

The Women's View



Trust celebrates NHS75 with Kingsley Community Primary School

Also inside this issue...

- Fear of Childbirth Study - volunteers needed
- NHS 75th Birthday Celebrations
- Merseyside Police commendation for Chief Executive



Welcome

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

It's not been the best start to the summer, I'm sure like many of you it's not what I was hoping for in terms of the weather. But cold, wet, rainy days have not dampened our spirits here at Liverpool Women's! We've still had lots to celebrate and I'm proud of what we achieved in these testing times.

July saw the NHS turn 75, a truly remarkable milestone. The NHS will have touched nearly all our lives in one way or another, treating over a million people in one day this incredible service is responsible for saving many, many lives throughout England.

To help celebrate we invited pupils from Kingsley Community Primary School to participate in a competition to design a birthday card. The competition sparked plenty of interest with over 100 entries received.

The judges had a difficult job in choosing a winner, but I think winning entries are very worthy winners, and I would like to say a special thank you to all the teachers and children at Kingsley Community Primary for all their hard work and effort in helping us celebrate the NHS in all its glory.

You can read more and see the winning designs on pages 3 and 4.

Many thanks,

Kathryn Thomson - Chief Executive

"It's been great to see engagement from our younger generation. I thank the teaching staff and the parents that supported the children to participate in this celebration. We were absolutely delighted to receive over 100 cards, each of which was unique and wonderful in its own way."

Jenny Hannon, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Executive



NHS 75

Local Kingsley Community Primary School help us celebrate 75 years of the NHS

As part of the 75th birthday celebrations we invited pupils from Kingsley Community Primary School to participate in a competition to design a 75th NHS birthday card. The competition sparked plenty of interest with over 100 entries.

NHS 75

Pupils were encouraged to design a card that characterised the various professions within the NHS and the rest was left entirely to their imagination.

As a result each entry was original with displays of bright colours and plenty of creativity. On Wednesday 12 July we visited the school to announce the winners and say thank you. We also talked to the pupils about careers in the NHS. The winning cards and other designs were displayed at Liverpool Women's Hospital.

Congratulations to the four winners:

- Reception - Adyan Sohid
- Year 3 - Abigail Hughes
- Year 5 - Muhammad Ali
- Year 6 - Sarah Mohamood

Jenny Hannon, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Executive said:

"It's been great to see engagement from our younger generation. I thank the teaching staff and the parents that supported the children to participate in this celebration. We were absolutely delighted to receive over 100 cards, each of which was unique and wonderful in its own way."

Michelle Turner, Chief People's Officer said:

"It was an absolute pleasure to visit the school and present the winners with their certificate and voucher. All pupils designed the most outstanding of designs and it was a very difficult decision to choose the winners. We would like to thank the school for making us feel very welcome."

Head Teacher Mrs Whittaker said:

"The children were delighted to be asked to take part in the 75th Birthday card design competition to help celebrate 75 years of the NHS, and it was a pleasure to welcome staff from the hospital who visited to talk about careers within the NHS, thank you to the Liverpool Women's."



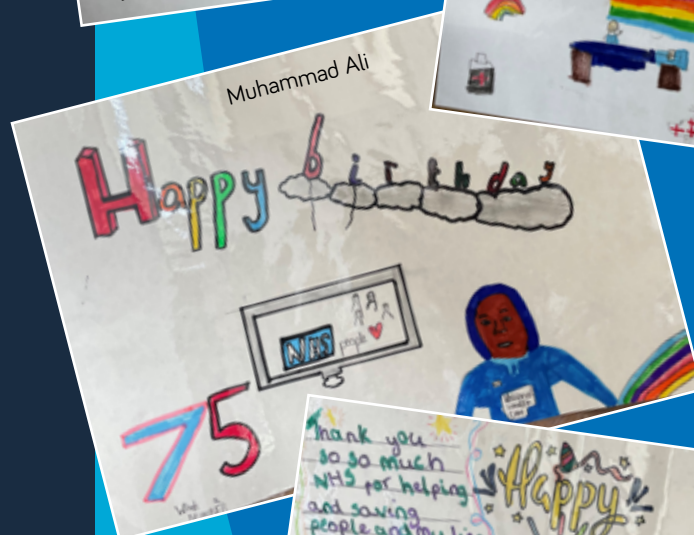
Pictured left to right:
Kingsley Community Primary School winners,
Abigail Hughes, Muhammad Ali and Sarah Mohamood.



Adyan Sohid



Abigail Hughes



Muhammad Ali



Sarah Mohamood

Liverpool Women's Chief Executive receives commendation from Merseyside Police

We are very proud of the Trust's Chief Executive, Kathryn Thomson, who has received a Chief Constable's commendation from Merseyside Police for the significant role she played in the aftermath of the terrorist incident at Liverpool Women's in November 2021.

Kathryn was invited by Merseyside Police to attend an event where she received a commendation for the significant leadership role she played in supporting the police response, whilst maintaining the safety of services and the confidence of patients, staff and the wider community.

Merseyside Police said the comments and feedback received from our communities, our partners and local politicians were overwhelming which was testament to the professionalism and commitment of all who were invited to attend this event.



Kathryn Thomson receiving her Certificate of Commendation from Chief Constable Serena Kennedy.



£6.9M funding to better understand the origins of mental health conditions in Liverpool children

Further funding to enhance the flagship birth cohort study Children Growing Up in Liverpool (C-GULL), which opened this spring, has been announced. The new 'Microbes, Milk, Mental Health and Me' strand, supported by £6.9M funding from the Wellcome Trust, seeks to better understand the early-life origins of mental health conditions.

Poor mental health is a growing public health challenge, particularly exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and yet there is still much to be learned about their early-life origins.

Compelling evidence suggests that gut microbial colonization, strongly influenced by breastmilk, impacts neurodevelopment and mental well-being, but more research is needed to fully understand the underlying mechanisms.

[View here](#)



Fear of childbirth study (Focus 2)

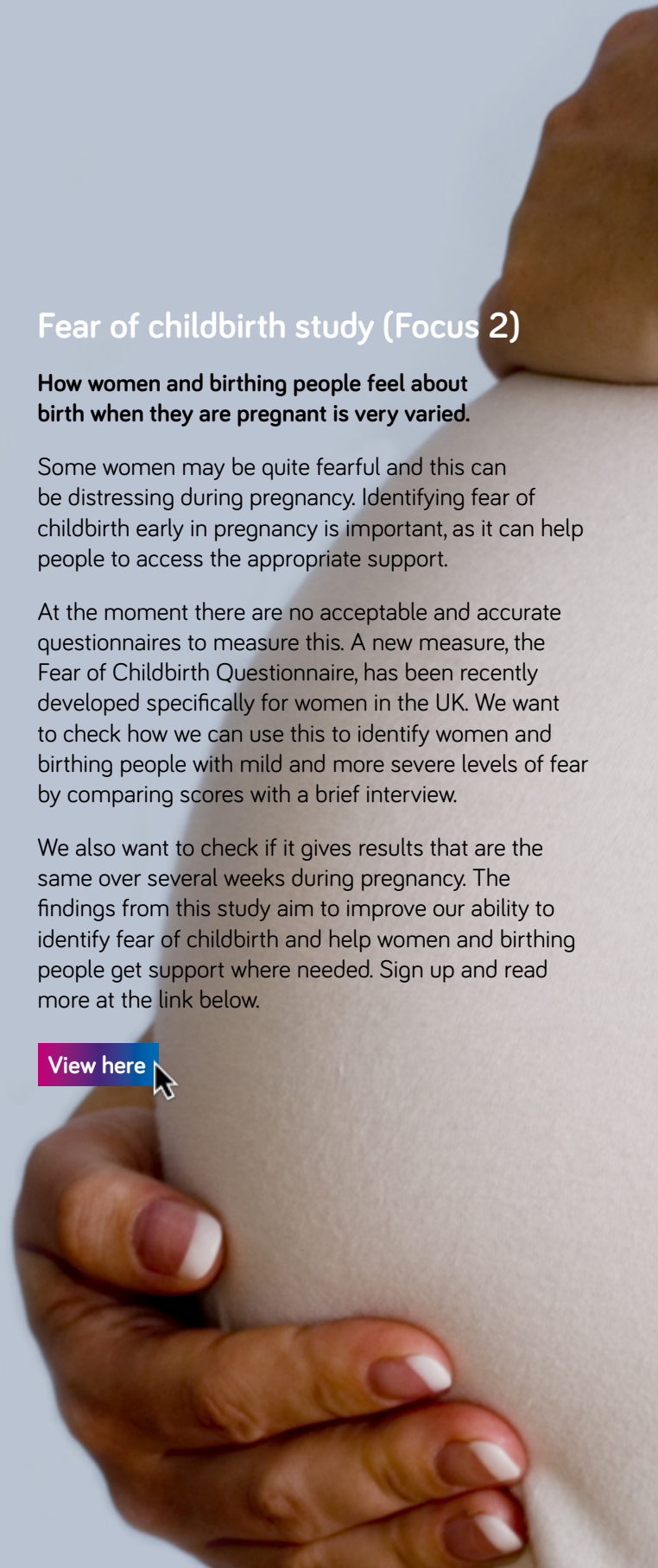
How women and birthing people feel about birth when they are pregnant is very varied.

Some women may be quite fearful and this can be distressing during pregnancy. Identifying fear of childbirth early in pregnancy is important, as it can help people to access the appropriate support.

At the moment there are no acceptable and accurate questionnaires to measure this. A new measure, the Fear of Childbirth Questionnaire, has been recently developed specifically for women in the UK. We want to check how we can use this to identify women and birthing people with mild and more severe levels of fear by comparing scores with a brief interview.

We also want to check if it gives results that are the same over several weeks during pregnancy. The findings from this study aim to improve our ability to identify fear of childbirth and help women and birthing people get support where needed. Sign up and read more at the link below.

[View here](#)



New quarterly volunteer newsletter

Our Volunteer Service has relaunched the quarterly volunteer newsletter, take a read to see our latest volunteering opportunities, to hear about the amazing work our volunteers do, and how to become a volunteer.

[View here](#)



We are delighted to announce Dame Lorna Muirhead as Patron of the Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust's Charity

Dame Lorna Elizabeth Muirhead DCVO DBE CStJ DL FRCOG (née Fox) is a past President of the Royal College of Midwives and from 2006 until her retirement in 2017 she served as the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside.

In 1992 Dame Lorna became a member of the Council of the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) and, in 1997 was elected as President. Dame Lorna served two terms of office, until 2004. Throughout this time continued to work as a clinical midwife, at the Liverpool Women's Hospital.

During her presidency she represented the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) in, among other venues:

- Council of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists(RCOG)
- Joint RCM/RCOG committee
- Standing Nursing and Midwifery Advisory Committee (SNMAC)
- Women's National Commission
- Council of the International Confederation of Midwives
- Specialist Register of the English National Board
- Benevolent Fund Committee of the Royal College of Midwives Trust
- Council of the Kings Fund
- National Service Framework for Midwifery

Kate Davis, Head of Fundraising said:

"Dame Lorna has a wealth of knowledge and experience in all aspects of Maternity Care and Women's Health and it is a privilege to have Dame Lorna working with us to help champion the Liverpool Women's Charity's mission and vision."

Dame Lorna Muirhead said:

"After almost 40 years working as a midwife at the Liverpool Women's I am honoured to be invited to be Patron for Liverpool Women's Hospital Charity and look forward to being involved in the Trust's work again".

Other affiliations

Muirhead was a midwifery adviser on Baby Lifeline; a member of the Council of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine; national midwifery adviser for St John Ambulance; and served as Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside.

She is also currently (June 2011) President of Merseyside County Scout Council, a County of The Scout Association in the United Kingdom. Dame Lorna is a long-standing Co-President (with eminent obstetrician Professor James Drife) of the national charity Baby Lifeline. She is also a Patron of the Birkenhead Choral Society. She is an Honorary member of The Rotary Club of Birkenhead.

Honours

- She was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire(DBE) in 2000 for her services to midwifery.
- In 2001, she became a fellow of the RCOG and was made an Honorary Fellow of Liverpool's John Moores University the same year. In 2004 she received the inaugural award from the RCM for her lifetime achievement in midwifery.
- She was appointed Dame Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (DCVO) in the 2017 New Year Honours for her services as Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside.

Save the date

We will be holding a meet and greet with Dame Lorna Muirhead at 2pm, here at Liverpool Women's on 26 October. More details to follow soon.

"After almost 40 years working as a midwife at the Liverpool Women's I am honoured to be invited to be Patron for Liverpool Women's Hospital Charity and look forward to being involved in the Trust's work again."



Baby Loss Awareness Week

Service of Remembrance 2023

Our beautiful Service of Remembrance will once again be held at St George's Hall on Tuesday 10 October.

This is our annual event organised by the Liverpool Women's Honeysuckle Bereavement Team that brings bereaved families and friends together to remember all those taken too soon.

The service is held during Baby Loss Awareness week which take place between the 9–15 October, and aims to raise awareness about baby loss in the UK. Bereaved families, healthcare professionals, support organisations and volunteers come together to remember babies who have died during any stage of pregnancy, at or soon after birth and in infancy.

The services will be held on Tuesday 10 October 2023 in the Great Hall at St George's Hall, St George's Place, Liverpool L1 1JJ.

- **Early service:** doors open at 4.30pm with refreshments and crafts. The service will begin at 5.30pm.

- **Late service:** doors open at 7.15pm with refreshments and crafts. The service will begin at 8pm.

As in previous years, our Honeysuckle Bereavement Team would like to invite families to have their baby/babies names included in the service, please email: honeysuckle@lwh.nhs.uk by Sunday 10 September.

Unfortunately names received after this date cannot be added.

To close the week and unite bereaved families around the world we ask you to join us on Sunday 15 October in lighting a candle, together we can create a beautiful wave of light, remembering all the babies gone too soon.

Charity Update



JOIN THE HONEYSUCKLE TEAM FOR A
**SERVICE OF
REMEMBRANCE**

Date: Tuesday 10th October 2023

Location: St Georges Hall, Grand Hall

Two services will be held

Early service for families with children - 5.30pm

Doors open 4.30pm with refreshments and crafts

Evening service for adults only - 8pm

Doors open 7.15pm with refreshments and crafts

Services are for anyone who's ever been affected by baby loss



THANK YOU

to all of our wonderful supporters

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all staff, patients, families and members of the local community who continue to support the hospital through charitable donations, in-kind gifts and fundraising for the charity.

Your support helps us fund important projects to improve the experience of the patients at Liverpool Women's Hospital.

Liverpool Women's
Hospital Charity



*Strictly for
Liverpool Women's
Hospital*



Buy your tickets here

Adelphi Hotel

6pm on Saturday 2 December 2023

Black tie event with three-course meal and live entertainment

Single ticket: £65 • Table of ten: £650

Email: fundraising@wh.nhs.uk for more information