

Get Involved

NHS

The Shrewsbury and
Telford Hospital
NHS Trust

Your update from the Public Participation Team
December 2020

Volunteers

SaTH Charity

Community Engagement





Hello,

Welcome to the first issue of our new Get Involved newsletter. We hope you will find this interesting and it's another way that you can keep in touch with what's happening in our hospitals and find out ways of getting more involved, if you would like to.

We're engaging as many staff and members of the public as we can to develop our new Public Participation Strategy. We want to make it easier to get involved with your local hospital. Please give us your views via a quick online survey.

We hope you enjoy reading it and please do let us know if there is anything you would like to see in future issues.

Julia Clarke, Director of Corporate Services



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Christmas is Coming

The outside of our hospitals has undergone a festive transformation, thanks to our wonderful Estates colleagues and kind-hearted local businesses.

The majority of the decorations at The Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) were donated by CLC Contractors LTD, while Homebase in Telford and Edmundson Electrical also donated.

The lights at The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital (RSH) also look superb, with our Estates colleague, Steve Darlington, leading the push, with help from local business, SRS. Two Christmas trees were kindly donated by Percy Throwers, Wyevale.

www.sath.nhs.uk/getinvolved



COVID-19 Update



We are seeing higher numbers of COVID-19 patients than during the first wave in our hospitals. Moving into the winter months, the level of activity has increased, with RSH in particular seeing similar numbers of ambulance arrivals and ‘major’ activity as before the pandemic.

COVID-19 Clinical Trials

The Trust is involved in a the national RECOVERY trial led by the University of Oxford. The Trust has now given five patients at PRH, and seven at RSH, REGN-COV2 antibodies as part of the COVID-19 RECOVERY trial.

The Trust joined the study in March and, since then, the team has recruited 86 patients into the trial.

In June, the national study team said that dexamethasone was an effective treatment, reducing death by a third in hospitalised patients with severe respiratory complications of COVID-19. This medicine is now offered routinely to these patients.

Kelly Hard, Research & Innovation Manager, said:
“We are seeing real time benefits for access to treatments with COVID-19. Implementation into practice from research can usually take years, but this is a prime example of how quickly it can happen. It has been a real joint effort with the research team, medical and nursing staff from ITU and respiratory wards, and pharmacy across both sites.



Outpatient Appointments

We have been able to increase the number of patients in our outpatient clinics, thanks to using our new online software called Attend Anywhere. Attend Anywhere is a virtual consultation with your Clinician using video-calling.

If you need to come into the hospital for an outpatient appointment, we have created a new process so you can be seen safely and in-line with COVID-19 social-distancing guidelines.

Anyone arriving at PRH or RSH by car for their outpatient appointment is asked to remain in their vehicle and phone the booking team to advise them they have arrived. When the Clinician is ready to see you for your appointment, you will be contacted and asked to come into the hospital.

Patients who arrive at the hospital on public transport, or who do not have a mobile phone, are asked to go straight to the clinic reception. The receptionist will then advise patients where to wait for their appointment. All information about your outpatient appointment will be in your outpatient appointment letter.

Please note, visiting restrictions remain in place at RSH and PRH. More information can be found by visiting www.sath.nhs.uk

Parking



Car parking charges for visitors and patients were reintroduced on 1 November following the end of Government financial support.

Daily parking charges are now as follows:

Up to 20minutes	Up to 2hrs	Up to 3hrs
£ Free <small>daily</small>	£ 3⁵⁰ <small>daily</small>	£ 4⁵⁰ <small>daily</small>

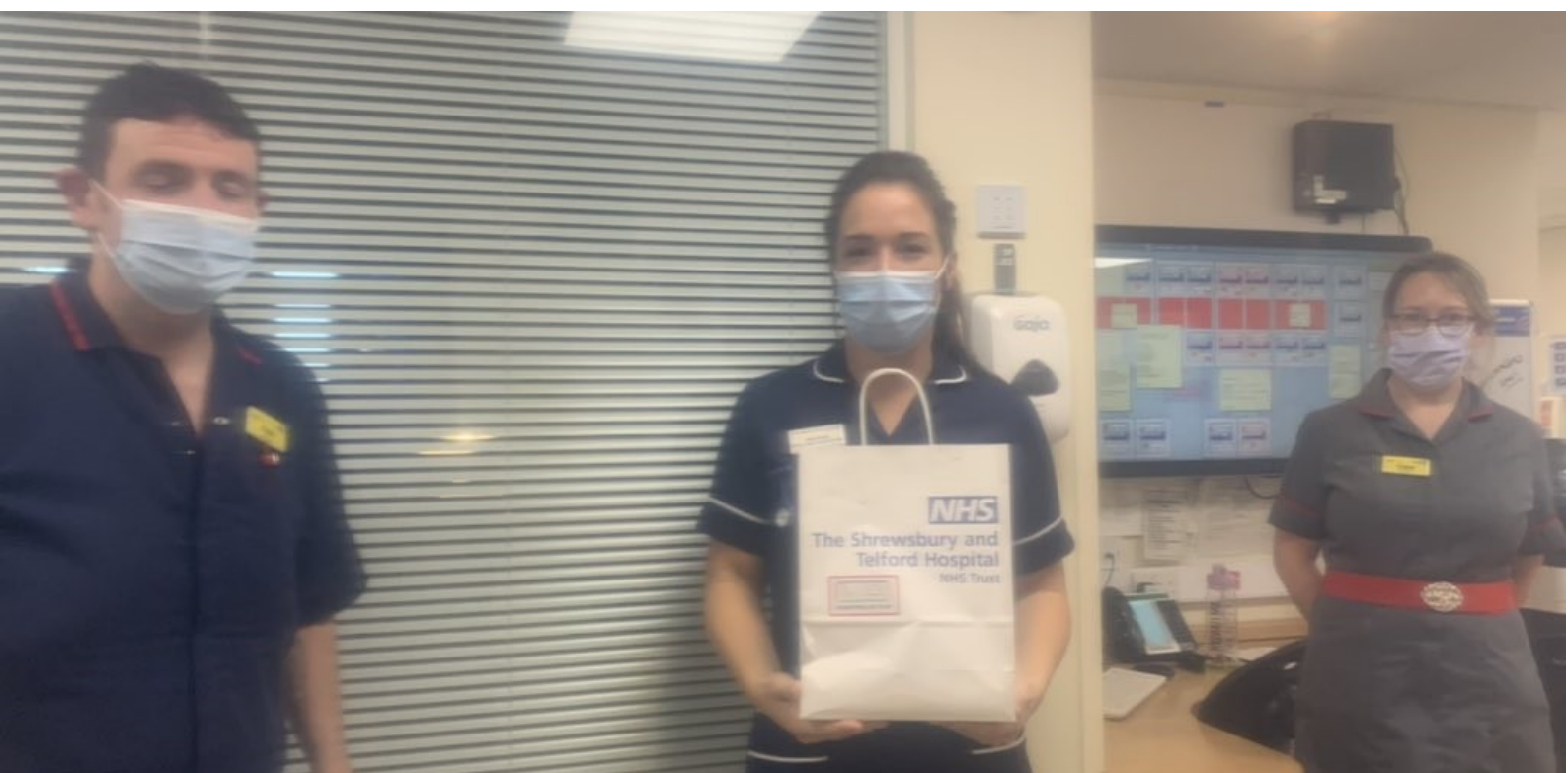
Up to 4hrs	Up to 5hrs	Up to 24hrs
£ 5⁵⁰ <small>daily</small>	£ 6⁵⁰ <small>daily</small>	£ 8⁵⁰ <small>daily</small>

Parking remains free for 20 minutes for patients who are being dropped off or picked up. Parking also remains free for patients receiving renal dialysis, patients receiving outpatient treatment for cancer and anyone visiting the hospital for issues connected with bereavement. Parking is also free for drivers with disabled badge or parents visiting children.



World Kindness Day

World Kindness Day is a global day that promotes the importance of being kind to each other, to yourself, and to the world. Bags of Kindness were handed out in our hospitals to thank staff nominated for excellence and kindness.

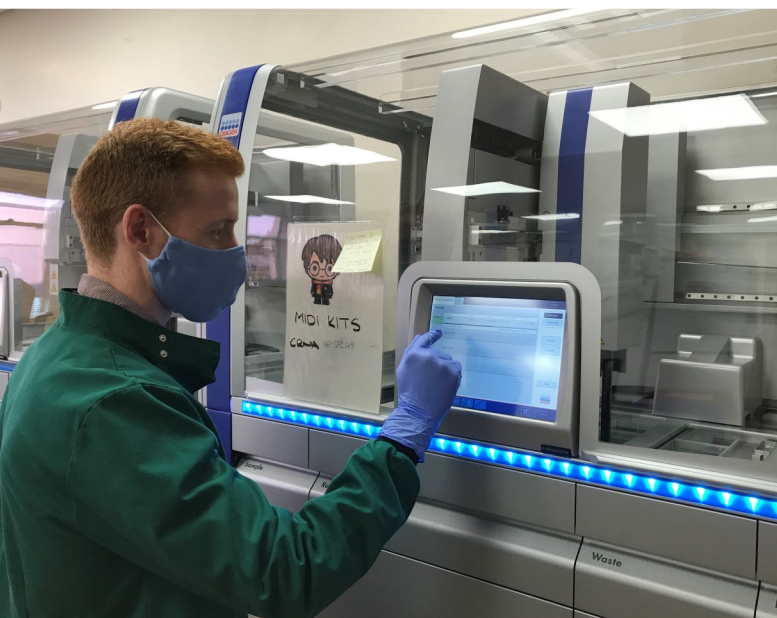


Spotlight on Microbiology

They are at the very heart of Shropshire's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Every day they carefully decipher hundreds of tests extracting and detecting the relevant information to determine who is COVID-19 positive and who is negative.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our Microbiology team has provided the results for COVID-19 swabs taken from patients, care home residents, staff, the prison service and from within the community – turning around as many as 3,000 samples a week, amounting to around 61,000 in total so far.



That's on top of nearly 17,000 NHS antibody tests processed during the summer, along with the regular SIREN testing for clinical research teams and routine day-to-day work.

To cope with demand, they have now taken delivery of much-needed additional new equipment to enable them to provide an expanded service, which will see the number of tests they are able to deal with double from around 500 to 1,000 every day.



The team's hours of working have increased to provide a seven-day service to ensure that results are delivered as quickly as possible. This is a phenomenal response from a small, dedicated army of scientists working behind the scenes in the laboratories at RSH. The team includes clinical scientists, consultants, biomedical scientists and laboratory assistants.

They have, in the space of just a few months, learned to



use new testing equipment, increased the number of samples tested - and they have even continued to work through the disruption of a recent laboratory move required in order to accommodate the additional machines.

Community Engagement

To ensure we keep in touch with our local communities, we have a number of virtual engagement events, which you are encouraged to attend.

In addition to our quarterly community update meetings, where you have the opportunity to find out what is going on in the Trust and ask questions, we're now holding monthly public briefing sessions where you can get a more detailed insight about the work we are doing within the Trust.

You can book your place at any of our online meetings [here](#). If you can't attend these meetings they are recorded and can be viewed online [here](#).

Our next meeting on Wednesday 09 December 2020 10am-12.30pm, or join us on Twitter at 7pm the same day and participate in our first ever #SaTHhour where you can help shape our Public Participation Strategy.

Our Public Participation Strategy

We are asking people across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and mid-Wales to take a few minutes to complete a survey to help develop a new Public Participation Strategy.

Listening to our staff and working in partnership with the communities we serve is a key priority for us. It's really important that we have a clear strategy to involve the public, which is developed alongside our staff and members of the public.

Conversations are ongoing within the Trust, and everyone living in the areas that are served by RSH and PRH is invited to complete the survey, which can be found online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8JHWR8F>

We understand not everyone will have access to the online survey, and invite people to call the office if they would prefer to complete the survey over the phone or request a paper copy.

For further information, please contact the Public Participation team by emailing sath.engagement@nhs.net or call 01743 492390.

The People's Academy

Early next year we are taking our People's Academy online. This will be the first time the Academy has taken place online and we're excited at the prospect of being more accessible than ever.

The Academy will be delivered using presentations, videos and conversations with staff from all over our Trust. We cover lots of interesting topics including:

- ◆ The NHS
- ◆ Our Hospitals
- ◆ A History of Our Trust
- ◆ A Day in the Life of a Nurse on a Medical Ward
- ◆ Volunteering
- ◆ Patient Experience
- ◆ How to apply for a job in the NHS

Sign up for the next Academy on our website [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings take place over Microsoft Teams and can be booked [here](#).

Monthly Update Meetings

11:00 - 12:00

9th December 2020

13th January 2021

10th February 2021

10th March 2021

14th April 2021

Community Drop In

14.30 - 16:00

26th January 2021

23rd February 2021

30th March 2021

27th April 2021

Community Engagement Meetings

10:00 - 12:00

24th March 2021

30th June 2021

22nd September 2021

15th December 2021

If there is anything you would like to discuss in these meetings, please email sath.engagement@nhs.net.

Volunteers Update

Volunteers play a vital role in supporting patients, NHS staff and NHS services but, as with all NHS functions, volunteer services have been severely impacted by COVID-19. Whilst some volunteer roles were paused to reduce infection risk, other roles, some newly introduced, have shown their value in reducing pressure on both staff and services. Volunteers will continue to be needed to support the NHS throughout winter and the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have been successful in a bid for a £20K grant from NHS England and NHS Improvement to implement a Winter Response Volunteer Project. This funding will help support additional volunteering activity to ease the increased pressures during the winter months.

The Volunteer Team are currently in the project planning stage and hope to introduce new roles for our volunteers very soon. Please email sath.members@nhs.net if you are interested in becoming a Winter Response Volunteer.



When COVID-19 hit, volunteer Graham was quick to offer his help



The Helpforce Wall of Fame is the big thank you to all volunteers. In November, Graham Moore one of our own volunteers, featured on the Wall of Fame.

“When Covid-19 hit, Graham Moore was quick to see if he could help the Trust in any manner. We were only too happy to accept his very generous offer to our Estates Department as he has site knowledge and knew most of the staff here. His offer of help extended to the main stores with deliveries from the loading bay to the wards.

“He is currently helping tidy up all the courtyards and the children's play areas, which was his own idea. Apart from all the great work he has done for the Trust, what sets him apart is his wonderful cheeky sense of humour and willingness to help everyone.”



SaTH Charity

Thank you - SaTH Charity has had amazing support from our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. From children selling lemonade, to businesses organising auctions, local groups sewing scrubs for frontline staff, to large financial donations; every bit of support has helped us to care for our patients and support our workforce.

Our doctors, nurses and support teams have been amazed by your support and we will always be grateful.



£10 Could pay for an End of Life Care Box for relatives, or carers, at a difficult time

£100 Could buy a dementia clock to help patients experiencing confusion

£1000 Could purchase a fold down bed for a loved one to stay overnight

Over the next few pages, we will be sharing some stories about how donations have been spent and the positive impact they are having on patients and our staff.

We were delighted to provide two sensory trolleys to the Children’s Ward and our Dementia Service. These were funded through NHS Charities Together, the national NHS Charity for which “Captain Tom” raised over £130m for.

“The machine has been used every day so far and we managed to get permission for the following photos of a recent patient thoroughly enjoying the sensory trolley” - Jodie Frost, Paediatric Nurse, Children’s Ward



Patients on Ward 23 at RSH have benefitted from a wall mural, thanks to a generous donation from a patient. Patients benefit as they are currently spending long periods in COVID-19 isolation with limited visiting.

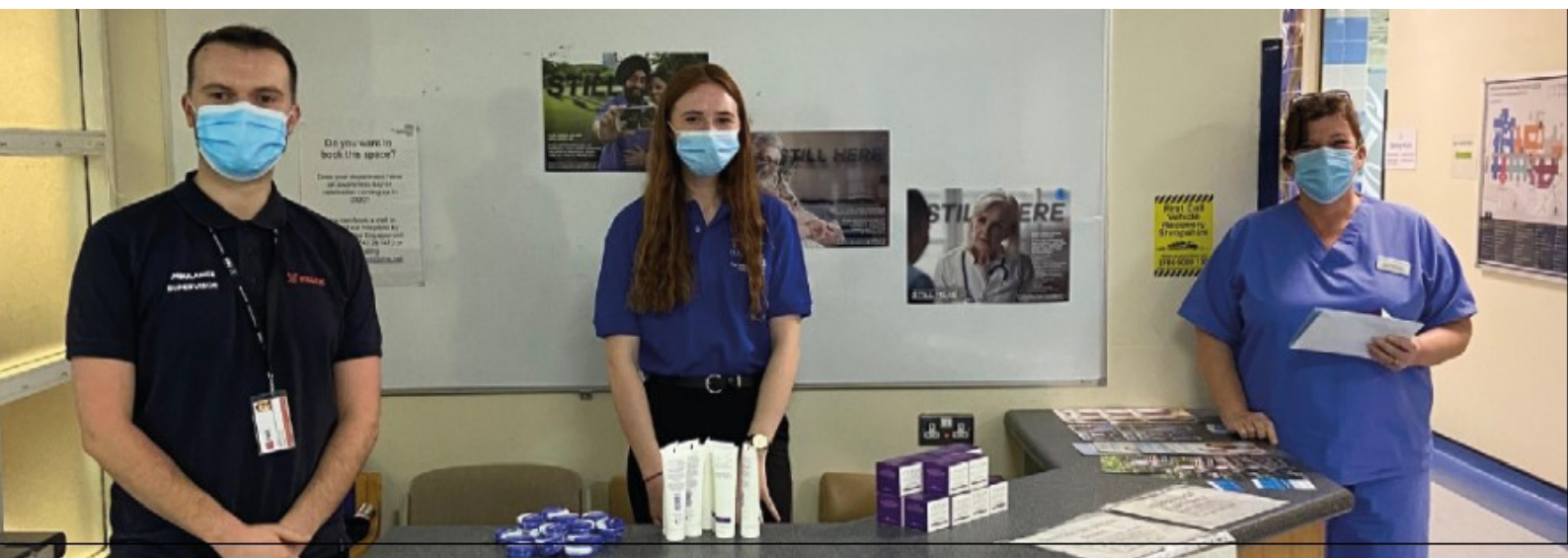


“To have a view like the woodland scene instead of a cold corrugated wall when in isolation and unable to leave the room for many weeks will help to offer extra comfort to patients during a difficult time in their lives.”
Peter Warren, Ward Manager

SaTH Charity has filled the Staff Winter Wellbeing trolley with lip balm, hand and face cream. Charity volunteers then delivered the items across both hospitals



Dry, sore and chapped skin is a common problem from sustained use of PPE and hand sanitiser. Julia Clarke, Director of Corporate Services, said “Charitable funds are used to help our patients and our staff. We know that PPE is creating discomfort in staff, especially for those wearing masks and gloves for long periods of time. Whilst we can’t solve the problem, these items will hopefully offer some relief.”



Thank you to our Charitable Supporters

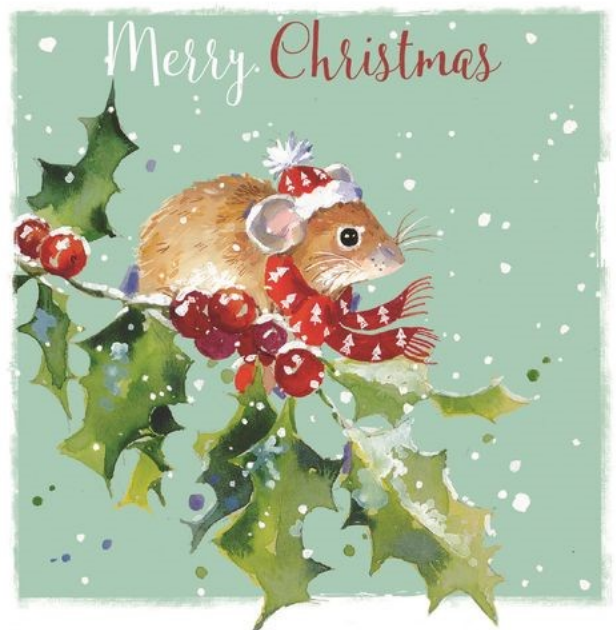
We are very fortunate to be supported by the RSH League of Friends and the Friends of PRH, along with Lingen Davies Cancer Fund.

Throughout the pandemic, all organisations have continued to support staff and patients, with the RSH League of Friends helping staff by providing a wellbeing area for our busy teams to take breaks and time away from their busy workplace. They have also been providing and distributing hand gel when it was in scarce supply and offering a shopping service for staff. Friends of PRH have also made the conservatory available to staff out of hours.

You can help them help us by supporting their sale of cards and presents. Cards are available to purchase in the League of Friends Café (RSH), and the Lingen Davies Cancer Fund items can be purchased online:

[https://
www.lingendavies.co.uk/
product-category/christmas/](https://www.lingendavies.co.uk/product-category/christmas/)

All money raised via these charities is spent directly in our hospitals.



... and finally. We need your design skills.

We have teamed up with a waste and resource management firm to look for ideas for the renovation of a courtyard at the PRH.



As part of its 'say thanks this summer' campaign, Reconomy raised £14,600 that will be used to create an outdoor space that can be enjoyed by patients, staff and visitors. Together we are running a competition to get design ideas submitted for the courtyard area – giving local people the chance to make a contribution to the project that will last well into the future.

To enter the competition and submit a design, simply visit www.sath.nhs.uk/design-our-garden before 8 January 2021.

Do you want to Get Involved?

If you want to get involved, you can give as much or as little time as you want to - it all helps. Would you like to be kept up-to-date about what is going on in your local hospitals, or have a say about hospital services? Would you like to become a fundraiser or volunteer your time?

Become a Community
Member

Fundraise

Volunteer

Donate

Contact

If you are interested in getting involved in any of these activities, please contact us on:

email: sath.getinvolved@nhs.net

www.sath.nhs.uk/getinvolved

