

Message from the Chairman

This edition of Connect is my first as Chair and I want to start by stating how delighted and how honoured I am to be taking up the role. I have been at RJAH as a Non-Executive Director for nearly five years, so already know what a special place it is. I look forward to playing my part in the next leg of its journey.

It is important that we thank all our staff for their hard work and dedication to patient care, both throughout the coronavirus pandemic and over the challenging winter we faced. Our focus is on those patients who are waiting for routine and elective care and bringing our waiting lists down – this is a challenging piece of work, but we know that all our teams are working extremely hard. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone.

Looking forward, I think it's important we acknowledge the Integrated Care System (ICS) across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin. Having a strong ICS is vital for ensuring our population receive the best possible care and I look forward to further developing our role, as a specialist provider, within the system.

I always say it's not a hospital until you put people inside the building, and as Chair, I look forward to hearing from patients, staff and our Governors as we continue to work together.

Best wishes,
Harry Turner, *Chairman*

Saplings planted to mark important milestones

A tree planting ceremony has taken place at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital (RJAH) to mark two very important milestones.

A total of 100 saplings have been planted at Shropshire's specialist orthopaedic hospital as part of the Queen's Green Canopy (QGC), along with commemorating the 100-year anniversary of RJAH relocating to its current site in Gobowen.

The QGC is a unique tree planting initiative created to commemorate 70 years since The Queen's ascension to the throne which invites people from across the UK to Plant a Tree for the Jubilee.

This initiative has been made possible thanks to generous donations from brothers Mike and James Sadowski of Axxess Tree Services, who donated the trees, along with Grown Green who donated the tree guards.

The trees have been planted around the Path of Positivity at RJAH – an evolving green space that honors Sir Captain Tom Moore's legacy by providing a place of wellbeing for patients and staff.

The path continues to develop with the addition of benches and picnic tables, and discussions are underway to include art installations in the future.

RJAH Charity is offering those who wish to support the planting sustainability initiative the opportunity to sponsor a tree for £20. Each tree will be allocated a unique tag and will be recorded in the hospital's book of centenary trees.

Images below: Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire, Anna Turner JP, alongside Chair Harry Turner and Interim Chief Executive Stacey Keegan. Mike Sadowski, Axxess Tree Services

If you are interested in sponsoring a tree, please email:
rjah.communityfundraising@nhs.net or call: 01691 404401.



Governors Meeting

25 May 2022

This meeting may not be going ahead due to social distancing guidance for covid-19. For more information, please email rjah.ft@nhs.net

Your elected Public Governors

Shropshire

Colin Chapman / Sue Nassar / Victoria Sugden

North Wales

Colette Gribble

West Midlands

Tony Wright

Cheshire & Merseyside

Katrina Morphet

Powys

William Greenwood (Lead Governor)

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)

Peter David – RJAHS Voluntary Services Committee

Simon Jones – Shropshire Council

Dr Karina Wright – Keele University

Membership figures

At the end of March 2022 the Membership figures were:

Staff	1198
Public	4987
Volunteers	459
Total	6644

Governor Profile

Victoria Sugden

Deputy Lead Governor



"I became a public Governor for Shropshire in 2019 and am into my eighth year as Charity Director working for the League of Friends at the Trust. Knowing the organisation and its people well, I thoroughly enjoy being part of the team.

The League gets involved in all sorts of projects with an amazing group of trustees, staff and volunteers working right across the organisation. I aim to help make things just a little better for patients and easier for staff to deliver the best possible care.

Being a part of the vaccination effort when the numbers topped 100,000 vaccinations was an emotional moment too. I will never forget this exceptional multi-departmental endeavour to vaccinate the most vulnerable in the community.

Looking ahead we have the completion of the first dedicated Veteran's Orthopaedic Centre. The brilliant fundraisers of the League kick-started the campaign with a £100,000 pledge.

As a Governor I want to support the Trust as a critical friend, being interested and encouraging a flourishing hospital, in which everyone plays their part, keeps pushing to improve and cares for our patients."

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 16 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

RJAH's new Patient Safety Specialists

As part of an NHS-wide initiative launched by NHS England and NHS Improvement, Kirsty Foskett, Lisa Newton and Dr Sophie Shapter have been identified as our Patient Safety Specialists at RJAH.

As part of the role, Kirsty, Lisa and Sophie will also participate in national, regional and Integrated Care System networks of Patient Safety Specialists, to contribute to sharing of learning and good practice with other organisations across the country as well as the National Patient Safety Team.

RJAH awarded for commitment to patient safety by National Joint Registry

RJAH is celebrating being named as a National Joint Registry (NJR) Quality Data Provider after successfully completing a national programme of local data audits.

The NJR Quality Data Provider certificate scheme was introduced to offer hospitals a blueprint for reaching high quality standards relating to patient safety and to reward those who have met registry targets.

In order to achieve the award, hospitals are required to meet a series of six ambitious targets during an audit period. One of the targets which hospitals are required to complete is compliance with the NJR's mandatory national audit aimed at assessing data completeness and quality within the registry.



RJAH Capital Manager, Mike Bowen

RJAH goes green with electric vehicle charging points installed

RJAH orthopaedic hospital has pledged to protect environmental resources now and for future generations, by installing eight electric vehicle charging points.

The charging points, which are now available for patients, visitors and staff to use, are located in car park A at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital.

It's hoped that they will help to reduce the Oswestry-based hospital's impact on the environment and encourage more people to use this mode of transport in the future.

To use the charging points, users will need to download the VendElectric App from either the App Store or Google Play Store and follow the instructions, including entering payment card details.

Users can scan the QR code on each charging point which will open the app to enter the required charge time.

The app can also be used to check for free spaces prior to arrival.

Standard car parking fees apply to the electric vehicle charging point users in the same manner as all other patient and visitor parking, this income continues to be reinvested into patient care and experience.

Surgeon takes the gold in Registry Award

A Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital has been awarded the prestigious Registry Gold Award by the British Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (BOFAS).

Mr Nilesh Makwana, who has worked at the Oswestry-based hospital since 2001, has been hailed for entering the most patient data into the registry for the second year running.

He has been awarded this accolade out of all foot and ankle surgeons in the country who use the register.

The society have been developing a simple process for the collection of patient outcomes measures. To support this, the BOFAS Outcomes Committee (OutComm) work hard to support the collection of patient data at a local level, something Mr Makwana has been a member of since 2018.



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

Hospital consultant saddles up to raise funds for RJAH Charity

A charity bike ride is set to take place this spring to raise much needed funds for RJAH Charity, along with marking 100 years since The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital (RJAH) relocated to its current site in Gobowen.



The Centenary Cycle will take place on Sunday 27 March and will see a host of cyclists take on a 60k or 100k route around Shropshire's picturesque countryside.

Miss Gillian Cribb, Consultant Orthopaedic and Oncological Surgeon at the Oswestry-based hospital, has pledged her support to the challenge by signing up to the 100k challenge.

Money raised by RJAH Charity is used to fund projects across the hospital to support the delivery of world class patient care and improve staff services.

[To find out how to get involved with this event please click here.](#)

Ready, set, go for RJAH CEO who dons running shoes for charity marathon

The countdown is on for the Interim Chief Executive Officer at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital – who will be running the London Marathon later this year in aid of the RJAH Charity.

Stacey Keegan, a nurse by background who joined the Oswestry-based hospital in 2019, is hard at work training for the annual 26-mile race around the capital to raise money for the hospital's charity fund.

She said: *"I started running initially to improve my physical health and soon realised the benefits to my mental health - running gives me the headspace and downtime I need. I think it's incredibly important that we all find a hobby or activity which gives us that time to destress."*

"This is my first ever full marathon after taking part in my first half-marathon last October, which I really enjoyed."

Runners who pledge their support to the RJAH Charity must commit to raise at least £1,500 which will support research and develop new treatments, provide state of the art equipment and facilities, and provide extra comfort.

Victoria Sugden, Charity Director, said: *"The London Marathon is the biggest fundraiser on the calendar and all runners play a massive part in enabling us to provide the best possible support to patients and staff at RJAH."*

As well as Stacey, another 26 people – made up of staff and members of the local community – will be part of Team RJAH on Sunday 2 October.

[If anyone would like to donate to Stacey's fundraising, please click here.](#)

