

Message from the Chairman

Next week, we will be welcoming HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh to the Trust to officially open the Headley Court Veterans' Orthopaedic Centre.

As well as this, Her Royal Highness will be meeting staff, patients and volunteers. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase what makes RJAH special.

I'm pleased to say that we're entering the new financial year with a strong leadership team, and we're working with our colleagues in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care System to further develop and enhance our services.

April will also see our Planning Day, where a cross-section of staff will come together to work on the Trust's five-year strategy including reflecting on our mission, vision and values. We're really keen that our strategy is built from the frontline and reflects our principles as an organisation.

Best wishes,



Harry Turner
Chairman



Recruitment Day reaps rewards

Patient care at RJAH has had a boost – with more than a dozen clinicians receiving job offers at a big Recruitment Day.

The event on Saturday 28 January saw in excess of 50 Registered Nurses and Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) - including Operating Department Practitioners, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and Radiographers – come to find out more about working for the hospital rated No 1 in the country for overall patient experience.

Candidates had the chance to have a tour of the hospital, meet the teams and be interviewed on the day, and that led to a total of 15 individuals being offered roles.

These included people looking for the next step in their career, as well as students securing their first post as they come to the end of their studies.

Stacey Keegan, Chief Executive at RJAH, said: "This Recruitment Day was an important step in our recruitment and retention programme. We have been very open about our need to bring in more clinical staff, something which is proving a challenge right across the NHS.

"But we also know we have so much to offer here at RJAH, and there is so much about this hospital that is really rather special.

"This Recruitment Day gave a chance for prospective candidates to see this for themselves and to get a real flavour of what working at RJAH is all about."

The Trust is planning to hold further recruitment days throughout 2023, with the next one being scheduled to take place shortly after Easter on Sunday 16 April. This will again include the opportunity for attendees to have a tour of the facilities at the hospital.

Governors Meetings

10 May 2023 | 12 July 2023

For more information, please email:
rjah.ft@nhs.net

Your elected Public Governors

Shropshire
Colin Chapman / Nikki Kuiper / Martin Bennett

North Wales
Colette Gribble / Shelia Hughes

West Midlands
Tony Wright

Cheshire & Merseyside
Katrina Morphet

Powys
William Greenwood

Rest of England & Wales
Phil White

Staff Governors
Kate Chaffey / Allen Edwards / Kate Betts

Stakeholder Governors
(appointed by organisations that work closely with the Trust)
Victoria Sugden – RJAHS Voluntary Services Committee
Councillor Simon Jones – Shropshire Council
Dr Karina Wright – Keele University

Membership figures

At the end of February 2023 the Membership figures were:

Staff	1217
Public	4874
Volunteers	423
Total	6514



Governor Profile

Sheila Hughes

Public Governor, North Wales



Shelia, who has had a long association with RJAHS, is one of our newest Governors.

After completing her training at RJAHS, Shelia returned to work here for 20 years, first as a Sister then Ward Manager. She said: *"The training I had at RJAHS was second to none – the nursing care provided at the hospital was fantastic back then and set us all a very high standard for our future careers."*

She now works as a Practice Development Health Visitor in North Wales but has continued her keen interest in RJAHS as Honorary Secretary of the League of Oswestry Nurses, who will be having their annual reunion on Saturday 13 May at the Derwen College.

Shelia, who is a Welsh speaker, added: *"I am very proud of the hospital, which is very well thought of in North Wales from patients who have said they have been very impressed with the care and cleanliness of the hospital."*

"I want to ensure that the patients voice is heard and that they receive the best possible care, while high standards are maintained."

Governors are always pleased to hear from our members and can be contacted by email on rjah.governors@nhs.net

Representing People

When Parliament created NHS foundation trusts, it provided them with independence from central government and a governance structure that ensured participation from within the local communities they serve.

NHS foundation trust governors are the direct representatives of local interests within foundation trusts. Governors do not undertake operational management of NHS foundation trusts; rather they challenge the board of directors and collectively hold them to account for the trust's performance. It is also the governors' responsibility to represent their members' interests, particularly in relation to the strategic direction of the trust.

Legislation provides governors with statutory responsibilities to help deliver these key objectives. The legislation is the National Health Service Act 2006 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Please note that meetings of the Council of Governors are open to members of the public. The public are asked to notify the Trust of any matters they wish to raise in advance, as this will allow the Trust to be able to respond fully and will assist in the time management of the meeting. If you would like to attend, please email: rjah.ft@nhs.net to confirm your attendance and also of any matters you wish to raise.

Engaging with our Members



Our Governors will next be outside the Main Entrance on Thursday 15 June from 9:30am – 12:30pm.

Our Members Surgery provides our members with a great opportunity to let the Governors know about what you would like to learn more about at the hospital, feedback your experiences and suggestions, or what news stories you would like to receive in our members newsletters and correspondence.

News from the Trust

Updates to the Council of Governors



We are delighted to welcome Victoria Sugden to her new role of Lead Governor. Victoria is Stakeholder Governor, representing the League of Friends, and was previously Deputy Lead Governor.

She replaces William Greenwood, who was Lead Governor for 18 months.

The Governors thank William for his support and leadership across his time as Lead Governor.

Sensational seven gearing up for London Marathon

The countdown is on for the seven members of RJAH staff who will be running the TCS London Marathon later this year in aid of the hospital's charity.

Staff who are running the 26-mile race – which include Stacey Keegan, Chief Executive, and Dr Ruth Longfellow, Chief Medical Officer – are all hard at work training to raise money for the RJAH Charity.

More about the staff taking part and how to donate to their fundraising here: <https://www.rjah.nhs.uk/about-us/news/rjah-sensational-seven-gearing-up-for-london-marathon>

Marathon runners thanked for raising £44,000 for Charity

Twenty-three remarkable runners who took part in the 2022 TCS London Marathon in aid of RJAH have been thanked for their efforts.

The runners collectively raised an outstanding £44,000 for the RJAH Charity and to thank them, a celebration event was held at Fernhill Hall by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Lillis.

Each runner received a certificate of appreciation, which was presented to them by Deputy Lieutenant Veronica Lillis.

Victoria Sugden, Charity Director, said: "We are immensely grateful to our team of runners who took part in the London Marathon to raise much needed funds for RJAH Charity.

"The London Marathon is the biggest fundraiser on the calendar and all runners play a huge part in enabling us to provide the best possible support to patients and staff at RJAH.

"The funds raised by the team will go into our wider charitable funds pot, which is used to fund projects across the hospital to support patient care and improve staff services."



NHS Supply Chain spice up plant-based menu

A team of trained chefs and dieticians from NHS Supply Chain recently visited the Catering Department at RJAH to innovate chefs to branch out with flavour in a cost-effective way.



Michael Sharp, from NHS Supply Chain, prepared two plant-based flavoursome, healthy dishes in a pop-up kitchen with Gill Edwards, Cook in the Catering Team, using fresh ingredients.

The two dishes created by Gill and the NHS Supply Chain Team were a chickpea and sweet potato rogan josh, and a masala cauliflower and chickpea salad.

Dan Hoggett, RJAH Catering Manager, said: "We added the plant-based dishes to

our £2 main meal menu for staff, and we received rave reviews, with some staff even buying a second serving!

"Denbigh's, the hospital's onsite restaurant, is renowned across the Trust for its food standards, but we're keen to provide dishes which are more flavoursome and cost-effective."



Ask others to join

Over 6000 people have chosen to become a member - anyone over 14 years of age can join and there are a number of benefits, including invitations to events.

As a member you:

- Become part of a wide network patients, carers, local community members and staff supporting RJAH for the future.
- Have a say in how the hospital is run through voting for governors (or by being elected as a governor) and by sharing your views in our member surveys.
- Receive regular news from the hospital, invitations to our members' events and a copy of the Governors' annual report.
- Support the hospital as an NHS Foundation

Trust by encouraging friends, family, patients and carers to sign up as members too!

To join online please visit: www.rjah.nhs.uk or for a membership form ring 01691 404394 or email: rjah.ft@nhs.net

Get Connected!

Join us on social media and keep up to date with the latest news and events going on across the Trust.

We have an active community on Facebook with over 8,000 likes.

You can also find us on Twitter and Instagram at @RJAH_NHS.

If you've got anything you think we should be sharing on social media, why not let us know about it?



Feedback matters

Do you have any feedback on this bulletin?

Is there any other information you would like us to include in the next edition? Do you have any articles you would like to submit? By passing on ideas and suggestions about the report - or any other feedback - you can help us carry out our role more effectively.

Contact the editors – Katrina Morphet and Allen Edwards at: rjah.governors@nhs.net

'End of an era' as RJAH Vaccination Centre closes its doors

A Covid-19 Vaccination Centre at RJAH has closed its doors for the final time – after administrating more than 150,000 vaccinations.

The Vaccination Centre first opened in January 2021, saw members of the local community and health and social care staff visiting to receive their vaccinations.

Rebecca Warren, a nurse who led the team at the RJAH Vaccination Centre from start to finish, described the closure as 'the end of an era'.

Rebecca, who also held an operational management role within the wider vaccination service for Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, said: "I've met so many fantastic people during my time as part of the Vaccination Centre, and it's been an awesome experience to say the least.

"Everyone who was part of the vaccination effort should be enormously proud of how hard they worked and what they achieved."

Over one thousand years of NHS service celebrated at RJAH



The year was 1993 – Jurassic Park was the highest-grossing film in the box office, Meat Loaf's 'I'd Do Anything For Love (But I Won't Do That)' spent 7 weeks at No.1 and English football legend Bobby Moore passed away.

But it was also the year 35 members of staff started their careers in the National Health Service.

These members of staff all gathered together to celebrate at the Long Service Awards, where they were presented with certificates and vouchers by Chairman Harry Turner and Chief Executive Stacey Keegan.

Harry said: "The 35 members of staff who are celebrating their long service have racked up an impressive 1,050 years of NHS service between them, which is just fantastic, and what makes it really special is that some of these staff members have spent their entire careers at RJAH."

Stacey added: "On behalf of the Executive Team, and also on behalf of the NHS, I would like to thank all our staff who have received their long service award for their commitment to caring for patients over the past 30 years."

All the staff members presented with a certificate and voucher have dedicated 30 years or more of service either at the Oswestry-based hospital or elsewhere in the NHS.