



# NEWSLETTER #32

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Nov 2024

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## CHA CONFERENCE 2024

We had an amazing conference. Thank you to everyone who took part. The feedback has been very positive, and we have had lots of suggestions for next years conference.



DELEGATES AT THIS YEAR'S EVENT.

INNOVATION & BEST PRACTICE AWARD WINNERS 2024

CHA SIG CONVENORS WITH TARNIA MASON, Q

The conference attracted people from across the UK and beyond who were involved in community hospitals in many ways. Users and supporters of community hospitals who attended included patients, community representatives, members of Leagues of Friends and Councillors. Those working in community hospitals included medical, nursing, AHPs and any more. We also attracted Senior Management such as Directors and Clinical Leads. Included in our conference were Non-Executive Directors and Trustees as well as academics. This gives just a brief overview of the mix of delegates, which contributed to the value of the networking and created such lively sessions in our workshops.



NHS BENCHMARKING WORKSHOP

DR CHRISTINE BURT, CHART

BETH BANFIELD & TARNIA MASON, Q

DR STEPH HAYDON'S WORKSHOP

ELLEN RULE, GHC PLENARY TALK

JAN MARRIOTT & DR ALASTAIR NOBLE.



DELEGATE FEEDBACK - OCT 2024

Delegates particularly commented on the structure, which combined plenary talks with a wide choice of workshops. The most frequently recorded word in the feedback was networking – the positive atmosphere, the buzz in the room and time to network. The CHA organising committee were delighted with how the event went for our 140 delegates. A special mention to our CHA Development Manager, Eleanor Murphy, who managed the event brilliantly.

Do read all about our event on our [conference page](#). You will find details of speakers, presentations, information on our event partners, our conference programme and brochure and many other resources. We will be sharing recordings of plenary sessions in the future.



Thank you to the team at the Q Community for their encouragement and support.



## Community Hospitals & Integrated Care Internationally

**FREE WEBINAR 27TH NOV 4PM-5.30PM**

You are very welcome to join us at our webinar 'Community Hospitals; Integrated Care Matter - Care at Home' where we will hear speakers from Japan, Italy and Sweden.



This event is the first for our new internetwork for those in community hospitals internationally, and this will be within the Intermediate Care Special Interest Group of the International Foundation of Integrated Care. This group is hosted by Professor Anne Hendry and Dr Helen Tucker and sits within IFIC Scotland. To join follow [this link](#).

## INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATED CARE CONFERENCE IN LISBON PORTUGAL 14-16 MAY 2025 "SYNERGISING HEALTH AND CARE: LEVERAGING INTEGRATED CARE FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE"



This conference will include a session on Community Hospitals Internationally, run by Anne Hendry (IFIC Scotland) and Dr David Seamark (CHA). CHA members are offered a 10% discount on registration fees. IFIC CONFERENCE INFO HERE WITH 10% IF CHA MEMBER.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

A call for Papers for the conference is open until Friday 15th November with an invitation for 500 word paper submissions on research, policy, practice or education. More details on our [website here](#)



## Innovations and Best Practice Awards



This year the CHA invited CHA members to submit posters that summarised their innovation and best practice, and we were pleased to say that we received 10 submissions. Following shortlisting and interviewing, Julia Fairhall and her panel of CHA committee members decided to give 3 awards – and an additional special Green Award. Congratulations to those who won awards. Julia gave these awards at the Conference Dinner, and we were able to celebrate their success.



**AMI COOK & DEBBIE POULSTON,**  
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS AT PAULTON & BATH  
COMMUNITY HOSPITALS,  
HCRG CARE GROUP.  
"CUBII SEATED EXERCISE PROJECT"

**JOHANNA BARNES,**  
ACP, CATU AT TEWKESBURY  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE HCFT  
"DELIRIUM POSTER"

**LUCY SOMERVILLE,**  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NURSE  
BRIGHTON GENERAL HOSPITAL, SCFT.  
"INNOVATION IN HEALTHCARE  
SUPPORT WORKER (HCSW)  
PRECEPTORSHIP & DEVELOPMENT"

**GREEN INITIATIVE WINNER**  
**MELISSA MESSENGER & PETER HARVEY**  
FROME COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,  
SOMERSET NHS FOUNDATION TRUST  
"EARTHLY IDEAS - FROME ACHIEVEMENTS"

READ MORE ABOUT THE AWARD WINNERS AND THEIR POSTERS HERE ON OUR [WEBSITE](#).

*'The national voice for Community Hospitals'*

## Doctors from Japan visit Community Hospitals in Gloucestershire



We were pleased to be approached by Doctors in Japan who wanted to visit some of our community hospitals. Thankfully, Gloucestershire Health and Care Trust was pleased to host this study visit and arranged for them to visit Tewkesbury Community Hospital and North Cotswolds Community Hospital. Hannah Williams DiPC Deputy Director Nursing, Therapies and Quality and Jan Marriott, Non-Executive Director were among the senior Trust staff to greet them, and arranged for hospital managers to take them on a tour of the facilities and give them an opportunity to talk to staff

directly. Staff had rehearsed the Japanese word for hello and welcome which was appreciated.

Drs Honda, Osugi and Yoshida were impressed with the hospitals and drew comparisons to Kaita hospital where they work. Dr Honda has set up an Association of Community Hospitals for the 20 community hospitals in Japan. Dr Honda and colleagues make the case for "small is beautiful" and have compiled a fascinating report with photographs that is available to [download](#) here. [More details here](#) and on our [website](#). Read more about the CHA's [international connections here](#).

## CHA has New President

We are delighted to announce that Dr David Seamark is taking the office of President of the CHA. David has been a part of the CHA for over 30 years, and more recently holds the position as one of three Directors. David (with his wife Clare) has worked in general practice and Honiton community hospital in Devon. David has also had a parallel research career and a major area of interest has been end of life and palliative care in the community. David has worked with Birmingham University on a study looking the role and community importance of community hospitals. David has retired as a GP partner but still works as a locum. David continues to pursue research interests and has published papers that have made a significant contribution to the evidence-base on community hospitals. David is an asset to the CHA, and contributes enormously through his extensive knowledge and experience.



DR DAVID SEAMARK, CHA PRESIDENT

## Welcome to New Committee Member and National Lead for Wales



NEW CHA COMMITTEE MEMBER NIKKI WOODLAND WITH DR HELEN TUCKER AT THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE.

### NIKKI WOODLAND, CHA COMMITTEE MEMBER

Nikki is Head of Clinical Quality for the Bedded/Inpatient Units for Sirona care & health across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. Nikki has worked in community hospitals for over 15 years, and believes passionately that community hospitals play a significant role in the delivery of health and care services and ensuring that those in our care can remain as close to home as possible.

We are so pleased that Nikki is returning to the committee after a break. We know we will benefit from her enthusiasm and knowledge and her commitment to promote best practice across community hospitals.

### DAVID FARNSWORTH - NEW CHA NATIONAL LEAD FOR WALES

We are delighted to welcome David as the new National Lead for Wales.

David is an experienced NHS nurse with over 35 years of service. He has held diverse roles, including in mental health, emergency care, and quality/safety leadership and for the past 9 years, his focus has been on delivering community healthcare, including managing a network of community hospitals. As Assistant Director of Community Services at Powys Teaching Health Board, David is eager to collaborate with the CHA to support the future development of these vital local services. The CHA wishes to thank David's predecessor Tom Brooks for his dedication and work in raising the profile of community hospitals in Wales. Tom will continue his work as CHA Wales Associate.

[Read more about the CHA committee here.](#)



## CHA Collaborations - updates from Dr Kirsty Protherough



### CHA Continues Collaboration with End of Life Coalition

The CHA continues its partnership with the [Coalition of Frontline Care for People Nearing the End of Life](#), working alongside organisations such as Care England, the British Geriatrics Society, and The Gold Standards Framework Centre. The coalition advocates for enhanced end-of-life care training for the UK's three million frontline healthcare workers.



In their 2023 open letter to health ministers, they emphasised the need for integrated end-of-life care planning through new Integrated Care Boards and increased CQC focus on end-of-life care. A notable success story includes four Cornwall Community Hospital wards recently receiving GSF accreditation for excellent end-of-life care delivery.

With an aging population, the CHA and its partners view this as an opportunity to make end-of-life care knowledge fundamental to frontline training. This approach aims to reduce acute hospital pressure, improve patient outcomes, and enable more people to receive care in community settings.

[Read more here](#) and read Kirsty's full article [here on the CHA website](#).

### The CHA and NHS Benchmarking



The CHA is continuing its valuable partnership with [NHS Benchmarking](#) to enhance the understanding and data quality of intermediate care services. Community hospitals, which provide over three-quarters of bed-based intermediate care services, play a crucial role in supporting patient recovery, rehabilitation and transitions from acute care settings. However, collecting and analysing comprehensive data from these facilities has historically proven challenging.

A significant event is scheduled on **Tuesday 17th December (2 - 4PM)** to review and discuss new findings and insights in intermediate care. The

CHA is committed to ensuring that data accurately reflects the essential services provided by community hospitals, particularly their unique value in integrating care across different settings and supporting discharge processes.

The CHA actively seeks input from members and hospital representatives to help shape future data collection methods and project development. This collaboration with NHS Benchmarking represents an important step towards making community hospital services more visible and measurable within the broader healthcare system.

Those interested in attending the event, speaking, or contributing ideas for project development are encouraged to contact the CHA. Together, we can advance the effectiveness of community hospitals through robust data collection and analysis.

For further involvement in project scoping or to discuss ideas on how CHA can support data collection efforts in community hospitals, please feel free to get in touch with [info@communityhospitals.net](mailto:info@communityhospitals.net)

[Read the full article here on the CHA website](#).

## CHA now has a YouTube Channel - @CommHospUK



Do visit [our dedicated YouTube Channel](#) to view presentations and discussions on a range of topics relevant to community hospitals. Our YouTube Channel will also feature sessions from our conference in October.

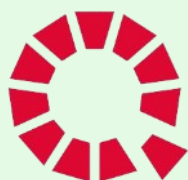
Topics include: [Frailty](#), [Parkinson's medication](#), [Would care](#), [End PJ Paralysis](#), [Volunteering & Fundraising](#), [Pharmacy and medicines management](#), [Research](#), [Health Support Workers](#), [Joy in Work](#).

Also, do [visit our website](#) for videos on a number of community hospitals, which helps give an insight to what they offer to their local communities.

Videos include: Nairn Town and County Hospital, Rye Hospital, Victoria Hospital Wimborne, Abingdon Community Hospital, Whitney Community Hospital, Alton Community Hospital, Tewkesbury Hospital and West Berkshire Community Hospital.



## Join us in the Q Community - Promoting Community Hospitals



The CHA hosts a Special Interest Group within the Q Community - for all those interested in joining a network with a focus on Community Hospitals and Quality Improvement.



JOIN THE CHA SIG

We create opportunities for SIG members to join together, such as in discussion groups and events. It is an exciting and growing network. If you are not already a member - we would love you to join! The SIG is open to all - you can join as a Q members and also as a guest member. **Read more here** [Community Hospitals SIG: sharing good practice | Q Community](#)



## News

The [CHA collates news articles](#) on community hospitals from a range of sources such as notifications from our members and from media coverage. Please do send in any news items that you would like us to share with CHA members.

There is news of a new community ward at [John Coupland Hospital](#) in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. The new 17-bed Scotter ward, which includes a palliative care suite and stroke beds, is intended to prevent patient admissions to larger hospitals.



THE NEW SCOTTER WARD AT JOHN COUPLAND HOSPITAL



Patients are now able to access rheumatology care at [Minehead Hospital](#) for the first time this decade, following the return of the specialty's outpatient clinics to the hospital.

In a recent visit to [East Lothian Community Hospital](#), the Scottish Health Secretary Neil Gray praised the "incredibly strong" work at the hospital.

Richard Foord MP for Honiton, Sidmouth and Tiverton, [published his views on the future of healthcare](#), and cited excellent community hospitals across Devon such as in Axminster, Honiton, Ottery St Mary, Seaton and Sidmouth.

There is also news of repairs underway at [Okehampton Community Hospital](#) with support from the local Council, plans being challenged to close [Accrington Victoria Hospital](#), and proposals to [open new community beds](#) in Stoke-on-Trent to help address waiting time issues.



RICHARD FOORD MP AT SEATON HOSPITAL

**WE'D LOVE TO SHARE YOUR NEWS; DO GET IN TOUCH WITH US!**

## Elderly Matters Conference Raffle Winner announced!

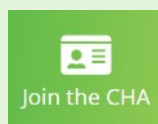


We were joined by Ted Davenport from Elderly Matters at this year's National Conference. Delegates were invited to enter into a raffle to win a bottle of champagne at Ted's stand. This year's winner is Angela Scuotto, Assistant Practitioner/Senior Associate Educator from SCFT. ***Congratulations Angela!***



## Join our Networks

If you are not already a member, you are very welcome to join us.



- ♦ CHA personal [individual lifetime member](#) (free).
- ♦ We also offer [membership to organisations](#) such as NHS Trusts and Leagues of Community Hospital Friends. There is a small fee for this.



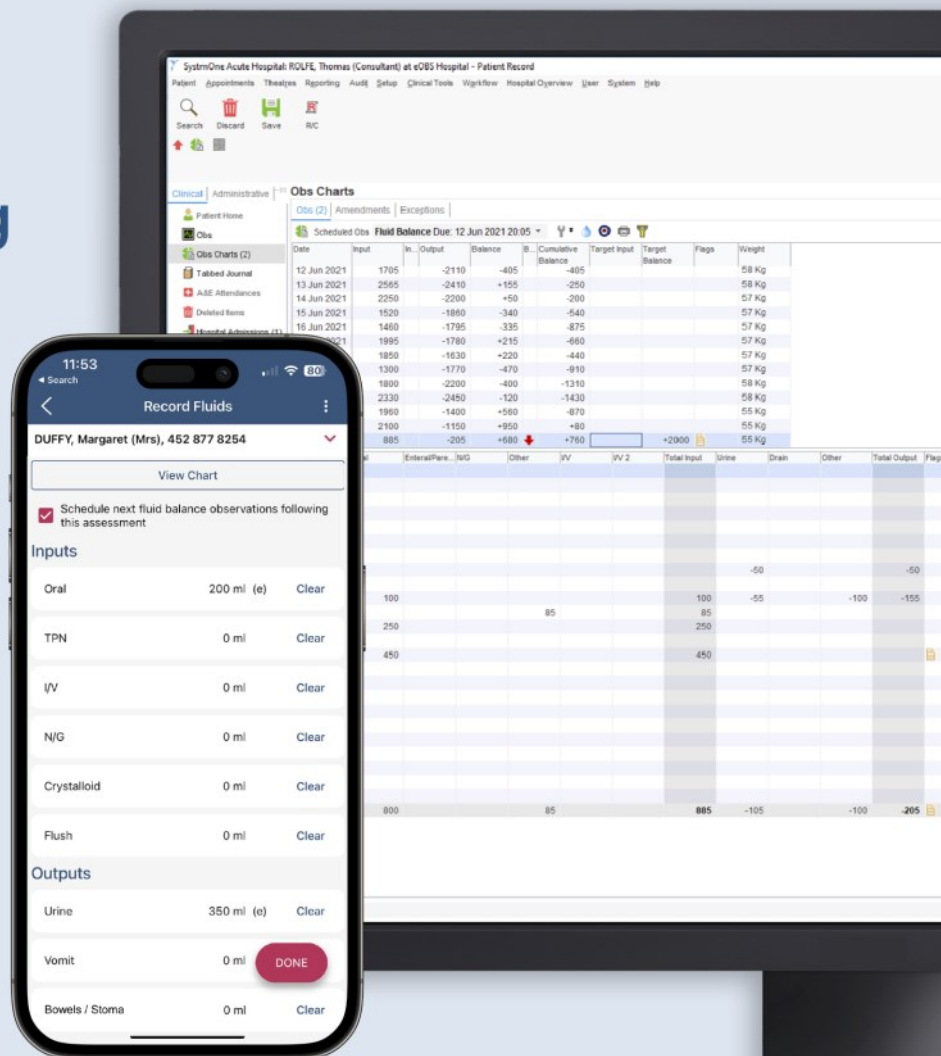
- ♦ You are welcome to join our [Community Hospital Special Interest Group](#) within the Q Community with a focus on Quality Improvement and sharing good practice.

For any enquiries and further information, please contact [eleonor@communityhospitals.net](mailto:eleonor@communityhospitals.net)

# systemone

## Are you capturing Fluid Balance in SystemOne?

You can now capture fluid balance using SystemOne and our complimentary app Brigid



For information on how your Community Hospital can benefit from using SystemOne visit <https://tpp-uk.com/products/hospital/>

Contact us:



[info@communityhospitals.net](mailto:info@communityhospitals.net)



[www.communityhospitals.org.uk](http://www.communityhospitals.org.uk)



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