

Healthier Together

DBTH celebrates stars of 2025 at annual awards ceremony



Former Doncaster rugby player champions exercise as key to cancer recovery **p4**



Improvements in paediatric care at DBTH **p6**



Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust leaves a lasting legacy after more than 60 years of support **p13**

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DBTH celebrates national sustainability success for cutting carbon and waste

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) are celebrating national recognition after being awarded ‘Best Reduction of Clinical Waste’ at the prestigious Waste Management Awards 2025. The honour highlights the Trust’s progress in reducing clinical waste, cutting carbon emissions and championing environmental sustainability across its hospitals.

Within theatre departments alone, improvements in waste segregation have delivered an impressive 24% reduction in clinical waste – saving the equivalent of 13.95 tonnes of CO₂e compared to the same period in 2024. This success reflects the Trust’s commitment to protecting the environment while maintaining the highest standards of clinical safety.

By introducing a new waste segregation model, DBTH has significantly reduced its environmental footprint and achieved a £6000 cost saving in just five months. The switch from orange bags used for high-temperature incineration to yellow-striped ‘tiger’ bags for non-infectious waste has been central to this achievement.

The initiative has been driven by teamwork across the Trust – from Theatres, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), and Facilities teams to waste provider partners such as Veolia – all coordinated through the DBTH Sustainability Group.

Lisa Quean, Sterile Services Manager at DBTH, said: “This award is fantastic recognition of what can be achieved through teamwork, communication and a shared commitment to reducing the impact of waste. By helping staff understand what belongs in each waste stream, we’ve made a big difference – reducing both costs and carbon emissions while keeping safety at the forefront. Starting in theatres, we’re now expanding these improvements across other clinical areas.”

Building on this momentum, DBTH is launching its new ‘Simpler Recycling’ initiative, in line with national legislation from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). The scheme will make recycling clearer and easier for staff, starting at Montagu Hospital before rolling out to all Trust sites.

Adeola Bayode, Waste Manager at DBTH, said: “Our ‘Simpler Recycling’ initiative will help teams at Montagu Hospital to recycle more effectively at work, and we’re looking forward to extending this across all our sites in the near future. Colleagues have shown great enthusiasm for improving sustainability, and this project will make it easier than ever to turn that commitment into action.”

These successes form part of the Trust’s refreshed Green Plan (2025–2028), which builds on progress made since the first plan launched in 2022. The updated strategy sets out DBTH’s achievements so far and outlines clear priorities for the next three years – from reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency, to promoting sustainable travel, procurement, and waste management across all sites.

Sam Wilde, Chief Finance Officer and Board-level Net Zero Lead, said: “At DBTH, our vision is clear: Healthier together — delivering exceptional care for all. This includes care for our environment. Through strong leadership, robust governance, and the commitment of our people, we will ensure sustainability becomes an integral part of how we plan, deliver and improve services. We thank all colleagues who have contributed to this work so far, and we look forward to building on this progress together in the years ahead.”

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Former Doncaster rugby player champions exercise as key to cancer recovery

A former Doncaster rugby player who rediscovered his strength and wellbeing after cancer through a research-backed exercise treatment service is backing calls for exercise to be recognised as a vital part of cancer treatment.

David Bottomley, who played for Doncaster Dragons RUFC, was diagnosed with bowel cancer at the age of 69.

Following major surgery and the life-changing experience of living with a colostomy bag, David found himself struggling physically and mentally, until he joined Active Together Doncaster, a fitness, nutrition and wellbeing service funded by Yorkshire Cancer Research and designed by Sheffield Hallam University's Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre, delivered in partnership with Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH).

David said: "Before my diagnosis, an injury had affected my ability to be active, and I'd started to put on weight. The less I did, the harder it became to rekindle my interest in exercise and sport. It was a vicious cycle and my fitness and health deteriorated.

"Then I was diagnosed with bowel cancer and needed major surgery. I was suddenly faced with new challenges. But during this process I was introduced to the wonderful people at Yorkshire Cancer Research's Active Together service in Doncaster.

"The Active Together team helped me get moving again. The sessions gave me energy, strength and a sense of purpose. I move much more effectively whilst doing everyday tasks and I'm now able to take my dog on long walks.

"I feel energised, the strength I lost is returning and people are starting to remark on how well I look. This is great motivation, and I am now training at home doing the exercises I learned in my Active Together sessions."

Since launching in August 2024, Active Together Doncaster has helped 221 people prepare for and recover from cancer treatment. The service is underpinned by



well-established scientific evidence showing that exercise can increase survival, improve recovery from treatment and reduce the risk of cancer returning.

The programme offers both prehabilitation (support before treatment, helping people build strength, improve fitness and enhance mental wellbeing before surgery or chemotherapy) and rehabilitation (support after treatment to aid recovery and reduce the risk of cancer returning).

John Brinkley, Physiotherapy Manager at Montagu Hospital, said: "Prehabilitation helps ensure patients are in the best possible condition before vital cancer treatments or surgery. Not only does prehabilitation help patients prepare well for treatments, it can also reduce complications, shorten recovery times and improve quality of life. We've seen firsthand how this approach can make a meaningful difference for people going through a very challenging time."

David shared his experience during a visit from Sally Jameson, MP for Doncaster Central,

who praised the programme and echoed Yorkshire Cancer Research's call for exercise to be included in the Government's upcoming National Cancer Plan.

Yorkshire Cancer Research's White Rose campaign is calling for exercise to be prescribed by the NHS for everyone with cancer, no matter who they are or where they live. The charity's vision is for services like Active Together to be available across the UK, helping people live longer, healthier lives.

Sally Jameson MP said: "Active Together is a powerful example of how a community-based exercise treatment service can help people throughout their cancer experience, from diagnosis to recovery.

"It was great to meet David and hear how Active Together has supported his recovery from cancer treatment. The National Cancer Plan must take bold, decisive action and ensure that, wherever people live, they can benefit from the life-saving potential of exercise before, during and after treatment."

More information

To pledge support for Yorkshire Cancer Research's call for exercise to be introduced for everyone following a cancer diagnosis, visit [Stand With Yorkshire](#) – Yorkshire Cancer Research.

Minister of State for Care opens pioneering Phoenix Therapy Suite at Montagu Hospital

Earlier this month, Minister of State for Care, Stephen Kinnock MP, visited Montagu Hospital's Phoenix Therapy Suite – the first NHS stroke rehabilitation facility of its kind in the country.

The Minister of State for Care, Stephen Kinnock MP, has visited Montagu Hospital in Mexborough to officially open the Phoenix Therapy Suite – the first NHS stroke rehabilitation facility of its kind in the country.

During the visit, the Minister was welcomed by senior leaders and clinicians from Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH), before touring the state-of-the-art centre. He observed a number of patients using the cutting-edge therapy systems and took the opportunity to try several of the devices himself, including balance and gait training machines designed to rebuild strength and coordination following stroke.

Based within the Fred and Ann Green Rehabilitation Centre, the Phoenix Therapy Suite is designed to accelerate stroke recovery by combining advanced robotics with gamified, interactive activities.

The facility brings together seven highly specialised devices which enable patients to complete hundreds of guided movements in each session – far more than is possible in conventional therapy – while keeping them motivated and engaged throughout their rehabilitation.



The equipment includes robotic gait trainers to help people relearn how to walk, leg trainers that rebuild strength and coordination using pressure sensors to track progress, and multi-purpose therapy stations that work on upper limb, trunk and postural control.

Other systems support arm movements using virtual reality, guide individual finger motions to restore grip and dexterity, provide

cognitive rehabilitation through visual scanning and problem-solving tasks, and challenge balance and core stability while monitoring performance.

The development was supported by £1.3 million in capital funding and £580,000 from the Fred and Ann Green Legacy, with further contributions from DBTH Charity.

The suite opened earlier this summer and is already supporting patients from across South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire, helping them access therapies that were previously only available in private healthcare settings.

Dr Peter Anderton, Stroke Consultant at DBTH and project lead for the suite, said: "This facility is revolutionary for NHS stroke care. It gives our patients access to world-class robotic therapies that can transform recovery, helping people to regain movement, independence and confidence following a stroke.

It's inspiring to see patients already benefitting – it's a privilege to see people making progress every day."

The Phoenix Therapy Suite is the latest in a series of major investments at Montagu Hospital, which has also seen the development of the Mexborough Elective Orthopaedic Centre of Excellence and a new Community Diagnostic Centre, as part of DBTH's wider programme to modernise care and improve patient outcomes.





Improvements in paediatric care at DBTH

Families on the children's wards at Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Bassetlaw Hospital will notice a number of new changes designed to make hospital stays more informed, supportive, and involving from start to finish.

A series of practical improvements – including welcome booklets, bedside communication boards, daily 4pm huddles, child-friendly procedure guides, and clearer discharge information – are now in place to strengthen communication, provide reassurance, and make time in hospital less daunting for children and their carers.

These developments follow detailed feedback from patients, families, and colleagues, gathered through the NHS Staff Survey, the CQC Children and Young Person's Survey, local patient experience reports, and day-to-day conversations on the wards.

Parents and carers told the paediatric team they value being heard, receiving clear and timely information, knowing who to approach with questions, and helping young patients feel prepared for what's ahead.

Acting on this insight, the team worked together to design changes that directly respond to these priorities.

Families arriving on the wards will now receive age-appropriate welcome booklets for children, young people, and carers, setting out what to expect and how to settle in. At each bedside, a personal communication board offers a simple way to note down questions or updates ahead of ward rounds.



In addition a new daily 4pm huddle gives doctors and nurses a dedicated time to follow up on any concerns raised earlier in the day. For young patients, visual procedure guides and medical role play kits help explain treatments in a clear, age-appropriate way. When it's time to go home, updated discharge leaflets and checklists for parents, children, and young people make the process smoother and more reassuring.

Laura Churm, Divisional Nurse for Paediatrics, said: "We are committed to making sure every child, young person, and family receives the very best care and feels fully supported throughout their stay.

"These changes are directly shaped by what

our patients, families, and colleagues have told us. By acting on this feedback, we can make improvements that really matter – and we will continue to adapt and refine as we go."

Paediatric inpatient services at Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Bassetlaw Hospital are delivered by dedicated children's care teams who work closely with families to provide safe, compassionate, and person-centred care.

These latest improvements are part of the Trust's wider ambition to provide the best care environments – creating welcoming, supportive spaces where children, young people, and their families can feel confident, comfortable, and cared for at every stage of their hospital journey.

Cancer patients praise care at DBTH in national survey

Cancer patients have praised the care they receive at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH), with the latest National Cancer Patient Experience Survey showing high levels of satisfaction across a range of measures.

Feedback highlighted that patients felt supported and well-informed throughout their treatment. Almost all respondents said the advice from their main contact person was helpful, while the majority reported that their care plans were kept up-to-date.

Many also spoke positively about the information they were given on available support, and about how well the care team worked together. Privacy was rated particularly highly, especially when patients were receiving important test results.

Overall, respondents gave DBTH an average score of nine out of ten for the care they received and the service exceeded expected performance in a number of key areas, had no scores below the expected range, and achieved

80% or higher satisfaction in the majority of questions asked.

Lesley Barnett, Head of Cancer Services at DBTH, said: "We are really pleased with the results of this year's survey, which reflect the dedication and compassion of our colleagues across cancer services. Knowing that patients feel supported, respected and cared for is so important to us, and we will continue working hard to build on this positive feedback and further improve the experience for everyone who comes through our care."

Since the survey, a number of significant developments have been introduced to further enhance cancer care in the region. The Montagu Community Diagnostic Centre, a state-of-the-art facility offering CT, MRI, ultrasound, endoscopy, dermoscopy, liver screening and other diagnostic tests, is now fully operational. This means patients can access vital investigations more quickly and conveniently, closer to home.

Meanwhile, a newly opened pleural clinic at Doncaster Royal Infirmary offers a one stop

outpatient service for diagnosing and treating pleural effusions. Supported by a generous donation from the Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust, it streamlines care for affected patients and reduces the need for hospital admission.

Karen Jessop, Chief Nurse at DBTH, added: "These results highlight the dedication and compassion of our teams. We know every patient's journey is unique and often deeply emotional, so it's reassuring to see that our care is making a real difference. Patients consistently tell us they feel listened to and supported, which is exactly what we strive for. This also reflects our ambition to provide the best possible care environments, where treatment is delivered in settings that truly support wellbeing."

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals is one of the region's largest providers of hospital care, serving a population of more than 440,000 across Doncaster, Worksop and surrounding areas. The Trust runs Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Bassetlaw Hospital and Montagu Hospital, with over 7,000 colleagues working across its sites.



Clinical Research Hub opens at Doncaster Royal Infirmary

A new Clinical Research Hub has officially opened at Doncaster Royal Infirmary (DRI), giving patients across Doncaster and Bassetlaw greater access to cutting-edge studies and treatments that have not previously been available locally.

Clinical research involves studying health and illness in people to discover better ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat conditions. By volunteering to take part, patients may benefit from the latest treatment innovations while also helping to improve care for future generations.

The Hub provides a welcoming, purpose-built environment for research participants – enhancing their comfort and experience – while giving clinicians the space and facilities they need to deliver high-quality studies.

DBTH already runs a broad and diverse research portfolio, covering maternity and paediatrics, surgical specialties such as orthopaedics and breast oncology, and medical areas including cardiology, gastroenterology, stroke, respiratory medicine, diabetes, renal care, dermatology, rheumatology, anaesthetics, critical care, and haematology.

The Trust is also engaged in research across urgent and emergency care, vascular surgery, neurology, as well as studies that involve colleague participation.

Among its flagship projects is the Born and Bred in Doncaster (BaBi-D) study, which launched in 2022 and has already recruited



more than 3,500 participants, including expectant mothers and babies.

BaBi-D collects health and care data to build a picture of life in Doncaster, helping researchers and clinicians understand local health needs and reduce health inequalities. The study has also engaged families through innovative activities, such as teddy-bear picnics at local family hubs, to ensure research reflects community voices and priorities.

Professor Sam Debbage, Director of Education and Research at DBTH,

said: "This new Clinical Research Hub represents a significant step forward in our strategic ambition to become a leading centre for education and research. By providing a dedicated space for research activity, we can increase access for our patients to new treatments, improve the experience of those taking part in studies, and demonstrate our commitment to embedding a culture of research and innovation.

"It lays the foundations for DBTH to build on, ensuring that the benefits of research are felt not only by our patients and colleagues, but also by our wider communities across South Yorkshire."

The Hub, alongside studies such as BaBi-D and DBTH's extensive research programme, underscores the organisation's commitment to locally relevant, inclusive research that delivers real impact for patients, colleagues, and the community.

Suzy Brain England OBE, Chair of the Board at DBTH, said: "The Clinical Research Hub shows the strength of our ambition as an organisation. By investing in research infrastructure now, we are creating opportunities that will benefit patients today and in the future, while positioning DBTH as a place where innovation and excellence can thrive."

The Hub will act as a platform for future growth – enabling DBTH to further increase research activity, attract new opportunities, and strengthen its role as a leading centre of research excellence within the region.



10% of DBTH colleagues vaccinated against flu in first week of campaign

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has vaccinated 10% of colleagues against flu in just the first week of its annual winter vaccination campaign.

The campaign aims to protect as many colleagues as possible ahead of winter, helping to keep themselves, their families, and those in their care – including patients and visitors – safe from flu and other respiratory illness.

The flu vaccine offers the best protection against the virus, reducing the risk of serious illness and helping to prevent outbreaks within healthcare settings. Vaccination also helps to protect the most vulnerable members of the community and supports the NHS by reducing winter pressures on services.

Leading by example, members of the Board of

Directors were among the first to roll up their sleeves and receive their flu vaccination as part of the early clinics, encouraging colleagues across all sites to do the same.

To make it easy for colleagues to get protected, DBTH is offering regular drop-in clinics, roving vaccinators visiting wards and departments, and specially nominated colleagues within clinical areas who can vaccinate their own teams.

Dr Nick Mallaband, Acting Executive Medical Director at DBTH, said: "It's fantastic to see such a strong start to our flu vaccination campaign, with one in ten colleagues coming forward in the first week. This quick uptake shows how seriously our teams take protecting themselves, their patients, and their loved ones.

"As the weather turns cooler and damper, we naturally start to see more respiratory illnesses

such as rhinovirus, COVID-19 and flu. Getting vaccinated means one less thing to worry about – it helps protect you and those around you, keeping everyone a little safer this winter."

Karen Jessop, Chief Nurse at DBTH, added: "Flu can be serious, particularly for people who are more vulnerable, such as those who are pregnant. We're encouraging anyone who is expecting a baby to take up their free flu vaccination, which is available through our maternity clinics, GPs or local pharmacies. The vaccine is safe at any stage of pregnancy and helps protect both mother and baby.

"For everyone else, flu jabs are now available across Doncaster and Bassetlaw in most GP practices and community pharmacies, so please come forward as soon as you're invited. Every vaccination helps protect you, your loved ones and our local NHS this winter."



Chief Executive, Richard Parker OBE, receiving his flu jab.

More information

For more information about flu vaccination in pregnancy, visit www.dbth.nhs.uk

DBTH celebrates stars of 2025 at

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) celebrated the outstanding achievements of its colleagues at the 2025 Star Awards, held on Thursday 6 November at the Doncaster Dome.

Hosted by BBC Radio Yorkshire's Dixie, the event brought together teams and individuals from across Bassetlaw Hospital, Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Montagu Hospital for an evening of celebration, recognising those who go above and beyond every day to deliver exceptional care, compassion, and commitment to patients and one another.

This year's winners reflected the true breadth and depth of Team DBTH – colleagues from a wide range of services, both clinical and corporate. Together, they represent every part of the organisation, from those who directly deliver high-quality care to those who support and enable it. Each award celebrated the exceptional people whose dedication

ensures our hospitals continue to provide safe, effective, and compassionate care.

Among the evening's highlights, the Chair's Award was presented to The Stroke Team, commended for their innovation and excellence, including the introduction of seven-day CT perfusion imaging, pioneering video triage with paramedics, and achieving some of the best times in the country for thrombectomy transfers.

Suzu Brain England OBE, Chair of the Board, said the event was a fitting celebration of the talent and dedication across the organisation: "The Star Awards are always one of the highlights of our year, and this one was particularly special for me as my final ceremony as Chair. Every nomination and every story shared on the night reflects the dedication, compassion and teamwork that make DBTH such an extraordinary place.

"I am so proud of our colleagues and the

difference they make for patients every single day."

Speaking at the event, Zoe Lintin, Chief People Officer at the Trust, said: "The Star Awards celebrate the people who make this organisation what it is. Every day, our colleagues live The DBTH Way – caring for others, supporting their teams, and always striving to make things better. It's a chance to say thank you and recognise the heart and pride that shine through across our hospitals."

The awards were delivered in association with ESC Global, a Doncaster-based water treatment company, who generously sponsored the event. Additional sponsorship was provided by Darwin Group, Fleet Solutions, Holt Doctors, Assut Europe, IHP Vinci and Doncaster College.

The event was made possible thanks to these generous contributions from partners and colleagues through the Trust's internal staff lottery.



Patient Champion: Richard Thompson

Richard always makes his patients feel relaxed, welcomed and in safe hands. Many patients specifically ask for him for return appointments as they have such a good experience. He is fantastic with adult patients and young patients alike and is described as a gentle soul and a credit to DBTH.

Health Equality Champions: Eye Screening Team

This team has worked tirelessly to ensure that patients have equal access to the care they need. They have made sure that letters and correspondence reach patients in the right language and have arranged for clinics to be held in community areas which have low uptake due to language barriers, learning disability prevalence and travel issues.



Unsung Hero: Anthony French

Anthony is an integral part of DBTH. He built a newly formed team which works perfectly together and has resulted in a completely transformed clinical therapies service. He helps out wherever he can whether that is covering another role, being a great listener of throwing himself into his secondment role.



Change Champion: Rapid Diagnostic Team

The Rapid Diagnostic Team are constantly seeking new and better ways to improve their work and achieve results. They consistently go above and beyond to meet the needs of their patients. They are the highest performing team in their field in South Yorkshire and other Trusts are now mirroring their service as a best-practice example.



Teaching Hospital Award: Jayan George

Jayan is always a supportive teacher and is described by one of their students as a privilege to work under. He is patient, supportive and takes his time to explain clearly and respectfully. He is an outstanding role model and an incredible mentor.



Team Spirit Award: Victoria Tarry

Victoria embodies the true spirit of teamwork. She makes sure that everyone starts their day with a sense of encouragement and motivation and lifts the spirits of those around her. She checks in with her colleagues, offers a listening ear and is approachable and dependable.

annual awards ceremony



Learner of the Year: Elizabeth Watkinson

Elizabeth has shouldered incredible amounts of responsibility over the last year, leading on several complex pieces of work which underpin safe staffing and accurate financial reporting, all whilst completing her degree in business management. She has handled the pressure with grace and determination.



Star of the Year: Michael Roys

Michael was nominated by the relative of a patient, for going above and beyond what was expected of him in his role. Michael is problem solver who makes patients feel welcome and cared for, and who creates a warm and inviting atmosphere.



Non-Clinical Team of the Year: Laundry Team

The Laundry Team are a small team who provide an invaluable service to DBTH. They maintain a high level of site knowledge about our hospitals to make sure they can keep things running smoothly. They have a great rapport with colleagues in all roles and they work amazingly together to clean and deliver almost 3 million pieces of clean linen every year.



Sustainability champion: Green Theatres Team

The Green Theatre Team have dedicated themselves to reducing the impact of surgery on our environment and helping DBTH on its way to being Net Zero. They have introduced recyclable and reusable materials where possible, reduced water usage and saved an incredible 5 tonnes of CO₂ gas annually.



Medical/Clinical Team of the Year: MEOC Team

The Mexborough Orthopaedic Centre Team are a dedicated, committed team of professionals who all work in unison to provide the best patient care. They are pro-active, focussed, helpful and enthusiastic. A surgeon from a neighbouring Trust has described them as 'the most professional staff' he has ever worked with.



Fundraising Champions: Community Midwifery Team

The Community Midwifery Team have fundraised both on behalf of, and in memory of, their dear colleague, Karen. They supported Karen through her cancer battle and have spent the last two years raising funds to create a lasting legacy for her. They have recently conquered Mount Snowdon to raise money for the ward on which Karen was cared for.



Chair's Award

The Chair's Award was presented to The Stroke Team, commended for their innovation and excellence, including the introduction of seven-day CT perfusion imaging, pioneering video triage with paramedics, and achieving some of the best times in the country for thrombectomy transfers.



More information

For more information about future NHS career opportunities at DBTH, please check out our dedicated page: <https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/jointheteam>

"They saved my life" – Liam walks to support Hospital Charity

Local resident, Liam Butterfield, will take on a 10-mile sponsored walk this month to raise vital funds for the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity.

Liam, who lives in Retford, has a deeply personal connection to the cause. After taking part in a kidney research study conducted by the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital's Clinical Research team, he credits the team with saving his life. During the trial, clinicians spotted serious underlying issues that required urgent monitoring and treatment. Thanks to their swift intervention and ongoing support, the progression of Liam's kidney condition has slowed dramatically, giving him renewed hope for the future.

Driven by gratitude for the care he received, Liam has committed to completing a 10-mile sponsored walk from Worksop to Retford along the Chesterfield Canal on 15 November 2025.

His challenge aims to raise money through DBTH Charity, to provide the research team with specialised heart equipment helping to detect heart defects or heart disease in patients with chronic illness and related conditions across Doncaster, Bassetlaw and the surrounding areas.

Speaking about his motivations, Liam said: "The team at the Clinical Research Hub have saved my life. Because of this, I want to give something back. This vital equipment could change – and even save – lives. Every step I take, and every pound you give, brings us closer to helping others receive the same support and outcomes that I've been fortunate to experience."

Funds raised for DBTH Charity support investments that go above and beyond what the NHS can routinely provide, including enhanced medical equipment, improved patient environments and additional support for research teams whose groundbreaking work contributes to better outcomes for



patients now and in the future.

Adrian Petts, Head of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity said: "We are incredibly grateful to Liam for his commitment and generosity. His experience highlights just how important clinical research is in

transforming lives, and his fundraising will directly support improvements that will benefit many more patients in our care."

To support Liam's challenge and make a donation, visit his fundraising page by searching 'Liam Butterfield' on Just Giving.

About DBTH Charity:

Doncaster & Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals' Charity is the official charity which supports Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Trust to go above and beyond by providing

additional equipment, services and amenities for our patients, visitors and staff which cannot be funded by the NHS alone.

These additional extras would not be possible without the support of our community. With your help, we can continue to work with our

Trust to fund innovative and exciting projects that make a difference to our patients, their families and our colleagues who care for them.

Visit the charity website to find out more: dbthcharity.co.uk



Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust leaves a lasting legacy after more than 60 years of support

It is with both heartfelt gratitude and sadness that Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) marks the closure of Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust (DCDT), a charity that has stood side-by-side with the Trust and the wider community for over 60 years in the fight against cancer.

Since its founding in the 1960s, DCDT has played an integral role in enhancing cancer care across Doncaster and Bassetlaw. Through tireless fundraising efforts and the unwavering generosity of local people, the charity has helped transform the diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients in our region.

In their final year as a registered charity, DCDT raised significant funds to purchase three cutting-edge ultrasound machines for the Trust. This includes a lung ultrasound machine, a breast ultrasound machine, and an advanced multi-purpose ultrasound device capable of performing transperineal, transrectal,

abdominal and other small parts scans—equipment that is vital in the diagnosis and monitoring of cancer.

One of these new machines will support services at Bassetlaw Hospital, complementing a similar device previously donated to Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Crucially, the machine will aid in the diagnosis of prostate cancer, now the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the UK.

While DCDT is closing its doors, its mission is far from over. A dedicated fund has now been established within the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Charity. This ring-fenced fund will continue to raise money specifically for cancer detection, equipment, treatment and innovation—ensuring that DCDT's vision and impact carry on long into the future.

Richard Parker OBE, Chief Executive at DBTH, said: "Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust has been an incredible force for good in our

community. Their legacy lives on, not just in the equipment and buildings they've helped fund, but in the lives they've touched and the hope they've brought to so many families.

"We are honoured to continue their mission through a dedicated fund established as part of our hospitals' charity, and we thank every supporter who has contributed over the years and will continue to do so in the future."

Over the decades, DCDT has supported many landmark projects, including the funding of the original scanner unit at Doncaster Royal Infirmary in the 1970s, The Jeannette Fish CT Suite, and countless other advances in cancer care.

As DCDT formally ceases operations, DBTH Charity is committed to upholding its legacy, continuing to fundraise for life-saving equipment and services that support cancer patients across Doncaster, Bassetlaw, and beyond.



Mark Bailey appointed Interim Chair at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has announced the appointment of Mark Bailey as Interim Chair of the Board, following confirmation by the Trust's Council of Governors.

The appointment was formally announced at the Trust's Annual Members Meeting, held at Doncaster Royal Infirmary in late September.

Mark will take up the position in January 2026, following the completion of Suzy Brain England OBE's final term of office at the end of 2025.

The Chair plays a vital role in leading the Board, ensuring it sets the organisation's overall strategy, holds the executive team to account and acts in the best interests of patients and local communities. The Chair also works closely with the Council of Governors, representing the views of members and the public, and ensuring that the organisation remains open, transparent and focused on delivering high-quality care.

Mark has been a Non-Executive Director at DBTH since 2020. During this time, he has led Board Committees covering Charity, People, Finance and Performance and also operated as the Chair of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Health Services Ltd, providing oversight and guidance on key areas of the organisation's work.

He also serves as a Non-Executive at the Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust, Chair of the NHS Retirement

Fellowship Charity and a trustee at Ashgate Hospice on a voluntary basis.

Mark brings three decades of business experience from a career in the aviation and power generation sector at FTSE 100 company Rolls-Royce plc where he held a range of customer facing leadership positions, including Group Director for Customers and Services.

With a background in engineering and manufacturing, Mark has developed expertise in strategic partnerships, business growth and customer service transformation. He has led on the implementation of digital and preventative analytics in safety critical environments – an area of growing importance as DBTH continues to modernise the way it uses technology in patient care.

Originally from Armthorpe, Doncaster, Mark now lives with his family in Ashbourne, on the edge of the Peak District in Derbyshire.

Richard Parker OBE, Chief Executive at DBTH, said: "We are very pleased to welcome Mark as Interim Chair. He has been an active and valued member of the Board since 2020 and brings with him a wealth of experience from both the private and public sectors.

"I look forward to working closely with him as we strive to deliver high-quality care for our patients and communities."

Mark Bailey said: "My professional career has been very much about customer service; bringing people and technology together to deliver outcomes that matter to us all every day. At such at this important time for the NHS locally and nationally it is a great privilege to now have this opportunity to serve DBTH as Interim Chair.

"This Trust means a great deal to me personally. My brother was born at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, both of my late parents were cared for here, and two of my nieces have had children at Bassetlaw Hospital. As a young boy I myself had a pretty long stay at the Doncaster Royal Infirmary after surgery – so I know first-hand the critical role the skills and dedication to care of our teams has on the lives of local people and their families.

"I am excited about what lies ahead as we build on our new strategy and deliver key programmes such as the Electronic Patient Record and our ambitious capital developments. I look forward to working with colleagues and partners to make real progress for our patients and communities."

"Finally, I want to thank Suzy for her outstanding leadership over the past nine years – she leaves a lasting legacy."

Suzy Brain England OBE, who joined DBTH as Chair in 2016, will complete her final term of office at the end of 2025, officially stepping down on 31 December.





Innovation in Motion: Hospital Governors Visit the Phoenix Therapy Suite for Stroke Patients at Mexborough

In a landmark visit that showcased the future of stroke rehabilitation, the hospital's Public Governors toured the Phoenix Therapy Suite at Montagu Hospital in Mexborough, where cutting-edge technology is transforming patient recovery and independence.

The visit offered Governors a first-hand look at how advanced robotics and personalised therapy programmes are giving new hope to inpatients, rebuilding their independence and confidence after a stroke.

Led by the dedicated clinical team, the Governors were introduced to a range of robotic-assisted devices used within the unit — from upper limb devices that support arm and hand movement, to lower-limb systems designed to help patients stand, walk, and regain confidence in their balance and coordination.

The Phoenix Therapy Suite, opened as part of the hospital's ongoing investment in innovation and recovery services, supports patients from across the Doncaster and Bassetlaw area whilst being treated as an inpatient as part of their care. The stroke rehabilitation unit's

multidisciplinary team works closely with consultants, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists to create individualised rehabilitation plans that combine their specialism in stroke care with robotic devices, which act as 'therapy multipliers'.

During their visit, the Governors spoke directly with staff and patients, hearing powerful stories of determination and recovery. Jeff Drabble, an inpatient who had recently experienced a stroke, demonstrated how robotic-assisted walking had accelerated his progress far beyond expectations.

Jeff said: "I feel very lucky to access this treatment here. Every area should have access to something like this. It will help many people progress further in their stroke recovery journey, while supporting the staff who care for them."

Daniel Wheeler, Lead Physiotherapist, said: "Jeff's determination has been incredible. Technology allows us to tailor therapy precisely to each patient's needs, but it's also supported by the patient's motivation to truly drive their own recovery."

Governors also learned about ongoing research partnerships and the unit's ambition to expand access to advanced rehabilitation across the hospital trust. The combination of data-driven feedback and compassionate care exemplifies the trust's commitment to innovation that delivers measurable outcomes and restores independence.

"We were deeply impressed by the skill, dedication and forward-thinking approach of the team at Mexborough," said Jackie Hammerton, Lead Public Governor. "This unit represents the best of what modern healthcare can offer — technology enhancing human care, not replacing it."

As the visit concluded, the Governors praised the staff for their commitment to excellence and innovation.

The Phoenix Therapy Suite continues to blaze a trail in stroke rehabilitation — a shining example of how compassion, technology and teamwork can help rebuild lives after stroke.



Left to right: Stephen Radford, Kath Smart and Dr Emyr Jones.

New Non-Executive Director appointed at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals

Following a robust selection process, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals (DBTH) has appointed a new Non-Executive Director (NED) to its Board of Directors, while reappointing an existing member for a further term.

Non-Executive Directors play a vital role in NHS organisations, bringing independent oversight, expertise and constructive challenge to ensure the highest standards of care, governance and performance are maintained.

Joining the Board is Stephen Radford, a qualified accountant with over 30 years of private and public sector experience gained across multiple sectors in the UK and internationally.

Prior to this appointment, Stephen served as Associate Non-Executive Director at Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust and has held senior roles including Group and Divisional Finance Director, Head of Shared Services, Senior Vice President and Partner positions within global management consultancies.

Stephen lives locally in South Yorkshire and also serves as Audit Chair and Senior Independent Director at Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Also confirmed is the reappointment of Jo Gander, Clinical Non-Executive Director, for a further three-year term. Jo chairs the Trust's Quality Committee and is committed to ensuring patients, and the colleagues who care for them, are supported to deliver the very best standards of safety and experience.

Speaking about his appointment, Stephen said: "It's a real privilege to join the Board at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals. My grandfather was from Worksop and my father from Tickhill, so I've always felt a close connection to this part of South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire. It means a great deal to now play a part in supporting the hospitals that serve these communities."

Suzy Brain England OBE, Chair of the Board, said: "We are pleased to welcome Stephen to the Board and look forward to benefitting

from his wealth of financial and governance expertise. His insight and experience will be invaluable as we continue to strengthen our leadership and deliver on our strategic ambitions for patients and colleagues across Doncaster, Bassetlaw and beyond.

On behalf of the Trust, I would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Hazel Brand, whose term has come to an end and who has served the organisation with great distinction as a Non-Executive Director, formerly as Lead Governor, and before that as Head of Communications and Engagement. Her dedication and contribution to DBTH over many years has been truly outstanding."

These appointments come at a time of transition for DBTH. Later this year, Suzy Brain England OBE will step down as Chair at the end of her term in December 2025. Current Non-Executive Director Mark Bailey has been appointed Interim Chair of the Board, a position he will take up in January 2026.

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