

August 2021

# NEWSLETTER #17



Community Hospitals Association

## ***“Community Hospitals are fantastic!”***

These are the words of Evelyn Prodger, the lead for Quality Improvement for the CHA as we celebrate the role of community hospitals across the UK. Evelyn leads the project group on the CHA Q Exchange study on the role of community hospitals during Covid-19. Staff from 9 organisations have already been interviewed by the group, and there are many more planned. Staff are talking to us about their perception and significant experiences so there is much to share and learn.

If you would like your hospital and organisation to participate in this important study, please contact us. We would welcome an opportunity to talk to you about your experiences, and to work with you to share the learning across the UK. It is clear that community hospitals have a valuable role to play in local health and care service provision. You can find out more about the project on our website.

Please get in touch. [infocommunityhospitals@gmail.com](mailto:infocommunityhospitals@gmail.com)

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## **Welcome**

Welcome to our Newsletter #17, lots of updates and great learning to share and award presentation news to celebrate.

### **Website:**

<http://www.communityhospitals.org.uk/>

**Twitter: @CommHospUK**

**Linkedin: Community Hospitals Association**

**Facebook: Community Hospitals Association**

## Heather Penwarden BEM

We are really fortunate to have Heather Penwarden as Chair of our Advisory Group for the CHA Q Exchange Study. Heather has such a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion for Community Hospitals and we are looking forward to her leadership of this group. Among Heather's many commitments are her role as Chairman of Honiton Hospital League of Friends, Founding Chairman of Honiton Memory Cafe and also Chairman Honiton Dementia Action Alliance. Heather is a member of the Q community, and has written:

*"I am passionate about community driven health and wellbeing initiatives and have developed a culture of "community conversations" locally to enable people from all sections of our community to have a "voice" on the health and community issues that matter to them most."*

<https://q.health.org.uk/community/directory/heatherpenwarden/>

## Q Community Hospital Special Interest Group – 9<sup>th</sup> Sept Forum

<https://q.health.org.uk/community/groups/community-hospitals/>

Do join our Special Interest Group for community hospitals on the Q community. You will have an opportunity to have news and discussion on community hospitals. You will also see updates on our study and what we are learning as we go along. We also have a Forum planned for Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept at 5pm-6pm – please save the date. Some of our Project Team have written blogs on their improvement journeys which you are also welcome to read.

**Evelyn Prodger:** <https://q.health.org.uk/blog-post/my-improvement-journey-evelyn-prodger/>

**Helen Tucker:** <https://q.health.org.uk/blog-post/my-improvement-journey-dr-helen-tucker/>

## Expanding our research team for the Q Study

The CHA is delighted to be working with "Just Ideas" an organisation that supports charities, public sector organisations and businesses working towards positive social or organisational change and environmental justice.

*"We believe in supporting people to realise their power and voice. We value connecting people so they can create positive change locally and globally."*

The team are Helen Garforth, Leila Baker, Mary Singleton-White and Charlotte Pace. The team will be carrying out interviews, analysing data, helping to develop themes helping design dissemination and supporting the study overall. It is good to be working with them and we know that they will enhance the study and its findings.

## Distinctive Qualities of Care Provided by Community Hospitals

The research team at Birmingham University has published a paper on patient experience in community hospitals, offering new evidence on the value of community hospitals. The authors consider 4 dimensions of patient experience – functional, relational, social and psychological. Among the findings, the study reported high levels of personalised care in community hospitals. The study also

suggests that importance of additional social and psychological aspects of patient experience such as having friends and family close. Overall, the study records that the majority of patients and carers placed a high overall value on the distinctive qualities of care provided by community hospitals.

<http://www.communityhospitals.org.uk/birmingham-progress-report.html>

*Davidson, D., Williams, I., Glasby J. (2021) "Localism and Intimacy, and... Other Rather Imponderable Reasons of That Sort": A Qualitative Study of Patient Experience in Community Hospitals in England. A pre-print.*

June 2021 DOI: 10.21203/rs.3.rs-583651/v1

## **CHA Awards for Innovation and Best Practice**

The CHA committee was delighted to have an opportunity to present awards to staff in community hospitals in person. Each event was inspiring and uplifting, and it was great to finally get to congratulate staff who had achieved their awards. The awards were given by: Evelyn Prodger, Jennie Prodger, Trish Jay, Richard Hallett and David Seamark. Congratulations to staff in Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Cornwall and Sussex. Please go to our awards page to read more about the stunning achievements of staff in community hospitals.

<http://www.communityhospitals.org.uk/innovations-best-practice-programme.html>



***'Creating with Care' – Witney Community Hospital – Witney were the recipients of an original painting of Witney Hospital by our patron Roy Lilley which he completed as part of our 50 year celebration***

***'Communication team and staff support through the repurposing of Tewkesbury Hospital's Abbey View Ward'***



***'Training multi-professional staff at pace during the pandemic across community hospitals' – Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust***



***'Creating a team canvas' - Cambourne and Redruth Community Hospital***

## News of Community Hospitals

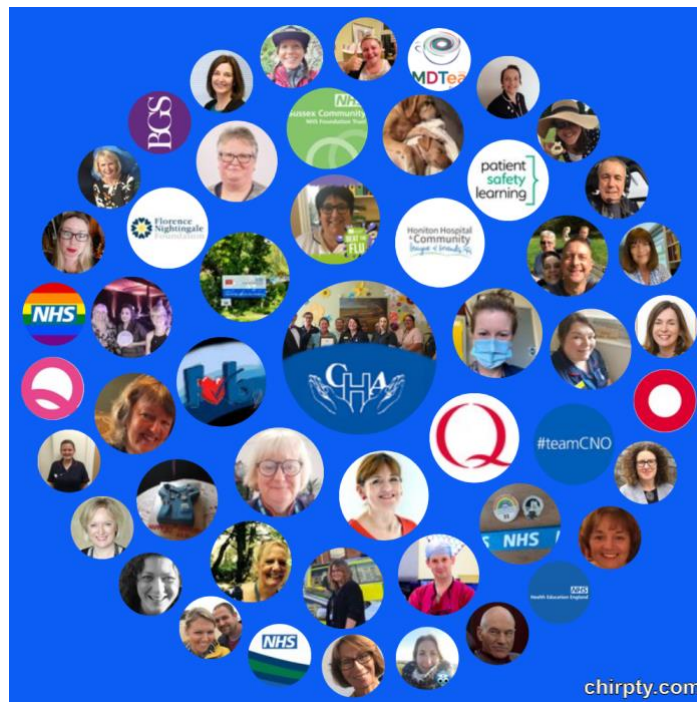
The CHA keeps in touch with what is happening in community hospitals around the UK by talking to our members, activating our network and forum, following news stories and making full use of social media. Recent stories include the changes to the Minor Injuries Unit in Whitby Community Hospital to an Urgent Care Centre, the expansion of Saffron Walden Hospital as GPs move into a new healthcare hub on site, and the review of Ellen Badger Hospital and Stratford Community Hospital in Warwickshire.

Send us your stories. Also please follow us on twitter and please do read our news page <http://www.communityhospitals.org.uk/news.html>

## A CHA Twitter Storm

The CHA has over 1,300 followers and sent out nearly 100 tweets last month, with the number of tweet impressions being recorded at 73k. We continue to try and reach the staff working in all of the 500 community hospitals across the UK, as well as those patients and communities involved in their community hospitals. Do follow us and contribute to our discussions and news on community hospitals.

We love seeing who we interact with (see if you can spot yourself!):



Twitter: @CommHospUK

LinkedIn: Community Hospitals Association

Facebook: Community Hospitals Association

## **Join the CHA – Our Ever Expanding Network!**

Our membership is increasing, which is welcome, and we want to extend our UK-wide network as far as possible, and promote the valued work of community hospitals. Do consider joining the CHA if you have not already done so.

We offer free personal lifetime membership at the moment, in celebration of 50 years of the CHA. So it is a good chance to take up this opportunity.

Organisations such as Trusts and Leagues of Friends are very welcome to join – their contributions are invaluable.

Details are on our website. <http://www.communityhospitals.org.uk/joining-cha-membership.html>