



Dear Foundation Trust Members,

### **Mel's weekly round-up: monthly round-up for August**

In this week's video we round-up stories from August, starting with Our Patients as we met BTHFT Clinical Nurse Specialist, Fiona Woods, who organised a charity dinner dance as a thank-you for the care her mum received following a diagnosis of Hodgkin's Lymphoma. We also heard from Bradford Hospitals' Charity Director, Sharon Milner, about the vital role fundraising plays in allowing the charity to enhance the care provided by our Trust.

Then we focused on Our Place as we met Stephen Giles, St Luke's Hospital's first registered Art Psychotherapist, to explain how art therapy offers a different way of communicating and expressing thoughts and feelings and Libby Howarth, the hospital's first Art Psychotherapy Trainee who tells us about the importance of this work being done at our Trust, as well as the benefits it's bringing to our younger patients.

Finally, for August's podcast, Mel sat down with Sam Keighley, Chief Executive of the VCS Alliance and VCSE health system lead for Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership to hear about the vital contribution the voluntary and community sector (VCS) makes to local people's health and wellbeing.

- **Watch the round-up here <https://bit.ly/47MKTB6> and remember you can catch Mel's weekly round-up every Friday on global email and Twitter**

### **Let's Talk with Mel podcast: focus on our local voluntary and community sector**

In this month's podcast the focus is firmly on the vital contribution the voluntary and community sector (VCS) makes to local people's health and wellbeing as Mel chats to Sam Keighley, Chief Executive of the VCS Alliance and VCSE health system lead for Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership.

The voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) are key partners in the delivery of health and care. The sectors have an important contribution to make in shaping, improving and delivering services and developing and implementing plans to tackle the wider determinants of health. We won't achieve truly integrated health and care without the voluntary sector – it's that simple!

Sam talks about how some of the services the local VCS offers are having a real impact, including stopping people taking their own lives, but also helping families rebuild their lives together.

We hope you enjoy this podcast: <https://bit.ly/3P33stE>

### **Mel's weekly round-up: Our Place**

Welcome to this week's update which focuses on Our Place.

Today we'll meet Stephen Giles, St Luke's Hospital's first registered Art Psychotherapist, to explain how art therapy offers a different way of communicating, and expressing thoughts and feelings.

We'll also meet Libby Howarth, the hospital's first Art Psychotherapy Trainee who tells us about the importance of this work being done at our Trust, as well as the benefits it's bringing to our younger patients.

We hope you enjoy this uplifting and engaging film: <https://bit.ly/47pwDhA>

### **Mel's weekly round-up: Our Patients**

This week's round-up focuses on Our Patients as we meet BTHFT Clinical Nurse Specialist, Fiona Woods, who organised a charity dinner dance as a thank-you for the care her mum received following a diagnosis of Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

We also hear from Bradford Hospitals' Charity Director, Sharon Milner, about the vital role fundraising plays in allowing the charity to enhance the care provided by our Trust.

It's a lovely film, take time to watch when you can: <https://bit.ly/45g76p0>

### **Other news....**

#### **Patient Led Assessments of the Care Environment: Would you like to take part at our hospitals?**

Good environments matter. Every NHS patient should be cared for with compassion and dignity in a clean, safe environment. Patient-led assessments of the care environment (PLACE) help us understand how well we are meeting the needs of our patients, and identify where improvements can be made. The assessments give patients and the public a voice to drive and influence the way their local health and care services are delivered. Assessment teams are a collaboration between staff and patient assessors, with patient assessors making up at least 50 per cent of the assessment team. Anyone who uses the service can be a patient assessor, including current patients, their family and visitors, carers, patient advocates or patient council members. Full training and assessment forms will be provided and reimbursements of expenses are offered in line with our Trust finance policy. We are looking for

assessors from all our communities, no matter what background, age, or disability to represent our wonderful city of culture. If you are interested in taking part please contact the Patient Experience team via email to [community.engagement@bthft.nhs.uk](mailto:community.engagement@bthft.nhs.uk) or by phone on 01274 272568.

### **Our Joint Annual General Meeting / Annual Members Meeting - save the date!**

The date for our joint Annual General Meeting/Annual Members Meeting has been set for **Wednesday 11 October 2023, Sovereign Lecture Theatre, Field House, BRI from 5pm to 7pm**. Please save the date and come along to hear how our Trust has performed over the last year including how we have managed the reintroduction of services following the COVID-19 pandemic. Our AGM/AMM is followed by our special presentation on our Virtual Royal Infirmary - Our virtual services are a way of giving hospital standard care to patients closer to, and often within, their own home. They are designed to improve the care experience and quality of outcomes for patients and their families. This is your chance to hear how this key area is developing. We also have a showcase event planned for just before the AGM/AMM and it would be great if you could join us here too. This runs from 4pm to 5pm. Snacks and light refreshments will also be provided. Just email [membership@bthft.nhs.uk](mailto:membership@bthft.nhs.uk) if you are interested in booking your place or places or if you would like to find out more.

### **Getting Involved!**

- **Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership** The health and care partnership for Bradford District and Craven has created an online space for our communities to share ideas, exchange experiences and ask questions about health and care. Find out more about the engagement activities you might wish to be involved in [here](#).
- **NHS England » In touch bulletin** The In touch bulletin provides an overview of the latest news, events and consultations shared by NHS England which might be of interest to you.

### **Visiting – our latest guidance**

Our new guidance on visiting, which comes into effect immediately, can be found on our [website](#). The new guidance opens up visiting for all with little restriction. However, any future infectious disease outbreaks/pandemics will require further review to maintain patient, staff, visitor and public safety.

Regards

Membership Office

To unsubscribe click [here](#).



Have a question about your membership? Contact us through these channels:

Email: [membership@bthft.nhs.uk](mailto:membership@bthft.nhs.uk)

Or keep up to date with news:

Twitter: [@BTHFT](#)

Facebook: [@BradfordHospitals](#)

Website: [Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#)