

## Message from the Chairman

The first Board of Directors meeting back on the hospital site in over 2 years took place recently – we will always put the safety of our staff and patients first and we felt that now was the right time to come back to the Trust. Following our Board session, we took part in a walkabout visiting many areas and engaging with staff and patients. This is something we'll be continuing, and I look forward to meeting more of our staff.

We are making progress on our waiting lists, and I'd like to thank all staff who have been involved with this work – it's absolutely the right focus to ensure our patients are getting the best possible care.

There have been several changes to our Board of Directors in the past couple of months and I am delighted to have welcomed Martin, Penny and John to the organisation. More about these appointments are on page 3.

It's important we recognise the work of the Integrated Care System (ICS) across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin now they are a statutory organisation. We look forward to continuing our partnership and working closely to benefit the local population.

I'd also like to call out the work of our Council of Governors. I speak on behalf of the Board of Directors when I say we appreciate their time and efforts, and I look forward to working with them, back on the hospital site. You can find out more about the work of the Governors on page 2 of this newsletter.

Finally, I hope that everyone has the opportunity for a break over the summer period to spend time with family and friends. Thank you for all your hard work.

*Best wishes,*  
Harry Turner, *Chairman*

## Blooming beautiful garden planned for paediatric patients

A new fundraising appeal to create a stunning outdoor garden for younger patients and their families has been launched

The dedicated children's unit at RJAH, will see the addition of a private, safe, and stimulating environment which not only promotes health and wellbeing but will also offer a calming escape from the hospital environment for long term and returning patients.

Alice Ward provides specialist advice, diagnosis and treatment for children between 0 – 18 years with bone, joint and muscular disorders.

Plans for the garden have been developed by volunteer Olivia Copley, who is currently studying for her Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) diploma, as well as completing a garden and planting design certificate. She also hopes to get a degree in landscape architecture.

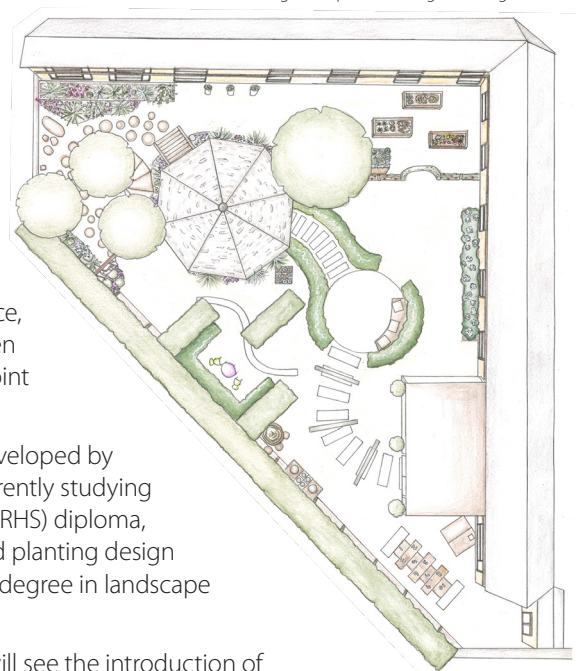
The beautifully designed garden will see the introduction of many therapeutic features, including a covered canopy, woodland walk, bridge, vegetable patch, hornbeam trail, garden room and moon arches.

Each carefully considered design feature provides a wealth of benefits to patients and families, from tranquil spots to observe nature, to rehabilitation zones and secluded weatherproof areas to host outdoor games and learning.

If you would like to donate towards the garden, please visit the dedicated fundraising page: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/gardenforalice>.

For more information on the appeal, you can contact the team directly by: [rjah.communityfundraising@nhs.net](mailto:rjah.communityfundraising@nhs.net) or call: 01691 404401.

*Pictured is a drawing of the planned design for the garden.*



# Governors Meeting

9 November 2022  
8 March 2023

## Your elected Public Governors

### Shropshire

Colin Chapman / Sue Nassar / Victoria Sugden

### North Wales

Jan Greasley / 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

Councillor Simon Jones – Shropshire Council

Dr Karina Wright – Keele University

## Membership figures

At the end of July 2022  
the Membership figures were:

Staff	1170
Public	4956
Volunteers	440
<b>Total</b>	<b>6566</b>

## Governor Profile

A message from **William Greenwood** *Lead Governor*



As Governors, our work is all voluntary, but in tandem with the Trust Board, we work to ensure our staff provide the highest quality of care; delivered by an outstanding team who all live by our Trust values. With our new Chair, Harry Turner, we have re-examined our relationship with the Board so that we are better able to support the executive work plan to benefit our patients.

Our efforts are focused on challenging non-executive colleagues to ensure the Trust is recognised as a listening organisation; meets patient need and delivers compassionate care. The 1 July introduced new NHS system arrangements. Within these we are working even more with other bodies to strengthen our community involvement and be an organisation that is fit for the future.

We have continued to meet to review the progress of the Trust. We have welcomed four new Governor colleagues in recent months and said goodbye to other colleagues as their terms of office expired.

Our recent achievements include:

- Held joint meetings with the Trust Non-Executive Directors
- Restarted regular patient safety visits
- Held meet the Governors surgeries to aid our public recruitment
- Met with the Chair of the new Integrated Care System

Following the easing of Covid restrictions, we are restoring all our previous work and engagement events. We will continue to focus on ensuring your voice is being heard and that this is reflected in the ongoing plans for the Trust.

## 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](mailto: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 September 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

# Former Chair named in Jubilee Honours list

Frank Collins, former Chair of RJA, was named an OBE in recognition of his service to the NHS in the Honours list unveiled to mark the Queen's 70th Jubilee.

Frank, who was Chair at RJA for seven years, played a key leadership role in helping the organisation overcome some significant hurdles and become established as one of the most highly regarded hospitals in the country.

## New Non-Executive Directors appointed to Board

Penny Venables and Martin Newsholme have started as Non-Executive Directors at the Trust, while Dr John Pepper has joined the Board as Associate Non-Executive Director.

Penny has almost 40 years' experience of working in the NHS, including in Executive Director and Chief Executive roles. She is currently an Associate at In-Form Solutions.

Martin, who is a chartered accountant, is currently a Senior Non-Executive Director at Shropshire Doctors Co-operative Ltd, known as Shropdoc.

Dr John Pepper has worked as a GP in Shropshire for 26 years and has previously held the role of Chair of Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Group.



Pictured is Nick Huband, Director of Estates and Facilities; Air Vice Marshal Anthony J. Stables, Chairman of the Headley Court Charity; Sarah Stables; and Lieutenant Colonel Carl Meyer, serving Army Officer and Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at RJA; in front of the new Headley Court Veterans' Orthopaedic Centre.

## Headley Court visit progress on Veterans' Orthopaedic Centre

Work on the state-of-the-art Headley Court Veterans' Orthopaedic Centre at RJA began in June 2021 following a £6 million donation from the Headley Court Charity.

Headley Court was the leading medical rehabilitation base for members of the Armed Forces before the transfer of those services to a new facility at Stanford Hall, and following that move, Trustees of the Headley Court Charity, had been looking for worthy causes in keeping with their ethos and aims to support in the form of charitable grants from their reserves.

Air Vice Marshal Anthony J. Stables, Chairman of the Headley Court Charity, visited the hospital to see the progress of the build.

He said: "I was delighted to be invited to the hospital to see the progress of the building. It is going to be truly impressive, and I look forward to visiting the completed build."

## Changing Places facility at RJA to enhance experience for disabled patients

Patients and visitors are now benefitting from a state-of-the-art Changing Places facility – a dedicated space which supports the needs of those with learning and/or physical disabilities.

People with severe disabilities, such as muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis, and their carers say Changing Places facilities can be life changing and allow them to go out in public or attend hospital appointments without fear or stress.

Changing Places are larger accessible toilets for severely disabled people and include equipment such as hoists, privacy screens, adult-sized changing benches, peninsula toilets and space for carers.

The new facility is one of only seven across Shropshire to gain accreditation by Changing Places - the national directory of fully accessible toilet facilities for people with disabilities.

Pictured is Sara Ellis Anderson, Interim Chief Nurse and Patient Safety Officer, and Mike Bowen, Estates Capital Manager, in the Changing Places facility







## 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](http://www.rjah.nhs.uk) or for a membership form ring 01691 404394 or email: [rjah.ft@nhs.net](mailto: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](mailto:rjah.governors@nhs.net)

# RJAH signs contract with System C for ambitious EPR solution

RJAH have signed a contract with System C to provide an Electronic Patient Record (EPR) solution – providing all the most up-to-date information about a patient's care at the tap of a screen.

The EPR will transform the way staff work and deliver care to patients by providing the right information at the right time to deliver the best possible care.

System C was decided as the preferred provider following a competitive procurement process, which began in April 2021, and the contract signing has taken place.

The new solution will bring electronic notes to the wards, and also include electronic prescribing, the ability to order tests and receive results electronically, and allow patients to modify their own appointments.

## Youngsters at RJAH to benefit from exciting interactive Gaming Carts

From Minecraft Dungeons to FIFA 22 – patients on Alice Ward at RJAH will have access to some of the latest Xbox computer games thanks to the donation of two state-of-the-art gaming carts.

The two Xbox Series S carts – which resemble portable gaming systems on wheels – have been supplied by TheRockinR Gaming Charity and with games and controllers included, are worth more than £8,000.

One has been funded by the Starlight Children's Foundation and the other by the hospital's own League of Friends and RJAH Charity.

TheRockinR Charity was formed in the memory of Reece Miree, who in March 2018, at aged 11 years old, sadly died due to DIPG brain cancer.

Reece's legacy continues through his love of gaming and the use of his gaming tag, which was 'TheRockinR', with the charity having been started by his elder sister Jess and father Jonny.

The carts are supplied in hospital to be used as coping tools for children undergoing treatment, and to promote social interaction on the hospital wards.

Polly Brown, Health Play Specialist on Alice Ward, said: "The patients on Alice Ward will benefit greatly from having these state-of-the-art interactive gaming carts.

"The carts have the latest gaming technology, which will be a welcome distraction for the young patients. We are very grateful here on Alice Ward and we would like to thank TheRockinR, Starlight, the RJAH Charity and the League of Friends for their donations."



Pictured with the two new interactive gaming carts are, from left, Jess Miree from TheRockinR; Freddie Evans, aged 5 a patient on Alice Ward; Polly Brown, Health Play Specialist; Heather Thomas-Bache, Head of Fundraising, Communications and Volunteers for the League of Friends; and Joel Phillips aged 16, a patient on Alice Ward.