hospital is considerably reduced."

In addition to this, patients will not have to have the 'zipper stitching' often associated with the more traditional operation methods.

Mr Mike Shackcloth, Consultant Thoracic Surgeon at LHCH, added: "This new robotic programme will not only allow LHCH to provide better care for patients, but will also enable us to develop a training and research programme that will ensure that we can attract the top trainees and consultants to be part of LHCH in the future."

The total cost of establishing the programme will be £2 million and our fundraising plans are already well advanced but we need your help to finally reach our target.

Key benefits of the robotic surgery programme

- Better care for patients
- Reduced post-operative pain and faster recovery rates
- Better cosmetic results with no zipper
- More bed space so we can treat more patients
- Attracting the best medical staff for the future of LHCH
- Leading the way in the North West as the first thoracic surgical programme
- Leading the way in the UK with the first cardiac surgical programme
- Leading the way in robotic surgery research

Will you help us?

You can make a donation in the following ways:

- Visit our website at www.lhchcharity.org.uk
- Call us on 0151 600 1409 and make your gift with a credit or debit card over the phone
- Text ROBT01 £10 to 70070 to make a £10 donation

Please help us to stay at the forefront of providing the best and safest care for our patients, not only for today but for generations to come.

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **Heel a Heart day** in March was a great success, selling nearly 2,000 Heel a Heart Day badges.

● **The Hope Mountain Hike** in Wrexham (pictured) attracted more than 200 walkers on a lovely day in April. Thank you to everyone for your support.



Save the date!

This year's **In Living Colour** event will take place on 8 October in Stanley Park, Liverpool. Participants can run, walk, dance or even hop around a 5k course while being covered in powder paint during this fun, family event. For more information, please contact the Charity Office on **0151 600 1409** or visit www.lhchcharity.org.uk



'Best of the Best' Employee of the Month

Do you know a member of staff who has gone the extra mile to care for you or our patients? Then why not tell us! Our 'Best of the Best' Employee of the Month award is given to outstanding members of staff every month. Patients, visitors and members of staff can make a nomination which is then judged by a hospital panel. Nomination forms are available around the hospital or please ask a member of staff. Recent winners are featured here.



January
Chelsey Barton
Staff Nurse

"Chelsey is exactly what a nurse should be - so caring and compassionate towards her patients and their families. We often have patients at the end of their life and she truly goes above and beyond. Chelsey offers that personal touch with patients and families, offering a shoulder to cry on, a hug when needed and a listening ear. These small gestures mean the world to families. I receive lots of positive feedback from families and Chelsey's name is always mentioned."

February
Ashleigh Leggett
Therapies Assistant

"With a contagious smile and a happy disposition, Ashleigh always goes the extra mile for patients and families. Her colleagues have described her as the 'heart of therapies' who does ordinary things in an extraordinary way for everyone, making her very special. She is always praised by patients and the Chief Executive was delighted to receive a letter thanking her for Ashleigh's excellent care, support and motivation. Ashleigh is a real asset to the therapies team and an ambassador for the values and behaviours expected of this Trust."

March
Rob Stewart
Senior IT Desktop Support Technician

"Rob always enters the ward with a big grin on his face and says hello to everyone by name. He is so helpful and friendly and will go above and beyond to help. Whenever there's an issue with IT, Rob always responds very quickly and will often attend the ward to fix the problem there and then. Backroom staff probably don't get the recognition they deserve but Rob always demonstrates the Trust values and behaviours and everyone agrees that he definitely deserves this award."

April
Mr Mark Field
Cardiac Surgeon

"Mark has won this award for his outstanding care for our patients and their families. Recently, a mother thanked him for a lovely letter to her young son which explained why his father had passed away some years before and sensitively answered the child's questions. He also inspired another patient's daughter to want to be a surgeon when she grows up. Mark has been described as "a very special man" and "an amazing consultant, not only in the theatre but also as a people person who has gone above and beyond."



Heart health for kids

Dr Jay Wright, Consultant Cardiologist at LHCH, recently visited a local Liverpool primary school with Tony Bennett, Divisional Head of Operations for Clinical Services, to take an assembly on heart health.

Dr Wright spoke to the pupils about the importance of looking after your heart, the benefits of regular exercise and healthy eating. He also answered questions from the children about a range of heart health issues.

LHCH specialist treats Myanmar politician



Professor Aung Oo (left) and Phyo Min Thein.

A cardiac surgeon from LHCH recently carried out a successful heart operation on one of Myanmar's leading politicians.

Professor Aung Oo, Consultant Aortic Surgeon, led a team of 17 specialists to perform the 6½ hour operation on Phyo Min Thein, Chief Minister of Yangon – the leading city in Myanmar.

Professor Oo, who graduated from the Yangon University of Medicine in 1988, has made annual visits to Myanmar since 2013 to help treat patients at the Yankin Children's Hospital in Yangon, performing more than 90 cardiac procedures.



Celebrating Nurses' Day

LHCH was proud to celebrate Nurses' Day (12 May) recently. It was an opportunity to recognise the extraordinary things that our nurses do for patients, their families and the multi-professional teams they work with every day.

members matters EVENTS

Review of events

Chester: 23 March Stroke Rehabilitation

Megan Richardson, Neuro and Complex Rehabilitation Physiotherapist and Carmel Richardson, Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist with Marie Florian, Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist, gave a presentation on stroke rehabilitation to a packed audience at Chester Football Club.

Members learned more about our services for inpatients and their journey back into the community and watched a short video of a stroke patient talking about his experiences at LHCH. The audience was also invited to take part in some simulation exercises to help them imagine the difficulties faced by stroke patients.

Pictured are Megan (in white) and Carmel (in blue), with Chairman Neil Large (right) and Governors. ➤



Liverpool: 19 April Cardiac Devices

LHCH Consultant Cardiologist Dr Jay Wright gave a comprehensive overview of cardiac devices including pacemakers, ICD and CRT defibrillator devices at LHCH after his busy day in theatre. More than 50 people attended the event including some very knowledgeable patients which ensured a wide ranging and interesting Q&A session with Dr Wright at the end.

Trevor Wooding, Governor for Merseyside, thanked Dr Wright for making the event such an entertaining and accessible evening saying it was 'a terrific, easy to understand presentation with an appropriate and a subtle level of humour!'

➤ Dr Wright is pictured with some of our Public Governors and Lucy Lavan, Director of Corporate Affairs at the event

This year's events programme for members has been one of the most successful yet!

Many members have attended our free health information events to find out more about a range of topics including stroke rehabilitation, cardiac devices and diabetes.

LHCH Trust Chairman Neil Large said: "Members have really enjoyed this year's events. We try to organise them so that there's something for everyone and this allows our Governors to meet a variety of members and find out what concerns them."

"We want to know what you think so if there's an area of health you'd like know more about, please contact the Membership Office."

Liverpool: 6 May Annual Members' Health Event and Open Day

Members enjoyed a fascinating morning at this year's Annual Members' Health Event and Open Day which included behind the scenes tours and a range of lifestyle advice.

Visitors learned more about diet, weight and exercise from staff and could enjoy relaxing acupressure, reiki and reflexology, followed by a cup of coffee in the new Outpatients' coffee shop. Trust Governors and LHCH Charity were also there along with cardiomyopathy and atrial fibrillation support groups and our research team. LJMU students demonstrated CPR and blood pressure tests.

Highlights of the event were the tours of our Radiology, Cardiac Diagnostics, Cath Labs and Theatres. Visitors were able to see some of the clinical areas where tests and operations actually take place, meeting the staff who carry out the procedures.



Wrexham: 24 May Diabetes

Members from across North Wales came to the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Wrexham to hear Diabetes Specialist Nurse Sarah-Jane Daley explain the relationship between diabetes and heart disease. Sarah-Jane discussed many aspects of diabetes and answered a wide range of questions on the condition from the audience along with colleague Katie Jones. The event was organised in conjunction with Wrexham Health Support group and Diabetes UK Wrexham Local Support Group.

➤ The picture shows North Wales Governors Roy Griffiths and Amanda Clarke (far right) with Sarah-Jane (left) and Katie (right) at the event.

Coming soon Annual Members' Meeting

The next event for members is the Annual Members' Meeting on Monday 25 September at 4.30pm in the Conference Room at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital. Find out more about the performance of LHCH over the past year and ask questions at our public meeting.



Governor elections 2017

Elections are soon to take place to elect new Public and Staff Governors to the LHCH Council of Governors.



Public foundation trust members will vote for new Public Governors in Merseyside (three seats), Cheshire (two seats) and North Wales (two seats) while staff are voting for new Staff Governors in the Non Clinical group and Allied Health Professionals, Technical and Scientific group.

Voting packs will be mailed out from 27 June but an election will only need to take place if more than one candidate contests a seat in your constituency.

If you do receive a voting pack, please return it before the deadline and don't forget, you can either return your vote using the prepaid envelope or submit your vote electronically online. Full details will be in the voting

pack. The results will be announced on Friday 21 July.

Election timetable

Voting packs despatched:

Tuesday 27 June

Close of election:

Thursday 20 July

Declaration of results:

Friday 21 July

Clinical Research Week



Staff at LHCH marked Clinical Research Week with a series of events and activities to raise awareness of the importance of clinical research, to share research news and updates, ways to get involved and information on our current research activity at LHCH.

Support group meetings

If you want to know more about atrial fibrillation, why not come to the Liverpool Atrial Fibrillation Support Group?

The next events are:

Thursday 13 July, 6:30pm:

'Lifestyle modifications in AF' with Dr Dhiraj Gupta, Electrophysiology Consultant

Saturday 16 September, 2pm: **Interactive session on devices used to treat AF**

Meetings take place in the Research Unit at LHCH. For further information please call

01789 867 533 or email:

julie@heartrhythmalliance.org.

Email us

Did you know that over 2,000 public members receive details about the latest news and events at LHCH by email? Email is the quickest and easiest way to let you know what's happening at LHCH and it's a great

way to keep costs down and help the environment. If you don't receive updates on your computer or smartphone from us, please contact the Membership Office and register your email address today.

Contact us

If you'd like further information about membership, events or the contents of the magazine, please contact the Trust Membership Office on

0151 600 1410 or email

membership.office@lhch.nhs.uk

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