



NEWSLETTER #30

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FEBRUARY 2024

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Events

CHA National Conference 11th October in Gloucester

“COMMUNITY HOSPITALS: LEADING BEST PRACTICES TODAY, SHAPING TOMORROW’S HEALTHCARE”

We are delighted to announce our CHA national conference which will be held at the Chase Hotel in Brockworth, Gloucester. We have a fascinating programme to offer. We will also have pre-conference activities the day before including optional workshops and an informal networking dinner.



We are grateful to the Health Foundation/Q Community for their support for this important event.

Do join us! Save the date – details to follow.



Q Special Interest Group Discussions



STEFFI BAILEY, SCFT

We continue to host monthly discussion groups for members of our Q SIG, members of the CHA, and those concerned with community hospitals. We have held 15 discussion groups on a wide range of topics including Staffing, Wound care and Frailty.

Our most recent Discussion Group was on [NATIONAL PROGRAMMES IN ACTION IN COMMUNITY HOSPITALS](#). This featured Steffi Bailey speaking about “Ending PJ Paralysis” and "Get it on time: Parkinson's Medication" by Kylie Lock.



KYLIE LOCK,
CORNWALL

Do join us for our next one on the **6th March at 7pm on Zoom "FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERING IN COMMUNITY HOSPITALS"** by Step Haywood, Researcher University of Birmingham.

[Find out more about our SIG Discussions here](#)



CHA Meeting with Chief Nursing Officer Team



Over the past few months, we have been raising the profile of Community Hospitals in England through conversations with the Chief Nursing Officer team.

The two conversations we have had, firstly with the Deputy Chief Nursing Officer and then with the Deputy Director for Primary Care have opened conversations about where Community Hospitals sit within the wider health and care landscape.

We have shared the pioneering work done within Community Hospitals, the leadership of Matrons, the MDT led care, the need for different skills and knowledge needed particularly by Nurses working in isolated areas.

We have discussed the difficulties faced by Community Hospitals in terms of not fitting with NICE guidance published for primary or acute care and the need for a different safer staffing tool that factors in levels of decision making and amount of onsite back up. We have highlighted the work done through COVID, including the CHA study and the Innovation and Best Practice Award winners.



The conversations have been productive and there are quarterly meetings in place throughout 2024.

Publications

Enhancing the care of older people: role of community-hospitals

Two CHA committee members Evelyn Prodger and Sue Greenwood have published an article in the Journal of Community Nursing on Community Hospitals.



“Community hospitals are person-centred in their approach, nurse-led and work in a multidisciplinary way to support people to achieve their goals, maintain independence, and improve health and wellbeing assets.”

Prodger, E., Greenwood S. Enhancing the care of older people: role of community-hospitals JCN2024, Vol 38, No 1

Integrated care in rural, remote or island communities



Dr Anne Hendry has put together a Special Issue of the Journal of Integrated Care on the topic of integrated care in rural, remote or island communities. In her editorial, Dr Hendry stresses the...

“...essential contribution of community hospitals in creating sustainable healthy communities in remote, rural coastal and island settings.”

Dr Helen Tucker CHA committee is one of the co-editors.

Hendry, A., Kurpas, D., Munoz, S.-A. and Tucker, H. (2024), "Guest editorial: Integrated care in rural, remote or island communities", Journal of Integrated Care, Vol. 32 No. 1, pp. 1-5. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JICA-02-2024-096>

[Visit our website to read our published papers](#)

Welcome New Committee Members

We are delighted to welcome two new committee members. Do read all about them on our website [here](#)



JULIE ELLERY is Matron of Tewkesbury Community Hospital and North Cotswolds Community Hospital. Julie has been a long term supporter of the CHA. Julie and her team have won awards in our Innovation and Best Practice Programme.

KATE RIDDLE was until recently Head of Service for the Oxford Health's Community Rehabilitation service. Kate now provides coaching and supporting leadership development to the Trust and continues to be involved in community hospitals. Kate and her team recently won a CHA Innovation and Best Practice Award.



Seachange Devon



SEACHANGE
HEALTH & HAPPINESS FOR ALL



Marc Jobson, the CEO of "Seachange", a community hub which has been developed in the Budleigh Salterton Community Hospital building in Devon was interviewed recently by Helen Tucker of the CHA. Marc shared information on how the Hub has been developed, achievements and challenges.

Seachange has been developed as an intergenerational facility with a wide range of services and facilities including a café, nursery, activities, a gym and so much more. Seachange benefits from 112 volunteers, and the invaluable support of the Budleigh Salterton League of Friends. Seachange runs the biggest community transport scheme in Devon. Do follow the link to [their website](#) which includes all of their activities, the impact of which is shared in "People's Stories." A quote on their website says it all.

“ Seachange is an inspiring and comforting place. It is a real community and I feel proud and privileged to be part of it.”

The CHA is often approached on the topic of converting Community Hospitals (with beds) to Community Hubs, and we are pleased to share information on some of the [models on our website here](#).

Thank you to all who have contributed.

WhatsApp Groups

CHA members are always keen and happy to network, share ideas, problem-solve and support each other. Part of what we do is connect people wanting information, help or support.

Our Chair, Dr Kirsty Protherough has set up a number of WhatsApp groups to help support communication between those working in community hospitals. So far, these include:

- ◆ COMMUNITY HOSPITAL MDT
- ◆ COMMUNITY HOSPITAL MATRON SUPPORT GROUP
- ◆ PHARMACISTS IN COMMUNITY HOSPITALS
- ◆ MIU AND URGENT CARE IN COMMUNITY HOSPITALS
- ◆ MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES COORDINATORS IN COMMUNITY HOSPITALS

Details of [how to join](#) are on our website.



Scan this QR code using the WhatsApp camera to join this community

National Audit of Care at the End of Life

After a year of dedicated work on the NACEL redesign, NHS Benchmarking Network have launched NACEL 2024.



National Audit of Care at the End of Life

The aim of the national data collection is to improve (where needed) the quality of care when somebody dies in an acute and community hospital inpatient setting in England and Wales.



NHS providers of acute and community hospitals, delivering care to adults (18+), should register for the audit via the [NHS Benchmarking Network Members' Area](#). The findings will be shared with healthcare providers and policymakers to identify areas for improvement and implement evidence-based strategies to enhance care quality.

Further information can be found on the brand new NACEL home at www.nacel.nhs.uk



Unveiling the Real Story Behind Community Hospitals

By Dr Kirsten Protherough
Chair & Director of the Community Hospitals Association



Community hospitals are dynamic institutions with a crucial role in delivering healthcare tailored to local needs. Dispelling myths allows for a more nuanced understanding of the multifaceted contributions community hospitals make to the overall well-being of the communities they serve.

In her blog, Kirsty addresses 5 common myths about Community Hospitals:

- MYTH #1: COMMUNITY HOSPITALS OFFER LIMITED SERVICES
- MYTH #2: COMMUNITY HOSPITALS LACK PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE
- MYTH #3: COMMUNITY HOSPITALS ARE ONLY FOR MINOR AILMENTS
- MYTH #4: COMMUNITY HOSPITALS ARE BECOMING OBSOLETE
- MYTH #5: COMMUNITY HOSPITALS LACK CONNECTIVITY WITH LARGER MEDICAL CENTERS



READ KIRSTY'S [BLOG HERE](#)

News

Do follow [this link](#) to our news pages, to catch up with the latest news on community hospitals.



COALVILLE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL.



BISHOP'S CASTLE HOSPITAL

There is good news in Leicestershire, with [Coalville Community Hospital](#) opening a third ward with 15 beds. This is in addition to extra community hospital beds throughout Leicestershire. Good news as well for [Bishop's Castle Hospital](#), where, following a public campaign and recruitment drive, it is hoped that beds are due to reopen.

[Seaton Community Hospital](#) (pictured below left) has been declared a "Community Asset" following attempts to retain the Hospital for the benefit of the community. [Beccles Hospital](#) in Suffolk is celebrating 100 years this month. A Surgical Hub will be based at [St Austell Community Hospital](#) to provide a local service and help waiting list management. Elsewhere, there are planned closures and service pressures. There are proposals to close St Peters Community Hospital in Essex because of the state of the building, and this is out for consultation. There are challenges to the loss of NHS-funded beds which replaced [Townlands Community Hospital](#) beds in Henley, which has been carried out without consultation after being transferred to the Council.



BECCLES HOSPITAL



In Shropshire there are recorded delays such as long delays for patients waiting for a community hospital bed. Dr Bob Liddell, GP in Turriff and for many years a member of the Scottish Association of Community Hospitals, has had a letter published in [The Scotsman](#) commenting on the need for well resourced community hospitals

DO SEND YOUR NEWS STORIES TO US. WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO SHARE THEM.

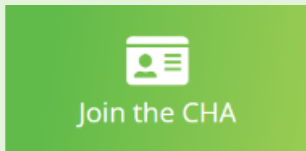
Thank you

Thank you to TPP, who have kindly sponsored our last four newsletters and shared them widely. We appreciate the support.



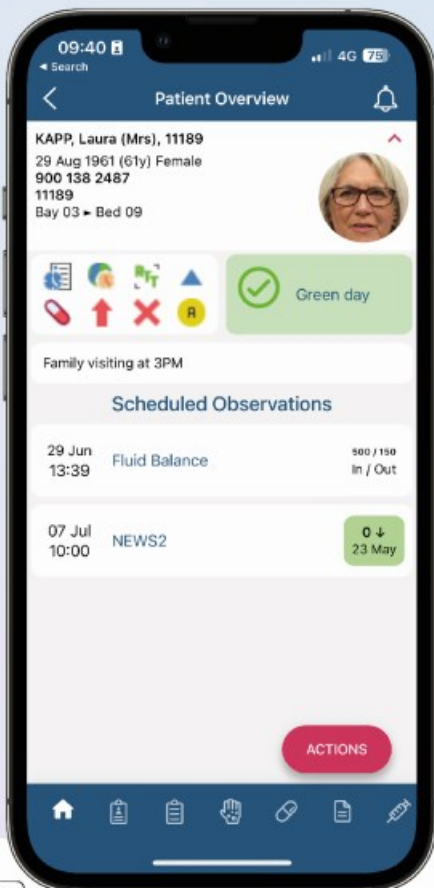
Join our Networks

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 Eleanor Murphy eleanor@communityhospitals.net



Available now at all Community Hospitals using SystemOne

- 📄 Observation charts (incl. NEWS2)
- 📄 Fluid Balance
- 📄 Templates and Questionnaires
- 📄 Full Patient Record Access
- 📄 Tasks
- ☰ and much more...



Patricia Hewitt, Chair of the Norfolk and Waveney ICS with Lisa Ruthven, Unit Manager at Minismere Ward using Brigid at Beccles Hospital



www.tpp-uk.com
[@TPP_SystemOne](https://twitter.com/TPP_SystemOne)

Contact us:

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