

# We've done it!



## #MusgroveBabies Appeal

Photo: Head of Midwifery, Sallyann King, and the Maternity Unit team

We are absolutely delighted to share the fantastic news that we have reached the fundraising goal of **£100,000** for our **Musgrove Babies Appeal**! We are immensely grateful for your support in helping us to reach our target.

You have helped to modernise, expand and upgrade a number of spaces within the Maternity Unit to help improve flow, capacity and provide a better patient experience for families right across Somerset.

We are immensely grateful to our outstanding fundraisers who pulled no punches when it came to raising money for our **Musgrove Babies Appeal** by hosting an event or taking on an incredible challenge.

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## A message from our Chair

A big warm welcome to you all to this winter edition of our **Love Musgrove** Newsletter.

In what has undoubtedly been a challenging year for everyone, I do hope you are continuing to stay safe and well, and that **Love Musgrove** can help in some small way to keep you informed and connected with the wider community here in Somerset and with everything that is going on at Musgrove Park Hospital.



During this pandemic and over the course of the summer months, we have seen some tremendous fundraising activity. From virtual runs, cycles, and walks to the creation of artwork, key rings, and face masks in return for donations, it really has been wonderful to see.

With all the wonderful fundraising activity that has taken place over the last 12 months, this newsletter will hopefully inspire you to hold a fundraising event or challenge of your own.

The need to support our patients and staff is still just as important as ever and so we still need your help.

Season's greetings and as always, thank you for your ongoing support!

Barbara Gregory  
Chair, Love Musgrove

# An upgrade for expectant parents

This much-needed transformation sees the creation of two brand new recovery rooms for mum and baby after birth, additional scanning facilities in the Antenatal Clinic, refurbishment of the Maternity reception and Antenatal waiting areas.

### New equipment purchased includes:

- recliner chairs which now enable partners to stay on the ward with mum and baby in a much more comfortable way
- CTG machine to monitor the fetal heart rate
- monitors which observe women's vital signs
- doppler to study blood circulation in the baby
- new cots which push right up to the beds where the side drops down to support mums to reach their babies which is particularly helpful for those who have had a long or difficult labour/birth. They support our baby friendly standards to help establish feeding and close and loving relationships
- ultrasound couch for the new scanning room



Over the past year we saw lots of fundraising activity such as eleven year old Fin Bendle (pictured above), facing 100 overs in his 'Fin's 100 Overs Smash' Challenge raising over **£11,000**.

Musgrove Spinal Consultant, Ashok Subramanian, donned his climbing gear as he ascended the rocky terrain of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. We also saw long-time supporter of this Appeal, Theo Poole, take on various fundraising activities such as swimming challenges and hosting some wonderful music events at local churches here in Taunton.

Four year old Monty (pictured right), our youngest supporter and a pupil of Taunton School, warmed everybody's hearts as he took on **Monty's Mini Triathlon**. His own version of a triathlon; starting with a 100m open water swim, followed by a 1km cycle and finishing with a 500m run. Monty had a personal reason for supporting this Appeal, as both he and his brother have received significant care from the staff here since they were born with health conditions.

More recently, Samuel Harrison, took part in the Virtual London Marathon raising over **£600** for the Appeal. Replacing the headline event in the capital, participants were able to run the equivalent distance of the marathon within the vicinity of their local area which was the safest and most suitable way of taking on this challenge, especially in these uncertain times.



Head to our website to find out more about our other Appeals and fundraising activities you can get involved in by visiting: [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk)



# Tree of Light Christmas Appeal ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️



Last Christmas we hosted a fundraising fair, celebrated the Musgrove Christmas Tree switch on by former Somerset cricketer Marcus Trescothick (centre), held the first staff Christmas jumper day, were entertained by the Parkfield School Choir and many staff and patients joined in the annual Carol Service.

This year, things will feel very different – the tree in the Concourse will still go up but with none of the fan-fair or usual festivities in this socially distanced world.

Christmas is the time of year when we think of someone special or give thanks. As part of our **Tree of Light Christmas Appeal** we have created a special bauble for messages and memories which can then be hung on our Christmas tree at Musgrove to create a spectacular display.

If you would like to have a Tree of Light bauble on our Christmas tree with your message, please head to our

website, [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/tree-of-light](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/tree-of-light). You can also request a bauble by contacting us on **01823 344437** or [Fundraising@SomersetFT.nhs.uk](mailto:Fundraising@SomersetFT.nhs.uk)

Donations at Christmas support the work of **Love Musgrove** across the Hospital, funding items above and beyond what the NHS covers. Whilst you are thinking about leaving a special message for a loved one, why not also make a gift in memory or recognition of someone to support our work. To make a gift, please visit [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/donate](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/donate)

The festive season is the time of good cheer when we meet with friends and family to socialise, relax, and celebrate – let's look forward to 2021 in the hope that all the celebrations will return with more joy and cheer.

**With season's greetings from the Fundraising Team.**



*Raising awareness is key to our work as a charity. One way we do this is through our fabulous embroidered merchandise.*

Show your support for **Love Musgrove** by getting your hands on our stylish hoodies and t-shirts available in various colours.

All profits go to **Love Musgrove** to support work at Musgrove Park Hospital, head to:

[www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/shop](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/shop)



# Thank you to our amazing supporters!



## Dion & Jacob's 30-mile Bike Ride

Dion and son, six year old Jacob, completed a 30-mile bike ride raising an outstanding **£1,250** for the Beacon Day Unit which will go towards funding new chemotherapy chairs!



## A very poppy piece of art!

For a £1 per entry, Gill Hills raffled off a very colourful painting of a sheep named Poppy to raise money for our **Covid-19 Response Fund**. Gill was inspired to create this piece after the amazing care her family received from doctors and nursing staff at Musgrove. A total of **£360** was raised through the raffle of her artwork.

## Alex & Nick's 'Row 4 Musgrove'!

Alex Keeling and Nick Evry were among the first to support our **Covid-19 Response Fund** back in March with a rowing challenge where for every £1 donated, both Alex and Nick would row 100 metres. In total, they raised **£1,270** equating to 127km rowed.



## Sheppy's Cider

The cider farm, based here in Taunton, produced a limited edition of their 'Rainbow' Redstreak Cider with profits from sales totalling to a brilliant **£500** for the charity's **Better Everywhere Fund**.

## Simon's Land's End to John o' Groats cycle!

Simon Wainwright was inspired by his great great grandfather's diaries, emulating his journey from Land's End to John o' Groats in the form of a cycle challenge lasting two weeks. Simon supported the **Better Everywhere Fund** raising **£2,280!**



## Mat & Mary's virtual Great North Run & London Marathon

With these two events we are so used to seeing annually on our television screens, many many people could not take part in this year's Great North Run and London Marathon due to the pandemic. However, Mat & Mary Clothier pulled out all the stops by running the respective long distance events in the safety of their local area. Together they raised a wonderful **£1,220** for the Beacon Centre!



## Wellington District Rotary's Casino Night

The Rotary Club raised **£3,000** for our **Eliot Ward Improvement Project** and the **Better Everywhere Fund** by hosting a Casino Night before lockdown and have sold donated books and DIY products at a number of events in Wellington.





# The impact of your Covid-19 Response Fund donations



**Love Musgrove** is thrilled to announce the total raised to date from our **Covid-19 Response Fund** has reached **£560,000**. This has been in thanks to a huge outpouring of support from our local community, coming to the aid of Musgrove Park Hospital and the NHS in Somerset. Although times still remain uncertain, thanks to your incredible support, we have decided to draw this fund to a close, having reached this incredible amount!

This total is made up of support from local people, **NHS Charities Together** and **The Barclays Foundation**. We have so far received **£151,000** from **NHS Charities Together**, as part of their Covid-19 Appeal, given to us as a number of grants to support the work of NHS staff and Volunteers. Funding from the Barclays Community Aid Package, totalling **£250,000**, is also helping to address the impact of Covid-19 by supporting community services across physical, mental and social care across Somerset to reduce digital poverty and enable patients to access healthcare appointments.

#### With funds donated we have been able to:

- purchase 50 iPads used in ITU (Intensive Therapy Unit) and across wards to help patients communicate with loved ones
- cover laundry costs of staff staying away from their families while working on Covid-19 wards
- pay for 15,000+ meals for staff at NHS sites right across Somerset, giving colleagues one less thing to worry about
- buy 150 digital radios as a form of company and entertainment for isolated patients
- improve staff rooms and cycling facilities
- support younger patients by paying for dolls with PPE to help them adjust to staff who are wearing a lot more of it

With the latest **£50,000** grant from **NHS Charities Together**, we are supporting two new projects; the first, an expansion of the colleague wellbeing phone line, with dedicated support for our BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) colleagues that will be staffed by a BAME peer psychologist from our Psychological Therapies Service.

Many members of the Somerset community came to the aid of the Appeal by hosting fundraisers of their own, including Taunton Town Football Club, who raised over **£6,000**, our posties who raised over **£5,000**, and individuals who took on marathons, swims and shaves.

We are also supporting the work of the **SIREN Research Study**. This will fund a Health Care Assistant position for 9 months which will run the National Institute for Research Health study across multiple trust sites, including Musgrove and Somerset Community Hospitals. This research is helping scientists gain a better understanding of Covid-19 and we are so pleased to be able to support this nationwide effort. (You can read more about this project on page 7.)

Although we are bringing this fund to close, there is still much work to be done and more funds to be raised for our ongoing projects across Musgrove. We know that the country and the world may have to live with this virus for the foreseeable future, so if you would like to continue to support our staff and patients, you can do so via our **Better Everywhere** Fund. The easiest way to donate is online at [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/donate](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/donate), or send a cheque made payable to **Love Musgrove** or give us a call on **01823 344437**.

# From the hospital

## Musgrove 2030 - Our ambitious programme for the next 10 years and beyond

You may have seen on our website, social media and local media that we have launched **Musgrove 2030** – our exciting vision to transform care and facilities at Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton.

We were one of the 25 NHS Trusts in England that received seed funding from the government and I'm delighted to let you know that the Prime Minister announced this autumn that we will be funded to develop new facilities.

Our focus is to provide the very best care that we can to the people of Somerset. For many people that means ensuring that we support people to stay as well as possible and have the right services in place to support them in the community.

We want to develop facilities that support our excellent clinical and non-clinical teams to further improve the outstanding care they provide to our patients. This requires long term planning and we welcome this commitment from the government that enables us to do this.

As I'm sure you know Musgrove Park Hospital was originally built during the Second World War as a temporary casualty evacuation hospital for the D-Day landings and other buildings were added later in the 1940s.

These oldest parts of the hospital still house services such as the critical care unit caring for the county's sickest patients and maternity and children's services.

Thanks to this new funding we can move forward with the next steps of our ambitious **Musgrove 2030** programme,

which will include a new maternity and children's building and further development of our cancer and emergency services.

I'm sure you'll agree this is fantastic news and means our colleagues will be able to continue to provide outstanding care for those patients who need hospital treatment, and in modern, state-of-the-art buildings.

### Developments already in progress

The funding announced this autumn is in addition to the separate funding we already have in place for two other major developments at Musgrove Park:

- Building a **£80 million** surgical centre at Musgrove Park Hospital that will include operating theatres, a critical care unit and an endoscopy suite. Enabling building works have already begun to clear the site so that building work can begin in 18 months' time.
- Developing a **£11.5 million** acute assessment hub adjacent to the hospital's emergency department (A&E) to support care for patients requiring emergency treatment.

I'm sure you'll agree that these are exciting times for the NHS in Somerset and I will keep you informed of all the latest developments as they take place.

Peter Lewis  
**Chief Executive**  
**Somerset NHS Foundation Trust**



## Impact of Legacies

**Gifts in Wills** really can have a powerful impact, making a real difference for both staff and patients.

A legacy of **£384,000** was left to the Children's ward which will be used to support improvements across Children's services such as refurbishment of parents' bedrooms and the creation of additional clinic space. The legacy has also been used to purchase simulation mannequins (pictured left) which support the training of the resuscitation of children across all Children's services, Paediatric High Dependency Unit, Children's outpatients and Day Surgery, the Emergency Department and Adult Intensive Care Unit.

A&E Consultant, Esther Wilson, explains the importance of equipment such as these, "Simulation is a really powerful education tool and is also an excellent way to test systems, processes and the impact of human factor and latent errors in clinical practice. Having high fidelity mannequins helps health care professionals engage with simulation better and enables a fuller simulation experience. Since acquiring the Laerdal neonate and infant mannequins we have had the opportunity to run many simulations in different clinical areas and with multidisciplinary teams, which was met with enthusiasm and positive feedback. These two mannequins will help us to continue to develop the simulation programme at Somerset Foundation Trust and we look forward to supporting both acute hospital and community staff in the care of acutely sick or injured children."

If you would like more information about leaving a gift in your Will to **Love Musgrove**, and would like one of our Legacy Leaflets, please give our Head of Fundraising, Zoe Steer, a call on **07557 012437** or email [Zoe.Steer@SomersetFT.nhs.uk](mailto:Zoe.Steer@SomersetFT.nhs.uk)





## The ICU Photo Project

Working during the pandemic has been very challenging for our staff. From those working on the wards to others working from their kitchen tables, it's been a time like no other.

Teams have been encapsulating those memories in various different ways – one of which is the **Behind the Mask** exhibition.

A collection of photographs and quotes taken by colleagues in our intensive care unit during the pandemic have been displayed along **The Musgrove Gallery** on the first floor of the Queens Building.



The exhibition showcased the spirit and courage shown during the first few weeks and months, highlighting scenes of caring for patients while in full personal protective equipment, and the after effects of wearing those – something which will be all too familiar for many of our colleagues.

Surgeon, Adam Walsh said, “When the pandemic started my role as a surgeon shrank dramatically for a few weeks as we all worked out how we were going to continue operating on those we needed to, as well as continue

our service whilst sending many members of the medical staff to ITU and to medicine. Given my background in amateur and some clinical photography I thought that recording the changes would be really important. At first this started looking at areas of the hospital, how social distancing changed the entire setup of medical care, but after a while it became obvious that the thing to focus on was people, and the changes we all made to make it through.”

**Art for Life** have helped to co-ordinate this project and make a real difference to the wellbeing of our patients, staff and visitors through creating high quality, vibrant and inspiring environments through art work, exhibitions and music performances.

This exhibition was jointly funded by our intensive care unit and **Love Musgrove's Covid-19 Response Fund**.

## SIREN Research Study - A focus on research

Clinical research helps the Trust to determine the best way to prevent, diagnose or treat disease. We work with patients, carers, NHS Trusts, universities, industry and the **National Institute for Research** to take the best new ideas from current edge science and use them to improve treatment, care and services.

The Trust drives research activity, enabling local communities the opportunity to participate in studies. All research projects vary in complexity from simple questionnaires, to complex therapeutic (physical or psychological) interventional studies, new devices, or novel therapeutic drug trials.

Research teams span across the footprint of the Trust, which consists of 13 community hospitals, Somerset wide mental health services and our acute site at Musgrove Park Hospital. Last year a total of **2,709 participants** were recruited into research across the hospital services, so far this year, **1,806 people** agreed to take part. To date we have **348 active studies**, with new studies being set up regularly.

Over the last 6 months the Trust has participated in many high profile urgent **Public Health** studies to contribute to the global effort against Covid-19. One such study called **SIREN** (Sarscov2 Immunity & REinfection EvaluationN), involves testing staff for Covid-19.

The study aims to find out whether healthcare workers have Covid-19 at the time of testing and if they have evidence of detected antibody assays (positive antibody tests), compared to those who do not have evidence of previous infection (negative antibody tests) and if

antibodies protect from future episodes of infection. In this study, we have already recruited over **800 healthcare workers** (the first Trust to reach this many participants nationally) to be followed up for at least a year and study their immune response to the Covid-19 virus.

**£20,000** of a **£50,000** grant awarded by **NHS Charities Together** has provided additional staffing of Health Care Assistant Wayne Battishill. Wayne (pictured below) is based at Musgrove and works in the **Department of Clinical Research** on the **SIREN** study.

The **SIREN** study has now been introduced to community settings and Wayne is supporting the clinics based across Somerset at **South Petherton, Shepton Mallet, Dene Barton, Williton, Chard and Bridgwater**.

The Trust is very proud to be contributing to an important piece of research in helping to understand the spread of Covid-19 and will help clinicians and scientists to better understand the prevalence of the virus in the South West.

The findings of participation in the study will be extremely valuable for the Trust as it will help us understand the impact of Covid antibodies in our staff and potentially inform local direction for healthcare worker protection.



# Miles for Musgrove



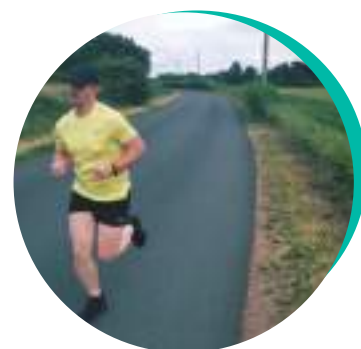
This year we held our first ever **Miles for Musgrove** challenge in both June and October. The Covid-19 pandemic has meant that a lot of those who would like to have taken on a challenge to support **Love Musgrove** have been unable to. We'd like to say a huge thank you to those that have taken on their own, home-made, socially distanced challenges and events; you have made a real difference!

Supporter Jill Martin, in June this year, planned to take on the mammoth challenge of cycling various Premiership Rugby stadia around the UK and unfortunately due to restrictions this could not take place. However, instead Jill decided to take on a brand new challenge by taking part in our first ever **Miles for Musgrove**, cycling over 700 virtual miles around Somerset raising money for the Henry Bissell Memorial Spinal Fund which exemplifies

one of the many funds you can raise money for here at Musgrove. The spinal team accompanied Jill on her final mile cycle up to and outside the hospital in celebration. Jill is pictured with Spinal Consultant, Paul Thorpe who treated her here at Musgrove. Raising over **£550** so far and with restrictions permitting, Jill still hopes to go ahead with the Premiership Rugby Stadia Cycle in June 2021.

We would also like to make a special mention and say thanks to Brenda Kenny who took on indoor cycling at home, and Sian Vowles, Lizzy Boyd, and Hope Mortimer who got involved with virtual running challenges. Even **Love Musgrove's** Jordan (pictured below) took part in the challenge by running a minimum of a mile each day back in June!

**Miles for Musgrove** is an open and ongoing challenge. You can take part by choosing a month of the year to track and complete your virtual miles by using any GPS app – this can be any activity such as running, cycling, walking or rowing, the choice really is yours. On completion, we will send you a limited edition **Miles for Musgrove** Virtual Marathon medal. To sign up, just head to our website, [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/miles-for-musgrove](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/miles-for-musgrove), where you can follow the 5 easy steps to register, and to download your **Miles for Musgrove** calendar where you can track and accumulate your miles.



## 10 ways you could support Love Musgrove

Whilst the usual methods of fundraising for charities have vastly reduced due to the coronavirus pandemic, here are a number of ways you can show your support to help raise vital funds for your local NHS hospital.

- 1  Make a gift to our **Tree of Light Christmas Appeal**  
[www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/donate](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/donate) 
- 2 Become a Regular Giver via a Direct Debit 
- 3  Leave a gift to **Love Musgrove** in your Will
- 4 Take on a fundraising challenge just like **Miles for Musgrove!** 
- 5  Host a virtual fundraising event; from coffee mornings to quiz nights! 
- 6 Follow us on Social Media  
**@lovemusgrove**    
- 7 Sign up on online to **Stay in Touch** and for much more content by visiting [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk) 
- 8 Have your business, workplace, or community group choose **Love Musgrove** as your Charity of the Year!
- 9  Show your support with a hoodie or t-shirt from [www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/shop](http://www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/shop)
- 10 Sign up to hear about our volunteering opportunities to help us raise funds! 

If you think you could support **Love Musgrove** in any of these ways, please contact us using the details below.



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