

The Women's View



Volunteers' Week 2023

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Welcome

Hello everyone and welcome to our summer edition of The Women's View.

I'd like to start this edition with some big news of my own, I have recently made the difficult decision to retire as CEO of Liverpool Women's.

I reach a milestone age this year and will be retiring to spend more time with my family and friends.

This has been one of the toughest decisions I have ever had to make, but one that I have been thinking about for some time. I've had a wonderfully rewarding career in the NHS, spanning almost 40, and I have been honoured to lead the amazing Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust for the past 15 years.

It has been a great privilege to lead such dedicated clinicians and staff over so many years. I have made so many wonderful memories during my time here and I would like to thank all our staff for your on-going support.

Although I do not retire until the end of the year, for now I would just like to say a huge thank you to all the people who have supported Liverpool Women's over the years. You have also played a great part in making my time here such a special and memorable one, and for that I am truly grateful.

Many thanks,

Kathryn Thomson - Chief Executive



Our volunteers make a huge difference

Volunteers' Week, 1-7 June 2023 marked its 39th year and this year Liverpool Women's recognised and celebrated the contribution volunteers make to the Trust.





We have 147 volunteers here at Liverpool Women's, who over the course of a year have grouped together to give approximately 12,000 hours of their time to help support patients and visitors, and assisted the Trust in providing high-quality, compassionate care.

The contribution of volunteers is often unseen and visible only through the incredible impact of their volunteering, so taking the time during Volunteers' Week to celebrate all their efforts and all they contribute to our hospital has never been more important.

We celebrated our inspiring volunteers, by hosting an afternoon tea on 6 June 2023. They were given awards for long service, certificates of hours and tokens of the Trust's appreciation.



One of our volunteers Michael has volunteered at the Trust for almost 20 years, he works in the post room:

"I collect and deliver the post, I also give directions, it's nice knowing that you've helped a patient or visitor by giving directions and assistance".

Our Executive team gained an insight whilst assisting the volunteers during their shift. Jenny Hannon, Deputy CEO and Chief Finance Officer, said:

"I learned so much assisting our volunteers as patients and visitors attended the Trust. It was really clear how volunteers make such a difference."

Michelle Turner, Chief People Officer said:

"Our volunteers work tirelessly in contributing to deliver services throughout the organisation in a variety of roles. They bring a diverse range of experience, skills and knowledge and they are an amazing group of people who, not only, enjoy making a difference but are essential to improving our patients journey and supporting staff wellbeing."

Gina Barr, Volunteer Service Manager at Liverpool Women's said:

"We are truly blessed to have such a fantastic diverse team of volunteers who are dedicated to enhancing the journey of our patients and their families - we would be lost without them."

Listen to Gina Barr, our Volunteer Services Manager with volunteer Irene talking to Tony Snell on his BBC Radio Merseyside radio show, from 2:20 to 2.33 minutes.

[View here](#)

Gillian Walker, Patient Experience Matron said:

"Gina and the volunteers are dedicated to making a difference for our patients, our babies, our service users and all who support our fantastic workforce. Our volunteers are amazing."

The theme this year was 'Celebrate and Inspire' so If you're interested in volunteering at Liverpool Women's Hospital and would like to learn more about the opportunities available please visit:

www.liverpoolwomens.nhs.uk/opportunities/become-a-volunteer

[View here](#)





The Face of Liverpool Women's

We were beyond excited when one of our staff members was picked to attend the Kings Coronation Royal Garden Party.

Trisha Corfield is the warm welcoming, kind face you see when you enter Liverpool Women's. She fronts our Main Reception desk and has done so since January 2023. She instantly recognises the needs of women and responds accordingly. She personifies the warmth that Liverpool is known for.

We wanted to celebrate Trisha's personal progress at Liverpool Women's by nominating her to attend the Buckingham Palace Royal Garden Party - having worked initially as a domestic, then as our first female porter, Trish went on to land her 'dream job' on Main Reception after 13 years at the Women's.

In celebration of Trish's achievements, we nominated her to attend the Buckingham Palace Royal Garden Party following the coronation of King Charles III and we are delighted to say she was awarded the chance to go.

You can hear all about Trish's wonderful experience by watching this short film.

[View here](#)

Bonding BEFORE BIRTH

Infant Mental Health Awareness Week

Infant Mental Health Week ran between 12–18 June 2023 and this year's theme was 'Bonding Before Birth' focussing on pregnancy, and the first 1001 critical days that can impact a baby's future mental health and wellbeing.

As the Parent-Infant Foundation explains:

"Research shows that the experiences and relationships we have in the earliest years of our lives, including before birth, impact on the development of our brains. Stress and adversity experienced during pregnancy can have a negative impact on babies' physical and mental health in the womb and as they grow up. But this doesn't have to be the case."

Further details on the Parent-Infant Foundation dedicated IMHAW page and on Twitter @First1001Days @ParentInfantFdn

If you would like to know more and find out how you can make a difference in transforming infants' wellbeing and development, have a look at the links below.

Parent-Infant Foundation - www.parentinfantfoundation.org.uk

A new short film explaining why bonding before birth is important.

[View here](#)

Brazelton Centre UK - www.brazelton.co.uk

[View here](#)

BBC Happy Tiny People channel - www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people

[View here](#)

Honeysuckle FC

Introducing Honeysuckle FC, a new initiative aimed at bereaved dads and men who have experienced baby loss.

This wonderful partnership between our Honeysuckle Bereavement Team and the LFC Foundation supports dads and men to share their experiences through sport.

Hear their story online...

[View here](#)



ABSEIL DAYS!

Appeal for abseilers Saturday 8 July 2023

LWH Charity is offering the chance to abseil down the Anglican Cathedral – we have a number of spaces still available.
Email: Fundraising@lwh.nhs.uk and get involved.



Strictly for Liverpool Women's Hospital

Male contestants needed

Saturday 2 December 2023

Following the success of last year's event, we are holding our second strictly come dancing show. We have been overwhelmed with interest, but we are short of male contestants. Would you like to get involved? We guarantee a fantastic experience! Contact fundraising@lwh.nhs.uk to sign up today.