

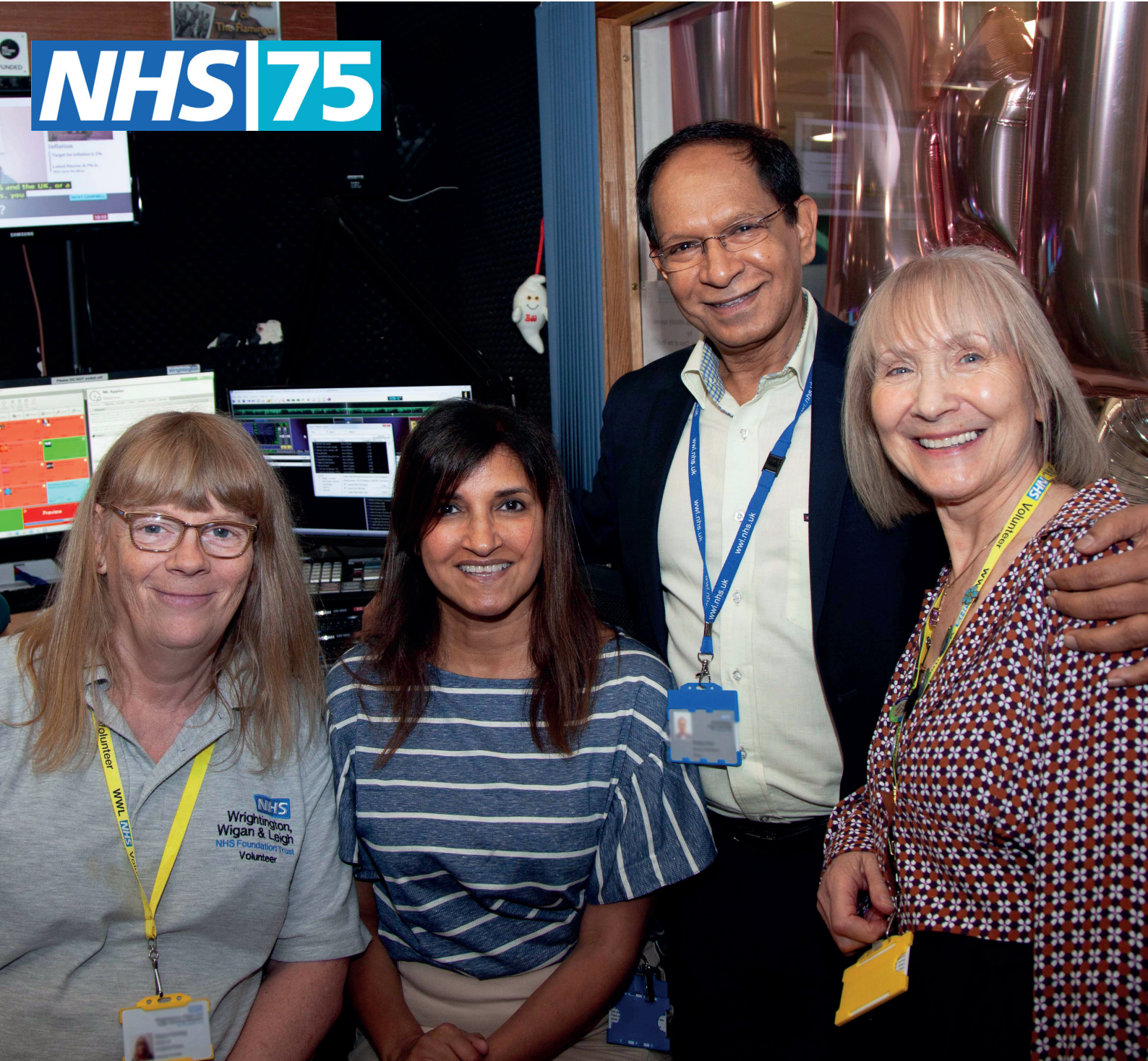
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Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

THE MAGAZINE FOR MEMBERS

Summer 2023



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WWL Celebrates 75 Years of the NHS

Welcome From Our Chair, Mark Jones



Mark Jones
WWL Chair

Welcome to the latest Members' Magazine where we will update you on the developments and achievements at Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (WWL) since our last edition.

This celebratory issue showcases the fantastic festivities we have held over the summer months to mark some momentous milestones at WWL.

Firstly, we saw the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, and welcomed Lisa Nandy MP to unveil a storyboard in honour of the special occasion. The Royal Albert Edward Infirmary was and still is a critical site for the people of Wigan and I would like to thank all our staff and volunteers past and present who have made it the great place it is today.

The mural, commissioned by Councillor George Davies, a former WWL porter and newly appointed WWL Governor, charts the sites history over the past 150 years marking key milestones and has been installed along the link corridor at Entrance 2. You can read more about the event on page 6.

The NHS is going through changing times but the robust support to our communities goes on, as it does at WWL.

Over at our Wrightington hospital site, it was a double celebration for the hospital and WWL Radio marking 90 years and 50 years respectively.

Staff, patients, and members of the public joined together to celebrate the iconic history of the birthplace of the total hip replacement and its promising future, with the official opening of a new Enhanced Care Unit (ECU).

Providing an enhanced level of care for complex medical and surgical patients on the site, the ECU is set to provide a better patient experience, allowing patients to be treated and discharged appropriately at Wrightington, rather than possibly being transferred to Wigan.

Wrightington Hospital was originally a facility for the treatment of tuberculosis and opened in 1933. Services provided at the hospital changed and it began to specialise in hip and orthopaedic surgery and rheumatology and much of this work was led by Professor Sir John Charnley who performed the first total hip replacement operation at Wrightington in 1962.

Now a renowned centre of excellence for musculoskeletal conditions and the Greater Manchester Hub for orthopaedics, today some patients can be discharged following hip replacement surgery within one day. It is simply incredible.

You can read all about the celebrations at the site and see the winners of the Best Dressed Ward on page 9.

Mirroring the strong and robust plans of the NHS were the celebrations for NHS75 at WWL. We were delighted to welcome BBC North West Tonight to the Trust to film a patient undergoing a hip replacement as part of a series of films looking at innovation across the healthcare service to acknowledge the landmark anniversary.

Five members of WWL staff, chosen from last year's STAR Award winners, also attended the special NHS75 service at Westminster Abbey, while two further members of the WWL family were shortlisted in the Fujifilm NHS Photography Competition.

You can read more about how we celebrated NHS75 on page 10.

We have the best staff to deliver the best care to our patients and on a recent walkabout with our Chief Nurse Rabina Tindale, I experienced a patient journey from our front door at A&E to our Medical Assessment Unit and onto our wards, meeting different members of our staff on the way who shared with us the challenges they face and their ideas on ways in which services can be further improved upon and delivered more efficiently.

Many of the staff spoken to on the walkabout have gone on to become Quality Champions, which you can read more about in our 'Getting to Know...' section on page 4.

I look forward to continuing to learn more about our patients' experiences on a future walkabouts.

I would encourage you to take a look at our meeting dates further on in this edition and become an active part of our membership by attending our meetings.

WWL is a unique and special place and our staff are the beating heart of our organisation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for all that they do every day for our patients and congratulate them all for being part of the long and fascinating history of our Trust.

Update From Our Lead Governor



Andrew Howarth
Lead Governor

For the Trust, 'stepping down' is a phrase that has two uses. It 'steps down' after times of pressure, does this carefully and returns to regular service patterns. This fortunately has been more often the position

in recent weeks and WWL Governors have been pleased to see some of the pressures to supply extra beds easing and the hospital's teams able to provide the responses and levels of care that they are given the resources to deliver.

The hospital also 'steps down' patients from its wards once a patient no longer needs the care of the acute hospital. I am sure you have read like me that there can be challenges at times in this process which can leave some patients staying longer with the Trust than necessary. WWL works well with its Borough-wide partners to ease this situation, but it does seem that, nationally, this is a real problem.

It is our staff teams that are 'stepping up.' They have re-established team working, services and care following the disruption of the last two years and the various accreditation schemes that teams work through allows them to prove that their training and skills are bringing the best to patients. An excellent example is that of our Maternity team who help mums bring 3000 new faces to join our community each year. Their recent Care Quality Commission showed how well they are working within numerous exacting new standards to maintain their "Good" rating.

'Stepping out' will be your Governors, joining members of the Trust Board on joint visits into the workplace to see the fruits of work to date and to help in the accreditation process. This is not an inspection, but more an opportunity to see where progress is being made and to work together to achieve the best.

As Governors we get to see the plans and strategies proposed by the executives; we comment on them on your behalf and see schemes inch their way to completion. We all know cash is tight and, in that light, it's good to see successful bids for new facilities designed to improve local health, completed or in the pipeline. Bids for new projects have been from central NHS and more recently working jointly in Greater Manchester. Major new diagnostics at Leigh will help to get more people into the right queues faster, whilst theatre upgrades at all three hospitals will help address those queues.

Getting to Know You: WWL's Quality Champions Programme

Our award-winning Quality Champions programme provides WWL colleagues and teams from across the Trust with training and support to implement their own improvement projects, helping to potentially change the way services are delivered, or improve ways of working.

Kayleigh Barnett is WWL's Head of Continuous Improvement and leads, advises and supports the Quality Champions and their projects.

What is a Quality Champion?

A Quality Champion can help to improve patient care, staff and patient experience and the general overall wellbeing of people within the Trust via improvement projects.

Everybody across the Trust is welcome to become a Quality Champion, including our volunteers and short-term work placements as we welcome many different and diverse views from across the organisation.



WWL's Three Quality Champion Platinum Badge Holders

What is the role of a Quality Champion?

We look to our Quality Champions to help us improve the way things are done across the Trust, asking questions such as, 'why do we do this in this way?' or 'would it work better if we changed it?'

With support, guidance and tools from the Continuous Improvement Team, they can deliver and implement their projects, and if we find they work well we can spread these ideas across the organisation and potentially adapt other areas, as well as their own. My role is to help and support people to embed their Quality Improvement projects and to make every patient and staff experience better.

What does the Quality Improvement Project Programme look like?

The programme is held over 18 weeks and participants are required to commit to and attend four half-day face to face learning sessions, progress their learnings during designated action periods and everyone will receive regular one to one coaching sessions to address any issues or questions they may have.

Each year, we hold special celebration events where Silver and Gold badges are awarded to colleagues who have made a significant difference in delivering real improvements across the Trust for both patients and staff.



The Acute Stroke Unit (ASU) Team with their MyQ Board

Most recently, we awarded Silver badges to some innovative projects that:

- Improved handover processes and reduced the length of time beds are empty by 50% on our Medical Assessment Unit and Lowton Ward.
- Vastly reduced the length of time taken to complete medication rounds to almost half reducing from 165 minutes to 80.9 minutes.



The Continuous Improvement Team with wider WWL colleagues focussing on streamlining improvement initiatives

And Gold badges were awarded to pioneering projects including:

- A team who worked on implementing a new service for scanning patients with MRI



Cohorts 30 and 31 of Quality Champions who recently completed the Programme

compatible pacemakers that was also shared with Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust. This means that patients can be seen at our sites rather than having to travel to a regional hub, meaning less delays and less stress.

- The 'Fantasy Feelgood' work/life balance wellbeing awareness project within IT services. This project which supports wellbeing awareness and positivity throughout the service has spread further to NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit to support NHS staff.

This year at this event we also launched our new Platinum badges for those staff who really do make a continuous and sustained contribution to embedding the culture of continuous improvement. The Platinum badges will be awarded from nominations and the worth recipients will be presented with them at our annual conference.

We are confident that via our Quality Champions project, you, our members, and our staff will continue to notice changes and improvements across our Trust that really do make a difference.

For further information on the work of our WWL Quality Champions, you can listen to an interview I had with WWL Radio which explains more [here](#).

Celebrating 150 Years of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary

The start of many celebrations taking place throughout the Trust this summer, took place when a special pictorial mural was unveiled at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary (RAEI) by MP for Wigan, Lisa Nandy.

Commissioned by Councillor George Davies, a former WWL porter and newly appointed WWL Governor, the mural charts the sites history over its 150 years and its key milestones with Councillor Davies dedicating the piece to colleagues who have worked or contributed to the ongoing development of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

Speaking at the event, Lisa Nandy said: "It is a real pleasure to join George and some of our wonderful NHS staff for this celebration, and to have the privilege of unveiling this special mural to commemorate a landmark year for Royal Albert Edward Infirmary and the NHS in our town.

"The last few difficult years have been another reminder of how much we owe the amazing staff who work in our health service and look after us and our families in times of need."

Speaking on why he commissioned the piece, Cllr Davies remarked: "This mural is dedicated to our colleagues who have worked or contributed to the ongoing development of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

"It is a great honour to say a big thank you to everyone who have put in a great service throughout its 150 years."

The mural is now available to be viewed on the corridor of Entrance 2. You can see a variety of facts and images from the celebrations below and adjacent.



In the Radiology department in 1948 19,333 X-Ray examinations were performed at Wigan. In 2023, in addition to normal X-Rays, the Trust's state-of-the-art Radiology department performs an incredible 54,000 CT scans and around 23,000 MRI scans per year.



83 births were recorded at Wigan Infirmary in 1948 and 965 at Billinge Hospital, but today, WWL's fantastic maternity service sees approximately 3,000 births per year.



Today there are over 400 beds on the RAEI site, treating over 75,000 in-patients and seeing over 110,000 patients per year in the Trust's Emergency Department.

Between 1798 and 1824, just 580 patients were admitted per year to the old Wigan Dispensary which would go on to become the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. At that time there were around 150 beds but by the time the hospital became part of the NHS in 1948 this increased to 228 treating over 5,000 in-patients per year.



HRH Prince Albert Edward of Wales officially opened the building with his wife Princess Alexandra in 1873.



90th Birthday of Wrightington Hospital and 50 years of WWL Radio

Double celebrations were in order at Wrightington Hospital in June as staff, patients, volunteers and members of the public joined together to mark the 90th Birthday of Wrightington Hospital and the 50th Anniversary of the WWL Radio.

Sarah Russell, Divisional Director of Nursing and Allied Health Professionals and part of the team who organised the celebrations said: "It was brilliant to welcome everyone and great to see so many staff and people involved in the 90th Birthday fun, we are a real family here at Wrightington and it was special to be able to celebrate together."

Celebrating both the hospital's iconic history past



and promising future, and to commemorate the occasions, a special Enhanced Care Unit was also officially opened on the site. As an orthopaedic hub for elective care, the Enhanced Care Unit means Wrightington Hospital, can now provide an extended level of post-operative care and increase bed capacity to help reduce the wait for care across the Borough.

While helping to mark 50 years of WWL Radio, the Trust's Chief Nurse, Rabina Tindale, and WWL's Medical Director, Professor Sanjay Arya, took to the airwaves to be interviewed by volunteers from the service.

Best Dressed Ward Competition

The celebrations continued across the hospital with various wards and departments being decorated by staff competing for the 'Best Dressed'.

Taking inspiration from Professor Sir John Charnley's pioneering work at Wrightington were the winners of the best dressed ward - the John Charnley Wing - who gave a potted history of Charnley and hip replacements alongside a

fabulous display of paintings and cartoons of John Charnley, mannequins dressed in theatre scrubs from the Charnley era as well as displays of old hip replacements compared to new.

In second place was D Ward with a fantastic 'Hip, Hip, Hurray' display featuring staff past and present, followed by the Outpatients Department in third place who had dressed in uniforms of days gone by.

Wrightington was named as a Greater Manchester Trauma and Orthopaedics Elective Hub in July 2021 and a Major Revision Centre for Knee Surgery by the NHS Northwest England Specialised Commissioning Team in September 2021.



In 2022 and 2023 approximately, 1,332 primary hip replacements were carried out at Wrightington and 1,379 primary knee replacements.

Enhanced Care Unit Officially Opens

Providing an enhanced level of care for complex medical and surgical patients on the site, Wrightington's new Enhanced Care Unity is set to provide a better patient experience, allowing patients to be treated and discharged appropriately at Wrightington, rather than possibly being transferred to Wigan.

Speaking at the official opening, WWL's Medical Director, Professor Sanjay Arya said: "I'm honoured to officially open the ECU which will greatly benefit our patient experience with patients receiving all the appropriate care they need at Wrightington Hospital. Wrightington is one of the top hospitals in the world, and it is because of the work that is being done here and the staff who work here. It is

great to open a new facility which will further benefit our patients during the 90th Birthday celebrations.

"The staff who work on this unit are passionate about providing the best level of care for patients at Wrightington and they should be proud of what has been achieved here."



Official Opening of the ECU

From September 2023, Wrightington Hospital will be home to 47 of the UK's top orthopaedic consultants, many with an international reputation for surgical excellence, supported by a team of 72 therapists across our specialist services.



WWL Celebrates 75 Years of the NHS

On 5th July, 1948, the National Health Service (NHS) was officially established and, to celebrate 75 years of the NHS with Trusts across the country, a number of events took place across our WWL sites.

At Leigh Infirmary, the Jean Heyes Reablement Unit hosted an NHS Big Tea and Fun Day which was attended by patients, staff members and WWL Governors, alongside a bake-off competition.

Speaking at the event was Director of Corporate Affairs, Paul Howard, said: "A big Happy Birthday to the NHS. Staff on the unit have really pulled together to create this event, which just shows the spirit of the NHS, thank you and well done to everyone involved."

Beverley Chopoat, Ward Manager on the Jean Heyes Reablement Unit, said: "It's been lovely to celebrate the NHS' birthday and WWL's Big Birthday month. All the money raised today will go towards enhancing our patient's experience which is just wonderful."



Winner of the best bake competition with the panel of judges

Afternoon teas were served to patients Trust-wide with all areas encouraged to decorate in celebration of the special milestone and into the evening WWL joined others across the Wigan borough, and the country, lighting up some of its buildings in the iconic NHS blue.

Five award-winning members of WWL staff attended a service at Westminster Abbey in celebration of 75 years of the NHS.

Selected from winners from the Trust's 2022 STAR (Staff Thanks and Recognition) Awards the group joined in one of the key NHS 75 events, a multi-faith service for NHS staff, volunteers and partners.

Tulika Sugandha, IM&T Project Manager, Chair of the FAME Staff Network and winner of WWL's Excellence in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Award, said: "It was great for us to all go down to London together to represent the Trust and the NHS as a whole, it was certainly a day to remember."

WWL Chief Executive, Silas Nicholls, spoke at the time on how delighted he was for the Trust to be represented adding: "This is such a special year for the NHS and WWL, and for every single member of staff who work for this incredible organisation."

"Being invited to Westminster Abbey was a great opportunity for our colleagues to take part in the

national celebrations and I can't think of a better group to proudly represent everyone at WWL, it looked like they had a fantastic time."



WWL Colleagues who visited Westminster Abbey

Two WWL members of staff were shortlisted in a national NHS photography competition run by NHS England in partnership with Fujifilm UK.

Mike Fulford and Petro Bekker were shortlisted from hundreds of NHS staff and volunteers from across the country to share their unique stories of what the NHS means to them; only two of only four shortlisted in the North West.



Mike's entry to the competition

The pair were chosen to represent the health service in the 'Our Care' category as part of the 75 shortlisted photographs that will be displayed at an exhibition at Fujifilm House of Photography in Covent Garden, London.

Mike, a Learning Disability Nurse for over 16 years, submitted the photograph of his patient receiving care, to shine a spotlight on the work of the Learning Disability Service and the support their patients receive.

On receiving the recognition Mike said: "I'm very humbled at receiving the recognition – I hadn't actually told anyone about it so I think my colleagues were quite shocked when I told them I'd been shortlisted. I was very proud that my photograph represented the Learning Disability Service."

"What is important, as in every area of healthcare, is that we provide care and support to the best of our abilities, placing our patients right at the centre, so I wanted to show this in the photograph I submitted."



Petro's entry to the competition

Petro, who works at WWL as a Clinical Informatics Manager and Clinical Safety Officer, previously a sister on Intensive Care, said: "I was delighted to be shortlisted amongst some incredible photographers on a national level and it is fantastic to be part of the celebrations of the NHS and its achievements over the past 75 years."

"To me, the photograph shows the best of humanity of the staff who worked through incredibly difficult situations day in and out throughout the pandemic."



Mike and Petro outside the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary Clocktower Building

WWL Celebrates 75 Years of the NHS

WWL Partners With Uncle Joe's Mint Balls to Celebrate NHS75

WWL was recently delighted to announce a partnership with iconic local business, Uncle Joe's Mint Balls, as part of the WWL Big Birthday Month, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary in Wigan turning 150 years old, and the NHS 75 Birthday celebrations this year.

Chris Swann, Senior Executive Assistant at WWL Trust Headquarters came up with the innovative idea to commemorate all the occasions with a special 'NHS blue' Uncle Joe's Mint Ball.

Chris reached out to the Uncle Joe's team who were immediately onboard as they too celebrate 125 years of 'making life sweeter' in the same year.



John Winnard MBE at the RAEI shop with the special 'NHS blue' Uncle Joe's Mint Balls commemorating 75 years of the NHS

After a fascinating tour of the 'Toffee Works' factory with WWL's Medical Director, Professor Sanjay Arya, to look at how the mint balls are produced, a plan was developed to create the new sweet.

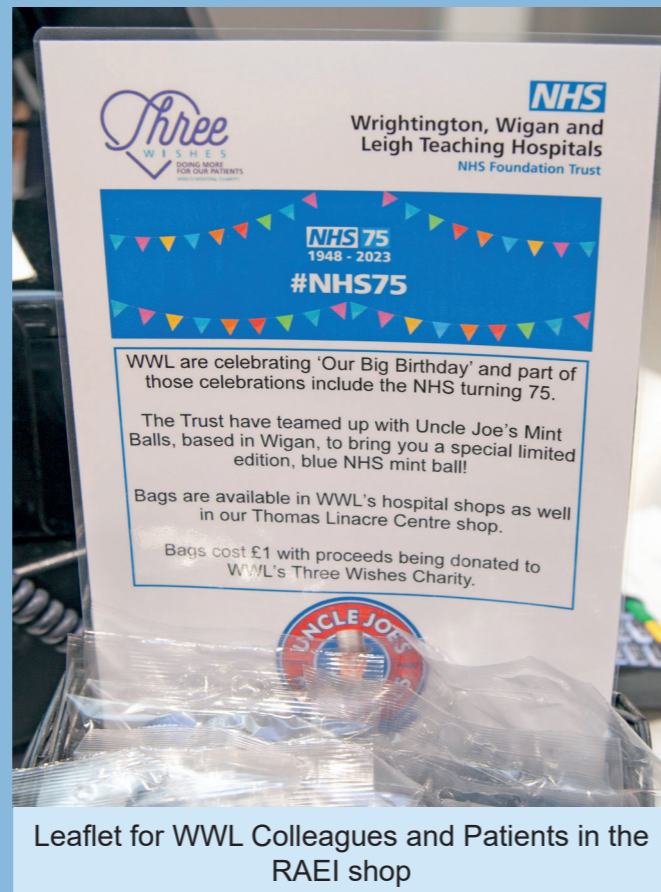
Chris said "It was a real treat to visit the factory and I'm thrilled that the Uncle Joe's team and especially John and Antony Winnard were so welcoming and open to working with us. I'm sure

that many of our staff and patients will be keen to purchase this limited-edition 'NHS blue' mint ball."

The specially made 'NHS blue' mint balls are now being sold exclusively in shops and outlets across the Trust with all profits being donated to WWL's Three Wishes Charity.

Prof. Arya, said: "It was an honour to be invited to visit the factory and I'm very excited to see the culmination of this initiative come to fruition. As an anchor institution in the Wigan Borough, it is always pleasing to work in conjunction with long-standing businesses in our community."

John Winnard MBE, Joint Managing Director at William Santus & Co Ltd who produce the mint balls said: "We are so very proud to work in collaboration with WWL to commemorate all the special birthdays this year and also to help WWL to raise money for such a worthy cause as the Three Wishes Charity. I was privileged to be invited into to WWL to see our 'NHS blue' sweets in the shop at Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary on sale this week."



Leaflet for WWL Colleagues and Patients in the RAEI shop



John Winnard MBE (middle left) with Chris Swann (middle right), Senior Executive Assistant, Prof. Sanjay Arya (right), Medical Director and Gavin Thorpe (left), Catering Manager

A Service of Celebration for Our Big Birthday Month and NHS75

On Thursday 6th July 2023, the day after the NHS celebrated its 75th birthday, a special service of celebration was held in the Chapel of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary (RAEI).

As well as celebrating the 75th birthday of the NHS, the service also commemorated the 150th birthday of the RAEI, 90 years of Wrightington Hospital, 50 years of WWL Radio, 20 years of the Thomas Linacre Centre, and 10 years of the Hanover Building at Leigh Infirmary.

The service was attended by WWL colleagues, patients and visitors, and featured traditional dancing, readings from our Chaplaincy Team and members of the Executive Team, as well as wisdom from faith and belief communities, and a reflective activity.

On the day, attendees shared their reasons for being grateful for the work WWL does for our local community and for the opportunities the Trust

provides, with one attendee saying: "I am thankful for the care and support my family has received from WWL over the years and I am also very privileged and proud to work for WWL."

The service was recorded for all of those who couldn't attend in person and this can be viewed [here](#).



Tulika Sugandha, IM&T Project Manager and Neelam Patel, Anaesthetist Consultant perform at the service

WWL Governor Malcolm Ryding Reflects on the History of RAEI

Many years ago, I heard a sermon from a very popular Bishop of Bolton who called on believers to “hold on to that which is good”. His visual aid: a sticky toffee lolly.

Today, we don't need a toffee lolly to recognise the visual aids we pass, and perhaps visit, almost every day - the noble buildings which the generosity of our fellow townsfolk first started to create in Wigan 150 years ago.



The intensive care unit reopening at Wigan Infirmary in 1969

Someone once said that hospitals were, in fact, sermons in stones for rich and poor alike, preaching that the sick-bed is a leveller for all of us.

The stones, with the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary laid a century and a half ago, tell us that we are equals when it comes to our wonderful NHS and the care, support, treatment we receive in all our Trust facilities - large or small.

Wigan folk have never really been known for blowing their own trumpet. While other hospitals receiving a royal opening around the same time as Wigan were quick to attach ‘Royalty’ to their name - Bolton Royal, Salford Royal - we've been happy with plain and simple, Wigan Infirmary. In fact, it took a thank you letter from Princess Victoria to the Mayor after their visit with her suggestion to name it the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary (RAEI), that the building actually gained its lasting Royal connection.

The Infirmary's life came from a simple beginning when three of the town's influential leaders got together and championed the health facility, recognising some dreadful living conditions, sewage and rubbish filling the streets and the poor

still living in cramped dwellings with no running water. Ironically, a previous Trust headquarters in Standishgate was built on what had once been one of the worst back-to-back slum areas in the town.



Wigan Infirmary Pathology Department in 1987

Diseases, such as pulmonary tuberculosis (often called consumption) were endemic, others such as cholera, were frighteningly epidemic. In the morbidity statistics, infectious and respiratory causes predominated.



Wigan Infirmary entrance in the 1980's

While living conditions have improved, we have seen over the past three years that we can still be troubled by the scourge of a deathly global pandemic. But the infirmary magnificently rose to the challenge of coping with that one, just as it had done all those years ago. While we mourn those who died, we thank the unstinting efforts of all the staff in the Trust for their work, and continuing work, caring for folk affected by COVID-19.

Just before Christmas in 1866 a public meeting was held and gave the town the best Christmas present they could ever get – approving the go-ahead for an infirmary. And I'm proud to say that one of those leading petitioners, someone who saw the desperate need for this building, was the proprietor of the Wigan Observer and District Advertiser Thomas Wall. Proud because I was able to continue his social conscience approach during my 25 years working there, and now playing my small part on the Council of Governors.



Nursing colleague retirement at Wigan Infirmary

Many Wiganers and folk from the surrounding townships have played a major part in supporting the infirmary, either as volunteers or through generous donations. Pennies, pounds, hundreds and probably millions of pounds have been given by a grateful community over the decades to advance the vital work carried out here and we must not forget the valuable and pioneering work being carried out throughout the other Trust sites.

We would never expect anything less from the Trust's loyal workforce – in this generation or previously. For 150 years, the RAEI has been the anchor in many storms of life. Whether you're a distressed child, crusty grandads, pit or motorway accident victim, going through the darkest of times or rejoicing in new life, Wigan Infirmary has been there.



Wigan Infirmary's Gidlow Ward in 1998

It probably isn't an exaggeration to claim that over the past 150 years every family in the wider Wigan area has had some connection with Wigan Infirmary - through work or family illness.

And through me each one of them says ‘thankyou’. Thank you, Wigan Infirmary, for the work you do, for the support and comfort you give. Thank you for rising to the many challenges over the last 150 years and for the work you, and those who follow, will do in the coming years. Thank you for being the sticky toffee lolly we will continue to hold on to, because you are truly good.



RAEI in the present day

Photos courtesy of Wigan History Shop and Wigan Today

Governor Focussed News

Council of Governor Elections

Governors volunteer their services to represent the views of us all, they come from staff groups, some of our partner organisations and mainly from the public in the area we serve.

Each year sees some refreshment of the Council as Governors come to the end of their terms. This year we have seats available in Leigh and Makerfield and in the Nursing and Midwifery and all other staff constituencies..

The election process takes place as follows:

- Notice of elections/nominations open - Thursday 17th August
- Nominations Deadline - Friday 15th September
- Summary of valid nominated candidates published - Monday 18th September
- Final date for candidate withdrawal - Wednesday 20th September
- Notice of poll published - Friday 6th October
- Voting packs dispatched - Monday 9th October
- Close of election - Wednesday 1st November

The final declaration of the results will take place at this year's Annual Members' Meeting.



New Governor Appointment

We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to one of our new Governors George Davies.

Since 2010 George has been a local councillor for the Wigan Central ward on Wigan Council. His involvement in the communities of Wigan and within the NHS started way back in 1976 when he started working at RAEI in the Portering

Department as a shift porter and retired as a supervisor after being employed for 36 years at the Infirmary.

George welcomes being given the opportunity to become a new member of WWL's Council of Governors and being part of a team which puts the health and care of our patients and our local community as a top priority with also trusting our staff.

Meeting Dates and Locations – 2023

Due to pandemic restrictions, many of our meetings over the last few years have been held virtually. There may still be occasions when we have to hold meetings virtually however members of the public are now able to join us in these virtual meeting and are welcome to attend any of those listed below - if you are interested in coming along to observe, please contact members@wwl.nhs.uk so that we can provide you with either the joining details, or the location of the meeting.

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings

Please note the start time and venue of each meeting is subject to change. This information will be updated on the website in advance of each meeting. Papers will be available on the WWL website a few days before the meeting.

Wednesday 4th October, 1:15pm - 4:15pm
Wednesday 6th December, 1:15pm - 4:15pm

Upcoming Council of Governors Meetings

Tuesday 24th October, 5:15pm - 7.15pm

Annual Members' Meeting

Wednesday 8th November, 1:15pm - 3:45pm, venue to be confirmed.

There are a number of benefits to becoming a Member at WWL and these include:

- Attending events held by the Trust
- You can add this to your CV
- Vote in Governor Elections or become a Governor yourself
- Receive the Members' Magazine straight to your inbox

You can join on the WWL website or via phone, email or post. Our Membership Office is open from 8:30am - 4:30pm Monday to Friday and can be contacted via phone, postal mail or email on any of the following:

- Telephone number: 0800 073 1477
- Email address: members@wwl.nhs.uk
- Postal address:
Freepost Plus RUBT-HSSU-HGET
Corporate Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching
Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Wigan Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XZ

Special Educational Needs and Disability Engagement

NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care (Wigan) in collaboration with their partners are keen to understand the lived experience of Children, Young People, families and professionals about Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) services in Wigan.

We are asking families and professionals if they could spend a short while completing a survey on the services provided within the borough which

can also be completed by children and young people.

You can access the survey by clicking [here](#), your responses provide valuable feedback.

Here at WWL we will be looking to hold an engagement event to explore some of the areas of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Keep your eye on our socials for more information.

WWL Sees Colleagues and Volunteers Gain Awards Success

Teams from across a wider range of services within WWL have been performing to an exceptionally high standard so far this year, with news of award nominations, finalists and winners flooding in since our last Members' Magazine.

The Trust has been pioneering on a national stage, with WWL's First Contact Practitioner service, a joint team between WWL and local GPs, awarded the regional title in Excellence in Primary and Community Care at the NHS Parliamentary Awards, an entry backed by all three of the Wigan Borough's Members of Parliament. Working in effective partnerships such as this is high on the Trust's agenda, as are the pioneering projects happening in our digital services, where the Information Management and Technology (IM&T) Team received a High Commendation for their Digital Champions training programme in the Digital Literacy, Education and Upskilling Award at the HSJ Digital Awards. Colleagues were also shortlisted as finalists in the Digital Clinical Safety and Improving Out of Hospital Care categories.

Mayor's Special Recognition Award for her service to healthcare over the years. Karen Downs, who sadly passed away in 2022, was also recognised on the night with a posthumous award for her incredible contribution to digital healthcare. Julie Wilson, Vocational Learning Facilitator, was also a finalist in the People Champion category.



Barbara Lambert (middle) with Laura Milward (right), WWL's Volunteers Manager and Andy Burnham (left), Mayor of Greater Manchester

The Trust hopes to hear of more success stories later this month and into October, with two finalists at the HSJ Patient Safety Awards, two finalists at the National Orthopaedic Alliance Excellence in Orthopaedics Awards and one finalist at this year's Nursing Times Awards. To keep up-to-date with how the teams get on, please follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

HSJ DIGITAL AWARDS 2023

We are proud to be a finalist

Digital Literacy, Education and Upskilling Award

HSJ DIGITAL AWARDS 2023

We are proud to be a finalist

Improving Out of Hospital Care through Digital

HSJ DIGITAL AWARDS 2023

We are proud to be a finalist

Digital Clinical Safety Award

The IM&T Team were highly commended at the HSJ Digital Awards 2023

Winners were also announced at this year's Greater Manchester Health and Care Champion Awards, with long-serving volunteer and former WWL Nurse, Barbara Lambert decorated with a

Three Wishes Charity Donations

Family Legacy Provides Six Figure Donation to WWL's Three Wishes Charity

Our Three Wishes Charity received a substantial, six-figure donation to its Heart and Lung Fund, thanks to the family legacy of one of the Trust's patients, back in May.

Mrs Freda Grimshaw, of Pennington, Leigh, presented WWL's Medical Director, Professor Sanjay Arya with the sizable sum of £100,000 to be used for improving cardiac services at the Trust.

Speaking of her family, the 88-year-old, former peripatetic teacher who worked across the Wigan Borough said, it was her family, particularly her coal-miner father who inspired her to make the donation.

Mrs Grimshaw added: "My dad had the lung disease, pneumoconiosis, from years of dust exposure from mining. He was the best dad ever, he was wonderful - as was my mother who was the power behind the throne."

"Prof. Arya and the cardiology team has been looking after me for years, so this is the least I can do. My mum, dad and sister, all had heart problems and really, this money is from them."

Prof. Arya continued: "We are extremely grateful to Freda for her kind and generous donation which is one of the largest single donations we have received from an individual. It will certainly go a long way in supporting our Three Wishes Charity's mission to further improve patient care."



Freda Grimshaw (middle) with Prof. Sanjay Arya (right), WWL's Medical Director and Shirley Martland (left), WWL's Associate Director of Finance

Annual Festive Lights Show Brings in Welcome Donations for Rainbow Ward

All of us at WWL would once again like to express gratitude and thanks to the Molyneux family from Standish, Wigan who visited our Rainbow Ward to donate toys and goodies for our patients.

This is the ninth year the family have made a donation from the proceeds of their annual Christmas lights show, our patients and colleagues are incredibly grateful for their support.



Rainbow Ward Staff Raise Funds with Pier-to-Pier Walk

Colleagues from WWL's Rainbow Ward took part in a Pier-to-Pier walk, from Southport to Wigan, raising £4,300 to help refurbish the parent room on the ward. The Team walked over 20 miles from Southport Pier to Wigan Pier in blistering sunshine, all whilst raising money for Three Wishes Children and Babies Fund. **Please see page 20 for more on donating to our Three Wishes Fund.**



WAITING FOR HOSPITAL TREATMENT?



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www.whileyouwait.org.uk



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Thank you for taking the time to read our Members' magazine. If you have any questions or would like to offer feedback please email members@wwl.nhs.uk or call freephone 0800 073 1477.

There are a number of ways you can make a donation to support the WWL's charitable activities. Further information on this can be found [here](#).

To contact the Governors in your area please email Governors@wwl.nhs.uk.



*Magazine produced by the Communications Team