

NOVEMBER 2018

Proposed merger with Somerset Partnership

Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust (which runs Musgrove Park Hospital) and Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (which runs community, mental health and learning disabilities services) have been working as an alliance to look at how we can work better to provide high quality services to our patients across Somerset. We have decided the best way we can achieve this is by merging which, if approved, would mean we will be one of the first acute, community and mental health trusts in the country.

Like the rest of the country, the NHS in Somerset is facing a number of challenges with more people using our services than ever before and increasing costs. Like other organisations in the country, we've also got a shortage of doctors, nurses and other clinicians. We believe that by merging, we'll be better able to address these challenges, but the single most important reason our trusts have decided to work towards a merger is to make services and outcomes better for the population of Somerset. We will be able to avoid duplication as well as removing the gaps that can sometimes occur when people transfer between services, which are frustrating for patients and their families and carers. The merger will help us to provide more joined-up care with patients only having to tell their story once when getting the care they need.

If the merger is approved, it should happen in Autumn 2019 and the organisation would have a new name. If you want more information, contact the membership office on Members@tst.nhs.uk.

As a result, we would strongly encourage you to become a member of Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust by contacting its membership office on 01278 432026 or via email foundationtrust@sompar.nhs.uk

Musgrove MRI scanner campaign

Musgrove needs a new MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scanner. Our two current scanners work to full capacity, seven days a week. A third MRI is needed at a cost of £1million. Most of us are likely to need an MRI scan at some stage of our lives.

The campaign is being generously supported by our League of Friends and the Somerset Unit for Radiotherapy Equipment (SURE). We are also grateful to the Somerset County Gazette for its support. We have raised over £930,000 so far. This is due to the incredible generosity of the Somerset community and beyond - individuals, organisations, businesses, trusts and foundations. We are nearly there and it would be the best Christmas present to achieve the £1 million.

If you wish to donate, please send a cheque made payable to 'Love Musgrove MRI' to: Love Musgrove, Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, TA1 5DA, or call the fundraising office on 01823 344437.

Love Musgrove is looking for collection box volunteers to either put out new tins within the community (and ensure they are emptied etc) and people to look after the tins we currently have out (predominantly in Taunton). If you could spare some time to help, please contact the fundraising office for more information.

*NHS Discounts: As a member you can access NHS Discounts by registering at this link.
<https://tsft.group-login.com/login>*

Governor drop-in sessions

Governor drop-in sessions are an excellent opportunity for governors and the public to meet. These sessions are held in the hospital's Jubilee Concourse (by M&S), from 12 noon - 2pm. Dates will be posted on the governors' page on the website at: <https://www.tsft.nhs.uk/about-your-hospital/members-and-governors/meet-the-governors/>.

Musgrove Park Hospital declares its new radiotherapy CT scanner officially open



A brand new £500,000 state-of-the-art radiotherapy CT scanner was officially opened at Musgrove Park Hospital by the Mayor of Taunton, Catherine Herbert. The scanner is a vital piece of equipment which is essential in the planning of radiotherapy treatment.

The SURE charity raised the money to buy the radiotherapy scanner through the dedication of its team of fundraisers in the community.

The radiotherapy CT planning scanner is the first major piece of equipment to be upgraded as part of a three year equipment replacement programme. This will enable the Beacon Centre to continue to provide the latest range of radiotherapy treatments for its patients.

Patients give seal of approval to Musgrove's food and care environment

Recent figures published by NHS England following the annual patient-led assessments of the care environment (PLACE) show that patients have rated Musgrove above the national average in six out of eight categories for its food and environment. The hospital was rated 97.1% for cleanliness, 95.7% for nutrition and hydration, 96.5% for availability of food on the wards, 93.1% for service of meals, 93.7% for privacy, dignity and wellbeing, 92% for condition, appearance and maintenance, 96.2% for dementia and 92.4% for disability.

PLACE assessments were introduced by the NHS in April 2013 as a way of seeking feedback from patients themselves on how the environment and services at hospitals and other NHS centres could be improved. They are led by patients, with relatives and carers also taking part.

Our people awards

The hospital is holding a joint staff recognition ceremony with Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust in November 2018. Patients and staff were invited to nominate individuals or teams who have excelled across 11 different categories, eg Patient Champion, Emerging Leader, Inspirational Leader, Quality Improvement Innovation, Outstanding International Colleague of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and Working Together. Over 200 individuals or teams have been nominated for these awards, which will be shortlisted by a panel of judges for each category. The shortlisted nominees will then be invited to a celebratory dinner at the Somerset Cricket Club in November where the winners will be announced.



Parkinson's UK donation to Musgrove's Triscombe Ward



The Taunton and Mid-Somerset branch of Parkinson's UK recently visited Musgrove's Triscombe Ward to donate a voice amplifier to help improve communication with some of our Parkinson's patients. A big thank you to the branch for the donation.