

TRUST MATTERS

News • Awards • Membership • Governors • Information • and much more...





Patient Experience and PALS

☎ 01772 522972 ✉ PALS@lthtr.nhs.uk

Our telephone line is available during the hours of
9am – 12noon and 1pm – 3pm

Our drop-in service is available 11am – 3pm

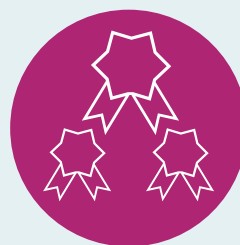
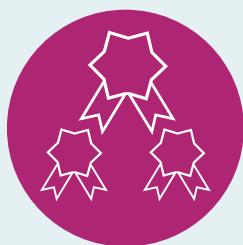
Please note the team work Monday – Friday (excluding bank holidays)



PALS drop-in centres

Our Patient Experience and PALS office at Chorley and South Ribble Hospital is located on the main corridor of level 2, between Orthopaedic/Assessment Treatment Centre and Costa Coffee.

Our Patient Experience and PALS office at Royal Preston Hospital is located down the first corridor on the right when you enter the hospital via the main entrance.



Patient Nominated Rewards Programme

The LTHTR Proud Rewards are a great way for our patients to recognise and reward staff at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, including our students and volunteers

You can nominate an individual staff member or a team for a patient reward to say thank you for the excellent care and compassion they have provided to you or a family member.

Patients can submit a nomination by using [this link to complete our form](#) or by scanning the QR code opposite.

The judging panel will be looking for a clear example of how an individual or team has provided excellent care with compassion, linked to our Trust values.

We look forward to receiving your nominations and celebrating all the excellent work that happens at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals!

Is there a deadline?

No, nominations are always open. The deadline is the 15th of each month for them to be considered for the following month's reward.



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Welcome to the latest edition of Trust Matters



Dear Foundation Trust Members,

Welcome to the latest edition of Trust Matters, our regular magazine celebrating the people, achievements and developments that continue to shape Lancashire Teaching Hospitals. As we move through 2026, this is an opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made together and to look ahead to the next stage of our improvement journey.

Over the past year, we have seen encouraging signs that the hard work of our colleagues across Royal Preston Hospital and Chorley and South Ribble Hospital is making a real difference. From improvements in patient flow and access to care, to investment in our estate, digital services and workforce development, there is growing momentum across the organisation. While challenges remain, there is a clear determination to deliver better outcomes and experiences for the patients and communities who rely on us every day.

A major focus throughout 2026 has been the continued delivery of our Single Improvement Plan. This work is helping us strengthen the foundations of the Trust by improving quality, safety, performance, and financial sustainability. These priorities are closely connected and remain at the heart of every decision we make. We know that providing outstanding care requires strong leadership, effective use of resources, and a culture where colleagues feel supported to innovate and improve.

I have been particularly encouraged by the many examples of excellence and innovation taking place across our hospitals. Whether through new ways of working, advances in research and education, or the dedication shown by teams caring for patients in often demanding circumstances, our staff

continue to demonstrate the values that make Lancashire Teaching Hospitals such a special organisation. Their commitment, compassion, and professionalism deserve enormous recognition.

Partnership working has also been an important theme this year. By working closely with health and care partners, local authorities, universities, and community organisations, we are strengthening the services available to local people and helping to ensure that care is delivered in the right place, at the right time. These relationships will be increasingly important as we continue to develop our ambitions for the future.

As Chair, one of the most rewarding aspects of my role is meeting patients, colleagues, volunteers, and Governors from across our communities. Those conversations provide valuable insight into what we are doing well and where we can improve further. They remind us that behind every statistic, programme and performance measure are real people who depend on us to deliver safe, effective, and compassionate care.

Inside this edition, you will find stories that highlight some of the achievements, innovations, and inspirational individuals who have helped make 2026 a year of progress. You can also read more about the work of our Council of Governors and the important role Foundation Trust members play in supporting and shaping our organisation.

Thank you for your continued support of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals. Together, we will continue building a stronger, more sustainable Trust that delivers the very best care for the people of Lancashire and South Cumbria, now and for years to come.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Mike Thomas'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Professor Mike Thomas

Chair

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



New play area is latest phase of transformational improvements at Broadoaks Child Development Centre

A fully accessible, specially designed children's play area officially opened at Broadoaks Child Development Centre in Leyland in July, marking the latest milestone in a major programme of improvements led by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Over the past two years, the Trust-owned facility, which provides community and neurodevelopmental services for children and young people across Chorley, South Ribble, and Greater Preston, has undergone extensive works to address long-standing building issues and improve the environment for patients, families, and staff.

Significant investment from the Trust, alongside the expertise of the LTH Estates team and colleagues at Broadoaks led by Victoria Atkinson, Matron for Children's Community and Specialist Nursing, has seen large sections of the roof replaced, helping to secure the building's future. Key internal areas have also been refurbished, including toilet and baby changing facilities, creating three modern, fully accessible spaces.

The newest addition is a vibrant play area designed to support both play and clinical assessment. Delivered in partnership with Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity through its Children's Fund and the Trevor

Hemmings Foundation, the facility includes colourful safety flooring, climbing nets, a hopscotch grid, and musical sensory features.

Victoria said: "The opening of this play area is a really proud moment for everyone involved in Broadoaks. We know how important play is to a child's development and wellbeing, and this space has been thoughtfully designed to help children feel comfortable, supported, and able to express themselves.

"It will make a real difference to the way our teams assess and support children, and most importantly, it creates a positive, welcoming environment for families who use our services."

Scott Leonard from the Estates team added: "This project has been a fantastic example of what can be achieved through collaboration.

"The new play area completes an important phase of the transformation of Broadoaks, creating a bright, inclusive space that supports assessment, play, and wellbeing, and helps ensure the centre continues to thrive as a vital resource for children and young people across the area."

New Extended Emergency Medicine Ambulatory Care Service (EEMAC) launches at Royal Preston Hospital

A new service designed to improve the experience of patients attending the Emergency Department launched at Royal Preston Hospital in July.

The Emergency Department officially opened its Extended Emergency Medicine Ambulatory Care (EEMAC) unit, a newly recognised NHS model of care for patients who require more than four hours of assessment but do not need to be admitted to hospital.

Located in the former Majors 4 area, EEMAC will provide a dedicated environment for adult patients aged 16 and over who present with an acute condition and are expected to be treated and discharged within 12 hours of arriving at hospital.

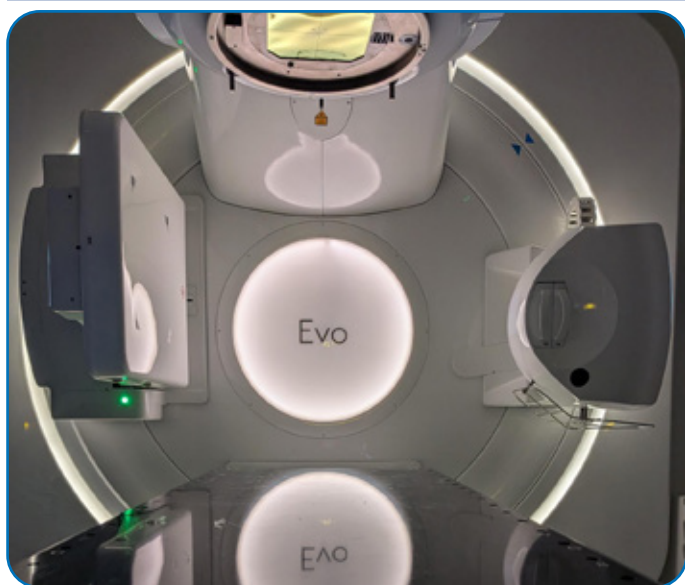
Managed by Emergency Medicine clinicians, the ambulatory care area will be open seven days a week from 8am until midnight. Patients will be referred directly to the unit by the Emergency Department team.

The introduction of EEMAC brings a number of benefits for patients, providing assessment and treatment in a quieter and more comfortable setting than the main Emergency Department, while still receiving care from Emergency Medicine specialists.



The new model will also support national NHS emergency care waiting standards, and feedback has already been positive from patients.

Trust strengthens cancer care with second next generation LINAC radiotherapy machine



Cancer patients across Lancashire and South Cumbria will benefit from the arrival of a second state-of-the-art linear accelerator (LINAC) at Royal Preston Hospital's Rosemere Cancer Centre.

The machine forms part of a national £70 million NHS investment programme to modernise radiotherapy services and replace ageing equipment. Nationally, the new technology is expected to help prevent thousands of treatment cancellations caused by equipment failures.

For Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, the installation strengthens one of the region's largest radiotherapy services and provides important opportunities for future developments, particularly adaptive

radiotherapy – an emerging treatment approach that allows clinicians to adjust treatment plans in near real time to account for daily changes in a patient's anatomy.

Jayne Fletcher, Treatment Delivery Team Leader and Therapeutic Radiographer, said: "While we may not initially use the full capabilities, what it does is enable us, in the background, to prepare for the next step, which is adaptive radiotherapy. In simple terms, that means we can make daily adjustments beyond millimetre accuracy and actually change the area being treated in a matter of minutes."

She added: "A lot of this is AI driven, so manufacturers are still building and training those systems. Having two machines means our physics teams, engineers, planners, and radiographers can begin that groundwork now - training, documentation and processes - so when the technology is fully ready, we are too."

The Trust has also become a recognised leader in surface-guided radiotherapy (SGRT), which uses advanced camera systems rather than permanent tattoos to position patients for treatment.

"It's made a fantastic difference - not just for patients, but for staff as well," said Jayne. "Treatments are quicker, and for most patients there's no need for tattoos anymore. For approximately 90% of patients, treatment is now tattoo-free."

Recent investment has also upgraded patient facilities and consultation spaces, while charitable donations continue to fund enhancements that make treatment more comfortable and welcoming.

 Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)



Trust helps young people gain life-saving skills through Knife Savers programme



Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is playing a leading role in supporting young people across Lancashire with potentially life-saving skills through its partnership with Knife Savers. The Trust recently supported another Knife Savers training session at the Foxton Centre in Preston, building on the success of previous community events and reinforcing its commitment to violence prevention, education, and community safety.

Knife Savers is an NHS-backed, not-for-profit initiative that equips young people with the knowledge and confidence to respond in critical situations involving serious bleeding injuries. Originally established in Merseyside, the programme is now expanding across Lancashire with support from Trust colleagues and partner organisations.

The latest session brought together young people, community leaders, and local partners, including Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw and BBC Radio Lancashire presenter Graham Liver. Emergency Department nurses, doctors, and healthcare assistants from Royal Preston Hospital delivered practical, hands-on training designed to prepare participants to act quickly and effectively during an emergency.

The programme teaches several key messages, including the fact that a person can bleed to death in less than five minutes and that immediate action taken before emergency services arrive can save lives. Participants learn simple but vital techniques to control catastrophic bleeding, using realistic training models to practise their skills in a safe environment.

Knife Savers has already demonstrated its impact locally. Last year, more than 40 young people took part in a training event at Preston North End's Deepdale Stadium, delivered by a multi-disciplinary team from the Royal Preston Hospital Emergency Department.

Emergency Department Navigator Shamim Hussain said: "Knife Savers training is about empowering young people with the skills and confidence to act in critical moments – because quick, informed action can save lives and strengthen our communities."

The initiative comes as communities continue to feel the impact of knife crime. Between July 2025 and June 2026, there were 187 knife crime offences recorded in Preston, according to Lancashire Violence Reduction Network figures, with 51 victims aged under 25 and 27 aged under 18.

To support the programme's growth, Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner has provided £11,040 in funding for advanced training equipment.

Alongside training, the programme is also expanding the rollout of Knife Savers Bleeding Control Packs in public spaces across Lancashire, helping ensure communities have access to emergency equipment when it is needed most.

With demand from schools and community organisations continuing to grow, LTH is working with partners across the county to extend the reach of the programme. Through education, collaboration, and practical skills training, the Trust is helping young people feel empowered to act in an emergency and contributing to safer, more resilient communities.

 Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)



Major Trauma team achieves outstanding patient survival outcomes

In May, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's Major Trauma Service at Royal Preston Hospital was recognised for achieving excellent patient survival outcomes, with more major trauma patients surviving than would be expected.

The results, reported through Athena data, reflect the expertise, dedication, and collaborative approach of colleagues across the Trust who provide care for some of the region's most seriously injured patients.

Royal Preston Hospital has served as the Major Trauma Centre for Lancashire and South Cumbria since 2012. The centre receives the most severely injured patients from across the region and cares for more than 1,200 patients each year who are eligible for inclusion in the National Major Trauma Registry.

As the region's designated adult Major Trauma Centre, Royal Preston Hospital also has the capability to receive and resuscitate children with major traumatic injuries before transferring them to specialist paediatric major trauma centres at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool or Royal Manchester Children's Hospital when required.

Major trauma describes serious injuries, either isolated or multiple, that can result in life-changing disability or death. Delivering the best possible outcomes relies on a coordinated pathway involving numerous teams and services, from the advanced pre-hospital care provided by North West Ambulance Service, North West Air Ambulance, and Great North Air Ambulance Service, through to emergency, diagnostic, surgical, and rehabilitation services within the Trust.

Around-the-clock access to CT scanning, MRI, ultrasound, laboratory diagnostics, and blood transfusion services enables rapid assessment and treatment, while 24/7 emergency theatre and interventional radiology provision supports urgent life-and limb-saving interventions.

Karen Fogarty, Major Trauma Service Manager, said: "Often for our major trauma patients, the road to recovery can be long, impacting our patients both physically and psychologically. Because of this, major trauma patients require assessment and treatment from our multi-disciplinary team, which includes nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, psychology, pain team, speech and language, dieticians, the major trauma patient support service, pastoral care, tissue viability, orthotics, and the rehabilitation services provided at the Specialist Mobility Rehabilitation Centre.

"The delivery of the major trauma pathway involves almost every department, service, and clinical discipline within the Trust, and includes support services such as security, portering, and domestic services, and we would like to thank every member of staff at the Trust for their continued collaborative support in the delivery and success of the major trauma service."

This achievement highlights the strength of multi-disciplinary team working across Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, with clinical and support teams working together to deliver high-quality care and improve outcomes for patients recovering from major trauma.

£1.48m NIHR investment to create new Centre for Stroke and Neurosciences at Royal Preston Hospital



Lancashire Teaching Hospitals has secured £1.48 million in capital funding from the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) to create a new Centre for Stroke, Neuroscience, and Ageing Research (CSNAR) at Royal Preston Hospital.

The funding forms part of the NIHR's £47.8 million national capital programme aimed at strengthening NHS research infrastructure and supporting greater access to clinical research.

Subject to approvals, the project will transform 198 square metres of currently unused space beneath the Rosemere Cancer Centre into a modern research hub. The facility will become an extension of the Trust's Centre for Health Research and Innovation and build on the work of the NIHR Lancashire Clinical Research Facility.

The new centre will bring together clinicians and academics from Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, the University of Lancashire and

Lancaster University to drive research in stroke, neuroscience and ageing.

The investment is particularly significant for Lancashire, which experiences some of the highest stroke rates and poorest outcomes in England, alongside high levels of long-term health conditions and health inequalities.

The hub will support commercial and academic studies, create opportunities for more patients to take part in pioneering research, and strengthen partnerships with local communities, primary care providers, and industry partners.

Professor Pierre Martin-Hirsch, Director of Research and Innovation, said: "This investment marks a major step forward for research in our region. By transforming the existing space into a dedicated home for stroke, neuroscience, and ageing research, we are building a future-ready, sustainable, and cost-effective research ecosystem that will directly benefit patients across Lancashire and South Cumbria."

Paul Brown, Deputy Director of Research and Innovation, added: "The new hub gives us the space and capability we need to expand commercial research, develop our academic partnerships, and provide more opportunities for local people to participate in ground-breaking studies. We are deeply grateful to NIHR and our university partners for their support."

The facility is expected to open in Spring 2027.

 Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

Trust's Endoscopy service making significant progress in reducing patient waits

The Trust's endoscopy service continues to make significant progress in reducing patient waits, with around 91% of patients now seen within six weeks, demonstrating sustained improvement against the national standard of 95%.

This represents a major step forward from just a few years ago, when fewer than 20% of patients were being seen within six weeks, highlighting the scale of transformation delivered by the team.

Performance continues to strengthen week on week. Recent operational data shows ongoing reductions in long waiters, with just 48 patients waiting over six weeks in the latest snapshot.

This improvement has been driven by a sustained focus on:

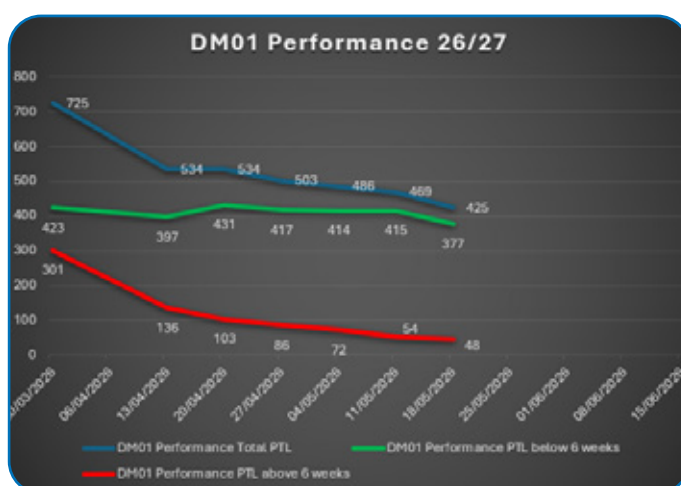
- Increasing capacity and maximising use of available sessions
- Investment in workforce and flexible staffing
- More efficient ways of working, including validation and improved scheduling.

Since April 2025, these efforts have delivered over a 78% reduction in overall waiting list size and nearly 95% reduction in long-waiting patients, underlining the impact of the programme.

Michael Finegan, Clinical Lead, said: "This is a huge achievement for the whole team. We've gone from being one of the lowest

performing services nationally to being close to the national standard – and we're still improving."

While the service has not yet reached the 95% national target, the trajectory remains positive. The focus now is on sustaining performance, further reducing the remaining long waiters, and continuing to improve patient access and experience.



Prestigious information literacy award for Lancashire Health Hub and Knowledge and Libraries Services

Siobhan Corrin and her Lancashire and South Cumbria Colleague were awarded the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals and University of Central Lancashire's Department of Information Studies Information Literacy Award 2026 at this year's Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference held in Sheffield, for leading on the development of the Lancashire Health Hub.

The award is for outstanding UK-based practice supporting information literacy which applies within a number of contexts including:

- **Everyday** – when people find information online
- **Citizenship** – helping people to understand the world around us
- **Education** – developing critical thinking skills at all stages of education, from school to higher education
- **The workplace** - contributing to employability
- **Health** – finding reliable sources of health information.

Head of Knowledge and Library Services Siobhan Corrin, said: "Winning this award is real recognition for the wide work libraries do to support the knowledge and health of our population.

"It feels great to get the credit for all the effort we have put in. The prize also means we can donate winnings to Sure Start Central Lancashire, supporting the great work they do too. I'm incredibly proud!"

The judges from Joint Information Systems Committee, Universities of Birmingham, and Robert Jordan were particularly impressed with the collaborative approach involving public libraries and health libraries across Lancashire, who target the most vulnerable public through outreach work, and the longevity of the hub as a trusted and reliable source of health-related information.

As part of their prize, £500 was donated to Sure Start Central Lancashire to allow them to support families and continue to develop and promote their important work.

Using local government data, with easy read and accessible content, the hub was created and designed specifically to support the local population to understand the world around them in a health care and digital context.

Whilst targeting deprivation through signposting to free data SIMS and courses to support employability, it also supports the health and digital literacy skills of health and social care staff through the professionals' side of the site.

The project will also be shared with Manchester University population health students as an example of good practice in reducing health inequalities and improving health literacy skills.



Trust steps in to host major surgical training conference

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust stepped in at short notice to support a major one-day surgical training conference, welcoming medical students and clinicians from across the UK.

The event, organised by the Lancashire Surgical Society and the University of Lancashire, was left without a venue just weeks before it was due to take place. The Trust's Education Centres team quickly relocated the conference to our state-of-the-art Preston learning facilities.

Close to 200 attendees, including medical students, junior doctors, and senior clinicians attended with participants travelling from across the country. The event featured a range of hands on surgical sessions, including laparoscopic (keyhole) training and specialist skills such as burr hole drilling and simulated plastic surgery techniques.

Joanne Satchell, Clinical Skills Tutor (Resuscitation and Simulation), said: "It was really interesting to see. The students were able to actually try procedures, get hands-on experience, and speak directly to specialists, which is invaluable. It gives them a real

insight into different career paths and helps them understand what area of medicine they might want to go into."

The Trust's Education Centres played a central role in the event's success, offering flexible, high-quality training facilities ideally suited to practical, skills-based learning.

Jo Ryder, Centre Co-Ordinator, said: "The Education Centres team have a lot of experience organising successful events. We offered practical advice on the set-up and worked closely with our Clinical Education colleagues to make sure everything was in place, coordinating logistics and preparing suitable training spaces so the event ran seamlessly."

Despite the tight turnaround time and scale of the event, feedback from organisers and delegates was extremely positive, with the Society incredibly grateful for the Trust's support at such short notice.

The event also helped strengthen collaborative links between the Trust and the University of Lancashire, creating a great opportunity to work more closely together and showcase what we can offer as an organisation.

Trust leads the way with national recognition for tackling food waste



Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has become the first Trust in the UK to receive an NHS England Food Data Gold Star, recognising our work in accurately tracking and reducing food waste across our hospital catering services.

The award, covering both Royal Preston Hospital and Chorley and South Ribble Hospital, reflects the Trust's commitment to sustainability, efficiency, and delivering the best possible service for patients. It follows the introduction of new national standards requiring NHS organisations to monitor food waste across three key areas: preparation waste, unserved meals, and plate waste left by patients.

Meeting these standards has involved a significant effort from catering teams, who now have to record food waste daily, weigh it and submit data to national reporting systems to support improvement across the NHS.

Trust Catering Manager, Andrew Dunne said: "It's straightforward in principle. You weigh the waste and record it – but it's about changing the way people work and embedding that culture day-to-day."

Catering Services Manager, Neal Cropper added: "It sounds simple, but it's about changing habits and making sure everyone follows the process consistently."

Alongside improving data collection, the Trust has made a substantial reduction in food waste by changing the way meals are planned and produced. Using patient ordering data and demand trends, teams now prepare meals more accurately, reducing over-production, while continuing to meet patient needs.

The new approach delivered immediate results, with food production falling by between 30 and 35 per cent in the first week. As a result, the Trust has reduced waste disposal costs, cut

unnecessary food purchasing and significantly lowered the volume of food discarded.

Andrew said: "We've now got a much better handle on what we're producing and what's being wasted."

Neal added: "Before, we were producing far more than we needed. Now we're using real data to guide production, which has made a big difference."

The savings generated are already helping to enhance services, enabling further investment in ingredients, menu choices, equipment, and staff development.

With around 850 meals served every day, hospital catering teams balance quality, nutrition, and safety while meeting the needs of a diverse patient population.

Andrew said: "We're dealing with vulnerable patients, often with weakened immune systems. Food safety is absolutely critical – it's not just about taste, it's about protecting people."

Achieving the Gold Star has required commitment from colleagues across the catering service; from chefs and supervisors to staff responsible for recording and submitting data.

Reflecting on the achievement, Andrew said: "It's a real achievement to be the first Trust to receive this. It shows the effort that's gone into getting it right. It's a nice pat on the back – and it's great to know we're leading the way."

As the Trust continues to build on this success, plans are already in place to further reduce waste, improve data quality, and expand menu options, ensuring patients benefit from a high-quality, sustainable catering service.

New defibrillators helping LTH teams deliver faster shocks and improved patient outcomes



Frontline teams across Royal Preston and Chorley and South Ribble Hospital are reporting increased confidence and quicker action during cardiac arrest events following the Trust's move to standardise the use of ZOLL R Series Plus defibrillators.

The decision to replace three different defibrillator models with a single, Trust-wide system was made to reduce complexity for staff, and improve the speed and quality of care.

With more than 9,000 clinical and non-clinical

colleagues requiring basic life support and defibrillator training, having consistent, easy to use equipment has been a significant step forward.

Clinical teams have already noted measurable improvements since the rollout, including earlier delivery of shocks thanks to increased staff confidence - previously, many staff waited for the Resuscitation Service team to arrive before defibrillating - reducing pre and post-shock pause times from around 25 seconds to 12–15 seconds, supported by See Thru CPR visual guidance, and an increase in

the number of patients achieving ROSC (return of spontaneous circulation) linked to earlier shocks.

Senior Resuscitation Officer, Neil Howarth said the improved confidence among colleagues has had a direct impact on patient care: "Ward staff now use the defibrillator more often when a cardiac arrest occurs. AED mode increases their confidence, so they deliver a shock before the Resuscitation Service team arrives."

To support the transition, the Resuscitation Service partnered with ZOLL's Clinical Implementation team, training 25 theatre specialists as Super Users and providing on ward refresher sessions at medical handovers.

This hands-on support helped ensure all staff - from healthcare assistants to ALS providers - were confident in using the new devices.

Assistant Training Officer, Kimberley Marie Barnes, highlighted the positive impact of this collaboration: "The deployment team built rapport and got staff on board better than we could. It really strengthened engagement across the organisation."

The R Series Plus powers on in AED mode, offering clear visual and audible prompts to guide CPR and defibrillation. ALS providers can switch to manual mode with a single button press when more advanced intervention is required.

Real time CPR feedback showing compression depth, rate, and rhythm - has provided a "wake up call" for many staff, helping them maintain high-quality CPR and improve performance during debriefs.

The Resuscitation Service continues to use data from Rescue Net Case Review alongside annual training to embed best practice and strengthen team responses across the Trust.

Trust secures land for proposed site for replacement for Royal Preston Hospital

In March, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals reached a significant milestone in plans for a replacement Royal Preston Hospital after completing the purchase of the final section of land on the proposed new site.

The land at Lancashire Central was purchased from Lancashire County Council as part of the Government's New Hospital Programme and completes the assembly of the site required for the proposed development.

Located between Stanifield Lane and Wigan Road in Farington, near the western end of the M65, the site will now enable further planning work and future public consultation on proposals for a new hospital.

Professor Silas Nicholls, Chief Executive of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, said: "Completing the final stage of land acquisition for the proposed site, supported through the Government's national New Hospital Programme, is an important milestone, while recognising that any decision about a new hospital will be subject to full public consultation and the necessary approvals.

"Securing this land allows us to continue developing plans for a modern facility that could significantly improve care for our communities. This progress has only been possible thanks to the close collaboration with our strategic partner, Lancashire County Council, whose support has been instrumental throughout."

Simon Lawrence, Director of Growth and Property at Lancashire County Council, described the sale as "an important practical step" that enables the next phase of work on the proposals.

Natalie Forrest, Chief Programme Officer of the New Hospital Programme, added: "This is an important milestone for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals and for the New Hospital Programme. Securing the full site provides greater confidence in developing proposals for a modern, fit for purpose hospital that could serve patients and communities for generations to come, subject to public consultation."

No final decision has yet been made on the location of a replacement hospital, and any future proposal will be subject to full public consultation and the necessary national and local approvals.

Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

Bishop of Burnley praises chaplaincy team during visit to Royal Preston Hospital



The Bishop of Burnley, Rt Rev Dr Joe Kennedy, visited Royal Preston Hospital earlier this year, praising the work of the Trust's chaplaincy team and reflecting on his own experience of receiving pastoral support while a hospital patient.

During the visit, Bishop Joe met chaplaincy colleagues in the chapel and Muslim prayer room before visiting departments including the Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit.

Having recently completed his first year in post, he spoke about the importance of chaplains providing spiritual care, companionship, and support to both patients and staff during difficult times.

He said: "When I get in the car and travel to places like this - to meet people, to chat, to see the work being done - it's incredibly inspiring. It's peaceful, too."

Reflecting on a recent hospital stay, he added: "I was so grateful to the doctors and nurses who cared for me. But one of the most moving moments was when a chaplain came to spend a little time with me. What they gave me was themselves, their time, their attention. They weren't there to do anything for me, but simply to be with me. That transformed my day."

Bishop Joe highlighted how illness can raise significant emotional and spiritual questions and praised chaplaincy staff for providing support regardless of faith or belief.

"Hospital days can be long," he said. "Having someone come simply to talk can be an enormous gift."

He also stressed the importance of pastoral support for NHS staff, adding: "Healthcare is hugely demanding, especially now. Having someone who wants to talk to you - not about the job, but about how you are - is invaluable."

Lead Chaplain Reverend, Fr Martin McDonald, said the visit left colleagues "feeling seen, valued, and spiritually renewed", describing Bishop Joe's interest in the work of the hospital community as deeply affirming.

 Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

Launch of 24/7 thrombectomy service for Lancashire and South Cumbria



Patients across Lancashire and South Cumbria are now benefiting from a 24/7 thrombectomy service at Royal Preston Hospital.

Introduced in February, the round-the-clock service – including Bank Holidays – provides access to one of the most effective emergency treatments available for certain types of stroke.

Mechanical thrombectomy is used to treat acute ischaemic stroke, which occurs when a blood clot blocks blood flow to part of the brain. The minimally invasive procedure removes the clot and restores circulation, significantly improving the chances of recovery and reducing long-term disability.

Every minute is critical during stroke treatment. Rapid access to thrombectomy can dramatically improve outcomes, reducing the risk of permanent brain damage, disability, and death.

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is one of only three specialist centres in the North West commissioned to provide thrombectomy services and has spent several years expanding the workforce, training specialist teams and enhancing infrastructure to support a full 24-hour service.

The move means patients who suffer a severe stroke at any time of the day or night can access life-saving treatment closer to home, reducing delays and helping ensure the best possible clinical outcomes.

The new service represents a major step forward for stroke care across the region and strengthens Royal Preston Hospital's position as a specialist neuroscience and stroke centre serving communities across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

For patients and their families, the benefit is clear: faster access to specialist treatment when every second counts, improving survival rates and helping more people return to independent living following a stroke.

 Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)



Royal Preston Hospital unveils newly refurbished helipad following £720,000 HELP Appeal-funded upgrade

In February, Royal Preston Hospital officially reopened its fully refurbished helipad following the completion of a £720,000 upgrade funded by the HELP Appeal.

The grant, the largest single charitable donation in Lancashire Teaching Hospitals' history, has enabled a complete modernisation of the helipad to meet current aviation safety and legislative standards.

Led by Trust Estates colleagues Mark Bishop and Louise Testa, alongside FWP Architects and Carefoot, the project introduced a new landing surface, upgraded lighting, enhanced safety fencing, improved signage, modernised aviation control systems, upgraded drainage and a new on-site weather station.

The improvements will enhance safety, reliability and efficiency for air ambulance operations serving patients across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

During the three-month refurbishment programme, emergency helicopter transfers continued uninterrupted thanks to a temporary landing site at Fulwood Barracks.

Speaking after the reopening, Mark said: "This investment represents a major step forward for emergency care in our region.

We are incredibly grateful to the HELP Appeal for their extraordinary generosity and for helping us provide the safest and most efficient environment for patients arriving by air ambulance."

The HELP Appeal has now invested £875,000 in Royal Preston Hospital's helipad facilities since 2009, following previous funding for advanced lighting and safety improvements.

Robert Bertram, Chief Executive of the HELP Appeal, said: "This modern, purpose-built helipad will make a vital difference by allowing patients in the most serious need to be brought straight to the hospital swiftly and safely at any time, day or night. Replacing the hospital's outdated facility, provides essential support to air ambulance teams and NHS staff, helping them deliver lifesaving care when every second matters."

The charity has funded 57 NHS helipads nationwide, including Royal Preston, Manchester Royal Infirmary, Salford Royal and Aintree University Hospital.

Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

★ Celebrating our colleagues



Prestigious national role for LTH consultant

Nick Wood, Consultant Gynaecological Oncologist at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, has been named Vice President (President Elect) of the British Gynaecological Cancer Society (BGCS).

Nick will initially take on the role of Vice President, with automatic progression to President in 2 years' time - a significant national leadership position within his specialty.

He has made an outstanding contribution to the BGCS over many years and has previously served as an officer (Honorary Secretary). During the COVID pandemic, he managed the process that supported the awarding of research grants that monitored the impact of the pandemic on women with gynaecological cancers. More recently, he led on the development of service specifications for gynaecological cancer care with the NHS England Specialised Commissioning team..

Since joining LTHTR, Nick has been involved in a number of large, multi-centre research studies focusing on ovarian cancer outcomes. Many of the research associations have been made through the BGCS community.

These projects have been supported by our gynaecology research nursing teams, highlighting the important role that research infrastructure plays in improving patient care.

Nick said: "It's a real privilege to be appointed Vice President of the BGCS. I'm proud to represent Lancashire Teaching Hospitals on the national stage and to work with colleagues across the UK to continue improving care and outcomes for women with gynaecological cancers."

This achievement not only recognises Nick's personal contribution but also demonstrates the wider impact of being a research-active organisation.

Investment in clinical research - including NIHR-funded research nurses - helps to raise standards of care, supports innovation, and enables our clinicians to take on influential national roles.

Nick's appointment further enhances the Trust's growing reputation on the national stage and supports our ambition to strengthen clinical academic activity and University Hospital status.



A final thank you to a wonderful colleague Theresa Heap

In June, Theresa Heap took a well-earned retirement after dedicating 48 years to the NHS, the people who needed to access it, and her colleagues.

With a true passion for all things kidney-related, Theresa worked for over 35 years in the Renal Department on the Renal Unit, in the Community Dialysis Team, as an Educator on the Renal Unit, and within the Transplant Team - and as a Renal Research Nurse based in the Research Department.

She is well known for her compassion, knowledge, and unwavering support for all people fortunate to know her, whether they be people who have received her care or her team members, colleagues and friends.

Theresa has often shared wonderful stories about life in the nurses' home, gatherings in the doctors' mess and how nursing and healthcare has transformed and evolved over the years. There is definitely the makings of a good book!

Alexandra McCarrick, Senior Research Nurse, said on behalf of the team: "We feel incredibly lucky she chose to spend the last 11 years with us in Research and Innovation.

"We hope she retires happy in the knowledge that she has given so much of her life to others and contributed to improved outcomes for the people we serve, as well as people all around the globe, who benefit from the discovery of new or improved treatments.

"Theresa we will miss you in work, but we wish you the happiest retirement, and look forward to staying in touch."





Rob celebrating a remarkable 30 years of service

This year marks 30 years at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals for Consultant Endoscopist, Rob Hart, whose career has combined clinical excellence, innovation and a commitment to improving patient care.

Rob joined the Trust in 1996 after training at St Thomas' Hospital Medical School in London and building his early career in general surgery. Although he originally planned to become an orthopaedic surgeon, his interests evolved and, after being appointed as a consultant surgeon at the Trust, he gradually found a new speciality that would shape the rest of his professional life.

Over time, Rob became increasingly involved in endoscopy before making it his sole clinical focus. Today, he is one of the Trust's most experienced endoscopists, having performed more than 22,000 colonoscopies alongside thousands of other endoscopic procedures during a career spanning four decades.

One of the highlights of his career came in 2008 when he joined the national bowel cancer screening programme.

"It's probably the best programme I've ever been involved with," he says. "Because you know it's saving lives. There's no doubt about that."

Rob has also become highly regarded for his expertise in complex procedures, regularly managing difficult referrals and helping patients who require advanced colonoscopy and large polyp removal techniques.

Throughout his career, he has been a strong advocate for innovation and continuous improvement in healthcare.

"One of my biggest bugbears is the idea that because services are busy, we can't do anything new," he says. "Standing still in medicine isn't standing still, it's falling behind. If you don't keep developing, you're moving backwards."

Away from work, Rob has enjoyed success in several pursuits, including rowing, golf, chess, motorcycling, and music. As a talented junior rower, he achieved national success and famously finished ahead of future Olympic legend Sir Steve Redgrave in a junior race.

Although he officially retired and returned in 2020, taking just a single day off before returning to support services through the pandemic, Rob continues to share his knowledge and experience with colleagues and patients while gradually reducing his hours.

Reflecting on three decades at the Trust, he said: "I've worked with wonderful teams of nurses and colleagues over the years. That's what stays with you."

 Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)



Cardiac Rehab Nurse wins National Special Recognition award

A dedicated member of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals' cardiac rehabilitation team was honoured with a prestigious national award in March for her exceptional commitment to supporting people living with heart failure.

Samantha Young, Lead Cardiac Rehab Nurse at Royal Preston Hospital, has been selected by the Pumping Marvellous Foundation to receive one of their esteemed Special Recognition Awards, marking her outstanding contribution to patient care and wellbeing.

The Pumping Marvellous Foundation - the UK's patient-led heart failure charity - recognises healthcare professionals, patients, and advocates across the country who go above and beyond to improve the lives of people with heart failure.

Samantha's compassion, leadership, and unwavering dedication stood out.

Pumping Marvellous CEO, Nick Hartshorne-Evans, praised Samantha's impact on patients and the wider community: "Sam, you are everything cardiac rehab could hope for in a nurse. If we could copy and paste you, we absolutely would. Your approach and the encouragement you give patients, especially those with conditions such as heart failure, is both refreshing and deeply reassuring. You help people believe in their ability to live well."

He added: "Your enthusiasm and guidance inspire patients to take charge of their condition, make positive changes, and become more active and better informed. You are a true champion of the charity and everything we stand for. In short, we think you are marvellous. Thank you for being you."

Samantha said: "Cardiac rehab has evolved over recent years. The team at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals have worked hard to implement change and provide a comprehensive service for patients. We are no longer just facilitators of exercise sessions following a cardiac event, instead, in partnership with our patients, we promote health behaviour change.

"It is about empowering individuals with knowledge, power and autonomy to take control of their condition. We support patients to understand their hearts, risk factors and choices so they can return to full active and meaningful lives in a sustainable way. We recognise that these changes can be delivered in a variety of modes to meet patient needs, and the The NICE-recommended Pumping Marvellous platform compliments the work we do beautifully.

"Every day we witness patients rebuilding their lives after a heart attack, surgery and heart failure diagnosis. It is a privilege to be part of their journey and work with such a dedicated team."

Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Nursing Officer appointed as University of Cumbria Professor of Practice



Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is proud to announce that Chief Nursing Officer and Deputy Chief Executive, Sarah Morrison, has been awarded an honorary Professor of Practice role with the University of Cumbria's Institute of Health.

Sarah returns to her alma mater in recognition of her outstanding contribution to nursing leadership, research, and the advancement of clinical practice across Lancashire and

South Cumbria. Sarah completed her nursing diploma and degree at University of Cumbria and is delighted to be returning to work in partnership with her home university.

In addition to her leadership role at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, Sarah is the Lead Provider Chief Nurse for Research across the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System, championing innovation and ensuring research is embedded into everyday clinical practice.

Sarah has supported her team to contribute to national developments including a research manual for matrons and enabling many colleagues to undertake research degrees and apply for prestigious fellowships.

She has also contributed to European research and impact in her role as Principal Investigator for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals in the

Magnet4Europe study – a landmark project aimed at transforming the health and wellbeing of nurses to improve patient safety and quality of care. In this study, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Trust achieved an outstanding ranking of third out of 67 participating organisations for safety culture.

Sarah was also the executive sponsor for the Trust's team that participated in the national NHS Race and Health Observatory maternity improvement programme focused on reducing the incidence of postpartum haemorrhage in global majority women.

A driving force for education, research and innovation, Sarah has been instrumental too in implementing new workforce models and supporting the development of new clinical roles. These include expanding Advanced Clinical Practitioner roles, enabling career progression for nursing, midwifery and allied health professionals. The Professor of Practice role recognises individuals eminent in their field of practice and draws upon their talent and standing to enhance the curriculum, experience and environment for students.

Sarah Morrison said: "I am honoured to have been awarded the role of Professor of Practice with the University of Cumbria. The university has played such an important part in shaping both my personal and professional journey, I have been inspired by so many in the university and I know it holds the same significance for many others too.

"I am so excited to have the opportunity to work with the university and contribute in a meaningful way to its ongoing mission to inspire and equip graduates, communities, the economy and the environment to thrive.

Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

Consultant takes national leadership role with Royal College



A Lancashire Teaching Hospitals consultant has been appointed as one of five new Vice Presidents of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), while continuing her clinical role at the Trust.

Consultant Obstetrician, Jenny Barber, who joined the Trust in 2023, will serve a three-year term as Vice President, where she will spend two days a week with the RCOG, helping shape national policy, clinical guidance, and workforce planning across maternity and gynaecology services.

Jenny said: "I feel hugely privileged to have been given this opportunity, but also a strong sense of responsibility. I've been elected to the Vice President team very much as a practising, frontline obstetrician, and my aim is to help strengthen the connection between what happens on the ground and the policies that shape care nationally."

Jenny's appointment strengthens links between Lancashire Teaching Hospitals and national professional bodies, creating opportunities for frontline experience from the Trust to help inform national healthcare discussions.

Since joining the Trust, Jenny has held leadership roles including Lead Consultant For Delivery Suite And Obstetric Governance Lead, with a focus on patient safety, service improvement, and learning. She has also worked closely with the Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership to ensure patient perspectives are reflected in service development.

Jenny added: "This is a really exciting opportunity, and I hope it brings tangible benefits to the Trust as well as helping to improve maternity and gynaecology care nationally over the next three years."

Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

From cleaner to nursing leader: a career journey that shows what's possible



Donna Calder's NHS career is a powerful example of how determination, lifelong learning and the right support can open unexpected doors. Now Head of Student, Trainee and Placement Support at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, Donna's journey began more than 25 years ago in a very different role – as a cleaner on the wards.

Having grown up in Preston and been the first in her family

to consider higher education, Donna always wanted to become a nurse but initially felt university was beyond her reach.

She said: "I always wanted to go into nursing. I was fascinated by the human body. But I'm a Preston girl, grew up on a local council estate and I was the first in my family to even think about university. At 17, I didn't feel supported and didn't really know how to apply, so it just didn't feel like the right time. I still wanted to work in healthcare though."

After joining the Trust as a cleaner in 2000, Donna progressed through a variety of support roles, including positions in healthcare, pathology, and medical records. When the time felt right, she pursued nursing training while raising a young family, qualifying through a diploma route before beginning her nursing career

in gynaecology.

Her career continued to evolve, moving into specialist nursing before discovering a passion for education and workforce development. She later worked in higher education, teaching student nurses and apprentices, while also completing a Master's degree and starting a professional doctorate.

Today, Donna leads work to support student nurses and trainees across the Trust, helping to ensure learners receive high-quality placements and guidance throughout their training.

Reflecting on her journey, she said: "I would have loved to have been a doctor, but I was always told I wasn't clever enough - that children from council estates don't become doctors, nurses or teachers. But I had that fire in me to prove people wrong, and I did."

She is passionate about supporting the next generation of healthcare professionals and ensuring students feel valued from the outset.

For those considering a career in nursing, Donna offers an honest perspective: "It's not easy. It's tough emotionally and physically, and I think life experience really helps. But it's also the most rewarding job I've ever had. It's the start of an incredible journey."

Despite moving into leadership, she remains proud of her nursing roots.

"I still have my registration. I'm still a nurse at heart. Without that, I wouldn't be here. And that's the thing about nursing - it can take you anywhere."

Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)

Consultant appointed interim National Medical Examiner for England and Wales

Earlier this year, Consultant in Critical Care, Dr Huw Twamley was appointed interim National Medical Examiner (NME) for England and Wales for a 12-month term, one of the most senior leadership roles in patient safety and mortality review.

The appointment reflects Dr Twamley's extensive experience. He previously served for six years as Regional Medical Examiner for the North West, supporting 19 Medical Examiner offices and helping to establish consistent governance and best practice around death certification and patient death reviews.

As interim National Medical Examiner, he will now provide strategic leadership across 126 Medical Examiner offices involving more than 1,500 Medical Examiners and around 4,500 Medical Examiner Officers across England and Wales.

Dr Twamley said: "We are not just a death certification service. We have become a voice for the bereaved, encouraged transparency

and openness within healthcare organisations and identified valuable learning to improve care."



Alongside his national responsibilities, Dr Twamley continues doctoral research at the University of Greater Manchester into the impact of the Medical Examiner system on coronial jurisdictions and teaches on the university's Masters in Coronal Law programme.

The Medical Examiner system reviews more than half a million deaths each year and helps ensure appropriate referrals to coroners, identifies patient safety concerns, and supports learning across the NHS.

Dr Twamley added: "The challenge is making sure all of that works consistently and has

the greatest possible impact."

Read more on our website. Please [click here](#)



GOVERNORS' UPDATE

Appointed Governors



Michelle Brown



Lou Jackson



Daniel Matchett



Suleman Sarwar

Public Governors



Pav Akhtar



Takhsin Akhtar



George Bailey



Susan Bailey



Linda Bracewell



Sheila Brennan



Darrell Brooks



Phil Curwen



Ian Facer



Graham Fullarton



Angela Kos



Terry Lindsay



Zulekha Mushtaq



Carole Oldcorn



Enid Povey



Christine Pownall



Graham Robinson



Christine Turner



Tim Young

Staff Governors



Sheila Beale



Sonia Connell



Ian Linacre



George-Adrian Rata



Tom Ramsay

Being a Governor

Governors are elected by Trust members, both public and staff, or are nominated by some of our partner organisations. Elections to the Council of Governors take place at the beginning of each year, and governors generally serve a three-year term of office, beginning in April.

Governors are the direct representatives of local communities; they challenge the Board of Directors and hold the Non-Executive Directors to account for the performance of the board. Governors also represent the interests of NHS Foundation Trust members

and the public and provide them with information on the Trust's performance and forward plan.

The Council of Governors holds four meetings each year which are open to the public. The agenda papers are published in advance and are available on the website for the current year and the previous year. Regular workshops are arranged to support Governors to keep up to date with developments in the NHS, the healthcare needs of the local community, and our strategy and performance.

Elections are generally held in March each year. If you would like to consider standing for election, please e-mail corporateaffairs@lthtr.nhs.uk



Charity funding supports staff wellbeing across the trust

Charitable funding is helping to support the wellbeing of colleagues across Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust through the launch of the new 'Rest, Rehydrate & Refuel' campaign.

Led by the Trust's Health and Wellbeing Team, the campaign has been running since February 2026 and focuses on raising awareness of the importance of rest, hydration, nutrition and sleep. These are all essential for maintaining good health and wellbeing and play a vital role in delivering safe, effective and compassionate patient care.

Thanks to charitable funding, colleagues across the Trust have received branded water bottles, mugs, and printed cookbooks, alongside practical wellbeing resources including free fruit, bottled water, and information to encourage healthy habits both at work and at home.

The campaign was developed in response to Staff Survey feedback over the past three years, which consistently identified sleep and healthy eating as key wellbeing priorities. By responding directly to this feedback, charitable funding is helping to provide colleagues with practical tools and resources to support their health and wellbeing.

By investing in the wellbeing of staff, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity continues to make a positive difference across the Trust, helping colleagues feel valued and supported so they can continue providing the best possible care for patients and their families.



Fourth annual charity abseil raises £7,200

The fourth annual charity abseil at Peel Tower has raised an impressive £7,220 for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, supporting wards, departments, and causes across the Trust's hospitals, including Baby Beat.

A total of 25 supporters took on the challenge, helping to make this year's event another fundraising success. Among those taking part were Emma Templeton and Sophie McLean from the Trust's Neurosurgery Therapy Team, who completed the abseil to celebrate a combined 16 years of working in the NHS.

The funds raised will help support projects and initiatives that enhance care and experiences for patients, families and staff across the Trust.

Thank you to everyone who took part, donated, volunteered, or supported the event from the sidelines. Thanks also go to event sponsor Frank Whittle Partnership, together with the teams at Outdoor Activities Service and Alternative Adventure, whose support helped make the fourth annual charity abseil another memorable and successful event.



Charity ball raises over £3,000

The first Trust Summer Charity Ball, organised by Medical Director Steve Canty and colleagues, took place earlier in June at Preston's Marriott Hotel, bringing together nearly 150 staff members and supporters from across Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

The inaugural event raised more than £3,000 through ticket sales, a raffle, and an auction. The funds will be shared between Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, Baby Beat, and Rosemere Cancer Foundation.

The money raised will help support a range of initiatives across the Trust, including patient and staff wellbeing projects, research, specialist training, and the purchase of cutting-edge equipment that would not otherwise be possible without charitable support.

The evening also provided an opportunity for colleagues from across the Trust to come together in support of three charities that make a real difference to patients, families, and staff.

A huge thanks to Steve Canty, the organising team and everyone who attended, donated, or supported the event. Your generosity helped make the first Trust Summer Charity Ball a great success and has provided valuable funding that will benefit patients and staff across the organisation.

Colourful graphics brighten Children's Emergency Department



Children and families visiting the Paediatric Emergency Department at Royal Preston Hospital are now being welcomed into a brighter, more engaging environment thanks to a major transformation led by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity and its supporters.

Completed earlier this year, the project has introduced a series of colourful graphics and murals throughout the department, helping to create a more comforting and child-friendly space for young patients and their families.

Designed by Lancashire-based company Marvel @ Signs, the artwork features cheerful jungle animals, nature-inspired scenes and vibrant colours, all carefully chosen to help reduce anxiety and provide a distraction for children during what can often be a stressful hospital visit.

The transformation includes large-scale wall illustrations, decorative borders, bespoke panels, and a range of creative features that

brighten key areas of the department. Since the artwork was installed, staff have already received positive feedback from children and families, many of whom have enjoyed spotting the different animals and exploring the colourful designs.

Emma Creaser, Matron for the Paediatric Assessment Unit and Paediatric Emergency Department, said the new look has had an immediate impact.

"We're absolutely delighted with the murals. They have transformed the department, making it a much more welcoming and engaging place for children and families," she said.

"We've already seen how the artwork helps distract and comfort young patients, and staff have commented on the lift it brings to the whole space."

The project was made possible thanks to funding coordinated by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, alongside generous support from sponsors including the Rhodi Charitable Trust.

A spokesperson for Marvel @ Signs said the designs were developed to bring "moments of joy and distraction" for children during challenging circumstances, while the Rhodi Charitable Trust said it hoped its contribution would "put some smiles on the faces of young children".

Rebecca Arestidou, Trust Fundraiser and Project Officer, added:

"We're thrilled to support improvements that directly enhance patient experience. Projects like this simply wouldn't happen without the generosity of our supporters and sponsors."

The vibrant artwork is already helping to create a warmer, more reassuring environment for the thousands of children and families who use the department every year.

Jen's colourful murals transform ENT Outpatients

Patients and visitors to the ENT Outpatients Department at Royal Preston Hospital are being welcomed by a bright new look thanks to the generosity and creativity of a local interior designer.

The department's waiting area has been transformed from a plain clinical space into a vibrant environment filled with oversized flowers, leafy greenery, butterflies, ladybirds and bees, all hand-painted onto the walls by Jen Quinn, founder of Bamber Bridge-based Jennifer Quinn Interiors.

Jen donated her time, talent, and materials to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, spending around six days creating the mural as a gift to the department and its patients.

The project has a deeply personal connection for Jen. Her husband, Paul, underwent treatment at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals after being diagnosed with a salivary gland cancer. Through his care journey, Jen saw first-hand the anxiety and uncertainty many patients experience while waiting for appointments.

Jen said: "I know some patients sitting in ENT waiting for their appointment will be feeling overwhelmed and anxious. The murals can't make them better, but hopefully they can bring some momentary joy and lightness."



The transformation has already received glowing feedback from patients and staff, who say the colourful artwork has helped create a warmer and more welcoming atmosphere.

Dan Hill, Head of Charities at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, praised Jen's contribution.

"Our thanks go to Jen for her wonderful

work in ENT Outpatients," he said. "The feedback from staff and patients has been incredibly positive. People of all ages love the murals."

Jen launched her interior design business in 2024 after a 15-year career as a forensic scientist and now she specialises in creating colourful, wellbeing-focused spaces.

She believes thoughtful design can make a real difference to how people feel, particularly in healthcare settings.

"If I can make someone's hospital visit a little lighter," she said, "that means everything to me."

The project is a wonderful example of how creativity, kindness, and community support can help improve the experience of patients and families across the Trust.



Team Blossom celebrates first year supporting young parents

A pioneering maternity service for young parents will shortly celebrate its first anniversary after providing dedicated support to dozens of families across Central Lancashire.

Launched by Baby Beat in partnership with Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the Young Parent Maternity Service, known as Team Blossom, was made possible through a £199,800 grant from NHS Charities Together's Innovation Challenge Fund. The service was created to offer specialist, personalised care to expectant parents aged 19 and under from Preston, Chorley, Leyland and South Ribble.

Over the past 12 months, Team Blossom's specialist midwives and maternity support worker have delivered wraparound care designed specifically for the needs of young families. The service provides continuity of care throughout pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period, ensuring parents are supported by familiar faces at every stage of their journey.

In addition to clinical care, the team has offered home visits, antenatal education, preparation for birth sessions, coffee mornings, and drop-in events, helping young parents build confidence, access advice and connect with others in similar situations.

The service was established in response to evidence showing that younger parents can face additional health, social, and economic challenges during pregnancy and early parenthood. By providing tailored support and early intervention, Team Blossom aims to improve outcomes for both parents and babies while helping families make the best possible start.

A year on, the service has become a valued part of maternity care at Sharoe Green Maternity Unit, supporting families through what can often be a life-changing and sometimes daunting experience.

Baby Beat and Lancashire Teaching Hospitals are now celebrating the impact Team Blossom has already made and look forward to building on its success, ensuring young parents continue to receive the dedicated support they need to thrive as they begin family life.

Founder's legacy lives on through donation to Baby Beat



A special donation from the family and friends of Baby Beat co-founder Mr Ian Wilson Manson is helping to ensure his remarkable legacy continues to support families across Lancashire.

More than £4,300 raised at a memorial service celebrating the life of the respected Consultant

Obstetrician and Gynaecologist has been gifted to Baby Beat, the charity he helped establish nearly four decades ago. The total of £4,333.44 includes a £1,000 family donation made to mark Mr Manson's 94th birthday in 2025.

Mr Manson, who passed away in November 2025, was a consultant at Sharoe Green Maternity Unit from 1969 until his retirement in 1995. Alongside Senior Midwife, Anne Boyce, he launched the Baby Beat Appeal in 1987 to raise funds for specialist equipment that would improve the monitoring of mothers and unborn babies.

His foresight and determination helped shape the organisation that Baby Beat has become today. As the appeal's first Chairman, Mr

Manson ensured it was built on strong foundations, introducing formal governance arrangements that protected donated funds and enabled the charity to grow. The appeal's success saw Sharoe Green become the first maternity unit in the UK with a fully operational electronic foetal monitoring system linked to a computer.

Over the years, Mr Manson remained a passionate supporter and fundraiser, helping secure major donations and raising awareness throughout the local community. By 2010, Baby Beat had celebrated raising its first £1 million.

The latest donation was presented to Baby Beat Fundraising Manager, Joanna Allitt by two of Mr Manson's children, Thomas Manson and Sue Carr.

Thomas described his father as a pioneer who was deeply committed to improving maternal and baby health, but who remained modest about his achievements throughout his life.

Joanna said: "Without Mr Manson and the supporters of the original Baby Beat Appeal, today's Baby Beat simply wouldn't exist. We are incredibly grateful for this donation, which will help us continue the legacy he created for future generations of families."

Nearly 40 years after its launch, Mr Manson's vision continues to make a lasting difference to maternity and neonatal care across the region.



Walk in the Dark

Rosemere's annual Walk in the Dark saw a record number of sign ups, with 600 people register to take part in the night time trek from Chorley to Preston.

Thank you to all of our colleagues who took on the challenge, or otherwise supported the event by helping it run so smoothly - you helped the charity to raise over £60,000!

Trekkers raise more than £43,000 for hospital charities



A team of dedicated Lancashire Teaching Hospitals colleagues have raised an incredible £43,572.16 for the Trust's hospital charities after completing a challenging trek to Angkor Wat in Cambodia.

The group, which formed part of a 27-strong team of charity supporters, took on the multi-day expedition in aid of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Charity, Baby Beat, and Rosemere Cancer Foundation.

Representing the Trust were Sue Swire, Lucy Koh, Colin Jennings, Graham Hargreaves, Steven Stov, Debbie Bolton, Nicholas Holmes, Clare Taylor, Tara Lamb, Sophie Rogers, Rebecca Brierley, and Harley Walsh, alongside Baby Beat shop volunteer Sandra Latimer.

Their adventure began with a 13-hour flight to Siem Reap before embarking on a five-day camping trek to the world-famous Angkor Wat temple complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site often described as the Eighth Wonder of the World. Over the course of the week, the team walked up to 25 kilometres a day in challenging conditions, all while raising funds to support patients and families across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

The total was revealed at a recent reunion organised by Rosemere Cancer Foundation Fundraising Manager, Sue Swire, giving the

team an opportunity to celebrate their achievement and reflect on the experience.

The gathering also welcomed back Oncology Performance Manager, Tracey Palmer, who had originally signed up for the trek to raise money for Rosemere Cancer Foundation. Although Tracey was unable to take part after being diagnosed with breast cancer and undergoing treatment, she remained a valued part of the team's fundraising efforts.

Sue said: "Tracey continued to support the group and fundraise. She was with us not only in spirit but also in the form of a cushion printed with her photo that accompanied us throughout the expedition.

"It was great to catch up with the group and reveal the collective amount members had raised through their individual sponsorship. We're all absolutely delighted with the final total and so grateful to everyone who supported us."

A huge congratulations and thank you to everyone who took part, donated, and supported the challenge. The funds raised will help make a real difference to patients and their families through the work of our hospital charities.

Radiotherapy Runners

A team of our therapeutic radiographers took on the Liverpool Half Marathon in March and succeeded in raising a fantastic £1,625 for Rosemere.

The team of cancer centre colleagues was made up of Olivia Ashby, David Whitney, Erin Scott, Annie Prescott, Lauren Oates, and Katie Ashcroft. Both David and Katie completed the half marathon course in under two hours, with Lauren and Annie crossing the finishing line together in around two hours, 17 minutes.

Erin and Olivia ran the 10 Mile race in tandem, finishing in just under two hours. Over the years, we've funded many projects for the radiotherapy department, and it's fantastic to see our radiotherapy colleagues demonstrating just how committed they are to supporting their patients by helping to raise funds in this way.



Rosemere Eid dinner is fundraising feast for Rosemere



A formal dinner celebrating Eid, that also champions the work of Rosemere Cancer Foundation, organised and hosted annually by Trust Consultant Chest Physician and Interventional Pulmonologist Professor Mohammed Munavvar this year raised almost £12,000 for the charity.

Held at Preston's Imperial Banqueting Suite, the ticketed dinner had a guest list of 200. Among the guests were local councillors, including the Mayoress of Preston Nweeda Khan, and many of Professor Munavvar's colleagues, executive officers and Board of Governors, as well as family and friends.

Guests also included a delegation from Preston's Slow Spokes Cycling Club, who are planning a fundraising ride to mark Rosemere Cancer Foundation's 30th birthday next year. Another of the charity's longstanding supporters, Preston tile, bathroom and kitchen company, Roccia took a table for its staff to enjoy the evening, as did the team from Issa Medical Centre.

During the event, Professor Munavvar took to the podium to update guests on a project he is currently working on with Rosemere Cancer Foundation. The charity has agreed to fund one of the most advanced endoscopic tools available for real-time, ultrasound guided examinations and procedures within the bronchial tree for Professor Munavvar.

The scope will enable earlier, faster, and more accurate diagnosis of lung conditions, including lung cancer, as it is able to access parts of the lung that current conventional scopes often fail to reach.

There were also presentations by Consultant Clinical Oncologist

Professor Alison Birtle, who combines work at Rosemere Cancer Centre with research and honorary teaching posts at both the University of Manchester and University of Lancashire, and Dan Hill, Chief Officer of Rosemere Cancer Foundation and the Trust's Head of Charities.

Dan Hill said: "As always, Professor Munavvar's dinner was a great event. Not only was it a lovely way to spend the evening, it was also hugely successful in helping to raise funds for our projects, including the scope project."



Katie helps patients grow hope through gardening initiative

A specialist therapeutic radiographer at Rosemere Cancer Centre is encouraging patients to discover the benefits of gardening after securing a generous donation of free seeds.

Katie Fisher has launched a new initiative that invites radiotherapy patients to take home packs of flower and vegetable seeds donated by seed company Mr Fothergills. The donation of 500 seed packs, worth £1,250, aims to support patients' physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing during and after cancer treatment.

Katie, who is passionate about the restorative power of nature, said gardening can help reduce stress, improve wellbeing, and build strength and dexterity. She hopes the project will inspire patients to look ahead with optimism and enjoy the simple pleasure of nurturing plants and watching them grow.

The initiative was inspired in part by a famous quote from film and fashion icon Audrey Hepburn: "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."

Katie said: "We treat a diverse population of patients from across Lancashire and South Cumbria. By offering seeds to all patients, we hope that people who may never have considered gardening before can give it a try without any cost or commitment."

The project also includes a seed swap area within the department, where patients can share seeds collected from their own gardens. Katie hopes this will help encourage people to spend time outdoors, connect with nature and spark conversations between patients who may be going through similar experiences.

The initiative builds on Katie's previous work to improve the patient environment. Last year, she received nearly £6,000 from Rosemere



Cancer Foundation to transform radiotherapy waiting areas with images of beauty spots from across Lancashire and South Cumbria, helping bring the outdoors indoors.

Hannah Leahy, Assistant Fundraiser for Rosemere Cancer Foundation, said: "Giving patients seeds to grow so they can get outside and enjoy nature is such a positive idea."

The project has been supported by Rosemere Cancer Foundation, which funds equipment, research, training, and innovative initiatives that help make cancer treatment journeys more comfortable and less stressful for patients across Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Step out and unwind with a Rosemere Ramble

Patients, visitors, and staff at Rosemere Cancer Centre are being encouraged to take a few moments for themselves and enjoy a gentle walk as part of a new wellbeing initiative designed to promote physical and mental health.

Known as the Rosemere Rambles, the four routes have been developed by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Planning Officer Tracey Calvey, who is involved in the Trust's Green Plan and biodiversity programme. The walks all start from the cancer centre and have been created to help people make the most of the restorative benefits of spending time outdoors and practising mindfulness.

Three of the routes take visitors around the Royal Preston Hospital grounds, including the hospital lake, home to resident swans and ducks. Details of the walks can be found on a new information board outside the centre's main entrance, as well as on two additional boards near the lake. QR codes link walkers to route maps and guidance on mindful walking techniques.

Tracey explained: "The benefits of exercise are well documented, but not everyone wants or is able to run a marathon. Rosemere Rambles are a series of short routes that support both physical and mental wellbeing through being outdoors and taking time to practise mindfulness."

The outdoor walks range from a 1,000-step, half-mile stroll taking around 12 to 15 minutes, through to a mile-long trail of

approximately 2,000 steps. There is also an indoor route, known as The Amble, which leads walkers to Charters Restaurant, offering a welcoming space for a coffee, snack, or a moment of relaxation.

The project was funded by a £5,972 grant from Rosemere Cancer Foundation, which covered the cost of the signage.

Dan Hill, Head of Charities and Rosemere Cancer Foundation Chief Officer, said: "We're delighted to support the Rosemere Rambles. The routes are short and accessible, making them ideal for patients waiting for transport, visitors with time to spare, or staff taking a break. In just a few minutes, they could make a really positive difference to someone's day."



Dates for your diary 2026/7

The Corporate Calendar can be viewed on our website
lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/corporate-calendar

Annual Members' Meeting

Monday 5 October 2026	2pm – 4pm	Sir Tom Finney Room, The County Ground, Lancashire FA, Thurston Road, Leyland. PR25 2LF
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Board of Directors' Meetings

Thursday 6 August 2026	9:15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 1 October 2026	9:15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 3 December 2026	9:15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 4 February 2027	9:15am – 3pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital

Council of Governors' Meetings

Thursday 22 October 2026	1pm–4pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital
Thursday 21 January 2027	1pm–4pm	Lecture Room 1, Education Centre 1, Royal Preston Hospital

Members are welcome to come along to the public section of both the Council of Governors and Board of Directors meetings to observe and listen to the Governors and Board Members discussing Trust business.

Council of Governors' meetings are held four times per year and any member of staff or the public are welcome to attend. Please note that meeting dates may occasionally be subject to change.

Please email company.secretary@lthtr.nhs.uk if you would like to observe any of the meetings.

All public events are advertised on our website: www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

To view **TRUST Matters** online go to: www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/trust-matters



Save the date

Annual Members' Meeting Monday 5th October, 2pm-4pm.

Sir Tom Finney Room, the County Ground,
Lancashire FA, Thurston Road, Leyland, PR25 2LF.
Please [click here](#) for more information

Trust Matters is available in different versions including audio. If you require this magazine in a different format, please contact the Membership Office.

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