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Refreshing our values
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NEWS

Call to action for eye health

Patients, professionals and the public are being invited to have their say by NHS England, in a consultation debate around the provision of eye health services.

“The NHS belongs to us all: a call to action” was launched at the Vision UK conference. It focuses on a more preventative approach, early accurate detection by primary care services and effective management in the community. To achieve that, NHS England wants your views to inform and develop a long-term sustainable plan. The consultation will run until 12 September 2014.

Dr Mike Berwick, NHS England’s deputy medical director, said: “Preventing eye disease and promoting early detection of eye disease through improved access and uptake for routine eye tests are key components of this call to action. Ensuring that patients receive the most appropriate care at the most appropriate time and in the most appropriate location is also vital.”

You can respond to NHS England via the following methods:

• Eye health and reducing sight loss – A ‘Call to Action’ survey link can be found by clicking on the following page http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/qualclin-lead/calltoaction/eye-cta/ NB an accessible version of the survey is available.
• Email: england.sfcpc@nhs.net
• Writing to: Martin Smith, Senior Programme Manager, Primary Care Strategies, Commissioning Development, Room 4E56 Quarry House, Leeds, LS2 7UE

NEWS

Going for gold... welcome to Moorfields in Stratford!

Moorfields opened a new general eye care service at the Sir Ludwig Guttmann Health and Wellbeing Centre on the former Olympic park in Stratford on July 28.

Patients in the new five-day-a-week service will be seen by eye care specialists who can provide treatment for general ophthalmology, paediatrics (children’s vision clinics), diabetic retinopathy and age related macular degeneration. A monitoring service for Newham glaucoma patients, currently seen at other Moorfields sites in London, will also be provided.

Diiani Sinwardena, consultant ophthalmologist and clinical director for Moorfields East, the division under which the new service will be managed, said: “The Moorfields team are delighted to be working here with the local community in Stratford, providing patients with a range of services to treat eye conditions and bringing high-quality eye care closer to their homes.

“It’s a real privilege to be establishing the service in the Sir Ludwig Guttmann Health and Wellbeing Centre.”

Patch party marks World Orthoptics day

Children coming to the Richard Desmond Children’s Eye centre were invited to a special patch party to mark World Orthoptics Day on June 2 and to discover more about the work of orthoptists.

Moorfields’ team of orthoptists set up an information stall and display to promote to patients and their parents the role of orthoptists and orthoptic therapy. For a child with amblyopia (lazy eye), patching plays a major part in treatment (see winter 2013 edition of In Focus for more about the condition).

The International Orthoptic Association (IOA) encourages its 15-member national professional organisations and six associate member organisations to organise various events to mark the day to heighten awareness of the orthoptic profession and to promote the activities of orthoptists locally, nationally, and internationally.

Quick picks

Six Moorfields undergraduates in top 20

Medical students from Moorfields’ undergraduate education department performed highly in the 2014 Duke Elder undergraduate prize examination. The examination saw 350 students from 36 medical schools in the UK and Ireland compete for the prize. Six of the top 20 slots went to our medical students from Queen Mary, UCL and St George’s. This year’s winner is Ersong Shang of University College London, who will collect £400 or the equivalent prize.

New health hub opens

A new health information hub has opened on the ground floor at City Road, close to the main entrance.

Patients are being encouraged by staff to visit the hub after their appointments to find leaflets and advice about a range of ophthalmic conditions and general health guidance.
**Our mission is to focus on treating patients, teaching and research.**

**Pioneering operation in Armenia saves babe’s sight**

Many Moorfields consultants, nurses and other clinical staff regularly volunteer in their own time to work in countries for charitable organisations to provide specialist treatment not widely available to people from their own health service.

Some work on specially converted trains and planes which act as traveling hospitals, while others visit developing countries to provide treatment and training to establish new services.

In May, Mr Sui Chein Wong, one of our locum consultants, made the headlines when he and a team of Armenian doctors saved the sight of a four-month-old baby born with a retinal detachment due to retinopathy of prematurity. It was the first time an operation of this kind had been performed in Armenia.

A leading American paediatric surgeon, Dave Lee, was on hand for 48 hours via a tele-link to provide extra support and advice for the four-hour operation and the operations of 11 other children, saving them all from a life of blindness.

**Moorfields in... Abu Dhabi**

Moorfields is to open a new eye centre in Abu Dhabi towards the end of 2014.

Chief executive John Pelly visited the United Arab Emirates in June to sign a partnership agreement with United Eastern Medical Services (UEMS), Abu Dhabi's leading privately owned healthcare development and investment company.

The Abu Dhabi centre will offer the same range of high quality clinical services and day case surgical procedures as Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai. These will include paediatric ophthalmology, strabismus, glaucoma, medical and surgical retina, oculoplastics (cosmetic surgery around the eye), corneal, and refractive (vision corrective surgery).

At the official signing, Mr. Mohamad Ali Al Sherfa Al Hammadi, CEO and managing director of UEMEDICAL, after commented “This agreement represents another step for UEMEDICAL in the realisation of the UAE leaders’ vision to provide the people of the UAE with the best healthcare facilities comparable to international standards.”

John Pelly said: “We are very pleased to sign this partnership agreement and to bring Moorfields’ world-class eye care services to the community of Abu Dhabi. Our mission remains constant: to focus on treating patients, teaching and research and this new centre will aim to make a significant contribution in all three areas in Abu Dhabi. Surpluses generated by our commercial divisions are reinvested in services and facilities for all our patients.”

**First nurse consultant**

**Congratulations to Adam Mapani on his appointment as Moorfields’ first nurse consultant.**

Adam’s new role builds on his work and experience as an advanced nurse practitioner in the medical retina service. He will be taking on additional responsibilities which include having a more autonomous role in seeing, treating and discharging patients. The role has been described as acting as a catalyst in highlighting the importance of nursing in ophthalmology and Adam will be expected to participate in national and international research projects.

Adam is also currently overseeing a ‘remote’ clinic for patients with stable age related macular disease at City Road and earlier this year won the Novartis and Alcon Allied Healthcare Professionals’ award in recognition of his innovative efforts around patient care management.

Tracy Luckett, director of nursing and allied health professionals, said: “I am delighted to be able to announce this appointment. Adam has been pivotal in the delivery of innovative services at the trust and it is great to see the fulfilment of another key part of our nursing strategy with the establishment of these new key roles. Ophthalmic nursing is a specialised and rewarding career which can be full of opportunity as evidenced by Adam’s career at Moorfields and this appointment. It’s an exciting time for the nursing service.”

Adam took up his new position on July 1.

**London Health Commission roadshow at City Road**

The London Health Commission’s (LHC) roadshow, Imagine Healthy London, visited Moorfields on July 1 to hear what patients, the public and staff think about health and well-being, their services and what improvements can be made to health care in London.

The feedback will be used to help the LHC understand what matters most to people when it comes to their own health, and to the recommendations it makes to the Mayor of London in the autumn.

The London Health Commission is an independent inquiry established in September 2013 by the Mayor of London. It is chaired by Professor the Lord Darzi (pictured). The LHC will report its recommendations directly to the Mayor this autumn.

**Hand hygiene stars**

The infection control team took the hand hygiene message to staff and patients in a series of activities at City Road and many of our satellites to mark Hand Hygiene Day on May 5.

Hand hygiene is considered the single most important way of preventing the spread of healthcare-associated infections by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The day is used to remind staff about the ‘five moments’ of hand hygiene which are:

- Before patient care
- Before an aseptic procedure
- After a body fluid spillage
- After patient contact
- After contact with the patient environment

To support Hand Hygiene Day, Moorfields’ infection control team launched a ‘hand hygiene star’ campaign. This included a ‘pledge board’ for each clinical area for staff to show their commitment to good hand hygiene by signing the pledge and an ongoing competition which will feature ‘hand hygiene star cards’.

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**Is it REAL?**

This is a Macular Society campaign about the relationship between smoking and macular degeneration launched this summer. **Eye view** finds out more.

Ann Watson was looking forward to attending a family celebration. The event had been planned for months, but she woke up and found she couldn’t see well.

Unaware she had macular degeneration, Ann spent the day with family and friends not being able to see the faces of relatives she had known for years. Although increasingly anxious about her failing sight, she was intent on not spoiling the day for those close to her and remained silent about her eyes until she got home and told her husband.

Ann is now a Moorfields patient and one of a number of members of the Macular Society who are participating in the “Is it Real?” campaign about the relationship between smoking and macular degeneration.

The hard-hitting campaign was launched in June and aims to let children know that smoking could eventually cost them their sight.

The centre piece of the campaign is a series of three intriguing videos depicting the lives of people affected by macular degeneration who pose the question “Is it real?” A supporting website gives children and teachers information on the link between smoking and sight loss.

The videos are designed for viral sharing and will target one million children who use the schools’ reward platform VivoMiles.com and a further 1.6 million through cinema advertising.

A survey of 10 year-olds, under taken by Moorfields fellow Phillip Morandi for the campaign revealed that 98% did not know that smoking increases the risk of developing sight loss.

However, when this link was revealed they ranked blindness as the ‘most feared’ consequence of smoking, ahead of heart disease, stroke and even lung cancer. These findings back up findings in a previous survey of teenagers.

It is not clear why children fear sight loss more than cancer. The campaign, which is aimed at 11 to 14-year-olds, will include a questionnaire which at least 20,000 children are expected to complete.

Research suggests smokers are up to four times more likely to get macular degeneration compared with non-smokers.

Smokers with certain genes may be 20 times more likely to get it. The combination of smoking and genetics may account for as much as a third of all macular degeneration.

Philip Morandi will also will analyse the new data from the campaign survey. He said: “We need to have better information on which health messages will work with children. At the moment, 600 children in the UK start smoking every day. That represents a devastating effect on the health of these young people later in their lives. It may seem logical to concentrate health messages on the life-threatening consequences of smoking, but it may be that raising awareness of the risk of blindness would be more effective.”

People who have Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) are only too well aware that there is currently no cure for the condition. There are, however, consultants and scientists at the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology (IoO) and Moorfields who are involved in pioneering research to find a cure or different treatments which could lessen the progression of the disease.

Patients had the opportunity to find out about the latest research and future treatment approaches on July 5 at an AMD day organised by the UCL and the NIHR Moorfields biomedical research centre.

Around 200 patients joined researchers, healthcare professionals and charities for the event, which opened with a series of short talks from researchers and clinicians from Moorfields and the IoO, and from Tony Rucinski, chief executive of the Macular Society.

Following a welcome from Professor James Bainbridge, professor of retinal studies at UCL and consultant at Moorfields, Mr Adnan Tufail, who oversees AMD research for Moorfields, gave a brief overview of AMD and current treatment approaches.

Dr Ulrich Luhmann and Professor David Shima, senior researchers at UCL, discussed the topic of research into new treatments for wet and dry AMD respectively.

On wet AMD treatment Dr Luhmann commented: “We know patients want an alternative to monthly injections. Our research into gene and sustained release therapies could one day provide life-long treatment with a single injection.”

“Other alternatives that are currently being explored by several groups in the Institute or in clinical trials across the world include targeted radiotherapy and nanoparticle eye drops. Although these approaches are still several years away from the clinic, future treatment for wet AMD could look very different from today.”

Patients were given an introduction into the questions AMD research is trying to address by Professor Robin Ali, head of the department of genetics at the Institute of Ophthalmology, and Tony Rucinski explained the Macular Society’s goal of greater investment in research. Professor Gary Rubin, deputy director of the Institute then spoke on his research into devices for low vision.

Professor Bainbridge closed the morning’s proceedings with an update on current research into stem cell treatments for the eye and an introduction on increasing collaborative working between patients and clinical researchers.

The afternoon gave attendees an opportunity to meet with researchers and clinicians to chat about their work and discuss personal experiences of living with AMD.

Many charities and organisations that support pioneering research for severe vision loss were also on hand to answer questions. These included the NIHR biomedical research centre and the Macular Society who, along with the Welcome Trust, were both sponsors of the event.
Low vision day

I feel more positive because I now know there is help and support available."

That was the verdict of one of the patients who attended the low vision day organised by the NIHR biomedical research centre based at Moorfields and the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology in June.

The day brought together patients and relatives, healthcare professionals from the Moorfields low vision clinic, and researchers in vision research, engineering and environmental design to provide everyone with an opportunity to ask questions, meet and share experiences, and shape research for the future.

The challenges of accessing public transport for people with low vision was the first talk of the day, as they readily talked about personal experiences of the CVI pathway.

Tailoring devices

An insight into the devices designed for people with low vision and how important it was for people to receive advice about tailoring devices to suit their needs and lifestyles was provided by Katy Barnard, a senior optometrist from Moorfields’ own low vision clinic.

Another talk, in the afternoon, outlined the different types of research that can be undertaken and how people can get involved in diverse ways to help make research meaningful and relevant to patients’ needs.

“I learnt about the difficulties others with different conditions have that I was unaware of.”

Contrast – often overlooked!

Professor Gary Rubin (UCL Institute of Ophthalmology and Moorfields Eye Hospital) and Professor Hilary Dalke (Kingston University) who rounded off the day, spoke about a recently concluded project that tested the importance of contrast for 105 participants who have low vision. In short, the project has provided evidence that high contrast between an object and its background is very helpful to people with low vision. Just thinking about how difficult it is to locate a glass door in a glass-fronted shop illustrates how contrast could be better used by designers! The results from the project, along with the feedback received at low vision day are being used as evidence in presentations to architects and designers about the need for high contrast when designing buildings and in town planning.

If you would like to attend one of our future events, please do keep a look out on the NIHR biomedical research centre website at www.brcophthalmology.org.

The public had the chance to gain an insight into the science and research behind future eye treatments when the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) clinical research facility (CRF) at Moorfields held a free open day in May.

The event was held to mark the NIHR clinical trials day and included several investigative scientists showcasing ground-breaking research they have undertaken; a session devoted to exploring the structure of your own eye in demonstrations of Moorfields state-of-the-art imaging equipment; and an opportunity to participate in interactive workshops demonstrating clinical skills and discussing the importance of eyes and vision research.

Discovering science

The talk about the potential benefits to people of receiving a certification of visual impairment (CVI) stimulated a great deal of response from patients as they readily talked about personal experiences of the CVI pathway.

Commemorative shot NIHR clinical research facility staff and mascot, who all participated in the day, gather in the reception area of the facility.

Experiencing eye disease through simulation. Pairs of glasses which can simulate what it is like for the wearer to experience sight loss through glaucoma and AMD among other conditions proved to be one of the most popular events at the open day.

Those speaking on some of the latest scientific advances in treatments included Mr Frank Larkin on clinical research in corneal diseases, Professor David Garway-Heath on the UK Treatment Study for Glaucoma and Mr Praveen Patel on age-related macular degeneration (AMD), who all gave presentations on their specialist areas of research.

Two very popular sessions were the simulation sessions which enabled participants to wear different glasses to experience what it is like to have glaucoma or AMD and the resuscitation demonstration.

Research nurse Charlene Formento who led the simulation session is pictured with participants and the range of glasses that enable the wearer to experience the different stages of sight loss conditions. These glasses are also used in medical student training at Moorfields to enable them to understand what patients with sight loss are going through.

Focus groups

Patients had the chance to share their experiences.

www.moorfields.nhs.uk
Meet the Master

Moorfields consultant in public health and ophthalmology Miss Parul Desai is the first woman to be appointed to the prestigious role of Master of the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress – one of the oldest and largest meetings of ophthalmologists in the UK and Europe.

Maintaining its status as a key meeting to hear about advances in ophthalmology, the congress attracts distinguished ophthalmology specialists, faculty groups and students from both the UK and abroad and was first established in 1909.

Parul is delighted to have been elected as master: “It’s a wonderful honour and privilege to do this and to follow in the footsteps of an august body of people who have been masters before me. I am both thrilled and a little bit terrified at the prospect,” she said.

The mission of the congress, which dates back to its formation, is “for the cultivation of the spirit and good fellowship and of unconventionality, the right of our youngest member to rank with his oldest colleague” and “the frank, free and tolerant discussion of scientific matters.”

Parul believes that it is this mission which remains the congress’s great strength and very much to the forefront of its activities today. “The congress brings together everyone from the most junior ophthalmologist to the most eminent consultants and professors; it has the most wonderful spirit. It always provides participants with great nuggets of information that you can take away with you whatever your sub-speciality. Being set in Oxford provides a unique backdrop and wonderful atmosphere for learning, sharing ideas and socialising, that are the essence of the congress.”

For Parul, who takes over the master’s role from Professor Andrew Dick of Bristol University, the appointment also means there is a sense of her career coming full circle for her. “The first time I presented at the Oxford congress was at a master’s symposium before I was a consultant; now, alongside my colleagues on the council, I am going to be organising the master’s symposium.”

Power to prescribe – specialist optometrists

Independent prescribing has been expanding at Moorfields as we explained in the winter issue of In Focus.

Currently, there are 30 specialist optometrists who are qualified independent prescribers at Moorfields, with more to come over the next few years. They work in a range of extended roles throughout the trust, including in glaucoma, medical retina, cataract, external diseases, A&E, and general ophthalmology. In each service, specialist optometrists are working within a protocol and now those with independent prescribing rights have the autonomy, where appropriate, to treat and manage patients.

Specialist optometrist Michael Banes describes why he thinks the system has benefits: “Patients benefit from our increased knowledge and clinics flow better with fewer interruptions to our medical colleagues. “In turn, it helps Moorfields to provide a better service – which, with increasing numbers of patients, is important. My extended role is in the glaucoma service, but even with my independent prescribing rights, I still never hesitate to discuss any concerns with a medical member of the team.”

Dogtor Wag talks visual field tests with Dipesh Patel

Dipesh Patel is a research assistant/honorary research orthoptist, and part of a team undertaking research into the best ways to carry out a visual fields test in children. Here he tells Dogtor Wag why it’s important to find the best visual fields test for children.

Why are you carrying out research into visual field testing?

We are doing our research because we want to find out the best way of testing visual fields in children, which isn’t known as most research so far has been on adults.

When did the study start and when will it finish?

We started in January 2012 and will finish at the end of 2015.

Can you describe what happens to children in your research project?

We ask children to take a few different tests, to see which ones they like doing, and to see whether the different tests give the same results. All of the tests involve sitting at a visual field test machine with one eye covered. Little lights flash up in the bowl, and whenever a child sees a light, they press a buzzer. Lots of children say doing the test is like playing a videogame!

How many children are taking part in your study?

So far, over 200 children have taken part, and we hope to have 50 more take part by the end of the study.

Who will you tell about your research findings?

Our results will help eye doctors make decisions about how to treat eye problems, so we will make sure that the information is available to doctors and other scientists. We also let patients and the public know, partly through Guide Dogs – the charity that is funding us – and the other organisations who are involved, including the NIHR biomedical research centre at Moorfields and the Ulverscroft vision research group.

What’s the most interesting thing you have found out to date?

So far, we have found that lots of children can take visual field tests and do really well on them, even if they are very young, but some machines are easier to use than others. We’ve also found that children and young people don’t have the same visual fields as adults. This is important for doctors to know when they are looking at visual field test results in children to see if there is a problem.

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AROUND MOORFIELDS

**Ghanaian nurses follow the patient pathway**

Four Ghanaian nurses visited Moorfields for a two-week training programme in June as part of the project to establish a brand new eye care unit at Korle Bu Hospital in Accra. The focus of the visit was to provide a complete understanding of the patient pathway from admission to discharge and a comparison of how different units could be made.

At City Road, the nurses looked at the sterilisation of instruments, ordering of equipment and patient flow in theatres, and visited a day-care ward, the pre-assessment unit, A&E, minor operations and ocular prosthetics. They also visited other theatres at our eye unit at St Ann’s and at Hinchingbrooke Hospital in Huntingdon so a comparison of patient pathways could be made.

One nurse commented that she noticed that all staff were, “Very committed to their work and ready to teach and share ideas.” Clinical nursing lead for education and research at Moorfields Helen Gibbons said: “Many thanks to all those who helped plan the programme and were involved in making the nurses feel so welcome.”

The Ghana nurses rounded off their week by attending the International ophthalmic nurses association conference at the Royal College of Nursing, where Dr. Spore and nurse Ellen Clegg both gave presentations. Ellen’s was on nursing in Ghana and Sophie Spore gave a talk on the train the trainer initiative in Ghana last September.

**All eyes on North Carolina**

Staff from our Eyebank which supplies tissue for sight saving operations including corneal transplants, glaucoma operations and research, recently visited the North Carolina EyeBank.

The team were there for a fact finding and training visit to see first-hand their day to day operation including how they operate commercial and philanthropic arms and how they have driven up tissue donation rates.

Moorfields Lions Eyebank manager Khilan Shah said: “The team were hugely impressed by what they saw and have come back with many ideas and plans to take forward the development of our own eyebank. Particularly impressive is the philanthropic side of the operation which involves sight saving work in India and Africa and southern Asia. This includes training consultants to perform transplant surgery backed by trained technicians who support the service.”

**Satellite charity champions**

Members of the Moorfields Eye Charity team have been holding lunch events in our satellite locations at Mile End, Northwick Park, St Anne’s, St George’s, Ealing, Croydon and Bedford to increase awareness of the charity’s work and to encourage staff to become an ‘MEC charity champion’.

The initiative is aimed at establishing a bigger charity presence and promoting our growing programme of ‘challenge’ events, by helping to recruit participants by having a contact point in the larger satellites who can provide further information.

Many patients who have benefited from the care and treatment provided by staff at the hospital are receptive to supporting Moorfields when made aware of the charity and the various ways they can get involved.

If you work at one of the satellites and would like to learn more about becoming a charity champion, please contact Alex Aggidis, individual giving campaigns assistant, on 020 7566 2565.

**Carrot walkers for thyroid eye disease**

A group of staff from Moorfields are putting their best feet forward to raise funds for thyroid eye disease research in the Fight for Sight 2014 Carrot Night walk. Taking part in this charitable event on September 19 are consultants Michele Beaconsfield and Daniel Ezra, nurses Carmel King and Nicola Dunlop with her student son Ernest, and five orthoptists: Leena Patel, Amrit Sehmi, Siobhan Ludden, Roisin Buckels and Farzana Begum.

The group aim to contribute significant funds to the £7,500 which the British Thyroid Foundation hope to raise for the walk.

**New era for Moorfields surgeons and alumni**

The Moorfields Alumni Association (MAA) and the Moorfields Surgeons’ Association (MSA) teamed up in the spring to host a new event – the Residents’ Winter Dinner.

Following the dinner, the Alumni Association’s dedicated archivist Richard Keeler gave an entertaining lecture on the history of Moorfields. Plans are now underway to make the dinner an annual event (attendees pictured).

Spring also marked a new era for both organisations when they merged to form the Moorfields Association (MA).

To find out more, please visit www.moorfields.nhs.uk/alumni.

**Striking new look**

There is a striking new look for the recently refurbished medical retina clinic (clinic 12) and medical imaging department at City Road, thanks to a range of art, photography and sculpture which has been donated.

Professional artists, patients, and staff from our very own medical imaging department all contributed to the display. A knitting group from the Institute of Ophthalmology has also produced an impressive 3D-knitted sculpture of the individual cells that make up the several layers of the retina. In addition, the library has contributed a selection of paintings produced by Terry Tarrant, an ophthalmic artist who spent most of his life capturing the essence of the diseased and healthy retina in the form of the most detailed and accurate watercolor paintings. He worked at the former High Holborn branch of Moorfields Eye Hospital before retiring in 1984.

The Moorfields arts committee organised the initiative and a lunchtime event to mark the unveiling of the artwork in early July. The display also includes photos of how the eye was examined by candlelight using the Helmholz Ophthalmoscope, invented in 1851, and how, through modern technology, we can use imaging techniques such as adaptive optics to visualise the individual cells of the living retina.
Moorfields’ employee of the month awards recognise staff who are willing to go the extra mile to provide really top notch services for patients or whose positive attitude makes them a joy to work with.

**JANUARY 2014**

Congratulations to our first employee of the month for 2014, Kate Kosa, catering administrator. Kate’s colleagues nominated her for “the outstanding support she continually provides to them and for always going above and beyond what is expected of her. Kate was described as being “extremely helpful and able to remain calm when she is busy and the department is short staffed.”

**FEBRUARY 2014**

Congratulations to Garry Auger, head of estates and maintenance. Garry was nominated for his dedication and hard work in improving the hospital environment for both patients and staff. His nominator wrote: “Garry always goes out of his way to address issues that are causing problems and never thinks a problem is too big or too small for him to deal with. He is always cheerful, always courteous.”

**MARCH 2014**

Congratulations to Aachal Kotecha, NIHR senior research associate. Aachal was nominated for her tireless work in getting the new virtual glaucoma clinic up and running. She is described as “an excellent colleague and invaluable member of the team” for her hard work on this project, which included coordinating staff, equipment and space and also considering how the patient pathway can be improved.

**APRIL 2014**

Congratulations to Meng Hsiao, ophthalmic technician. Meng was nominated by her line manager for being a “competent, hardworking, polite and patient-focused individual” and for being a valued member of the medical retina service team, whose organisational skills have contributed to the efficient delivery of daily services within medical retina. Colleagues described Meng as “an inspirational technician” who contributes enormously to the smooth running of a clinic that has a high volume of patients. “

**MAY 2014**

Congratulations to Jenny Wood, QA & GCP Co-ordinator in the research department. Jenny was nominated for her resilience, dedication and thorough professionalism in navigating Moorfields’ clinical research team through the recent MHRA inspection. Jenny ensured that every eventuality was considered and mitigated for a raft of potential scenarios. She showed great skill in guiding staff ranging from junior team members with little experience of an inspection to senior research consultants providing them with plenty of insight. One nominator said Jenny “deserves special recognition for her commitment and strong interdependent partnering skills.”

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**NAOMI SHEETER**

Clinical Operations Manager

**What does your job involve?**

I’m responsible for everything that happens in Moorfields’ Croydon site. It’s one of the newest sites so at the moment I have a lot of processes to establish, a refurbishment to work round and a lot of new staff to bring together as a team.

**What’s the best and worst thing about your job?**

The best things about my job are my colleagues; I’m also new to Moorfields and they have been very welcoming and as it is the first time I’ve worked in ophthalmology they’ve been patiently explaining what’s what. The worst thing about my job is that at Croydon we’re not on the Moorfields IT network yet, but happily only for a few more months.

**What superhero power would make your job easier?**

The ability to transport myself from site to site with a click of my fingers.

**What are you reading at the moment?**

I think I could tell you the story of ‘What the ladybird heard’ or ‘The Bear Hunt’ without opening the books, I’ve read them so many times recently to my nephew! If you were an animal, what animal would you be? I would like to be a honeybee – flying from flower to flower all day, making honey and hibernating all winter!

**What’s the best and worst thing about Moorfields?**

The best thing about Moorfields is that there’s always someone passionate about what they’re doing. The worst thing about Moorfields is that we’re not on the Moorfields IT network yet, which means we’re not able to access a lot of shared knowledge and expertise.

**What’s your ideal holiday destination?**

My ideal holiday destination is one that I have read Patrick Leigh Fermor because it would have a lot of good stories to share. If you were boss of Moorfields for a day, what changes would you make? I would put video-conferencing points in on every site; as it would save hours of time for those meetings where we don’t need to be face to face and it would encourage closer cross-site working.

**What’s your favourite childhood memory?**

I like to go to Evvia, Greece. It’s beautiful at all times of the year with drifts of wild flowers in the summer - you just have to avoid running over a tortoise on your way to the beach!

**What inspires you about Moorfields?**

It’s inspiring to work with people who are so passionate about what they’re doing.
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ten years as a Foundation Trust

April saw the 10th anniversary of the creation of NHS foundation trusts and Moorfields marked the anniversary in time-honoured tradition with a birthday cake at our membership council meeting on 10 April.

Our membership council includes governors who are elected by patients, local people or staff to represent their views to the board and wider management team, as well as governors nominated by partner organisations. Three of these governors - Jane Colebourn, Robert Jones and Bill Tidmas - have been with us from the outset so they did the ceremonial honours with the cake alongside Chairman Rudy Markham (far right).

Moorfields was one of the first 10 NHS organisations to become a foundation trust which were established to give the best performing hospital trusts greater autonomy and to create better accountability to patients, local people and staff.

New patient governor elected

Moorfields Eye Hospital is pleased to announce the results of its election in July for a patient governor to sit on the hospital’s membership council.

Congratulations go to Brenda Faulkner who was re-elected as a governor for our membership council following elections held between 23 June and 8 July 2014. Brenda is one of three governors representing the patient constituency of our foundation trust.

The full results were as follows:

Brenda Evelyn Faulkner 963
Emily Brothers 561
Patsy Roselyn Lindo 239
Michael Joseph Lazarus 227
Philip James 86
Vadivel Venkatasamy 80

At the AGM

Miss Sobha Sivaprasad and Mr Phil Hykin were due to give an overview of the potential future therapies for diabetic retinopathy - the leading cause of blindness in the working age population. Moorfields fellow Dan Gore and nurse Melanie Mason were the staff giving the presentation on the new service for keratoconus. Members will also hear the trust’s chief executive John Pelly give a review of the year and have their opportunity to put their questions to the trust’s board.

A full report on the AGM appear in the next issue of In Focus.

Annual Review out now

All attendees at the Annual General Meeting were given a copy of Moorfields’ annual review for 2013/14 which summaries our progress against our 10 year strategy “Our Vision of Excellence”.

You will have received your copy with this issue of In Focus and we hope you enjoy finding out about the trust’s activities for the past year.

The Moorfields Way – refreshing our values

At Moorfields we take great pride in providing safe, compassionate and high-quality care to all our patients. We are equally focused on ensuring that our trust is a great place to work for our staff. But we know that, for one reason or another, we don’t always live up to the high standards to which we aspire.

To address these inconsistencies we launched a new initiative in June 2014 – The Moorfields Way – to capture the passion, dedication and pride that we have for our work so we can be at our best more often in the future. We are doing this by encouraging our patients and staff to talk about what is great about Moorfields and where we have room to improve.

The first step of The Moorfields Way was a series of listening events called In Your Shoes during June and July that brought staff and patients together to talk about how we can continue to improve patient experience and the care we provide right across the trust. The events were extremely successful with over 140 people volunteering their time to help shape the future of our trust.

While patients are the centre of everything we do, The Moorfields Way is also about listening to our staff. Through this campaign we have already asked over 600 staff members to tell us what will improve their experience at work, because we know that motivated and satisfied staff will provide better care for our patients.

From late summer onwards, The Moorfields Way will continue to engage patients and staff so that together we can create an environment of which we are consistently proud.

For more information on how The Moorfields Way is improving our trust for everyone, please contact: inyourshoes@moorfields.nhs.uk or visit: www.moorfields.nhs.uk/TheMoorfieldsWay

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YOUR CHARITY

Moorefields has got talent

Last March, the Friends of Moorefields 50th anniversary celebrations got underway in style with an evening of entertainment performed by staff called “Moorefields’ Got Talent”. The event proved popular and made a comeback on July 9.

Introducing the amazing variety of acts were Al and Dec, alias medical director Declan Flanagan and consultant Alex Ionides. The audience, who paid £10 for their tickets, enjoyed several classical pieces, a choir led by HR director Sally Storey involving several clinical and management colleagues performing war time songs, an Indian classical dance; Brian Little, who wowed the audience with his magic skills; and teaming up for a musical audience with his magic skills; songs; an Indian classical dance; several clinical and management teaming up for a musical audience with his magic skills; songs; an Indian classical dance; several clinical and management HR director Sally Storey involving classical pieces; a choir led by Al and Dec, alias medical director Declan Flanagan and consultant Alex Ionides.

Reaching the high notes were Julie Campbell with Cry me a River, Pwakusari Tedugororno, performing her own composition; Jose Manuel Torres singing All of Me and Simon Pearce, who gave his all to Mustang Sally which had the audience on its feet. Judging the acts were: Tracy Luckett, director of nursing and allied health professions, Rob Elek, director of strategy and business development and Doctor Stacey Strong, the runner-up from last year, all ably assisted by a clapometer for the audience to show their appreciation. The winners were:

1. Overall winner: Simon Pearce
The judges’ choice went to Jose Manuel Torres
The most original performance went to Pwakusari Tedugororno
The best technical performance went to John Pelly
The award for best humour went to Brian Little
The best artistic interpretation went to the choir

2. Runner-up: Sandra Bracey
Sandras Bracey's performance was wonderful; the jury was impressed with her talent.

3. Runner-up: Stacey Strong
Stacey's performance was very enjoyable and she was the runner-up.

Collections prove just the ticket

A big thank you to all our collectors, particularly first time collector Sandra Bracey who raised £141.27 at our Liverpool Street station collection in June and, to Sandra’s daughter Elizabeth Kamau, who works as a station support assistant at Liverpool Street and Fenchurch Street stations. At the Friends of Moorefields, we are always looking for more collectors to help at the stations and raise up to £2,000 in one day at stations like Canary Wharf or Liverpool Street Station. Collectors really can make a difference.

To lend a hand with collections, please get in touch with Natalia on 020 7251 1240.

Raising the baton

Grateful patient Michael Wade used his 60th birthday to fulfil a lifetime’s ambition to conduct an orchestra while raising money for a gene therapy treatment for children with a severe form of congenital blindness.

At a private concert in front of family and friends, Mr Wade conducted Saint-Saëns’ Symphony No. 3: “Organ Symphony” at St John’s Smith Square in London and invited guests to make donations in lieu of presents.

Following the success of his sight-saving operations at Moorefields Eye Hospital, Mr Wade who suffered two detached retinas, decided “to give something back to the world of eye care” and is on target to raise over £100,000 for the development of a gene therapy treatment for LCA4 – a form of Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis. This rare condition affects children who have not inherited the necessary complement of genes required for normal sight. Previous trials have shown that sight can be improved in children with a different form of Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis by injecting a modified virus – or vector – into the retina to target delivery of the missing gene to the light-sensitive ‘photoreceptor’ cells.

Support

Mr Wade is one of a growing number of patients or family members who are choosing to support Moorfields Eye Charity through arranging their own fundraising activity or by taking part in an organised challenge, such as RideLondon-Surrey 100 on 10 August. The charity’s team for this year’s event is made up of 85 riders, including patients, family members and hospital staff.

Eye to Eye, Sunday 22 March 2015

On Sunday 22 March 2015, Moorfields Eye Charity will launch its new mass participation event, ‘Eye to Eye’. Join chief executive John Pelly and medical director Declan Flanagan on a 14 or four-mile trek from the hospital at City Road to the London Eye. Registration opens in September; email eyecharity@moorfields.nhs.uk or call 020 7566 2486 to receive more details.

To give something back to the world of eyecare.

Challenge events 2014

Sign-up to a fundraising challenge for Moorefields Eye Charity in 2014. The range of events on offer include: Isle of Wight Challenge – Saturday 23 August Take on this 106km challenge around the coastal path.

Ride 24 hour: London to Newcastle – Saturday 30 August This non-stop route across low lying flat lands ensures cyclists can keep up a keen pace and takes in famous sights including the Angel of the North.

Ride 24 hour: London to Paris – Sunday 6 September From the Kent countryside to the major cathedral cities of France, this is a route steeped in history.

Thames Path Challenge – Saturday 13 September Choose distances between 100km, 50km or 25km on this historic and beautiful trail.

Royal Parks Half Marathon – Sunday 12 October The stunning 13.1 mile route takes in the capital’s landmarks.

Moonriders Cycle Challenge – Saturday 31 October Cyclists get the chance to see some of the most iconic landmarks in London at night.

For more information or to sign-up for any of these events, contact Lianne at lianne.williams@moorfields.nhs.uk or call 020 7566 2486.
What’s on
Your guide to upcoming events

**AUGUST**

**Tuesday 5, All day**
Barbican Station collection
Barbican Underground Station

**Tuesday 12 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields mini-mart
Main entrance, City Road

**Tuesday 19 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields book sale
Main entrance, City Road

**SEPTEMBER**

**Monday 1 – Friday 5**
Friends Collecting Week at Moorfields

**Tuesday 2 & 4, 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields art sale
Main entrance, City Road

**Thursday 4, 9.00am**
Trust board meeting
2nd floor, Boardroom, Ebenezer Street

**Friday 5 all day**
Liverpool Street Station Collection
Liverpool Street Station

**Saturday 6**
Glaucoma Day – save the date! Find out more details by visiting the website below
www.brcophthalmology.org/glaucomaday

**Wednesday 10, 10.00am**
Membership Council meeting
2nd floor, Boardroom, Ebenezer Street

**Monday 22, 10.00am**
Governor engagement
St George’s, Blackshaw Road, SW17 0QT

**OCTOBER**

**Wednesday 1, 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields art sale
Main entrance, City Road

**Thursday 9**
World Sight Day

**Tuesday 14, 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields mini-mart
Main entrance, City Road

**Wednesday 22, 10.00am**
Governor engagement
Teddington Memorial Hospital TW11 0JL

**Tuesday 28, 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields book sale
Main entrance, City Road

**Thursday 30, 9.00am**
Trust Board Meeting
Croydon University Hospital

**NOVEMBER**

**Tuesday 11, TBC**
WW1 Commemoration event

**Thursday 13, 10:00am**
Membership Council meeting
2nd floor, Boardroom, Ebenezer Street

**Monday 17, 2.00pm**
Governor Engagement
St Ann’s, St Ann’s Road, N15 3TH

**Thursday 20, 9.00am**
Trust board meeting
2nd floor, Boardroom, Ebenezer Street

**Tuesday 25, 11.00am**
Friends of Moorfields book sale
Main entrance, City Road

You are advised to check times and dates of events before setting out on your journey due to possibility of cancellation.