The best in Britain

OUR Trust has been named Acute Healthcare Organisation of the Year. Staff attended a prestigious ceremony for the annual Health Service Journal (HSJ) Awards 2010 in London on 29 November. It is one of the most important award ceremonies for the NHS and our Trust received the top award. The HSJ is a leading publication on health policy and management and the award attracted strong competition from eight other hospital trusts.

Judges travelled the country to meet staff and hear about work taking place at each of the organisations. Chairman Sukhdev Sharma said the award was a fantastic achievement for the Trust and an accolade every member of staff, volunteer and Trust member could be proud of. “This is a real cause for celebration and national recognition of the great achievements we have made as a Trust thanks to our staff and supporters. Every one of them can be proud.”

Chief executive Diane Whittingham said: “I would like to thank our staff, patients and our membership who all worked together to showcase the work of the Trust – this recognises them and all their efforts. “No organisation works in isolation and so this award also shows the strength of the system we work in and our local authority and primary care partners. “The competition was extremely strong for the award so to receive it in those circumstances is a real honour.”

Celebration: Ward 12 staff with the HSJ trophy

Keeping you informed and involved

Introduction by Chairman Sukhdev Sharma
Welcome to the latest edition of your newsletter, and a special welcome to our new Membership Councillors and Foundation Trust members.

Our staff and Membership Councillors welcome the opportunity to meet many of you, and show some of our achievements and service developments at our popular Annual General Meeting and Health Fair on December 7. I hope that you enjoy reading our review on page two.

The year 2010 ended on a celebratory note for everyone at our Trust, when we were named the Acute Healthcare Organisation of the Year in the annual Health Service Journal Awards. The award celebrates all the excellence, endeavour, innovation and inspiration within the healthcare profession and receiving it is a testament to the high quality services provided by our dedicated staff.

I would like to thank all our staff, volunteers and members for making our Trust one of the very best in the country.

With your continued commitment and support, we are well placed to meet the challenges of the future and that’s great news for our patients and our local communities. Sukhdev Sharma, Chairman

Update your details!

We TRY to keep our members’ database as accurate as possible but we do rely on you to tell us about any changes.

We have a facility for you to update your personal contact details, membership preferences, areas of interest and take part in web-based surveys on our secure members’ portal website.

The development is one of the first of its kind within the NHS and it aims to improve communications with you, our members.

You will need your unique membership number in order to access the area.

Please contact the membership office on 01484 347342 to find out your number, and then keep it in a safe place for future reference and use.

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Refurbished Ward reopens

STAFF and patients are now back on ward 21 after £1.9 million refurbishment. It is the single biggest-ever specialist ward upgrade at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary designed for patients recovering from strokes.

The opening ceremony was on December 20 where former patients were the special VIP guests.

Special features for ward 21 include wet rooms instead of bathrooms to make access easier, special lighting to help patients whose sight has been affected and a therapy area which has a kitchen where patients can be assessed and re-learn domestic chores as part of their rehabilitation.

Ward 10 – a general ward was recently completed at a similar cost – and other wards and lift areas have been refurbished as part of the rolling programme.

Ceremony: Keith Walker and David Tinsley and Mr Walker’s wife Wendy join staff at the re-opening of Ward 21 – patients have been supporters and fund-raisers for the ward

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Meet the Council Member
Joanna Birch

Why did you want to become a member of this Foundation Trust?
I have worked for the Trust for a long time and, as I am very proud of the work that we do, I wanted to play a greater role in sharing that with the public.

What are our strengths as an FT?
Excellent patient care and strong financial position.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?
Probably a few weeks on holiday, somewhere hot, with a pile of good books.

What is your best ever present?
A surprise trip to New York from my husband Mark.

How do you relax?
I used to play hockey. Now I’ve retired from playing, I enjoy umpiring matches – despite the abuse!

What is the most important aspect of your work?
Making sure that we deliver the best possible services for our patients.

What is your most treasured possession?
My grandma’s engagement ring.

What is your favourite film scene?
Anything from House of Flying Daggers.

Membership Council election results announced

THS’s year’s elections to the Membership Council took place in the summer, and the results were announced at our AGM on October 7th. There was a strong field of candidates from many walks of life and we would like to thank everyone who took time to vote.

The elections were conducted for the Trust by the Electoral Reform Society, in accordance with the rules set out in the Trust’s constitution.

The results were:

Public seats:
- Constituency one (Calder Valley, Luddendenfoot, Todmorden) – Bernard Pierce (re-elected)
- Constituency two (Heywood, Crosland Moor, Deighton, Newsome, Paddock) – Kuldip Singh Sandhu
- Constituency three (Almondbury, Dalton, Denby Dale, Kirkburton, Holmfirth) – Amanda McKea
- Constituency four (Bradfield, Golcar, Huddersfield North, South, Lindley) – Janette Roberts (re-elected)

Voters did have the chance to visit a health fair in the hospital and take part in tours, including the X-ray department and pharmacy dispensing unit.

VISITORS who attended our joint Trust Board and Membership Council AGM on October 7 at CRH have hailed it as a huge success.

The meeting was told that capital investments during 2009/10 included £2m refurbishment of Ward 10 at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, new state-of-the-art endoscopy units at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and Calderdale Royal Hospital and £0.4m to improve privacy and dignity standards.

Deputy chairman of the Membership Council, Peter Naylor, told the meeting that the Trust’s membership – drawn from the general public and staff – had helped provide “fresh eyes” on services visiting wards and departments to give feedback from a layman’s perspective.

Before the meeting started local residents, foundation trust members and staff had the chance to visit a health fair in the hospital and take part in tours, including the X-ray department and pharmacy dispensing unit.

Visitors also had the chance to try out resuscitation techniques on training dummies in the hospital’s clinical skills laboratory and had opportunity to taste hospital food.

Our chairman, Sukhdev Sharma said: “The event had a great atmosphere and I would like to thank staff and Membership Councilors for making it a success.

“Thank you to everyone who completed evaluation forms. Your views are very important to us and will help us to further improve future events.”

Trust health event proves a huge success

Newswatch-round up of what’s been happening around the Trust

All eyes on new theatre
A new theatre for eye surgery has opened at HR. The theatre, costing £150,000, will be used mainly for ophthalmology cases, such as cataract and eyelid surgery, where only a local anaesthetic is needed.

Local care
THE TODMORDEN Health Centre is proving a huge success as increasing numbers of patients get their hospital care there.

More than 10,000 outpatient appointments, e-rays and scans which would otherwise have been carried out at CRH have been delivered there since it opened in April 2009.

Patience given a helping hand
PATIENTS coming into CRH and HR will be given a helping hand to make their stay easier. A new booklet has been put together which provides a host of information from what clothing to bring, where shops are located and infection control information.

Long service awards
STAFF who notched up more than 3,000 years between them were recognised for their long service at an awards night for the Trust.

Four with 40 years and 38 members of staff with 25 years service collected their certificates from chairman Sukhdev Sharma at the staff at the staff awards night held at Bertie’s in Elland.

Putting the focus on future services

AS PART of the Transforming Community Services we are working closely with our colleagues in primary care to develop integrated and effective health services.

We’re currently looking at exploring the future design of two services: those for patients with heart failure; and those for patients with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease).

To help inform this process, members were invited to attend a focus group discussion on Wednesday 11th August 2010 at the Learning Centre in CRH.

Details and membership of the Focus Group are being advertised in the local and regional media.

Reward: winners of the Gordon McLean Award, complex care matron Amanda McKea and Jill Robson of Mencap pictured with chairman Sukhdev Sharma

Red carpet night for Trust staff

Each year we recognise staff innovation that leads to improved care for our patients.

This year the winner of our £5,000 Gordon McLean overall award for the best healthcare project, named after our much loved former chairman, was complex care matron Amanda McKea and Jill Robson of Mencap in Kirklees with their project to improve the experience of people with learning disabilities in hospital.

Radiographic assistant John Mannion was hailed “Unsung Hero” of 2010 for his ability to put patients at ease during their MRI scans at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

Other awards included:

Loaders of the year
Service improvement manager Tania King and consultant in pain management Dimple Vyas.

Volunteer of the year
Lily Lister, a volunteer at CRH for 40 years.

Ward of the year
All wards were judged against a series of standards aimed at providing the highest quality of care.

The ward 10 team at CRH consistently proved to be the most successful.

Patient experience
Service lead in radiology, Ellen Hoeve, senior radiographer Tracey Stewart and medical illustration manager Jane Amor.

A project to help patients with learning disabilities.

Patient safety
Matron Lisa Cooper.

Our Trust communications team promotes news about our investments, service developments and staff achievements through the local and regional media. Below are some recent highlights:

- To read the press releases, visit the Latest News section on the home page of our website www.cht.nhs.uk.
- Above: some of the long service holders at Bertie’s in Elland. Left: consultant surgeon Peter Holdsworth and patient Susan Keys at Todmorden health Centre
OUR medical director Vette Oade introduced a Quality Improvement Event to assess our progress in key areas – safety of care, effectiveness of care, exemplary working and improving patient experience. She stressed the importance of the work and said “patients have a right to expect a high quality of service. Our quality work is a key priority for us and underpins every aspect of our work. We want to ensure the best clinical outcome and patient experience for everyone under our care.”

General awareness was a key part of the event held in the Learning Centre at HRI. The feedback will help shape our priorities for the Quality Account 2011/12.

MEMBERSHIP Councillor worked with grant director missionaries and local members and was also interested because of his husband’s experience of waiting for a donor.

“Richard had a heart attack when he was only 37. He needed angioplasty but became seriously ill as they prepared him for theatre and they had to do a triple heart bypass. He recovered really well and for many years led a normal, active life. However, in 1993 he needed a second bypass and did not recover from it. His health deteriorated and he was diagnosed with angina.”

“Thank you for a very interesting and informative evening. I was very impressed by the professionalism of the staff.”

“Everyone hosting stands was closely enthusiastic about how their work is bringing about improvements for patients.”

MEMBERSHIP councillor Janette Roberts understands very well the ordeal many families go through while waiting for donor organs to become available as her husband Richard died while waiting for a heart transplant. It is one of the reasons she finds her work on the Trust’s organ donation committee so rewarding – and hopes that telling her story might make others think about joining the organ donation register.

“Telling my story might make others think about donating organs.”

“Thank you for the opportunity to talk directly with Assistant divisional directors Judy Bond, clinical outcome and patient experience improvement. It is one of the reasons she finds her work on the Trust’s organ donation committee so rewarding – and hopes that telling her story might make others think about joining the organ donation register.

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Head of patient and public involvement Angela Buxton said: “These events are a great opportunity to meet our staff and find out about the latest developments at our Trust.”

From left: members Jacqueline Henderson, Gladys Kexyde and Sandra Knott with deputy director of nursing Rob Dearden, Phoebe Rudge and senior nurse Lindsay Rudge.

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Meet the Membership Council

Christine Breare is a retired general dental practitioner who had an interest in continuing post-graduate education for dental practitioners and clinical audit. Married with two sons and four grand-children, she lives in Upper Holton near Mirfield. She is a church warden and secretary of the Upper Holton Community Association.

Dr Liz Breen is a lecturer for the School of Management at the University of Bradford. She has two children and lives in Calderdale.

Lisa Herron is an Environment Officer with Kirkles Council. She has two daughters.

Richard Hill is an associate director of business development, communications and marketing at the Humber Mental Health NHS Teaching Trust. Prior to this, he worked as global director of marketing for an international photographic company. He is married with two sons and lives in Kirklees.

Yash Pal Kansal worked in the pharmaceutical industry and NHS. He is a case for his disabled mother and lives in Kirklees. Yash has assisted on consumer related matters at the Hindu Temple in Huddersfield.

Frances Marguire is a specialist registrar in public health for Yorkshire and the Humber. She has worked for environmental non-governmental organisations for a number of years on climate change and biodiversity conservation. She has two children, and lives in Calderdale.

Christine Mickleborough is a retired nurse, midwife and community nurse. She is a member of the Royal College of Nursing, and the St Luke’s Hospital (Bradford) NHS Foundation Trust. She is also a member of South West Yorkshire Mental Health Trust and is diocesan co-ordinator for the Children’s Society. Married with one son and one daughter, she lives in Calderdale.

Peter Naylor is married with two sons and lives in Calderdale. He is retired from the financial services industry.

Vera Panajic is chair of Ayv Eye, an appeal to raise funds for ophthalmology equipment in Calderdale and Kirklees. She is married with a grown up family and lives in Calderdale.

Bernard Pierce of Mytholmroyd, has a background in social work and then in medical education at both undergraduate and post-graduate level. He was a lecturer at the Leeds School of Medicine and at the Yorkshire Deanery.

Don Rayner is a retired manager of employment services for people with disabilities. Married with two grown up children, he is a member of ArtsCare and a member of Fuji’s Friends, an organisation for people with a specific eye condition.

Jan Roberts was a headteacher at Gomersal Infant School for 13 years and at schools in Skelmanthorpe and Dewsbury. She is married with two children and four stepchildren and after taking early retirement now works on a supply basis. She is a coremittee member for the Meltham Hospice, a member of the local Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and a governor at Meltham School. Meltham, as well as sitting on the Kirkles Governors’ Panel.

Janette Roberts of Meltham, was a headteacher of a community primary school in Rochdale and two multicultural schools in Wakefield. She is widowed with four children and eight grandchildren. Now retired, she is a member of the Patient Liaison Committee of the Royal College of Anaeslogists, a patient representative on FEAT (Patient Environment Action Team), clinical audit and various cancer groups.

Harjinder Singh Sandhu is married with two children, and lives in Kirklees. He is self-employed in a private hire business.

Linda Wild is married with one daughter and lives in Huddersfield. She graduated at the University of Huddersfield. Strongly committed to community involvement and engagement, she is a former Kirkles councillor.

Wendy Wood was a tutor in adult education, and a primary school teacher. She was a magistrate in Huddersfield then Dewsbury for many years and is a member of the Huddersfield and District Family History Society and the Youth Hostel Association. Wendy has four children, ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren and lives in Kirklees.

Sue Benshaw was dean of human and health sciences at the University of Huddersfield. The University educates nurses and other health professionals who are employed within the Trust. She is married with two children and lives in Kirklees.

Sue Cannon is executive director of quality and engagement of Calderdale Primary Care Trust. Prior to this appointment, she worked for Leeds PCT.

Joanna Birch is married and lives in Calderdale. She is director of corporate services for Kirkles Primary Care Trust.

Chris Bentley is matron of the medical and elderly division. Her previous post was lead of critical care outreach and ICU. She lives in Kirkles and has one daughter.

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Frances Marguire is a specialist registrar in public health for Yorkshire and the Humber. She has worked for environmental non-governmental organisations for a number of years on climate change and biodiversity conservation. She has two children, and lives in Calderdale.

Sally Mivel is head of adult social care operations at Kirkles Council. She is married with two children.

Jonathan Philips is group director for Health and Social Care for Calderdale Council. He is responsible for adult social care and environmental health. He has extensive experience in working in partnership across health and social care local and nationally. Prior to joining Calderdale Council in January 2007 he worked for the Commission for Social Care Inspection. Jonathan is a qualified social worker.

Dawn Stephenson is director of corporate development for South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. She is a voluntary trustee of Kirkles Active Leisure and the Dr Jackson Cancer Fund. She is married with one son and lives in Huddersfield.

Sue Burton is project director of property partnerships at Kirkles. An accountant by profession, she previously worked at Leeds PCT. Sue lives in Calderdale and has one daughter.

Liz Farrell is a nursing auxiliary on ward 6 at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Prior to her appointment, she worked at the Calderdale Royal Hospital. She lives in Calderdale.

Jonathan Phillips is group director for Health and Social Care for Calderdale Council. He is responsible for adult social care and environmental health. He has extensive experience in working in partnership across health and social care local and nationally. Prior to joining Calderdale Council in January 2007 he worked for the Commission for Social Care Inspection. Jonathan is a qualified social worker.

Christine Breare is a retired general dental practitioner who had an interest in continuing post-graduate education for dental practitioners and clinical audit. Married with two sons and four grand-children, she lives in Upper Holton near Mirfield. She is a church warden and secretary of the Upper Holton Community Association.