RUH extra!

Celebrating the extra-extraordinary work of our community

Summer 2026



RUHX
From Waiting Rooms to Art Workshops
Your support in action - improving access, comfort and care for patients

In this issue

03 **PET-CT campaign** One year on, hear how RUHX's largest campaign is progressing

05 **Five questions** with Dr. Jeremy Gauntlett-Gilbert about the CEAG

06 **ED transformed!** Emergency Department waiting area transformed by RUHX

09 **H.U.G.S. charity shop** Celebrating our supporters' H.U.G.S charity shop

NHS
Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust

Looking Ahead to a Bright Summer

Welcome to our Summer 2026 edition of *RUHX Extra.*

This year marks the first anniversary of our £4 million PET–CT Scanner campaign, a flagship project for RUHX that will strengthen cancer care, neurological research, cardiac care and much more. In this edition, we share an update on the campaign's progress and what's next as we continue working towards this vital goal for our hospital.

In May, we were delighted to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our iconic Walk of Life. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part, sponsored participants, or volunteered on the day. Your support helped us continue delivering extraordinary care for patients at the RUH Bath. Turn to page 14 to see the exciting events planned for the second half of the year – wonderful opportunities to come together with friends and family while fundraising for your local hospital.

This issue also highlights the real impact your generosity is already making. Thanks to RUHX donors, new initiatives and equipment are enhancing patient care across the RUH, including vital staff training and a new patient area within the Emergency Department. You'll also read about improvements supporting care in the Children's Ward, the Intensive Care Unit – and beyond. Throughout the magazine, we hear directly from the clinical teams using these innovations and learn how they are improving outcomes for patients, including from Dr Jeremy Gauntlett-Gilbert about how RUHX have helped the hospital's Clinical Ethics Advisory Group, and we hear about a Day in the Life of Michelle whose team play a vital role in the smooth running of the RUH Bath.

Thank you for reading and for your continued support of our work. If you'd like to find out more, get involved, or help us deliver the next RUHX project for our hospital, please contact us at hello@ruhx.org.uk.

Together, we can achieve *extraordinary* things.

Rhyannon Boyd
Associate Director, RUHX



NHS Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

RUHX is the working name of RUH Charitable Fund.
Registered Charity No. 1058323

Royal United Hospitals Bath, Combe Park, Bath, BA1 3NG

Information in this magazine is correct at time of print

Design by limeparkstudios.com

This magazine is printed on Edixion® Offset paper, environmentally friendly, FSC® MIX, EU Ecolabel, and by a certified Carbon Balanced Printer, Taylor Brothers (Bristol) Ltd.

WORLD LAND TRUST™
www.carbonbalancedprinter.com
Registration No. CBP2240

FPO FPO FPO FPO FPO FPO

PET-CT Scanner Campaign - 1 year on!

It has been one year since we launched our £4 million PET-CT Scanner Campaign and what a year it has been. Thanks to the extraordinary support of our community, we are making great progress and are well on our way towards achieving our first major milestone of £1 million. However, we need your help to get there. Reaching this milestone will be a pivotal turning point for the campaign, and we can move forward with confidence and begin planning the first stage of construction.



Helen Straker charity presenting a cheque to RUHX towards the PET-CT campaign

Over the past year, we have seen some incredible contributions and efforts from individuals as well as charitable trusts and fundraising groups bringing us closer towards our campaign goal.

The Helen Straker charity is one of our many valued fundraisers whose commitment has contributed significantly towards the campaign. Their fundraising activities have included a wide range of events including Golf Days, Tractor Boys gatherings, Ladies Race Days, and their popular Clay Pigeon Shoot. (pictured above).

We also hosted a special information talk event at the hospital, providing an opportunity to bring together interested supporters, local trusts and businesses to showcase the impact this advanced technology will make—and why fundraising for a new scanner is so important.

It was such an interesting session, and we were delighted to hear from three of our brilliant expert clinicians: Sarah Cade (Head of Medical Physics & Bioengineering), Stewart Redman (Consultant Radiologist) and Rob Leigh (Head of Nuclear Medicine).

PET-CTs can be quite technical, but the clinicians did a wonderful job explaining and breaking the technical information down into simple, easy-to-understand terms. They explained how PET CT scans work and, more importantly, what they mean for patients - particularly those going through cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Using real (anonymous) patient stories, they demonstrated how powerful PET-CT scans can be. From helping doctors obtain a more accurate picture right from the point of diagnosis, to guiding the best treatment plan, detecting if cancer has returned and assessing whether treatment is working—this technology plays a huge role.

One example that really resonated was how the scanner works using a special glucose-based radioactive injection. Because cancer cells use more energy than normal cells, the glucose highlights those areas in the body during the scan. It means clinicians can see clearly if the cancer has spread beyond its original site, key when deciding the best course of treatment.

We also heard about why a new PET-CT scanner will make a big difference to patient experience. The latest technology and improved software would offer clearer images, quicker scans, and lower radiation doses for patients. It would also open up new ways of using the technology, helping clinicians make even more informed decisions.

It was a truly eye-opening and inspiring event—and a powerful reminder of the impact this new scanner could have on patients across our community.

Help us reach our first milestone! If you wish to support our PET-CT Scanner Campaign, visit: ruhx.org.uk or use the form on the back of the magazine.

If you are interested in joining one of our future information events to hear more about the PET-CT Scanner and our fundraising campaign, please email us at hello@ruhx.org.uk or visit ruhx.org.uk /pet-ct-events



PET-CT Scanner in action

More Than Just a Number

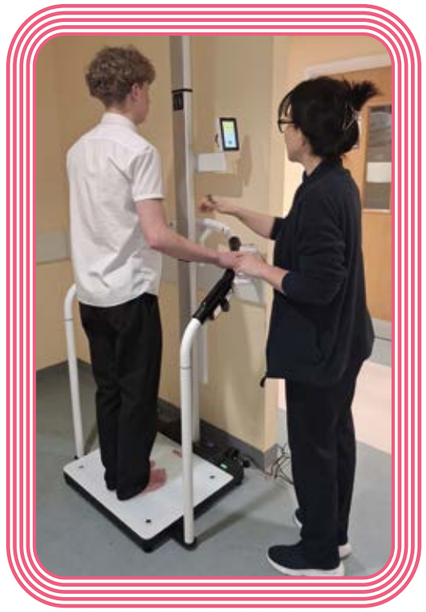
Thanks to supporter funding, the cystic fibrosis team has received a body composition scale for children with cystic fibrosis – and it's already making a meaningful difference to the care they provide and to how children and families understand their health.

The Bigger Picture

Body composition scales give a much clearer picture of a child's health by measuring muscle, fat and strength – not just weight. This is especially important for children with cystic fibrosis, where weight changes alone don't always tell the full story. With this extra insight, **the paediatric dietitian team can spot early signs of muscle loss or undernutrition, even when weight appears normal**. It also helps guide children to build strength and stay healthy, while identifying and preventing unhealthy weight gain linked to new treatments. "Nutrition and muscle strength are key factors in long-term cystic fibrosis outcomes," says Elmarie van Wyk, Paediatric Dietitian Team Lead. "The body composition scale is already making a meaningful difference to the care we provide and to how children and families understand their health".

Families have found the information genuinely comforting, helping them understand what changes really mean for their child's long-term health. One parent whose child has started modulator therapy put it simply: "Our child's weight has gone up, but we weren't sure what that really meant. Having this extra information is reassuring, it feels like the team is looking at long term health, not just numbers."

For children, the new scale is empowering too. Seeing their strength improve helps them feel more confident and understand how building muscle supports their lungs, energy levels and ability to enjoy everyday activities, such as sport and exercise. To many, a body composition scale is a small piece of equipment but for the children and families it serves, it's helping them see the bigger picture – and that changes everything.



Clinician with a child using the body composition scales

"This new equipment ensures our care continues to evolve alongside medical advances, helping children not only live longer, but live stronger and healthier lives. Thank you for helping make this possible." **Elmarie van Wyk,** Paediatric Dietitian Team Lead

No Place Like Home

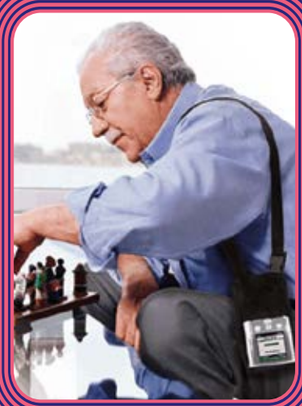
For people living with blood cancers such as leukaemia and lymphoma, treatment programmes can last for up to two years. Historically, much of that time meant extended stays in hospital isolation rooms. The Haematology Ambulatory Care Service (HACS), launched at the RUH in October 2023, is changing that.

Home Advantage

HACS enables patients to receive chemotherapy in an outpatient setting or at home, preserving independence and avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions. For patients on continuous or prolonged treatment regimens, the difference to daily life is significant.

RUHX has funded two CADD (Continuous Administration Delivery) infusion devices to support the service. These compact, precise devices deliver chemotherapy safely and in a controlled way – giving patients the freedom to be at home while receiving treatment that matches the quality of inpatient care, with close monitoring by specialist nurses throughout. The impact is already being felt. Pressure on inpatient beds has reduced, and patients report feeling more in control of their experience. Being at home means more family support, fewer restrictions, and the small but meaningful comforts – a preferred meal, time with children – that make a hard road a little easier to travel.

The benefits extend beyond the practical too. Receiving treatment at home brings real psychological and emotional relief, reducing anxiety and supporting overall wellbeing at one of the most challenging times for a patient. The CADDs put a patient's comfort at the centre of their recovery – and the results speak for themselves.



A patient wearing a CADD

5 Questions with...

RUHX sat down with Dr Jeremy Gauntlett-Gilbert, Joint Service Lead at the Bath Centre for Pain Services – a national specialist treatment centre for people living with chronic pain. Jeremy is also Chair of the RUH's Clinical Ethics Advisory Group (CEAG), which provides ethics consultation to staff facing difficult decisions or wrestling with the moral consequences of their choices. The CEAG recently benefited from an RUHX training grant to support and maintain expertise for the members of the CEAG.



Dr Jeremy Gauntlett-Gilbert

1 How does the CEAG support staff, patients and families across the hospital?

Pretty much every hospital has a CEAG, and what it mainly does is act as a resource for staff facing morally tricky decisions. It's a diverse group that can take a fresh look at a difficult situation and offer an independent view – whether that's a validation of the approach being taken, or an alternative to consider.

2 What are some of the most common ethical issues clinicians bring to the group?

Cases referred often involve patients who are in some way compromised – dementia, end of life care, learning disabilities. Sometimes it's patients wanting options that go against what we'd consider good practice. Increasingly, we're seeing technology-related dilemmas too. For example, if genetics found in a dementia patient suggest a hereditary risk to family members, are we allowed to tell them? Particularly when the patient can't give valid consent to release that information. What's the right thing to do – in terms of both guidelines and ethics? That's where the CEAG can help. And we need up-to-date expertise to do so.

3 How does the CEAG contribute to improving patient experience and safeguarding patient rights?

We support RUH staff, but at the centre of all our support always is 'the patient'. We support by being a rigorous and separate panel of experts helping staff to do the right thing for their patients. Sometimes we will suggest clinicians try different options, or speak to other people, in order to clarify or advance the situation.

4 In what ways does the CEAG support staff and what resources does the CEAG offer to staff?

Teams we support are so appreciative of having some of that moral burden shared. They've reached their conclusion – that X, Y or Z is the right thing to do – and sometimes our response is simply 'Yes'. But having an independent group think carefully about it from multiple perspectives is often really valued by the person who referred. Because the CEAG exists, every colleague in the hospital has a backstop – someone to reach out to when they're feeling genuinely compromised. And of course, resident doctors who get involved with the group gain valuable learning in this critical area of care, beyond the physical side of treatment.

5 What do you find most rewarding – and most challenging – about this role?

I find it very motivating that the CEAG is there as a genuine support for staff. The reward is being able to help and inform such bright, remarkable colleagues. There are no easy cases – it's always challenging. But equally, always rewarding.

Room for Improvement

A £45,000 supporter-funded refurbishment has transformed the Ambulatory Emergency Department waiting area – and created a calmer, more dignified space that better reflects the quality of care delivered at the RUH.





The new Ambulatory Emergency Department, funded by the RUHX

Major Refurbishment

When patients arrive at the Emergency Department, how they feel matters – especially at such an anxious, uncertain moment. And patients had made clear that the Ambulatory ED waiting area had room for improvement. **That feedback prompted RUHX to fund a £45,000 refurbishment of the space.** Now it's transformed: New assessment cubicles, refreshed décor and the addition of radio and television create a noticeably calmer, more welcoming atmosphere – helping patients and families take their minds off the unexpected reason for their visit, in a space that finally matches the care being delivered within it.

A Better Place to Wait

The impact of the new waiting area has been immediate and measurable. Additional cubicles mean patients reach senior decision-makers more quickly, supporting improved four-hour performance and reducing time spent in the department. Crucially, the benefits extend to staff too. Better working conditions reduce environmental stress, helping clinicians deliver care more efficiently and with greater dignity – particularly important in a high-pressure setting.

"The Ambulatory Emergency Department waiting area has been fully renovated, transforming a previously tired and cluttered space into a clean, bright and welcoming environment. The refurbishment includes new seating, improved flooring and finishes, and the addition of dedicated assessment areas, helping to improve comfort, privacy and dignity for patients. The refreshed layout also creates a calmer, more functional space that better supports both patient flow and staff working within the department."

Bradley Isaac, Specialty Manager, Emergency Department and Urgent Treatment Centre

This is what supporter investment looks like in practice: a safer, more positive experience for patients at the moment they need it most, in a space that finally reflects the care being given within it.

Thank you to YOU for making it all possible.

A Day in the Life

Michelle Morrison, Cleaning Supervisor

Every day, Michelle Morrison and her cleaning team work quietly behind the scenes at the RUH – doing work that is every bit as vital as the care happening around them. RUHX sat down with Michelle, Cleaning Supervisor, to find out what it really takes to keep the hospital looking as good as it heals.

Over to you, Michelle...

I've been at the RUH for 12 years this July and I've worked my way up through a few roles. I started out as a cleaner, then became a housekeeper on Mary Ward in 2017, and in 2023 I stepped into my current role as a cleaning supervisor – so I've been doing that for about three years now. One of the things I really like about the job is that no two days are the same. My shift pattern is pretty steady – Monday to Friday, 6am–2pm, plus one weekend in four – but what actually happens during those hours can be very different day to day.

My mornings usually start with picking up from the night shift – checking what's happened overnight, logging any issues and making sure everything is recorded properly. There's quite a bit of admin involved, such as tracking sickness, annual leave and making sure it's all logged on the system correctly. It's important that everything is up to date, especially with a team as big as ours – there are around 300 staff across a 24-hour period. Then there's the more practical side. If something's gone wrong – such as a flood (which happens more often than you'd think, especially from showers!), I'll help deal with it. Sometimes that means getting stuck in with the cleaning team and helping sort it out with the machines. It's very much a hands-on job at times.

Staffing can be a real juggling act too. We're allowed a certain number of bank staff to cover vacancies and sickness absence, but when people call in absent, we're short of the correct amount of staff on shift, so we have to think on our feet. We do this by sharing our daily workforce around to find the correct staffing level and balance against the priority needs of the hospital. It's all about making sure every area gets the support it needs.

"We start each day with a team huddle to go through any issues, handovers, and decide who's covering which areas. Each supervisor is responsible for their own staff, including appraisals and competency checks. We'll observe staff cleaning, ask questions, and make sure training is in place if needed. We also carry out mini audits on wards and in kitchens and make sure things like cleaning cupboards are locked properly for safety."

For me, the most rewarding part of the job is working with people. I like being that first friendly face in the morning



– checking in, making sure everyone's OK and offering support if they need it.

Whether it's something work-related or something going on at home, we're there for the team. Even a simple "thank you" or bit of feedback makes it feel worthwhile.

The only part I don't really enjoy is the disciplinary side – it's never easy having those conversations – but it comes with the role and it's only a small part of what I do. Outside of work, I'm quite happy relaxing at home watching true crime, but I also love holidays (I've just been to Barbados for my 10th wedding anniversary!). I've also got a grandson who's just turned four and I love spending time with him and the rest of my family. I also walk my dog twice a day – even with my early starts, I'm up at 3:30am to fit in a morning walk! It's busy, but I wouldn't have it any other way.

Being Heard

Deaf patients can feel isolated in hospital – struggling to communicate at an already stressful time. To combat this, RUHX has funded a series of Deaf Awareness Boxes (DAB), now available across the wards and packed with everything needed to bridge that gap.

Every Voice Matters

Each box contains whiteboards and pens, notebooks, crescendo devices to magnify sound and 'How to Communicate With Me' cards – giving patients the chance to indicate their preference, whether that's lip reading, writing, captioning, British Sign Language or Makaton. There are Royal National Institute for Deaf people (RNID) communication tips, large print information sheets, hearing aid batteries and boxes and a poster for staff rooms with a QR code linking to the intranet guidance page. And because a hospital stay can involve a lot of waiting, the boxes include puzzles, crosswords and word searches too.

The benefits of the DABs run in both directions. Patients feel valued, included and more in control of their own care – and clinical staff gain a clearer, more confident way to communicate. DABs may be a simple idea but for a deaf patient on a busy ward, it can make an enormous difference.

"The Deaf Awareness Boxes, known as DAB, contain lots of information to help patients that are deaf and include resources that hopefully will enhance their stay in the hospital – enabling improved communication, as well as assisting clinical staff to meet their needs more effectively."

Mims Yacomeni, Family Liaison Facilitator Lead

What's Inside a DAB?

- Whiteboard, Notebook and pens
- Crescendo sound magnification device
- 'How to Communicate With Me' patient preference cards
- RNID communication tips
- Large print information sheets
- Hearing aid batteries and storage boxes
- Staff room poster with QR code to intranet guidance
- Puzzles, crosswords and word searches



Lucy Jones, Digital Inclusion Navigator, with Debbie Newcombe, Deaf Awareness Champion on the cardiac ward, and a DAB

In Memory of Heather

Heather Marshall – known to everyone as 'Boo' – worked in radiology at the RUH for an incredible 35 years. A much-loved wife, mother, friend and colleague, she left a lasting impression on everyone she worked with. Now, a dedicated bench in her memory ensures that legacy endures.

A Place to Pause

Located just outside the radiology department, the bench is a place where her former colleagues can take a quiet moment away from the demands of the department – and remember the happy times they shared with Heather.

Heather's family connection to the RUH didn't end with Heather. Her two children, Bea and Fred, both now work in radiology – carrying the family legacy forward in the most fitting way imaginable. The whole family is thrilled with the bench and plaque, and it's not hard to see why. For those who knew and loved Boo, it's a wonderful, permanent reminder of someone who will forever be remembered.

"I just wanted to say thank you for your help in getting the bench installed," Gary, Heather's husband, told RUHX. "I'm sure when the weather improves the bench will be well used."



In Memory of Heather Marshall



Gary, Heather's husband, with children Bea and Fred, at the bench

Small Shop BIG Heart

H.U.G.S – Bath's beloved charity shop on Chelsea Road – has just hit a massive milestone for RUH. Let's celebrate the shop with, well, a very large hug indeed...



Just some of the team that help keep HUGS supporting the RUH

More Than a Bargain

Powered by passion, teamwork and a lot of love for their local community, the H.U.G.S charity shop has raised an extraordinary £350,000 for patient care at the RUH since opening its doors in 2013. It's a milestone that reflects years of hard work from dedicated volunteers, generous donors and loyal shoppers who understand that every bargain comes with a bigger purpose. Over the years, H.U.G.S has supported Cancer Services at the RUH and is now backing the PET-CT scanner campaign – helping to enable earlier and more accurate diagnoses for patients. For its legion of stylish shoppers, H.U.G.S is a proper community hub, stocked with pre-loved, vintage and retro treasures from the 60s through to the 90s, alongside bric-a-brac and accessories. (Quality donations are always welcome!)

"People love to shop at H.U.G.S because it's a space that connects us all," shop manager Aurora said of the shop's success. "Not only are clothes and items donated and shared, but stories and experiences too. We are all connected to the RUH, and people love to give what they can to help – so please feel free to pop in!"

"We are beyond grateful to the team at H.U.G.S Charity Shop and their customers. Every donated item sorted, every visitor helped and every shift covered helps us go further to give every patient the extra extraordinary care they deserve. Reaching £350,000 is an extraordinary achievement and shows the level of passion and commitment of everyone involved. Their hard work will have a lasting impact on patients and families in Bath and beyond."

Laura Snell, RUHX Events & Community Manager

"Volunteering is my favourite part of the week. There is great sense of community between the team and customers – and I feel incredibly proud and grateful to work with amazing people!"

Tia-Rose, H.U.G.S volunteer



Meg, Jane and Tia-Rose – a few of the volunteering team that help H.U.G.S continue to support the RUH

Why not volunteer at H.U.G.S?
To find out more, visit **ruhx.org.uk**



Artist Natasha Clutterbuck leads patients through the workshop

To find out more about setting up a tribute fund in memory of a loved one scan here:

Making their Mark

In memory of Mark 'Huck' Hucklebridge, the beloved charity Friends of Huck is funding art workshops at the Dyson Cancer Centre – and the impact on patients is profound, personal… and hangs on the walls.

A Work of Mark

The Friends of Huck was created in 2015 by professional motocross rider Mark 'Huck' Hucklebridge and his wife Emma. Five years earlier, their lives changed dramatically when Mark was diagnosed with Stage 4 bowel cancer. He underwent chemotherapy, intensive radiotherapy and multiple operations. The family believed he had beaten it – but in January 2014, the cancer returned, growing rapidly. On 15 March 2017, Mark passed away, leaving the Friends of Huck as his legacy.

His family have continued the charity in his memory, supporting RUH Cancer Services and ensuring Mark's vision lives on. Their most recent donation of £10,000 has enabled the cancer support team to introduce complementary therapy workshops for patients at the Dyson Cancer Centre. The first, an art workshop, took place in April. Mark's Dad Chris attended to see the impact firsthand. "Art has previously really helped me cope with losing Mark, so it was a pleasure to support and attend this workshop," Chris told RUHX. "Being part of it, and hearing from current cancer patients about what they are going through while we painted felt like a really tangible way that Mark and his memory are still making good things happen today."

Art with a Heart

Art workshops like these can make a real difference to patients living with and beyond cancer – offering pain relief, reduced anxiety and stress, mood improvement, relaxation, relief from muscle tension and improved fatigue, among many other benefits. "We are really grateful for the donation received from Friends of Huck," Tracy Langton, Macmillan Cancer Support Wellbeing Hub Manager, told RUHX. "This will enable us to offer much needed support to our patients using art and complementary therapies in the Macmillan Wellbeing Hub. Our aim is to help patients cope better with any symptoms caused by their cancer or side effects caused by treatment, as well as provide emotional support."

From all of us at RUHX – thank you, Friends of Huck.

"It's such a pleasure that Friends of Huck can fund these patient art workshops at the Dyson Cancer Centre."

Chris Hucklebridge, Mark's Dad

"I always make sure I shape the environment so it's welcoming, relaxing and everyone taking part can relax and feel comfortable from the moment they walk in."

Natasha Clutterbuck, Art Workshop Artist



Chris Hucklebridge along with his wife Ange and Mark's Aunt Jan, taking part in the day's second workshop, funded by the Friends of Huck in memory of his son, Mark

Grounds for Celebration

Sulis Hospital in Peasedown St John is no ordinary private hospital. This summer, to mark its fifth anniversary, the team are marking the occasion by supporting our PET-CT scanner campaign in the most delightful way – donating £1 for every coffee served!



When you choose Sulis Hospital, you are not only investing in your own health and wellbeing, but you are also helping to make a difference to NHS patients and services throughout the region.



Five Years of Making a Difference

Five years ago, the world-class facility opened as Sulis Hospital with a vision unlike any other private hospital in the UK. Instead of profits leaving the region to benefit shareholders or a national healthcare group, every penny of profit generated by Sulis is reinvested directly back into local NHS services, helping to improve care for patients across the region.

The hospital, located in Peasedown St John, is proudly part of the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust – and one of the first private hospitals in the UK to be owned by an NHS Trust. It's a genuinely unique model, and an important one too. Thousands of patients have received expert treatment at Sulis, safe in the knowledge that their choice has a wider impact. Five years on, that vision continues to prove that private healthcare and public benefit can go hand in hand.

Sulis Hospital regularly treats NHS and private patients, providing faster access to procedures and appointments, easing pressure on local services and helping people get the care they need sooner. Patients who choose Sulis receive expert treatment in a modern, award-winning environment, supported by experienced local consultants, nurses and healthcare teams – while their choice simultaneously helps fund vital NHS services for the wider community. It's a partnership approach that benefits everyone. Exceptional care for you. A lasting impact for your community.

This summer, Sulis is supporting our PET-CT scanner campaign by donating £1 for every speciality coffee served at the deli in the Sulis Hospital. A small gesture – but one that adds up to something significant for the patients who will benefit from earlier and more accurate diagnoses.



Sulis Atrium and Deli Bar

SULIS HOSPITAL BATH

"You may not realise it, but every person who chooses Sulis is helping the NHS."

Simon Milner,
Hospital Director
Sulis Hospital





Sulis team members

Meet Our Team

This edition, we say hello to some of the wonderful people behind our Events & Community Team – and after this, they won't be strangers. So next time you see them, don't be shy!



Laura Snell Events & Community Manager

I have been part of the Events & Community team since 2013 and, having grown up in Bath, the RUH has been a constant through many of life's chapters. Today, my focus is on growing and shaping our community fundraising programme. I love creating exciting, innovative ways for people to get involved, while helping raise the charity's profile across the hospital's catchment area. Every single day, I am amazed by the ordinary – and truly brilliant – people who do extraordinary things to give back to our hospital. Their generosity never fails to inspire me.

Fun Fact: I surfed alongside a friendly seal in Cornwall!

Contact: 07385007912 **laura.snell1@nhs.net**



Ellie Wilkinson-Brown Events & Community Manager

I lead our fundraising events programme, helping our local community do amazing things in support of the RUH – from the Walk of Life to Skydiving. I love finding new and exciting challenges that inspire more people to get involved and fundraise for their hospital.

Fun Fact: I cycled from London to Paris with pink hair to raise money for Breast Cancer Now.

Contact: 07824836610 **e.wilkinson-brown@nhs.net**



Caroline Lovell Events and Community Coordinator

I help build strong relationships across our local community and support the delivery of inspiring events. I am passionate about making a difference and love bringing people together for a good cause.

Fun Fact: I once went to La Tomatina, the tomato throwing 'food fight' festival in Buñol, Spain – and got drenched by overripe tomatoes!

Contact: 01225 825691 **caroline.lovell2@nhs.net**



Laura Piner Events and Community Coordinator

I am very fortunate in my role to speak to many of our fantastic supporters on a daily basis – whether that's helping them deliver their own fundraising or dreaming up new ways to get the wider community involved in events. No two days are the same.

Fun Fact: I once DJ-ed in a bar in Tokyo!

Contact: 07824836655 **laura.piner1@nhs.net**



Tanisha Fair Community and Volunteer Officer

In my role I look after all of our incredible volunteers who choose to support RUHX. My favourite part of the job is hearing why people choose to give back – I love meeting new people and listening to their stories.

Fun Fact: Before working in the charity sector, I used to be a chef.

Contact: 07584771298 **tanisha.fair@nhs.net**

Doing the Rounds

These are the everyday stories, updates and impacts your donations have helped make possible. Welcome to our round-up...

Trauma Assessment Unit Recliner Chairs

Thanks to our brilliant supporters, **RUHX has once again been able to support the hospital's Trauma Assessment Unit (TAU) – this time with new recliner chairs for patients being assessed and treated following orthopaedic injury.** Comfort matters enormously in a unit where patients have often just experienced significant trauma. As Julie Jackson, Senior Sister, Trauma & Orthopaedics, told RUHX: "They're so versatile – their range of movement means they can keep injured patients comfortable, while also allowing medical assessment and treatment to be given whilst patients sit in them. That's particularly helpful with lower limb injuries."



Members of the TAU team pictured with the new chairs funded by RUHX donors

Privacy Prams

Recently, RUHX and the RUH Maternity Bereavement team had the privilege of meeting Sabrina, who has kindly donated a privacy pram to the Maternity Bereavement team and Neonatal Unit. "I had identical twin boys, Hunter and Lincoln. Lincoln was struggling – he was so small and they had TTTS (Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome), so I had to make the horrendous decision to turn off life support. He passed away at one day old," Sabrina told RUHX. "Hunter fought on for nine days, but struggling with sepsis, two brain bleeds and still being so small, we had to make that decision again. You're in such a whirlwind – you need really great support around you. But I didn't find there was enough for families like mine, so I wanted to change that."

The Privacy Pram provides a safe, dignified and discreet way for babies and children to be transferred, protecting families from further distress during an already heartbreaking time. Each one includes a double hood for increased privacy, a small 'Respect My Privacy' sticker and a handmade carrycot specifically designed to meet infection control requirements.



Sabrina presents the RUH Maternity Bereavement team with the new Privacy Pram

Kidzmed – Pill Swallowing Training

Thanks to your generosity, the Kidzmed programme is now part of everyday life on the Children's Ward and Paediatric Assessment Unit – and it's already making a real difference. Developed by Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and recognised nationally with an NHS Sustainability Award, **Kidzmed is a six-step technique that teaches children and young people how to swallow pills.** It uses gradually increasing sizes of placebo medication alongside sports water bottles, with each step brought to life as a cartoon – making the whole process feel approachable and even a little fun. The benefits run deeper than you might think. Tablets contain less sugar than liquid medicines, and children who can take them tend to find it easier to stick to their medication. They're also far more practical – longer shelf life, no refrigeration needed, simple to store and transport, and readily available in local pharmacies. It's a small skill that can make a big difference to how children manage their health for years to come.



Kidzmed's six-step training! (credit: Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)

Events and Volunteering

RUHX is entering its summer season – that mid-year buzz of back-to-back fundraising events. And thankfully, we have you, our wonderful supporters, ready to turn up, join in... and put the fun back into fundraising. See you there.

Wingwalk, 25 August 2026

Take to the skies in our most daring challenge yet. Strap in for the thrill of a lifetime on the top wing of a classic 1940s Boeing Stearman biplane. Feel the rush, conquer your fears and let your fundraising for RUH Bath take flight. Places are limited – sign up now at **ruhx.org.uk.**

Glow Run, 16 October 2026

Ready, steady, glow! Join our after-dark three-kilometre family fun run through a colourfully lit course at Odd Down Sports Ground, Bath. Wear your best neon, get sponsored in style and help us light up the night for RUH Bath. Suitable for all the family, whether you're a first-timer or a seasoned parkrunner. Don't wait until it's too late – sign up now at **ruhx.org.uk.**

Events Calendar

August 25, 2026

Wingwalk

October 16, 2026

Glow Run

March 14, 2027

Bath Half Marathon

May 15, 2027

Walk of Life

To see our full events calendar, visit **ruhx.org.co.uk/events**

Wingwalk





Glow Run



Volunteers



Bath Half Runners



Volunteers



Fundraising Group Volunteers

We Need Volunteers Like YOU!

Exciting news – new volunteering roles are now launching at RUHX. Whether you love meeting new people, want to build your skills or simply fancy giving something back to your local hospital, there's a role with your name on it. From events and fundraising to community support, our volunteers play a vital part in helping us give patients the extraordinary care they deserve. Ready to make a difference – and have fun doing it? Join the RUHX volunteering family today.

To find out more and talk to our team, email:
fundraising@ruhx.org.uk

Or scan this QR code:

Volunteering Opportunities

- Community Champions
- Volunteer Speakers
- Collection Tin Coordinators
- Fundraising Group Members in Bath,Keynsham and Warminster
- Event Makers

RUHX Superheroes!

It's been a busy few months for these three extraordinary supporters – and their dedication to the cause deserves a very loud round of applause...

Sparklers

A massive thank you to Sparklers, a friendly social group who have shown up every single week since 2016, raising an incredible £3,300 for cancer services. **Every Monday, this special group of women each pay £3 to attend their regular meeting at Melksham Baptist Church, with funds raised through their weekly fees and the much-loved annual chocolate bingo.** It's a place where stories and refreshments are shared, where there's always a laugh to be had – and where gentle exercise keeps everyone on their toes. For ten years, those modest weekly contributions have quietly built into thousands of pounds – a testament to what dedication – showing up, week after week – can really achieve. Sparklers was founded to encourage healthy living, but it has become so much more than that. It's a genuine lifeline – full of warmth, friendship and mutual support, all while raising money for a cause close to every member's heart. Thank you, Sparklers. You are, quite simply, brilliant.



Sparklers, with Caroline from RUHX

James Hunter

An almighty congratulations to James, who marked his 40th birthday in the most remarkable way – by taking on 40 challenges for RUHX! Born at the RUH and having seen his family receive extraordinary care, giving something back felt personal. Over the past twelve months, James completed an incredible list of endurance feats:

- 10 x 5k races
- 12 x 10k races
- 9 trail races
- 6 half marathons
- 100-mile bike ride
- Two back-to-back marathons in Brighton and Manchester, both completed in under three hours 40

In total, he covered over 400 miles – the distance from Bath to Edinburgh on foot. And he did it all while navigating real life. Through every mile, James has raised more than £4,700 for RUH. Thank you, James – truly worthy of the superhero suit!

"Through injury niggles, missed races, feelings of overwhelm and juggling a busy life with racing and recovery, I have kept going with the charity in the back of my mind, and knowing the help and support this money will bring to those who need it most."



James Hunter

Enhanced Care Team

Meet some of the fantastic staff from the RUH Enhanced Care Team, who have raised an incredible £2,258 to help fund a new de-escalation room in the Children's Ward. They took on the epic challenge of climbing Pen y Fan – the highest peak in South Wales at 886 metres – alongside a raffle and cake sale at the hospital. Georgie, one of the team, told RUHX their motivation: "As a team, we work closely with young people in crisis, supporting them during their most vulnerable and overwhelming moments. This is a cause that truly matters to us. We're doing this to help create a dedicated calm and safe space for children and young people in crisis. That's why we're climbing Pen y Fan. It's steep. It's challenging. It will test us – but nothing compared to what our young people face every day."

To every member of the Enhanced Care Team – you are, quite simply, extraordinary. Thank you.

If you know a superhero who deserves to be in next season's edition of RUHX Extra, let us know at:
fundraising@ruhx.org.uk



Enhanced Care team summitting Pen Y Fan

RUH
The power to do more

Please give a gift today

Your details

Full name

Address

Postcode

Telephone No.

Email

We do not sell personal data to any third parties. Your personal details are held on our internal database, which allows us to contact you about the work of RUHX. If you are happy for us to send you information please tick how we may contact you.

☐ By post ☐ By email ☐ By telephone

Your method of payment

I enclose a cheque / postal order / charity voucher made payable to RUH Charitable Fund

To the value of £

OR please debit my Visa / Mastercard / Maestro / Delta Card for the above amount (Delete cards as appropriate)

Card No.

Start date / Expiry date /

3 Digit security code

Issue No. (if applicable)

Your donation

RUHX supports many extraordinary projects around the RUH where our donations are used. If you have a specific purpose for your donation please let us know in the box below.

I would like my gift to go even further:

For every £1 you give we can claim an additional 25p of tax at no extra cost to you.

giftaid it

☐ YES, I am a UK Tax payer and would like RUHX to reclaim the tax on all qualifying donations I have made for the past 4 years as well as any future donations until I notify them otherwise. (Please tick).

I understand that if I pay less income tax and/or Capital Gains tax in a tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

To enable us to claim Gift Aid on your donation, please ensure you have completed your name and address details above.

Please return form to:
RUHX, Royal United Hospital, Combe Park, Bath BA1 3NG

Signed

Date /

Gifts in Wills

☐ I would like to hear more about leaving a gift in my Will, please update me.

☐ I have already included a gift in my Will to RUHX.

Other easy ways to give

Call our friendly team on 01225 825691

Complete and return the donation for to us.

Scan the QR code or visit:
ruhx.org.uk/Summer26