

## Membership e-Newsletter Spring 2022

Welcome to the spring edition of my e-newsletter to our foundation trust members.

Whilst the country has been stood down from all restrictions with regard to the pandemic; as a provider of acute health care services we need to make sure that our hospitals stay and that we continue to be safe. The virus circulates amongst our communities and infection rates across the country are beginning to rise again. To ensure the safety of our patients, visitors and staff, you can access the most up to date information to support visitors to our hospitals [here](#).

Healthcare leaders for Bradford District and Craven are also reminding everyone accessing or visiting healthcare settings, like hospitals and GP practices, that they must continue to wear a facing covering (unless exempt from wearing one), follow social distancing rules and maintain good hand hygiene. You can read more about this [here](#).

### Useful links

Have you seen any of Mel's weekly news roundups? Our Chief Executive, Professor Mel Pickup, provides on-the-ground reports on how our hospitals continue to manage the effects of the pandemic and how we are working to improve our services. Most importantly, these reports feature many of the great innovations and successes happening right across our Trust, and the fantastic people behind them. These are the best way to keep up to date with developments at our hospitals. Towards the end of this bulletin I have included direct links to the most recent ones delivered over the last couple of months however you will find them all on our very own [YouTube channel](#).

Our last Council of Governors meeting took place on 27 January and our most recent Board of Directors meeting on 10 March. Our council meeting is directly accessible [here](#). Part 1 of our Board of Directors meeting can be accessed [here](#) and part 2 [here](#).

All our Trust news can be found [here](#) and if you specifically want to find out more about the COVID-19 vaccination programme for our area, please click [here](#).

I hope you find the above, and the following, useful and would ask that you share this e-newsletter with people you know. If you would like to get in touch with either myself or our Governors, then we would be pleased to hear from you. Our contact details are at the end of this e-newsletter.

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### 1. Council of Governors quarterly meeting on 27 January 2022

Our Council meetings take place quarterly. Our meeting in January was shortened so that our Trust could free up time for our Executives and staff to manage the effects of the Omicron variant of the Covid-19 pandemic. We usually have all our Executive Directors in attendance at our Council meetings. You will find the agenda and meeting papers [here](#) on our Trust website, however I just thought it would be useful to draw out a couple of key decisions and items from the last meeting.

- **Chairman's reappointment:** Due to my interest in this item, David Wilmshurst, Vice-Chair of the Council of Governors took charge for this item. The Council approved the recommendations from the Governors Nominations and Remuneration Committee relating to the Chair remuneration (which would remain at the same level) and approved the Chair Terms and Conditions on reappointment from 1 May 2022. The details about the reappointment will be included in full in the Trust's Annual Report for 2021/22.
- **Executive updates:** John Holden, Director of Strategy and Integration, Sajid Azeb, Chief Operating Officer and Pat Campbell, Director of HR discussed with Governors;
  - The Omicron variant and the Trust's ability to conduct business as normal
  - Our trust's Inpatient Survey analysis
  - Value for money in the independent sector
  - Compulsory vaccinations for staff

The agenda and papers from our meeting are all available on the Trust website [here](#) including the link to the recording of the meeting.

You can visit our web pages [here](#) to find out more about our Governors and the work they do in representing the interests of members and the public.

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### 2. Board of Directors bi-monthly meeting on 10 March 2022

Our Board meetings take place every two months. We held our last one on 10 March. I do hope you take the opportunity to watch – the links are provided above or you can access them from [here](#) on our website along with the papers that support our meeting. I would though like to highlight a few key items from our last meeting.

## Patient Story

At our Board meetings we always start with either a patient story or an in-depth look at one of our Trust services. In March we heard from Barbara and David and I would encourage you to take the opportunity to watch [Barbara and David's story](#) which provides insights into their journey at our hospitals during the peak of the Covid pandemic after David had suffered a stroke.



We are pleased that David is recovering well and appreciate the in-depth feedback both Barbara and David provided about their experiences. The video lasts approximately 10 minutes and the discussion at the Board, which is also well worth viewing, lasts approximately 22 minutes and you can watch it [here](#). It starts at 10.22 minutes into the video.

## Chief Executive's Report

I would like to encourage our members to view Mel Pickup's report as she provides an excellent high-level overview on how our hospitals are currently working, with a focus on our patients, staffing and the delivery of services. Mel also reports on the current position with regard to our partnership working. You can find Mel's report at [41.25 minutes](#) into the video, and the reporting and discussion lasts for approximately 20 minutes.



Professor Mel Pickup, Chief Executive Officer

## Outstanding Maternity Services (OMS) Programme: Outstanding Neo-natal Services

In 2019 the Trust was rated as Good overall by the CQC, we did though have some improvements to make to our Maternity Services. Since January 2020 our Board has routinely received highly detailed reports on our maternity services and been witness to the improvements underway to

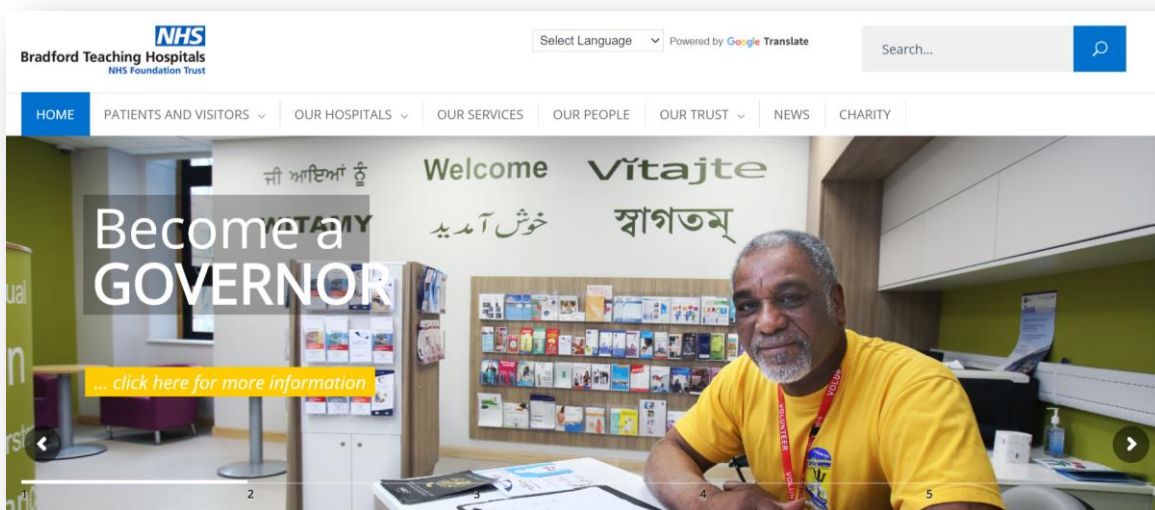
move us towards 'outstanding'. At this meeting we welcomed members of the Neo-natal team who outlined how they are starting their improvement journey within the framework of the OMS programme.



This is an important development, particularly bearing in mind that we are the youngest city in Europe, there are approximately 6,000 babies born here every year and we have areas of significant deprivation in Bradford. This element of the Maternity Services Update lasts for approximately 36 minutes and starts at 1:22.20 on our board meeting recording [here](#).

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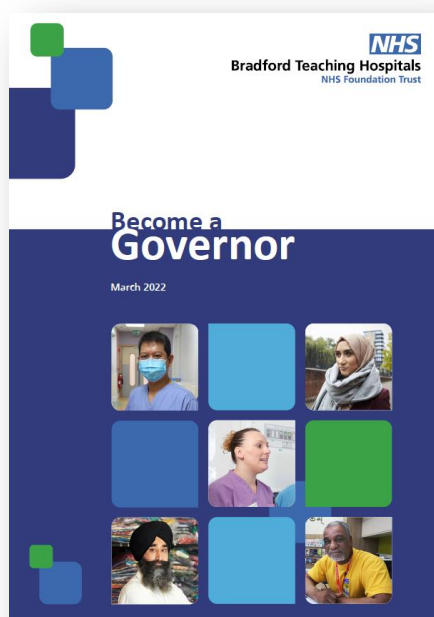
### 3. Governor Elections Process Underway with Search for Nominees



You will have been in receipt of emails promoting our current elections process which launched on 7 March.

Our election nomination process is now well underway and will close on Monday 4 April 2022. I would really like to encourage as many people as possible to put themselves forward for these significant and very important roles. A nomination form and other information is available [here](#). As a Governor, representing the interests of members and our communities you will have a key role to play in the development of our hospitals and our direction of travel. We provide a good induction and access to a comprehensive training and development programme. Take a look at

our being a Governor document and see if this role is right for you. We would be pleased to hear from you.



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#### 4. Special Briefing from Professor John Wright, Director of Research

As a teaching hospital, research is a core activity and we have over 500 research projects taking place across the Trust. In this edition, I am grateful to John Wright our Director of Research, who shines a spotlight on some of the research activity that has taken place over the last 12 months and how this research is impacting and improving the health and wellbeing of our Bradford population and beyond.



During the pandemic some of the Trust's research activity was paused and our research delivery staff were redeployed to work on Urgent Public Health COVID-19 studies. Although still supporting some COVID-19 related research work most of our 'normal' pre-pandemic research activity has resumed and between April and December 2021 over 8,500 research participants have been recruited into our research studies.



## Born in Bradford

Born in Bradford is an internationally recognised research programme which aims to find out what keeps families healthy and happy. We use this information to work with the local authority, health, education and voluntary sector providers across Bradford district to develop, implement and evaluate ambitious programmes to improve population health. We have a vast 'city of research' infrastructure which includes detailed health and wellbeing information on Bradfordians enrolled in our three birth cohort studies and a connected routine dataset of health, social care and education data for over 700,000 citizens living in Bradford and Airedale. We host a range of initiatives to improve health working with the local authority, health, education, cultural and voluntary sector providers. These include the Better Start Bradford Innovation Hub, Bradford Inequalities Research, the Healthy Families theme of the Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaboration, Connected Bradford, Join Us: Move Play, the LEAP and various other externally funded applied health research studies. You can find out more about our BIB research programme at [www.borninbradford.nhs.uk](http://www.borninbradford.nhs.uk).



In January the BiB team were delighted to announce the launch of their new Age of Wonder study, capturing the journey from adolescence into adulthood of up to 30,000 Bradford schoolchildren. With £7million funding from the Wellcome Trust to deliver the seven-year project, the Age of Wonder research team will:

- Work alongside young people aged 13 – 19 to explore wide-ranging topics - such as physical and mental wellbeing, and health and social inequalities – and capturing information via surveys in school.
  - Collect measurements and biological samples from students in year 9 to give an insight into the physical health of young people in the district, and shape service improvements to tackle systemic health issues such as diabetes and obesity.
  - Collaborate with almost 40 secondary schools to embed the research into the curriculum, and to inspire more young people into STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects, digital technologies and the Arts, as well as create new opportunities for skills building.
- 
- A photograph showing two young people, a male and a female, sitting at a white table in a classroom or school setting. The male student, on the left, is wearing a green t-shirt, a red lanyard, and a black face mask. The female student, on the right, is wearing a light-colored sweater and a blue face mask. They are both looking at a tablet computer on the table. The background shows other students and school furniture.



Evidence from BiB has already helped to uncover the harm of air pollution, the impact of people's diet and exercise, how the urban environment affects health, and the early causes of diabetes and heart disease. It has also been used to develop new treatments and policies to protect children's health, and raise much-needed, multi-million pound investment into the district. Age of Wonder will build on this platform and is committed to sharing its findings widely, particularly with Bradford Council and the Department for Education, to improve young people's health and life chances.



Our Ageing and Stroke research team's Professor Andy Clegg, with colleagues from Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester, has won a NIHR Artificial Intelligence in Multiple Long-Term Conditions research grant award. This £3M award aims to help reduce overprescribing in primary care. Professor Clegg with colleagues is also leading a project to explore digital and remote enhancements for the assessment and management of older people living with frailty.

This last year has also seen the HERO trial successfully achieve its recruitment target of 743. This



project is evaluating the clinical and cost effectiveness of a home-base exercise programme for older people with frailty after discharge from hospital. Further information regarding the trial design and prior pilot work can be found at:

<https://www.bradfordresearch.nhs.uk/HERO>  
or follow progress and further announcements on Twitter: @HEROtrial.

## LUNS Questionnaire

A simple and reliable  
method for identifying longer  
term unmet needs after stroke.

Our longer-term unmet needs assessment tool (LUNS) to assist identifying stroke patients' needs at individual and service level (LUNS Team, Forster, 2013) continues to be rolled out internationally. To date there is a published translation in Dutch (Groeneveld et al., 2017), and researchers in Portugal, France, Korea and China and many more are undertaking translation. In most recent development, the preliminary data from the Korean translated version of the tool shows good validity and reliability. Colleagues in English speaking countries are also using the tool to assess and improve their stroke services.

## Quality and Safety research

Our Quality and Safety research team have just submitted an application for renewal of the Patient Safety Translational Research Centres funding ([www.yhpstrc.org](http://www.yhpstrc.org)). This is one of only three patient safety research centres in the country, so it is a very prestigious award and worth up to £7million.

One of the many Q&S team's project 'PFI-SII' is well underway and aims to improve how patients and families are involved in investigations after they experience a serious healthcare incident. To understand how patients and families are *currently* involved in such investigations and what needs to change, the PFI-SII team analysed NHS Trust serious incident investigation policies, published research, and spoke to over 50 patients, families, NHS staff and lawyers. For the past six months the team have drawn upon these findings to co-design, with a large community of stakeholders, new processes and resources to guide more meaningful involvement of patients and families. Over the next year, they will be testing these processes and resources within our five partner organisations, including BTHFT, across 25 investigations, to understand their impact upon experience, learning and likelihood of seeking legal recourse.



## Improvement Academy

Published in early January, the Improvement Academy's latest report details **NHS staff experiences of working under prolonged intense pressure**, alongside four offers of support designed to respond to immediate need and learn new ways to help.

### Beyond demoralised

Listening and responding to NHS frontline staff is everyone's business

Claire Marsh and Laura Proctor  
January 2022

This report is for everyone with an interest in our health care services, and who cares about the staff who form its bedrock: domestic staff, porters, administrators, doctors, nurses, midwives, health support workers, allied health professionals; managers, and all the other people who support them to deliver the best possible care for patients, their carers and families.

We are inviting anyone in a position of interest, responsibility and influence, to read this report and share with anyone in their networks and organisations. The report is available on our website: <https://improvementacademy.org/our-expertise/improving-patient-and-staff-experience/>. We intend for this to be an ongoing piece of work. Please let us know if you would like to be kept informed of progress. For more information on the research behind this report, please get in touch with Claire Marsh ([Claire.Marsh@yhia.nhs.uk](mailto:Claire.Marsh@yhia.nhs.uk)) and Laura Proctor ([Laura.Proctor@yhia.nhs.uk](mailto:Laura.Proctor@yhia.nhs.uk)).

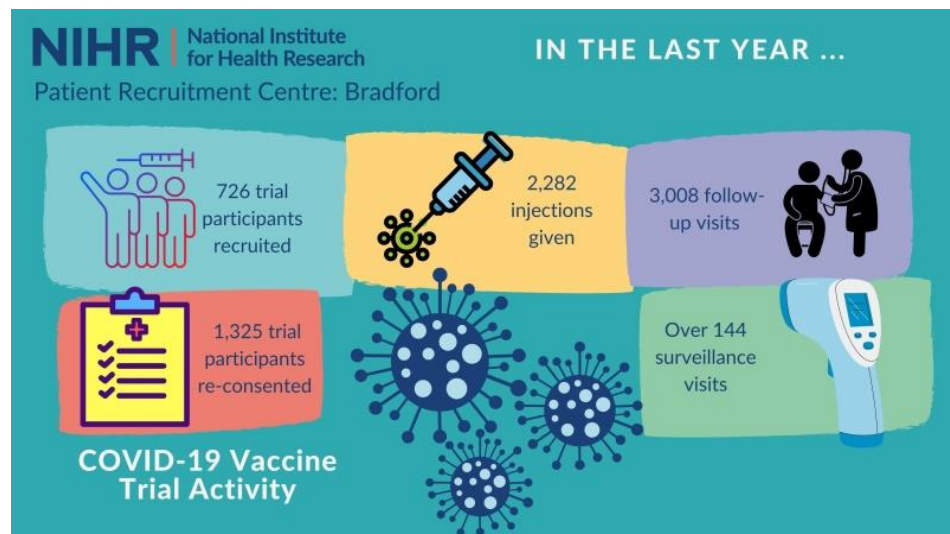


## NIHR National Patient Recruitment Centre: Bradford

Our PRC is one of five regionally based PRCs funded through a £7m investment as part of the Government's Life Sciences Industrial Strategy and Sector Deal 2 - a series of measures to strengthen the UK environment for clinical research.

The PRC initiative aims to make it quicker and easier for life science companies to deliver late-phase clinical research at pace and scale through the NHS. In turn, they will increase the number of commercial studies that can be delivered within the UK – this benefits our patients who will gain earlier access to innovative new treatments and diagnostics, as well as the NHS and wider economy by attracting additional investment from the global life science industry. Further information on our PRC is available at <https://local.nihr.ac.uk/prc/bradford/> or follow us on Twitter @PRCBradford.

Our PRC team has continued to lead the delivery of the Novavax vaccine trial in Bradford; the work on this trial has been extremely intensive and time consuming. 726 participants were recruited and in this last year there have been numerous follow up visits, surveillance visits and data queries.

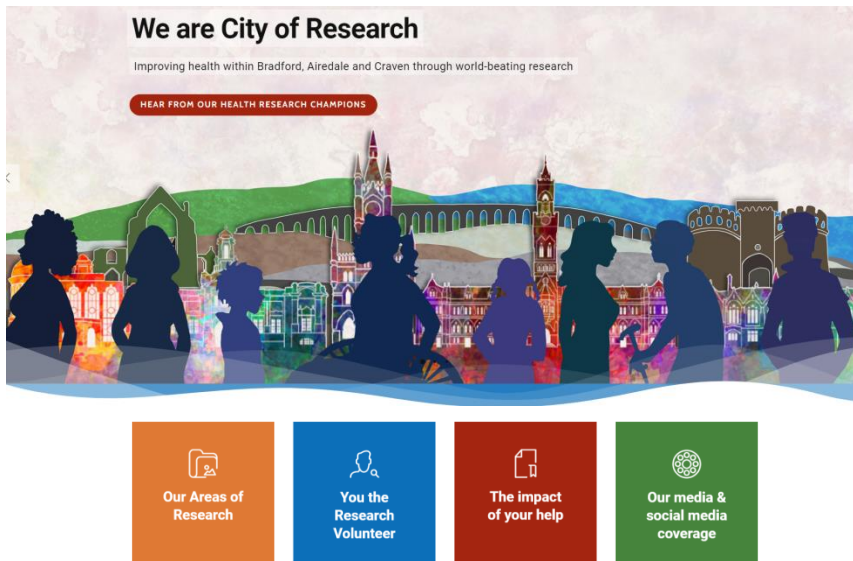


One of the current PRC studies is the PERTUSSIS trial which is a paediatric study evaluating a new vaccine for the prevention of pertussis – more commonly known as whooping cough, a childhood disease which affects the lungs and breathing tubes. Usually children receive their last whooping cough booster at the age of three, and this is given by injection. This trial will see children having a further booster dose and this will be intranasal, i.e. given via the nose which is much less invasive for children. Further information about the trial can be found at <https://supertrial.co.uk/>



## City of Research launched

Last year to encourage more volunteers from across Bradford, Airedale and Craven to sign up to take part in research our City of Research registry was launched. Led by the Trust with the other main NHS organisation in the district - Airedale NHS Foundation Trust; Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust; and Bradford District and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group - the initiative is spearheaded by a website which offers a digital doorway into all the growing opportunities and studies that the district's home-grown research talent is leading.



By joining the research registry, people can choose from many different ways in which they can contribute to and take part in our research – from clinical trials of current or new treatments, to taking part in questionnaires or focus groups to testing medical equipment. If you are interested in signing up please go to [www.cityofresearch.org](http://www.cityofresearch.org).

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## 5. Bradford Hospital's Charity



Bradford Hospitals' Charity is the official NHS charity partner of Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. As a charity, we work closely with the Trust to fund equipment, training, research, and projects which enhance the experience of patients and their families. We also support staff to ensure they can provide the very best treatment and care. Whether that is providing equipment which is not routinely funded by the NHS to speed up diagnosis, upgrading a piece of kit to make patients more comfortable, funding training which improves staff knowledge, or buying toys and distraction equipment for our young patients to help them cope in hospital – we

provide over and above what the NHS can fund. Our four funds are: Children and Young People, Cancer, Elderly and Dementia, and Sunshine (everything else).

We have a number of events coming up in 2022 that you, or people you know, might be interested in. You can find our more details about the Charity and the events highlighted below [here](#).



Whether you run, swim, cycle or walk – the goal is to complete 10K and raise money for Bradford Hospitals' Charity. You can do this in your own time or as part of an organised event.



After the phenomenal success of the 2021 Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge, we are delighted to offer you the chance to sign up for the event in 2022. Join us to conquer the three highest peaks in the Yorkshire Dales on Saturday 10 September. You will hike a total of 24 miles up Pen-y-Ghent, Whernside, and Ingleborough. We will support you all the way; with both fundraising and as you tackle the peaks! If you would like to take part in this iconic challenge for Bradford Hospitals' Charity, please complete the form on the charity website.



You could sign up to the challenge of a lifetime by taking part in a tandem sky dive to raise money for our charity! The jump will take place at Bridlington Airfield this July, so you will see the beautiful Yorkshire coastline like never before.

Tandem sky diving is the easiest and most popular of all sky dives. You only need 30 minutes training before you jump strapped to an instructor! Qualified British Parachute Association instructors then do all the hard work for you, allowing you to enjoy the thrill of flying through the clouds from over 10,000ft at speeds of 120mph! It's an exhilarating feeling and an experience you will never forget.



All you need to do is raise a minimum of £400. You can reserve your place with a £50 deposit and then fundraise in the lead up to your jump. As long as you reach your target of £400, all your costs are covered, including your sponsorship. This allows you to take part in your very own amazing adventure and raise money for Bradford Hospitals' Charity at the same time.

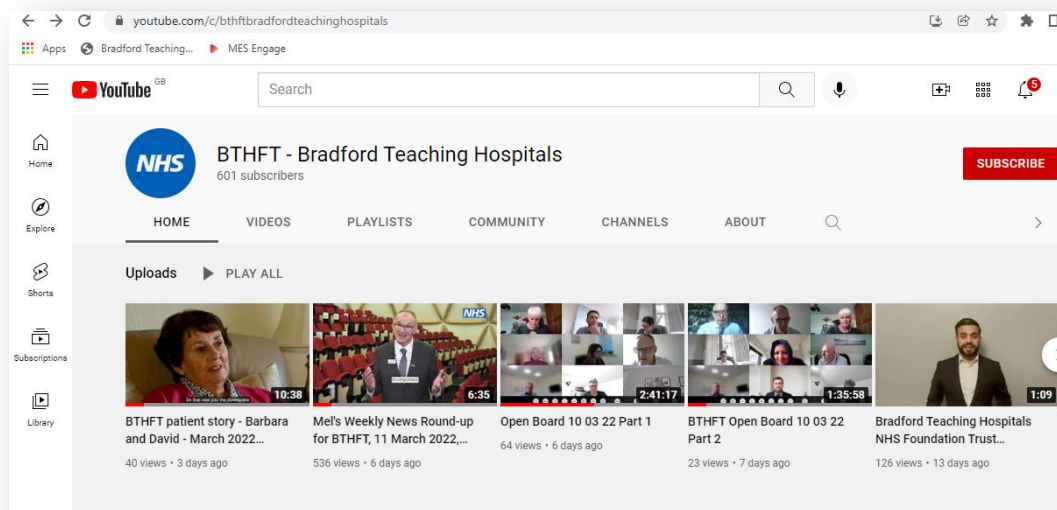


Bradford Dragon Boat Festival is back for 2022 and we need our charity supporters to do some rowing to raise money! Bradford Hospitals' Charity has 10 boats booked to take part on the Multi Charity Championship Day, on Sunday 3 July, at Robert's Park, Saltaire. You can take part either as a team or an individual. Each team has eight pairs of paddlers and a team drummer (17 competitors in total) per race. However, as each team will compete in a series of races, it is possible to have up to three reserves. The last time we took part in the festival, we entered a record-breaking 12 teams and raised more than £16,000 for our charitable funds around Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

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## 6. Professor Mel Pickup, Chief Executive's weekly news round-ups

Our Chief Executive, Mel Pickup, has now recorded a total of 69 editions of her weekly news roundups to date. They each last about six to seven minutes and are a really good way to keep up-to-date with all that is happening at our Trust. The videos are all available on our BTHFT YouTube Channel which you can subscribe to [here](#).



A summary of the videos produced over the last few months (January to March) is available below. Again, please do share these links with your friends, family and colleagues and let us know what you think.

### ***Mel's news roundups from January 2022 to March 2022***

- 1 January <https://bit.ly/3JSaBbi>

This week it's a special New Year message from Mel and our Trust Chairman, Max Mclean: They praise our fantastic BTHFT staff, look back at how much we've achieved over the past year, and look forward to 2022.

- 14 January <https://t.co/k6hykW1sZg>

This week, Chief Nurse, Karen Dawber, explains new visiting rules at our hospitals and what we can all do now to help protect our patients and colleagues. There's news of two trials our Ophthalmology department is running to help patients with uveitis – a condition which causes inflammation of the eye. And we hear how more than £300,000 of public donations to Bradford Hospitals' Charity is making a big difference to the lives of both our colleagues and patients. Plus, there's a round-up of other news, including today marking 1 million vaccines given out across the district.

- 21 January <https://bit.ly/3nK49Kd>

This week, as part of Dry January, we learn how to love your liver and stay healthy. Born in Bradford launches its latest research project, Age of Wonder, after securing a £7m grant. And we hear the dulcet tones of our oldest hospital radio DJ, Patrick, who's been spinning tunes at St Luke's Sound for the past decade.

- 4 February <https://bit.ly/3J3zDDf>

This week, we share with you news about an exciting clinical trial on hearing loss which is taking place at our Listening for Life Centre. And hear how our Orthoptics team is helping stroke patients with their eyesight. Plus, we celebrate a colleague who's been voted one of Bradford's most influential South Asians of 2021. There's also news about Race Equality Week and LGBT+ History Month.

- 11 February <https://youtu.be/eOSd3ztZraw>

This week, we show you around our new Acute Surgical Unit, which has just benefited from £7million worth of renovation. And hear how we're backing Bradford's bid to become the next UK City of Culture in 2025. Plus, we celebrate Novavax becoming the fifth authorised COVID-19 vaccine and have news of a new student handbook that's been created to help new colleagues.

- 18 February <https://bit.ly/3H03oDt>

This week, we hear about the launch of a new coaching pilot for student nurses and midwives ... and we find out how an innovative wellbeing initiative in Neonatal has been picked up by other hospitals. There's news about a big recruitment campaign for healthcare assistants with real-life stories of how people, from many different backgrounds, can start and develop their careers here at Bradford. Plus, how a donation of more than £6,000 from the Indian Women's Community UK Group is boosting Bradford Hospitals' Charity's Sparkle for Axl toy fund.



- 25 February <https://bit.ly/3sfi1yK>

We put the spotlight on the work our Patient Experience team does in gathering valuable feedback from our patients, their visitors and families. There's news about another development in our ambitious Virtual Royal Infirmary project: virtual outpatients' clinics. And we say hello to our new non-executive director, Sughra Nazir. Plus there's lots of other things happening across the Trust.

- 4 March <https://bit.ly/372XR2Q>

This week, we're stepping back in time to look at a snapshot of Bradford's health and wellbeing from 50 years ago. To mark World Hearing Day, we hear how our hi-tech Listening for Life Centre, home of cochlear implant technology, is transforming the lives of patients not just here but also in Africa. And we put out a call for colleagues and the public to raise money for our Bradford Hospitals' Charity by signing up for this year's Dragon Boat Race in Saltaire. You can do this by going to: <https://bradfordhospitalscharity.org/challenge-events/bradforddragonboatfestival/>

- 11 March <https://bit.ly/3t2DriZ>

Having celebrated International Women's Day this week, we're putting the spotlight on the work of our new Early Pregnancy Assessment Service and our Gynaecology Assessment and Treatment Unit here at Bradford Royal Infirmary. Also, how we can all better look after our hard-working kidneys ... and we celebrate the work of long-standing consultant breast radiologist, Dr Anne-Marie Wason, who's just retired from the Trust. Plus there's a round-up of lots of other news from across our hospitals.

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## 7. Keeping up-to-date

Please follow our official Twitter account (@bthft) and visit our website at [www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk) to keep up to date with what's happening.

You can also follow on [Facebook](#) and subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel

As members of our Foundation Trust your views really do matter, and if you have any feedback you'd like to offer, please email me at [membership@bthft.nhs.uk](mailto:membership@bthft.nhs.uk)

**Regards,**



**Dr Maxwell Mclean,  
Chairman**



*Keeping in touch with the membership office and our Governors*

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To contact our governors directly you can email Governors: [governors@bthft.nhs.uk](mailto:governors@bthft.nhs.uk)

For more about our Foundation Trust and our Governors please visit  
[www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk/our-trust/how-we-make-decisions/](http://www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk/our-trust/how-we-make-decisions/)

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