

Summer 2022

Newsletter

The Official Charity of Musgrove Park Hospital
For patients • For colleagues • For our hospital



25 years of Love Musgrove

and charitable giving at Somerset NHS Foundation Trust!



Raise funds for our Appeal to support improvements to our Hydrotherapy Pool for our physiotherapy patients

Our **25th Anniversary Appeal** is now in full swing and we're thrilled to announce our new radio partner for the Appeal, **ToneFM!** Events are coming up supporting our work, including our first ever **Golf Day** and the **NHS Big Tea** in July!

As we launch our 25th Anniversary Appeal, we're looking for supporters to take on fundraising challenges and to host fundraising events; could that be you?

Have you thought about taking part in a long distance run or jumping out of a plane, but haven't found the time? Or do you love to host events and get friends and family together but haven't been able to because of

restrictions over the past two years?

Well now we have the perfect reason to -v helping to support the brilliant projects right across the NHS in Somerset. Why not Skydive to help raise funds for an NHS garden or host a Quiz Night to support us purchasing dementia support boxes for all our Wards?

Head to the link below to find out more about the appeal, events you can join, and ways you can fundraise, as well as how we can support you.

www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/Anniversary-Appeal

In partnership with



25th
ANNIVERSARY

APPEAL

Celebrating 25 years of charitable giving at Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

our charity

   @LoveMusgrove

www.lovemusgrove.org.uk

It means so much!

Dear Supporters

Welcome to the Summer 2022 edition of our Newsletter, packed with events, updates and successes! I'm already so grateful to those who have donated to our **25th Anniversary Appeal** and I'm pleased to say we're already starting to allocate those funds to projects from our Appeal list.

I'm really excited about the breadth of projects your donations will be supporting this year as part of the Appeal, and in my role as Charity Chair I am able to see the direct impact these Appeals have on our patients, their families and our colleagues.

One thing I've seen first hand is the huge difference a dedicated garden space can make for patients and their families and that is why I am thrilled that your donations this year will help transform 10 NHS gardens across Somerset. I know colleagues that use the space to grow fruit and vegetables with our patients, families who are able to have some quiet time in the fresh air and physical rehabilitation activity that is so much more enjoyable when done outside, so these gardens will have a significant impact.

I'm also really pleased to see the funding of volunteer polo shirts as part of our Anniversary Appeal. I am forever grateful to the team of NHS volunteers that work in a huge variety of roles

to support our colleagues and the patients and families that visit our services. I know these polos, however small they may seem, will make a real difference to the sense of community and team that our volunteers feel.

But we've still got a way to go! It's been really exciting to see a few events happen already this year, I know our brilliant Fundraising Team have so enjoyed being able to host in person activity. I'll be joining in on the festivities of the NHS' birthday on the 5th July by celebrating the **NHS Big Tea** and I hope you do too. And to all the golfers out there, make sure you get signed up to the event at Brean Golf Club on the 15th July.

Congratulations to all those who took part in the skydive back in April, I just wanted to thank the group personally for taking on such a daring challenge. I am continually impressed by the efforts of our supporters in raising funds, and although a skydive might not be the kind of event I would rush to do, there is a challenge out there for everyone!

Best wishes as always,

Barbara Gregory
Charity Chair



Charlie's change for the Neonatal Unit

Little Charlie spent a number of weeks on the Neonatal Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital. His parents, Emma and Jo, set up 'Charlie's Challenge' and last year we brought you the story that they had raised an amazing £17,000 for the Unit.

Neonatal Unit Manager, Sue Fulker said: "With the funds, we have purchased 4 Oxygen Assist Modules (pictured below) which are additions to our High Flow Oxygen devices. These machines deliver warmed and humidified oxygen to babies who need help with their breathing in the hours and days after being born. The oxygen assist modules read the amount of oxygen in the baby's blood stream, and automatically adjust the amount of oxygen delivered to the baby."

"This means that the babies have the most accurate blood oxygen levels possible, optimising their treatment and ensuring that they recover as quickly as possible from their breathing difficulties."

"All the staff on the would like to thank Emma and Jo for their kindness and hard work in raising such a substantial amount of money for the Neonatal Unit."



Tuesday 5th July 2022

JOIN THE BREW CREW

It's time to pick up your teapot to help raise funds for NHS staff, patients and volunteers.

First step, grab a cuppa, sit back and read our step-by-step guide to hosting a tea-fuelled fundraiser.

Host an NHS Big Tea is as easy as one, two, tea!

Your cuppas make a difference.

To get involved with this year's NHS Big Tea, visit our website to download your materials for the big day at www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/nhsbigtea



Eggs-tremely grateful!

April was an eggs-uberant month as the Hospital saw a wave of support from individuals, groups and businesses in the local community, during the start of the year, collecting Easter eggs and other treats for the Children's Unit in time for Easter here at Musgrove.

We're so grateful for all of the support we've received over the past year. It's been such a whirlwind, and we couldn't have done it without you, the local community. You've made the lives of our littlest patients happier by bringing smiles to their faces over the Easter period, especially at a time when they cannot be at home with their families.

We would like to give a special mention to Mrs Taunton Atlantic, Dionne John (pictured right), Mulberry and Claims Consortium Group, for personally dropping collected Eggs to the Children's Unit.



Mattancherry's menu



Mattancherry Restaurant Manager, Ricardo, welcomed our Fundraising Assistant, Jordan (above) to collect £336 raised from the restaurant's fundraising feast in March.

Mattancherry put together a one-off menu with profits from each booking going to **Love Musgrove**. The charity would like extend a huge thanks to the everybody who dined at Mattancherry on the night!

Musical Memories



ACTS Theatre School in Bridgwater raised money following a string of fab performances of their 'Musical Memories' production in January.

It was a pleasure to welcome Alan and Val, along with members Ella and Alivia, who presented a cheque for £2,284 to the Children's Ward!

Are you part of a group or business and want to raise money for Musgrove? Get in touch at Fundraising@SomersetFT.nhs.uk today!

Super Skydivers!

It's always a joy to get back to Dunkeswell Airfield to join the brilliant **Skydive Buzz** as we assembled a brave team of 9 jumpers for this year's tandem skydive event.

Jumping from the skies on Saturday 30th April, we saw Rita, Sarah, Pawankumar, Owen, Rachel, Emma, Mel, Chloe, and Kerry.

This was an incredibly successful and well-run day, with everybody collectively raising over £6,500! The skydive was a part of Our Charity's **25th Anniversary Appeal** calendar of events, with funds raised going towards some of the great projects within this Appeal. Some of the skydive team opted to raise money for specific wards/departments at Musgrove such as the Beacon Centre and Cardiology. We would like to thank all 9 jumpers for their fundraising efforts and also our expert skydivers at Dunkeswell Airfield. We hope to be back with a new team of skydivers very soon!



Back to our events with a day at the races

The Charity Race Day held on Tuesday 8th February in partnership with **Taunton Racecourse** was not only the first event of the Anniversary Appeal was our first in-person fundraising event since the pandemic.

It was wonderful to see over 65 guests join us for a superb day of racing as well as sponsorship from local businesses. Guests heard tips from the Course's resident tipster to pick out the winners. With an auction, raffle and collection at the end of the day, the event raised nearly £4,000 towards the projects.

Check out more of our events taking place throughout the year at www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/events





One of the trees planted at Bridgwater Community Hospital. Pictured, Colin Drummond (Chairman), Norma Coombes (Matron) and Lizzie House (District Nurse Lead)

Trees planted across Somerset to mark the Jubilee

This year, Her Majesty the Queen celebrates her Platinum Jubilee, and as part of the celebrations, people are being encouraged to 'Plant a tree for the Jubilee' for an initiative called 'The Queen's Canopy'.

Across Somerset we have planted trees at a number of our sites as part of this initiative. Chairman, Colin Drummond, attended the planting of a tree at Bridgwater Community Hospital on Friday 25th March. He said: "We are honoured to support the Queen's Green Canopy by planting trees at 12 of our key sites throughout the county of Somerset."



Business Challenge is back

Does your company have what it takes to win the Challenge?

The idea is simple – we provide your business with £50, and you have from September to December to turn it into as much money as you can. This is a great way to compete with other organisations.

There is no limit to what you can do to raise money; host events, run raffles and event take on a team challenge, could your business be top of the league? All you need is some enthusiasm and have fun!

To register your interest for this brilliant event, head to www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/business-challenge



New team supports pregnant women with additional needs



Specialist midwives across Somerset's maternity services have come together to launch a new service for vulnerable women with additional needs during their pregnancy.

Yeovil Hospital's Acorn team and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust's Juniper team have combined to form the Women Requiring Extra Nurturing service – also known as WREN.

The team supports women who are struggling with issues relating to substance or alcohol abuse, domestic violence, have learning needs or are under the care of social services. It can provide support with various issues faced by women and

their families, including finance, housing and additional health support. It also provides specialist care for young parents under the age of 19 throughout their pregnancy, as well as being a vital link to social services and perinatal mental health teams. Dawn Sherry, joint named midwife for safeguarding across Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and Yeovil District Hospital, said:

“Our two teams at Yeovil and Musgrove Park hospitals have historically done a great job in helping to support and care for vulnerable women and families. While the care from our midwives is outstanding, there were occasions when a woman's care might have been transferred between our maternity units for the delivery of their baby – particularly those who live in areas mid-way between the two units, such as Chard or Ilminster.

Many of these women are from particularly vulnerable families with unique needs, often distrusting of health professionals and difficult to engage with. By joining our two teams together to form the WREN service, these families are getting more consistent care, which could even be the difference between a baby remaining in their mother's care or increasing the level of contact allowed following birth. It will also help to influence their ongoing life choices, which can only be a positive for mum, baby and wider family.”

Feedback from mums has been positive so far. One mum said: “I just wanted to let you know I've been offered a two bed flat, and I'll hopefully be settled before my baby comes, fingers crossed. Thank you for your help and support with everything.” Another mum said: “I thought I was going to struggle trusting professionals after my past, but you have helped me realise that professionals aren't bad and I can ask for advice and help when I need it, so thank you.”

Paula John, the WREN team leader, said: “As a team of midwives, we feel passionately about offering non-judgemental, accessible and supportive care to the most vulnerable families in Somerset. Working together will enable us to be a stronger team and provide a service we can be proud of, and I believe we can consistently provide the high level of care these families need – which is what drives us all.”

This newsletter has been brought to you by



who are proud to support **Love Musgrove** and **Somerset NHS Foundation Trust**

Our Charity Golf Day

Last call!

Our calendar of events for our **25th Anniversary Appeal** is well underway. Why not join us for our **Charity Golf Day** at Brean Golf Club near Burnham-on-Sea on Friday 15th July.

Get your team of 4 entry in by 30th June to guarantee your spot by heading to www.lovemusgrove.org.uk/events

We have headline and hole sponsorship opportunities available, so get in touch today. We'll see you on the first tee!



Rugby star presents funds raised to Beacon

Last September, we were delighted to join, Exeter Chiefs' prop, Ben Moon, at Sandy Park in Exeter, as Ben completed his testimonial year celebrations from his incredible testimonial year raising money for the Beacon Day Unit in memory of his Dad.

In February, Ben and his wife, Laura, came to the Beacon Centre to present a cheque amounting to £7,974 to Zoë Steer (Head of Fundraising). He said: "During the darkest days of my father's life, he still managed to find some happiness in there [Beacon] with a high level of support and care. The staff at the Beacon Centre really do make a difference both to patients and families alike."

Joe's Santa Run

Over 130 people took part in the brilliant 'Santa Express Run' raising funds for the Children's Unit here at Musgrove Park Hospital!

The event took place on 12th December on Burnham-on-Sea beach and was organised in memory of Joe Laoutaris who sadly passed away with Ewings Sarcoma cancer in 2015.

There was plenty of amazing fancy dress to be seen being worn by those taking on either a 5km or 10km route. The organising team were thrilled to announce they raised £1,000 for the Children's Unit, a fantastic effort by all!



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