

Your monthly
insight into
the world of
Bradford's Hospitals



Bradford Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Members' news



Dear Foundation Trust Members,

Mel's weekly round-up: Our People

This week we're sharing the story of one of our newly qualified nurses, Kismat Ara, who came to Bradford with her family as Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh and has since forged a new life for herself in a nursing career here at BTHFT which she loves.

Kismat features in a new photo story series called 'A Great British Welcome', launched by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which highlights the stories of refugees and how they are being supported across the country.

We hear from Kismat, whose family was forced to flee Myanmar, about her delight at being a paediatric nurse and pride in being part of our diverse BTHFT family and how her life experiences give her a unique empathy towards other refugees.

Watch the film here: <https://bit.ly/49ipAbr>

Mel's weekly round-up: Our Patients

This week we're sharing another big step on our Trust's journey to digital transformation: safe, reliable, efficient, and secure digital patient consent – bringing many benefits for both patients and clinical colleagues.

We hear from Consultant Anaesthetist Chris Bull, who is now championing digital consent in our Trust, about how we've been trialling a new way for patients to give their permission for an operation or procedure.

Bradford is one of only a handful of NHS trusts in England which is pioneering this innovation and we're now rolling it out through several services at our hospitals, so it will eventually be available to everyone.

Improving our consent process means we will meet national standards for obtaining patients' consent as well as supporting patient decision-making about their treatment.

Watch the film here: <https://bit.ly/3QSjvv5>

Let's Talk with Mel podcast – Dear Erica

This month's Let's Talk with Mel podcast is a great conversation with Nurse Bank Line Manager, Erica Jackson – or 'Dear Erica' as we have come to know her.

Erica and her team look after hundreds of bank and agency staff here at the Trust. They ensure our shifts are filled with nurses, healthcare assistants (HCAs), midwives and operating department practitioners who support our wards and departments as we deliver acute services to the people of Bradford and beyond.

In order to make bank and agency staff truly feel part of our BTHFT family and give them a greater voice, Erica created the initiative 'Dear Erica', which has become hugely successful and is just about to celebrate its second birthday.

The 'Dear Erica' postbox and the 'Dear Erica' Facebook page enables bank and agency staff to leave comments, book shifts and engage with teams and wards they are supporting.

Tune in to see how this innovative project – which has gained recognition from NHS England – has created a real community across our Trust.

Here's the podcast link: <https://bit.ly/3ui2Fqh>

Mel's weekly round-up – monthly round-up for November

It's been another busy month here at the Trust, where we've been lucky to hear the stories of both our people and patients alike.

We kicked off November by meeting Kismat Ara, one of our paediatric nurses and a Rohingya refugee who came to Bradford with her family in 2009, who's taking part in a UN Refugee Agency project documenting the stories of refugees across the UK.

We also heard about our commitment to using digital technology to improve the experiences of both patients and clinicians as we introduce a new digital patient consent process.

Finally, on our podcast this month, Mel sat down with Nurse Bank Team Leader, Erica Jackson, to hear all about Dear Erica, the initiative she founded to engage our team of invaluable bank and agency staff.

Catch up with November's news here: <https://bit.ly/3uoCkx4>

NEW!! Your November 23 quarterly briefing from the Council of Governors

Key items discussed at our last (open and closed) council meetings

You can watch the full open meeting held on 9th November on-line – it was held virtually and is available [here](#). The annotated agenda with the video timings for items discussed is available [here](#). Key items covered included:

- A summary of the discussion that took place at the governor and non-executive director pre-meeting held earlier in the day.
- The former chair's resignation.
- Mel Pickup's CEO Report - covering key activity since the last report covering our Patients, People, Partners and Place.
- Disciplinary policy briefing from the Interim Director of HR, Faeem Lal.
- An update on the [Bradford Hospitals Charity](#) from the Charity Director, Sharon Milner.
- Governors' nominations & remuneration committee (NRC) report.
- The annual report from Deloitte, our external auditor, for 2022/23.

Items considered by our Council at our 'closed' Council of Governors meeting

- New Non-Executive Director (NED) appointments: The council had previously approved (on 23 October) the appointment of two new non-executive directors as recommended by the governors' nominations and remuneration committee (NRC). They will replace two of our current board members - Jon Prashar, and Barrie Senior (chair of the audit committee). Once the start dates of our new non-executives have been confirmed (following completion of their pre-appointment checks), their appointments will be published.



Barrie Senior, Non-Executive Director (Audit Committee Chair)

Jon Prashar, Non-Executive Director

- Interim Chair appointment: On 6 November our council approved the appointment of Helen Hirst as interim chair of our trust. Helen's appointment runs from 7 November 2023 to 31 March 2024, or until a new substantive chair begins in post.



Helen Hirst, Interim Chair

- Chair Appointment process: Our council also approved the recommendation from our governors' NRC to begin a search for the appointment of a new substantive chair. The governors NRC is now working with the trust on the different stages required to support the appointment.

We have now launched the search for our new BTHFT chair. The press release containing details of the appointment is available [here](#) and includes the link through to our microsite promoting the role [here](#). If you are aware of anyone who may be interested in the role please share this information with them. The closing date for applications is 5 January 2024.

Annual Members Meeting / Annual General Meeting (AGM/AMM)

Our AGM/AMM took place on Wednesday 15 November – it was great to see all those who came along! This was accompanied by a showcase event immediately before the AGM/AMM. Following on from the formalities we heard from our special guest speaker, Terri Saunderson, Director of Operations, who shared progress in relation to the trust's virtual ward programme – known as 'Virtual Royal Infirmary'.

We recorded the event so if you did not manage to come along on the night you can visit the trust's website to watch it – this will be available shortly. You can also access all the presentations and other videos shown on the night, and view the annual report and accounts on our trust website [here](#).

Upcoming elections for governor vacancies on our council of governors

A governor term lasts for three years. In early February 2024 we will be launching our next call for nominations to a number of governor seats. The six upcoming governor vacancies cover the following areas and categories:

- Bradford South
- Bradford West
- Bradford East
- Keighley
- Patient (*anyone who has received treatment from our Trust but who lives outside of the Bradford District*)
- 'Rest of England and Wales' (*anyone who lives outside of our Bradford District who has an interest in the work of our Trust*)

Dedicated communications will go out nearer the time to support the elections however, in the meantime, a useful 'go to' for information on the work of our governors is our summary annual report for 22/23 which is available [here](#). If you know of anyone who might be interested in any of the governor vacancies above then please share this information with them.

Your Membership Data

Your Membership Data – Membership Portal

You have control of the data we hold on you!

Here you can create your own log in and keep your own information up to date:

<https://secure.membra.co.uk/memberportal/bradfordteaching/>

You can also update your profile information and in particular let us know if you have any special requirements that we should take account of.

Regards

Membership Office

To unsubscribe click [here](#).



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

Email: membership@bthft.nhs.uk

Or keep up to date with news:

Twitter: [@BTHFT](https://twitter.com/BTHFT)

Facebook: [@BradfordHospitals](#)

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