



foundations for health

September 2020

NHS

Doncaster and Bassetlaw
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



**Thank you to our colleagues and communities
for their support during the pandemic**



Virtual visiting for patients



Rainbow Memorial Gardens Appeal



First virtual Annual Members' Meeting

Contents

If you have comments or want further information about any of the articles in *Foundations for Health* please contact the Communications & Engagement team on 01302 644244.

This magazine is produced four times a year, with three digital copies and one paper copy in August. To receive an electronic version of this magazine and invites to member events, please send us your name and email address to dbth.foundation.office@nhs.net or contact the Foundation Trust Office on 01302 644158.



10



9



14



4

2-3	A thank you from Richard Parker	9	Life on the front line with Lee Cutler
4	Video consultations for outpatient appointments	10-11	Support from our local communities during the pandemic
5	Virtual Visiting for patients	12	Rainbow Rooms for staff wellbeing
6-7	Our Rainbow Memorial gardens appeal	13	Wearing face coverings on our sites
8	We have been rated Good by the CQC!	14	News from the Governors

A thank you from Richard Parker, Chief Executive



Since early March our team at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has been working tirelessly in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, fundamentally changing and adapting to how we manage essential care, how we provide treatment and even how we access our sites.

In the midst of these challenges, we have been supported by our local communities in Doncaster, Worksop and Retford, and together we have worked through very difficult times and I must extend my thanks to the people of our towns for their commitment to following guidelines and helping to keep others safe. At the height of this pandemic, we were able to cope as the staff and communities efforts meant that a smaller than anticipated number of Covid patients required hospital and intensive care.

We are also indebted to these communities also for their generosity during this time. We have been overwhelmed by all of the donations we have received, whether these have been of a monetary nature, or the morale boosting gifts that we have been able to hand

out to our hard working colleagues.

Local businesses have also been most generous in offering their support to DBTH throughout the pandemic. Many businesses who were closed throughout the period of lockdown offered their services exclusively to NHS staff and here in Doncaster and Bassetlaw our teams were supported by various food and drink outlets who provided sustenance and cosmetics companies who donated hand creams for staff.

Many of these businesses have also supported our charity appeal to fund memorial (Rainbow) gardens on our Bassetlaw and Doncaster sites. These gardens will provide a quiet, tranquil place for people to go and remember those we have lost. Turn to page 6 for more information on the appeal and how you can get involved.

Where we are now

As an organisation, we continuing to see a steady decline in both new admissions related to Covid-19, and inpatients staying with us. Throughout July, our numbers have consistently stayed below 20 inpatients, with many days having no intensive care admissions, as well as

a number of non-consecutive days without the Trust admitting any positive patients.

Due to this slowing of activity, we have taken the decision to scale back some of our operational response but we will continue to review our position daily with health and care partners and PHE.

Moving to our day-to-day operations, we have seen an increase in non-covid emergency activity, and are restarting planned care. We are currently operating at 100% or close to for urgent and routine outpatient work in: Cardiology, Haematology, Nephrology, Palliative Medicine, Stroke, Diabetes, Paediatrics, Respiratory and Geriatric Medicine. Further work is being undertaken to increase capacity with Dermatology, Gastroenterology, Gynaecology, Pain Management, General Surgery, Urology, Rheumatology and Colposcopy.

FINALLY, I SHOULD TAKE THIS LAST OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE DEDICATED WORKFORCE HERE AT DBTH AND COMMEND THEIR EFFORTS WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN 486 INDIVIDUALS (AT TIME OF WRITING ON 6 AUGUST 2020) RETURNING SAFELY HOME AFTER BEING TREATED FOR COVID-19.

There are still some specialities which are being constrained due to the need for the contact to be face-to-face contact to allow for and aerosol generating procedure. This includes Ophthalmology, ENT, Trauma and Orthopaedics and Therapies. Further work is taking place to scale-up activity in these areas, taking full account of PPE and the safety of our colleagues and as things change we will communicate the changes ahead of time.



Whilst a steady decline in new Covid admissions is excellent news, we are urging our local communities to stay alert and continue to follow guidance to help continue to control the virus. Here at DBTH, we are asking all visitors to our hospitals to wear face coverings, and to continue to socially distance in our corridors and ward areas.

During this lull in Covid activity we are taking the opportunity to turn our attentions to winter planning and the potential for a second wave. While there is no clear consensus on this, we will ensure that we are prepared for a range of scenarios.

Finally, I should take this last opportunity to thank the dedicated workforce here at DBTH and commend their efforts which have resulted in 486 individuals (at time of writing on 6 August 2020) returning safely home after being treated for Covid-19.



Video Consultations for outpatient appointments

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Trust has been considering innovative new ways to hold appointments and consultations to avoid unnecessary visits to hospital and face-to-face contact.

Initially trialled within paediatrics at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, using phones and tablets, patients are able to stay in touch with their doctor and medical service without the need to come to hospital.

Like NHS providers across the country, health professionals at DBTH have been working tirelessly in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. In order to reduce the number of people coming to the hospitals unnecessarily, this has meant fundamentally changing how the Trust manages routine appointments and activity, whilst still ensuring emergency services remain open to all those who need urgent treatment.

One way that clinicians have risen to this challenge has been the increased amount of telephone consultations with patients. Often used within what would have been outpatient appointments, these discussions can be more convenient for the patient, and allow a healthcare professionals to check-up on individuals to ensure that they are recovering well after a procedure, or instead undertaking what would be a regular or routine assessment.

While this way of working has been mostly

successful, certain limitations, such as physically seeing patients to undertake a more detailed observation has been a challenge. To overcome this, the Trust's Digital Transformation team have worked with the paediatric team at Doncaster Royal Infirmary to enable video consultations, using a system known as DrDoctor Video Consultations and AccuRx.

Similar to Facetime or Skype, this service allows both doctor and patient to see one another, and have a video conversation, with the former able to instruct the latter to undertake certain movements as well as observe their general condition. From this, colleagues at the Trust are able to offer medical advice and diagnosis, as well as also recommend if a follow-up visit to clinic is required.

Undertaking one of the organisation's very first virtual clinics, Dr Anuja Natarajan, Paediatric Consultant, assessed and spoke with a number of patients this week.

Speaking about the new way of working Dr Natarajan said: "It was so nice to be able speak with my patients, and their parents using virtual technology this week. When undertaking this kind of care, it is crucial to be able to see the patient and their responses and using video technology enables this, and helps us to manage the patient's problems more appropriately and, if necessary arrange a face-to-face consultation.

"Although we are in the initial stages, this

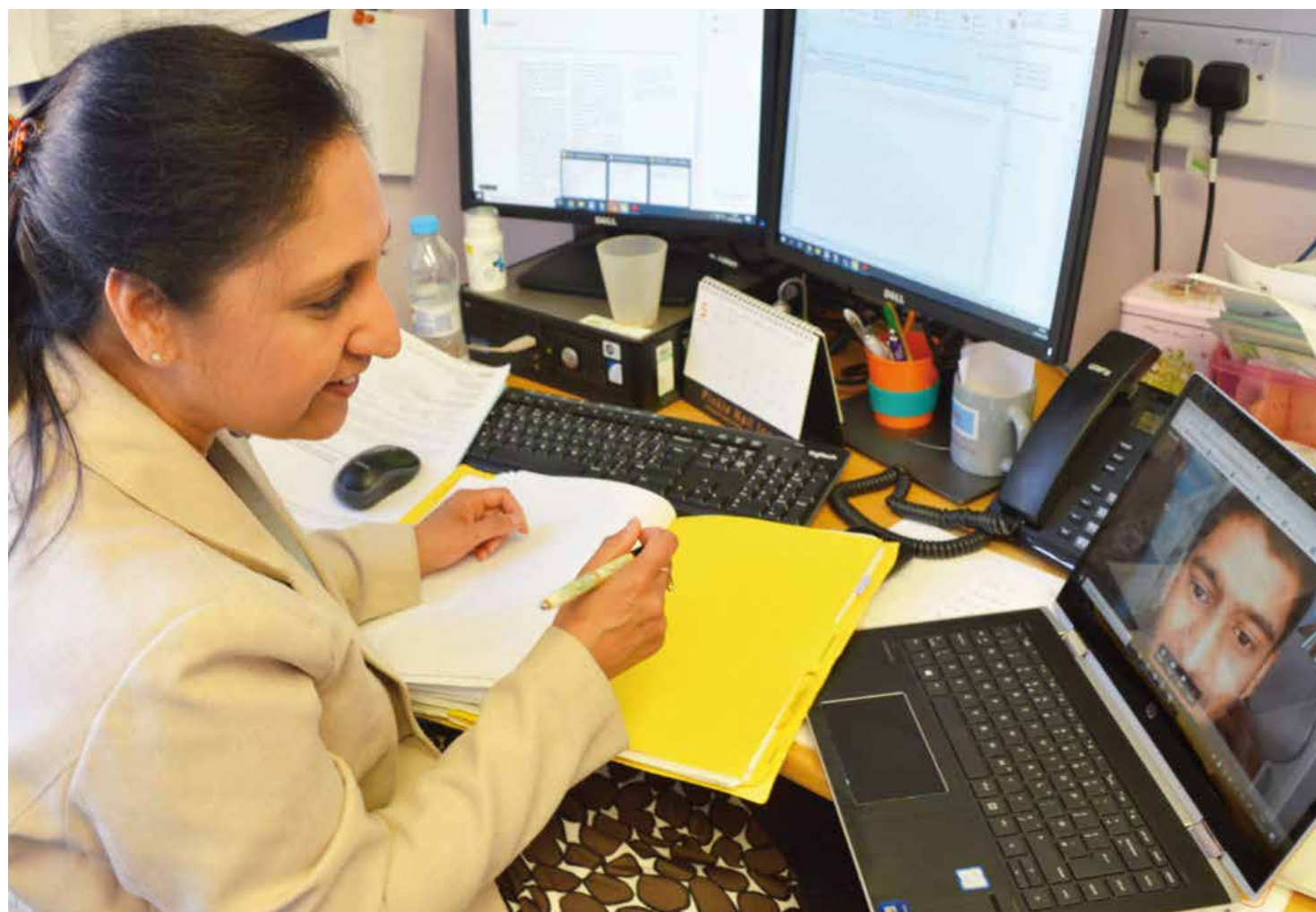
new way of working is hugely exciting, offers such flexibility and will help us support patients during these extraordinary times. I believe this way of working will continue long into the future and, I believe, will become part of our everyday services as we overcome Covid-19."

The Trust will continue to pilot this way of working but is already looking at how it can be rolled out to other areas as part of its Digital Transformation and Outstanding Outpatient initiatives.

Ethan Green has been under the care of Dr Natarajan for a little while. On Wednesday 6 May, Ethan took part in a virtual consultation, with mum, Sian. She had this to say of the experience: "It was so easy to do, a text came through half an hour before the appointment, and as soon as we signed-in to the session it was completely seamless and worked perfectly.

Ordinarily, I would have had to travel to Doncaster Royal Infirmary, which can take upwards of 40 minutes, look for a place to park and then also find the room in the hospital – which can be a task in itself! This kind of consultation was perfect for us and we would definitely do it again – it's a great improvement for our local NHS trust.

Patients who are offered the video appointments will be given the relevant information ahead of time, and no additional software is required, just a smart phone.





Virtual Visiting for patients during Covid-19

With the support of our IT team, areas of our hospitals which cared for vulnerable patients during the pandemic have been able to facilitate virtual visiting so their inpatients could keep in touch with their loved ones during a stressful time.

The facility was originally enabled for both the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) and the End of Life Care team, and rolled out to the rest of the Trust in the weeks afterwards.

For context, SCBU look after little ones who require special care and attention, be that because of premature birth, antenatal concerns, or other severe complications. Meanwhile, the End of Life department are responsible for those with chronic illnesses, like cancer, kidney failure, Alzheimer's or cardiac disease. Also known as "palliative care", they will help patients manage their physical pain symptoms, help with day-to-day activities like washing and dressing, and also provide emotional support to relatives and friends.

This last part became increasingly difficult due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation and the associated social distancing measures that were put in place across the country.

The End of Life Care team worked tirelessly to adapt their service, to best accommodate the needs of our patients and their loved ones whilst still being able to adhere to the national guidelines for social distancing. For example, loved ones can now keep in touch with patients by emailing a letter to dedicated volunteers dbth.butterflyvolunteer@nhs.net who will then print off these messages and hand them over to the intended recipient, in a way that is safe and wholly compliant with infection prevention control protocols. What's more, if the recipient is unable to read their

letter, then a member of staff will be able to speak it aloud for them.

The "virtual visits", were arranged by staff members who connected patients to their families and friends using android devices. Newly introduced by the Trust's IT department, these video calls helped people get together remotely, without having to worry about the restrictions that would apply for an in-person visit.

SPEAKING ABOUT THIS, KAREN LANAGHAN, LEAD NURSE END OF LIFE CARE SERVICES, SAID: "BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH ONE ANOTHER IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE FOR OUR PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AS NO ONE SHOULD FACE THEIR LAST DAYS ALONE. HOWEVER, THE GLOBAL SITUATION HAS UNFORTUNATELY FORCED US TO CURTAIL VISITS, FOR THE SAKE OF WIDER PATIENT SAFETY. BY HAVING ACCESS TO THIS TECHNOLOGY, WE CAN AT LEAST PROVIDE A WAY THROUGH WHICH PEOPLE CAN SPEAK TO THEIR LOVED ONES, SEE THEIR FACES, AND FEEL TOGETHER."

In terms of SCBU, virtual visiting will enable mums and dads who are currently self-isolating to still have some form of contact with their baby. Having a child on the unit can be very distressing, a feeling which is compounded by not being able to physically be there with them. By giving parents the opportunity to video call their little ones, SCBU hopes to soften this hardship and provide some much-needed intimacy.

Scott Ashmore, ICT Network Manager at the Trust and lead for the Virtual Visiting project, said: "I am fortunate to work with such a dedicated team. Together, we have been working very hard to introduce this brand-new facility into the Trust. This is obviously a very trying time for all, and we are just doing what we can to make things a little bit easier. I really hope that patients and their loved ones take some comfort and reassurance in knowing that, despite everything that is going on, they can keep in touch whilst in hospital."

THANKS TO DONATIONS OF VIDEO ENABLED DEVICES FROM LOCAL COMPANIES INCLUDING AMAZON AND DPD, THE VIRTUAL VISITING FACILITY WAS ABLE TO BE ROLLED OUT TO THE ENTIRE TRUST.



Creating beautiful spaces in memory of those who are no longer with us

The Trust recently launched a fundraising appeal to develop two memorial 'rainbow gardens', one at Doncaster Royal Infirmary and the other at Bassetlaw Hospital in memory of all the local people who have sadly lost their lives to Covid-19, including our beloved colleagues Kevin Smith and Dr Medhat Atalla.

The gardens are to be created in their honour and will be dedicated spaces for families and colleagues to visit, a calm and peaceful place, to remember those loved ones we have lost. To date, 230 people have sadly died at the Trust from Covid-19.

During the pandemic, the rainbow has become a symbol of support for the NHS and it feels fitting that we create rainbow gardens in memory of those we have sadly lost.

WHATEVER WE RAISE WILL BE USED TO MAKE OUR HOSPITALS BETTER PLACES TO BE.

We are asking the people of Doncaster and Bassetlaw for their support in helping to raise;

- £25k to create a garden at DRI and Bassetlaw Hospital sites

- £30k to commission the materials to create a memorial at DRI for lost colleagues
- £35k to purchase additional tables and benches to be located across all sites for patients and staff to enjoy

However there is no limit and whatever we raise will be used to make our hospitals better places to be.

To support the Rainbow Garden's appeal you can head to [JustGiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) and search for Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals.

Alternatively, you can contact the Communications & Engagement Team on 01302 644244 / 01909 572726 or email dbth.comms@nhs.net.



The proposed site for the garden at Bassetlaw Hospital



The proposed site for the garden at Doncaster Royal Infirmary

Communities supporting the appeal

Our initial appeal for the Rainbow Gardens received such an amazing response that, owing to the support of our local communities, we managed to raise nearly £5,000 in just one week.

During the first week, two local boys raised £1500 between just the two of them! Sixteen year-old Oli Shearman, from Retford, cycled 149km in May in memory of every person who had lost their lives to Covid-19 at the Trust. Oli wanted to do something to support families who have been affected by the virus and, as an avid cyclist, thought he would cycle a kilometre in memory of every person, setting himself a target of £525 which he smashed with the final total standing at £1000!

Another local Nottinghamshire boy, 12 year-old Rory Mellor from Walesby, made and sold doggy treats with all proceeds going to the Trust. Rory wanted to stay busy during lockdown and when he wasn't being home-schooled he came up with the idea to create



treats. Rory set about making the snacks from ingredients including chicken, peanut butter and sardines, individually wrapping and selling them to family and friends and in doing so raised £500 with all proceeds going to the Rainbow Garden Appeal.



Businesses supporting the appeal

Polypipe Building Products, who operate locally, have generously donated £5,000 to the appeal.

Cameron McLellan, Divisional Managing Director, Polypipe Residential Systems said: "We are proud to support the Trust to show our gratitude for the fantastic work they have done over the last few months. We have factories across Doncaster and many of our employees live in the area and use the services of Doncaster Royal Infirmary and this is our way to say thank you for all they are doing in these difficult times. Our thoughts are with families who have lost loved ones during this pandemic."

Anpario plc, a local animal health, hygiene and nutrition manufacturer have also made a generous donation towards the appeal to

the tune of £10,000.

Richard Edwards, CEO of Anpario plc whose head office is based in Worksop, said: "Anpario recognises the heroic contributions made by NHS staff and key workers in the fight to manage and control the virus. As a way of expressing our thanks and giving back to our local communities, in which a large number of our workforce reside, we are delighted to announce our support for this appeal and these charities."

Other local businesses have also kindly offered up funds in order to help us create the memorials including: Shedcetra (£1,500), Taylor Wimpey Yorkshire (£500), PSL Print (£100), NHS Professionals (£500) and League of Friends (£500).

DBTH colleagues supporting the appeal

In addition to local communities and businesses, DBTH staff have been fundraising in memory of their beloved colleagues Kevin Smith and Dr Atalla.

Our Division of Medicine Team have collectively done a sponsored walk from Lands End to John O'Groats. Likewise, our Head and Neck Administration team have completed a collective marathon and managed to raise over £1,000.

Ever creative, one of our colleagues Victoria Wright has designed and made keyrings to sell to colleagues to commemorate their efforts during the pandemic. Victoria created 250 of the keyrings and sold them for £2 each to raise £500 for the rainbow gardens.



The total so far...

In total, our communities have raised over £30k towards the appeal which means we have enough to create two memorial gardens on our sites. However, there is no limit and whatever we raise will be used to purchase additional amenities such as tables and benches for the gardens or to make our hospitals better places to be.

In addition to the monetary donations, we have also taken donations of plants and other materials which we will need to create the memorials. If you would like donate towards the gardens but would prefer to purchase items instead of donating money, please call the communications team on 01302 644244.

We have been rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission!

Our Trust has been rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), following an inspections which took place in September and October.

The CQC report, published Wednesday 19 February, recognised a number of areas of quality care, practice and improvement at the Trust. Reflecting an overall positive picture, this latest report means that in addition to an overall Trust rating of 'Good', each individual hospital site we operate also shares the same accreditation.

The CQC assesses trusts against seven key 'domains' which are described as 'safe', 'effective', 'caring', 'responsive', 'well-led', 'use of resources' and 'quality'. Improving upon the previous inspection, the Trust has been rated good for six of the seven standards, with one domain rated as 'Requires Improvement'.

"AS AN ORGANISATION, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE EXTREMELY PROUD THAT THE INSPECTORS DESCRIBED COLLEAGUES AS BEING CARING, SUPPORTIVE OF EACH OTHER AND COMPASSIONATE TO BOTH PATIENTS, THEIR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES.

During their unannounced inspection which began 3 September 2019 and concluded 10 October 2019, the CQC observed many examples of high quality care and emphasised



Bassetlaw colleagues celebrate the new rating

in their report the improvements made since their last visit. Amongst a variety of departments highlighted within the report, our Trust's cross-site urgent and emergency services received particular praise having improved in seven domains.

Inspectors also described clinicians as demonstrating good infection prevention and control practice, as well as emphasising a culture of learning at the Trust in order to improve safety. Most importantly, the visitors highlighted how caring and compassionate health professionals within the organisation are, as well as noting how well they work together, guided by a shared sense of purpose.

While a predominately positive report, the CQC have pointed to areas of where we need to continue to improve, such as staffing and training amongst certain colleagues, which the Trust is continuing to address.

Richard Parker OBE, Chief Executive, said: "I am extremely pleased that the Trust has been recognised as 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) – this is an achievement which reflects the hard work, commitment and expertise of our colleagues who go above and beyond every day in the delivery of high quality care and treatment.

"We have worked tirelessly to improve the services we offer for patients, embedding a culture of Quality Improvement (Qi) within our teams, as well as a desire to always do better for our communities. I am delighted that colleagues have been recognised for their efforts, and I share my thanks with each and every member of Team DBTH."

"As an organisation, I believe we should be extremely proud that the inspectors described colleagues as being caring, supportive of each other and compassionate to both patients, their family and loved ones. As the CQC visited a wide variety of services, they identified areas which we will need to enhance, and we are in no doubt that we have more work ahead of us in order to realise our vision to become the safest trust in England.

"I would also extend our thanks to our local commissioning partners, as well as our partners within the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System for their support. The Trust is on an improvement journey, and on which I am pleased to reflect upon some remarkable progress. Now we must ensure that we do not get complacent and instead maintain this standard for our communities, as well as push on towards achieving our plan to always deliver outstanding care. Given the progress we have made in a few short years, I am confident that this an entirely achievable destination that we will be celebrating before too long."

The reports are published on the CQC website at <https://www.cqc.org.uk/provider/RP5>



Life on the NHS front line at Doncaster Royal Infirmary

Critical Care nurse Lee Cutler talks about his experiences during the pandemic

Many members of our team here at the Trust lived apart from their families during the height of the pandemic in order to protect their loved ones. One such clinician was Lee Cutler, one of our Critical Care Nurses.

Lee spoke to **David Kessen, a local reporter for the Doncaster Free Press** in May, when the Trust had started to see a decline in the number of Covid patients and restrictions were starting to be lifted. He told David of his experiences on the front line in a Critical Care area:

It has been a long time since Lee Cutler last saw his children and his grandchild. It was around two months ago – before Covid 19 transformed the life of critical care nurse Lee.

When the crisis first arose, Lee's 16-year-old daughter was living with him and her mum, who is also a critical care nurse at Doncaster Royal Infirmary. But the couple took an early decision to send her away to live with her grown-up older sister to reduce any chance of exposing her to the virus. Lee has been unable to visit his 18-month-old granddaughter, or his grown-up son.

They are not the only frontline nurses to do the same – and many are currently living in hospital accommodation at the DRI so that they do not pass anything on to vulnerable loved ones, during a period of which Lee says he has never seen the like of before. It has brought colleagues to tears, and seen valued colleagues lose their lives, but has finally started to see the number of patients on Doncaster's critical care ward fall.

Lee is the lead nurse in critical care in the DRI, and one of many spending International Nurses Day on the NHS frontline in what he says is an unprecedented time in his 30 year career since the outbreak of the coronavirus.

Lee always wanted to work in a hospital. His sister worked in a pharmacy, and he decided he wanted to be a nurse aged 16. He has been working at the DRI since 2001. Although his training was across all aspects of nursing, it was critical care worked that fascinated him.

"I came to Doncaster in 2001, and I've been in the job here ever since," he said.

"The last few weeks have been a challenge. In critical care, you are used to dealing with the sickest patients, on life support machines. There is a lot of tragedy, and complex treatments to deal with. We see a lot of death and have supported many families, but we also have the joy of seeing people get through their medical emergency, and get back to normal life. That is normal for us, and critical care nurses have done it for years. If someone asks you to do what you usually do, it's not a big thing.

"The challenge of Covid has been that we were working for several weeks without a break to plan for the surge that we expected. We have had patients with Covid who have been quite sick at ward level, and at critical care level patients have been unbelievably sick, with a



high rate of illness on a daily basis, but far more of the very sickest than we have had before.

"It has been strange to not have patients' families around. We have done compassion and support via Facebook and videolinks."

Some services have not been running. That has meant some nurses who had not done critical care in the past being drafted into that area of work, doubling the numbers working in that area. Lee says it has been tough for those nurses new to critical care.

He said: "The clinical demands have been extraordinary.

"That has meant we have had staff move from other wards who have not dealt with critical care before. They have been very anxious and worried and aware of the threat of covid. We went into this wondering how infectious it was. Those of us who have always been on critical care are used to that, but there are many who had not had that sort of experience. That has meant a lot of tears and anxiety about if they were going to catch it or take it home to their family."

Illness to staff has also affected the nurses – both from the point of view of nurses being poorly themselves, but also through them finding themselves looking after seriously ill colleagues. Both DRI plaster technician Kevin Smith, and consultant geriatrician Medhat Atalla died after treatment at Doncaster Royal Infirmary for Covid 19.

"We have had staff who have died with us," said Lee. "These have been people we knew very well, and worked with on a daily basis."

But recently, they have started see a change. They have seen the number of patients admitted start to fall after weeks of lockdown and social distancing.

"We are coming out of it a bit and starting to look round and think for the first time 'has that really been happening?' he said. "The number of patients coming in has reduced. A lot have recovered, but a lot have died. There has been more death than a lot of us have seen in our

careers in such a short period of time."

"This has not been like anything I've ever seen, and I have seen very demanding years. I've seen meningitis outbreaks; and the 'flu of 2009-10 was a worrying time – we were down to our last ventilator at one point. But Covid has been different. We felt we could do something with 'flu – there was an antiviral for that, and vaccines were there. This time there's no vaccine or treatment. There are drugs trials going on, but we don't know if we're giving people drugs or placebo. All we can do is support organs, deal with blood clots, and support the body. We are all hoping they find a vaccine and a treatment."

Lee said the nurses have been very aware of the support that they have received from the public. He has seen a vast flow of donations from the public, from protective equipment people have made, to food. The stream of donated food has ranged from cakes and sweets to pizzas and curries, and tea bags. There has also been the weekly applause every Thursday evening. Lee first heard it while tending his garden to wind down after a shift. He said: "You go out to clear you head, and then I just heard the clapping. It is really emotional for us to hear that applause. The support has been amazing."

Having been unable to see his children and grandchildren for so long, Lee is looking forward to when the crisis ends, whenever that may be.

"Both me and my wife work in critical care. We would not be where we are unless we were extremely resilient. We've got three children. Our son lives in Sheffield, our oldest daughter is in her 20s, and we've not seen our granddaughter. With our 16 year old daughter, we said 'we're going to be working all the time' and sent her to live with her sister for now. We can catch up two metres away and make videocalls, but we feel like we've been working solidly.

"The idea of things getting back to normal is keeping us going."

Support from our local o

As a Trust, we have been overwhelmed by the support of our local communities and manner of fundraising activities and coordinated large-scale donation of food supplies. Here's a few highlights from over the past few months.

DFS donates 1,000 PPE gowns

DFS, the furniture company, donated 1,000 PPE gowns to our hospitals for use on Covid-19 wards.

Working with the hospital's procurement team to make sure that the items were made to a high-end specification for use in the hospital, the gowns were manufactured by the team at DFS' upholstery factory using materials sourced and paid for by the furniture company.

Local resident Sam Foster has worked with DFS to coordinate the donation effort in a show of support for her sister, Suzanna Cullum, who is a Sister on the Assessment and Treatment Centre at Bassetlaw Hospital.

Scott Fishburn, DFS Chief Operating Officer comments "With our headquarters based in Doncaster we were honoured to get involved and contribute PPE to our local hospitals. I'm so proud of our team of volunteers in our upholstery factories who turned their skills to making gowns during lockdown. We're in awe of the relentless hard work the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals team is doing and the least we could do is help to keep them as safe as possible while they look after our loved ones".



Sam Foster and her daughters delivering the gowns to Doncaster Royal Infirmary

Online concerts performed for patients

A pair of professional musicians have been providing free online concerts for inpatients at our hospitals to entertain those who might be missing their families and other visitors as they recuperate.

Edmund, a violinist and George, a pianist, are providing the concerts through face time so that the patients at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals can interact with the musicians.



doing, as well as giving patients who currently can't have any visitors our personal form of communication – music."

Fran Taylor, Clinical Educator and Sister on Bassetlaw Intensive Care Unit (ICU) said: "The patients really enjoy interacting with them, and the music has a calming effect – on ITU we can see the patient's heart rate, blood pressure and respiratory rate coming down as a result of the effect of listening to music. The musicians also enjoy playing for the nurses as a thank you for our work in the current situation."

"WE WANTED TO THANK NHS STAFF FOR ALL OF THE AMAZING WORK THEY ARE DOING"

Edmund and George said in a joint statement: "We have been great supporters of the NHS and knew from experience how music could positively affect people. We wanted to thank NHS staff for all of the amazing work they are

HMP Hatfield residents run 345km to raise £1,000 for DBTH

Over 50 residents and staff at HMP Hatfield took part in a 12 hour sponsored run, covering 35 kilometers, to raise £1000 for the Trust. The run involved at least one person running at all times from 8am to 8pm.

The money raised will be used to help create the rainbow memorial gardens on our hospital sites. The inspiration for the event came from one of the residents who approached Jason Marsh from the PE Department to say he wanted to do something to support the local NHS for all they are doing in the current challenging times. Jason suggested



a sponsored run and was thrilled when so many residents wanted to get involved.

One resident commented: "The residents of HMP Hatfield would like to express our most sincere thanks to all the workers in the NHS for providing care to our loved ones and in doing so bringing peace of mind to their families. Many, many thanks".

Communities over Covid

We are in utter admiration of those who stepped up immediately to complete all tasks, personal protective equipment and morale boosting freebies for our colleagues.



Amazon donation helps patients keep in touch with loved ones

Amazon Doncaster supported our virtual visiting project by donating 15 Amazon Fire tablets which were used to facilitate video calls by inpatients who isolated from their loved ones throughout the height of the pandemic.

Adam Banks, Site Leader at Amazon's Doncaster iPort fulfilment centre, said: "We wanted to show our support to our local NHS Trust during these challenging times and asked how we could best support patients

and staff. The End of Life Care team were looking at ways to keep patients and families connected but didn't have enough devices for all the wards across their three sites. We provided 15 Amazon Fire Tablets and we are delighted to be able to do this for our local communities."

The team at Amazon also sent with their delivery 3,000 chocolate bars for DBTH colleagues which were thoroughly enjoyed by our teams!

Family run business donates £1,000

A local business has raised £1,000 for the Children's Observation Unit at the Trust.

Roger Tuby & Son Funfairs has a strong history in Doncaster, dating all the way back to the early 1900s. With a deep-rooted heritage in the area, Roger was inspired to do something in support of the town that has meant so much to him and his family. It was this desire to give back to the community that prompted the businessman to raise money for his local hospital, by auctioning off one of his carousel horses on Facebook.

The pony itself was repainted in May – in honour of key workers and the 75th anniversary of VE day – with one side decorated in NHS branding and the other with a union jack colour scheme. For a chance of winning the specially themed horse, followers were able to purchase raffle tickets online, with up to 333 slots up for grabs. After just a few days of being on sale, Roger was pleased to announce that all 333 of the entries had been bought, raising an



impressive sum of £1,000.

These funds are now being donated to Doncaster Royal Infirmary's (DRI) Children's Observation Unit, where they will go towards new furniture and appliances. Speaking about this, Roger said: "This ward means a lot to me, because of how they helped my Nephew and his premature baby in their hour of need. What they did for us was incredible and I am delighted for this opportunity to show my appreciation. I hope the money will make a difference to them during these stressful times."

Father and son take on running challenge for DBTH

Seven year old Corey and his dad, Andy Halliday, took on a mammoth 100-mile running challenge to raise funds for our hospitals.

Corey and his dad completed the 100 miles in small chunks during their daily exercise in lockdown, running around five miles each session.

Corey said: "I did it to raise money for the NHS so they could buy face masks, equipment and other stuff. The NHS are doing a really good job trying to help people with the virus and keep us all safe. I went out and clapped every Thursday but I wanted to do something more for them so that is why I set myself this challenge."

Corey's original target was £100, which he smashed straight away and went on to smash his second target of £500. All in all, Corey and his dad managed to raise over £600 for the Trust.



Corey and Andy Halliday



Rainbow Rooms for staff wellbeing

The Trust set up a number of dedicated wellbeing rooms during the pandemic to give colleagues a safe place to take a minute to recuperate during particularly challenging shifts.

Aptly titled 'rainbow rooms' after their colourful décor, the spaces offer an optimistic atmosphere as a safe haven amongst the hustle and bustle of the busy wards over the last few months.

The spaces were set up in various clinical areas, meaning staff didn't have to go far to find a moment of peace if they felt overwhelmed at any point. They provide solace for when the pressures of dealing with coronavirus becomes too much and give colleagues a crucial opportunity to set aside time for a bit of self-care, which could mean anything from taking a moment to collect themselves, to venting their feelings, or even having a much-needed cry.

Each of the venues are stocked with basics supplies – such as tea, coffee, snacks and toiletries for those colleagues who are showering at work – as well as inspiring

messages and uplifting posters. Not only that, but they are also equipped with CD players, diffusers, stress toys and helpful literature that will point those in need towards confidential therapy services.

"WHETHER COLLEAGUES NEED TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE SUPPORT WE ARE OFFERING, A PLACE TO LET IT ALL OUT, OR ARE JUST LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO GET A BIT OF PEACE AND QUIET, THESE SPACES ARE OPEN TO THEM."

Speaking about the facilities, Jayne Collingwood, Head of Leadership and Organisation Development, said: "The health and wellbeing of our colleagues has always been a top priority for the Trust, but given the current circumstances, we

know that it's an area that needs even more attention than usual.

"Introducing the rainbow rooms was just a small part of our overhauled provision, one that went a long way. We wanted our team to know that it is okay to be anxious, upset or overwhelmed during a stressful period and that we are behind them every step of the way. Whether colleagues need to find out more about the support we are offering, a place to let it all out, or are just looking for somewhere to get a bit of peace and quiet, these spaces are open to them."

In addition to the rainbow rooms, the Trust implemented a number of other resources to support staff wellbeing, including memberships for apps like Headspace, access to a free psychology service, counselling programmes and much more.

Initially only intended to support colleagues through the pandemic, these rooms have become welcome additions to our clinical areas and there are plans to keep some of the rooms open for us as things start to return to normal.



In order to comply with social distancing guidance, **we are advising outpatient appointments are attended alone.**

Unless you have access issues or the appointment will affect your sight or mobility, you will need to attend your outpatient appointment on your own. Please ask at reception if you need to check if this applies to you.

During your visit:

Handwashing: Please clean your hands using soap and water. Sinks are available at all entrances to our hospitals and most wards, to enable you to do this. Where there is not a sink, you should be able to use alcohol hand rub instead.

Illnesses: If you have a cough, cold, diarrhoea, vomiting or a temperature, you could have an infection and may risk passing this on to our patients. Please do not attend your appointment if you have these symptoms.

Face covering: Following the Government's announcement on 5 June, we are asking all visitors to the Trust to wear an appropriate face covering.

Voting in our Governor elections

We have recently closed nominations to our Governor elections which all members of the Trust are eligible to vote in.

We have seven public seats up for election this year, along with three staff seats. There are two seats up for grabs in the Doncaster area, three on offer in Bassetlaw and a further two posts for the Rest of England and Wales.

Public Governors play a vital role in representing the public and influencing how their local hospitals make plans to improve and develop services and voting for your governor is a great way to ensure that your voice is represented.



Voting packs were distributed on 11 August to all of our existing members which included information about each candidate. Once you have received your pack, you have until 15 September to cast your vote and the results will be declared the following day.

The candidates up for election in each constituency are as follows:

Bassetlaw:

- Peter Abell
- Sharon A De-Hardle
- Derith Valerie Hood
- Laura Jaggard-Smith
- Leah Jones

- Chandrakant Mutalik
- Stephen Petherbridge
- Alison Pickard
- Lynne Schuller
- Mary Spencer
- Sheila Walsh
- Deanna Williams
- George Wright

Doncaster

- Dennis Atkin
- Glenn Bluff
- Mark Bright
- George Kirk
- Lynne Julie Logan
- Sai Patel
- Sheryl Angela Rainey
- Jeff Richards
- Pauline Riley
- Elizabeth Angela Taylor

Rest of England and Wales

- Jackie Hammerton
- Maria Jackson-James
- Nisa Khan
- James Naish



Annual Members' Meeting

Since we became a Foundation Trust, we have held a meeting every year for our members to attend and receive an update on the previous 12 months.

This year, due to the restrictions on large meetings and social distancing measures in place, our Annual Members' Meeting will take place virtually for the first time ever.

Whilst we will miss seeing you all there in person, this means you can attend the meeting from the comfort of your own home using video technology. Whilst the meeting will be conducted online, it will run a very similar agenda to previous years and there will be an option to submit questions before the event.

If you would like to attend the virtual AMM or submit a question ahead of time to be answered during the meeting, head to dbth.nhs.uk and search 'Annual Members Meeting'.

ADVERTORIAL

Barratt Homes NHS scheme - Nottinghamshire

To say thank you to all NHS employees working hard to look after people during the Covid-19 crisis, Barratt Homes has launched a new NHS deposit contribution scheme giving a 5% deposit towards a new home.

The new scheme is a way of offering a heartfelt thank you to the country's 1.5m NHS employees who will now be able to receive up to £15,000 towards buying a new Barratt home.

All NHS employees can benefit from the new deposit contribution at Barratt Homes North Midlands' developments in Nottinghamshire.

The NHS Deposit Contribution scheme will run until the end of December 2020 for those looking to take that first or next step on the property ladder.

Jan Ruston, Sales Director at Barratt Homes North Midlands, said: "We want to say a big thank you to our brilliant NHS workers who have shown such courage in the face of the Covid-19 crisis. This is why we have launched this new deposit contribution scheme to assist NHS employees with their property ladder progression."

Now is a great time for property ladder progression with the Chancellor's Summer Budget confirming there are no Stamp Duty fees to pay on properties up to the value of £500,000.

Property seekers looking to make the most of Barratt Homes' NHS scheme can do so at a range of developments in Nottinghamshire, including Fernwood Village in Newark, Romans' Quarter in Bingham, Berry Hill in Mansfield and Beeston Quarter in Beeston.

For more information on both the NHS Deposit Contribution Scheme and booking a sales appointment at specific developments, call the Barratt Homes sales team on 033 3355 8472 or visit www.barratthomes.co.uk.





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Endowments at the Trust

A feature of the old wards (West Ward Block) at Doncaster Royal Infirmary was the plaques displayed above a number of beds and cots. Each plaque commemorated a substantial endowment of funds to the hospital. A gift of £1,000 would endow an adult bed, while £600 endowed a child's cot. As an indication of just how generous a gift this was, today's equivalent of £1,000 in 1935 would be a staggering £71,590! An endowment did not involve the purchase of a new bed: it simply identified a bed space.

Each endowment was recognised by the installation of a plaque, typically of bronze and 16 x 9 inches, detailing the source of the gift. Some were in memory of a loved one, while others commemorated special events, such as a fund-raising children's bazaar organised by local newspaper the Doncaster Gazette. This was the 'Mother Hubbard Cot' (main picture), named after the nom de plume of the writer of the children's page. The 'Bruce Woodcock Bed' was endowed with the magnificent sum of £1,024 raised by his workmates at Doncaster Railway Works (the 'Plant') to commemorate local boxer Bruce's winning in July 1945 of the British and Empire Heavyweight titles.



Others recognised war work done by local branches of the Home Guard, the British Red Cross and St. John's War Organisation. In one instance, an endowment was made on condition that the grave of the commemorated person be kept in good order by the hospital authorities. The Board

of Management, unwilling to lose the endowment, somewhat unwisely agreed to the condition, but within a few years the family was complaining that the hospital had not kept its part of the bargain.

It would appear that the first bed to be endowed at DRI was

funded from the legacy of a Mr. G.F. Milnthorpe in 1924, in the days of the Wood Street infirmary, though it is not clear if a plaque was commissioned on this occasion. Further plaques were installed regularly throughout the following years until the NHS came into being in July 1948. Some 29 plaques eventually graced DRI's walls but, sadly, when the old wards were refurbished after the new-build of the 1960s, all were removed and apparently sent for scrap.

Montagu Hospital, however, has preserved its history rather better. The Hospital's commendable 'Memory Lane' feature displays several commemorative plaques, including some for endowed beds. The Yorkshire Telegraph and Star 'Gloops Club Cot' (DRI also had one of these), the 'Cricketer's Bed' and the 'Railwaymen's Bed' typify the wide variety of fundraisers who supported their local hospital in this way.

These endowments represent a high degree of appreciation and support for our local hospitals, at a time when they depended wholly for their function on the generosity of the public. Perhaps, one day, we might see at DRI a single commemorative plaque listing the 29 generous benefactors of yesteryear.

Garry Swann,
Archivist



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barratthomes.co.uk



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