

News on Community Hospitals 2019

Uckfield Community Hospital benefits from new XRay

The League of Friends of Uckfield Community Hospital have donated XRay equipment costing £184k for the benefit of patients. The Chairman of the League of Friends said "So many things have been bought over the years to make the hospital the wonderful place it is." [Read more](#)

Southwold Hospital

The community of Southwold have been working hard to give their community hospital building a future, since it was closed a few years ago. Now the organisations involved in designing a redevelopment that provides a community centre and housing on the site has won an award for the best community rural partnership. [Read more](#)

102 extra hospital beds to prepare for winter crisis in North Staffordshire

There are emergency steps being taken to create additional capacity in the acute wards for the anticipated need over the next few months. This is an area where community hospital beds have been closed. There are plans to put in additional medical support to Haywood community hospital, to help avoid any patients returning to the acute hospital. [Read more](#)

Royston Hospital

A consultation on the future of Royston community hospital has just been launched. There is support for the hospital building to be converted to become a health and social care hub. There is also a proposal for a care home on site offering NHS beds.

New Community Hospital for the Forest of Dean

Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust has announced that the new £11 million community hospital will be built on greenfield land in the north of Cinderford. The trust said it plans to buy the land off Cinderford Town Council. Last year, a citizen's jury made up of members of the public, recommended the location of the new hospital be Cinderford. The new hospital will replace the Dilke Hospital in Cinderford, and the Lydney Hospital. The new hospital is scheduled to open in 2022. [Read more](#)

Saffron Walden Community Hospital CQC Report

The Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT) which looks after the Saffron Walden Community Hospital was inspected by regulator the Care Quality Commission (CQC) between July 29 and August 22 and was rated 'good' overall. It was rated '**outstanding**' for being caring. [Read more](#)

Scotter Ward, John Coupland Hospital breaks all records by being the first community hospital to win 3 CHA I&BP Awards in one year.

Suzanne Jones and Helen Tucker presented the awards on behalf of the CHA on 20th September. Helen Tucker said "*This is an exceptional performance and the awards are*

very well deserved." Donna Phillips, Clinical Team Lead on Scotter Ward said: "We are overwhelmed to win not one but three CHA Innovation and Best Practice Awards. *"It's great that the hard work of the staff has been recognised on a national platform and I am extremely proud of what we do, here on Scotter Ward."* Staff received an award for their support sessions as a new way of supporting staff. They run support sessions which include, clinical supervision, mandatory training and provides a forum to feedback and discuss updates from the clinical systems staff use. These sessions are more efficient for all involved and save precious time.

Another award was for bereavement packs for families following the death of their loved ones. Staff on the wards make bereavement sleeves with a small gift in side for relatives that house leaflets relatives need following a patient's death. Scotter Ward staff also have an award for their use of social media to increase the profile of the ward in the wider community, demonstrating a vision to embrace different ways of staff and public engagement, share good news, benchmark good practice and show how they support staff and patients through education.

James Parry Speaking at Swaffham Community Hospital Fundraising Event

Swaffham Community Hospital League of Friends invited well-known author James Parry to talk about his latest book for an evening of fundraising. James gave a fascinating talk about his research into Emma Turner, a pioneering bird photographer. Colin Houghton, the Chairman of the League of Friends, said that the event raised £155 and that he was delighted with the interest and support. Dr Helen Tucker, President of the CHA who attended the event, said that it was a highly successful evening and that it was encouraging to talk to staff and hear about how well the hospital is doing, and their appreciation of the support from the League of Friends.

Rothbury Community Hospital Beds to Re-Open

The Save Rothbury Community Hospital campaign has been successful in challenging the decision to close the 12 bed ward in Rothbury Community Hospital. The decision was referred by the Council to the Secretary of State, who responded by requiring more engagement with local people. This has been carried out, and there is now a proposal to re-open the beds next year, using an innovative integrated staffing model. *"Sincere thanks go to the Northumbria NHS Healthcare Trust and the Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group for coming together to develop an innovative, ground-breaking, excellent proposal for the future of our Community Hospital. Particular thanks to Helen Ray for developing the plan."*Katie ScottCo-ordinator, Save Rothbury Community Hospital Campaign and also a CHA committee member. **[Read more](#)**

North Walsham War Memorial Hospital Celebrates 100 Years of Service

The League of Friends commemorated the day that the first stone was laid with a re-enactment of the event. The hospital continues to benefit from the generosity of local people. The hospital building was rebuilt in 2011, and continues to provide a valuable local service to local people. **[Read more](#)**

The number of beds in Wales' hospitals is the lowest it has ever been

The average number of daily available beds in Welsh NHS hospitals has declined by almost a third since the figures were first compiled in 1996-97. Plaid Cymru health spokeswoman Helen Mary Jones claims there has been a "deliberate policy" of cutting beds. She said: "The main problem has been closing community hospital beds that provided a useful intermediate service this results in bed occupancy in acute hospitals becoming longer than it should be. [Read more](#)

Staffordshire MP calls on Boris Johnson to back community hospital campaign

Karen Bradley raised the issue of closure-threatened Leek Moorlands Hospital during PMQs. Karen Bradley said: "*Many of us in this House will know the values of community hospitals in our constituencies, none more so than the Leek Moorlands Hospital in my constituency. There's recently been a consultation on provision of healthcare in North Staffordshire and there's understandable concern about the future of Leek Moorlands.*" [Read more](#)

Consultation Morpeth Hospital

Campaigners will have to wait until November to discover future of Morpeth hospital unit. The unit, which delivers specialist rehabilitation, mainly for frail older patients, moved to an interim base in Ward 8 at Ashington's Wansbeck General Hospital on December 19 last year. In the meantime, health chiefs are going to carry out a programme of public engagement and independent research this week and next 'to understand in more detail the views of the local population'. [Read more](#)

Recruitment Campaign

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to recruit staff to work in Herefordshire's hospitals. Wye Valley NHS Trust will host a series of open days to recruit qualified nurses, community nurses, and clinical support staff to work at the county's three community hospitals, Ross, Bromyard and Leominster, or in the district nursing teams across Herefordshire. [Read more](#)

Health chiefs set to approve plans to cut beds at Ilkeston hospital

There had once been more than 40 beds at the hospital but now Health chiefs are set to approve plans to cut the number of beds at [Ilkeston Community Hospital](#) to just 16. Health commissioners say that, while hospital beds will be cut, these reductions will be balanced out by increases in nursing home beds and in-home care. [Read more](#)

Plans for care village in Peterhead move forward

Plans to create a special "care village" in Peterhead, including a 60-bed care home and eight supported accommodation units, have taken a step forward in Aberdeenshire. The board agreed to progress with a full list of recommendations, which includes relocating the inpatient service at Ugie Hospital to the Summers Ward at Peterhead Community Hospital. "*Moving the inpatient service delivered from Ugie to Peterhead Community Hospital will ensure that we can continue to deliver the high-quality service that we currently do, but from a more modern base and without us splitting our precious staff resource across two sites.*" [Read more](#)

Royal Surrey governors join fight to save Haslemere Hospital minor injuries unit

OBJECTORS battling the threatened closure of Haslemere Hospital's minor injuries unit now have some impressive support from governors of the Royal Surrey County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Governors have urged fellow supporters to join them in responding to the consultation by calling for the service to be upgraded to meet the new NHS guidelines – rather than being axed. Haslemere League of Friends is also calling for the “vital” service to be upgraded in its response to the consultation. [Read more](#)

No deal Brexit will have a “catastrophic” impact on the NHS, BMA warns

A series of articles warning of the potential impact on health and healthcare. [Read more](#) [Read more](#)

Suffolk's All Hallows Healthcare Trust to close

A health trust that can trace its roots back nearly 150 years is to close with the loss of 280 jobs. All Hallows Healthcare Trust said financial difficulties were behind the decision made “with enormous sadness”. The private trust cares for more than 250 people every day from its sites in Lowestoft in Suffolk and Ditchingham in Norfolk.

A spokeswoman said trustees “accept it is now impossible to balance income and costs on an ongoing basis”. *“We cannot see a way to remain open as reserves are running out,”* she added. All Hallows runs a 30-bed hospital, a 50-bed nursing home, a home care services and daycare at the hospital. The CHA was represented at a public meeting by Chris Humphris, who raised questions about the reasons behind the funding levels, and also proposed a local community group be established to work with commissioners to try and safeguard local health and social care services. [Read more](#)

CHA Supports Community Voice in North Staffs on Community Hospitals

The community made sure that their voice was heard at a CCG public meeting in Leek Moorlands, where the CCG plans to significantly reduce community hospital beds across North Staffordshire were discussed. The CHA was represented through Chris Humphris, who raised important questions on the rationale for the proposed permanent reduction. Chris was interviewed by the local radio, and you can hear this by following [this link](#). Just scroll down to interview 5, and you can hear how the CHA contributes to local issues and supports communities to have a voice regarding their future health and care services.