Maternity team win the pools!

Our busy maternity staff are splashing in cash this week after winning a £400,000 cash injection for the department. It’s great news for expectant mums as the money will be spent increasing the numbers of birthing pools at the hospital from one to four. And the team want to say a big thank you to all the new parents who helped them win the grant – in just a few days 430 people filled out surveys supporting the unit. Staff are wasting no time putting the cash to good use; work in the department will start straight away and should be finished by the end of March.

Mums and dads told us they wanted a more homely environment with access to more birthing pools and this is what we based our bid on. One of the new pools will go into the high risk area so women who have complications have the chance to use a pool during labour. The award is part of a £25 million investment programme by the NHS in maternity facilities and was the largest amount given to a single maternity unit in this area.

The hard work of the maternity team was also rewarded recently when the department’s patient safety and clinical effectiveness standards were reviewed and scored top marks - 100 per cent. The assessment process focused on how the hospital manages the safety of women and their babies. Achieving 50 out of 50 in the CNST (clinical negligence scheme for trusts) level 1, means that maternity services can now fast-track to level 2 later this year.
Would you benefit from time with an impartial person who can:
- Provide support and encouragement to be innovative and creative?
- Provide feedback, challenge and support?
- Ask powerful questions and help you unlock your potential?
- Help you develop a wider understanding and recognise the bigger picture?

Do you have a genuine passion for developing others? Are you supportive, easy to approach and an active listener? Can you act as a sounding board? Are you willing to share your experiences? Are you objective, non-judgmental and willing to offer challenge? Are you keen to allow others to make their own decisions? Training will be provided for potential mentors.

We are setting up a mentoring network in SASH and want to identify the level of demand for mentoring. If you are interested email Jill Dyer, Learning and Development Manager jill.dyer@sash.nhs.uk

In June, the current national contract for the PACS (Picture Archive and Communication system) and RIS (Radiology Information System) applications expires, so we are changing both systems to Cerner RIS and PACS. The replacement systems provide all the current functionality, along with the added benefits of complete integration with Cerner Millennium. This supports the Trust’s values and objectives. Cerner RIS and PACS will also help our development of the electronic patient record (EPR).

The Cerner PACS provides electronic diagnostic imaging. Consultant radiologists can view the images using specialist software, and produce reports. The system also allows access to all SASH radiology images; supporting clinicians outside of radiology in timely decision making and direct patient care. The RIS allows access to radiology orders, appointments and reports to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of all patients under our care.

You will be kept informed of the changes over the next couple of months.

Join the celebration of nursing – nominate a colleague or team for a ‘Proud to Care’ award

Launched by NHS Sussex, the Proud to Care Nursing Awards will celebrate the very best patient care that nurses and care givers deliver in hospitals, the community, primary care, and nursing homes. Staff can nominate their colleagues – individuals or teams - for up to six Proud to Care Nursing Awards:

- Care Award
- Courage Award
- Competence Award
- Compassion Award
- Communication Award
- Commitment Award

We have fantastic carers working for the Trust so we hope to see lots of our well deserving staff win awards at the Proud to Care Nursing Awards evening on 25 April at the American Express Community Stadium.

Nomination forms are available from: www.westsussex.nhs.uk/proudtocareawards Please pass all staff nominations to Sally Britain, Deputy Chief Nurse. The closing date for nominations is 21 February 2013.

Public's Choice award - Patients, their families and carers are invited to join the celebration of nursing by nominating an individual or team for the Public's Choice award. Download the Public's Choice Award nomination form at www.sussex.nhs.uk/proudtocare

Welcome Susan Aitkenhead – Chief Nurse
I have been in post now for a couple of weeks and have managed to get around to visit most areas; but I am still conscious that I have many of you to meet. However I wanted to flag up that I have been impressed by the quality and behaviour of the nursing and midwifery practice I have seen here so far, and the desire to place the patient at the centre of all we do. As I am sure you will agree, we need to ensure that we not only sustain this work and culture, but take it to the next level; and that safety and optimal patient experience is central to all we do. I look forward to working with you.
Trust News…

..Did you know that we issue approximately 15,000 blood products each year? And what’s more, for the past three years we have achieved 100 per cent traceability for every single one of those blood products.

..Welcome the Trust’s new Chief Nurse, Susan Aitkenhead. Susan brings with her a raft of experience in caring for patients and I know she is looking forward to joining our great team of nurses and helping us further improve our patients’ experience.

..Last month the Trust took part in a national ‘tweetathon’ to raise awareness about choosing the most appropriate health care service for urgent treatment of minor injuries and illnesses.

..Our Trust has continued to demonstrate a lower than expected Summary Hospital-level Indicator (SHMI) mortality rate for the period July 2011 to June 2012. The Trust is placed 31st nationally from the 142 Trusts who have been assessed and third in the South-East Coast region.

..The maternity team scored top marks - 100 per cent when the service’s patient safety and clinical effectiveness standards were reviewed. The assessment process focused on how the hospital manages the safety of women and their babies. Achieving 50 out of 50 in the CNST (clinical negligence scheme for trusts) level 1, means that maternity services can now fast-track to level 2 later this year.

If you’ve had a flu jab externally please complete this very quick survey so we can get a complete picture of how many of our staff are now immunised

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/flu_fighter_survey

The Standards of Business Conduct Policy is now available to all staff on the Trust Intranet. This policy outlines the individual responsibilities of all staff to declare any interests that may be in conflict with their role as an NHS employee or a volunteer

http://intranet.sash.nhs.uk/policies

Health & Wellbeing Day

“Live well, work well prescribed for staff”

The tables were turned for staff last month when the carers became the cared for at the Health and Wellbeing Day at East Surrey Hospital.

Live well, work well was the message prescribed for over 600 staff who came along during their lunch break to the very popular annual event.

They got the chance to try their hand at free exercise classes, including yoga and Pilates, before chilling out in the relaxation rooms with a dose of tranquillity therapy.

A host of experts were there to offer on the spot advice on a wide range of subjects from diet and holistic therapies to cycling and nursery care. Surrey Carers and the local police force were also amongst the many organisations that came along to help staff look after themselves and their families.

Chief Executive, Michael Wilson said: “We hold the Health and Wellbeing Day every year because we recognise you work incredibly hard. You provide quality care to our patients’ day in day out, and to do this you need to look after yourself.

“Our patients need healthy staff and this is one day when we can focus on everyone who works here, in whatever role, and offer support and advice.”

Do you have a story for next month’s SASH Window? Contact Eloise Clarke

Eloise.clarke@sash.co.uk or ext 6844
The big bad wolf visited East Surrey Hospital on Tuesday 22 January, to help promote a forthcoming pantomime of Little Red Riding Hood. The local theatre group, Gaps, is donating all profits from its show to the children’s ward at East Surrey Hospital. The show is running from 7 to 10 February at the Hawth in Crawley. Several staff are going to the opening night performance on 7th along with several of the children who regularly spend time on our children’s ward. By all accounts, it is an excellent show so hurry and buy your tickets soon before it sells out, especially as our children’s ward benefits from each ticket sold.

- Thursday 7th February 6.00 pm
- Friday 8th February 7.30 pm
- Saturday 9th February 2.30 pm
- Saturday 9th February 7.30 pm
- Sunday 10th February 2.30 pm

For tickets or more information call the Box Office on 01293 55 36 36 or visit www.hawth.co.uk

Bill’s walking..

Putting his best foot forward on a wintery fundraising walk is fire safety advisor Bill Howkins. Bill is hoping to raise money for the Trust’s maternity unit by covering an 80-mile route in five days. He will kick off his walk on February 6th from Littlehampton and head across the South Downs before eventually putting his feet up in Salisbury.

You might think blisters will be his biggest challenge but he said: “It’s not the feet I am worried about but the hips. But as I am staying in B&B’s along the route I won’t have to carry lots of equipment.”

Bill said: “I love the outdoors and it will be great if I can do something to help the hospital at the same time. There is a baby born at East Surrey every two hours, that’s an eye watering 4500 a year.

If you would like to sponsor Bill please visit the hospital website at www.surreyandsussex.nhs.uk and click on the donate button at the bottom of the page.

Hitting the high notes are the tuneful staff in the new hospital choir. More than 75 people exercised their vocal chords at the first rehearsal in January under the watchful eye of music director Peter Farrant. Its early days for this work based choir but plans are already in the pipeline for a performance at the Harlequin Theatre in Redhill in March and the release of a charity CD in the summer. With a few more rehearsals under their belts, organiser Sally Knight hopes the East Surrey choir will also be entertaining patients and visitors around the hospital.

The choir is open to everyone from across the Trust, no matter what their singing ability or experience. Singing is a great way of relieving stress and learning useful breathing techniques. The choir also gives the opportunity to bring staff together who would not usually meet.

If you are interested in adding your voice, rehearsals I run every Thursday in the PGEC centre from 5pm to 6.30pm.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Little Red Riding Hood in aid of Outwood ward, 7 to 10 February, Hawth Crawley
- Demonstration for managers on return to work and absence monitoring: Thursday 7 February 12noon; 1pm; 2pm; 3pm; 4pm, Thursday 14 February every hour, on the hour between 10am and 6pm Contact Mina Hazelhurst on x6915
- IRMER training for non medical referrers: 11 Feb 2.00 – 3.30pm, and 18 March 9.00 -10.30am. Contact Mary Tuke
- Good Clinical Practice half day training course 14 Feb 8:45am-12:15pm. Contact Research and Development
- Consultant photographs 14 February – book your slot for your photo for SASH website, contact Emma Powell ext 6838
- Next All Staff Meeting 15 February, 12noon, Lecture Theatre
- RCN drop in session with RCN stewards 20 February, 8.30 - 10.30am, Union Office, contact Meriel Flux ext 1794
- Next Senior Leaders meeting 21 February, 11am AD65
- Crime reduction surgery outside the restaurant, on Monday 11 March, between 12pm and 2pm
- Endoscopy open day Saturday 23 March, contact Branita Mills Bleep 544