

ALDER HEY MATTERS.

ISSUE #30

HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR MATTERS. EMAIL MEMBERSHIP@ALDERHEY.NHS.UK

ALDER HEY CELEBRATES NHS75

5TH JULY MARKED 75 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Since the NHS was founded on 5th July 1948, it has always innovated and adapted to meet the needs of each generation. The NHS has been a constant presence throughout our lives and the founding principles remain as relevant and valued today as they were 75 years ago.

The celebration on the 5th July gave us an opportunity to shine a spotlight on our own history and achievements, our staff and volunteers and the opportunities that lie ahead.

We were delighted to welcome BBC Radio Merseyside to our Hospital to host a special broadcast reflecting on the work of NHS workers across the region. Presenter Tony Snell spoke to families and staff and captured a special celebration event that took part in the Atrium. Alongside memorable music performances from local singers, choirs and musicians, there was a special NHS75 cake competition, free ice cream and prize draw for our staff and a surprise visit from LFC's Red Neighbours community team.

Throughout the celebrations, many of you shared your own memories and stories of the NHS some of which were shared across our social media channels, on the BBC Radio Merseyside broadcast and on our own Memory Board that is still displayed in the Hospital Atrium. Thank you to everyone who celebrated with us!



TATE CELEBRATES FRONTLINE WORKERS

AS PART OF OUR NHS75 CELEBRATIONS, A PAINTING DEPICTING FRONTLINE STAFF WORKING TIRELESSLY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WAS UNVEILED AT THE HOSPITAL. PAINTED BY NEW YORK-BASED ARTIST ALIZA NISENBAUM, THE PIECE 'TEAM TIME STORYTELLING' HAS BEEN LOANED TO THE HOSPITAL BY THE TATE.

Louise Shepherd CBE, Chief Executive:

“ This artwork is a valuable reminder of the outstanding dedication of our staff during the recent pandemic. The unveiling of this stunning painting at Alder Hey is a huge honour and is testament to the fantastic support Tate Liverpool has given our Arts for Health Programme for twenty years. ”



GOVERNOR PROFILE

BECKY MOORE, PARENT GOVERNOR

HI I'M BECKY, A PARENT GOVERNOR FOR ALDER HEY.

I'm a married mum who has two boys who have been involved with Alder Hey since they were born. My first son was born with bilateral talipes and has undergone several operations performed at Alder Hey and is still under the care of the Orthopaedics Department. My other son has a diagnosis of ADHD and autism and has social and emotional development needs. He has been under the care of the Alder Hey Team since he was two. Our family has also had experiences with CAMHS.

I currently work full-time in another NHS Trust as a Facilities Manager overseeing seven different services with around 160 staff and I have worked in the NHS now for around 12 years. Working at two busy NHS trusts, my day-to-day job is very busy and challenging at times but also rewarding. It gives me a realistic look at what challenges the NHS face from both an employee and a patient perspective.



I have an excellent understanding of the NHS and how it works and therefore feel I have the knowledge and understanding to optimise decisions made to secure the best care for children and their families.

Being able to give something back to Alder Hey which has provided outstanding care to me and my family - was the motivation I needed to become a Governor. I am passionate about raising awareness of the fantastic work Alder Hey and everyone associated with it does and understand the real pressures the NHS faces due to my current job role.

MERSEYSIDE POLICE DOG CAMPAIGN

ALDER HEY IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE MERSEYSIDE POLICE CAMPAIGN "TAKING THE LEAD" TO HELP REDUCE INCIDENTS OF DOG BITES IN MERSEYSIDE, STARTING THIS SUMMER.

The aim of Taking the Lead is to offer important safety tips to all dog owners in Merseyside about looking after their pet, especially around children, which could prevent serious injuries.

Mr Christian Duncan, Consultant Plastic Surgeon at Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust said "At Alder Hey we see children with dog attack injuries several times a week. It is often the child's face that comes into contact with the dog, so we treat lots of cheek bites and injuries on prominent parts of the face i.e., parts of the nose, lip and parts of the ear.

These injuries can be life changing. By raising awareness of both the risks and

appropriate behavior around dogs, I hope the Taking the Lead campaign can help reduce these kinds of injuries."

To help with this aim, over the summer holidays Merseyside Police will post a series of informative and useful videos on their social media platforms to educate dog owners as well as join with partners to speak to people in parks and other public places.

Police data shows that children under 16 are most likely to be the victims of dog bites and this risk increases significantly in the summer when more children are at home with their pets or around other people's dogs and are also spending more time in public spaces.



LATEST NEWS

22ND MAY



MATT ASHTON VISITS SUNFLOWER HOUSE

We recently invited Matt Ashton – Liverpool City Council Director of Public Health – to Sunflower House. Andrea O'Donnell (pictured centre) is the Clinical Lead at Sunflower House, who took Matt Ashton around the new tier 4 mental health unit.

31ST MAY



PALACE PONIES AT ALDER HEY

Park Palace Ponies is a social enterprise and an urban riding school based in Dingle, Liverpool. This new project will see our children and young people based in Sunflower House, meet and interact with the ponies, once a week for 15 weeks. The visits help provide companionship and a therapeutic benefit to our young people.

The first visit (pictured) did not include young people at Sunflower House but instead with some of our young volunteers who loved the visit!



ALDER HEY'S FIRST EVER GENE THERAPY TREATMENT

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE RESEARCH (NIHR) ALLOWED ALDER HEY'S CLINICAL RESEARCH FACILITY (CRF) TO GIVE THE TRUST'S FIRST GENE THERAPY TREATMENT AS PART OF A RESEARCH STUDY FOR PATIENTS WITH DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY (DMD).

DMD is a progressive condition that causes increasing muscular weakness in children, including difficulty standing and walking, and can lead to heart and breathing complications later in life. There currently is no cure for the condition, but Alder Hey's first ever gene therapy treatment will hopefully be a step in the right direction for Teddy and all children with DMD.

Teddy (pictured) was diagnosed with the condition at 2 years of age.

He and his family have been through a rigorous screening programme to be eligible for the study.

The treatment involved replacing the gene that is not working properly in Teddy's cells with a healthy version.

Teddy's parents said: "It's the best opportunity that he can be given, but it's also a strong push in the right direction for the future of other children. He's making history."

Dr Dan Hawcutt CRF Director said: "This study seems to have caught the imagination of the Trust, and on behalf of the CRF team I would like to thank everyone who has helped us get to this point, including Radiology, Cardiology, and ward 4C, as well as many other unsung heroes."

CLINICAL RESEARCH DAY

THE CLINICAL RESEARCH DIVISION OPENED ITS DOORS FOR A TWO-DAY EVENT IN THE LEAD-UP TO INTERNATIONAL TRIALS DAY.

The first day welcomed Pharmaceutical and commercial companies to Alder Hey to celebrate the existing relationships and research successes, while establishing new potential avenues of research to explore. All with the goal of improving the health and care of children and young people locally, nationally, and internationally. As part of the event, they were given a tour of our state-of-the-art dedicated Clinical Research Facility and spoke with our Director of Research & Innovation, and our Director of the Clinical Research Facility, as well as Managing Director John Grinnell.

The second day invited patients and parents to look around eight stands which hosted fun games and a chance to win prizes from several research-related activities. Following the recent success of research studies such as "Take it EZ" which managed to recruit 128 patients last year, the Research team again provided children with the chance to sign up

and partake in new research studies being undertaken by the team. The recruitment stage is an important part of any research work that is carried out as a larger participant size means that the Research team can be confident that their findings are applicable to the wider population.

Research Nurse Jacqui Tahari also held a reading of her recently published short story to a group of very intrigued Nursery children! The short story, 'The Missing Leech' was published in a new book: 'Dear Nurse: True Stories of Strength, Kindness, and Skill a love letter to Nurses and midwives everywhere'.



CHARITY EVENTS UPDATE

ALDER HEY CHILDREN'S CHARITY'S BUSY EVENTS SEASON IS IN FULL SWING THIS SUMMER! FUNDRAISING EVENTS ARE JUST ONE OF THE WAYS OUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORTERS COME TOGETHER TO TAKE ON CHALLENGES, SHARE FAB DAYS OUT, AND RAISE LOTS OF MONEY FOR OUR WONDERFUL HOSPITAL.

Our Alder Hey Coniston Challenge raised over £100,000 to help us provide the best possible hospital experience for families, as well as supporting our hard-working staff and investing in research and technologies for a bright future.

Our supporters united to make a positive impact on the lives of children and young people, and they truly did us proud! Set in Coniston in the Lake District, the triathlon with a twist includes an Old Man of Coniston hike, a 17 km cycle, and a kayak challenge.

The success of this adrenaline-fuelled event highlights the power of collective action and generosity, benefiting countless children and their families for years to come. Participants, sponsors, and volunteers showcased their unwavering dedication and made it a weekend to remember.

If you would like to find out more about our events, or even something a little less energetic like playing our Alder Hey lottery, visit our website today to find out more at www.alderheycharity.org or give our friendly team a call on 0151 228 5716.

