

Rotherham celebrates the opening of state-of-the-art CT scanner



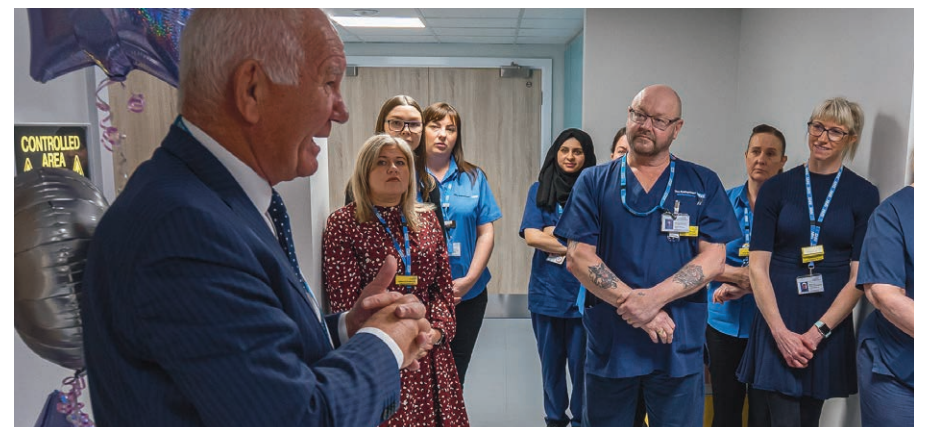
The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust is excited to announce the successful installation of its newest CT scanner at Rotherham Hospital, marking a step forward in advancing patient care and diagnostic capabilities.

The introduction of the new CT scanner promises a host of benefits for patients across Rotherham. The new facility will improve the patient experience thanks to advanced technology offering higher quality imaging and reduced radiation exposure, quicker diagnoses and more efficient treatment pathways leading to improved health outcomes and faster recovery.

Commending the collaborative effort that made this achievement possible, Dr Jo Beahan, Medical Director at the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, highlighted the pursuit of excellence as a guiding principle,

"I have the confidence that the new CT scanner will empower the diagnostic team to deliver unparalleled care and uphold the Trust's reputation as a leader in healthcare provision."

The opening of the state-of-the-art CT scanner represents a significant investment in patient care and underscores the Trust's continued commitment to excellence in healthcare delivery.



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Welcome from our Chair



I am now four months into my role as Chair of the Trust, and I have spent a lot of time meeting colleagues across our services. The skills and knowledge we have in Rotherham is something we are, quite rightly, proud of.

I'm looking forward to continue meeting with new people across all our sites. We are keen to listen to our colleagues and their ideas on how we can improve our services and the staff experience too, building on the success of the NHS staff survey.

It is also important to hear what our patients and service users think too. Your views help influence our decisions as we want to provide you with the best services we can



for your needs. We have just found out the results of our Public Governor nominations. Public Governors are one of the ways you can provide your feedback. They represent you as members of the local population, and you can find out more about our Governors on our website.

We have also recently closed the nominations for our annual Proud Awards. We had a fantastic response this year, with

759 nominations in total, of which 274 were from members of the public. The awards mean a lot to our colleagues, even just to know someone has taken the time to put them forward. I'm looking forward to finding out who has won at the ceremony next month.

Mike Richmond
Chair

The start of 2024 has been extremely busy for the NHS and we have seen high levels of demand for our services. Despite the challenge this presents, we have ensured our services remain safe and able to provide care to those who need it. I'd like to thank the Rotherham community for using health services wisely, as well as our colleagues who work hard 24 hours a day.

Some of you may have seen our UECC colleagues in A&E After Dark on 5Star over recent months. The show focusses on the A&E nightshift across three NHS Trusts and highlights the fantastic job they do, some of the injuries and illnesses they treat, as well as some of the challenging behaviours they face. If you have not yet seen it, you can catch up on My5.

Finally, despite the pressure on our services, we have continued to develop and improve our patient experience. In the past few weeks we have unveiled our new CT scanner, which is a significant investment, as well as ROSA (robotic orthopaedic surgical assistant) who's first use was helping with a knee replacement. You can find out more in the next few pages.

Over the next few months, we have further developments to unveil including a CT scanner at our Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) based at BreathingSpace and a new PALS (patient advice and liaison service) based in the hospital's main entrance. We are also looking at how we can better support those attending the hospital, and so we are drawing up plans for a new welcome desk as well as recruiting meet and greet volunteers to help you find where you need to go.

Dr Richard Jenkins
Chief Executive



A message from our Chief Executive



Home Chemotherapy Service is a triumph for patients across Rotherham

A year after the initial pilot began, the Trust's Home Chemotherapy Service has not only thrived but has become a beacon of hope and comfort for cancer patients across the borough. What began as a visionary initiative has now blossomed into a fully funded, permanent service, directly benefiting the community it serves.

From the minds of Dr. Joe Joseph, consultant haematologist and The Rotherham Foundation Trust's lead for chemotherapy and administered by a dedicated team of nurses, Amy Kemp and Hannah Newell, to the unwavering support of patients and their families, the journey of the Home Chemotherapy Service is a testament to the power of innovation and compassion in healthcare.



"Bringing chemotherapy treatment to patients' homes has been a game-changer,"

says Dr. Joseph, the driving force behind the service. "It's about making a difficult journey a little easier for our patients."

The success of the trial period, marked by the overwhelming satisfaction of patients and caregivers alike, has paved the way for a future where chemotherapy is not just a medical procedure but a personalised, empowering experience. By bringing treatment directly to patients' homes, the service has alleviated the burden of travel, parking woes, and the stress of navigating hospital appointments.

"The feedback from patients has been overwhelmingly positive," shares Clinical Nurse Specialist, Hannah Newell. "They appreciate the convenience and the comfort of receiving treatment at home."

Thanks to the resounding success of the trial, the Trust has made the decision to directly fund the Home Chemotherapy Service. This means that the compassionate care and convenience it offers will continue to touch the lives of countless individuals, ensuring that no one has to face their cancer journey alone.

"We're thrilled that the Trust has decided to directly fund the Home Chemotherapy Service," expresses Amy Kemp, another Clinical Nurse Specialist. "It means we can continue to make a difference in our patients' lives every day."

For the people of Rotherham, this milestone signifies more than just a medical advancement; it symbolises the local hospital and Rotherham community coming together to support its most vulnerable members, healthcare professionals going above and beyond, and a healthcare system that listens and responds to the needs of its people.

As the service expands, the ripple effects of its success extend far beyond Rotherham. With interest from other hospitals in neighbouring regions, the Home Chemotherapy Service has the potential to set a new standard of care, not just in Yorkshire but across the country.

In celebrating the achievements of the Home Chemotherapy Service, we are reminded that even in the face of adversity, hope can flourish, and healing can begin. As we look towards the future, the Trust will continue to champion initiatives that put patients first, making healthcare not just accessible, but truly compassionate.



Patient, John Fairchild

On Tuesday 23 April 2024, the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust became the first region in South Yorkshire to invest in a Robotic Orthopaedic Surgical Assistant (ROSA) to support total knee replacement surgeries.

The introduction of a robotic assistant into the Trust's Orthopaedic Theatre is expected to result in several significant outcomes for patients. It will ensure improved accuracy and reliability of bone resections and soft tissue balancing, leading to enhanced surgical outcomes.

Mr Anderson, Surgeon at the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust said: "The ROSA robotic system will revolutionise our approach to total knee replacements. This technology heralds a new era of accuracy and safety, ultimately transforming the patient experience."

One of the most compelling advantages of ROSA is the ability to eliminate the need for CT scans meaning we can completely eradicate patient exposure to radiation. This not only prioritises patient safety but also streamlines the treatment process.

Moreover, ROSA provides patients with personalised data, facilitating faster recovery times and minimising the necessity for in-person follow-up appointments. Studies have shown that robotic surgery often results in shorter hospital stays, allowing patients to resume their normal activities sooner.

"With ROSA, we are not just embracing innovation," said Jo Beahan, Medical Director at the Trust. "We are raising the bar for patient care across South Yorkshire."

Through this investment, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust continue to be flagbearers for innovation with the introduction of state-of-the-art robotics.

Rotherham leads South Yorkshire with cutting-edge robotic surgical assistant





Feet: Interview with a foot and ankle surgeon

National Foot Week took place in April and we caught up with Mr Nikhil Nanavati, one of the Trust's foot and ankle surgeons

As a Trust we see a huge amount of feet and ankle related conditions and injuries. In 2021 the Office for National Statistics census noted Rotherham's population as 265,800 – that's on average 531,600 feet! 'Healing' all of those feet is a big job, but we've got a fantastic team to do it.

Hi Nikhil, thanks for speaking to me today. We wanted to get this started by asking you about your background – and really, our main question is – why feet?

The reason I chose to go into a foot and ankle speciality is because it's very diverse. Every day is very different and I enjoy the variability within the speciality. Not every operation is the same – there are so many different parts in the foot and ankle, which are all very intricate and relate to each other in various ways. You have to have an innate understanding as to how one has a knock on effect on the other.

It sounds difficult but very rewarding.

It is. There's a real buzz about getting people walking again, because walking is such a fundamental part of people's lives. To not be able to walk or have pain whilst walking, can ruin a person's quality of life. So for us to be able to help people to be able to do those things again is great.

The surgical aspect is very technical. We're working with small bits of equipment, small implants, so you've got to be delicate with your hands, precise and deliberate with all of your movements.

For me, all of these things tied together make it a very rewarding vocation. You've got to be thinking and planning for your patients all of the time which I enjoy. I also really enjoy the multi-disciplinary team working aspects.

Are there recent developments in foot and ankle surgery technology that you think have contributed to the increased capacity and collaborative approach within the team's specialist service?

We've just appointed a new foot and ankle consultant here, Miss Lauren Thomson, because our service is booming

in the Trust. We're seeing a lot more patients under the speciality of foot and ankle with various complexities and had to increase our capacity as we're seeing more patients than we were 5 or 10 years ago.

We've set up a pathway in the region (a foot and ankle pathway for GPs and Allied Health Professionals) to make referrals easier. It gives an idea of the types of surgeries we can complete as a Trust and which conditions we can help treat.

For example, just now, I've just come from our first ever Infinity total ankle replacement. Lauren (the newly appointed consultant) and I completed this as a joint case together. Whilst this wasn't the Trust's first total ankle replacement it was both the Trust's, and my first one with this technology and this implant which is exciting. Thankfully it went really well!

Technology is improving which is giving us and our patients so many more options. Because we have such highly-skilled consultants in this speciality within the Trust, we can take a collaborative approach to our cases. This means we combine our various skills across a mix of areas and strengths for the best outcome for the patient.

This variety means we cover a lot of bases of the types of elective surgery we can offer as a Trust. Elective means that those surgeries can be planned in advance. We very rarely have to transfer patients to other hospitals or Trusts for foot and ankle surgery as we can complete treatment in house.

On top of the elective surgery, we have a very dynamic trauma set-up too.

Oh I was going to ask about that, I bet you've seen your fair share of fractured ankles!

Yes, absolutely. At the moment we've got 4 or 5 on our waiting list for reconstructive surgery. This afternoon I've got a complex 4 hour case for someone who has significant injured their their tibia (shin) bone.

Our understanding of foot and ankle has come along a lot, not just amongst ourselves as foot and ankle specialists, but our peers in other specialities.

I'm a keen teacher – not just to surgeons or doctors, but anyone who is interested and willing to learn. We've got a teaching session coming up for physiotherapists about the different types of surgery we

perform, and why we do those surgeries. We work closely with other specialties like physiotherapists, as we often share patient care together.

I suppose events like the teaching session could help to strengthen that rapport you have with various teams?

100%. When I first joined the Trust, something I was keen to invest time into was strengthening those relationships with different people and teams. One of the solutions we implemented was our complex multi-disciplinary team meeting which occurs once a month.

The orthotists, podiatrists, orthopaedic consultants and physiotherapists all get together to discuss 4 complex cases. We all assess each patient together which means that everyone can put forth their thoughts on patient care. Because we do it this way, it means we're not having to wait for referrals between specialties. It also means that our patients benefit from a joined-up approach to care because so many different specialities have assessed their needs and are looking for the best outcome for them. It's really efficient and really strengthens our team working.

Within the foot and ankle unit ourselves we have radiology meetings to assess elective cases we have approaching, so we

review x-rays and discuss our plans so that we're all on the same page.

As a Trust we're really well equipped and our multidisciplinary departments are brilliant. The orthotics department, run by Helen is a great department. She does wonders!

Is there any advice you'd offer to us to help keep our feet and ankles in top condition?

At the end of the day, accidents are accidents. A lot of the time it's a case of people keeping fit and exercising, then they might end up with an Achilles tendon rupture. Then they have to have time off work which can be distressing especially for those who are self-employed or work on their feet a lot, as it would potentially stop them going to work to earn a living. That can be devastating for people.

If I did have any advice it would be for those over the age of 35 to watch the level of activity they're doing – I'm not saying don't keep fit, we all know how important it is, but just be careful with high propulsion activities (like running) that could put your Achilles at risk.

You can't negate every potential accident! That's why we're here to help.



Rotherham leads the way in inclusive healthcare for individuals with autism

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust is proud to champion inclusive healthcare across the borough for individuals with autism.

Through the implementation of proactive measures and innovative solutions, the Trust is breaking down barriers and setting new standards for accessibility and support in healthcare settings.

"At the Trust we are committed to providing exceptional care to all individuals, including those with autism," says Joanne Beahan, Medical Director at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. "Our initiatives are driven by a deep understanding of the unique needs of individuals with autism and learning from people with experience, to making healthcare experiences more accessible and comfortable for them."



Key initiatives include the implementation of a comprehensive flagging system within the hospital, ensuring that individuals with autism are identified from the moment they enter care. This allows for tailored support and accommodations throughout their healthcare journey.

says Joanne. "By identifying individuals with Autism early on and making reasonable adjustments, we can provide personalised patient centred care that meets their specific needs."

In addition, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust has introduced sensory equipment and therapy tools in emergency departments to provide additional support for individuals with autism during stressful situations.

"We believe in taking a proactive approach to inclusive healthcare,"

"Our goal is to create a welcoming and inclusive environment where every individual feels understood and supported,"

emphasised Jenny Turedi, Learning Disabilities and Autism Matron at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. "Through collaboration with community partners and experts by experience, we are continuously striving to improve our services and ensure that individuals with autism receive the care they deserve."

If you have any questions or concerns about inclusive healthcare for individuals with Autism, we encourage you to take action today. In the first instance, please speak with your GP, who can provide guidance and support tailored to your specific needs.

Hints and tips for keeping your feet healthy

Our experts have provided some tips for looking after your feet.

"If you're working on your feet all day, you need to wear a sensible pair of supportive, fastening footwear, especially if you work in a job where you spend all day on hard floors. A lot of people who end up referred to us spend all day at work stood in footwear like ballet flats, which don't support your feet."

"If you are diabetic it's really important to know what your feet look like. Diabetic feet don't heal the same, so it's really important to be remember that even a tiny problem needs help so it doesn't become a bigger one."

"We see a lot more patients in the summer and around Christmas, which are times people go away on holiday. This is because people often buy new shoes to go on holiday with, but don't wear them in first.

We would advise to go on holiday with comfortable, worn in shoes that are the right size for you. You should only have a 1cm gap from your toe to the end of your shoe – anymore will rub or cause impact with it moving around".

"Make sure if you have a new problem that you get in touch with your GP about it and get the referral you might need."

"Try to avoid loose fitting shoes like flip-flops or narrow fitting shoes or trainers. These are usually the shoes that usually cause ingrown toenails."

"Check your feet! It's really important to know what is normal on your feet. Make sure you know their usual colour and how they normally appear. If you can't stretch to check it, put a mirror and the floor and check using that!"

Trust is second most improved in the country, says 2023 staff survey

We each have a voice that counts



The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust has seen significant improvements in its staff survey results.

The NHS national staff survey is conducted each Autumn and is the biggest survey of staff opinion in the UK. It gathers views on staff experience at work around the seven themes of the NHS People Promise, plus staff engagement and moral.

The 2023 survey response rate for The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust was 67%, the highest ever for the Trust and above the national average of 45%.

Dr Richard Jenkins, Chief Executive, said: "We thank everyone who found time to complete the survey. The results provide us with rich data that helps us understand the views of our colleagues in the hospital and community settings, which helps to inform our decision making.

"Of the 62 Trusts whose surveys are facilitated by Picker, we rank eighth in the league tables. In the complete national results, we are also eighth in the North East and Yorkshire ranking for staff 'agreeing' or 'strongly agreeing' they would recommend it as a place to work..."

"making it the second most improved in the country. We have over 5,000 colleagues working across our services and as one of the biggest employers in Rotherham, it is important to us that we listen to and act upon the views of our workforce."

Of the NHS People Promise themes, the Trust scored higher than average against each one, with some being very close to being the best results. Of over 100 questions asked as part of the survey, 90 had improved responses, one stayed the same and nine deteriorated.

Richard added: "We are delighted in the year-on-year improvement in our staff survey results, and we are determined to continue this trend. We want to be recognised as an employer of choice and one of the best Trusts to work for."



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View our vacancies and apply www.jobs.nhs.uk

Save the date



Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service relaunch at Rotherham Hospital

Are you a patient, relative, friend, or anyone affected by cancer? Come along to our launch event to meet our team, and learn more about how we can help you.

**Thursday 23 May 2024
11:30am onwards
Rotherham Hospital**

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

Supporting our Armed Forces community: Meet Michelle Murray



In a commitment to honour and support our service members, veterans, and their families, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust is proud to welcome its new DMWS Armed Forces Welfare Officer, Michelle Murray. With a wealth of experience in law enforcement and social care, Michelle brings a passion for serving others and a deep understanding of the unique challenges faced by those who have served our country.

The role of the Armed Forces Welfare Officer is pivotal in providing essential support and assistance to veterans, reservists, and their families, ensuring they receive the care, resources, and recognition they deserve. Michelle is dedicated to being a guiding light for those who have selflessly served our nation.

Michelle's commitment to her role is evident in her own words: "I've always been drawn to roles where I can make a difference in people's lives. From my time in the military police to my work in social care, I've seen first-hand the challenges that service members and veterans face. I'm excited to be part of Rotherham and to provide support to those who have served our country."

One of the key focuses of Michelle's role is to ensure that veterans, reservists, and their families receive the assistance they need to thrive in their civilian lives. By providing personalised support and guidance, Michelle aims to empower individuals to access the services and opportunities available to them, allowing them to lead fulfilling and meaningful lives.

Michelle's dedication extends beyond her professional responsibilities, as she actively seeks to engage with the community and collaborate with local organisations to enhance support services for veterans and

their families. Through partnerships with charities, community groups, and healthcare providers, Michelle aims to create a network of support that addresses the diverse needs of Rotherham's military community.

As Michelle embarks on her role as the Trust's Armed Forces Welfare Officer, she emphasises her commitment to serving those who have served our country: "My goal is to be a source of support and guidance for our service members and veterans. Whether it's helping them access healthcare services or connecting them with housing and employment opportunities, I'm here to help every step of the way."

Michelle represents a beacon of hope and support for veterans, reservists, and their families across the community. With her dedication, compassion, and expertise, Michelle is poised to make a meaningful and lasting impact in the lives of those who have bravely served our nation.

Trust shows empathy with #CallMe initiative

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust has pledged to support #CallMe; a campaign to address patients in the way they prefer.

Many people go through life being referred to as something other than their registered name. Maybe you're Samantha, but known as Sam, or you're known by your middle or nickname. Hospitals are no different as people are identified in many ways including NHS number, date of birth, hospital number and name.

#CallMe aims to establish from the outset how patients like to be addressed, regardless of what is on their notes.

Patients attending services provided by the Trust will now be able to indicate their preferred name to staff. For hospital inpatients, the preferred name will be printed on the patient wristband.

Cindy Storer, Deputy Chief Nurse, said: "We are dedicated to improving our patients' experience and showing that we respect their identities. Those visiting healthcare

settings can feel a range of emotions, and we hope this initiative will give comfort and reassurance to patients and family at what can be a vulnerable time.

"We are putting our patients first and this initiative is simple but very important. Sometimes the smallest things can make the biggest difference."

The Call Me project was originally conceived by Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and has since been adopted by a number of organisations around the country.



#CallMe
because names matter

"We are dedicated to improving our patients' experience and showing that we respect their identities..."

Cindy Storer
Deputy Chief Nurse



Get ready for...

IT'S A KNOCKOUT

Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity is challenging teams to take part in the summer's silliest fundraising challenge to boost the Tiny Toes appeal.

How often do you get to see your boss on a bouncy castle or your colleagues, friends and family dress up in silly costumes? Taking part in the It's a Knockout challenge on Sunday 7 July 2024 at Hooton Lodge Farm is the perfect chance to do so!

There will be inflatable obstacles, giant costumes, water, foam and general fundraising mayhem courtesy of Off Limits, which owns the original show's rights and props.

Rachael Dawes, Head of Fundraising, said: "It's a Knockout is a hilarious team event which will provide a touch of nostalgia, thrilling challenges and will guarantee some unforgettable photo opportunities. Teams will compete in action-packed challenges such as the Penguin Pursuit and Bangers and Crash, inspired by the iconic BBC1 show. We're challenging you to gather your friends, family and work colleagues to create your team now – we've limited availability. You can bring your cheering squad too, making it a fun day out for everyone.

"All the funds you raise for our Tiny Toes appeal will help The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust to refurbish the neonatal unit at Rotherham Hospital, creating a homely, comforting and modern space for our most vulnerable patients and their families."

The charity is running the event in conjunction with Weston Park Cancer Charity. You can secure a place by paying a £100 deposit. Each team should raise a minimum of £1,000. Teams from the Trust, Tesco and Century Cladding UK are among those who have already registered. Register here: <https://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/charity/events/its-a-knockout-registration>

The charities are looking for sponsors for the event to help raise as much money as possible for NHS patients in South Yorkshire. There are also opportunities for businesses to host a stall.

For more information about sponsorship or stall opportunities, get in touch with the charity team on 01709 426821 or trft.rhcc@nhs.net



Rotherham Hospital & Community Charity

Calendar of charity events

19 May 2024
Rotherham 10K

28 April and 15 September 2024
Skydives at Skydive Hibaldstow

22 June 2024
Total Warrior, Bramham Park, Leeds (get in touch with us for a unique discount code)

11 May 2024
Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge

7 September 2024
Manvers Charity Shield Dragon Boat Race, Manvers Lake events

8 September 2024
Great North Run (exclusive prices and benefits are available – get in touch)

20 September 2024
Charity Golf Day, Rotherham Golf Club

29 September 2024
Sheffield 10K

23 November 2024
Rotherham Polar Plunge, Manvers Lake.

Get in touch with the charity team on 01709 426821, email trft.rhcc@nhs.net or visit www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/charity/events



If you would like to support our charity, please get in touch for more information.

Email: trft.rhcc@nhs.net

Tel: 01709 426821



Rotherham Hospital & Community Charity



Please support our
TINY TOES APPEAL
Help raise
£150 000
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NHS
The Rotherham
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Donate via www.justgiving.com/campaign/tinytoesappeal
Text TOES to 70450 to donate £10
Text TOES to 70580 to donate £5
Text TOES to 70460 to donate £3

Reg charity number : Ref No 1054407

