



foundations

for health

Summer 2023



Doncaster and Bassetlaw
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

New Delivery Suite opens at Doncaster Royal Infirmary



Montagu Simulation Centre celebrates 20th anniversary **p9**



First ever Chief Nursing Information Officer **p12**

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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.

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An update on our new hospital bid

Following the recent announcement from the Government regarding the New Hospital Programme, we understand that our Trust has been unsuccessful in applying for the necessary funds to build a new hospital in Doncaster

A statement from our Chief Executive, Richard Parker OBE:

"I am very disappointed that the Trust's business case for the development of a new hospital in Doncaster has not been included in the Government's New Hospital Programme.

"Doncaster Royal Infirmary is one of the largest sites in South Yorkshire and currently faces significant estate-related challenges, and the backlog maintenance work is now valued at over £118 million which highlights the significant, and urgent, need for investment to meet the growing demands of our city.

"Our focus, and that of our health and social care partners and local leaders,



will now need to shift towards ensuring that Doncaster Royal Infirmary is fit for the future, as well as seeking clarity to understand what additional funding avenues and opportunities are available to us.

"We understand the importance of providing safe and effective healthcare services, and we will embark upon the challenging task of upgrading and maintaining our existing facilities to meet the needs of our patients and colleagues.

"Despite this setback, I would like to emphasise that DBTH has a strong track record of successfully delivering capital projects. In the previous financial year, we completed a development scheme totalling over £48 million. This demonstrates our commitment to improving our facilities and providing high-quality care for local people.

"Most importantly, our commitment to improving the health and well-being of our community remains unwavering. We will strive to ensure we deliver the very best services to meet the evolving care needs of the people of both Doncaster and Bassetlaw.

"Finally I would like to extend my gratitude to our dedicated team, who work tirelessly to provide exceptional care under challenging circumstances, as well as to our local representatives, local authority and health and social care partners across the region who have worked as hard as we have to try to secure the necessary funding. Together, we will continue to make the case for a new hospital at every opportunity."

New nursing role to support families with early pregnancy loss

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has introduced a new Early Pregnancy Loss (EPL) Nurse role, aimed at providing specialised support to women and families who have experienced early pregnancy loss.

Early pregnancy loss is a heart-breaking experience which affects one in eight families in the UK. The EPL Nurse role will be covered one day per week by three specialist nurses who will work closely with patients and their families affected by early pregnancy loss up to 16 weeks, offering compassionate and empathetic care throughout their grief journey. This will include signposting women and their families to emotional support and counselling, as well as practical advice and information on available services and resources.

The EPL Nurses will work closely with other healthcare professionals, including the Trust's Bereavement Midwives to ensure a coordinated and supportive approach to care. This service is expected to make a significant difference to patients and their families, strengthening their support network and providing them with the guidance they need during this challenging time.

IN 2022, DONCASTER AND BASSETLAW TEACHING HOSPITALS CHARITY LAUNCHED THE SERENITY APPEAL, A FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE A SPECIALIST BEREAVEMENT SUITE ON THE MATERNITY WARD.

Lois Mellor, Director of Midwifery at DBTH, said: "Early pregnancy loss can be a devastating experience for women and their partners, and it is important that they receive the right support at this difficult time. The new Early Pregnancy Loss Nurse role will provide a dedicated point of contact for patients and their families and will ensure that they receive the care and support they need. We are proud at DBTH to be leading the way in this area of care."

In expressing their support for the new role, Fiona Gilroy-Simpson, Chair of The Maternity Voices Partnership said: "We are hugely supportive of this important new role which will no doubt be a positive change that will help many local families going forward."

The new role is part of DBTH's wider commitment to improving care and support for patients who experience

early pregnancy loss. In 2022, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity launched the Serenity Appeal, a fundraising initiative to provide a specialist bereavement suite on the maternity ward. The Serenity Suite will be a purpose-built suite away from the hustle and bustle of the main labour ward, where families can spend time together in a safe and private space to grieve the loss of their baby with loved ones and the support of the Trust's dedicated Bereavement Midwives.

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity are grateful for the generosity of those who have supported the Serenity Appeal so far, which to date has raised over

£130,000 with donations from individuals, businesses and community groups. Most recently, the Lions Clubs of Tickhill & District and Thorne Rural made a significant donation to support the appeal, pledging a total of £33,475.58 to help fund the purpose-built suite. This generous donation will help to make improvements to maternity facilities and offer a more comforting experience to families going through such a tragedy.

If you wish to support the Serenity Appeal yourself, you can find more information about what the funds will provide and how you can help to fundraise on the charity website at <https://dbthcharity.co.uk/serenity-appeal/>.



DBTH colleagues take home accolades at local apprenticeship awards

Sarah Sutherland and Emily Watkinson at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) were presented with awards after winning in their nominated categories at the Doncaster College Apprenticeship Awards.

Hosted this year during February's National Apprenticeship Week, the annual awards evening at Doncaster College offered a great opportunity to celebrate the success of learners and granted employers who support with facilitating local apprentice roles, including DBTH, a platform to champion colleagues and their notable achievements.

Emily Watkinson, Medical Imaging Support Team Receptionist at DBTH, received the 'Health, Public Services and Care Apprentice of the Year Award' for her fantastic contributions to the Trust's Education Team whilst completing her Level 2 Customer Service Practitioner Apprenticeship.

Emily embarked on her apprenticeship opportunity with DBTH when she left sixth form. After spotting the listing on the NHS Jobs website, Emily decided that the opportunity to earn whilst continuing to learn was the best route for her personal career journey and was successful in applying for the position.

During her apprenticeship she primarily worked with members of the training and vocational team within the Trust's Education Department, supporting with organising vocational opportunities for wider colleagues alongside regular administrative duties. The Education Team were on hand every step of her apprenticeship journey to provide advice and

guidance with her studies and support with gathering evidence.

This experience helped her to secure her current receptionist role where she employs her customer service skills on a daily basis to provide an excellent front-facing service to patients visiting the department.

Reflecting upon her apprenticeship, Emily said: "I would really recommend completing an apprenticeship at DBTH. It has been a great way for me to kickstart my career in the NHS and learn new skills and knowledge. The opportunity has given me such a confidence boost which I don't think I could be successful in my role without. Thank you to everyone in the Education Team for your support."

Sarah Sutherland, Procurement Buyer, received the 'Higher Apprenticeship Award' for her amazing professional development whilst completing her Level 3 Team Leader Apprenticeship.

Working as Admin Team Lead within the Orthotics Department, Sarah had been working as an administrative colleague at DBTH for fifteen years when she first came across the apprenticeship opportunity in the weekly staff newsletter.

Approaching 50, Sarah was sceptical about what more she could learn in her role and was initially held back by the preconception that apprenticeships were exclusively for school leavers or younger colleagues. After deliberation, Sarah decided to embrace the mentality that it is never too late to start something new and applied for the opportunity.

Sarah faced challenges on her learning journey when it was transferred online during the pandemic, however, she adapted quickly and utilised a wealth of resources open to her through the Trust.

Sarah said: "I would really encourage everyone to take that step, it's definitely worth it. I was blown away by the learning opportunities out there and how they can benefit not only yourself but everyone around you too. Whilst I was so surprised to win the award, I know I've worked hard for it and I'm really proud of what I've been able to achieve."

Since successfully applying for the apprenticeship role Sarah has never looked back, taking strides in her professional development and achieving a distinction in her qualification. Sarah now works within the Trust's Procurement Team, a role which she enjoys and credits to the confidence and knowledge gained from completing her apprenticeship.

Zoe Lintin, Chief People Officer at DBTH, said: "Congratulations Emily and Sarah on this fantastic achievement and deserving recognition of your hard work. It is great to see colleagues progressing in their career journey with us and taking advantage of the exciting development opportunities available to colleagues both new and already a part of our team."

"If colleagues have been inspired by the achievements of Sarah and Emily, we encourage them to initiate discussions with their line-manager during their next appraisal and get in touch with the Vocational Team to learn more about the opportunities and support available."



Emily and Sarah holding their awards

New Delivery Suite opens at Doncaster Royal Infirmary

After several months of refurbishment works and a £2.5million investment, the new Central Delivery Suite and Triage area at Doncaster Royal Infirmary has officially opened last week (20 April).

The area has been entirely updated and modernised and the refurbishment includes a full refit of the suite's birthing rooms, as well as the creation of a new welcoming reception and waiting area. The triage department is prepared to cater for all expecting families and the suite also has a dedicated Obstetric Observation Area which is fully-equipped to support women and pregnant people who need additional observations.

“IT WAS AN ENORMOUS PLEASURE TO OPEN THE CENTRAL DELIVERY SUITE AFTER THE DISASTER OF THE FLOOD. A HUGE AMOUNT OF EFFORT HAS BEEN PUT IN TO THE REFURBISHMENT.”

The opening of the suite marks the Trust's first ever Midwifery Led Birth Centre. Whilst these services have been around for a little while, this is the first time that Doncaster's maternity department has had the required infrastructure to provide them.

If mums-to-be are fit and healthy and are expected to deliver without complication, the new area provides a more comfortable and home-like environment, with the option of a birthing pool. If mum and baby encounter any issues, they can be swiftly transferred to the Obstetric service, which is in a neighbouring area.

The works have been carried out over the last 12 months, during which time the delivery suite has been located in an alternative area of the hospital.



Lois Mellor, Director of Midwifery at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals, said: “We are very excited to officially open this new area here at Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Our midwifery teams provide an excellent service to local families who are expecting and now we

have the perfect environment to offer that care in. I think this will make a real difference to people giving birth in Doncaster and will help to make important memories that bit brighter.”

The ward was officially opened at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday 21 April by Rt Hon Dame Rosie Winterton DBE, MP for Doncaster Central. Rosie said: “It was an enormous pleasure to open the Central Delivery Suite after the disaster of the flood. A huge amount of effort has been put in to the refurbishment. It was inspiring to see the dedication and commitment of staff and all of those involved to make this a unit we can all be proud of to serve mothers and babies.”

Some areas of the new suite have been in operation since 19 April and the team of midwives, obstetricians and support staff have already welcomed lots of new-borns into the new, tranquil and atmospheric delivery rooms. New parents Natasha and Ben were the first family to welcome their baby into the world in the new suite on 19 April at 4.27pm.



Patient Initiated follow up appointments: now available for patients managing long-term conditions

Many patients with long term conditions do not need regular follow up appointments with our hospital teams. As a result, DBTH has started offering 'patient initiated follow up' appointments (abbreviated PIFU for short).

This is where you arrange a follow-up appointment as and when you need it, rather than at routine intervals. This means you avoid unnecessary appointments, saving you time, money, causing less stress and anxiety. Patient Initiated Follow-Ups won't be

suitable for every patient, but if your hospital care team think they could be right for you, they will discuss this with you.

If PIFU is accessible and appropriate for you, the healthcare professional in charge of your care will talk to you about it and, if you agree, your name will be added to the PIFU appointment list. Please keep in mind that your care is and always will be our main concern, and this service will only be offered to you if it's appropriate for the management of your condition.

PIFU is currently available in the following areas:

- Gastroenterology
- Pain Management
- Cardiology (Atrial Fibrillation)
- Dermatology
- Respiratory (CPAP)
- Trauma and Orthopaedics (Virtual Fracture Clinic)
- Clinical Therapies (Orthopaedics, Orthotics, Speech and Language, Children's therapy, Physiotherapy, Nutrition and Dietetics and Pulmonary rehabilitation)
- Haematology Lymphoma



Trust is first to eradicate reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete from sites

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has become the first acute NHS provider in the country to successfully eradicate reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) from its sites, as works to remove and replace roofing panels at Bassetlaw Hospital is completed.

Considered a revolutionary new building material at the time, RAAC panels were installed as a lightweight roofing solution but recent issues have arisen in parts of the country leading to a national programme of replacement. Following extensive surveys, it was found that the panels installed at Bassetlaw were in very good condition, however these are to be replaced as part of a national initiative. As such, the Trust received funding of £15.944 million to replace the affected roofs by early to mid-2023.

The significant replacement works, undertaken with Integrated Health Projects (IHP) have required theatres to be relocated into three temporary modular units which have been placed into the existing car park outside the site's Clinical Therapies department, with a link corridor into the main building. Throughout the project, Theatre services on the Worksoop site have remained fully operational.

Speaking about this achievement, Dr Kirsty Edmondson Jones, Director of Innovation and Infrastructure, said: "The removal of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) from Bassetlaw Hospital is a testament to our unwavering dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of our patients, staff, and



visitors. I want to thank everybody involved in this project, this achievement underscores our commitment to providing the highest quality of care in buildings which are fit for purpose."

At present, the Trust is in the process of delivering an ambitious capital developments programme, and colleagues will continue to monitor appropriate guidance in construction and related techniques to ensure that all its facilities maintain the highest standards of safety and sustainability.

Andy White, Head of Capital Infrastructure at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals, said: "We are delighted to have completed these works. This has been a huge undertaking, and has required significant enabling works – and we apologise for any

inconvenience created by this project."

"In the planning of this maintenance, we have worked closely with colleagues from our Emergency Department, East Midlands Ambulance Service and other key stakeholders. The project team has also engaged significantly with colleagues from our Estates and Facilities team, as well as compliance, parking and fire safety advisors within the Trust to ensure minimal impact to visitors and patients."

In addition to this work, further development is underway on site to improve Bassetlaw Hospital. In March 2023, former Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and Bassetlaw MP, Brendan Clarke Smith, visited the site to inspect ongoing works.



Former Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and Bassetlaw MP, Brendan Clarke Smith, visiting the site to inspect ongoing works



DBTH unveils dedicated Student Hub

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has unveiled a new Student Hub at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, providing a dedicated learning and development space for students on placement at the Trust.

Located in the hospital's Education Centre, the newly refurbished space is equipped with a PC suite, comfortable seating, lockers and a small kitchenette for all learners to utilise. The Student Hub will provide a comfortable and modern environment away from clinical areas for students to learn, creating a central hub for communication and support, with opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and independent study.

THE STUDENT HUB IS A KEY PART OF THIS COMMITMENT AND WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE THE POSITIVE IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON OUR STUDENTS' AND COLLEAGUES' LEARNING EXPERIENCES."

Designed with students in mind, the space is open 24/7 to all learners across a range of roles, including medicine, nursing, midwifery and allied healthcare professionals. The opening of the Student Hub is part of the Trust's wider commitment to investing in education and training – fostering a supportive culture that places value in learning and professional development opportunities.

After officially unveiling the Hub, Suzy Brain England OBE, Chair of the Board, said: "We are delighted to announce the opening of our new Student Hub at Doncaster Royal Infirmary. This facility is an important addition to our Trust, providing a dedicated space for students to learn and develop their skills in a supportive and professional environment."

Sam Debbage, Director of Education and

Research at DBTH, said: "As a Teaching Hospital, we are committed to investing in our workforce and ensuring that our students receive the best possible education and training to thrive in their careers. The Student Hub is a key part of this commitment and we are excited to see the positive impact it will have on our students' and colleagues' learning experiences."



Montagu Hospital Simulation Centre celebrates 20th Anniversary

In April, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Montagu Hospital Simulation Centre. Since the opening in 2003, the Simulation Centre has been a valuable resource for healthcare professionals throughout the region, providing a safe and controlled environment for effective training and education.

The Montagu Hospital Clinical Simulation Centre was founded by Dr Alasdair Strachan and Dr Alastair Graham in March 2003, who had the vision of creating a Multi-Disciplinary Simulation Training Centre to support colleagues with their clinical practice. The Fred and Ann Green Legacy funded the internal construction of the Centre, a generous donation that made it possible to create the facility – a project which cost a £498,000 investment at the time.

Over the past two decades, the Simulation Centre has evolved to become a leading facility equipped with advanced simulation technology, including high-fidelity manikins, audio and video recording capabilities and a range of medical equipment. The Centre's sophisticated simulator system allows professionals to train with a mechanical manikin which models the cardiovascular and respiratory systems of a human being and produces a range of physiological and audio responses to interaction. This unique environment allows professionals to engage with different patients and medical problems they may encounter and explore both the technical and non-technical skills required to manage various clinical situations.

The Simulation Centre plays a crucial role in improving patient safety within healthcare settings by providing health professionals the opportunity to practice and refine their skills in conditions designed to replicate real-



life scenarios. The simulator allows teams to rehearse emergency events that are rarely seen in everyday practice, creating a safe space to evaluate responses, learn from problems and put theory into practice.

A breadth of training courses are provided at the Centre at Montagu Hospital, including communication in palliative care, acute medical emergencies, infection prevention and control and foundations in obstetrics anaesthesia. As a key asset in the NHS' national education goals and initiatives, the Centre also runs courses for medical students on their longitudinal integrated clinical placements and for doctors returning to practice after absence such as secondment or maternity leave.

The variety of courses facilitated by the Education Team at the Centre enable healthcare professionals in all roles to develop their clinical expertise, build confidence, and enhance their teamwork and communication skills, all of which are

vital for delivering high-quality care.

Proudly run by a knowledgeable and dedicated team of colleagues, the Centre is comprised of three consultants and five clinical educators with a varied background of experiences in nursing, theatres, and emergency response.

The team has also led training courses outside the Centre, using their mobile simulators to provide learning opportunities for staff in Park Hill Hospital theatres, nurses in regional care and settings and tracheostomy training for paramedics.

The number of delegates that have attended training courses over the years stands testament to the success and leading position of the Simulation Centre. Since 2003, the Centre has welcomed over 28,544 healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants from the Trust and across the Yorkshire and Humber region.

During this time the Centre has also gained academic standing, with colleagues publishing notable papers in the British Medical Journal and Wiley InterScience. The team have also presented at conferences nationally and internationally as prominent and experienced simulation educators in the field, achieving recognition for their success in simulation-based education.

Richard Parker OBE, Chief Executive at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals, said: "The Montagu Hospital Simulation Centre has been instrumental in helping us to deliver high-quality care to our patients for the past two decades. We are incredibly proud of the Centre and the role it plays in supporting the outstanding education and training of our clinical staff and colleagues throughout the region. This is a fantastic milestone, thank you to all the colleagues past and present that have helped to make the Centre a credit to our Trust."



DBTH develops service to go paperless on Stroke Ward at Doncaster

The Digital Transformation programme at DBTH focuses on the Stroke Service to embed digital working practises across its documentation.

Digital specialists at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) are on course to achieve their goal to make paper-based medical documentation a thing of the past following work with Stroke and Therapy colleagues to transform the way patient documentation is recorded.

Overall, the aim is to adopt a 99% paper-free service from Spring 2023, with learning to be applied to similar roll-outs in the Trust in the future.

When a patient has received a stroke diagnosis, they are treated on a specialised ward based at Doncaster Royal Infirmary. These patients will benefit from improved and modernised processes that will streamline their care journey. These changes to working practices means that there will be a large reduction of clinical time devoted to completing paper notes, as many of the system will work together to prepopulate basic information about the patient.

The system also means that paperwork cannot be misplaced and is accessible at any time, ensuring that clinicians have access to health data whenever they need it. These improvements in record keeping will significantly improve the overall efficiency of the Stroke service.

Digital Care Planning is one aspect of development being implemented on the Stroke ward. Care plans allow clinicians to create a personalised plan of care tailored to patient's clinical needs. Recording this information digitally makes the information accessible for all members of the Multidisciplinary Team involved in the patients care. It provides a standardised structure for nursing documentation and is quick and easy to complete at the patient's bedside on either a mobile device or laptop. Colleagues caring for Stroke patients at Doncaster will use smartphone type devices to access digital systems to document and review patient's information. These handheld devices have been securely encrypted and provide quick access for those involved in clinical care, improving communication between colleagues. This project will revolutionise patient care and enables clinical professionals more time to be spent caring for patients.

Ahmad Maatouk, Clinical Lead for the Stroke Service at DBTH, said: "In the Stroke unit, we have been using digital technologies and AI for some time. The



service uses a range of apps that allows us to diagnose and advise a patient remotely, Rapid AI sends CT scans to a clinician's device from any scanning facility in the region and also allows us to assess the size of the stroke along with other medical details. We are also piloting a new app that allows us to communicate with paramedics attending a patient's home.

"I AM DELIGHTED THAT THE STROKE WARD IS THE FIRST TO GO LIVE WITH THEIR DIGITAL PROCESSES. THE PROJECT HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC EXAMPLE OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION WITH AN AIM TO GET THE SERVICE FULLY DIGITAL IN THE NEAR FUTURE."

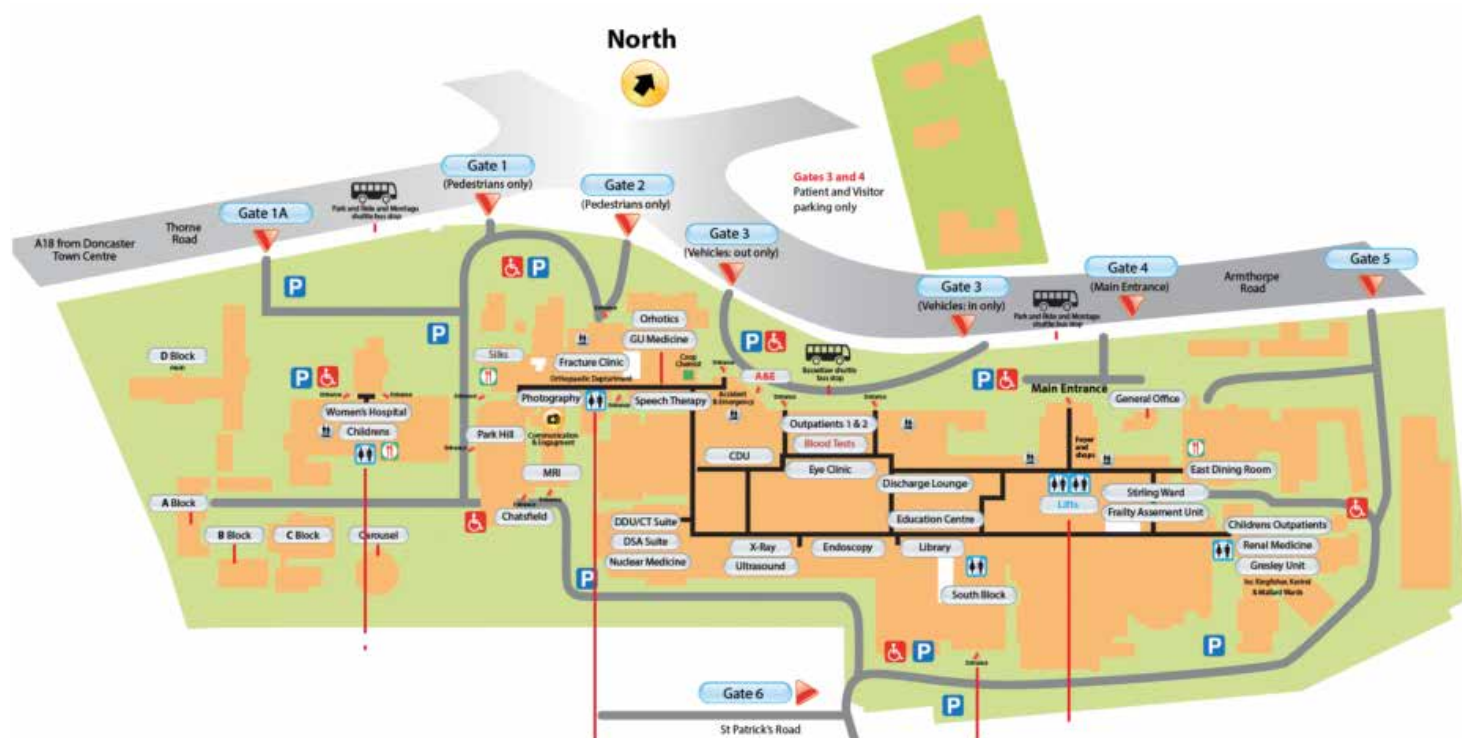
"At present we are digitising the stroke unit service, including all paper forms and documentation into a digital format. This project will have a major impact on a stroke patient as their records will be easily accessible by the clinicians in their care. The patient's history can be evaluated as these files can also be recalled if the patient is readmitted at any time."

Deanne Driscoll, Chief Nursing Information Officer, said: "I am delighted that the stroke ward is the first to go live with their digital processes. The project has been a fantastic example of multidisciplinary collaboration with an aim to get the service fully digital in the near future. The information collected will provide us with quality data to improve our patient care."

Digital Transformation is the term used to describe how the Trust is making the most of new technologies to improve working practices, ultimately improving the quality of care provided for its patients. The Digital Transformation programme is a continuing process to improve hospital systems to ensure that information recorded in patient care is done so in a consistent, timely and accurate way.

Georgina Redfearne, Digital Practitioner at the Trust, said: "Visitors and patients will notice the Trust's colleagues using mobile devices. Please be assured that these devices do not allow users to access the internet for social media or leisure browsing purposes.

"Members of staff operating the system on these devices, whether at the bedside or on a ward corridor, are performing part of their clinical role, accessing the most recent patient information or contacting colleagues securely. Our colleagues are working hard to ensure that patients receive the best care."



We've appointed our first ever Chief Nursing Information Officer

Following a robust selection process, **Deanne Driscoll** has been appointed **Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals' (DBTH) first ever Chief Nursing Information Officer (CNIO).**

A new and innovative role, the CNIO is responsible for providing strategic and operational leadership in the development, deployment, and integration of clinical information systems for the organisations 3,000 nursing, midwifery and allied health professional colleagues.

Deanne is a Registered Nurse with almost 30 years of experience, who has worked in a variety of wards and specialisms throughout her career. Most recently, she has held the position of Technology Innovation Lead Nurse at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals, as well as Clinical Safety Officer.

Speaking about her appointment, Deanne said: "The Trust is about to take a significant step forward in its goal to bring an electronic patient record online – this will be one of the biggest and most important investments the organisation has ever made. This is a really exciting time, and I'm really pleased to be part of this journey.

"As a Registered Nurse who has worked in a variety of nursing roles, including as a Matron and Deputy Director of Nursing, I'm extremely passionate about digitally enabled healthcare

and have seen the benefits first-hand. I want to ensure our systems are fit for purpose and deliver efficiencies for the colleagues using them. Moreover, I want to ensure that they are clinically safe for patients and provide us with the correct data to help us to drive improvements in patient care."

At present, the Trust is part of NHSX's Digital Aspirant Plus programme, with an ambition to implement an electronic patient record (EPR) in the not too distant future.

Electronic records within health settings are safer and more secure than paper records, which are still within wide use at DBTH. The use of integrated EPRs lead to greater efficiencies for clinicians as less time is spent physically moving notes around hospital sites as they are required. It means that health professionals are able to safely access the information they need, when and where they need it, ultimately improving the care and experience of patients.

In simple terms, it means that a doctor, nurse or any other clinician from the Trust will be able to access a patient's health record using a secure computer, recording diagnosis, recommended treatments or any changes to their condition, at the stroke of a key more readily. The record is always accessible if a patient is transferred to another ward or service, and supports discharge

home and follow-up care. Trusts which use EPR systems often report that it aids in better clinical decision making, communication, a reduction in recording errors, better use of staff time and, most importantly, improved care for patients.

In her role, Deanne will be working closely with the organisation's Digital Transformation team, and Chief Clinical Information Officer, Dr Mike Whiteside, to optimise our current systems and implement the EPR, which will help to enable the delivery of high quality and safe care.

Karen Jessop, Chief Nurse at DBTH, said: "I am delighted to welcome Deanne to the Trust. As we recover from the challenges of COVID-19, there are a number of opportunities ahead of us which we want to make the very most of, for the benefit of our patients.

"The pandemic showed us how important it is to have a resilient and robust digital infrastructure, and I can't wait to see the improvements we can make with further integration of technology into our daily practice."

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals is one of only five teaching hospitals within the region, and boasts a range of services across three main hospital sites, Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Bassetlaw Hospital and Montagu Hospital, serving around 420,000 people across South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire.



Welcoming our two new Non-Executive Directors

Following a robust selection process, two Non-Executive Directors, Lucy Nickson and Dr Emyr Wyn Jones have been appointed to Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals' (DBTH) Board of Directors.

Non-Executive Directors (NED) play a crucial role in bringing an independent perspective to a hospital's boardroom. They support the Chair, promote NHS values and contribute invaluable insight to the development of strategy.

Lucy's career started in nursing over 30 years ago, training within Sheffield and working at Weston Park Hospital for a number of years, before moving on to a role in Health Visiting, where she practiced in Chesterfield and North Derbyshire. NHS management roles followed, including leading Community Nursing within Derbyshire and then on to the East Midlands Strategic Health Authority as Head of Performance.

Lucy paused her career with the NHS 12 years ago and began a new phase within the charity sector. Since 2011, the former nurse has been Chief Executive of both a hospice and a home-based end of life care charity, as well as CEO at The Foundation at Club Doncaster and lead South Yorkshire-based commercial healthcare organisations. She is currently Chief Executive of Day One Trauma Support, a national charity which works alongside the health service to support



Lucy Nickson

people impacted by major trauma and serious injury.

Joining Lucy is Dr Emyr Wyn Jones, formerly DBTH's Medical Director. Dr Jones qualified in

Medicine in 1973. He joined what was then Doncaster Royal and Mexborough Hospital NHS Trust in 1986, beginning a 24 year tenure as a Consultant General Physician with an interest in Diabetes and Endocrinology. He wrote the textbook 'An Illustrated Guide to the Diabetic Clinic', which was published by Blackwell Science in June 1998 and has been reprinted and translated in several countries.

Following a period as Clinical Director of Medicine at the organisation, Dr Jones was appointed Medical Director in 1998, as well as Deputy Chief Executive in 2004, positions he held until his retirement in 2010. Since that time, the Bessacarr resident has held a number of national leadership roles including Medical Advisor to the National Audit Office and Clinical Leader for the Summary Care Records Programme at NHS Digital. Dr Jones was also Secondary Care Doctor Member for NHS Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group from 2015 to its dissolution in 2022.

Welcoming the new appointees, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals' Chair, Suzy Brain England OBE, said: "I am delighted that we have been able to appoint Lucy and Emyr to our Board of Directors. Both have a combination of invaluable skills, as well as crucial medical and clinical insight, which I believe will significantly improve the expertise and candour within our organisation's leadership team. I look forward to working with both of them."

The new Non-Executive Directors were appointed for three-year terms after an open advertisement and recruitment process.



Dr Emyr Wyn Jones

New Pain Management Unit opens its doors at Montagu Hospital

Following investment of £2.53 million, a new Pain Management Unit has opened at Montagu Hospital.

As part of larger Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) developments at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH), and based at Montagu Hospital, a purpose built Pain Management Unit (PMU) has been created, and is now located on the ground floor next the outpatient department.

For some patients, there is no cure for long-term painful conditions and these can often persist for the duration of that person's life. Once referred, patients will be asked to attend for an assessment appointment with either a consultant pain physician or a physiotherapy practitioner specialising in chronic pain to determine the most appropriate intervention for them.

“OUR SERVICE OFFERS MUCH NEEDED SUPPORT TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH CHRONIC PAIN. WITH OUR NEW HOME, WE HOPE TO IMPROVE THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH US, AS WELL AS FURTHER ENHANCE THE CARE AND TREATMENT WE PROVIDE.”

The PMU currently receives around 50 referrals per week from GPs and support around 2,500 patients per year. The service is staffed by consultants, nurses, therapists and other health professionals, and offers interventions such as:

- Sacroiliac joint injections
- Medical branch block
- Radiofrequency ablation
- Nerve blocks
- Epidural injections



- Trigger Point Injections
- Acupuncture for tension headaches
- Analgesia medication review clinics
- Cognitive Behaviour Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Medication Reviews

The PMU officially moved to the new area in March.

Ailsa Woodhouse, Lead Nurse for the Pain Team at DBTH, said: “We are over the moon with our new unit, and we are happy to welcome our patients to this purpose-built area.

“Our service offers much needed support to those individuals living with chronic pain. With our new home, we hope to improve their experience with us, as well as further enhance the care and treatment we provide.”

In 2021, Montagu Hospital was selected to host one of a pair of ‘Community Diagnostic Centres’ (CDCs) within South Yorkshire, with an overall ambition to improve access to diagnostic tests and treatment for illnesses such as cancer.

Since that time, the Trust has received additional funding of £9 million, and £16 million, to add additional facilities, with the PMU being developed as part of the overall project as services are moved around the site to accommodate further developments.

Following the creation of the new PMU, as per current plans, construction on a new endoscopy suite has begun, and will be placed within the former PMU, while a new imaging suite will be built to the rear of the Mexborough site as well as an elective orthopaedic centre which will carry out surgeries.



Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust donate specialist equipment to DBTH

The Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust (DCDT) has raised funds to purchase two key items of equipment which will assist in the carrying out of specialist procedures at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH).

Traditionally, when patients have to undergo a procedure such as a mastectomy (removal of breast tissue), while the person being operated would be placed under anaesthesia, an additional clinician may be required to hold the individual in place. Furthermore, if a tumour, or further tissue, was being removed, this would necessitate the need for another health professional to support.

While a tried and testing method of providing care, a downside to this approach is that a number of people are required for such a procedure to go ahead, as well associated

tiredness, as clinicians assisting can become fatigued holding things in place for extended periods of time.

With the kindness of the DCDT and its supporters, the Trust has now been able to procure a special locking post which has the ability to hold patients safely and comfortably in place during treatment. Additionally, surgeons will now have access to specialist 'arms' which are able to support in the place of colleagues, without the need for additional assistance.

Ms Clare Rogers, Consultant Breast Surgeon at DBTH, said: "On behalf of the Trust, I want to thank the kind supporters of the Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust. This is a fantastic development that will help to improve the care we provide for local people, as well as our capacity to carry out

procedures. People often do not realise the number of people that are required in order for us to successfully operate, and with this new kit, we will be able to work more efficiently, ensuring people receive the treatment they need as soon as possible."

Yvonne Woodcock, Chair of DCDT said, we are immensely proud of the people in Doncaster and the surrounding area. This is only possible due their continued generosity and support, especially during these very difficult times.

DCDT is Doncaster's oldest local cancer charity. Formed over 50 years ago the charity has donated over 80 pieces of front-line cancer equipment to Doncaster Hospitals. All their members and management team are unpaid volunteers. For more information about DCDT please visit dcdt.co.uk



Miss Clare Rogers (third from left) with Jasmine Team

Couple raise huge £11,600 for maternity bereavement services following loss of son

A Doncaster couple have raised a huge £11,600 during a 20-mile sponsored walk, in memory of their stillborn son, Finn.

Daniel and Dannielle Baker lost Finn only six months before the walk, which began on 24 April at Bassetlaw Hospital, the place of Finn's birth, to Barnby Dun, his home.

All the funds raised on the seven hour walk will go to the Serenity Appeal, a charity campaign created by Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) Charity to improve maternity bereavement services.

Speaking about how she felt on the morning of the walk, Dannielle, who works as a secondary school teacher, said: "I was very emotional. I couldn't stop crying. It was very mixed emotions."

But the group, which saw lots of family and friends join at Armthorpe on the last three miles, made it to the 20-mile mark with a smile on their faces, Dannielle explained.

She said: "Even by the time we got halfway, it got easier. Everyone was upbeat."

Life-long friend, Katy Bethan, helped the couple set up their fundraising event.

She said: "I wanted to give Finn a legacy. No-one got to meet him, but his name lives on through the fundraising."

"It has really helped distract them and put a positive spin on something that was so traumatising."

The Serenity Appeal will see £150,000 raised to build a specialist bereavement suite at Doncaster Royal Infirmary (DRI), purchase a mobile ultrasound scanner for Bassetlaw Hospital and refurbish counselling rooms across the sites.

When the couple lost Finn, Dannielle was given the choice to go to Bassetlaw Hospital to give birth to him. The two went ahead and received 'unbelievable' care.

Dannielle said: "We were so looked after. There was always the nod to 'we're sorry you're here', but we were always having a nice chat."

"It took you away from what was happening." After giving birth to Finn, the pair stayed at

Bassetlaw Hospital for a further four days.

Between regular visits from staff, who introduced themselves personally, asking how the couple were doing and looking at Finn, Dannielle expressed how 'human' it made her feel.

She said: "They cared about the human stuff, not just the stuff they had to do."

Partner Daniel was so grateful for the care they had received, he bought the staff 200 electric candles, something they use to create a soothing environment for families experiencing baby loss.

Dannielle was inspired by the many donations she saw on the ward in memory of other lost babies'.

She said: "It made me not feel alone."

To make their own contribution to help services be the best they could be, they set up the sponsored walk.

To find out more about the serenity appeal, please visit our charity website: <https://dbthcharity.co.uk/serenity-appeal/>



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