

Volunteer Newsletter June 2025

*Bringing you the latest news and
celebrating all the wonderful things
you do!*



Welcome

A very Happy Volunteers' Week to all our volunteers! We had such a wonderful time celebrating and visiting as many of you as possible across all our sites. We hope you had a fantastic week and enjoyed all your cupcakes. In this issue, we will be sharing a few snaps taken of our Volunteers' Week celebrations across WWL.

We also have some exciting news to share regarding a volunteer being shortlisted for a GM Award for her work as an LEP. We will also delve into the history of our Trust logo, and how work and friendship have evolved over the years for our staff and volunteers at Wrightington.

June also marks National Research Month. Volunteers play a vital role in contributing to research and developments in healthcare. Our Research Team talks about the benefits of research and how you can get involved if you would like to participate. Lastly, a huge thank-you for everything that you do. You are amazing!



#VolunteersWeek



Welcome New Volunteers!

- + Amy Allen, Ward Volunteer
- + Barry Dunne, Ward Volunteer
- + Catherine Sefton, Grow Our Own Volunteer
- + Chinelo Nduaguba, Grow Our Own Volunteer
- + Christophine Obigwe, Ward Volunteer
- + Joseph Omoniyi, Ward Volunteer
- + Hannah Paton, Ward Volunteer
- + Lauren Horsey, Ward Volunteer
- + Leila Abutaeva, Ward Volunteer
- + Modupe Omoniyi, Ward Volunteer
- + Rachel Sessions, Grow Our Own Volunteer
- + Sanya Syed, Ward Volunteer
- + Stephen Chibuzo, Ward Volunteer
- + Susan Baynham, Ward Volunteer
- + Tracy Butler, Bereavement and Chaplaincy Volunteer

A newsletter for volunteers

Our Volunteers' Newsletter is all about you and including what information, news, or stories you would like to hear about. If you have a story you would like to tell or an achievement you would like to celebrate, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Nadia, Mel, or our Patient Experience Team to be featured in one of our editions. Our contact details can be found below.

Voluntary Services' Contact details

Nadia's working hours:

Monday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Tuesday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Wednesday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Thursday 8.30am – 12.30pm

Tel.: 07899 039 955

Email: volunteer@wwl.nhs.uk

During these hours, our Patient Activities' Volunteer Coordinator, Melanie Cornish will be able to support you.

Thursday 12.30pm – 4.30pm

Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Tel.: 01942 77 3061

Email: volunteer@wwl.nhs.uk

Happy Volunteers' Week!

Volunteers' Week is a special celebration that is held the first week of June every year up and down the country to recognise and give thanks to all volunteers.

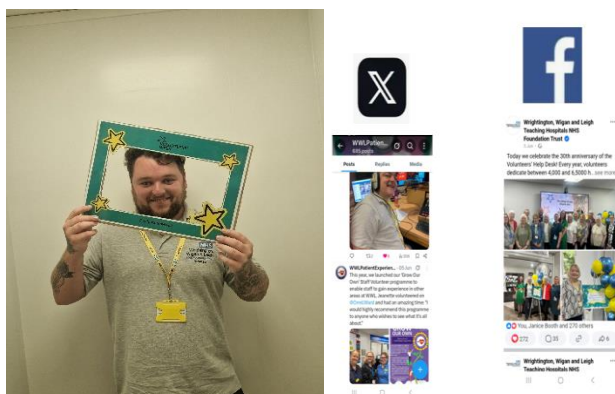
Each volunteer on each site was given a free cupcake as a thank-you for their service. We also held a special celebration event to mark the 30th anniversary of the opening of Wigan Help Desk. Fun fact: it was the first ever Help Desk to open in the country!



WWL staff decorated some of our areas with bunting and appreciation boards to give thanks to our volunteers.



We also celebrated our volunteers by telling their volunteer stories and highlighting the amazing work our volunteers do in the press and across social media, as well as having fun taking selfies!



Congratulations, Jessie!



Huge congratulations to our Lived Experience Partner, Jessie Hunt who has been shortlisted in the category of Volunteer Champion in the Greater Manchester Health and Care Champion Awards 2025. Winners will be announced at the award event in July. Well done, Jessie!

The history of our Trust logo

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals (WWL) NHS Foundation Trust is an NHS Foundation Trust, providing services in the Metropolitan Borough of Wigan and Wrightington in England.

It was formed on 1st April 2001 following the merger of Wrightington Hospital NHS Trust, and Wigan and Leigh Health Services NHS Trust. It then became an NHS Foundation Trust in December 2008. “Teaching Hospitals” has been included in its name since 1st April 2020.

Wrightington was placed first in the renaming of the Trust from a marketing and recruitment perspective, as Wrightington Hospital was and still is a world-renowned international centre of excellence.

A Long History of Work and Friendship at Wrightington

Staff Nurses, Elaine Hibbs and Christopher Brady pictured here with Consultant Radiologist at Wrightington Hospital, Dr. Basu worked with Dr. Basu's father, Dr. Basu on North Ward at Royal Albert Edward Infirmary back in the early 1980s!



Dr. Basu's son remembers being taken to the Infirmary by his father as a child, and it's more than likely that he met either Staff Nurse Hibbs or Brady.... and he is now working with them at Wrightington Hospital.



One of our Wrightington Help Desk Volunteers, Ann Barker also worked with Dr. Basu's father in the A&E Department at Royal Albert Edward Infirmary from 1987 until she retired.

Happy National Research Month!

International Clinical Trials' Day (ICTD) was 20th May 2025. The campaign ran for a full month until 20th June. June Red4Research Day gives an opportunity to celebrate everyone who participates, undertakes, and supports the delivery of research.

WWL has an active Research Team with many research studies open and recruiting throughout the Trust. The opportunity to take part in research is available in many specialities and patients may be approached to take part in research.

The campaign started on Tuesday 20th May by the Wrightington Clinical Research Delivery Team holding a stall event at Wrightington Hospital for patients and staff. The RAEI Research Delivery Team continued the campaign on 22nd May at the Clock Tower by the main entrance foyer of Wigan Hospital.

The purpose of this campaign is to see an increase in awareness of the life-changing nature of health and care research, and its impact on the public, patients, and health service. During this time, we informed people about the ways in which they can take part in research. Participation and involvement in research were promoted and celebrated.

13th June marked the official launch of the UK-wide "Be Part of Research." There was press and media activity throughout the week, drawing attention to the opportunity for the public to register themselves on this service to take part in future health research. The focus was on increasing registrations to the volunteers' service. Research leads to better treatments, medications, services, and new ways of working. To find out more about the opportunities, please email ResearchAdmin@wwl.nhs.uk.

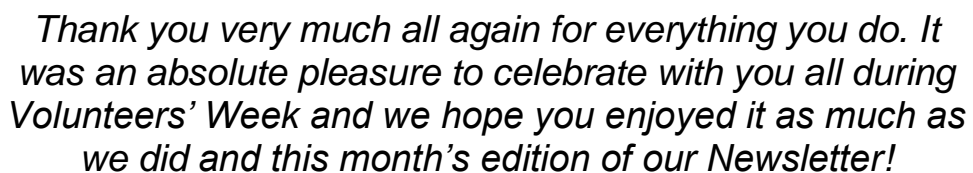
The take-home messages from the campaign:

- ✚ "Life-changing treatments start with people like you."
- ✚ "Every time someone receives treatment for a health condition, it's because of the many people who took part in health and care research to improve health and care for all of us. We need to get everyone involved."
- ✚ "Without research, there would be no Covid vaccines or no new treatments for cancer. It's the people who take part in research who make these vital discoveries possible."
- ✚ "In the UK, around a million people just like you take part in health and care research every year, and with your help, research can go further and faster."
- ✚ "Good research needs everyone to get involved, whatever your age, ethnicity, gender, or background – you can make a huge difference to the health and care of tomorrow."
- ✚ "Both people with and without health conditions are needed to take part in health and care research. Whatever your state of health, you can help find new and better ways to treat illnesses and improve care."

To ensure everyone benefits from research, it's important that everyone is represented. Taking part will help ensure that new treatments, tests, and services are suitable for you, your family, and your community. You can choose to take part in a study at a time and location that suits you. From a simple survey to testing a new innovative medication, there's a study waiting for you. "Be part of Research" makes it easy to take part in health and care research, you'll be matched to suitable studies taking place near you and the decision on whether to take part is always yours.

Volunteering Opportunities





Next Newsletter out in September 2025!

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Do you have a story to tell or an achievement to celebrate? Then, we would love to hear from you!
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Tel.: 07899 039 955