



Latest news for our members and stakeholders

December 2023

This newsletter aims to keep you, our members and stakeholders, updated with the latest news from across the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

In this update

- Season's greetings and warm festive wishes from the Royal Devon
- Extraordinary People Awards – our amazing winners
- Exciting new era for Royal Devon's two hospital charities
- Royal Devon's work to be greener wins national award
- New video explains how virtual wards work
- Help us to help you this winter

Key updates



Season's greetings and warm festive wishes from the Royal Devon



A message from Paul Roberts, Interim Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of the executive team



As 2023 comes to an end, I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for your continued support of the Royal Devon and reflect back on what has been a really tough year.

With sustained pressure and demand on our services, ongoing industrial action, a significant financial savings target and waves of COVID-19 and flu, it has been a tough year for us and the other healthcare providers in Devon, but our colleagues and our partners have come together time

and time again to go above and beyond to ensure that our patients receive the level of care they deserve. We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to every single person who helps to support the Royal Devon in any way.

We've also managed to achieve a great deal this year, and we'll be celebrating some of these achievements over the 12 days of Christmas later in the month, so please keep an eye on our social media channels for that and help us share these successes.

On a personal note it has been a great privilege to lead this organisation over the last few months, in January I will be handing over to my successor Sam Higginson. All that remains for me to say is, on behalf of the entire executive team, we wish you the very best for the festive season, whether you are celebrating Christmas or another holiday, and hope that you have a fantastic break. And please join me in extending a special thank you to everyone who will be working over the festive period.

With warm wishes,

Paul

A thank you from Dame Shan Morgan, Chair, on behalf of the Board of Directors

Shan has recorded a video message to say thank you – click below to watch the video.



Extraordinary People Awards – our amazing winners

We held our Extraordinary People Awards ceremony on Thursday 30 November, to celebrate the incredible staff and volunteers who work across the Trust.

The awards have 11 different categories which recognise the outstanding contribution that our staff and volunteers make. Over 500 nominations were received and an independent judging panel then created a shortlist of 47 finalists.

Our finalists came together at the Trust's RILD (Research Innovation Learning & Development) building for an awards ceremony supported by local businesses across Devon.

Paul Roberts, Interim Chief Executive Officer, said: "Our Extraordinary People Awards event allows us to say an extra special thank you to those staff and volunteers who were recognised by our judging panels as being truly extraordinary. Thank you to everyone who submitted a nomination, and I would like to congratulate and thank all of our colleagues who received recognition for the real and lasting difference they make to our patients, colleagues and local communities.

"It is a great feeling knowing that our whole community wants to show their appreciation to their local NHS, especially just before our busiest time over winter. We are all incredibly grateful to our sponsors and donators for showing their support for us and making this award ceremony possible."

Our Extraordinary People Awards winners are...



- * Lucy Smyth - Extraordinary Care Award (individual)
- * The Pharmacy Aseptics team - Extraordinary Care Award (team)
- * Jane Hunt – Living Our Values Award
- * Sadie Heddon – Extraordinary Colleague Support Award
- * John Clifford - Extraordinary Volunteer Award
- * Janet Jones – Leader of the Year
- * Beth Thompson - Extraordinary Collaboration and Partnership Award
- * Dominic Hazell – Green Award
- * Hannah Hopkins – Extraordinary Endeavour Award (clinical)
- * Mike Cousins – Extraordinary Endeavour Award (non-clinical)
- * The South West Ambulatory Orthopaedic Centre Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Team – Exceptional Idea Award
- * Lauren Cooper – Learner of the Year
- * Emergency Department reception team, NDDH – Team of the Year (non-clinical)
- * ICU Team NDDH - Team of the Year (clinical)

Thank you again to our sponsors Nevada Construction, KJ Refrigeration, NewZapp Trusted Delivery, EX2 Group, Sodexo, Westcountry Maintenance Services, Channel 3 Consulting and Denhams Digital, and thanks to Peninsula Project Consulting and Ellis James Creative for their donations. Their generous contributions enabled us to hold an inspiring and uplifting celebration of our staff.

You can find out more about our winners' stories on our website [here](#).

Our Extraordinary People Awards winners!



SWAOC Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy Team
Exceptional Idea Award



Janet Jones
Leader of the Year



Lauren Cooper
Learner of the Year



Hannah Hopkins
Extraordinary Endeavour Award (clinical)



John Clifford
Volunteer of the Year



Beth Thompson
Extraordinary Collaboration Award



ICU Team NDDH
Team of the Year Award

Our Extraordinary People Awards winners!



Sadie Heddon
Extraordinary Colleague Support Award



Dominic Hazell
Green Award



Jane Hunt
Living Our Values Award



Mike Cousins
Extraordinary Endeavour Award (non-clinical)



ED Reception Team NDDH
Team of the Year (non-clinical)



Pharmacy Aseptics Team
Extraordinary Care Award (team)



Lucy Smyth
Extraordinary Care Award (individual)

Exciting new era for Royal Devon's two hospital charities

Hospital charities Over and Above and the RD&E Charity have joined forces and will now be known as Royal Devon Hospitals Charity. The new-look charity will continue to support the Trust's patient services and staff health and wellbeing across Exeter, East, Mid and North Devon.

To support the launch, the charity has two new fundraising appeals, one to help create a new children's Emergency Department at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (Wonford), and another to buy maternity birthing pools at North Devon District Hospital.

The charity's Head of Fundraising, Ian Roome, said: "Both charities have a proven track record of delivering essential funding for our NHS, but together we want to be able to raise even more money to support our Trust. There are more than 250 different funds altogether and just as before, people can decide where their donations go so money raised locally, can stay local."

There are lots of ways you can support and help our new-look charity, please visit the new [website](#) to find out more. While you're there, please also join our charity's mailing list to keep up to date with all the latest charity news.



Royal Devon's work to be greener wins national award



An innovative Royal Devon project has won the prestigious 'Towards Net Zero' award at the 2023 Health Service Journal Awards.

The project aimed to minimise the carbon footprint associated with anaesthetic gases in healthcare.

Anaesthetic gases are used in many medical procedures, such as major operations and surgery, and have a negative impact on both air quality and the environment when released into the atmosphere. Colleagues across the Trust have been looking at how anaesthetic services can be more environmentally friendly.

To date, the project has achieved an impressive 80.6% reduction in Nitrous Oxide, 93% reduction in Desflurane usage, and a 57% reduction in the total use of anaesthetic gases in procedures.

You can find out more [here](#)

New video explains how virtual wards work

How much do you know about the way virtual wards work? Our virtual ward is known as the Acute Hospital at Home (AHAH) service. It's a safe and efficient alternative to receiving care as an inpatient on an acute hospital ward.

By using digital technology, patients who are referred to our AHAH service, receive the same care, monitoring and treatment that they would from an acute hospital bed or from a local community service, but from the comfort of their own home.

Our team, which includes doctors, nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and clinical support workers, keep in touch with AHAH patients on a regular basis throughout the day, and can be contacted 24 hours a day.

A new video featuring colleagues from our AHAH service has been produced by Devon's Integrated Care Board and is being used to help improve awareness and understanding of the way virtual wards work across Devon.

The video explains how our AHAH works and supports patients to get better at home. You can watch it [here](#).



Help us to help you this winter

The Royal Devon is preparing for another busy winter across the county, so please help us help you and choose the right service this winter. This could mean using a minor injuries service, local pharmacy, or a GP practice.

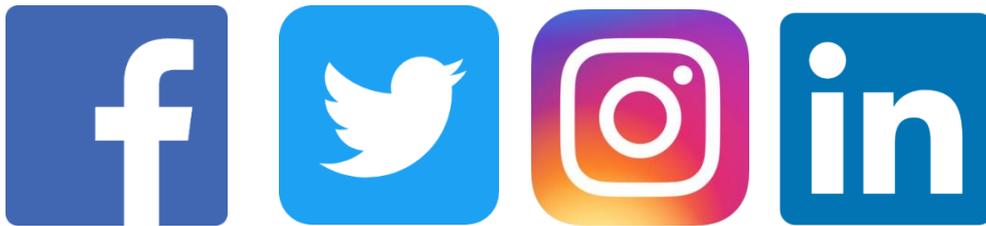
Choosing the right service helps reduce pressure on our emergency services, which are for urgent, life-threatening conditions. This frees them up to help those who need it most, and enables you to get the care you need as soon as possible. Find out more about what's available [here](#).

You can find out more about getting winter ready [here](#).



Follow the Trust on social media

Follow our Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram and LinkedIn pages for all our latest updates as they happen!



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NHS and CARE working with communities and local organisations to improve people's lives

