



Members' mail – March 2019

Welcome from Peter Hollins, chair at UHS

March is the month when UHS looks towards spring. Winter is always difficult for the NHS with higher levels of flu and Norovirus putting us under increased pressure. This winter has been no exception with high numbers of people coming into the emergency department meaning waits were longer than we would have liked. That said we were delighted when the Care Quality Commission came to inspect us recently and were very positive about our emergency department and other areas of the Trust.

Many members will have seen or read about the recent launch of the NHS ten year plan. It has at its heart the idea that the various parts of the NHS need to work closer together to provide patients with more integrated care. Simple although the idea is, it will require UHS to change considerably. To help support this work, myself alongside Paula Head, chief executive, are delighted that David French, chief financial officer, has been appointed as deputy chief executive to work with us in the leadership of the Trust. David will also continue as chief financial officer.

Finally, later on this year there will be another round of elections when members will elect our Council of Governors and we are always keen to hear from those of you who would be interested in standing. Sadly, we will have one additional vacancy as Anne Murphy, governor for New Forest, Eastleigh and Test Valley, passed away in February following a short illness. I have sent our condolences to her family.

Members' evening: Celebrating women creating change at UHS

In recognition of International Women's Day which takes place this month, we are dedicating our March members' evening to celebrating some of the fantastic women working here at University Hospital Southampton. This event will include five speakers sharing their stories and the work they are doing to improve the support available for patients at UHS.

Speakers include:

- Rebecca Rowe, vaccination specialist midwife, talking about the vaccination service for pregnant women and why there is the need for it
- Jo Acres, cardiac rhythm management clinical nurse specialist, and Emer Caplice, cardiac physiologist, sharing how they were involved in implanting the Reveal LINQ device and what it is doing to help diagnose patients
- Beth McCausland, quality improvement fellow in dementia care, and Vicki Osman-Hicks, consultant in older person's psychiatry, giving more details on what they are doing to lead and inspire quality improvement in dementia care and care for older people.

The event will take place on Monday, 18 March from 6pm to 8pm in the Heartbeat Education Centre lecture theatre, F level, North Wing, Southampton General Hospital.

These events are free to attend and you are welcome to bring guests. If you are parking on site, we can also provide you with a pass to exit for free.

If you wish to book a place at this event, please email the [membership team](#) or call 023 8120 5957.

There is also a [Facebook event page](#) that you can share with friends and family on social media.

Upcoming members' events in 2019

In order to help you plan your diary, we have set the dates for the 2019 [members' evenings](#).

- 20 May
- 23 July
- 23 September (annual members' meeting)
- 18 November

We'd like to tell you more about your hospitals

We are incredibly proud of the work we do for you so have lots of events and opportunities planned for 2019 that we would love for you to get involved with. These events are a great opportunity for you to share your ideas and feedback with us.

Our public governors are elected from our Trust members and represent you on the Council of Governors. They along with others members of the Trust would like to come and talk to you about how we are providing the best quality healthcare for you and your families, as well as give you the chance to share with us your views. We'd be delighted if you would like to find out more about how we can work together and if you would like to host a talk from us.

To find out more, please [email us](#).

Do you want to improve the treatment of different diseases?

The NIHR BioResource Centre Southampton is one of 13 centres across England which provides a unique resource of volunteers for researchers to investigate the links between genes, the environment and different diseases.

Volunteers are currently being recruited to add to a panel of people, both with and without health conditions, who are willing and consent to be recalled to participate in medical research studies and clinical trials.

These clinical research studies identify how diseases work and together with volunteers' samples, demographic and health details, enables future advances in personalised medicine research.

If you are interested in finding out more please email the [team](#).

Cervical screening saves lives says new campaign

A new campaign has launched to raise awareness of the risks of cervical cancer and highlight the benefits of screening, reminding women that cervical screening can stop cancer before it starts. The Public Health England campaign, which launched on 5 March, encourages all women to respond to their cervical screening invitation letters, and if they missed previous invites, to book an appointment at their GP practice.

Two women die every day from cervical cancer in England. Women can protect themselves against the risk of cervical cancer by attending their screening when invited. However, cervical screening is at a 20-year low, with one in four women in the UK not attending their test.

For more information, visit www.nhs.uk/cervicalscreening

Contact your governors

Did you know that as a member you are encouraged to share your views, ideas and experiences of UHS with your local governors? We have four constituencies: Southampton City; New Forest, Eastleigh and Test Valley; Isle of Wight; and Rest of England and Wales – all of which have governors who represent you.

If you'd like to find out who your local governors are then please click this link.

If you would like to contact your local governor(s), you can do so by emailing UHSgovernor@uhs.nhs.uk

News from your Trust

We're a busy Trust with lots happening every day. To read about our latest news items and articles, please use the links below:

- Hospital first to offer all patients chance to manage healthcare online: [read more](#)
- Leading nurse says young dementia patients "falling into void": [read more](#)
- Doctors create innovative hospital 'passport' for older patients: [read more](#)
- Hospital's 'super' volunteer role improves mealtimes and mobility for older patients: [read more](#)
- Hospital trust to showcase innovations in care to country's top nurse: [read more](#)
- Southampton clinicians to screen football fans for diabetes in UK first: [read more](#)
- Young heart patients showered with cards and gifts on Valentine's Day: [read more](#)

To see and read more of our news, please [visit our website](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) or find us on [Facebook](#).

Dates for your diary

The next **[Trust Board](#)** will be held on **Thursday, 28 March 2019** from 9 to 11am in the Heartbeat Education Centre conference room, F level, North Wing, Southampton General Hospital. Members of the public are welcome to observe.

The next **[Council of Governors meeting](#)** will be held on **Tuesday, 12 March 2019** from 4.30 to 6pm in the Heartbeat Education Centre conference room, F level, North Wing, Southampton General Hospital. Members are welcome to observe.

We hope you've enjoyed reading our newsletter but if you'd like to unsubscribe or would like to share any feedback with us, please email UHSmember@uhs.nhs.uk