



**Wrightington,  
Wigan and Leigh**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Members Newsletter

For Foundation Trust members

## Welcome

The past year has been a challenging and difficult one for the NHS once again, but it has been a pleasure and a privilege to work alongside my fellow governors, a great team of people who truly care about your hospitals, and who strive constantly on your behalf to ensure WWL maintains the highest possible standards.



Maggie Skilling, Public governor for Wigan

Elections to the Council of Governors take place each year at the end of the summer and I would particularly like to pay tribute to our retiring governors and thank them for their hard work and commitment over the past few years. You can read interesting and amusing report of their time as a governors from our longest serving governors Bill Greenwood and Tom Frost later in the newsletter via Trust news.

The statutory duty of the Council of Governors is to hold the Board of Directors to account but governors are also involved in many other activities such as Real Time Patient Experience Surveys, Patient Led Assessments of the hospital environment

and support Membership events amongst other things.

This involvement means that governors are an important visible presence around the hospitals and allows us to get to know some of the wonderful staff at WWL, whose hard work and good humor contribute so much. I would especially like to mention our volunteers, a dedicated group of people who happily give their time to serve the Trust and the people of the Wigan Borough.

This year they were awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, an award very well deserved and we and they are rightly proud. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK to recognise the outstanding work done in their own communities. Congratulations!



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

Click the Logo for more information on the Queen's Award

## Home Safe

Being discharged from hospital can be a daunting experience for some patients. Wigan and Leigh Pensioners Link provided a new service for people over 50 in Wigan Borough by offering companionship and reassurance for patients when they are discharged from hospital. They provide escorted transportation from hospital to home, checking on arrival that the home environment is safe. Additionally, they also provide a "Welcome Home" bag of basic food items and further ongoing follow up support where needed.

The service was commissioned by Wigan Council to start in April 2018, providing funds for an initial three year period.

To date, 154 patients have accessed the service. Based on questionnaires, they felt very satisfied with the service and found that the welcome home bag made a difference. The next day, a follow up phone call is made to ensure that the patient is settled into their home. It has reduced anxiety, stress and has given an opportunity for access to other services, maintaining their independence.

They have built a good working relationship with the hospital teams. The referrals come from Leigh Infirmary, Wigan Hospital, Wrightington Hospital and Community Step up Care Team (Bedford Care Home).



Click the Logo for more information on the Pensioners Link

### Comments from patients:

"I was very pleasantly surprised as I was unaware of the service until the hospital recommended Pensioners Link"

"I think the service is fantastic. The welcome home bag was very good as I was able to make sandwich and a cup of tea straight away, also I was grateful with the follow up phone call. It is nice to know that someone is concerned about me."

"Beyond expectation! I thought the service was marvelous"



### Comments from hospital staff:

"The service is very useful and safe for the patients. The volunteers are pleasant and helpful"

"The service is great, we can't manage without it"

"Brilliant service, quick, very good and safe"

**Do you have time to spare? Would you be interested in helping support Home safe.**

**Please contact Wigan and Leigh Pensioners Link, 01942 261753.**

## Election to Council of Governors

This year's Governors election was an important one considering there were 10 available seats out of a total 28.

A number of Governors having completed their maximum term of office were no longer eligible to re-stand in the election resulting in a number of new faces joining the Council of Governors in 2018.

Despite the large number of vacancies the Trust was able to fill all the vacant seats with three constituencies going into an election due the number of members wishing to join the Council of Governors. We now welcome two new nursing and midwifery Governors, Sarah Howard, a Quality and Safety Midwife, and Jackie Hylton, a clinical lead for critical care who takeover from retiring governors Diane Lawrenson and Marie Hart.

Our new Medical and Dental Representative is Dr Imran Alam, a surgical Consultant who replaces Dr Tim Board.

For all Other Staff, we welcome Hazel Leatherbarrow, a senior domestic supervisor who replaces James Yates.

In our public constituencies we welcome Makerfield's Jean Coats-Topping who takes over from Helen Ash. Rest of England and Wales's constituency sees Veronika Stevens one of the Radio Wroughtington volunteers and Renee Mellis as the new representatives.

Leigh has Andrew Haworth successfully re-elected for a full 3 year term this time around, and in a largely contested Wigan constituency we see the successful re-election of Maggie Skilling and New Governor Alan Baybutt both successfully elected.



Now that we have the new governors in place they will all undertake a local induction and various training to help them excel in their new role. They have already been active in helping to choose their next lead Governor, Mrs. Linda Sykes, Public governor for Leigh. Congratulations Linda.

You'll be able to hear more about the governor's activities in the next edition of our newsletter.

If you wish to contact our governors this can be done by emailing [Members@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:Members@wwl.nhs.uk)

Finally huge thanks to all the members who took the time to nominate themselves and who exercised their vote. This year our turnouts were very positive reflecting well on the Trust as to how engaged our membership is.

## Membership Events

Recently the Trust has hosted a number of presentation events for you as members to attend.

Firstly we held a presentation on domestic violence and safeguarding, led by Margaret Jolley who was then the trust's adult and safeguarding lead. This was a well-received insight into the ongoing work the hospital does to ensure the safety of our patients.

Following this we held by a very interesting and insightful presentation from the Trust's Associate Medical Director around death, mortality and the work undertaken and learning from those deaths in hospital. Both these sessions had a good number of members attend, and the opportunity ask question of the presenters, and engage with members of the patient and public engagement team and governors.



Our final presentation event was geared to dementia, with two of the Trust dementia

specialist nurses Josie Broderick and Jean Ramsdale, giving an excellent insight into some of the causes and types of dementia, as well as promoting some of the aids, and techniques to help friends and relatives understand dementia. Questions from the audience during this presentation were a plenty and Jean and Josie had everyone so captivated that the session actually over ran slightly.

This first wave of presentation events has had some really positive feedback from those in attendance and as such the Trust plan looking forward to set another schedule of events coving a different variety of topics.

Our next presentation event will be hosted by Janet Irvine the Trust's Lead Cancer Nurse and her team, focusing on the **Developments in Cancer Care at WWL** taking place on **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**, In the Lecture Theatre, Medical Education Centre, Wigan Lane, WN1 2NN (Just down the road from the hospital, access via Clifton Crescent)

**Teas and coffees are available on arrival at 10am with a view to starting the presentation from 10:30am and finishing at 12noon.**

Following this we have another presentation by Joanne Gregson the Trust's Sepsis Nurse delivering a session on '**Sepsis - yesterday, today and tomorrow**'

Taking place on **10<sup>th</sup> January 2019** In the Lecture Theatre, Medical Education Centre, Wigan Lane again.

Places are available for both these sessions If you are interested in attending this event please register your place by:-

Calling Free phone number 0800 073 1477.

Or

Email [Members@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:Members@wwl.nhs.uk)

## Nursing Times Award Winner

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Foundation Trust was announced as the deserving winner of the Cancer Nursing category at the Nursing Times Awards 2018.

In a ceremony held at the prestigious Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London on October 31, nurses and organisations were honoured across 23 categories in a night of recognition dedicated to celebrating exceptional achievement. And following a rigorous judging process, WWL emerged as the winner of the Cancer Nursing category for the nurse-led accelerated jaundice pathway project.

The judges praised them for their truly nurse-led innovation that has shown demonstrable improvements across the health economy in a cancer group that is associated with poor patient outcomes.

Vicki Stevenson-Hornby, a Macmillan Hepatobiliary Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialists who pioneered the project said: “The Nursing Times Awards Evening was a truly fantastic evening.

“The Cancer Nursing Category was the first of the categories to be announced and I was convinced that one of the other shortlisted candidates would be announced as winner until the judge started to describe the winning entry as a ‘true example of a nurse-led initiative which has made such a huge impact on a patient group which notoriously face such a poor prognosis.’

“To be announced as the winner in the Cancer Nursing category is absolutely fantastic and a moment I will never forget.

“The impact which the nurse-led accelerated jaundice pathway has had in terms of achieving earlier diagnosis of pancreatic and biliary cancers as well as increasing the number of patients eligible for surgery is to be celebrated but, to win a national award means more areas now hear of this initiative and may go on to adopt a similar model of pathway.



“This then has the potential to make a real difference for anyone affected by pancreatic and biliary cancers and a real chance to impact on improving survival rates.

“That is real winning and I am so very proud to be involved with this work.”

## Latest News

As part of this new digital newsletter please click on some of the following links to be taken to a variety of other news information

### Charity news and information

Click the image below to find out about our recent charity news



### Trust News

For all the latest Trust information and news please click the WWL Way Forward Logo



### Healthier Wigan Partnership

Click the logo to be taken more news about the new Healthier Wigan Partnership



### On Social Media?

Click the logos to be taken to the Trusts Social Media platforms – why not follow us?

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### Comments and Suggestions

We hope you like the new look digital newsletter; we are always open to suggestions on new idea's or future content. Please let us know your thoughts Email [Members@wwl.nhs.uk](mailto:Members@wwl.nhs.uk)