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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Dyfodol Clinigol
Clinical Futures

Cylchlythyr Staff

Staff Newsletter



ISSUE 22 9th February 2022



Message from Glyn Jones, Interim Chief Executive

Shwmae pawb / hello all, welcome to this week's newsletter.

We're a week into February already and what a fantastic week it was, with the Welsh Government announcement of funding for the breast cancer 'centre of excellence' at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr on World Cancer Day. This will be a brilliant new facility for our patients, and I'd like to thank all the staff involved in getting this funding approved. In addition, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of staff who has gone above and beyond by fundraising for the Turn It Pink campaign over the past few years.

I am also delighted that we can proudly say that we are the first Health Board in Wales to join Keep Wales Tidy to become a #LitterFreeZone. Thank you to all the staff who took 10 minutes out of their lunch break to litter pick at the Royal Gwent Hospital – I hope to join you at a future event!

Take care, **Glyn**

Funding Approved for Breast Centre of Excellence at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr



We're delighted that nearly £11 million is being invested in a breast cancer 'centre of excellence' at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr, which will allow us to improve patient care, experiences and outcomes.

The investment will bring together services and experts from across the Health Board to provide outpatient care, diagnostic investigations and surgery for breast cancer.

The Unit will represent another key milestone in our Clinical Futures strategy, following the opening of The Grange University Hospital in November 2020. As a Centre of Excellence for Breast services, clinical teams from Nevill Hall and Royal Gwent Hospitals will come together to provide expert care at this purpose-built facility.

Construction of the Centre will begin this month and is expected to be completed by February 2023.



Community Spirit at the Heart of YYF Breast Centre

Along with the £11 million investment from Welsh Government for the construction of our state-of-the-art Breast Centre, the overwhelming fundraising efforts of our staff and local communities have resulted in a further £215,000 of funding for us to provide additional features at the centre.

This vital extra money will ensure that breast care patients, both male and female, are provided with a calm and dignified environment, where they and their families can come to terms with their diagnosis and treatment.

This will include calming artwork, lighting and furniture to create a calm and comfortable waiting room; a bespoke prosthesis room designed to give women the time and dignity to choose the correct fitting after mastectomy; sensitively designed counselling rooms for patients to discuss their diagnosis with the clinical team in a non-clinical, holistic environment; and a children's activity space to support parents attending clinical appointments.

We couldn't have done this without the support of our staff. Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the Health Board's Turn it Pink fundraising events over the past few years. From cake days, t-shirt sales, sponsored head shaves, runs and walks; every penny raised has taken us one step closer to reaching our ambitious fundraising target and our patients will hugely benefit from this.

For more information on our Turn It Pink fundraising journey, go to: www.turnabuhbpink.org/our-story

There's still time to donate! If you would like to contribute to this fantastic cause, please visit:

www.justgiving.com/campaign/ABUHB-Breast-Care-Unit



World Cancer Day

Being given a cancer diagnosis is life changing for our patients and their families. We used World Cancer Day to remind people of the importance of cancer screening programmes, share one of our patient stories, and let our patients know what they can expect from our cancer services. We also used the opportunity to point those patients, who are struggling to come to terms with their diagnosis, in the right direction of all the help on offer for them.

To follow our Social Media pages, please search for 'Aneurin Bevan University Health Board' on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

Sell or Carry-over your Annual Leave

You can now sell or carry-over any remaining annual leave from the current 2021/22 year.

Please see the NHS Wales Scheme arrangements and FAQs [NHS Wales Arrangements for Selling and Carrying-over of Annual Leave for 2021/22](#)

If you would like to sell or carry-over any of your annual leave please fill in this form [Selling Annual Leave Scheme Request Form](#) and then email it to ABB.E-SystemsCarryOverAL@wales.nhs.uk

Please remember that the earlier you submit the form the earlier you will receive payment.

- Forms submitted by 1 March will be processed for payment via payroll in April;
- Forms submitted by 1 April will be processed for payment via payroll in May;
- Forms submitted by 1 June will be processed for payment via payroll in June.



Music as Therapy

As part of Dydd Miwsig Cymru (Welsh Language Music Day) last Friday (4th February 2022), we looked at how music can be used as a powerful form of therapy for many people.

Two Health Board employees- Sarah Goodey, Arts Development Manager, and Joy Rickwood, Music Therapist- took part in an interview to discuss how they've seen music benefit everyone in different ways.

Miwsig fel Therapi

Music as Therapy

Joy Rickwood

Therapydd Cerdd /
Pennaeth Therapiau'r Celfyddydau Anabledd Dysgu

Music Therapist /
Head of Learning Disability Arts Therapies



The Music as Therapy experts discussed how music can be used for anything, from escaping life's everyday pressures and easing the nerves of patients awaiting daunting appointments or procedures, to facilitating the rehabilitation of stroke patients and stimulating the minds of Dementia patients.

You can watch the full interview here: <https://youtu.be/93D8MJIPVwI>

Project Continues to Make Improvements for Staff and Patients



As part of the ongoing #PeopleFirst (or #CynnalCynefin) project, a number of improvements have been made based on the staff feedback provided on recent visits to teams around the Health Board.

The #PeopleFirst team, made up of colleagues from Workforce and OD and Executive team members, has made 14 site visits and made changes for a number of departments including: Facilities and Estates; Catering; Palliative Care; Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy; Trauma and Orthopaedics and Outpatients.

If you would like to find out more about #PeopleFirst or book a visit please visit <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/866/page/80636>

Appointment of new Interim Director of Primary, Community Care and Mental Health Services

Following a recruitment process, we are delighted to announce that Chris O'Connor, Divisional Director of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, has been appointed as Interim Director of Primary, Community Care and Mental Health Services for the Health Board.

We wish Chris every success in his new role.

You Volunteer to Keep the Royal Gwent Tidy

A very special thanks goes to a number of staff who volunteered, along with staff from our waste contractor Biffa, to spend 10 minutes of their lunch break litter picking around the Royal Gwent Hospital site. This was all part of a new project by Keep Wales Tidy that makes the Royal Gwent the first hospital in Wales to become a [#LitterFreeZone](#)

The litter pick offered an opportunity to clean up the hospital grounds and also brought some much-needed fresh air to a busy day.



Chris Davies, Environmental Manager for Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, said: "Litter is an increasing problem across all our hospital sites. During the litter pick the team of volunteers collected an amazing 17 bags of rubbish, recycling and even a car seat!"

Singing sessions on MS TEAMS!

Join fellow staff members singing some familiar songs from a range of traditions on the theme of 'Comfort'. No auditions, no need to read music, turn up and have a go - every Tuesday at 12.30pm (for 30 minutes).

Due to current restrictions, we can only meet using TEAMS, but we hope that changes in the future! For more information and the MS TEAMS invite, please contact: Joy.Rickwood@wales.nhs.uk or Sarah.Goodey@wales.nhs.uk

If you have any ideas for this fortnightly newsletter, please send an e-mail to ABB.CommsAndEngagement@wales.nhs.uk



Aneurin Bevan University Health Board



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